



Citizens Advisory Committee to the Las Vegas Redevelopment Agency Minutes

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Minutes:

CHAIR HILL called the meeting to order at 4:09 p.m.

PRESENT: CHAIR HILL and MEMBERS PALACIOS (via teleconference), WEST, BROWN, ROBERTS, and VAN HOUTEN

EXCUSED: MEMBER JONES, STILWELL, and WILCOX LAVIN

ALSO PRESENT: JEFF McGEACHY, Sr. Economic Development Specialist, JOHN RIDILLA, Deputy City Attorney, and GABRIELA PORTILLO-BRENNER, Deputy City Clerk

2. Announcement Regarding: Compliance with Open Meeting Law

Minutes:

ANNOUNCEMENT MADE: This meeting has been properly noticed and posted at the following locations: City Hall, 495 South Main Street, 1st Floor; Clark County Government Center, 500 South Grand Central Parkway; Grant Sawyer Building, 555 East Washington Avenue; and Howard Lieburn Senior Center, 6230 Garwood Avenue

3. Public Comment: Comment during this portion of the agenda must be limited to matters on the agenda for action. If you wish to be heard, come forward and give your name for the record. The amount of discussion, as well as the amount of time any single speaker is allowed, may be limited.

Minutes:

None.

4. For possible action to approve the Final Minutes by reference of the Regular Meeting of January 26, 2021

Motion made by Daniel Hill to Approve

Passed For: 6; Against: 0; Abstain: 0; Did Not Vote: 0; Excused: 3

For-Daniel Hill, Craig Palacios, Valerie Brown, Kelcey West, Eric Roberts, Erik Van Houten; Excused-Asha L Jones, Desiree Stillwell, Jana Wilcox Lavin;

5. Presentation by Tammy Malich, Director of Youth Development and Social Innovation, and Kathi Thomas, Director of Community Services, regarding the Historic Westside HUNDRED Plan in Action Implementation Strategy

Minutes:

KATHI THOMAS, Director of Community Services, and TAMMY MALICH, Director of Youth Development and Social Innovation, shared in narrating a PowerPoint presentation, which has been included in the backup. MS. THOMAS started and said the HUNDRED (Historic Urban Neighborhood Design Redevelopment) Plan in

Action Implementation Strategy was community generated by students at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas (UNLV), considered and subsequently adopted by the City Council, and has become an amendment to the existing Downtown Master Plan. She displayed several images from the PowerPoint, which illustrated the history of Las Vegas. Staff recognized the disinvestment that has occurred over the years in the Historic Westside by private/public sectors, noting it will require some bold steps and a commitment to invest.

A video was shown, but not submitted for the record, of City-owned properties that have been identified to serve as catalytic investments for the community.

MS. THOMAS stated that the commitment being made to the community is to look at existing tools and utilize them in innovative ways. A focus area has been chosen where the City of Las Vegas has already made a significant investment. In addition, the City has partnered with the Southern Nevada Regional Housing Authority to redevelop the Marble Manor public housing site. Stakeholders and other members of the community reviewed the vision, which is to create a diverse and thriving district rooted in African American culture and history, is a unique place for everyone to work in, visit and play, and supports cultural pride. She identified Jackson Avenue, Washington Avenue and D Street, and Washington Avenue and H Street as the catalytic investment areas. MS. THOMAS reviewed some of the key projects, as listed in the PowerPoint, pertaining to these areas.

MS. MALICH mentioned that COUNCILMAN CEDRIC CREAR instructed staff to be vigorous and focused in their approach with regard to development for the HUNDRED Plan, noting outside funding sources have been relied upon to accelerate development. She identified a few projects in development, which included the development mixed-income-level housing and working with the Southern Nevada Regional Housing Authority on the upgrade of Marble Manor. MS. MALICH stated that staff has taken advantage of grants to assist in the creation of workforce development programs, and regarding food insecurity, she pointed out that the impact of food deserts is even greater to the Historic Westside area. She also noted there are greater healthcare concerns among minority populations; therefore, healthy food choices and education must be brought into the community. The HUNDRED Plan also considers the cultural needs of the community such as creating spaces of pride, and MS. MALICH noted that the Historic Westside is one of the most culturally rich areas in Las Vegas, which needs to be highlighted. Additionally, staff has taken the opportunity to address the digital divide, has reached out to different funding sources, and has worked on policy matters such as zoning guidelines. She stressed that the HUNDRED Plan is not about gentrification or pushing out the residents but about serving the community and creating a system and structure to make it sustainable.

MS. MALICH addressed Washington Avenue and D Street, which is the area with the most projects currently operational. During the COVID-19 pandemic, the City of Las Vegas partnered with the College of Southern Nevada (CSN) to submit an EDA (U.S. Economic Development Administration) grant application and received \$6.9 million for a 10,000 square-foot training facility, which will focus on healthcare, technology, and construction trades as well as advanced manufacturing. The City will be charged with building the facility, and CSN will operate it. Programs will be stackable credentials and offer students access to training without incurring debt. The Market Hall and Small Business Incubator will offer the opportunity for virtual restaurateurs to run a commissary kitchen with a communal point of sales system. The Strong Future Technology Training Center is already open for business and providing services to the community. Multiple agencies are partnered with; however, they have been asked not to charge residents in exchange for being able to use the City's space. One partner agency is the Nevada Help Desk Provide, which offers stackable credential technology programs. Additionally, CSN offers adult high school equivalency classes, adult ELL (English-language learner) classes, and provides its own training programs. Multiple Esports clinics have also been hosted, and MS. MALICH was surprised to learn about possible career opportunities within this field. The Cox Innovation Center was provided through a donation by Cox Communications and includes an audio/video recording studio to teach students how to capitalize on technology for marketing. The Historic Westside School Campus – Design Center will provide a space that pays homage to the past, present, and future of the Historic Westside. Additionally, staff will begin to collect artifacts from the community, through a digital process, to pave the way for the African American History Museum. She mentioned that conversations are occurring with well-known consultants, specific to African American history museums, to ensure the community is honored. The City has also partnered with Workforce Connections on the One Stop Center, and a MOU (memorandum of understanding) will be brought to the City Council for approval. She noted that funding is anticipated to be received for the Small Business Support Center to assist small business startups. Lastly, MS. MALICH mentioned the efforts being made to ensure a pleasant green space within the area as well as access for

