

# TWENTYNINE PALMS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND VISITORS BUREAU

## MONTHLY RECAP REPORT: November, 2005

The Chamber Board would like to thank the City of Twentynine Palms for allowing time and participation that made the dedication of the Blue Star Memorial Marker a great success at the Veteran's Day Tribute.

Chamber staff now has the capabilities to insert event articles on the visit 29.com website. The website is updated at this time.

Preparations for the 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Light Parade for December 10th, i.e. Encroachment Permit, TUP and insurance have been filed at the appropriate agencies. Entry forms have been added to the Chamber website and will be available at the Chamber office. This year's parade will line up on Sun Valley Road to go onto Adobe instead of El Paseo at the City's request.

### VISITOR SERVICES

New information/publications available in the Visitor Center include:

- Chamber 29 News-December Edition;
- New-t shirt collection
- December SBA classes
- Light Parade entry forms

### Gift Shop -

- Sales in Gift Shop for November 2005: 82.50

November New Members: 3

Total Chamber Members: 259

Contact Statistics: November 2005:

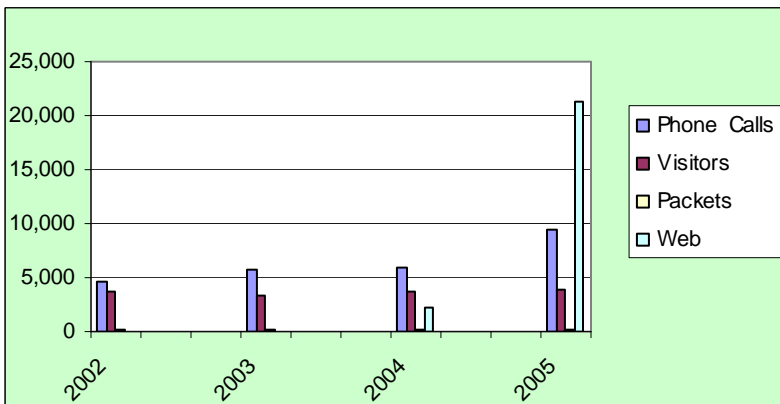
Phone Calls: 612

Visitors: 141

Web Count: 1,129

Information Packets Mailed: 12

### YEAR TO DATE CONTACT STATISTICS



	Phone Calls	Visitors	Packets	Web
2002	4,651	3,660	154	0
2003	5,789	3,424	106	0
2004	5,846	3,756	131	2153
2005	9,499	3,804	105	21,335

### MARKETING

- Chamber Staff attended General Zilmer's promotion ceremony on November 3, 2005;
- Chamber Staff attended the USMC Birthday Pageant on November 4<sup>th</sup>, 2005;
- Dedication of Blue Star Memorial Markers was held on November 11, 2005 in hand with City of Twentynine Palms Veteran's Tribute;
- Morongo Chambers (4) are working together on tourism within the Morongo Basin;
- Chamber Staff is co-hosting the California Desert National Parks Workshop for Business Leaders, January 24, 2006, Yucca Valley;
- 2006 Antique Auto Calendars have been ordered in lieu of Christmas cards for tourists and membership.
- Preparing for submission of articles with information regarding the Spring Events to newspapers, magazines, and clubs;

### TOURS, CONFERENCES & MEETINGS

- December 1, 2005 -Chamber Executive Meeting;
- Chamber and 29 Rotary partnership program regarding "Business Taxes" December 7<sup>th</sup>, noon @ Theater 29;

- December 15, 2005-Chamber Board of Directors Meeting;
- Chamber and 29 Rotary partnership presenting Assemblyman Bill Postmus' "State of the County Address," January 11, 2006, noon @ Theater 29.

