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**AGENDA
REGULAR SESSION
MAYOR AND COUNCIL
473 S MAIN STREET, SUITE 106
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 2016 at 6:30 P.M.**

Note: Council member(s) may attend Council Sessions either in person or by telephone, video, or internet conferencing.

1. **Call to Order**
2. **Roll Call**
3. **Pledge of Allegiance**
4. **Consent Agenda** – All those items listed below may be enacted upon by one motion and approved as consent agenda items. Any item may be removed from the Consent Agenda and considered as a separate item if a member of Council requests.
 - a) **Approval of the Minutes:**
 - 1) Work Session – January 13, 2016
 - 2) Regular Session – January 20, 2016
 - b) **Set Next Meeting, Date and Time:**
 - 1) Wednesday, February 10, 2016 at 5:30 p.m. Work Session
 - 2) Wednesday, February 17, 2016 at 6:30 p.m. Regular Session
 - 3) Wednesday, February 24, 2016 at 6:30 p.m. Council Hears Planning & Zoning Matters
 - c) **Possible approval for Finance Director to open a new National Bank Account and close the current National Bank Sanitary District Public Funds Account, transferring all monies from the current account to the new account.** Staff Resource: Mike Showers
 - d) **Possible approval of Camp Verde River Recreation Master Plan.** Staff Resource: Steve Ayers
5. **Special Announcements and presentations:**
 - Certificate of Appreciation to Mike Hough
 - Certificates of Appreciation to Kathy Davis, Tony Gioia, and Brenda Hauser
 - Approve Proclamation supporting increased awareness relating to Human Trafficking.
6. **Call to the Public for Items not on the Agenda.**
7. **Presentation by Verde River Basin Partnership, updating Council on current activities.** Resource: Vice-Mayor Bruce George.
8. **Discussion, consideration and possible approval of Resolution 2016-960 a Resolution of the Mayor and Common Council of the Town of Camp Verde, Yavapai County, Arizona in support of the I-17 Black Canyon City to Cordes Junction improvement plan.** Staff Resource Russ Martin
9. **Discussion, consideration and possible approval of Special Event Liquor License applications for the Cottonwood Chamber of Commerce Mixer to be held on February 18, 2016 at Jones Ford Verde Valley, located at 5980 E. Coury Drive, Camp Verde, AZ 86322.** Staff Resource: Virginia Jones
10. **Discussion, consideration and possible direction to staff relative to proposed legislation by the 52nd State Legislature during its second regular session that convened on January 11, 2016.** Staff

Resource: Russ Martin

11. **Call to the Public for items not on the agenda.**
12. **Council Informational Reports.** These reports are relative to the committee meetings that Council members attend. The Committees are Camp Verde Schools Education Foundation; Chamber of Commerce, Intergovernmental Association, NACOG Regional Council, Verde Valley Transportation Planning Organization, Yavapai County Water Advisory Committee, and shopping locally. In addition, individual members may provide brief summaries of current events. The Council will have no discussion or take action on any of these items, except that they may request that the item be placed on a future agenda.
13. **Manager/Staff Report** Individual members of the Staff may provide brief summaries of current events and activities. These summaries are strictly for informing the Council and public of such events and activities. The Council will have no discussion, consideration, or take action on any such item, except that an individual Council member may request that the item be placed on a future agenda.
14. **Adjournment**

Posted by:


Date/Time: 01-28-16 4:32 PM

Note: Pursuant to A.R.S. §38-431.03.A.2 and A.3, the Council may vote to go into Executive Session for purposes of consultation for legal advice with the Town Attorney on any matter listed on the Agenda, or discussion of records exempt by law from public inspection associated with an agenda item.

The Town of Camp Verde Council Chambers is accessible to the handicapped. Those with special accessibility or accommodation needs, such as large typeface print, may request these at the Office of the Town Clerk.

4.a.1

Draft Minutes
WORK SESSION
MAYOR AND COMMON COUNCIL
Of the TOWN OF CAMP VERDE
COUNCIL CHAMBERS · 473 S. Main Street, Room #106
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 13, 2016 at 5:30 p.m.

1. **Call to Order**

Mayor Charlie German called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm.

2. **Roll Call**

Mayor Charlie German, Vice Mayor Bruce George, Councilors Jackie Baker, Brad Gordon, Jessie Jones-Murdock, and Robin Whatley.

Councilor Carol German absent.

Also present: Town Manager Russ Martin, Town Clerk Virginia Jones, Economic Development Director Steve Ayers, Administrative Assistant Julie Scott, Planning & Zoning Commissioner Chip Norton and Recording Secretary Marie Moore. Candidate in March 2016 Recall Election, Leah Robbins.

3. **Pledge of Allegiance**

Mayor Charlie German led the pledge.

4. **Discussion and possible direction to staff regarding the River Recreation Master Plan. Staff Resource Steve Ayers.**

Economic Development Director Steve Ayers addressed Council regarding the River Recreation Master Plan. Ayers explained that staff reached out to community members that are affected by the plan and heard back from approximately 50-60 people out of approximately 175 residents affected. Ayers informed Council that the Master Plan would be funded through various grants, which will allow enforceable regulations along the river area, starting with signage. Common signage will show leaving public access areas and Ayers anticipates that this process will launch in March.

Councilor Jackie Baker asked if this program will benefit Cottonwood and Clarkdale as well.

Steve Ayers explained that everyone along the corridor will benefit. The plan list things that they want to accomplish including 4 specific parcels. Ayers explained that the Town would focus on I-17, the Rezzonico Park area, the US Parks Service will be handling the Rocking River Ranch, and a combination of entities will work together for the remaining parcel near Simonton Ranch.

Ayers stressed the fact that this is not a Town Plan but rather a community plan with the mantra of Engineering, Enforcement and Education which also helps private land owners understand that the trails affecting their properties will be maintained through the plan and not disrupting private property. The funding obtained will be used for signage, fencing and blockades.

Planning & Zoning Commissioner Chip Norton discussed potential funding options with the Council explaining that there are currently 3 or 4 entities interested in providing money and if everyone is on board, it is much easier to get money. Norton also informed Council that Clarkdale already has a river recreation plan with signage in place and Cottonwood just recently approved the process of creating a master plan as well.

Chip Norton explained that he and some members of Council visited Grand Junction last year, and in doing so, they learned that there are 3 towns that share a similar length of river and resembled the Verde Valley in very similar ways. Norton explained that the three individual towns completed their own plans and separately went after their own funding. The results of the process for that area have created 17% of jobs in the area, all funded by outside money.

Vice Mayor Bruce George asked if the Camp Verde plan is similar in objectives and goals to Cottonwood and Clarkdale's plans.

Chip Norton stated that they will be distinctly different due to scale and number of private property owners in Clarkdale and Cottonwood focused on old town and Dead Horse State Park and extending trails as well as having a much shorter stretch of river. Camp Verde has half of the river miles, which makes the plan much different, but the importance is the commonality as every one is doing it and everyone agrees to work together.

Mayor Charlie German indicated that the Yavapai-Apache Nation and Yavapai County are critical in their involvement and the focal point should be based upon leadership and focus on common signage.

Councilor Jackie Baker questioned if obtaining grants for the plan was done individually or together with the other towns involved.

Steve Ayers indicated that the grants obtained will apply to the corridor and Mr. Chip Norton indicated that grants could be obtained both ways; it would just depend on the particular grant and the funder of the grant.

Councilor Jackie Baker expressed her appreciation to staff for communicating with the landowners affected by the plan.

Mr. Chip Norton indicated that he feels that signage, fencing, and hardening of site should be priority to prove to community members that they are serious about making the plan successful.

Councilor Jessie Jones-Murdock indicated that she grew up on the river and feels it would be nice for the public to have access that does not fray on private lands.

Steve Ayers agreed and stated that the community has relayed on that they want developed sites.

Councilor Robin Whatley indicated she liked that first step is signage because it enables enforcement and educates public on management techniques.

Councilor Brad Gordon stated concern regarding IBA (Important Birding Areas) in Cottonwood and Clarkdale and asked how it would potentially influence developers for the area.

Steve Ayers indicated that the IBA is simply a designation from the Audubon society but would not affect any potential developments. Ayers explained that bird watching is very popular and the designation would bring more people to the area.

Council directed Economic Development Director Steve Ayers to work further on the Plan and bring it back in February for further review.

5. Discussion and possible direction to staff regarding the Focused Future II Plan. Staff Resource: Steve Ayers.

The consensus of Council was to have staff to finalize the Plan and bring back to Council for approval.

Economic Development Director Steve Ayers explained to Council that four focus areas had been chosen to create a manageable plan that can be carried out within 5 years or less. Ayers also explained that \$35,000 had been obtained with a \$5,000 match by the town and each of the focus areas that were chosen were previous included in prior focus plans. Ayers also explained that the Focus Future Plan takes all planning documents, including the General Plan and then sets a focus on where the Town's goals plan to move forward to, whilst strategies that are not plausible are removed. Ayers reinforced that the Focus Future Plan spells out who the Town is and who the Town wants to be.

Vice Mayor Bruce George questioned if the Focus Future Plan would be included in the General Plan.

Steve Ayers explained that portions were included and it was suggested to the Commission to include the document.

Councilor Jackie Baker spoke of how Focus Future relates to Economic Development portion of the General Plan and stated that she does not want to see this plan put on a shelf and not followed, as it would be a waste of time and money.

Councilor Brad Gordon stated that he recognizes the fact that in the past, there has not been the staff and the funds to follow through with the Focus Future Plan but things are moving in a forward direction to make the plan plausible.

Mayor Charlie German indicated that previously the Town did not have the infrastructure for developers to come in and make investments in Camp Verde.

Councilor Robin Whatley also stated that a town can have infrastructure in place but without money will not move forward. Whatley indicated that she fully supports the .65 % sales tax increase and what it has made possible for the Town.

Council directed staff to finalize the Focus Future Plan for final approval.

6. **Adjournment**

Mayor Charlie German adjourned the meeting at 7:30 pm.

Charles German, Mayor

Marie Moore, Recording Secretary

Certification

I hereby certify that the foregoing Minutes are a true and accurate accounting of the actions of the Mayor and Common Council of the Town of Camp Verde during the Council Meeting of the Town of Camp Verde, Arizona, held on January 13, 2016. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held, and that a quorum was present.

Dated this _____ day of _____, 2016.

