

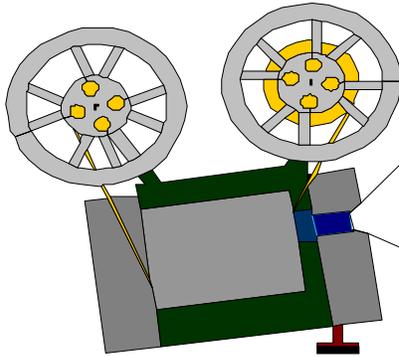
THE CITY OF RIDGECREST MONTHLY REPORT



MAY 2008

Date: June 15, 2008

cc: Department Heads;
News Media



SHORT TAKES

Written, Produced & Directed
by:

Harvey M. Rose,
City Manager

for:

City of Ridgecrest
Mayor, and
City Council



"Retail sales jumped by the largest amount in six months in May as 57 million economic stimulus payments helped offset the headwinds buffeting consumers. The commerce Department reported that retail sales soared 1% last month, the biggest increase since November. A wide variety of retailers enjoyed a good month, including the biggest increase at department stores and other general merchandise stores in a year. The May increase was double what economists had been expecting and indicated that the economy is getting a major boost from the \$50 billion in economic stimulus payments the government sent out in May, just under half of the total stimulus aimed at consumers."



Council Meetings, Staff Meetings, news briefings, radio commentaries, newspaper column.



Tom Mulvihill, IWV Water District; monthly meeting to discuss mutual projects and problems.



Periodic meeting of Base Commander, Executive Officer, Schools Superintendent, College President, County CAO, and City Manager to discuss mutual projects and problems.



Meeting with Washington lobbyists.



Meeting with Wastewater Treatment Plant designers.



Meetings regarding Wal-Mart Supercenter project.



Th-th-th-that's all folks!!!



City Of Ridgecrest

Parks Recreation And Cultural Affairs Department

Monthly Report

May –June 2008

RPRD

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- James Monroe Graduation
- Recreation Activities Abound
- Parks and Recreation Background Check Procedure updated for 2008

Huge Turn Out For Summer Activities

The Ridgecrest Parks and Recreation Department held sign-ups for all summer activities during a 3 day sign-up event at the end of May.

The three day sign-up event began on Tuesday May 27th with about 300 people signing up for summer day camp and arts and crafts classes such as Necklace making, paper airplane crafting and a brand new board game camp, just to name a few.

Wednesday May 28th brought another 300 people to sign up for all of the aquatics programs such as swimming lessons, diving camp, and water polo.

Thursday May 29th proved to be the busiest night when over 300 people came to sign-up for the many sports camps such as UK International Soccer, Flag Football, and Basketball camps. The popularity of these sports camps and the volume of sign-ups for each one

prompted the expansion of some camps into second and even third sessions, something which has never happened before.

Sign-ups for summer activities are ongoing on a space available basis throughout the summer and we continue to receive many new sign-ups each day.



Customers waiting to get into the sign-up area.



People line up inside the sign-up area.

Department Offers Activities For All Ages

The Ridgecrest Parks and Recreation Department has always offered a wide variety of programs and activities for everyone in the community and that list continues to grow every year. From Stained Glass to Flag Football, there is something for everyone.

Youth activities abound at the Parks and Recreation Department. Each program aims to bestow upon the youth of our community the values of hard work, discipline and team work. Values which will

aid them far into the future. From Soccer and Football, to Pre-School and Day Camp the Parks and Recreation Department offers numerous activities to get youth out of the house and into some fun. Record breaking enrollment in all activities has prompted the department to offer multiple camps and classes as well as expand current programs to meet the need.

Though most of our programs are youth biased, we have plenty of activi-

ties for adults as well. Adult Kung Fu and Karate, Stained Glass classes and a Variety of Cooking classes are but a few of the activities we have available and new classes are being added all the time.



Youth finish up a drill in our Flag Football Camp, one of our most popular camps.

James Monroe Holds Graduation At KMCC

Over 500 people came to the Kerr McGee Center on Thursday June 5th to watch as James Monroe Junior High School's 8th graders walked the aisle to receive recognition for their hard work and to reflect on their years at the school before they begin their journey to High School and beyond.

The Parks and Recreation Department Congratulates all who graduated and wish you well.



Family and friends look on as the graduates walk the aisle at KMCC.

KMCC THE PLACE TO BE

Parks and Recreation Background Check Process

Editor's Note:

A new summer activity season is upon us and with that comes the addition of quite a few staff, volunteers and independent contractors. For the Ridgecrest Parks and Recreation Department the safety of every participant in our programs is our #1 priority, because of this, we feel it is important to re-emphasize this subject and update the public on our background check procedures.

In the May 2007 issue of Parks & Recreation Magazine there was an article about background checks in Parks and Recreation Departments, you may read that article on pages 4-6 of this report.

The Ridgecrest Parks and Recreation department would like to explain a little about our background check procedure and what it means to our customers and participants of our programs.