### OTHER MARKETING

Chamber will capitalize event information regarding the following:

- Lighting of City Christmas Tree, December 6 @ 5pm.
- Chamber and 29 Rotary partnership program regarding "Business Taxes" December 7<sup>th</sup>, noon @ Thereafter 29.
- 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Light Parade, December 10, 5:30pm;
- Toys for Tots Poker Run, ends at Luckie Park
- Mixer at Roughly Manner, December 15<sup>th</sup>, 5pm to 7pm

The following articles highlighted Twentynine Palms area and events:

- *totalescape.com, Joshua Tree, Backpacking, Campgrounds, Hiking, Rock climbing;*
- *GETBETCHA.COM, "Rock Climbing and Bouldering at Joshua Tree, CA;*
- *CMC, "Traffic School;"*
- *KCET Online, Family Local Events, "Ranger Programs in Joshua Tree National Monument, Outdoors Events;"*
- *Luxury Link, California "Itineraries, Day by Day;"*
- *Inland Arts, November 2, "The Southland Show, 29 Palms Art Gallery;*
- *Topix.net, November 5, "California High School Football-Twentynine Palms Beat Great Oak;"*
- *Rallemaster, November 1, 2005 "Spank Rally;"*
- *Access Washington, November 8, 2005,*
- *"Washington Veterans mount passing of Robert E. Bush, Congressional Medal of Honor recipient;"*
- *Hi-Desert Star, November 12, 2005, "The Faces of Freedom;"*
- *Sports Shooter, November 14, 2005 "Simulating Urban Warfare;"*
- *Seattle Post, November 17, 2005, "Marines at Twentynine Palms and Weber Grills Help Raise Money for Charities That Directly Benefit U.S. Marines and Their Families;"*

- *KESQ News Channel 3, November 18, 2005, "Twentynine Palms Women bare it all for a good cause;"*
- *Press-Enterprise, November 20, 2005, "Bare Necessities"*
- *The Desert Sun, November 20, 2005, "Model Citizens;"*
- *Tracey Press, Nov 28, 2005 "Decorated Manteca Marine comes home;"*
- *Cannel NewsAsia International, November 16, 2005, "Significant firsts for SAF with Exercise Forging Sabre in California;"*
- *Ministry of Defense Singapore, November 22, 2005, "Flying High, - S'pore, US military ties;"*
- *Channel NewsAsia International, November 26, 2005,"RSAF's Apache helicopters expected home early next year;"*
- *Continuing analysis of websites and publications concerning our area and their amenities are being critiqued and documented. New information has been provided to update the visit29.org website*

### BUSINESS & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

### LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS:

### MILITARY AFFAIRS

- M.A.C. Assistance Fund  
The Chamber has continued to maintain a small fund of donated monies which has been set aside to assist military personnel and their families with urgent needs. Military personnel are eligible to apply for assistance upon referral from the Navy/Marine Corps Relief Society.

### EVENTS

- Lighting of City Christmas Tree, December 6 @ 5pm.
- Chamber and 29 Rotary partnership program regarding "Business Taxes" December 7<sup>th</sup>, noon @ Thereafter 29.
- 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Light Parade, December 10, 5:30pm;
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Twentynine Palms Chamber of Commerce  
Phone Call/Visitor Breakdown for the Month of November 2005

Subject	Phone Calls	Walk-Ins
Action Council	3	
Art Galleries	13	4
Bank	3	
Blue Star Memorial	64	
Chamber Business	85	31
Demographics	2	4
Development		2
Directions	13	
Drive-In	1	
Email Inquiry	3	
Entertainment	10	
Gift Certificates	2	
Golf	3	
Information 411	54	
Joshua Tree N.P.	17	12
Laundromat	2	
Light Parade	42	8
Lodging	40	19
Maps	27	5
Marine Base	30	
Marketing	7	
Miscellaneous	56	10
Mixers	11	
Murals	8	12
Newspaper	5	1
Packet Requests (Relocation)	6	
Phone Books	8	
Pioneer Days	1	13
Post Office		4
RealtorsRentals, Homes, Apartments, Business	10	4
Reporters	3	
Restaurants	20	7
Road Conditions	3	
RV Parks	10	
Sunrunner Magazine	2	5
Transportation	9	
Veteran's Day	17	
Voting	7	
Weed Show	5	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>602</b>	<b>141</b>
Packets Mailed	7	



**CITY OF TWENTYNINE PALMS  
STAFF REPORT**  
6136 Adobe Road  
Twentynine Palms, CA 92277  
(760) 367-6799, Fax (760) 367-5400  
*commdev@ci.twentynine-palms.ca.us*

**To:** City Council via City Manager  
**From:** Community Development Director and Community Services Director  
**Date:** December 13, 2005  
**RE:** PC 05-100 - An application by the City of Twentynine Palms for site plan approval for the Knott's Sky Park Master Plan, located at 6801 El Sol Avenue, Zone P (Public), Section 31, APN 616-041-05.