Virginia Jones, Town Clerk

**DRAFT MINUTES
REGULAR SESSION
MAYOR AND COUNCIL
473 S MAIN STREET, SUITE 106
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 20, 2016 at 6:30 P.M.**

Note: Council member(s) may attend Council Sessions either in person or by telephone, video, or internet conferencing.

1. Call to Order

Vice Mayor George called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

2. Roll Call

Mayor Charles German and Councilor Carol German were absent. Vice Mayor Bruce George, Councilor Robin Whatley, Councilor Brad Gordon, Councilor Jackie Baker and Councilor Jessie Jones-Murdock were present.

Also Present

Marshall Nancy Gardner and Commander Jackie MacConnell, Community Development Director Michael F. Jenkins, Finance Director Mike Showers, Economic Development Director Steve Ayres, Administrative Assistant Barbara Bridge, Administrative Assistant Julie Scott, Council Candidate Leah Robbins, Town Clerk Virginia Jones, and Recording Secretary Lynn Riordan.

3. Pledge of Allegiance

Vice Mayor George led the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. Consent Agenda – All those items listed below may be enacted upon by one motion and approved as consent agenda items. Any item may be removed from the Consent Agenda and considered as a separate item if a member of Council requests.

a. Approval of the Minutes:

➤ Regular Session – January 6, 2016

b. Set Next Meeting, Date and Time:

➤ Friday, January 22, 2016 at 8:00 a.m. Work Session-CIP - **CANCELLED**

➤ Wednesday, January 27, 2016 at 6:30 p.m. Council Hears Planning & Zoning Matters - **CANCELLED**

➤ Friday, January 29, 2016 at 8:00 a.m. Work Session-

➤ Wednesday, February 3, 2016 at 6:30 p.m. Regular Session

➤ Wednesday, February 10, 2016 at 5:30 p.m. Work Session

➤ Wednesday, February 17, 2016 at 6:30 p.m. Regular Session

➤ Wednesday, February 24, 2016 at 6:30 p.m. Council Hears Planning & Zoning Matters

c. Possible approval and authorization for the Mayor and/or Vice Mayor in the Mayor's absence, to execute required documents to facilitate the donation of parcel 404-13-306 from Terry and Aloma Briggs to the Town of Camp Verde. Property is located in Verde Lakes on Yucca Drive Staff Resource: Ron Long

d. Possible approval and authorization for the Mayor and/or Vice Mayor in the Mayor's absence, to execute both an Abandonment of Easement, and a new permanent Access Easement, to be recorded for public roadway purposes. This property is located off Industrial Drive that the Town purchased to develop and use as the Public Works yard. Staff Resource: Ron Long.

e. Possible approval of Focused Future II Community and Economic Development Strategic Plan. Staff Resource: Steve Ayers

On a motion by Councilor Baker, seconded by Councilor Gordon, the council unanimously voted to approve the Consent Agenda, except the item 4.b. (Friday January 22 and Wednesday January 27, 2016).

Councilor Jones-Murdock, acknowledging that the January 22 Work Session and the January 27 Session having been cancelled, requested a CIP work session be scheduled on Wednesday January 27 at 5:30 p.m. On a motion by Councilor Jones-Murdock, seconded by Councilor Baker, the council unanimously voted to approve the Consent Agenda, 4.b Cancelling the Friday, January 22, 2016 Work Session and setting the Work Session for CIP on Wednesday, January 27, at 5:30 p.m.

5. **Special Announcements and presentations:**

- **Certificate of Appreciation to Mike Hough for his time serving on Board of Adjustments & Appeals**
- **Certificate of Appreciation to Kathy Davis and Tony Gioia**

Mike Hough, Kathy Davis and Tony Gioia could not be present this evening, therefore this Agenda Items has been moved to the February 3, 2016 Agenda.

6. **Call to the Public for Items not on the Agenda.**

Steve Goetting addressed the Common Council advising the Chamber of Commerce would be supporting Proposition 123 and lobbying for economic development. Mr. Goetting also stated he was alarmed and disappointed with comments, opinions and attitude of the Town's Economic Development Director and Town Manager as portrayed in the Bugle newspaper article on 01/16/2016, however, with the article appearing to insult the existing local business owners, it has increased interest and involvement in the Chamber of Commerce.

Barb Goetting addressed the Common Council advising she also is disappointed with comments, opinions and attitude of the Town's Economic Development Director and Town Manager as portrayed in the Bugle newspaper article on 01/16/2016 stating the local business owners work hard and support the local government and is hopeful that the comments stated in the newspaper article were in error.

Alex Goetting addressed the Common Council advising that he employs 16 people, and he and his employees support the Town in a variety of ways. He also stated disappointment with comments, opinions and attitude of the Town's Economic Development Director and Town Manager as portrayed in the Bugle newspaper article on 01/16/2016.

Marshall Nancy Gardner addressed the Common Council and introduced the new Commander for the Camp Verde Marshall's Office, Jackie MacConnell. Commander MacConnell addressed the Common Council introducing herself and giving the Council an overview of her previous experience stating she was looking forward to serving the residents of Camp Verde.

7. **Presentation by Verde River Basin Partnership, updating Council on current activities Council Discussion: THIS ITEM WAS WITHDRAWN FROM THE AGENDA and will be reset on the February 3, 2016 Agenda.**

8. **Presentation and possible acceptance of the Town of Camp Verde's FY 15 Audit. Staff Resource: Michael Showers.**

On a motion by Councilor Baker, seconded by Councilor Jones-Murdock, the council unanimously voted to approve and accept the FY 15 Audit per the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report as presented by Colby & Powell, CPPA.

Finance Director Michael Showers introduced Scott Graff, Colby & Powell CPA. Mr. Graff gave an overview of the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (a copy provided to each Council Member and is available for public review in the Clerk's Office and the Financial Office). Mr. Graff commended Mr. Showers and the Town for receiving the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence (year end 2014), and for their fiscal responsibility and appropriate reporting. Mr. Graff addressed the pension liability (and deficit) which are now included in the Town's budget under the new reporting requirements (Arizona State Retirement and

Public Safety Employees Retirement plans), advising that all municipalities are addressing pension liability and deficit now that the information is available from retirement systems.

Public Comment: Steve Goetting requested information regarding tax revenue – specifically how much of the increase in Town revenue is generated from the new sales tax.

Michael Showers advised that the new (Town) tax increase has placed the current budget above the estimated income/revenue in the budget. Mr. Graff again complimented the Council and Finance Director, stating that good policies and procedures, and excellence in job performance by staff, has created a good audit. Councilor Jones-Murdock and Councilor Whatley thanked Mr. Graff for applauding staff, and thanked Mr. Showers for his professionalism and a job well done.

9. **Presentation followed by discussion of Buxton Company's proposal to provide retail recruitment and retention services to the Town of Camp Verde.** Staff Resource: Steve Ayers

It was the consensus of the Council to have the Economic Development Director research success and/or failure of this type of investment in similar Towns, and to solicit more and/or similar options for the Council to consider with respect to retail recruitment and retention, keeping in mind the Town wants to protect the existing businesses and recruit new business, while keeping the character of the Town.

Economic Development Director Steve Ayers introduced Cody Gunstenson and Robb Miller of Buxton Company.

Mr. Gunstenson presented a power-point presentation of the Buxton Company's proposal for partnering with the Town of Camp Verde for retail recruitment and retention. The Buxton Company specializes in retail recruitment and business retention specific to the needs and consumer profiles of the community.

Public Comment: Steve Goetting stated the town retained the Buxton Company in 2005, the information was "put on a shelf" as it was pre-mature for the specific needs of the Town and its' residents. Mr. Goetting stated this proposal again is pre-mature as the General Plan has not been adopted, the Hwy 260 corridor is not complete and the Town does not yet have the infrastructure need for large retail.

Council discussion: The Council acknowledged the Town is growing and the needed infrastructure to support housing and retail is moving forward. This proposal for a public/private partnership to recruit new business and retain existing business is at a cost of \$50,000 per year without a guarantee. Council members stated concerns over whether the Town was ready to embark on such a large investment without the 260 corridor and infrastructure being complete. Council members acknowledged that the philosophy of the Buxton Company had changed since 2005, and that the partnership would include a manager for continued support, however, the Council stated concern over whether action on this proposal was premature requesting additional information, research and other options.

Break 8:12 p.m. – 8:18 p.m.

10. **Update by Planning & Zoning Chairperson B. J. Davis regarding the proposed General Plan, to include but not limited to the calendar of important dates, and 60 day review period.**

Planning and Zoning Commission Chairman B. J. Davis advised the Council that the Planning and Zoning Commission and subcommittees have been diligently working on the General Plan for 1 ½ years and is on schedule as planned. The first draft is available and open for public comment. The 60 day review period is open and will remain open until March 14, 2016. The Proposed General Plan is also available for review on-line. There will be many open Question and Answer sessions scheduled, with the first being this Saturday at 10 am. The Planning and Zoning Commission would like as much public comment as possible. The General Plan is intended to direct the Council and Town staff in how the Town wants to develop, or not develop, protect water rights and the river, and growth. The Focus Future document is not a part of the General Plan, however, it is an excellent tool for the Economic Development Department.

11. **Presentation and possible discussion of Quarterly Reports as presented by :**

- **Planning & Zoning Commission**
- **Board of Adjustments & Appeals**

Planning and Zoning Commissioner B. J. Davis advised the Council the Planning and Zoning Commission has met regularly, and in addition to working diligently on the General Plan, several other matters and requests have been considered and the Planning and Zoning Commission has forwarded their recommendations to the Council. Mr. Davis advised the sub-committee, specifically Kathy Davis and Tony Gioia have provided unmeasurable assistance to the Planning and Zoning commission success with the General Plan.

Mike Jenkins advised the Council the Board of Adjustment has only one session during the past quarter, with the request for a variance being recommended for approval. Currently, the Board of Adjustment will be considering two new developments in the near future.

12. **Discussion, consideration and possible approval of amendment to the Town's Salary Plan with the addition of the Visitor Center Ambassador job description.** Staff Resource: Steve Ayers/ Barbara Bridge

On a **motion** by Councilor Gordon, seconded by Councilor Whatley, the council unanimously voted to approve the amendment to the Town's Salary Plan for the Visitor Center Ambassador job description. Economic Development Director Steve Ayers advised the Council that this Agenda item is a matter of "housekeeping" only. The Visitor Center employee's salary level and description have never been addressed or approved pursuant to Town Code (class and salary). This item has been budgeted for, will not create an increase, and will remain status quo with a portion of the Visitor Center employees being provided by volunteer services. (Historical Society).

