



CITY OF TWENTYNINE PALMS
STAFF REPORT
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To: City Council

From: Community Development Director via City Manager

Date: January 24, 2006

RE: PC 04-58 – Adopt Ordinance No. 198 amending the General Plan and changing the zone from RS-E (Single Family residential) to P (Public), at 9701 Utah Trail, east of Utah Trail, north of the Joshua Tree National Park, Section 15, APN # 591-081-13 and –14.

RECOMMENDATION: Adopt Ordinance No. 198.

Attachment Ordinance No. 198

BACKGROUND:

The City received an application for a General Plan Amendment, Change of Zone and Site Plan Review on June 8, 2005. The Planning Commission reviewed this project on November 15, 2005 and voted to approve the project on December 20, 2005. The City Council approved the General Plan Amendment, Change of Zone and the first reading of Ordinance No. 198 on January 10, 2006.

Geraldine Hagman, on behalf of Sky's the Limit, a non-profit organization, has filed an application with the City for a General Plan Amendment, Change of Zone and site plan approval to construct an observatory, amphitheater, classroom facility, meditation center, nature trails, desert observation area, caretakers unit, public restrooms and related parking facilities on 10 acres. The Planning Commission previously approved the site plan.

The site is designated by the General Plan and zoned RS-E. The Single Family Residential (RS) General Plan designation allows Institutional uses that are designed to be integrated into the neighborhood in which they are located, so as to maintain the integrity of the neighborhood. The applicant requests a General Plan Amendment and Change of Zone to Public (P). The "P" designation allows City facilities, parks, golf courses, schools and other public uses.

SUMMARY:

Staff recommends that the City Council adopt Ordinance No. 198. If adopted, the Ordinance becomes effective in thirty days, on February 23, 2006.

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF TWENTYNINE PALMS AMENDING THE GENERAL PLAN DESIGNATION AND CHANGING ZONING OF THE PARCELS IDENTIFIED AS ASSESSORS PARCEL NUMBERS 591-081-13 AND 591-081-14 FROM SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENTIAL (RS-E) TO PUBLIC (P)

THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TWENTYNINE PALMS, CALIFORNIA, DOES ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. Findings:

Whereas, the community seeks to expand and enhance the range of educational opportunities within the community; and

Whereas, the community is desirous of enhancing the range of visitor services available within the community; and

Whereas, due to the proximity of the site in relation to the Joshua Tree National Park, the City finds that changing the zoning designation from Single Family Residential to Public is consistent with the intent of the goals and policies of the General Plan; and

Whereas, the General Plan Amendment and Zone Change will therefore result in an appropriate and desirable development; and

Whereas, the General Plan Amendment and Zone Change is consistent with the intent of the goals and policies of the General Plan as a whole, and is not inconsistent with any element thereof; and

Whereas, the General Plan Amendment and Zone Change includes reasonable controls and standards to ensure compatibility and integrity of those uses with other established uses; and

Whereas, the General Plan Amendment and Zone Change provides reasonable property development rights while protecting environmentally sensitive land uses and species; and

Whereas, the General Plan Amendment and Zone Change ensures protection of the general health, safety, and welfare of the community.

SECTION 2. Effective Date

This ordinance shall become effective on the thirtieth day following its adoption.

SECTION 3. Amendment of Zoning Map

Upon the effective date of this Ordinance, the General Plan and Zoning designation as shown on the City's General Plan Land Use/Zoning Map, for the parcel identified as APN 591-081-13 AND 591-081-14 shall be changed from Single Family Residential to Public.