**RECOMMENDATION:** That the City Council accept the Park Master Plan.

<b>Attachment</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Park Master Plan</li> </ul>

**BACKGROUND:**

The Park was originally dedicated to the public for recreational purposes. On November 15, 2005, the Planning Commission reviewed a Draft Park Master Plan (PMP), and provided the following direction to staff:

- Accessibility – The park and future nature trail, should be handicap accessible.
- Historic Issues – The dilapidated substandard “old hotel” is of little or no historic value and can be demolished. The Historic Society should be consulted in appropriately commemorating the site.
- Parking – Adequate parking should be provided.

On December 6, 2005, the Planning Commission voted to recommend that the City Council accept the project.

The following table summarizes the land use, General Plan and Zoning designations.

Land Use, General Plan and Zoning			
Parcel	Land use	General Plan	Zone
Site	Park	P (Public)	P Public
North	Water District	P (Public)	P (Public)
East	Unimproved	RS-4	RS-4
South	Unimproved	P (Public)	P (Public)
West	Single Family Residential	RS-4	RS-4

**General Plan Recreation Element Compliance**

Section 3 of the General Plan Recreation Element identifies Knott's Sky Park as an existing facility. Goal # 1 states “that the City will prepare a Park Master Plan to guide future decisions on the location of future parks, potential expansion of existing parks and the amenities to be offered at each.” The preparation of this plan is consistent with this goal.

**ADA Compliance**

Per the Americans With Disabilities Act and Title 24 of the California Code of Regulations, the project will be handicapped accessible. Accessibility improvements, including sidewalks are to be constructed in the first phase of park improvements.

**Old Hotel building**

The “Old Hotel” building is substandard, has been “condemned” by the Building Official and cannot reasonably be renovated without significant financial investment. In addition, the building is currently attracting the unwanted attention of vandals, resulting in additional property damage and graffiti. The Parks Committee determined that the building is an “attractive nuisance:” and should be removed. At the Park Committee’s direction, staff researched grants and determined that resources were not available for renovation of this building. At the Commission’s direction, staff will work with the Historic Society to ensure that a historic monument is constructed recalling the role of Knott’s Sky Park in the City’s history.

**Environmental Clearance**

The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), provides for Categorical Exemptions. Section 15301 (Class 1) of the CEQA Guidelines exempts the “minor alteration of existing structures or facilities ” from further environmental review. Therefore, the project is exempt from further environmental review under state law.

**Approval Authority**

The City Council, as legislature and property owner is the final Approval Authority for the Park Master Plan. The Planning Commission may approve the site plan and make a recommendation to the City Council.

**Parks Committee**

The Parks Committee, comprised of Mayor Cole and City Council member Benton, previously recommended approval of the Master Plan by the Planning Commission.



# STAFF REPORT

December 13, 2005

**TO:** CITY COUNCIL AND CITY MANAGER  
**FROM:** COMMUNITY SERVICES DIRECTOR  
**SUBJECT:** SUBMISSION OF APPLICATIONS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2006-2007  
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANTS (CDBG)

## RECOMMENDATION

The City Council approve the submission of projects for the Community Development Block Grants (CDBG) for fiscal year 2006-2007.

## DISCUSSION

Annually, the County of San Bernardino requests applications for use of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds within the City of Twentynine Palms. Various community or governmental organizations throughout the City submit applications for CDBG funds. The deadline for submittal of applications for 2006-2007 is December 15, 2005. The City Council will not be selecting projects for allocation at this time, simply authorizing staff to submit the City's projects for consideration.

All projects sent to the Economic and Community Development Department (ECD) will be reviewed for validity, and meeting the application guidelines. Once reviewed, all projects that are deemed acceptable by ECD are sent back to the City for funding prioritization. The City should receive the CDBG projects in late February of 2006. The City will receive approximately \$130,000 this year in which to allocate toward projects in Twentynine Palms. The ultimate funding decision for use of the CDBG funds given to the City, rest with the City Council.

Once the City Council prioritizes the CDBG projects for funding in March, the projects are sent to the County Board of Supervisors for their approval in April, with funds becoming available in July of 2006.

A brief summary and the estimated project cost of each application are listed below. Copies of the actual applications are available for review at City Hall.