13. **Discussion, consideration and possible approval of Resolution 2016-957, a Resolution of the Mayor and Common Council of the Town of Camp Verde, Yavapai County, Arizona, on a request by Mr. G. Scott Simonton, Manager of Simonton Ranch 18, LLC, owner of the un-platted Elk Creek Subdivision located in the Simonton Ranch Master Planned Community, to provide for an extension of time for the Preliminary Plat approval of said Elk Creek Subdivision. This time extension is based on the original "Development Agreement" between the Town of Camp Verde and Harvard Investments, (see attached, Exhibit "a' Development Agreement) as recorded in Book 3663, page 213 of the Yavapai County, Arizona, Recorder, under Section 8:11 as follows:**

- **If the PAD is not approved by the Town Council, or is approved subject to conditions or stipulations not accepted by Developer, Developer shall have no obligation to construct any of the improvements provided for in the Agreement or the PAD. If market conditions and/or development financing materially change the feasibility of the PAD Plan, Developer may interrupt development until market conditions and/or development financing are again favorable, at which time continued development of the Property will be in accordance with the PAD Plan.**

Aside from the above referenced Development Agreement, the Developer has submitted a letter dated December 8, 2015 agreeing to the following:

- **Update the Drainage Report**
- **Submit a copy of the recently prepared Traffic Study on Finnie Flat Road.**
- **Make Corrections to Water and Sewer Plans caused by the construction of a sewer line through Elk Creek to serve the Verde Valley Medical Center.**
- **Upon approval of the final plat and prior to recordation, an assurance of completion will be provided.**

On a **motion** by Councilor Baker, seconded by Councilor Gordon, the council unanimously voted to approve

Resolution 2016-957, a Resolution of the Mayor and Common Council of the Town of Camp Verde, Yavapai County, Arizona, on a request by Mr. G. Scott Simonton, Manager of Simonton Ranch 18, LLC, owner of the un-platted Elk Creek Subdivision located in the Simonton Ranch Master Planned Community, to provide for an extension of time for the Preliminary Plat approval of said Elk Creek Subdivision. This time extension is based on the original "Development Agreement" between the Town of Camp Verde and Harvard Investments, as presented and with assurances as provided in the letter dated December 8, 2015.

Community Development Director Michael F. Jenkins gave an overview and history of the Simonton Ranch 18, Elk Creek Subdivision and Simonton Ranch Master Planned Community. Mr. Jenkins advised that Council approval is needed for this project to proceed. Mr. Jenkins advised that he met with the Town Attorney and Town Manager, and approval is recommended with the amendments/assurances in the letter dated December 8, 2015. Mr. Jenkins also advised that Arizona Revised Statutes require financial assurances.

Councilor Gordon stated displeasure with the Town Attorney's advice and the Town Council's actions taken in 2006 wherein the original Development Agreement and Ordinance 99-A142 was adopted, requesting staff research, draft and present a new ordinance repealing Ordinance 99-A142 and incorporating Arizona Revised Statutes §§9-1201, 1202 and 1203. The Council expressed gratitude to Scott Simonton in working with the Town to make this development successful.

14. Call to the Public for items not on the agenda.

Steve Goetting addressed the Council expressing displeasure with the Economic Development Department and Select Camp Verde website as he stated the Town is paying \$300 per month for a website that does not work. Additionally, Mr. Goetting stated he believed in democracy and everyone has the right to vote, stating his support for the recall election.

Debbie Fenner addressed the Council advising the Pecan and Wine Festival is scheduled for March, requesting support for this event. Information (participants and volunteers are needed) is available at campverdepromotions.org

- 15. Council Informational Reports.** These reports are relative to the committee meetings that Council members attend. The Committees are Camp Verde Fire District, Camp Verde Schools Education Foundation; Chamber of Commerce, Intergovernmental Association, NACOG Regional Council, Verde Valley Transportation Planning Organization, Yavapai County Water Advisory Committee, and shopping locally. In addition, individual members may provide brief summaries of current events. The Council will have no discussion or take action on any of these items, except that they may request that the item be placed on a future agenda.

Councilor Jones-Murdock had no report.

Councilor Baker advised the bowling tournament to benefit our veterans is scheduled for January 30, 2016 at Cliff Castle Casino.

Councilor Gordon advised that he attended a good presentation at the Verde Valley Archeological Society meeting last night. The Fire District met today and they continue to work on integration (Rimrock-Lake-Montezuma-Camp Verde) and budget issues

Councilor Whatley advised she attended the MLK march last Monday, it was well attended, and she was delighted with the presentation made by Chandler Plant (10 year old).

Vice Mayor George stated he also attended the MLK march last Monday, concurring with Councilor Whatley that it was well attended, and the presentation made by Chandler Plant was exceptional.

- 16. Manager/Staff Report** Individual members of the Staff may provide brief summaries of current events and activities. These summaries are strictly for informing the Council and public of such events and activities. The Council will have no discussion,

consideration, or take action on any such item, except that an individual Council member may request that the item be placed on a future agenda.

None. Town Manager Russ Martin was not present.

Adjournment. Mayor German, with no objection from Council, pronounced the meeting adjourned at 9:08 p.m.

Charles German, Mayor

Virginia Jones, Town Clerk

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that the foregoing Minutes are a true and accurate accounting of the actions of the Mayor and Common Council of the Town of Camp Verde during the Regular Session Mayor and Common Council of the Town Council of Camp Verde, Arizona, held on January 20, 2016. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held, and that a quorum was present.

Dated this _____ day of _____, 2016.

Lynn Riordan, Recording Secretary



Agenda Item Submission Form – Section I

Meeting Date: February 3, 2016

Consent Agenda Decision Agenda Executive Session Requested

Presentation Only Action/Presentation

Requesting Department: Finance Dept.

Staff Resource/Contact Person: Mike Showers

Agenda Title (be exact): Discussion, consideration & possible approval for Finance Director to open a new National Bank account and close the current National Bank Sanitary District Public Funds Account, transferring all monies from the current account to the new account.

List Attached Documents: None

Estimated Presentation Time: N/A

Estimated Discussion Time: N/A

Reviews Completed by:

Town Attorney Comments: N/A

Department Head:

Budgeted Unbudgeted N/A

Fiscal Impact: There is no monetary impact to the Town.

Comments: All monies will remain in the Sewer Enterprise Fund.

Background Information: Although the Town of Camp Verde took over all assets and operations of the Camp Verde Sanitary District, the National Bank accounts are still in the District's name. This process would simply open up the new banking account in the Town's name and sever those ties to the Sanitary District.

Recommended Action (Motion): Move to approve the Finance Director to open a new Nation Bank account and close the current National Bank Sanitary District Public Funds Account, transferring all monies from the current account to the new account.

Instructions to the Clerk: N/A.



Agenda Item Submission Form – Section I

Meeting Date:

- Consent Agenda Decision Agenda Executive Session Requested
- Presentation Only Action/Presentation Special Session Pre-Session

Requesting Department: Economic development

Staff Resource/Contact Person: Steve Ayers

Agenda Title (be exact): Consideration and possible approval the Camp Verde River Recreation Master Plan

List Attached Documents: 1) River Recreation Master Plan final draft

Estimated Presentation Time: 0

Estimated Discussion Time: 0

Reviews Completed by:

- Department Head: Town Attorney Comments:

Finance Review: Budgeted Unbudgeted N/A

Finance Director Comments/Fund:

Fiscal Impact:

Budget Code: _____ **Amount Remaining:** _____

Comments:

Background Information: Following a presentation to council at the January 13 work session, Council directed staff to bring the plan back for final approval after receiving additional comment from public land managers. The only changes made to the document are language Salt River Project wanted included relative to their 135 acre property and the inclusion of language relative to a proposed upland trail system in the White Hills/Jackson Flat/Community Park area, adjacent to Wet Beaver Creek and the Verde River.

Recommended Action (Motion): Move to approve the Camp Verde River Recreation Master Plan

Instructions to the Clerk:



Verde River Recreation Master Plan

Appendix III – Neighborhood Listening Sessions & Public Open House Feedback

The Town of Camp Verde prioritized community engagement in the planning process for the Verde River Recreation Master Plan, understanding how critical the support and enthusiasm of community members would be in identifying and implementing the recommendations for recreation management and enhancement articulated in the plan. To that end, riverfront property owners were identified early in the process as a critical subgroup of the community whose engagement and feedback would be critical in shaping the Recreation Master Plan. These are the residents of Camp Verde that are most highly impacted by current, unmanaged recreation use, and would be most affected by expansion of on-river recreational activities and access.

In June and July of 2015, a series of neighborhood listening sessions were organized along specific stretches of the Verde River in Camp Verde to gather input and concerns from property owners facing the most significant impacts from recreation activity on the river. Two of the listening sessions were hosted by residents of the neighborhood. On June 22, 2015, a listening session was organized in the Fort River Caves neighborhood, and on June 23, 2015, a listening session was organized for neighborhoods along McCracken Lane. Later, on July 28, 2015, a public open house for riverfront property owners was also convened at the Town of Camp Verde offices, and nearly 40 residents participated in the session.

During those listening sessions, a brief presentation about the planning process objectives and background were provided to ground the conversation, after which participants were invited to share three things with the Town of Camp Verde staff: 1) concerns that participants had with river recreation and its impacts; 2) potential solutions or approaches to address those concerns that would be supported by riverfront property owners, and lastly 3) opportunities to improve river recreation and quality of life in Camp Verde that would be compatible with property owners interests.

As the Verde River Recreation Master Plan process continued, the scope of community engagement was expanded to include an organized public open house for the general public to provide feedback and input to the development of priorities, share concerns, and identify opportunities. The Public Open House was scheduled for October 15, 2015, and drew participation from over 70 members of the public.

At the public open house, a brief presentation about the planning process was provided by Town of Camp Verde staff, and a listening session to capture concerns, ideas, opportunities and priorities was led by facilitators. Additionally, a series of feedback “stations” were set up to stimulate further discussion about specific properties being considered for expanded river recreation access or development – the I-17 property owned by the Town of Camp Verde, Homestead Park (owned in part by Prescott National Forest and Arizona State Parks), Rezzonico Park/Black Bridge owned by the Town, and Rockin’ River Ranch, owned by Arizona State Parks.