The City of Ridgecrest performs a procedure called a Live Scan on all potential volunteers and employees to ensure the safety of the youth who participate in Parks and Recreation Programs. The Live Scan procedure performed by the City of Ridgecrest

strictly conforms with the laws set forth by the State of California.

New to the 2008 season, in addition to the Live Scan process, the Ridgecrest Parks and Recreation Department has instituted a local background check on all Staff, Volunteers (ie. Coaches) and Independent Contractors. This local background check is handled by the local Police Department and is an extra layer of protection to keep all of our participants safe. Any questions regarding this, or any of our other policies may be directed to 499-5151.

Whats New @ KMCC

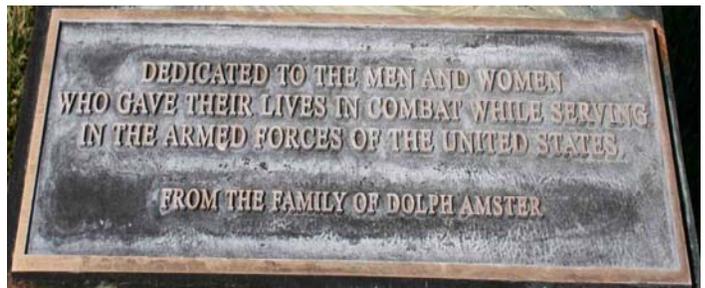
A new shade structure for KMCC's new playground



The Dolph Amster Family donated this sculpture which was placed in Veteran's Memorial Park at KMCC. The plaque reads:

Dedicated to the men and women who gave their lives in combat while serving in the armed forces of the United States.

From the family of Dolph Amster



HIDING IN THE

BACKGROUND

What your park or recreation agency doesn't know about a potential employee could present unforeseen danger.

By Randy Rodebaugh and Camille Sweger



Learn how one sexual predator slipped through the cracks in a small Wisconsin town.

www.nrpa.org/p&r

We have all heard the horror stories of children abducted, molested and sometimes murdered.

Reports of attacks on our youth are happening at an alarming rate in our society. And unfortunately, we are also exposed to increasing incidents of our elderly becoming victims of fraud, burglary or theft because they have simply entrusted the wrong person.

In addition, national crime statistics clearly indicate that children and other

vulnerable populations, such as the elderly and persons with disabilities, are at risk as victims of crime. Incidents can occur in large, metropolitan cities or small, rural communities.

Too often we read news accounts of these incidents and learn once again the perpetrator had a deep history of this crime on his record, but was entrusted to have a close relationship with his victim—whether with children as a coach, mentor or teacher; or as a trusted companion to an elderly or disabled citizen.

America's youth, elderly and people

with disabilities are by far the most commonly targeted. In order to make contact with this susceptible population, many of the perpetrators use the guise of becoming a volunteer at local agencies or community centers where defenseless people of all ages are entrusted to adult caregivers. Once the predator has gained access to his victim, he can easily manipulate his way into a position of trust, power and control.

These incidents beg the question: What can park and recreation agencies do to thwart occurrences on their turf?

Action at the Local Level

We all have the responsibility to do everything we can to ensure the safety and well being of the people most vulnerable in our communities. Proactively taking measures to identify those individuals who are dangerous and pose threats to society before they have access is a must. More and more, these measures include the use of criminal background checks on prospective adult volunteers. This goes a long way to provide a shield of safety for communities.

“For years, we have required volunteers to complete an application and get fingerprinted,” says Andre Pichly, recreation superintendent for the city of West Sacramento Parks and Recreation Department. “We believe that the comprehensive background checks will discourage those individuals who are not safe to work with our customers from volunteering.”

Background checks have been available for many years and have been part of the general employment screening process for decades. Typically, background checks consist of auditing an applicant’s past for criminal activities or other character flaws that may increase risk or danger to others.

Reviewing someone’s criminal history is a relatively new concept to park and recreation agencies and other volunteer-driven organizations, but it has shown a steady increase since the early 2000s. Now, this safety measure is fast-becoming the standard for organizations that rely on volunteers to work with the most vulnerable populations.

Types of Background Checks

There are many valuable resources for obtaining complete background checks of any individual who will be interacting with our youth, elderly or persons with disabilities. Finding the best provider for this service, along with a cost-effective means to fund the endeavor, are usually the biggest hurdles for most communities.

Whether you choose a law enforcement agency or a private organization to partner with on this important program, there are a few key elements that need to be included:

Social Security verification—It is a helpful step to verify applicant’s name

and date of birth.

Address trace information—Gives an address history of each applicant.

Local county or state criminal record search—Most current and thorough source of applicant’s residence.

National Criminal Record Database search—Allows access to supplemental criminal records outside of the state or county residence.

Multi-state sex offender registry search—Many states are available online to supplement criminal checks.