- |    |                               |             |
|----|-------------------------------|-------------|
| 1. | Knott's Sky Park Improvements | \$2,965,000 |
| 2. | Luckie Park Improvements      | \$595,000   |

3.	Restrooms at Sky's The Limit Observatory	\$130,000
4.	Building Addition at Theatre 29	\$405,000
5.	Bucky Bucklin Park	\$ 67,000

Staff is submitting five project proposals from the Community Services, Recreation, Action Council, and Sky's the Limit, in the amount of \$5,032,000. Staff's recommendation is for the Council to approve the submitting of the five projects to ECD.

*"We Create Community Through People, Parks, and Programs."*



# STAFF REPORT

December 13, 2005

**TO:** CITY COUNCIL, AND CITY MANAGER

**FROM:** COMMUNITY SERVICES DIRECTOR

**SUBJECT:** APPROVAL THE ACCEPTANCE OF THE ROBERTI - Z'BERG – HARRIS GRANT FROM THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF BUCKY BUCKLIN PARK

## **RECOMMENDATION**

The City Council approve for the acceptance of \$233,000 in Roberti – Z' Berg – Harris grant funds from the State of California for the development of Bucky Bucklin Park.

## **BACKGROUND**

The City Council approved the submission of the Roberti – Z' Berg – Harris (RZH) grant in December of 2004. In May of 2005, the City was notified they had made the first cut of projects, and would receive a site visit, which followed in August. The City received confirmation from the State Parks and Recreation Department that it will receive \$233,000 dollars of RZH funds. The entire project is estimated at \$408,000. The City has to contribute \$67,000 in CDBG or general funds, with Action Council contributing \$20,000 and donating the property to the City. The remaining \$35,000 is in kind services from the City, volunteer labor, and donated materials from the public.

Therefore, Staff's recommendation is to approve the acceptance of \$233,000 in RZH funds from the State and permit staff to execute the required paperwork for the development of Bucky Bucklin Park.

*“We Create Community Through People, Parks, and Programs.”*



# STAFF REPORT

December 13, 2005

**To: City Council via City Manager**  
**From: Finance Director**  
**Subject: Annual Financial Report**

## **Recommendation:**

The City Council receive and file the financial report.

## **Background**

The City Council has received separately the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report, which presents all the financial activities of the City for the year ended June 30, 2005 and the fund balances as of that date. This includes the Redevelopment Agency, and is an overall view of the City finances.

The notes to the financial statements describe, in detail the various activities and accounting procedures the City uses. The statistical section includes ten-year comparisons of revenue and expenditures.

Staff is available to answer any question you may have.



# STAFF REPORT

December 13, 2005

**To: Redevelopment Agency Board via Executive Director**  
**From: Finance Director**  
**Subject: Redevelopment Agency (RDA) Annual Financial Report and other required reports**

## RECOMMENDATION

The Board receive and file the reports.

## BACKGROUND

The following items are included for the review of the City Council:

- A. The RDA financial statements for the year ended June 30, 2005, forwarded separately.
- B. The Annual Financial Transactions Report to the State Controller.
- C. The Statement of Indebtedness that was prepared for the County Auditor/Controller.
- D. The Housing Activities Report.
- E. The Blight Elimination Report.

To briefly review, the RDA receives most of its income from tax increment. The tax increment results from the increase in property values since the inception of the Agency. Twenty percent of the amount received is set aside in a separate fund for improvements affecting low-to-moderate income housing. One of the major expenditures of the RDA is the pass-through of some of the taxes collected, back to the original taxing agencies (school, water, cemetery districts etc).

The RDA is also included as part of the City financial statements. The purpose of a separate audit report is to monitor compliance with the California Health and Safety Code, which governs RDAs.

Page 27 of the report discloses three items of non-compliance, and the Agency responses.

**Item 1:** Five year plan. The Agency has had some staff turnover during the last year, the Community Development Director is working on an update to the plan.

**Item 2:** Time limit on indebtedness. The City Attorney has prepared an ordinance to be placed on the January 9, 2006 City Council agenda that will correct this item.

**Item 3:** Blight Progress Report. Staff is working to prepare this report on a yearly basis. The report for 2004-2005 is included in this agenda packet.

Staff is available to answer any questions you may have.



