

**AGENDA MEMO - PLANNING**

PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING DATE: JULY 12, 2011

DEPARTMENT: PLANNING

ITEM DESCRIPTION: APPLICANT/OWNER: CITY OF LAS VEGAS

**** STAFF RECOMMENDATION(S) ****

<i>CASE NUMBER</i>	<i>RECOMMENDATION</i>	<i>REQUIRED FOR APPROVAL</i>
DIR-41864	Staff has NO RECOMMENDATION	

Staff Report Page One
July 12, 2011 - Planning Commission Meeting

**** STAFF REPORT ****

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The following is an annual report on the Las Vegas 2020 Master Plan. Pursuant to Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS) 278.190, the Planning Commission is required to review the plan and implementation progress annually.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Master Plan is in compliance with NRS, as all 19 Elements are addressed. Implementation of the Master Plan is 89% complete.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

<i>Related Relevant City Actions by P&D, Fire, Bldg., etc</i>	
06/25/09	The Planning Commission approved Directors Business Item (DIR-34586) for the 2009 Master Plan Implementation Report.
07/07/10	The City Council approved an updated Historic Properties Preservation Element.
07/21/10	The City Council approved the Directors Business Item (DIR-38691) for the 2010 Master Plan Implementation Report.

ANALYSIS

The Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS) require the preparation and adoption of a comprehensive, long-term general plan for the physical development of the city. In counties with a population of 400,000 or more, such as Clark County, state law requires the master plan for each government to address 19 different subject areas ranging from land use to school facilities. The City has been in compliance with this requirement since 2009.

The Planning Department maintains a five year plan for the maintenance of the elements and the policy document. Through completion of the updates contained on the maintenance schedule the City will remain in compliance with all applicable state laws and be equipped to make informed policy decisions that address both current and future issues. The maintenance schedule is detailed in the chart below.

Staff Report Page Two
July 12, 2011 - Planning Commission Meeting

Master Plan Elements Work Plan

Name	Date of adoption or most recent update	Expected Completion Date	Policies or Recommendations
Community Design Element	08/06/08	2013	33
Conservation Element / Solid Waste Disposal Plan	06/01/05	2011	65
Economic Element	09/02/09	2014	17
Historical Properties & Neighborhood Preservation Plan Element	08/04/10	2015	26
Housing Element	07/18/01	2011	63
Land Use & Rural Neighborhood Preservation Plan Element	09/02/09	2014	-
Parks & Recreation Element	04/02/08	2013	34
Policy Document	09/06/00	2012	110
Population Element	02/17/10	2015	5
Public Buildings Element	02/20/08	2013	25
Public Services & Facilities Element	11/19/08	2013	24
Recreation Trails Element	01/20/05	2012	-
Safety & Seismic Safety Element	08/04/10	2015	19
School Facilities Element	08/06/08	2013	14
Transit Element	02/20/08	2013	34
Transportation & Streets and Highways Element	04/15/09	2014	44
Transportation Trails Element	01/20/05	2012	16
Water Element	06/01/05	2011	24

Element Updates Completed or Started in Fiscal Year 2010-2011

- Historic Properties Preservation Element
- Conservation Element
- Housing Element
- Water Element

The Planning Department adopted an updated Historic Properties Preservation Element in July of 2010. This update was ahead of the typical five-year schedule in response to changes required based on the last session of the Nevada Legislature. Work is also underway on three additional elements. Updates of the Conservation Element, Housing Element and Water Element are in the first draft stage and are scheduled for completion in December 2011.

Staff Report Page Three
July 12, 2011 - Planning Commission Meeting

Master Plan Update Goals for the Upcoming Fiscal Year 2011-2012

During the upcoming fiscal year completion of the update to the Conservation, Housing and Water Elements is expected. Work is also scheduled to begin on updates to the Recreation Trails Element and the Transportation Trails Element. An update of the Policy Document is also scheduled for 2012.

Goals, Objectives and Policies Implemented in Fiscal Year 2010-2011

In addition to updating the documents the Planning Department has assisted in the completion of several other projects directly related to the Goals, Objectives and Policies of the 2020 Master Plan. The hierarchy of accomplishments begins with goals, underneath the goals are the objectives and the base level is the policies. The following table details accomplishments from fiscal year 2010-2011.