Note that it is important that the reports should identify the criminal activity in categories (i.e. violence, sex offenses and drug offenses) rather than

NRPA Issues National Recommendations, Launches New Initiative



To address the public safety concerns associated with volunteer access to vulnerable populations, NRPA has issued a set of national recommendations to qualify, credential and properly train volunteers for public service in park and recreation settings. Operation TLC² Making Communities Safe is a comprehensive management resource that outlines a quality volunteer management framework and provides affordable and administratively efficient services to implement the national recommendations, particu-

larly for programs serving the most vulnerable individuals. Participating organizations will obtain the special designation of “Charter Organization” and will receive premium access to an online volunteer training program and national visibility through NRPA.

For more information on the national recommendations and Operation TLC² Making Communities Safe, visit www.nrpa.org/tlc2 or contact NRPA at programs@nrpa.org.

What You May Not Know

3% of the volunteer applicants have serious criminal histories (including sex offense, crime of violence or other felony)

10% of these volunteer applicants have criminal histories

14% of these volunteer applicants have criminal histories outside their current state of residence
Source: SSCJ

There are 550,000 convicted sex offenders in the United States

24% of these sex offenders are unaccounted for

Source: CBS Special Report

list each specific crime (i.e., assault, battery and aggravated assault)

Once these elements are in place, there are other important procedures that first should be approved by your agency attorney. Depending on your jurisdiction, there may be specific laws that will govern some of your policies. These include policy and authorization form language, Fair Credit Reporting Act compliance and due diligence—would it hold up in a court of law?

It has not been uncommon in the past for organizations to spend between \$50 and \$75 to run a comprehensive local and national search on one individual. However, because of technology enhancements and the private sector's renewed focus on the volunteer industry, you can find some programs that will charge less than \$25 for a comprehensive due-diligent search.

Disqualification

Defining the criteria for disqualifying

individuals from volunteer service positions is frequently the most difficult challenge faced by local agencies. This issue is sensitive and draws many debates with diverse opinions. Of course, there is no question when it comes to keeping all sex offenders away from our children. However, there are other crimes that pose a potential threat.

Typically, each community has worked to define its own unique set of standards for what it considers disqualifying criteria. Unfortunately, beyond evaluating specific crime history, there are no other clear-cut guidelines or recommendations in place to assist communities with this critical step.

Background Checks Are Working

For a variety of reasons, some applicants with serious offenses sometimes feel their records will not be found or that the check is not actually going to be done. "Out of the 150,000 volunteers we screened last year, we turned away

4,500 because of sex offenses, violence or other felony criminal records," says Byron Palmer, vice president of South-eastern Security Consultants, Inc.

While many people subscribe to the belief that sex offenders are the biggest threat to our kids, the harsh reality is that most of those volunteers excluded reflect a history of violence including murder, homicide and aggravated robbery with intent to kill.

One by one, park and recreation agencies, along with other local entities, are taking the necessary steps to make background checks a basic foundation of their volunteer management program. It is an essential and fundamental step in the application process to maintain public trust in public agencies.

This expectation of trust is an important value to all park and recreation agencies and professionals. Protecting customers from the risk of violence should be an agency's first priority.



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- Lightweight
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- Fast, easy installation
- Weather and slip resistant
- Suited for indoor and outdoor use
- Can be personalized with name or logo

For more information, call SafeStructure at (440) 337-1584 or visit our website at www.safestructure.com.

31875 Solon Road
 Solon, Ohio 44139
 Ph: (440) 337-1584
 TomS@safestructure.com

CIRCLE 19 ON PRODUCT INFORMATION CARD OR VISIT WWW.NRPA.ORG/FREEINFO

Kerr McGee Community Center
Weekly Schedule

**May 26, 2008 -
June 01, 2008**

May 2008							June 2008						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
			1	2	3	4							1
18							22						
19	5	6	7	8	9	10	23	2	3	4	5	6	7
20	12	13	14	15	16	17	24	9	10	11	12	13	14
21	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	26	27	28	29	30	31	26	23	24	25	26	27	28
							27	30					

