

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Elmer J. Martinez, Director
Projects/Issues by Division
September 2010

Planning— The Comprehensive Master Plan project is in process. Preliminary population projections are complete, the consultant is coordinating with the utilities' consultant on water planning and projections; the white papers for land use and transportation are complete; preliminary white paper was reviewed by staff on the economic development component and the public building/facilities component is in process also.

The Downtown Action (Master) Plan is going before City Council for adoption. City Council previously passed a resolution adopting the Designation Report for the establishment of a Metropolitan Redevelopment Area (MRA).

The 5th revision of the walking tour brochure, "Historic Las Vegas—the Story of an Intriguing Town" has been printed and is presently being distributed. This is a project funded in part by the NM Historic Preservation Division under the Certified Local Government grant. The Citizens Committee for Historic Preservation is the contractor for the project. The project is also funded with Lodgers Tax. The 2009-10 CLG Project is presently being closed out.

The grant application for a Certified Local Government grant was submitted to NMHPD for three projects, a newsletter; board training for Design Review Board members from throughout the State, to be held in Las Vegas; for a short film challenge based on historical characters from Las Vegas.

Community Development Zoning The following projects are in process:

- The City Council approved the City's application to subdivide property off Legion Drive.
- Code Enforcement functions have been transitioned to the Police Department; Department zoning staff continue to coordinate with the Police Department Code Officers.
- The Development Review Team conducted the final review on the application by the New Mexico Behavioral Health Institute Long Term Care Facility, a 49,020 square foot facility.
- The amendment of the Flood Plain Ordinance is going before Council for hearing and direction to publish. The new Flood Insurance Rate Maps prepared by FEMA become effective December 3, 2010 and City must have approved ordinance to coincide with the new mapping.
- The ICIP will go before City Council for review, project prioritization and adoption.
- A zone change request for 303 Grand Ave. from C-3 to R-2 will go before City Council as will a zone change request for 1055 3rd St & Baca from R-1 to R-2.

Events

The Event Planner/Film Liaison has been working on the following events:

- The Mayor's Charity Ball, scheduled for September 25th
- The Mayor's Big Fishing Derby co-sponsored by Big Brothers Big Sisters is scheduled for September 18, 2010 and includes a Riverwalk Clean-up the week before.
- The Film Challenge is being planned for next spring.

- The proposals for the Marketing plan are being reviewed
- The Film Commission website will be developed with the assistance of the NMHU Media Arts Dept.
- Staffs are starting to work on a resource guide for film companies.

Transportation:

- The Department obtained additional ARRA monies for facility improvements including brick replacement, painting interior & exterior, window/door rehab and installation of a new storage building. Improvements are underway.
- The grant application for next year's 5311 public transportation project was prepared by staff and submitted by the deadline.

Animal Control (Animal Shelter): With the staffing change at the beginning of the fiscal year, the Animal Shelter is receiving record number of animals from the LVPD. The shelter is regularly at capacity. The Shelter hours were changed; the Shelter is now open from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM.

Museum:

Museum attendance for August was down again to 235. The Grand Ave. construction project kept plenty of heavy equipment in front of the building through much of the month. Also, both National Avenue and University Avenue were blocked to turning traffic for significant periods.

The traveling exhibit *Las Vegas and the Quest for Statehood* ended its tour with a total of 9 venues. Staff will be contacting middle schools to determine if it would be desirable at those locations during the school year.

The Friends of the Museum presented two programs during Heritage Week. The video created by NMHU media arts students to capture through video recordings community feelings about the Fiestas and Las Vegas in general was inaugurated in the museum galleries at the beginning of August.

Museum staff is coordinating with MainStreet Las Vegas to enhance the front of the Museum with some repairs and fresh paint. Preparation will take place through September.

Museum staff continues to organize and plan the November meeting of the NM Association of Museums annual meeting in Las Vegas.

Submitted: _____
Elmer J. Martinez, Community Development Director