Participants in the Public Open House were also invited to engage in dot voting for priorities potential site-based projects, as well as issues and opportunities the public would like to see addressed first in the planning implementation.

The feedback gathered through the neighborhood listening session and the public open houses were captured through note-taking on flip charts, dot voting results on flipcharts, comment cards shared during the open house, and online or written surveys (see Appendix II). In addition to this, the audio discussion during the neighborhood listening sessions for riverfront property owners were also recorded (not transcribed in detail – for full access, please contact Town of Camp Verde staff).

This appendix summarizes the notes and input provided through the listening sessions and open houses. The conversations during the neighborhood listening sessions tended to be organic, back-and-forth discussions and Q&A sessions with the Town of Camp Verde staff and residents. The notes captured during these sessions does not reflect the verbatim transcription of those conversations, but rather touches on major themes and concerns shared by the residents.

June 22, 2015 Neighborhood Listening Session – Fort River Caves

Steve Ayers with the Town of Camp Verde gave an introductory briefing on the River Recreation Plan process and thoughts & ideas to date. Susan Culp with American Rivers recorded the session and took notes on the conversation. Approximately 8 residents in the area participated in the listening session.

- Comments/Concerns:
 - People coming down the river are not an issue
 - People coming onto private property to access the river can be an issue – leave a mess, etc.
 - There are a number of really nice, responsible people who do this – a small number are a problem
 - Shooting on the river near residences is an issue

- *Question from resident: About the empty lot that the Town of Camp Verde owns in the neighborhood – is there a way to abandon that back to the neighborhood so that it can be taken care of? That is what neighborhood might like to see – or at least find an appropriate management plan for that parcel. It is a fire hazard when the weeds grow, and there is some traffic on that lot. It should be closed to the public because there are no bathrooms, no parking, etc. Used to have parties, drug use and fires there. **Need to have a community conversation about that parcel.

- Concerns:
 - Concern about put-ins and take-outs and people getting in and out of the river on private property.
 - Impacts of recreation on wildlife in the area
 - Question about access to the caves. Some say have to go to Rezzonico Park, but currently there doesn't seem to be public access? Steve said there is a possibility of a USFS loop trail that can reach the caves.
 - Don't want to see commercial traffic
 - ATV use is a problem – 4-wheelers rip up the area and would like to see a stop to that. Motorbikes can also be an issue.
 - Question – who handles liability? ** Steve to share statute on landowner liability with residents.

- *Question – do you have to have “No Trespassing” signs posted to be held harmless from liability? Don’t think you have to post to not have liability.
- *Question – on meander land – who owns it? Believe it is private property.
- What can be done about the other empty parcel back there that is owned by the dentist – Dr. Noon? That can also be a hazard with weeds, and fire danger.
- Transients a concern on the empty parcels.

June 23, 2015 Neighborhood Listening Session – [Linda Harkness Host]

Steve Ayers with the Town of Camp Verde gave an introductory briefing on the River Recreation Plan process and shared some thoughts and ideas to date. Chip Norton with Friends of Verde River Greenway assisted in answering questions, and Susan Culp with American Rivers recorded the session and took notes. Approximately 6 residents in the area participated in the listening session.

- *Question from resident – Are there physical barriers to boating from Black Bridge? Too easy to disembark onto private property. However, there is USFS land near Fort River caves (caves not neighborhood). Is it ok to do it there?
- *Question – Yavapai Apache Nation have a canoe route through their reservation – has the Town talked to them?
- Concerns:
 - Everyone has lost stuff along the river – lawn chairs, kayaks, canoes, etc.
 - Theft is a concern with river traffic – people passing through and stealing
- *Note: Send residents a copy of the statute that indemnifies private landowners from liability associated with public trails or access through the property.
- Concerns:
 - With walking trails – there will be campers, squatters, etc. Neighbors concerned about potential camping, vagrants sleeping at public parks
 - Concern about fire risk – camp fires & drinking
 - If hiking trails are neat & well liked, it will end up on Trip Advisor and there will be a huge rush of people coming to use them, and you’ll get condoms, dirty diapers, ATV use, drug use, etc. As the volume of traffic goes up, degradation increases. Need to have limitations on the number of people coming through.
 - Public parks sound neat, but then you have the impacts of beer bottles, fights, more people coming through and more problems.
 - It is unfair to ask people to give up their privacy, their piece of peace and quiet and solitude in these pristine areas.
 - People will fictionalize how neat the area is and how good it will be for Camp Verde. Don’t need theories – need to know how this has played out in other areas.
 - People recreating in water will pee/poo in the water – will have water quality impacts.
 - Education doesn’t work – doesn’t stick with people, and you don’t reach everyone.
 - Other view – river people tend to have a different outlook on taking care of the resource. Need to have a sharing ethic with the resource.
 - Short term info doesn’t help – people are pigs, even with education – but it is why education is important

- Shooting parties, drinking, squatting – all problems. There are particularly issues with the parcel owned by YAN – need some interagency agreements on enforcement there for dangerous activities (shooting at/near residences, etc.). Can Town approach them about that issue?
- One landowner has had two canoes stolen.
- *Question: What is the legal standing of meander land? Believe meander land is private property, and owners don't have to allow access. The only thing you can't stop is having someone pass through on the surface of the water – can't stop them in a boat.
- Concerns:
 - Garbage, dump sites – those are real problems already. **Two choices – can ignore it, and hope nothing bad happens; or can manage it.
- Other concerns:
 - Some like the idea of riverside trails (others not so positive).
 - There should be access to the river – shouldn't be stingy about letting people get to the river.
 - People go through private property to get to things – most of the time they do it responsibly.
 - With parks/river access, could make it day use only with management & enforcement to help solve some problems.
 - Lots of people are using the ditch to float as well as the river – would be good to have an access for portage, signage showing boaters where to get out and how to avoid the culvert.
 - Concern raised with boaters and their dogs. When dogs are off leash and hop out of boat, can be a real problem – harass neighborhood dogs, livestock, people. Animal poo a problem too.
 - Issues with poaching and shooting.
 - Wildlife impacts with recreation a concern – could there be seasonal closures for bald eagles, other wildlife?
 - Don't want vehicles down on public land and on trails near the river – make a mess, there is pollution, etc.
 - What are the options for civic involvement in stewardship – community river patrol? Could be one way to address some of these issues.
 - Need for signage marking where toilets are and where private property is
 - There is a difference in the ethic between commercial outfitters (who have an interest in being good stewards to keep their permits) and independent private boaters
 - Don't want the Lower Salt mentality – drunk tubers, etc. 2 men drowned on river in the past – don't want the party mentality. Would rather have the Wild & Scenic, leave no trace ethic.
- Residents Want to See:
 - Enforcement on tribal land along the river
 - Signage for no river access (or that marks appropriate river access?) and indicates no vehicular access
 - Day use only areas to discourage squatters – municipal properties could/should be day use only

- Ordinances for Camp Verde to allow law enforcement
- Signage on ditch for how to get back to the river for boaters or how to detour around it – the ditch is dangerous
- Need public education on what can/can't do on the river – a good signage program

July 28, 2015 – Public Open House for Riverfront Property Owners

Steve Ayers, with the Town of Camp Verde, introduced the session with a short PowerPoint presentation summarizing the process to date for the Verde River Recreation Master Plan. Chip Norton with Friends of Verde River Greenway and Susan Culp with American Rivers assisted in facilitating the listening session and writing flip chart notes of community responses and feedback.

Concerns with River Recreation

- On Rustler Trail – quad & motorcycle racing, traffic on private property to access the river – a night and day problem
- Fires
- Trash
- No bathrooms
- No patrols of the area
- Traffic problems
- Trucks full of trash doing illegal dumping
- Parties
- Duck hunting in city limits – shooting across private property
- Want no motor vehicle access – should be non-motorized vehicle access only – hiking & equestrian
- Barbed wire
- Need monitoring of the area
- SRP access across private property? Question for follow up
- Drug exchanges
- Graves on the land – question – are they real?
- Incident with kids on dirtbikes – spooked a woman's horse and she got thrown off
- People in distress coming to the door for help
- Question about meander land... for follow up
- Need education of recreators
- Need to focus on preserving quality of life for the people in Camp Verde
- Q: shooting at wildlife legal? Sometimes hits houses – unsafe Follow up on laws about shooting firearms in Town limits
- Butchering of livestock on riverside lands – involving shooting livestock
- Q: What is the plan? Response: There is no plan yet.
- Trespass problems
- Security of private homeowners a big concern
- For one who lives upstream of Black Bridge – there is no identification of public vs. private lands, so people don't know
- Having to rescue people who get in trouble or stuck on the river
- Squatters on private property

- Camping on private property without permission
- Theft of personal property
- SRP brushhogging meander land
- Rezzonico Park access – agreements with the Town were made to develop the park but never completed... Neighbors want Town of Camp Verde to honor agreements about plans for public space. Rezzonico Park is not patrolled, there are transients, drug activity, trespass issues, fires, drinking & trash, dumped animals. Need to resolve
- Q: Where will access and parking be? There are traffic issues & lack of privacy for homeowners
- Q: What happens when the grant for planning is used up?
- Dog recreation/dog waste
- Loose dogs – harassing people, pets, livestock

Potential Solutions/Ways to Address Concerns

- Education of river users
- Signage – A BIG ONE
- Marshals have to enforce the rules
- Education – Engineering – Enforcement
- Sign at the top of Rustlers Trail – “Dead End”
- Shut off Roundup? Make a gated area? But preserve pedestrian/equestrian access.
- Provide an alternate place for people to go away from private property areas
- Speed bumps
- Q: How well does the signage for Bell Trail work? Is that an effective way to do it? Follow up
- Identify a collector place outside of the flood area where people can park, and beyond that only foot traffic and equestrian traffic available. Provide a place to focus the cars and the traffic
- Q: How well does the Verde River Greenway work at these challenges in Cottonwood? Follow up
- Need maintenance plan for these areas
- Advertising was a problem for Fossil Creek

Opportunities to Provide the Right River Recreation & Increase Quality of Life in Camp Verde

- 80 acres – wildlife viewing trail – access and trailhead at the end of Homestead Pkwy
- Black Bridge/Rezzonico needs its own full plan
- I-17 property – acceptable use? Parking issues there...and noise, especially on the weekend. What about a gated area?
- What areas should be fee areas?
- Rustler Trail not a good river access – BUT others do like to put in and paddle from I-17 to Black Bridge... is there a way to balance those interests?