Kevin Cole, Mayor

ATTEST:

Charlene L. Sherwood, City Clerk

CERTIFICATION

I, Charlene L. Sherwood, City Clerk of the City of Twentynine Palms, California, do hereby certify that the foregoing Ordinance No. 198 was introduced and placed upon its first reading at a regular meeting of the City Council on the 10th day of January 2006. That thereafter, said Ordinance was duly adopted and passed at a regular meeting of the City Council on the 24th day of January 2006, by the following vote, to wit:

AYES:	COUNCILMEMBERS
NOES:	COUNCILMEMBERS
ABSENT:	COUNCILMEMBERS
ABSTAIN:	COUNCILMEMBERS

Charlene L. Sherwood, City Clerk



STAFF REPORT

January 24, 2006

To: City Council via City Manager
From: Finance Director
Subject: Upgrading the Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) Fuel Station

RECOMMENDATION

The City Council approve the use of City Special Funds totaling \$78,450 as matching funds for the Morongo Basin Transit Authority (MBTA) grant to install an improved CNG station at the City Public Works Yard.

BACKGROUND

Enclosed is a letter from the General Manager of the MBTA requesting City participation in the upgrade of the fueling station. The funds are requested from two sources:

1. AB2766 funds that the City has accumulated over the years. These funds are restricted to very specific projects having to do with air quality. In the past the City has had a hard time finding uses for these funds that would be productive. The current balance of the funds on hand is \$91,873. The Fund receives approximately \$15,000 in revenue each year. MBTA has requested \$50,000 of these funds, for which the City has no current or long-term allocations.
2. LTF Funds, also know as Article 8. Article 8 funds are used for public transit purposes, any excess funds are then allocated to cities and the county and can be used for a great variety of transportation related purposes; street improvements and construction, curbs and gutters, sidewalks, bike paths, and traffic safety. The current balance of the City's Article 8 funds is \$722,968, the current two-year budget projects an unappropriated fund balance of \$316,274 at June 30, 2007.

The funds MBTA wants to use (\$28,450) would come out of an additional allocation of approximately \$147,000 for the current year that has not been previously budgeted. The \$28,450 would be reallocated by SANBAG, and would not be reflected in the City accounts.

**CITY OF TWENTYNINE PALMS
PROCLAMATION**

“National Wear Red Day”

WHEREAS, National Wear Red Day celebrates the extraordinary progress in women’s heart health and recognizes that more needs to be done in Twentynine Palms, CA to safeguard women’s health for generations to come.

WHEREAS, Heart disease is the #1 killer of women and one in three American women dies of heart disease.

WHEREAS, Most women do not know that heart disease is a women’s problem and they do not take it seriously.

WHEREAS, The risk factors for heart disease are smoking, high blood pressure, high cholesterol, overweight/obesity, physical inactivity, diabetes, a family history of early heart disease, and age.

WHEREAS, Women can promote their own heart health and prevent disease and illness by taking steps to prevent and control the heart disease risk factors.

WHEREAS, Keeping women healthy and promoting awareness of women’s health issues, including heart health, is an important responsibility and depends on the actions of many organizations and groups in our community.

WHEREAS, Women’s health remains a priority for families, communities, and government, and our commitment to keeping women healthy is stronger than ever.

WHEREAS, *The Heart Truth* campaign and its Red Dress symbol are building awareness of women’s heart disease risk and empowering them to reduce their risk and prevent heart disease.

THEREFORE, Twentynine Palms women need to take action to make heart health a priority for themselves and their families, become aware of their personal risk factors for heart disease, and take action to lower their risk.

NOW, THEREFORE, I Kevin Cole, Mayor of Twentynine Palms, CA, do hereby proclaim Friday, February 3, 2006, as National Wear Red Day in Twentynine Palms and encourage all citizens to wear red to unite in the national movement to give women a personal and urgent wake-up call about their risk of heart disease.

DATED this 24th day of January, 2006.

Kevin Cole, Mayor

TWENTYNINE PALMS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND VISITORS BUREAU

MONTHLY RECAP REPORT: December, 2005

Even though The Chamber did not have a formal membership recruitment effort in 2005, more than 37 businesses and individuals became investors in the organization for the first time. 96% of current investors stayed with the Twentynine Palms Chamber. That retention rate is above that of many other Chambers.

