



City of Las Vegas

Agenda Item No.: 41.

AGENDA SUMMARY PAGE - PLANNING
PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING OF: NOVEMBER 1, 2016

DEPARTMENT: PLANNING
DIRECTOR: TOM PERRIGO

☐ Consent ☒ Discussion

SUBJECT: DIR-67066 DIRECTORS BUSINESS - PUBLIC HEARING - APPLICANT/OWNER: CITY OF LAS VEGAS - For discussion and possible action on a presentation of the Southern Nevada Sustainable Systems Inventory. All staff recommends APPROVAL.

NO ACTION

PROTESTS RECEIVED BEFORE:

Planning Commission Mtg.

City Council Meeting

APPROVALS RECEIVED BEFORE:

Planning Commission Mtg.

City Council Meeting

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends APPROVAL

BACKUP DOCUMENTATION:

1. Link to Southern Nevada Sustainable Systems Inventory Document
2. Submitted at Meeting - PowerPoint Presentation

Minutes:

CHAIR MOODY declared the Public Hearing open.

Through a PowerPoint presentation, MARCO VELOTTA, Management Analyst, presented a report of the Southern Nevada Sustainable Systems Inventory. The City of Las Vegas has been a leader of sustainability because of policies established by the Mayor and City Council reflected city-wide in master plans, such as the Downtown Master Plan. Some examples of that commitment are water conservation, recycling, LEED buildings and renewable energy. Solar plants outside of Boulder City will be ready for commercial operation, and with the City of Las Vegas' partnership with NV Energy, 100 percent of the City's retail load will be served by renewable energy making the City of Las Vegas the first large municipality to do so. The City of Las Vegas received national recognition and awards for these efforts.

The City, along with community partners and stakeholders, helped fund the Southern Nevada Sustainable Systems and Inventory, a project that looks at how Southern Nevada is sustainable. It also allows comparison at different scales between the public and private sector. The Inventory will be used as a tool to better understand the sustainable region and share with the public, but most importantly, it can be used in the planning process to better understand and plan how to protect the environment and improve the community's quality of life. Southern Nevada is one of the fastest-growing regions in the nation with a projection of three million residents by 2045.

PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING OF: NOVEMBER 1, 2016

MR. VELOTTA reported that Southern Nevada water allocation is two percent of the entire Colorado River system. Through the Southern Nevada Water Authority's innovative water conservation programs, water consumption has been reduced by 40 billion gallons. MR. VELOTTA reported on freight and passenger transportation and the importance of the I-15 corridor; upgrading the Highway 93/95 corridor to interstate standards could change the transportation dynamics for the region. People are far too reliant on vehicular transportation, and traffic congestions cause delays as well as pollution. Multi-modes of transportation referred in the plan can alleviate job/housing imbalance.

Nevada and NV Energy have made tremendous investments in cleaner energy due to past legislation to eliminate coal and replace it with natural gas and renewable energy. The vast majority of energy comes from natural gas shipped in by pipeline from several states. However, Nevada has an abundance of renewable resources that can be transmitted.

There is not a lot of local agriculture; 92 percent of food must be shipped to Nevada from around the nation and world. Food accessibility is important, especially for those who do not have convenient access to a grocery store or food pantry.

MR. VELOTTA outlined the waste chapter and its challenges. Over time it has changed, thanks to the reports and how they dispose waste. Now food and construction debris is handled. Additionally, with new recycling options provided by Republic Services and the completion of their expanded recycling center there has been a tremendous turnaround and increased community recycling rate. The authority provides an analysis of air, water and soil pollution, all of which can have harmful impacts on human health. The City of Las Vegas has been a leader, but community stakeholders like the Regional Transportation Commission (RTC), NV Energy and Southern Nevada Water Authority are playing a major role in sustainability for the region. The City must continue to collaborate, plan and implement to make a positive effect on the quality of life for the future.

COMMISSIONER CHERRY asked MR. VELOTTA if the document would be posted on the City's website. MR. VELOTTA replied that they are working on putting it on the website as it is a large file.

CHAIR MOODY declared the Public Hearing closed.