October 15, 2015 – General Public Open House

The Public Open House was convened at the Camp Verde Schools cafeteria, and facilitation for the event was provided by the National Park Service’s RTCA staff. Steve Ayers, with the Town of Camp Verde, provided a brief PowerPoint presentation about the planning process at the beginning, and RTCA and American Rivers provided facilitation for the listening session for the open house. The following notes were captured based on the public’s input, questions, and suggestions.

1) What Opportunities or ideas are you most excited about in plans for river recreation?

- Having volunteers to help with enforcement – we need more volunteer stewardship
- Develop and plan the boat launches and have information with details about where you can go and where you can get out.
- Camping opportunities at Homestead and elsewhere (there are few opportunities along the river)
- The more investment and excitement we have around the river, the better we can protect it – so, increased opportunities for these things will lead to better protection.
- Excited about more public access points to the river
- Ability to continue to ride horses from Black Bridge to I-17
- Salt River Project (SRP) allows foot traffic but fallen trees are a problem. SRP land connects to Symington Ranch.
- The Annual River Run needs to be promoted more aggressively.
- Excited about Homestead Park – Arch Center, Camp Verde stepped up to improve/build the access road.
- It's an economic development opportunity
- Community connections
- Web of trails going away from the river as well

2) What Concerns do you have about river recreation?

- Commercial boating that does not lead to over-use, private boaters 1st priority
- Can they make man-made rapids out of the diversion dams?
- Are there thoughts of a continuous trail along the river? (with ability to cross when encounter private properties)
- Can there be a pamphlet or handouts developed with pictures showing all the access points, rules, take-outs, places, and other information?
- Need to think about alternative for homeless.
- Is there a plan for a continuous trail?
- The stretch of river between Black Bridge and White Bridge is not the best for kayaking – needs signs warning people.

- Is there a plan for removal of river hazards? Downed trees, strainers (underwater trees)
- Clarkdale Ambassador program to help manage the river
- Noise, shooting, ATVs (people and wildlife affected)
- People parking across from house to access river. Marshall's office patrol.
- Concerns with commercialization of the river
- Law enforcement – more response
- More access; and post float time estimate information and take-out locations. Distribute widely.
- Public is not aware of how long it takes to kayak or where it is safe to boat
- Promote principles of Leave No Trace to recreation users
- Motorized vehicle impacts, fire, someone shot a beaver, set up a tent – all on private property

3) What Ideas or Solutions to address those concerns would you suggest to the Town of Camp Verde?

- Regarding hazards – commercial outfitters' interests are education and safety...
- Take care of the wildlife
- Outreach to the youth to get them involved (trail construction, trash pickup)

The Public Open House also incorporated a series of “feedback stations” each focused on a particular site or potential project priority. After the listening session, participants were encouraged to review the materials available at the feedback stations, ask questions, and provide additional input. Each station was set up to ask feedback from the public on four points: 1) Describe what you like, 2) Describe what you would change, 3) How do you see yourself using the site, and lastly 4) List what amenities are most important to you. Feedback stations were set up for the I-17 property, Homestead Park, Rezzonico Park, and Rockin' River Ranch.

I-17 Property (owned by Town of Camp Verde)

- Describe What You Like
 - Nearness to boat launches from I-17
 - Parking elevated from flooding
 - Better parking area away from the edge of the highway
 - I like the idea to plant a lot more shade trees here
 - Picnic areas (especially if there are ramadas or shade trees)

- Describe What You Would Change

- Limit roads but have good pathways to launch boats/kayaks
 - First concern is the access to the site. Have multiple alternatives for access been explored? Why is the access through Rustler Trail Road? Is there some reason it can't be accessed from just north of the bridge, where there are already entry areas? How would you keep people out, and from not parking in the existing areas off the road?
 - Why is the boat launch located in the spot indicated? Is that the best location for it? How do people get their smaller watercraft to the river? Are they carrying a long distance? Can they drop somewhere then park? Can the parking be closer to the middle of the site?
 - May be good and a health and safety feature to provide more shade here, either with native trees or ramadas.
 - I suggest exploring whether there is a need to include natural looking/simple climbing structures like metal ladder wall and bouncing posts (and shade them with plants or long-lasting roof). This can provide another option for parents with young children who are not yet water safe. A good topic for further exploration.
 - Consider using N. Long Rifle Rd and N. Rawhide for road access into site. These two roads seem to have less impact on residential development.
 - Give stronger emphasis to linear/corridor recreation planning/design. Depending on 100 year flood plain and development restrictions I would recommend locating parking as reasonably near the river as possible but still provide a substantial green zone.
 - Consider creating a substantial "green" buffer west of I-17 to screen out the interstate and traffic noise and north of site to create a buffer between the residential development and the recreation site.
 - I would forget stuff like "native garden" areas because of the site's remoteness and higher maintenance, etc. Folks are interested in the river not gardens in my view.
 - Eliminate or avoid pathways crossing roadways.
 - Keep it simple, parking, river access, dispersed recreation.
- How Do You See Yourself Using The Site
 - I would like to see I-17 area connected to Rezzonico/Black Bridge with trails
 - Boat launch
 - Kayaking
 - Picnicking – (x2 responses)
 - Exploring the waterway
 - Fishing
 - Bringing my (out-of-town) family to enjoy the water
- List What Amenities Are Most Important To You
 - River access
 - Bathrooms – (x2 responses)
 - Shade trees
 - Tables– (x2 responses) "tables for sitting"
 - Drinking water
 - Access to launch kayaks and boat
 - If you look at the responses above it seems to support the idea of providing easy access to the river, river oriented recreation, and basic amenities.

Rezzonico Park (owned by the Town of Camp Verde)

- Describe What You Like
 - I love the natural feeling that's there now.
 - Bathrooms
 - I love the grassy/shady area
 - I like the idea of a "beach," if it means shallow area where small children can access the water without being restricted to wading on the narrow 2 foot shallow area available just down from a small portion of the bank. Parents have to work hard to keep young children from stepping back into the deep drop-off to swift water. It would be really helpful to remove the goat head weeds in that area so people can walk barefoot along the river to wade- the inevitable run in with them can be (was) a painful adventure-ender.

- Describe What You Would Change
 - Pecan Trees!!!
 - All Grass!!!
 - It would be nice to have a lot more tall native trees for shade in that large trampled area east of the shady area down by the river.
 - I like the idea of places to sit facing the river for a picnic, but I am not sure about the terraces shown here. They look like they are suggesting a massive change to the ground, and they go over the existing road and parking area. It seems like low walls to sit on woven into the existing slope would fit more smoothly into the landscape. Do they have some other purpose? Why so extensive?
 - I would not construct a River Service Access Road down to the water/beach. If a vehicle needs to access it to construct the beach, it could be done with least amount of impact possible (sand carried by wheel barrow possibly even?), then the damage could be rehabbed and route only used in the future for emergencies. This is such a nice semi-natural grassy area and I feel a road would cause a great deal of negative impact.
 - The proposed pedestrian bridge appears to go right over the best area to sit. Can this go elsewhere so that its construction does not mean that trees in the area's best spot must be removed? or that the riverside area there is changed because of a bridge overhead? Can the bridge be "light on the land" and on the airspace? Could it be located in any other spot?
 - Consider integrating parking to serve the park and library needs?
 - Terminate Black Bridge Lane Rd at the north end and encourage limited-use by residents only.
 - Create a "buffer" on the east side between park and residences?
 - Try to minimize need for roads and large paved areas near the river. Keep as natural and park like as possible?

- How Do You See Yourself Using The Site
 - I would like to see I-17 area connected to Rezzonico/Black Bridge with trails
 - I like the idea of a big open grassy space to toss a ball or Frisbee.

- I see myself (an out-of-towner) coming here with young children to let them experience a stream. They play in the water- wading, looking for bugs, water creatures, fishing, laying in the grass, picking up leaves.
 - I am not a strong advocate for a community garden because of the maintenance requirements.
 - Both the I-17 and this site would benefit from a focused community planning/design effort. This is something RTCA could help with.
- List What Amenities Are Most Important To You
 - Bathroom
 - Shade trees
 - Shade structure with table
 - Natural-looking riverbank with plants
 - Parking
 - Riparian/Environmental Education – Pre-K through Post-secondary
 - Drinking water spigot
 - Other simple seating that doesn't change the existing grassy hillside or topography so much.
 - Places to sit with small children and fish fairly safely
 - Places to lay on a blanket and look up at the sky
 - Different areas for different kinds of users to spread out (families vs teenagers vs seniors vs others)
 - Soft grass without cockle burs

Homestead Park (managed by joint agencies)

- Describe What You Like
 - Love the Plan!
 - Like the idea of elevated wildlife viewing platform
 - River access x 6 places!
 - Does the windmill power the lights or pump water to the water tower? It seems it would be a great opportunity for interaction and interpretation of water conservation, grey water or alternative energy demonstration.
 - Can people climb up the water tower? It could be the viewing platform- wildlife, stars. People will want to climb up either way, so it might be a good idea to plan it that way, so the climb could be made safer.
 - Chickens...I love the idea, maybe you were just trying to depict the historic story you want told here, but if there are really going to be chickens, is there a caretaker that will live here? Would perhaps be a coveted VIP position similar to campground host arrangements?
- Describe What You Would Change
 - Would like to see camping and some amenities like Dead Horse State Park as an example
 - Some places near, but not too near to the water to sit at tables, maybe grills.
- How Do You See Yourself Using The Site