26	Monday	27	Tuesday
		7:00am 9:30am Senior Fitness with Patrice Johnson; Aerobics Rm ☺	
		8:00am 9:00pm GYM CLOSED - BLUE FLOORING; n/s gym ☺	
		5:30pm 7:30pm Aerobics; Aerobics Rm ☺	
		6:00pm 7:30pm SUMMER REG - SPORTS CAMPS; Pinnacles ☺	
		7:45pm 9:00pm Kung Fu; Aerobics Rm ☺	
28	Wednesday	29	Thursday
7:00am 11:00am Senior Fitness with Patrice Johnson; Aerobics Room ☺		7:00am 9:30am Senior Fitness with Patrice Johnson; Aerobics Rm ☺	
8:00am 9:00pm GYM CLOSED - BLUE FLOORING; n/s gym ☺		8:00am 9:00pm GYM CLOSED - BLUE FLOORING; n/s gym ☺	
8:00am 1:00pm Senior Fit Day; Red Rock/Chimney Peak		8:30am 1:00pm Kern County Elections Training; Red Rock/Chimney Peak	
9:00am 11:30am Balas Montessori; Fossil Falls/Ballararat		5:30pm 7:30pm Aerobics; Aerobics Rm ☺	
5:30pm 7:30pm Aerobics; Aerobics Rm ☺		6:00pm 7:30pm SUMMER REG - DAYCAMP, PRESCHOOL, A&C; Pinnack ☺	
5:30pm 7:30pm Arts Council; Fossil Falls/Ballararat ☺		6:30pm 7:30pm Karate; Chimney Peak ☺	
6:00pm 7:30pm SUMMER REG - AQUATICS; Pinnacles ☺			
7:45pm 9:00pm Kung Fu; Aerobics Rm ☺			
30	Friday	31	Saturday
7:00am 11:00am Senior Fitness with Patrice Johnson; Aerobics Room ☺		8:00am 12:00am Museum Foundation Dinner/Auction; Petro-Pinnacles-N/S Gyr	
8:00am 9:00pm GYM CLOSED - BLUE FLOORING; n/s gym ☺		8:00am 9:00pm Storage; Fossil Falls/Ballararat ☺	
1	Sunday		
8:00am 9:00pm Storage; Fossil Falls/Ballararat ☺			

Pam Pearson

5/23/2008 11:48 AM

Kerr McGee Community Center
Weekly Schedule

**June 02, 2008 -
June 08, 2008**

June 2008							July 2008						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
22						1	27	1	2	3	4	5	6
23	2	3	4	5	6	7	28	7	8	9	10	11	12
24	9	10	11	12	13	14	29	14	15	16	17	18	19
25	16	17	18	19	20	21	30	21	22	23	24	25	26
26	23	24	25	26	27	28	31	28	29	30	31		
27	30												

2 Monday		3 Tuesday	
7:00am	11:00am Senior Fitness with Patrice Johnson; Aerobics Room	7:00am	10:00pm Election; Pinnacles/Petro
7:30am	5:00pm Patrice; Kitchen	7:00am	9:30am Senior Fitness with Patrice Johnson; Aerobics Rm
8:00am	9:00pm Storage; Fossil Falls/Ballarad	8:00am	9:00pm Storage; Fossil Falls/Ballarad
8:00am	4:00pm NAVAIR NSPS TRAINING; R/C, Red Rock, Chimney Peak	8:00am	4:00pm NAVAIR NSPS TRAINING; R/C, Red Rock, Chimney Peak
5:30pm	7:30pm Aerobics; Aerobics Rm	5:30pm	7:30pm Aerobics; Aerobics Rm
		7:45pm	9:00pm Kung Fu; Aerobics Rm
4 Wednesday		5 Thursday	
7:00am	11:00am Senior Fitness with Patrice Johnson; Aerobics Room	7:00am	1:00pm James Monroe Promotion ; Petro-Pinnacles-N/S gym
8:00am	9:00pm Storage; Fossil Falls/Ballarad	7:00am	9:30am Senior Fitness with Patrice Johnson; Aerobics Rm
8:00am	4:00pm NAVAIR NSPS TRAINING; R/C, Red Rock, Chimney Peak	8:00am	4:00pm NAVAIR NSPS TRAINING; R/C, Red Rock, Chimney Peak
8:00am	12:00pm James Monroe Promotion - Practice; Petro-Pinnacles-N/S gym	5:30pm	7:30pm Aerobics; Aerobics Rm
5:30pm	7:30pm Aerobics; Aerobics Rm	6:30pm	7:30pm Karate; Fossil Falls
7:45pm	9:00pm Kung Fu; Aerobics Rm		
6 Friday		7 Saturday	
7:00am	11:00am Senior Fitness with Patrice Johnson; Aerobics Room	11:00am 5:30pm Embry Riddle Aeronautical Graduation; Petroglyph	
8:00am	4:00pm NAVAIR NSPS TRAINING; R/C, Red Rock, Chimney Peak		
8 Sunday			

Pam Pearson

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Kerr McGee Community Center
Weekly Schedule

**June 09, 2008 -
June 15, 2008**

June 2008							July 2008								
M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S		
22						1	27	1	2	3	4	5	6		
23	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	28	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
24	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	29	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
25	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	30	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
26	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	31	28	29	30	31			
27	30														