## STAFF REPORT

December 13, 2005

**TO:** CITY COUNCIL

**FROM:** COMMUNITY SERVICES DIRECTOR

**SUBJECT:** APPROVE THE AWARDING OF THE SKATEBOARD PARK SECOND PHASE TO J.P.G.C. IN THE AMOUNT OF \$129,077.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

The City Council approve the awarding of the concrete work for the second phase of the Luckie Park Skateboard Park to Joe Putrino of J.P.G.C. in the amount of \$129,077.

### **BACKGROUND**

In 2002, the residents of the State of California passed the second Safe Neighborhood Parks, Clean Water, Clean Air, and Coastal Protection Bond Act, which allocated funds to Cities, Counties, and Park Districts for construction projects within their jurisdictions. The funds are allocated on a Per Capita basis, with the City receiving the minimum amount of \$220,000. The City Council in the spring of 2002 approved the dedication of the funds to the construction of the second phase of the Luckie Park Skateboard Facility.

In October of 2003, the City requested the funds from the State of California Department of Parks and Recreation, and last month staff submitted the application for approval to proceed with the project, with the City receiving the approval to proceed last month. In November, the City Council approved the purchase of the skate park components from Skate Concept, and last week the City Manager approved the lighting for the second phase.

In November, the flat work was put out to bid, with the City receiving three bids on the project. The lowest bid was from J.P.G.C. in the amount of \$129,077, with Pullman Construction at \$129,777, and J.D. Stine at \$145,380. The engineers projected cost for the work was \$90,000 - \$100,000. Due to rising costs of building materials and labor, the City needs to add \$60,000 in reserve funds toward the project. The total cost of the project will be \$270,617, of which \$220,000 is State Per Capita funds. The first phase of the park with lights cost the City approximately \$220,000.

Staff recommendation is for Council to approve the awarding of the second phase of the skate park to J.P.G.C. in the amount of \$129,077.



## **STAFF REPORT**

**To:** City Council  
**From:** City Manager  
**Date:** 12/13/2005

**Subject:** City Council Committee and Agency Liaison Assignments, Reorganization

**Recommendation:** Review Council assignments and appoint Council members to fill various agency seats (continue as necessary).

**Discussion:** Members of the City Council are assigned to represent the city and work with various public agencies as board members, members of committees, or delegates. The Council reassigns these posts every two years.

The amount of required participation varies depending on the agency the Councilmember is assigned to. Although attendance is not always convenient, it is important that the City have continuing representation on these boards and committees because much of the work affects the city fiscally, economically, legally and generally. As a consequence most of the appointments have an alternate delegate who attends if the primary representative is not able to do so.

The Council should give some thought to committing to long term (multiyear) participation as a liaison to some of the agencies because of the values of long term networking, and alliances formed, can positively affect the City's grants and revenues. Participation involves travel to the County seat or other cities in San Bernardino, Riverside, Kern and Los Angeles Counties.

SANBAG is the Council of Governments, all cities and county government in San Bernardino County. It meets monthly.

The Desert Mountain Division is our local alliance group within the statewide League of California Cities. It meets monthly.

The Measure I Committee is the Countywide body that allocates the Measure sales tax to local agencies. It meets monthly.

The Morongo Basin Transit Authority meets monthly.  
The San Bernardino County Flood Control District meets annually or on call of the chair.

The County Solid Waste Task Force and/or Desert/Mountain Joint Powers Integrated Waste Authority meet quarterly or on call of the chair.

The Mojave Desert Air Quality Management District meets monthly or more often depending on business before the District.

Please see attached list of current Council assignments indicating vacancies and meeting times of the various organizations. Most of the appointments require a delegate and an alternate, two for each organization.

**Council Subcommittees:** These are committees formed by the Council on appointment by the Mayor or on request of the City Manager to have Councilmembers work closely with him on focused community issues and formulate recommendations for Council policy. They meet infrequently but as needed.

The City Council's Franchise Subcommittee – Cole, Spear

Neighborhood Clean up Committee – Cole, Spear

Econ Dev Committee – Benton, Klink

Circulation Committee – Cole, Spear

Finance Committee – Benton, Bernal (This Committee traditionally has the Mayor on it)

Personnel Committee – Cole, Spear

Chamber of Commerce Liaison (1 only) – Benton, Alternate, City Manager

Park Committee – Benton, Cole