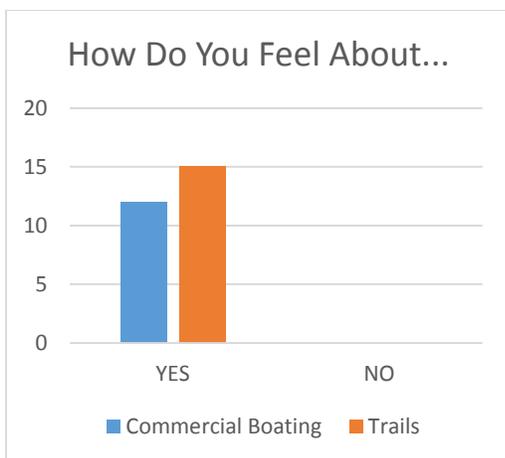
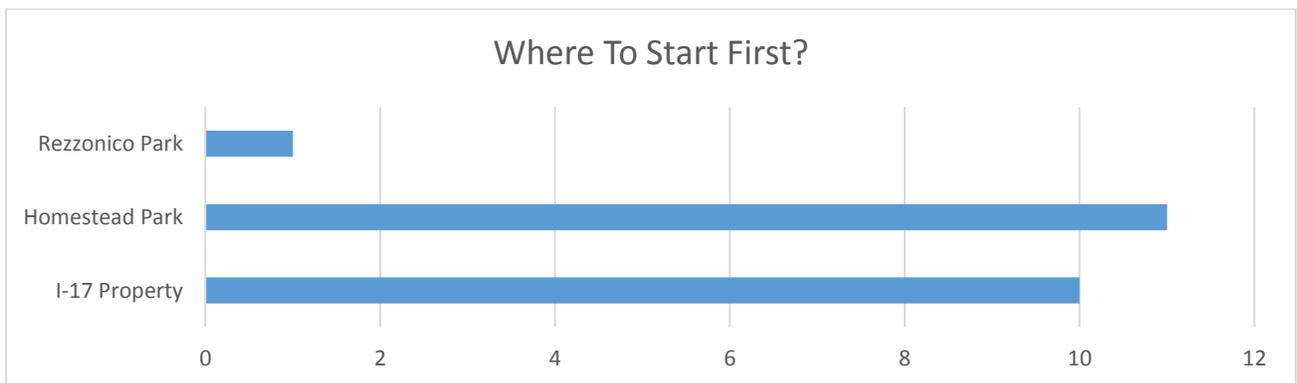
- Boat/kayak access
 - Playing in the river
 - Wading
 - Picnicking
 - Wildlife watching
 - Fishing
 - Camping
- List What Amenities Are Most Important To You
 - River access
 - Trails cleared of weeds, trash
 - Wildlife viewing
 - Bathrooms
 - Drinking water
 - parking
 - Parking for horse trailers
 - Campsites
 - Picnic table/grill sites
 - Would this be a good venue for canoe/kayak rental?
 - Nice places to sit on to fish – flat rocks or placed logs would be helpful
 - Shallow areas modified to facilitate wading could benefit a variety of user-groups: children, waders, injured/physically-challenged recreationists, beginning anglers. Shallow areas could be a safer place for many to enjoy the water.
 - Little extra things that are really great for children, and simple and cheap – with a big bang for the buck are things like paths designated by railroad ties or similar material- even rocks that can be used like a balance beam while walking down the trail; wooden or pipe fences that can be climbed on- however short; trees that produce plenty of sticks, fallen branches, logs and huge timbers than can be climbed on; trees that produce nuts/fruit/pods that can be collected and possibly even eaten.
 - Give stronger emphasis to linear/corridor recreation planning/design. Depending on 100 year flood plain and development restrictions I would recommend locating parking as reasonably near the river as possible but still provide a substantial green zone.
 - Consider creating a substantial “green” buffer on the east, west, and south ends of the site.
 - Eliminate or avoid pathways crossing roadways.
 - Keep it simple, parking, river access, dispersed recreation.
 - I would recommend limiting camping at RRR State Park and keep the other three sites as day-use.

Rockin’ River Ranch State Park

- Describe What You Like
 - Camping
 - River access
- Describe What You Would Change

- A large RV park with so many tent sites could create an over-use environment.
- How Do You See Yourself Using the Site
 - “Boat-in” Camping
 - Possibly replacing the Clear Creek RAP
- List What Amenities Are Most Important To You
 - (Ranked amenities from one respondent): #1 – Horseback/canoe concessionaire
 - #2 – “Boat-in” camping for overnight river trips. You could manage it online with a first come, first serve permit system. Each camp site would have a name and sign viewable from the river.
 - #3 – River access points
 - #4 – Equestrian camping & day use opportunities
 - #5 – Amphitheater
 - #6 – 20 Cabins
 - #7 – 80-120 RV/Tent Sites

One of the feedback stations was also set up to incorporate a dot voting exercise to hone in on priorities for the public. The results from the dot voting are tabulated in the charts below.



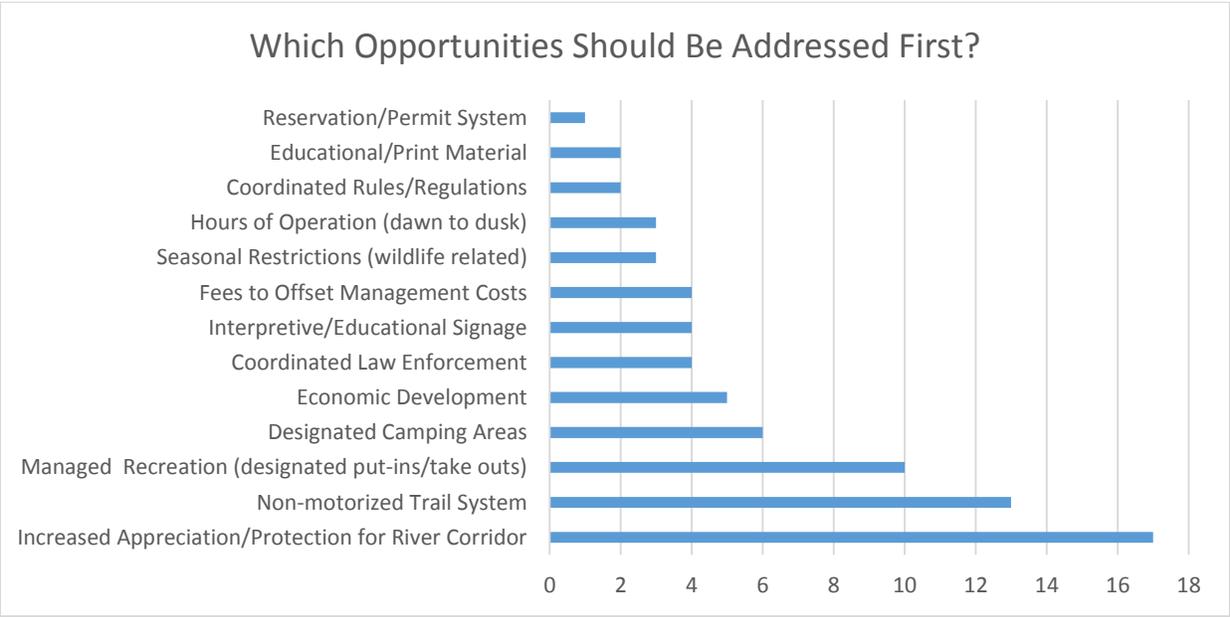
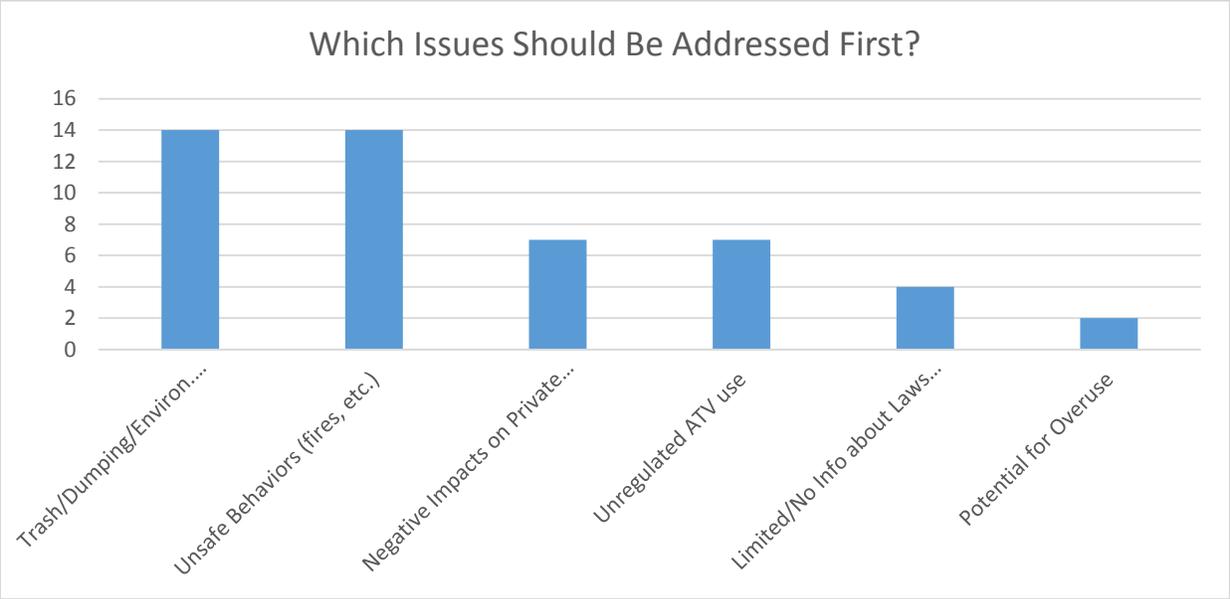


Table of Contents

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS	3
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	3
VERDE RIVER RECREATION GOALS	4
REGIONAL CONTEXT – VERDE RIVER THROUGH TOWN OF CAMP VERDE	5
THE HEART OF ARIZONA	5
DEMOGRAPHICS	6
NATURAL RESOURCES	7
CULTURAL RESOURCES	8
THE VERDE FRONT	8
NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC GEOTOURISM PROGRAM	9
A FOCUS ON THE VERDE RIVER CORRIDOR	9
RECREATION MANAGEMENT CHALLENGES	10
RECREATION IMPACTS & CONCERNS	11
TRASH DUMPING & LITTER	11
PRIVATE PROPERTY & TRESPASSING	11
TRAFFIC, PARKING & MOTORIZED USES	11
PUBLIC SAFETY	12
PROTECTION OF RIVER RESOURCES	12
ENFORCEMENT	13
OPPORTUNITIES FOR RECREATIONAL AMENITY ENHANCEMENTS IN CAMP VERDE	13
EDUCATION & INTERPRETATION	14
ENGINEERING & SITE DESIGN	15
ENFORCEMENT	16
POTENTIAL RECREATIONAL IMPROVEMENTS ON THE VERDE RIVER	16
TRAILS	17
BOATING/FLOATING	17
WATCHABLE WILDLIFE	18
PARTNERSHIPS WITH LOCAL LANDOWNERS	20
SPECIFIC PROJECTS & SITE ENHANCEMENTS	20
I-17 PROPERTY	21
HOMESTEAD PARK	21
REZZONICO PARK/BLACK BRIDGE RIVER ACCESS	22

ROCKIN' RIVER RANCH	22
<u>RECOMMENDATIONS – PRIORITIES FOR IMPLEMENTATION</u>	<u>23</u>
IMPLEMENTATION PLAN FOR RECREATIONAL MANAGEMENT	25
HOMESTEAD PARK	26
DESIGNATION OF AN IBA FOR THE TOWN OF CAMP VERDE	26
I-17 PROPERTY	27
<u>APPENDICES</u>	<u>28</u>

Acknowledgements

The Town of Camp Verde would like to express its gratitude and appreciation for the generous support provided by the Walton Family Foundation to undertake the *Verde River Recreation Master Plan* process.