9 Monday		10 Tuesday	
7:00am	11:00am Senior Fitness with Patrice Johnson; Aerobics Room	7:00am	9:30am Senior Fitness with Patrice Johnson; Aerobics Rm
8:00am	4:00pm NAVAIR NSPS TRAINING; Red Rock, Chimney Peak	7:30am	5:00pm Patrice; Kitchen
12:30pm	3:30pm Youth Cooking Class; Kitchen/Pinnacles	8:00am	4:00pm NAVAIR NSPS TRAINING; Red Rock, Chimney Peak
5:30pm	7:30pm ACTION committee meeting; Fossil Falls/Ballarlat	5:30pm	8:30pm Adult Cooking; Kitchen
5:30pm	7:30pm Aerobics; Aerobics Rm	5:30pm	7:30pm Aerobics; Aerobics Rm
		6:30pm	8:30pm China Lake Mountain Rescue ; Fossil Falls/Ballarlat
		7:45pm	9:00pm Kung Fu; Aerobics Rm
11 Wednesday		12 Thursday	
7:00am	11:00am Senior Fitness with Patrice Johnson; Aerobics Room	7:00am	9:30am Senior Fitness with Patrice Johnson; Aerobics Rm
8:00am	4:00pm NAVAIR NSPS TRAINING; Red Rock, Chimney Peak	5:30pm	7:30pm Aerobics; Aerobics Rm
9:00am	12:00pm IWV Collaborative; Red Rock/Chimney Peak	5:30pm	7:00pm ICS Summer Basketball; N/S Gym
9:00am	10:00am Multi DSC Tm; R/C Rm	6:30pm	7:30pm Karate; Chimney Peak
4:30pm	8:00pm US Forest Svc Mtg; Fossil Falls/Ballarlat		
5:30pm	7:30pm Aerobics; Aerobics Rm		
7:45pm	9:00pm Kung Fu; Aerobics Rm		
13 Friday		14 Saturday	
7:00am	11:00am Senior Fitness with Patrice Johnson; Aerobics Room	8:00am	11:00pm Big Band Express; Pinnacles
		8:00am	4:00pm General Plan Review-Need P&R laptop projector; Fossil Falls/
15 Sunday			

Pam Pearson

6/6/2008 1:29 PM

PUBLIC SERVICES RIDGECREST

Public Services

Telephone 449-5060 - Fax 499-1580

MAY MEETINGS

- 1 May Mayor's Prayer Breakfast
- 1 May 1994 BID Olde Town Mtg.
- 2 May Business Park Status—Menke
- 6 May IWV United Way Awards Luncheon
- 6 May D.I. Corporate Mtg.
- 6 May Springhill Suites Evening Opening
- 8 May Military/Civilian Luncheon
- 8 May Wal-Mart Mtg.
- 9 May Desert Mountain Div. LCC Mtg. Apple Valley
- 9 May Kevin McCarthy BBQ
- 13 May Chamber Luncheon Mtg.
- 15 May DART—City Recycling
- 15 May IWVWD Citizen Advisory Mtg.
- 15 May Los Flores and Norma Mtg.
- 16 May "Land of the Lost" Pinnacles
- 21 May CIWMB Review Mtg.
- 22 May Developer Triangle Mtg.
- 22 May MIA Review Mtg.
- 28 May WW Park Tele-confr.

Additional regular meetings in support of various activities and ongoing projects of interest to the City were attended.

PUBLIC SERVICES

James McRea

Public Services Director

Gary Parsons

Economic Development Manager

Matthew Alexander, AICP

City Planner

Bob Smith

Code Enforcement Officer

Danielle Valentine

Administrative Secretary



The International Council of Shopping Centers, Inc. (ICSC) has changed the name of their annual convention from ICSC Spring Convention to ReCon (Retail, Real Estate, Congress, Convention, Conference). ReCon, "The Global Retail Real Estate Convention," which took place on May 18-21, 2008 in Las Vegas, Nevada.

"The name ICSC Spring Convention failed to capture the leasing, networking, business aspect of the event and implied an ambiguous seasonality. The convention has been renamed and branded as ReCon, emphasizing the R-E-tail, R-eal E-state, Con-gress, Con-vention, Con-ference, aspects of the program.

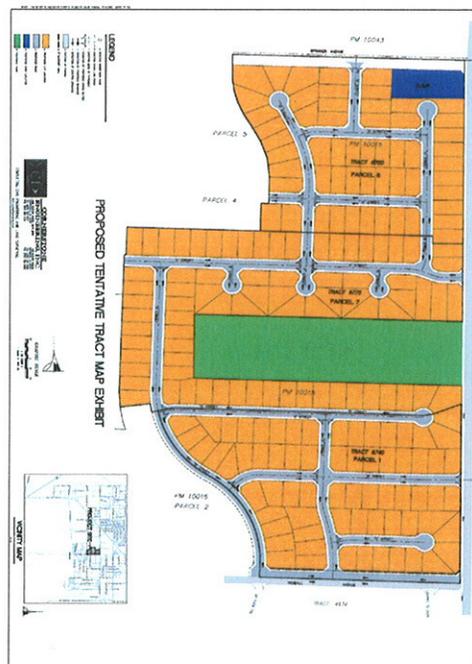
Hosted by the International Council of Shopping Centers, ReCon connects Retail Real Estate professionals from all corners of the globe for networking, education, and deal making. Staff and the Mayor, Chip Holloway, met with several developers on new shopping centers and other opportunities. They had an excellent meeting with representatives of the Wal-Mart Supercenter and Retail Center Project and accomplished major steps in bringing the project to the community. Meanwhile, new small businesses continue to open within the community. Other projects this month include the lighting and landscape maintenance district for the Ridgcrest Business park and several new hotel developments.