Goal	Project
Re-Urbanization Goal 1: The Downtown area will emerge as the preeminent hub of business, residential, government, tourism and gaming activities in the city of Las Vegas and as a major hub of such activities in the Las Vegas Valley.	Azul Tequila Artifice Gold & Silver Pawn Shop Gold Spike Hostel Cat Maharaja Hookah Café Mamitas Resnick's Grocery Vanguard
Fiscal Management Goal 6: The City of Las Vegas will link capital improvement programming and maintenance and operations programming with long range planning.	Planning and Public Works work extensively to coordinate all CIP's with long Range Planning and adherence to the Unified Development Code.

Objective	Project
Re-urbanization Objective 1.2: To improve the livability of the Downtown through the creation of a series of safe, attractive and interesting public open spaces and non-vehicular routes to connect these open spaces and other Downtown activities.	Planning and Public Works are currently in the design phase of a series of improvements to the Downtown Bicycle and Pedestrian network that will meet this objective.
Re-urbanization Objective 1.5: To bring cultural, entertainment and sports facilities that will draw patrons from across the Las Vegas Valley to the Downtown area, to provide another dimension to the attraction of Downtown Las Vegas.	Neon Museum Las Vegas Natural History Museum

Staff Report Page Four
July 12, 2011 - Planning Commission Meeting

Re-urbanization Objective 1.6: To provide high quality transit service including integrated bus and rapid transit, which serves the Downtown and which connects the Downtown with other employment, entertainment and shopping nodes within the Valley.	The RTC has opened several new Bus Rapid Transit routes that flow through the Downtown to other areas of the valley meeting this objective. Bonneville Transit Center
Fiscal Management Objective 6.1: To ensure that capital and operating expenditures are planned and scheduled in accordance with long range planning commitments.	Planning and Public Works work extensively to coordinate all CIP's with long Range Planning and adherence to the Unified Development Code.
Regional Coordination Objective 7.1: To ensure that the natural resources of the City, particularly those that directly support an enhanced quality of life for its residents, are protected.	The City is currently working with other regional jurisdictions on the extension of the Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan, scheduled for completion in 2011.

Policy	Project
Re-urbanization Policy 1.5.1: That the city pursue the development of a performing arts center in the Downtown area.	The Smith Center for the Performing arts is currently under construction in Symphony Park in Downtown Las Vegas.
Re-urbanization Policy 1.6.2: That the phasing of any guideway route be prioritized connect the Downtown and the Strip, and subsequently to connect Downtown to the McCarran Airport, Northwest Town Center and Summerlin areas.	The RTC has opened several new Bus Rapid Transit routes that flow through the Downtown to other areas of the valley meeting this policy.
Neighborhood Revitalization Policy 2.1.4: That new commercial development be designed in a walkable and non-vehicular friendly manner, providing shelter from sun and wind, with outdoor seating areas and other amenities and parking areas located away from the street.	The adoption of the Unified Development Code and the progress on the Walkable Community Plans has worked toward completion of this requirement.
Neighborhood Revitalization Policy 2.1.5: That neighborhoods be encouraged to revitalize through a variety of incentives, which may include accessory apartments and relaxation of setback requirements where offset with enhanced landscaping in areas deemed appropriate.	The adoption of the Unified Development Code and the progress on the Walkable Community Plans has worked toward completion of this requirement.
Neighborhood Revitalization Policy 2.1.7: that the demand for transportation services be reduced by improving the balance between jobs and housing and by creating options for people to live and work within walking or cycling distance of their place of work.	The adoption of the Unified Development Code and the progress on the Walkable Community Plans has worked toward completion of this requirement.