The Town would also like to recognize the National Park Service’s RTCA (River Trails and Conservation Assistance) grant program for providing important support in community engagement and public input.

Additionally, the Town would like to acknowledge and thank the hosts and participants in the neighborhood listening sessions, as well as the state and federal agency officials from Arizona State Parks, the U.S. Forest Service, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, Arizona Game and Fish, and others who participated in stakeholder sessions in the planning process.

Lastly, the Town would like to thank Friends of Verde River Greenway and American Rivers for their support and work to assist in completion of the *Verde River Recreation Master Plan*.

Executive Summary

QUOTE:

"I don't want to get to the age when I have to tell my great grandchildren, you should have seen the Verde River when it was pretty." --Barry Goldwater, 1990

The *Verde River Recreation Master Plan* identifies priorities for developing and improving recreational amenities along the 17-mile stretch of the Verde River and its tributaries flowing through the Town of Camp Verde’s corporate boundaries. It will inform investments that the Town may make, in partnership with state and federal agencies, to improve the quality of life for community residents, as well as manage current recreational use more sustainably.

Vision

A clean and healthy Verde River that is a source of pride in our community, and a world-class resource for those who enjoy fishing, paddling, hiking, wildlife viewing, cultural resources and history.

Chairman Thomas Beauty of the Yavapai Apache Nation said it very eloquently: “The Verde River defines who we are, it is the basis of our economic future. A healthy river is a healthy economy. It is a unifying force for all the people of the Verde Valley.”¹

¹ “As Long as the River Flows, Life will be Good.” Video produced by the Yavapai Apache Nation. 2015.

Verde River Recreation Goals

- Connect the residents of Camp Verde with the Verde River, and increase awareness and appreciation of the river as a natural treasure;
- Respond to concerns of riverfront property owners, since those landowners are currently experiencing the highest impacts due to unmanaged recreational use;
- Provide safe, healthy, quality river recreation experiences for community residents and visitors;
- Provide for family-friendly outdoor activities along the river corridor;
- Manage recreational use appropriately to ensure that sensitive riparian habitat is protected;
- Support economic development through tourism amenities.

In late 2014, the Town of Camp Verde received two grants, from the Walton Family Foundation and the National Park Service's River Trails and Conservation Assistance Program, to carry out the development of the *Verde River Recreation Master Plan* to guide the community in its efforts to manage and expand recreational opportunities along the Verde River and its tributaries through the Town's corporate boundaries. McLaughlin Whitewater, an engineering firm, was retained to conduct the mapping, inventory, and assessment of recreational resources in Camp Verde.

The Town also conducted extensive community engagement to investigate current recreational use, identified problems and concerns with unmanaged recreation, and established community-driven priorities for expanding recreational amenities in the area. Particular attention was paid to riverfront property owners as they are the community members that experience the highest impact from recreational use. Town leaders and project partners also sought the input of community members on potential solutions to management challenges for river access points, parks, and recreational activities.

Throughout the summer of 2015, the Town convened neighborhood listening sessions in residential areas experiencing problems or issues connected with unmanaged recreational use. In July 2015 Town staff hosted a public open house for riverfront property owners to voice concerns and offer solutions. A public open house was later held for residents of Camp Verde to express their views about recreational improvement needs, site design on priority parcels, and sustainable recreation management. The Town distributed public surveys to riverfront property owners to share their perspectives, as well as for the general public.

The Town of Camp Verde also held listening sessions with state and federal land managers, and others managing large parcels along the Verde River.

The recreational needs, concerns about unmanaged use, and potential solutions for sustainably managing recreation amenities in the Town were taken into consideration in the preliminary planning concepts developed for specific park and river access improvements. Lastly, the public assessed these priorities, and the most promising potential developments to improve river recreation in keeping with the goals of the Town planning process were identified in this plan.

The priorities for the Town of Camp Verde in recreational planning as reflected from public input are listed below:

- #1 – Implement strategies to better manage recreational use at existing and proposed sites, safeguard private property rights, and discourage damaging activities to riparian habitat and wildlife resources.
- #2 – Development of Homestead Park as a day-use watchable wildlife amenity, with a viewing deck, nature trails, light development, interpretive and educational elements, and fishing access.
- #3 – Designation of an Important Bird Area (IBA) designation to support watchable wildlife programming within the Town of Camp Verde.
- #4 – Development of limited, day-use recreational amenities at the I-17 property.
- #5 – Continue to explore the potential for developing riverside trails, as well as upland trails to Montezuma Castle National Monument, the Beaver Creek Communities, and the Town of Camp Verde’s 118-acre community park property and the White Hills located north of the Verde Ranger Station.
- #6 – Continue to work with Arizona State Parks and Prescott National Forest to develop recreational amenities and park resources at Homestead Park and Rockin’ River Ranch.
- #7 – Development of the riverfront amenities for Rezzonico Park just below Black Bridge.

Regional Context – Verde River through Town of Camp Verde

QUOTE:

“Throughout time the Verde River has been the backbone of the Verde Valley. The first settlers were drawn to our valley for its agricultural, ranching and mining opportunities. Today the Verde Valley has become a mecca for ecotourism. We have the responsibility to conserve one of Arizona's remaining crown jewels by striving to create safe, environmentally sustainable outdoor recreational opportunities along the Verde River such as hiking, swimming, camping, horseback riding, hunting, and wildlife viewing providing a significant economic impact for our communities. The economic impact can be felt by direct and in-direct business dollars along with an increase in property values.” ---Chip Davis, Yavapai County Board of Supervisors

The Heart of Arizona

The Town of Camp Verde is located in the geographic center, and many believe the historical, cultural and spiritual heart, of the state of Arizona. Nestled on the Verde River, one of Arizona’s last free-flowing streams, Camp Verde is blessed with significant natural, cultural, historic, and quality of life resources. The Verde River flows through the center of the Town’s boundaries, and is a vital life line for communities in central Arizona.

The Verde River is a precious resource for communities within the watershed. The river supplies water to thousands of people, including the citizens of the Town of Camp Verde, other Verde Valley communities, the Yavapai Apache Nation, as well as the state's largest urban center, Phoenix. The Verde River's headwaters start near Paulden, Arizona, emerging out of Sullivan Lake. The river's base flows through its first 22-mile stretch are sustained by aquifer-fed springs in the Big Chino Basin. From there, near the confluence of Sycamore Creek in the Sycamore Canyon Wilderness Area, it flows nearly 140 miles, merging with the Salt River just outside of the Phoenix metro area. On its southward journey through the Verde Valley, it passes through the communities of Clarkdale, Cottonwood, and Camp Verde before it enters its Wild & Scenic stretch, which extends 40-miles through the Mazatzal Wilderness Area before emptying into Horseshoe Reservoir and Bartlett Lake.

The Verde River runs through the Town of Camp Verde's boundaries for a 17-mile stretch, beginning at the The Nature Conservancy's Otter Water property in the Middle Verde and leaving at Arizona State Park's Rockin' River Ranch State Park property, just downstream of the of the West Clear Creek confluence. Land ownership along the Verde River is a mix of public and private, as well as tribal ownership. The Yavapai Apache Nation owns several miles of riverfront property along the Verde below the Town's upstream boundary. The remainder of the Verde River flows through a mix of U.S. Forest Service land, parcels owned by Arizona State Parks, the Town of Camp Verde, private conservation property, and residential neighborhoods before leaving Town corporate boundaries.

There are six currently available river access points that are publicly accessible along the Verde River on the reach that flows through Camp Verde, and these areas vary in their level of development and improvement. Two of these properties are currently owned by the Town of Camp Verde – Rezzonico Park/Black Bridge river access point, and a cluster of parcels totaling 27 acres near the I-17 overpass on the Verde River. Sites managed by the USFS Prescott National Forest include Newton Lane (and unimproved access point), White Bridge river access point, Clear Creek river access point and, just outside the corporate boundaries of the Town, the Beasley Flat river access point. The area along the Verde River known as Homestead Park, an area largely undeveloped, is comprised of three parcels totaling 80 acres owned by the Prescott National Forest and Arizona State Parks. Arizona State Parks also owns Rockin' River Ranch, a 209-acre parcel that has not yet been developed for public access and recreational amenities.

Demographics

The Town of Camp Verde jurisdictional boundaries encompass 42.6 square miles. According to the 2014 U.S. Census Bureau estimate, the population is 11,097, with a growth rate estimated at 2.1% as of the 2010 Census. Of the 4,200 households reported in Camp Verde, nearly 30% are families with children under the age of 18 living in the home. The median income of Camp Verde residents is lower than the Arizona average, however the unemployment rate is slightly lower than the state average. The public access to the Verde River is a valuable opportunity that the Town of Camp Verde can provide in terms of low-cost recreational activities available to families.

QUOTE:

“The importance of the Verde River to the people, businesses, plants, animals and culture of the Verde Valley can't be overstated. The River is why the Sinagua people were here a thousand years ago, and it's why we're here today. It is clear that conserving this treasure depends to a great extent upon bringing people out to experience it personally -- in kayaks and canoes, along its trails, and sitting under one of its thousands of giant cottonwoods to relax. When we know the Verde River, we love the Verde River, and we'll do what's necessary to save it for our children and their children. It's that simple.”