multiple modes of transportation.

MEMBER WEST wondered what the Members could do to support this initiative. MS. MALICH believed the Members should be informed, educated, and credible messengers. She mentioned that although the community has faith in her and MS. THOMAS, she understood there is some distrust within the community regarding the government, and this is the reason for having informed community members that can speak to the initiative. MS. THOMAS also stated that there is a need to encourage residents to review the implementation strategy, noting that everything currently in the document was in the original HUNDRED Plan that was put together by the community. She mentioned that this document is available online, and a timeline as well how everything relates to completion are included on Page 36.

In response to a question from MEMBER BROWN, MS. THOMAS stated that the Historic Westside Holistic Wellness Center will be located on Jackson Avenue and will be a four story, 40,000 square-foot building. She named some of the services it will offer, noting focus will be placed on addressing health disparities within underserved communities. There is also a desire to have a dental clinic, and in addition to having primary healthcare physicians, the facility will also have a teaching clinic. The intent is to make the site feel like a comfortable and welcoming hub where residents can go for information. Staff would also like to have the facility designated as a Federally Qualified Health Center; however, additional work is needed for this. An architect has been retained to design the facility, but service providers have yet to be finalized. MS. MALICH added that the Historic Westside Holistic Wellness Center will consist of a preventative component and not just a reactive component. She also told MEMBER BROWN that the healthcare trade of the stackable credentials will offer a pathway for students to work within the Historic Westside Holistic Wellness Center.

With regard to affordable housing and gentrification, MS. THOMAS informed MEMBER VAN HOUTEN that an anti-displacement strategy has been created so that all community partners understand that the first order of business is preservation of affordability; therefore, all City of Las Vegas-owned residential properties will maintain affordability. The second order of business is increasing density. Policies to ensure existing residents are served first and financing strategies such as a private activity bond to ensure whatever is developed remains affordable for a specified amount of time will be utilized.

MEMBER WEST wondered which project has been the most challenging. MS. THOMAS considered power sharing as well as expertise to be the biggest challenges but noted that because the HUNDRED Plan is a place-based strategy, steps are not taken without first consulting the community. MS. MALICH added that funding is a challenge as well as listening to the community and being responsive to the services needed.

MEMBER ROBERTS commented on food resiliency and wondered about the efforts being taken to address food deserts within the area. MS. THOMAS replied that while the food co-op and vertical garden are stand-alone projects that will receive separate funding, they would co-exist on the same parcel and support each other. The City of Las Vegas conducted a series of capacity building workshops, particularly with the community of faith, where participants were asked if they would like to partner with the City to create a grocery store with a co-operative model. Five attendees affirmed to be on a steering committee. Meetings have been held since, and technical assistance has been received from Local Foods, Local Places. The City of Las Vegas will draw upon its expertise and will work with the community of faith to develop a community development corporation (CDC). MS. MALICH added that funds have been secured to conduct vertical farming on site. A vendor has been identified who has been very successful in production, and a community partner has offered to purchase a percentage of the products at market rate to then provide the faith-based community with produce at a sliding scale. Vegas Roots will provide educational support.

6. **Discussion regarding topics for future agenda items.** Comments made during this portion of the agenda by individual members shall refer solely to proposals for future agenda items and any discussion shall be limited to whether or not such proposed items are within the purview of the Committee and/or whether such proposed items shall be placed on a future agenda. No discussion regarding the substance of any such proposed topic shall occur and no action shall be taken.

Minutes:

JEFF McGEACHY, Sr. Economic Development Specialist, distributed a list of possible meeting topics to the Members, a copy of which was submitted and attached as backup, and said that there is one remaining item on

the list. He noted that any Member could add items to the list at any time. CHAIR HILL asked that anyone with an idea send an e-mail to MR. McGEACHY.

7. **Citizens Participation:** Public comment during this portion of the agenda must be limited to matters within the jurisdiction of the Committee. No subject may be acted upon by the Committee unless that subject is on the agenda and is scheduled for action. If you wish to be heard, come forward and give your name for the record. The amount of discussion on any single subject, as well as the amount of time any single speaker is allowed, may be limited.

Minutes:
None.

8. **Adjournment**

Minutes:
The meeting was adjourned at 4:57 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Gabriela Portillo-Brenner, Deputy City Clerk

Daniel Hill, Chair

Minutes Prepared by:
Ashley Foster, Deputy City Clerk

THIS MEETING WAS PROPERLY NOTICED AND POSTED AT THE FOLLOWING LOCATIONS:

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Clark County Government Center, 500 South Grand Central Parkway
Grant Sawyer Building, 555 East Washington Avenue
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