Staff Report Page Five
July 12, 2011 - Planning Commission Meeting

Neighborhood Revitalization Policy 2.1.8: That the concept of walkable communities with porches and neighborhood amenities, be promoted in areas of residential reinvestment.	The adoption of the Unified Development Code and the progress on the Walkable Community Plans has worked toward completion of this requirement.
Neighborhood Revitalization Policy 2.2.3: that design standards be adopted to address the need for transitions between different kinds of urban land uses.	The adoption of the Unified Development Code has satisfied the requirements of this policy.
Neighborhood Revitalization Policy 2.3.6: That a beautification upgrade of the Rancho Drive corridor be considered by the City to support its anticipated future role as the location of a major transit corridor, greenway and pedestrian/bikeway.	Planning and Public Works are currently in the design stage of a project that would satisfy this policy.
Neighborhood Revitalization Policy 2.6.2: that the City take steps to encourage the development of two, three and four plex housing opportunities.	The adoption of the Unified Development Code has satisfied the requirements of this policy.
Newly Developing Areas Policy 3.1.1: That residential developers be encouraged to provide traffic calming measures in new residential neighborhoods, and where appropriate, narrower local streets. Standards for narrower local streets shall provide adequate access for emergency vehicles and the disabled. Where possible, sidewalks should be separated from the curb by a landscaped amenity zone within the dedicated right-of-way, with a tree canopy along the sidewalk.	The adoption of the Unified Development Code has satisfied the requirements of this policy.
Newly Developing Areas Policy 3.1.2: That new residential neighborhoods emphasize pedestrian linkages within the neighborhood, ready access to transit routes, linkages to schools, integration of local service commercial activities within a neighborhood center that is within walking distance of homes in the neighborhood.	The adoption of the Unified Development Code has satisfied the requirements of this policy.
Newly Developing Areas Policy 3.3.6: That the Housing Element incorporate proposals which ensure a diverse choice of affordable housing types and costs to meet present and future needs.	The Housing element is currently in progress on an update that will satisfy this policy.

Staff Report Page Six
July 12, 2011 - Planning Commission Meeting

Newly Developing Areas Policy 3.5.7: That the City encourage landscaping which uses plants that produce minimal levels of pollen and which are non-allergenic.	A Regional Plant List is in the process of approval by the SNRPC and shall be adopted into the Unified Development Code in 2011 satisfying this policy.
Fiscal Management Policy 6.1.1: That the City monitor and coordinate capital improvement and operating/ maintenance expenditures with long range planning.	Planning and Public Works work extensively to coordinate all CIP's with long Range Planning and adherence to the Unified Development Code.
Regional Coordination Policy 7.1.8: That the City encourage water conservation.	The Water Element is currently being updated in the 2011 calendar year, the Regional Plant List is in progress of adoption in the 2011 calendar year and Water Features exceeding the required square footage are required to go before City Council for approval.
Regional Coordination Policy 7.3.6: That the City, in conjunction with the Clark County Regional Transportation Commission and local governments in the Las Vegas Valley, work to achieve a shift towards greater reliance on mass transit for home-to-work trips and to make transit usage a more attractive daily travel alternative. In particular, that the affected parties pursue options for a fixed guideway system where appropriate.	The RTC has opened several new Bus Rapid Transit routes that flow through the Downtown to other areas of the valley. The City and the RTC are seeking additional opportunities to expand the Bus Rapid Transit network.

Summary

2020 Policy Document Goals, Objectives and Policies	Complete	Not Complete	Ongoing
150 as of 2010	25 (17%)	8 (5%)	117 (78%)
150 as of 2011	29 (19%)	4 (3%)	117 (78%)

Policy Document

Moving into this fiscal year there were eight outstanding goals, objectives and policies. Fifty percent (50%) of the outstanding goals, objectives and policies were completed leaving four yet outstanding. Additionally, several of the ongoing goals, objectives and policies were touched on by a variety of projects in both the public and private sector.

With only four goals, objectives and policies left outstanding and the majority of the others in the ongoing category the Policy Document is ready for an update. This update is tentatively scheduled to begin in the next fiscal year. This process will include an updated set of more measurable goals, objectives and policies that will assist in guiding the City into the future.

Staff Report Page Seven
July 12, 2011 - Planning Commission Meeting

Elements Goals, Objectives, Policies and Actions	Complete	Not Complete	Ongoing
354 as of 2010	49 (14%)	44 (12%)	261 (74%)
442 as of 2011	78 (18%)	59 (13%)	305 (69%)

Elements

In the last fiscal year one element (Historic Properties Preservation) was updated. Also a reevaluation of each element was conducted revealing new information and altering the total number of goals, objectives, policies and actions, as well as the composition of their status reflected in the table above. Many goals, objectives and policies from these elements were either completed or acted on through a wide variety of projects.

Master Plan implementation is a continuous evolutionary process. Through the continued update of the Elements staff seeks to significantly reduce the number of ongoing goals, objectives and policies and move toward more measurable achievements that provide direction and guidance to the City as we move forward.

NOTICES MAILED NEWSPAPER ONLY

APPROVALS 0

PROTESTS 0