NEW HOUSING PROJECT

The D.R. Horton Development Project is at the south end of a three lot tentative Parcel Map combined project fronting on North College Heights Blvd. and Kendall Ave.

Tract Map No. 6740 is a 22.7 acre, 67 Lot project. The remaining Tentative Tract Maps No. 6775 and 6700 comprise 55.2 acres and 131 Lots, and are owned by Mr. Tom Martin.

The project will begin on the second street south of Kendall Ave. with Phase One of the construction sequence. Four styles of single family dwellings in various square footages, one and two story houses are planned.

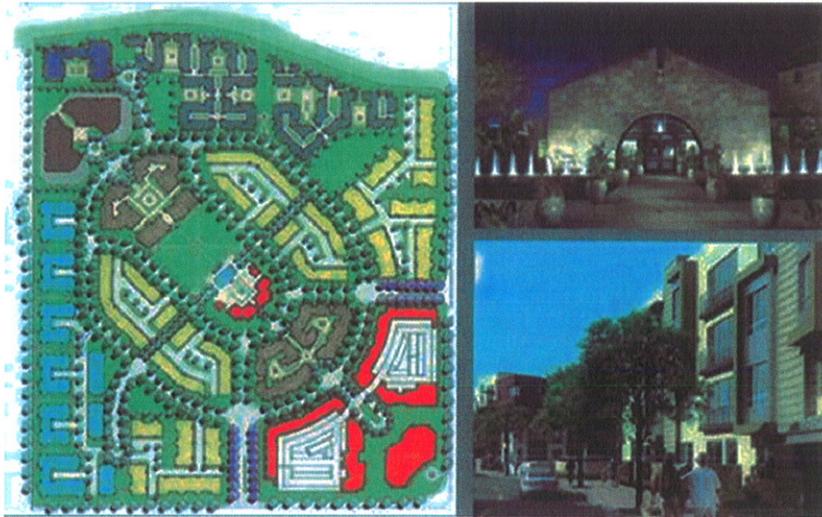


Planning

GENERAL PLAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE:

The General Plan Advisory Committee shall hold its fourteenth meeting on Saturday, June 14th. Included at this workshop scheduled at the Kerr-McGee Community Center shall be a discussion of the entire draft General Plan document. The General Plan contains eight chapters as follows:

1. Introduction
2. Overview
3. Land Use Element
4. Military Sustainability Element
5. Community Design Element
6. Circulation Element
7. Open Space and Conservation Element



To provide a comparison of public sentiments upon these critical issues, the survey was also circulated to City of Ridgecrest employees. Following is the city employees' survey response.

The Land Use and Circulation Subcommittee reviewed the Circulation Element and Land Use Element of the draft General Plan document with the following comments:

Comments from the GPAC Park & Recreation Subcommittee

Draft Circulation Element should include:

- The Bowman Corridor should be identified as the City's "high priority" east – west arterial roadway which should be improved from SR 14 to Ridgecrest Blvd, (at the San Bernardino County line)
- The Bowman Corridor should be a minimum 200' right-of-way,
- Bowman Corridor Cross sections should be identified including 1) limited access arterial roadways, 2) separated by a median, 3) a class one bicycle path, 4) drought tolerant landscaping and 5) a recreational/drainage channel,
- College Heights Blvd. should be identified as the city's "high priority" north-south arterial roadway which should be improved to four travel lanes including 1) turn pockets at intersections, 2) separated by a median, and 3) a class one bicycle path.

- A regional map of the Indian Wells Valley should be included which shall identify the regional highway system,
- On figures 6-1 and 6-3 the major roads should be extended west of Jacks Ranch Road.
- Page 6-9, Ward Avenue and china lake blvd. should be identified as a signalized intersection,
- Policies shall be added that do not permit truncated streets and do not permit half streets within the future.

Draft Land Use Element should include:

- Solar as an alternative energy source should be emphasized,
- A policy should be included strongly disallowing sprawl,
- A policy should be included strongly encouraging infill development,
- A policy should be included encouraging traffic calming devices including round-abouts where appropriate,
- A policy should be included placing emphasis on the importance of making Ridgecrest a beautiful city with consideration of landscaping, rest areas and other amenities such as fountains and benches,
- While a part of the Open space and conservation element, the Parks and Parkways map is also to be incorporated into the Land Use Element.
- A policy should be included placing a high priority upon constructing class one bicycle path improvements and landscaping improvements adjacent and northerly of Inyokern Road,
- Village nodes are important to a vibrant, pedestrian oriented community: the future land use map should reflect this opportunity,
- A policy should be included placing a high priority upon increased communication between the City and Kern County regarding coordinated planning.

PLANNING COMMISSION:

May 27, 2008

The Planning Commission considered a General Plan Amendment and Zone Change for the westerly 6.20 acres of a 11.38 ac. parcel located at the NE corner of So. China Lake Blvd and Dolphin Ave. (Tokay Dev). The request was to amend the general plan and Zoning on this site to permit General commercial uses in lieu of the single family land use currently permitted. The Planning commission continued this item until July 8th with the request that the property owner ensure that existing Kathy, Barbara and Nancy streets be completed concurrent with commercial development.

