

**AGENDA MEMO - COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT****CITY COUNCIL MEETING DATE: JUNE 21, 2023****DEPARTMENT: COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT****ITEM DESCRIPTION: ADOPTION OF EAST LAS VEGAS SPECIAL AREA PLAN**

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

<b>CASE NUMBER</b>	<b>RECOMMENDATION</b>	<b>REQUIRED FOR APPROVAL</b>
<b>23-0094-DIR1</b>	Staff recommends APPROVAL.	

**\*\* NOTIFICATION \*\*****NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATIONS NOTIFIED**

n/a

**NOTICES MAILED**

n/a

**\*\* STAFF REPORT \*\***

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

The City of Las Vegas is requesting adoption of the Nuestro Futuro Este Las Vegas (Our Future East Las Vegas) Special Area Plan, covering the East Las Vegas area of the City. This plan consists of additional specific activities largely consistent with the City Las Vegas 2050 Master Plan and if adopted, would support the ongoing implementation within the geographic boundaries of the area. The attached special area plan (Exhibit A) is a supplement to the City of Las Vegas 2050 Master Plan and is recommended to be considered for adoption by resolution of City Council.

**ISSUES**

- Section 5 of Ordinance 6788 designates sixteen areas of the city representing the collection of neighborhoods, districts, and nodes of various parts of the city, as described within Chapter 2 of the 2050 Master Plan. The City is directed to work with persons that represent each area to develop a plan and establish priorities for implementing recommended improvements.
- Adoption of the Nuestro Futuro East Las Vegas Special Area Plan achieves an outcome of the 2050 Master Plan to adopt a specific plan for each area of the city for the purposes of ongoing plan implementation.

**ANALYSIS**

On July 21, 2021, the City Council adopted the City of Las Vegas 2050 Master Plan as the new long-range comprehensive master plan for the City of Las Vegas (Ordinance 6788). The 2050 Master Plan addresses the comprehensive range of elements required by NRS 278.160. For each element, goals, key actions and implementation strategies, and outcomes address short and long-term opportunities and challenges. Chapter 2 describes sixteen areas, their socio-economic and demographic attributes, land use, community services and amenities, and infrastructure, as well as how the Master Plan's elements may interact with each geographic area.

To implement various components of the 2050 Master Plan or a special area plan thereof, Chapter 5 details tools for each of the Key Actions, which may be implemented short-term, long-term, or on an ongoing basis by City departments, external stakeholders, or community groups. These tools include:

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- Local policy or regulation: actions taken by the City Council or Planning Commission by ordinance, resolution, or action by the City Manager or through the City's departments.
- City Programs: carrying out new or existing City programs, whether delegated from the Plan, the City's Strategic Plan, through the City Manager, or NRS.
- Capital Improvements: development, provision, and maintenance of physical infrastructure, recommended through the annual Capital Improvement Planning process.
- Federal/State Legislative policy: due in part to the limitations of limited functional home-rule, supportive changes to NRS or to the City's Charter may be needed to implement components of the plan and must be advocated for in Carson City during a legislative session. Similarly, Federal tools and resources can assist the City through one-time projects or ongoing support of required programs or service provision.
- Partnerships: Implementation through collaborative efforts with regional partners or agencies.

The Nuestro Futuro Este Las Vegas plan (Nuestro Futuro) represents the City's second area plan (after the Vision 2045 Downtown Las Vegas Masterplan). The City Council retained SmithGroup for plan development and Ericka Aviles Consulting for public outreach and community input. Beginning April 2022, and lasting through much of the year, the plan development team collected information for the plan and conducted outreach at events throughout East Las Vegas in both English and Spanish, reaching over 1,500 people. The plan development team also employed use of various online surveys and pop-ups at neighborhood locations. An advisory committee, consisting of stakeholders from within East Las Vegas, helped inform and advised the City and SmithGroup at various points during the plan development process.

Throughout public input, community members and surveys indicated people continue to be concerned about the following top challenges:

- Neighborhood crime and public safety
- Housing affordability and accessibility
- Improve access to essential services, such as food and health care
- Creation of jobs and economic development opportunities
- Improvement of education metrics and provide more space for job training
- Provide cultural opportunities and space
- Reduce impacts of the urban heat island effect
- Improve availability and accessibility of parks and open space

Plan's content was drafted through the latter half of 2022. Comments were accepted from stakeholders and the general public in Spring 2023.

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The plan, written in both English and Spanish, consists of several chapters built around a framework of “Live,” “Work,” “Play,” and “Invest,” each aligning with the 2050 Master Plan’s guiding principles of equity, health, innovation, resilience, and livability. The plan recommends the following ongoing implementation activities:

- The NRSA (Neighborhood Revitalization Strategy Area) Action Plan, through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), is occurring concurrently within East Las Vegas. The NRSA aims to empower the community to determine the future of the neighborhood. The city will support the neighborhood’s needs by providing tools and investments needed to help the community thrive, while also exploring safeguards to gentrification and displacement.
- Improve East Las Vegas’ access to healthcare, safer homes and streets, remediation of poor air quality, urban heat island effects, and better access to fresh food.
- Plant more trees and improve drought tolerant landscaping to help reduce the impacts of the urban heat island effect in East Las Vegas, providing necessary shade on private property, along sidewalks, trails, and in parks. These should include native species for a resilient ecosystem. Additional infill parks and open spaces are similarly needed to promote mobility, recreation, and improve health outcomes.
- Prioritization and reinvestment in East Las Vegas streets and sidewalks so that they encourage connectivity, safety, wellness and contribute to a greater sense of place and identity. The city and its public partners have the opportunity to catalyze tremendous change through public realm improvements along streets like Bonanza Road, the Las Vegas Wash and the park network.
- Reinvigorate the aging commercial corridors of East Las Vegas into mixed-use centers and corridors through new transit-oriented zoning while supporting existing businesses and community members. Dense corridors with a mixture of business and housing can increase access to transit and resources, and create a greater sense of place.
- Promote and connect agencies, non-profits, and city programs, maximizing capacity to improve business development and strengthen intergenerational educational opportunities, childcare, workforce development, business assistance and incubators. This especially includes health and technology industries by investing in STEAM education and job training.