Chamber's statistics for 2005 shows a 71% increase in phone calls and a 38% increase of visitors. Mailing visitor packets was down by 9%; however, increase in web usage is taken into account for this. Our current web site did not go live until November 2004, so there is not a comparison percentage to attach at this time.

The Chamber's 11th Annual Winter Light Parade was a great success held on December 10, 2005. There were 33 entries and the city's curbs were filled with her citizens. Downtown merchants extended their business hours to accommodate holiday shoppers.

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;*
- *RV Journal Winter 2005-06;*
- *California Drives 2005;*
- *Copper Mountain College Spring Schedule of Classes 2006;*
- *California 2006 State Visitor's Guide and Travel Planner;*
- *Stomping Ground, January-March 2006*

Gift Shop -

- Sales in Gift Shop for December 2005: \$269.00

December New Members: 2

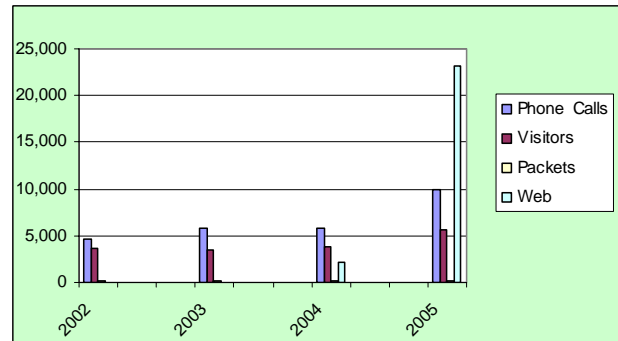
Total Chamber Members: 243

Contact Statistics: December 2005:

Phone Calls: 718
 Visitors: 1,645
 Web Count: 1,909
 Information Packets Mailed: 11

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	9,991	5,623	116	23,244



MARKETING

- 2006 Antique Auto Calendars were personally delivered to 75% of Chamber membership and tourists are picking them up daily;
- Preparing for submission of articles with information regarding Spring Events to newspapers, magazines, and clubs;

TOURS, CONFERENCES & MEETINGS

- Chamber and 29 Rotary partnership “State of the County” address by First District Supervisor Postmus;
- Chamber will co-sponsor the California Desert National Parks Workshop for Business Leaders, January 24, 2006, Yucca Valley.

OTHER MARKETING

Chamber will capitalize event information regarding the following:

- State of the County Address by First District Supervisor Postmus on January 11th;
- Mixer at Curves, January 19, 5pm to 7pm;
- California Desert National Parks Workshop for Business Leaders, January 24th.

The following articles highlighted Twentynine Palms area and events:

- *Consciousness, Literature and the Arts, “Nates,” December 2005*
- *Flak Photos by J. Daniel Janzen, December 2005;*
- *Legends of America, “Ghost Town Stretch Across the Mojave Desert, December 2005;*
- *US-Parks, Twentynine Palms, December 2005;*
- *Google Earth Hacks, File Download Overlay of Camp Wilson aboard base, December 2005;*
- *The Black and Blue Bottom, “2005 Furnace Creek 508”, December Edition;*
- *Classic Truck World, “Truck of the Week”, December 2005;*
- *California Academy of Sciences Naturalist Center, “California A to Z”, December 3, 2005;*
- *NPR, “California Base Hit Hard”, December 3rd;*
- *KESQ, Fallen Twentynine Palms Marines remembered by loved ones”, December 5, 2005;*
- *Dawn Internet, A funeral, not a wedding”, December 6, 2005;*
- *Editor & Publisher, “Marine’s Account of Atrocities Hit Again by Journalists,”, December 10, 2005;*
- *Virtual Tucson Magazine, “Hot Shoe Salon 2005,” December 22,2005;*