The Planning Commission approved Tentative Parcel Map 11826: An 8 lot M-1 Industrial Parcel Map on 3.92 acres located on Ridgecrest Blvd east of Lumill St. subject to site plan review.

CODE ENFORCEMENT - CLOSED CASES - JUNE 2008

File#	OpenDate	CloseDate	Description	PropertyAddress	CycleTime
07-000826	10/23/2007	5/26/2008	Construction sheds still left on vacant properties. No action of building as of yet.		216
08-000010	1/8/2008	5/26/2008	Grading to build house in the lot next to her has buried her fence on the side yard.	1433 South Mayo Street	139
08-000036	3/20/2008	5/30/2008	Nail Art at 856-B N. China Lake Blvd. did work on inside of building without permits.	856 China Lake Boulevard	71
08-000039	4/10/2008	5/12/2008	Pool in yard is green.	602 RIO BRAVO Street	32
08-000041	4/10/2008	5/12/2008	Dust blowing from construction site on Downs Street.		32
08-000042	3/20/2008	5/30/2008	Trash and water overflows in yard adjacent victim's home.	706 North BALSAM	71
08-000056	5/26/2008	5/26/2008	RP reports Wizard of Spas didn't meet contractual agreement to maintain spa. Case is a matter of legal recourse. No case opened.	201 North CHINA LAKE Boulevard	0
08-000057	5/26/2008	5/29/2008	Neighbors fence line is off the property line or down and the yard is full of feces.	328 South Valley Street	3
08-000060	5/26/2008	5/26/2008	Dennis Trubey Pools & Spas no business license.		0
08-000062	5/26/2008	5/29/2008	Trailer on street in front of 216 W.Rader	216 West RADER Avenue	3
08-000064	5/12/2008	5/20/2008	RP reports address at 424 Balsam waters for three or more hours at a time.	424 North BALSAM Street	8
08-000066	5/26/2008	5/26/2008	RP requiring information about mold.	245 HOLLY CANYON Street	0
08-000068	5/13/2008	5/13/2008	RP reported that her landlords at La Mirage were not responding to her request for insect spraying. After a call was placed, La Mirage management arrived to spray. No further action requested by the tenant/complainant.	253 Sahara Drive	0
08-000072	5/29/2008	5/29/2008	RP reported a vehicle has been parked on the street for quite some time in the 200 block of Florence.	233 FLORENCE Street	0
Record Count:14					
Record Count:14					

CODE ENFORCEMENT - OPEN CASES - JUNE 2008

File#	OpenDate	Description	PropertyAddress
08-000052	5/21/2008	Rooster crowing at 4 am every morning.	229 North GOLD CANYON Drive
08-000055	5/23/2008	Residence abandoned with junk and debris left inside and out of house. Broken windows in place and second house in disarray.	414 South WARNER Street
08-000056	5/26/2008	RP reports Wizard of Spas didn't meet contractual agreement to maintain spa. Case is a matter of legal recourse. No case opened.	201 North CHINA LAKE Boulevard
08-000057	5/26/2008	Neighbors fence line is off the property line or down and the yard is full of feces.	328 South Valley Street
08-000058	5/26/2008	Trash left at home that appears abandoned.	1107 LAS POSAS Court
08-000059	5/26/2008	RP reports trash in the area behind Sprigfield Suites on Chelsea and near Nickolettis. He was advised we knew of the situation.	
08-000060	5/26/2008	Dennis Trubey Pools & Spas no business license.	
08-000061	5/26/2008	RP concerned about material left in yard and some areas of home are accessible.	1000 West LANGLEY Street
08-000062	5/26/2008	Trailer on street in front of 216 W.Rader	216 West RADER Avenue
08-000063	5/12/2008	Animal abuse abatement home. Referred by RPD Case # 08-1133	401 North Sims Street
08-000064	5/12/2008	RP reports addresses at 424 Balsam waters for three or more hours at a time.	424 North BALSAM Street
08-000065	5/19/2008	RP reported neighbor to the east has over 10 cats and there is a horrible smell coming from a building in the back yard.	1133 South LUCILLE Court
08-000066	5/26/2008	RP requiring information about mold.	245 HOLLY CANYON Street
08-000068	5/13/2008	RP reported that her landlords at La Mirage were not responding to her request for insect spraying. After a call was placed, La Mirage management arrived to spray. No further action requested by the tenant/complainant.	253 Sahara Drive
08-000069	5/27/2008	North fence at 532 N. Las Posas is blown down and the pool in its back yard is filthy and full of mosquitoes.	532 LAS POSAS Street
08-000070	5/27/2008	RP reported a fire hazard at 743 N. Norma. Appears to be a build up of trash in the yard and feces in the alley.	743 South NORMA Street
08-000071	5/29/2008	RP reported a truck has been parked in the street for over nine months.	239 KIMBERLY Lane
08-000072	5/29/2008	RP reported a vehicle has been parked on the street for quite some time in the 200 block of Florence.	233 FLORENCE Street
08-000073	5/29/2008	RP reports that the Oleanders at the subject residence create a road hazard when backing out of the driveway and they are also a fire hazard because of the dead brush underneath.	324 BALSAM Street
Record Count:19			
Record Count:19			

