



Las Vegas

Agenda Item No.: 163.

**AGENDA SUMMARY PAGE**  
**CITY COUNCIL MEETING OF NOVEMBER 7, 2007**

**SUBJECT:**

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION: PUBLIC COMMENT DURING THIS PORTION OF THE AGENDA MUST BE LIMITED TO MATTERS WITHIN THE JURISDICTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL. NO SUBJECT MATTER SELECTED UPON BY THE CITY COUNCIL UNLESS THAT SUBJECT IS ON THE AGENDA AND IS SCHEDULED FOR ACTION. IF YOU WISH TO BE HEARD, COME TO THE PODIUM AND GIVE YOUR NAME FOR THE RECORD. THE DURATION OF DISCUSSION ON ANY SINGLE SUBJECT, AS WELL AS THE AMOUNT OF TIME ANY SINGLE SPEAKER IS ALLOWED, MAY BE LIMITED

Minutes:

RASHAN JOSHUA COLLINS, homeless advocate, quoted 1 Corinthians 10:26 and invited the public in Frank Wright Plaza Park for prayer. The police have no mercy for the homeless and are never fined for breaking their own laws. He was in jail and fought it; the case was dismissed. He would like to be left alone, as he chooses to sleep in the park and he is willing to go to jail for what he preaches. He encouraged all to repent and be good to the poor, follow the Lord and turn from sin.

MAYOR PRO TEM REESE asked if any homeless in the audience were looking for a meal and a place to stay. Some raised their hands. He directed them to speak to City staff.

STANLEY WASHINGTON, 4299 Lucas Avenue, referred to the employment plan and when it applies. He agreed with SCOTT ADAMS' comments that the employment plan does not apply unless it is within the redevelopment area. However, the last time he was here, it was the Council's discretion to impose the requirements of the employment plan on projects taking place. There are many major projects taking place, such as the 61 acres. He also commented on a job fair that was to be held in Ward 5 but took place in Ward 1 instead. He indicated that former COUNCILMAN LAWRENCE WEEKLY had no knowledge of the job fair and that those people who attended did not have sufficient time to prepare for their interviews. Bottom line, since the law was in play for Las Vegas Premium Outlet Mall and World Market, he hopes that the Council will ensure that job fairs for residents of Ward 5 take place in Ward 5.

GENE COLLINS, 1101 Elena, referred to Senate Bills (SB) 234 and 352 and Assembly Bill (AB) 598. He showed a map to address SB 234 illustrating lines drawn north of Carey Avenue, south of Stewart Avenue, east of Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard down to Carey Avenue. AB 598 was an eight billion dollar bond that was going to oversee SB 352 that a Senate committee set up to facilitate and to remove everything within those lines; schools, churches, an entire community. He questioned how a senior citizen can afford a new mortgage note.

DOROTHY BARNES once again brought forward issues about people using her name without her consent. She accused MAYOR PRO TEM REESE of being involved, to which the Mayor Pro Tem replied he had no idea what she was talking about. MS. BARNES also commented on oppressed people and individual's constitutional rights. She still commented on "program" issues and that women should not be oppressed and that she was not asking for handouts but justice.

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BECKY SIAS stated she is not affiliated with any group but is a very compassionate person and concerned about the homeless. She heard that at a recent event sleeping bags were given only to Veterans because she was told it would put a bad light on Las Vegas, as though the City is supporting the homeless. She felt that everyone should be treated the same way and questioned what the Council would do to unify it and build connection between the community and the Council. MAYOR PRO TEM REESE replied that the City has been in the forefront for many years in helping the homeless and assisting them with food and places to work. It is hard to help those who do not want help, and they want their own agendas. Staff has worked many hours in assisting them. There were over 2,000 people at this event, and he commended staff in what they have done and encouraged those that want help to step forward and take the help. Those that have are doing well and have places to live and are back on their feet. A horse can be led to the water but cannot be forced to drink. MS. SIAS asked how trust can be created. The Mayor Pro Tem responded that it would be up to those that do not want to cross the line, as they refuse the services. The City will keep trying and staff is available to offer help. He was told there would be at least 100 people asking for help yet not many were present.

TEDDY RUSSELL, Las Vegas resident, was pleased with downtown initiatives and urged all Americans to unite.

JASON was told by a friend that there are not sufficient shelters. MAYOR PRO TEM REESE replied that staff would help him find a place to stay.

Meeting adjourned at 5:13 p.m.