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A summary of applicable capital projects, policies, and programming is also included, as well as estimated timelines and costs for implementation. Project fact sheets summarize major undertakings that are either underway or can be further developed and explored. Among them, major projects include:

- Tree canopy improvements
- Food access and community gardens / urban agriculture
- Development of Desert Pines Golf Course into a new mixed-use neighborhood with affordable housing
- Reconstruct Bonanza Rd into a “Grand Paseo” main street
- Stewart Ave complete street with cycletrack
- Wayfinding and gateway signage
- Construct infill sidewalks and pedestrian and bicycle safety improvements
- Improve the Las Vegas Wash Trail
- Develop new community hubs
- Invest in more public art
- Completion of Arroyo Vista Park (Harris/Marion)
- Implement the Vision Zero Action Plan for pedestrian safety in collaboration with RTC and LVMPD
- Improve safety along Suggested Routes to School
- Safe Home, Improvements Funding and Training program (SHIFT)

The full plan in its entirety, its goals, and future recommendations are outlined in Exhibit A.

**FINDINGS (23-0094-DIR1)**

- The Nuestro Futuro Este Las Vegas Special Area Plan for the East Las Vegas area (Exhibit A) is consistent with Section 5 of ordinance 6788. The plan supplements the City of Las Vegas 2050 Master Plan and is a vision document intended to guide future development and plan implementation activities within East Las Vegas and does not contain additional regulatory authority or obligate funding.

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## BACKGROUND INFORMATION

<b><i>Related Relevant City Actions by Planning, Fire, Bldg., etc.</i></b>	
4/1/1992	The Las Vegas City Council adopted the City of Las Vegas General Plan
9/6/2000	The Las Vegas City Council adopted the Las Vegas Master Plan 2020 (Ordinance 2000-62)
Adoption of Master Plan 2020 Elements and Amendments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Community Design Element:</b> Ord 5997 (08/06/2008)</li> <li>• <b>Conservation Element:</b> Ord 5529 (PC: 8.22.02 / CC: 11.6.02); Rev: GPA-6287, 6.1.05; GPA-43977, 5.2.12</li> <li>• <b>Economic Element:</b> Ord 6057 (9/2/2009)</li> <li>• <b>Historic Properties &amp; Neighborhoods Preservation Plan Element:</b> Ord 5931 (09.05.2007); Rev: Ord 6104 (08.04.2010)</li> <li>• <b>Housing Element:</b> Ord 6246 (04.17.2013)</li> <li>• <b>Land Use &amp; Rural Neighborhoods Preservation Element:</b> Ord (09.02.2009); Rev: Ord (06.20.2018)</li> <li>• <b>Parks Element:</b> Res 44-2000 (03.15.200); Rev: Ord 6290 (11.20.2013)</li> <li>• <b>Population Element:</b> Ord 6078 (02.17.2010)</li> <li>• <b>Public Facilities &amp; Building Element:</b> Ord 6364 (11.19.2014)</li> <li>• <b>Safety &amp; Seismic Safety Element:</b> Ord 6103 (08.04.2010)</li> <li>• <b>Trails Element:</b> Ord 6237 (2/20/2013)</li> <li>• <b>Transit Element:</b> Ord 5968 (2/20/2008)</li> <li>• <b>Transportation &amp; Streets and Highway Element:</b> Ord 6038 (4/15/2009)</li> <li>• <b>Water Element:</b> GPA-6288 (6/1/2005)</li> </ul>
4/12/2016	DIR-63603 – The Planning Commission received a presentation and update on the Downtown Master Plan
5/10/2016	DIR-64287 – The Planning Commission received a presentation and update on the Downtown Master Plan
6/15/2016	The Las Vegas City Council received a presentation and adopted the Vision 2045 Downtown Las Vegas Masterplan (R-25-2016).
11/10/2020	20-0266-DIR1 - The Planning Commission received a report for discussion and possible action to discuss adoption of the City of Las Vegas 2050 Master Plan.
7/21/2021	The Las Vegas City Council adopted the City of Las Vegas 2050 Master Plan (Ordinance 6788)
7/12/2022	22-0294-GPA1 - The Planning Commission approved an amendment and update to portions of the City of Las Vegas 2050 Master Plan.
8/17/2022	The Las Vegas City Council adopted the City of Las Vegas 2050 Master Plan amendments and update to portions of the City of Las Vegas 2050 Master Plan consistent with Section 11 of Ordinance 6788.
05/09/23	The Planning Commission voted (7-0) to recommend APPROVAL of a request to adopt the Nuestro Futuro Este Las Vegas Special Area Plan for the East Las Vegas area, Ward 3 (Diaz)

**\*\*SUPPLEMENTAL MATERIAL\*\***

- **Exhibit A** – Nuestro Futuro Este Las Vegas Special Area Plan (attached to backup materials) – may be accessed at [www.lasvegasnevada.gov/nuestrofuturo](http://www.lasvegasnevada.gov/nuestrofuturo).