Public Works

Telephone 449-5080 - Fax 499-1580

Traffic Control Device Selection

Traffic control devices work in concert with the basic “rules of the road” contained in traffic laws and ordinances, including each state’s uniform code that regulates vehicle movements. One example is the “right-of-way” principle that determines which driver has priority when approaching or entering an intersection. Traffic control devices have undergone a long evolution of design and installation criteria. Current designs and the standards for using them are the result of several decades of scientific investigation and the combined experience of many professional engineers, human behavior and vision researchers and safety policy-makers. One of the major resources for determining the design and use of traffic control devices is the *Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD)*. The 2003 Edition of the MUTCD is the national standard applicable to all public roads. The MUTCD provides standards, guidance and application information for signs, markings, traffic signals and other traffic control devices. Additional basic design guides have been produced by the Institute of Transportation Engineers and include the *Traffic Engineering Handbook* and *Traffic Control Devices Handbook*.



Common Problems with Traffic Control Device Placement and Installation

Due to resource constraints, many jurisdictions do not have traffic engineers or traffic engineering technicians on staff. These jurisdictions may rely on personnel that may have an engineering background; however, they may not be specifically trained in traffic engineering. Knowledge of the standards, guidance and applications included in the MUTCD is an essential element in the design, construction, operation and maintenance of roadway segments and intersections. A few of the common problems with traffic control device placement and installation are provided.

1. Use of an improper device.

Placing an unwarranted traffic signal where a less restrictive control would be more appropriate may result in unnecessary delays, excessive violations, increased crashes and diversion to less desirable routes such as residential streets.

2. Improper placement.

A traffic control device at the wrong location may result in the device being seen too late by drivers to safely react (e.g., placing a properly designed sign too far around the bend of a sharp curve).

3. Wrong color, shape, or size.

Using a color, shape, or size for a sign or other traffic control device that is in conflict with the MUTCD can result in the inability of drivers to detect and comprehend the need to make safe maneuvers and can cause inattention or visibility problems (i.e., “I didn’t see the STOP sign.”)

4. Land use, traffic and other changes can cause existing traffic control devices to become obsolete. As an example, traffic signs that may have controlled the movement of vehicles and pedestrians for years may no longer be effective in doing so.

5. Lack of signs or other devices to warn drivers and pedestrians of unexpected, potentially hazardous conditions.

For example, neglecting to provide advance warning of an upcoming signal or STOP sign over the top of a steep hill can result in inappropriate braking and steering maneuvers that may result in collisions.

6. Poor Maintenance.

Signs and pavement markings need to be maintained on a regular basis. Faded signs and pavement markings make them harder for road users to detect and may lead to potentially dangerous situations. For example, faded STOP signs may lead to drivers entering an intersection without stopping.

Engineering

CITY OF RIDGECREST

Private Sector Projects

Residential construction has come to almost a complete halt due to the national credit mess. Commercial and multi-family projects however increased.

Street Projects

Work has started on the Downs Street Landscaping Project and progressing fairly well. Planting of trees and bushes is about 50% complete.

Traffic Signals

Plans and specifications have been received for the China Lake and Church intersection. It should go out to bid the first part of the year. A traffic signal warrant study for the signal at Ward and China Lake has been completed and forwarded to CALTRANS.

Dennis Speer

Public Works Director

Joe Pollock

City Engineer

Wastewater Report

The City of Ridgecrest WWTF operated within design and compliance directives issued under Board Order No. 6-00-56. The treatment facility operated with no discharge violations or abnormal conditions.

The department inspected and passed (3) new connections to the sanitary sewage system.

The reclamation department reclaimed 4.96 million gallons of secondary effluent for use as fodder crop irrigation.

The department hydro flushed 5,685 ft. of main line sewer as preventative maintenance.

The department finished plowing and replanting No.1 field with a blend of high yield alfalfa, Bermuda and rye.

Transit

Transit Ridership was low this month mostly due to the college ending the semester in the middle of the month. We have seen new riders trying out the system due to the high cost of gasoline. We are running more commuters to and from work and have started looking into expanding out service outside the immediate area. Currently, efforts are being made to explore the idea of a fixed or deviated fixed route. Although there is much to do, we have started running numbers and plotting scenarios for routes. It is doubtful that fuel prices will lower any time soon and we can only expect ridership to increase because of it. We expect to be prepared for future demands made upon the transit system and look forward to helping our community find some alternatives that may make their commutes much less painful than the gas pump. The system received four complaints and all were concerning the inability of passengers to reach a dispatcher by phone or book their rides. Extra protocols were put into place to ease this concern.