- *Ludlow News, “Charpied’s Hoyt Award,” December 21, 2005;*
- *California BBQ Association, “29 Palms Winterfest for the family Troops,” December 22, 2005;*
- *Southern California Camping, “Joshua Tree Christmas Bird Count”, December 22, 2005;*
- *Navajo Times, Letter to the Editor, “Meditating on freedom,” December 22, 2005;*
- *Daily Press, “ ‘Support Junkie’ has soft spot for soldiers, Marines,” December 22, 2005;*
- *DQNews, “California Home Sales Price Medians by Cities”, December 22, 2005;*
- *San Bernadino Sun Newspaper, “Radio station raises whopping sum for Katrina victims”, December 29, 2005.*

NETWORKING

- San Bernadino Airport Commission Lunch, December 1, 2005;
- Lighting of City Christmas Tree;
- Twentynine Palms Rotary Partnership forum, December 7, 2005;
- Basin Wide Foundation Breakfast, December 8, 2005;
- Roughly Manor Mixer, December 15, 2005;
- General Zilmer’s Christmas Social, December 17, 2005;
- M.B. Ec. Dev. Consortium, December 21, 2005;

BUSINESS & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS

- Chamber and 29 Rotary partnership presenting First District Supervisor Bill Postmus’ “State of the County Address,” January 11, 2006, noon @ Theater 29.

MILITARY AFFAIRS

- Chamber sponsored Bike Show for USMC Toys for Tots Poker Run, December 10th.
- 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

State of the County Address by First Supervisor Bill Postmus, January 11, 2006, Noon, at Theater 29.

January Mixer will be at Curves, 73471 29 Palms Highway from 5pm to 7pm on January 19th.

California Desert National Parks Workshop for Business Leaders, January 24th, 9am-4pm at the Yucca Valley Community Building.

Twentynine Palms Chamber of Commerce
Phone Call/Visitor Breakdown for the Month of December 2005

Subject	Phone Calls	Walk-Ins
Action Council		5
Adopt A Marine Unit		1
Art Galleries	10	29
Bank		4
Blue Star Memorial		6
Camping	6	9
Chamber Business	104	451
Craft Fairs		8
Demographics	5	22
Development	6	6
Directions	23	14
Drive-In		2
Entertainment	1	29
Gift Shop	20	15
Gift Certificates		8
Golf		17
Government	8	23
Information 411	34	45
Job Information		14
Joshua Tree N.P.	24	53
Laundromat		6
Light Parade	81	172
Lodging	38	20
Maps	19	70
Marine Base	7	14
Marketing	7	15
Miscellaneous	53	58
Mixers	7	46
Motor Cycle Run	72	
Murals	6	21
Newspaper	6	6
Nursery		3
Packet Requests (Relocation)	3	8
Phone Books	23	266
Pioneer Days	4	
RealtorsRentals, Homes, Apartments, Business	33	18
Restaurants	30	48
Road Conditions	6	
RV Parks	16	36
Street Fair/Car Show	2	
Sunrunner Magazine	12	58
Toys for Tots	16	8
Transportation	27	
Weather	9	11
TOTAL	718	1645

Packets Mailed

11



STAFF REPORT

January 24, 2006

TO: CITY COUNCIL VIA CITY MANAGER

FROM: COMMUNITY SERVICES DIRECTOR

SUBJECT: APPROVE THE AWARDING OF THE SENIOR CITIZENS TILE WORK TO CARPET N THINGS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$36,500.

RECOMMENDATION

The City Council approve the awarding of the tile work at the Senior Citizens Center to Carpet N Things in the amount of \$36,500.

BACKGROUND

In February 2005, the City Council approved awarding \$62,400 in Community Development Block Grant funds to the Rehabilitation of the Senior Citizens Center. The three main components of the rehabilitation consisted of the retiling of the facility, new air conditioning and swamp coolers, and refurbishing of the kitchen area, which included the purchase of a new stove.

In December, the tiling was put out to bid to four local businesses. Carpet N Things was the only bidder in the amount of \$36,500. The work includes removal and disposing of existing tile, installing new tile and base board, grouting and sealing for the majority of the facility. The new Reach Out Office and the thrift store have new carpet, and were not included in the bid.

Staff recommendation is for Council to approve the awarding of the tile work to Carpet N Things in the amount of \$36,500.