--Mayor Doug Von Gausig, Town of Clarkdale

Natural Resources

Camp Verde has an arid high desert climate, and is well known for its scenic amenities. Rich in wildlife, the Town boasts the longest reach of the Verde River running through a Verde Valley community. The Town of Camp Verde is bordered on the south by the Black Hills, on the north by the White Hills, and is surrounded largely by USFS land. Interstate 17 (I-17) bisects the Town, with the Camp Verde downtown area located one mile to the east of I-17.

The Town of Camp Verde is home to countless natural treasures. The Verde River, one of the last free-flowing perennial rivers in Arizona, is a unique resource, with a riparian corridor that supports rare vegetation and rich wildlife diversity. In a region that receives an annual average rainfall of 12 inches, these water resources are especially notable. The Verde River and its tributaries feature over 400 miles of interconnected riparian habitat along a flowing river.² One of the rarest forest types in North America, the Fremont Cottonwood-Goodding's Willow gallery forest, can be found along the Verde River, and the river is home to threatened and endangered species, native fish populations, as well as supporting migratory bird populations as one of the major flyway stopover areas. Many other wildlife species use the riparian corridor of the Verde, as well, from beaver and river otters, to whitetail deer, elk, bobcat, and mountain lions. All told, there are 94 species of mammals, and 76 native amphibian and reptile species that rely on the riparian corridor of the Verde River.³

The Verde River in Camp Verde is also a significant recreational resource for a variety of activities, from kayaking and canoeing, to hunting and fishing, picnicking and hiking, equestrian trail riding, birdwatching, and much more. It provides a host of healthy outdoor activities that contribute to the quality of life for residents, as well as drawing outdoor adventure enthusiasts from across the state and beyond, bringing economic development activity with increased tourism. The annual Verde River Runoff kayak and canoe race regularly draws over 100 participants from all over the region for a 10-mile paddle from White Bridge to Beasley Flat. The outstanding wildlife values of the area also make it ideal for pursuing watchable wildlife programs that tap into a popular and growing recreational pastime.

² *Ecological Implications of Verde River Flows*. Verde River Basin Partnership, Arizona Water Institute and The Nature Conservancy. <http://vrbp.org/interesting-reads/ecological-implications-verde-river-flows/>

³ *Id.*

Cultural Resources

The Town of Camp Verde and surrounding region has a rich heritage and history. Native American communities made the Verde Valley their home thousands of years ago. Archaeologists consider the nomadic Clovis people as the earliest inhabitants. Later, the Sinagua people settled in the area along the Verde River around 600 A.D.⁴ The Sinagua (from the Spanish words for “without water”) built pit houses, and later impressive pueblos and cliff dwellings, and engaged in agriculture along the fertile river valley. The legacy of their presence is preserved in national parks and monuments such as Montezuma Well, Montezuma Castle, and Tuzigoot National Monument.

After European-American settlement began, Camp Verde was one of the earliest communities established, although the Town itself was not incorporated until 1986, one of the last Verde Valley communities to become formalized. The first military outpost was located near the farms of West Clear Creek, and later, in 1865, Camp Lincoln – eventually renamed and relocated to its current site – became Camp Verde. In 1878, the outpost became permanent and was renamed Fort Verde, and was a base of operations for General Crook and his U.S. Army scouts and soldiers. It is now a State Historic Park, and a place of local celebration of the Town’s early origins during Fort Verde Days, as well as events honoring veterans.

Camp Verde grew up around the military post, building a thriving agricultural community. Settlers established a 200-acre agricultural area near the confluence the Verde River and West Clear Creek. Early in the community’s history, the majority of settlers were farmers and ranchers, but later settlers were drawn to the region to participate in the growing mining industry. Agriculture remains an important economic activity in Camp Verde today, with an annual Pecan and Wine Festival and Corn Fest to celebrate the production of local agricultural products.

The Verde Front

The Verde Front is a collaborative initiative, bringing together local municipal and county representatives, public land managers, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and civic leaders to craft a landscape-scale sustainable recreation plan for the region using an “all lands, all hands” approach to identify and implement shared recreation management goals. The Town of Camp Verde is one of the jurisdictions participating in the Verde Front effort, including the working group on economic development, and the working group that developed the concept of the “String of Pearls.” The String of Pearls is a regional recreational framework focused around “pearls” or areas with significant natural values such as parks, river access points, and other recreational amenities, connected by the “string” of the Verde River.

The *Verde River Recreation Master Plan* process began in part through conversations with the broader Verde Front communities on development of recreational amenities in the region within each of the participating jurisdictions in the Verde Valley. The collaborative efforts of the Verde Front are aimed at supporting locally driven recreational amenity projects, and part of the Town

⁴ *Arizona's First People: Native Americans of Northern and Central Arizona.*
<http://www.gatewaytosedona.com/popular-articles/item/50-indians-sedona-arizona>

of Camp Verde’s River Recreation Master Plan process has been to identify sites that are widely supported by community members as potential “pearls” to add to the Verde River string.

National Geographic Geotourism Program

Another effort sprouting from the Town of Camp Verde’s participation in the Verde Front’s Economic Development working group is the geotourism initiative currently underway, and overseen and managed by the Sedona Verde Valley Tourism Council. National Geographic recognized the Verde Valley as one of only 22 geotourism destinations worldwide. With this prestigious accolade, the region received help from National Geographic and Solimar International, a high profile ecotourism marketing firm, to develop a web site that features the remarkable natural resources, recreational, cultural, and amenity values of the region.

Sidebar:

National Geographic defines “geotourism” as “tourism that sustains or enhances the geographical character of a place—its environment, culture, aesthetics, heritage, and the well-being of its residents.” The Sedona Verde Valley geotourism web site can be found at sedonaverdevalley.natgeotourism.com.

The recognition of the Verde Valley by National Geographic as a globally significant tourism destination for affluent, highly educated travelers interested in authentic experiences in nature, culture, outdoor adventure and local wine and cuisine has the potential to be a significant boon to the economic development potential of the region.

A Focus on the Verde River Corridor

The first step for the Town of Camp Verde in evaluating the potential for river recreation management improvements and amenity enhancements was the retention of a consulting firm, McLaughlin Whitewater Design Group, to conduct an inventory of resources and engineering assessment of the Verde River as it flows through Camp Verde. The community directed the McLaughlin Group to develop baseline data for the Verde River’s current recreational amenities, and identify areas for potential recreational improvements for river-based activities.

Base mapping was obtained through Yavapai County, and state and federal land management agencies, and includes information about the landscape contours, hydrology of the river, property ownership, major and minor roads, location of irrigation ditches, and aerial photography of the river corridor. These mapping resources can be found in Appendix I of this report.

An examination of the flow hydrology and river hydraulics of the Verde River demonstrated that low flows through much of the irrigation season make supporting in-river, water-based recreation through most of the Town difficult. The report, however, noted that current efforts to increase flows through restoration efforts, and efficiency projects to lower water needs for sustaining agriculture and increase return flows, could potentially assist efforts to support river recreation activities.

The assessment of river hydraulics noted that the average slope through the Town of Camp Verde is approximately 0.18% with typical flow depths of 2 to 5 feet, increasing up to 20-30 feet during flood events. Localized gradients much higher than 0.18% would be necessary to contribute to in-river recreational whitewater features. The report determined that it would be unlikely to create “new” drops in the river without exacerbating flooding concerns. A small “drop” was found at Black Bridge/Rezzonico Park that could lend itself to creation of a whitewater feature.

Flood flows in the Verde River were also examined in the context of recreational improvements. Historic flooding events ranging from annual floods to 100-year and 500-year events were summarized in the report provided by McLaughlin Whitewater. The significant levels of variation between base flows and high flood events will have an impact on design and planning for recreational improvements within and near the Verde River through Camp Verde.

Overall, the assessment found that the Verde River, as a low-gradient, alluvial river with fine substrate, would not provide significant opportunities for development of on-river recreational amenities, such as whitewater features or a continuous paddle trail, without increasing base flows in the river. In its current state, diversions and other man-made features that lower base flow and create steep, unstable, and non-navigable drops in the river, would need to be modified in order for a paddle trail to be developed through the full length of the Town’s boundaries.

A full version of the McLaughlin Whitewater technical memorandum to the Town of Camp Verde summarizing their engineering assessment of recreational opportunities along the Verde River is available as a PDF at [\[insert web address or other location for obtaining copy of full report\]](#).

Recreation Management Challenges

The Verde River is a tremendous natural and recreational treasure for Camp Verde, but unmanaged and inappropriate recreational use can have significant negative impacts to the health of the river corridor, riparian vegetation, wildlife, and the other natural assets of the Verde. It can also impact the quality of life for residents. There was strong interest on the part of the Town and its residents to ensure that recreational planning would not result in a river “loved to death,” and learning from the experience of Fossil Creek, where recreational activities have degraded the resource, was a high priority in the planning process.

As part of the *Verde River Recreation Plan* efforts, the Town of Camp Verde felt it was critical to identify and address the concerns that community residents had with current recreational use and management. Before examining opportunities for recreational improvements or increasing access, outreach was conducted to residents, particularly riverfront property owners, about the current impacts of recreational use on and near the Verde River. Public surveys requesting that residents share their concerns or discuss problems experienced around current river use were also distributed to reach as many community members as possible.

A series of landowner listening sessions were convened by the Town to identify challenges with managing river recreation, understand concerns from residents about the impacts they experience, and explore potential solutions to addressing management issues prior to any expansion or development of new recreational amenities. The results of the public survey process are summarized in Appendix III, and the results of public open houses and listening sessions can be reviewed in Appendix IV. Grappling with these challenges to lessen the impacts on the natural resource values of the Verde River, as well as the impact to Town residents, is a central element of the management recommendations in the Plan.

Recreation Impacts & Concerns

Trash Dumping & Litter

The presence of pollution, dumping of trash, and abandonment of domestic animals and strays, were widely noted as one of the most significant problems along the Verde River. A need for enforcement to prevent littering, and to clean up areas along the river that have been impacted by the dumping of trash, furniture, and other large, unwieldy items along the river corridor was expressed resoundingly by Town residents.

Private Property & Trespassing

The Verde River runs through the heart of the Town and its neighborhoods, with significant areas along the river held by private landowners. The other, most common concern expressed by residents was trespass on private property and safety concerns for riverside neighborhoods. Many residents shared stories of problems resulting from trespass, from the theft of personal property and property damage, to noisy, rowdy, and unsafe behavior. Unleashed animals attacking livestock was also noted as a problem, as well as late night intrusions by stranded boaters seeking help after an unsuccessful float.

Many of the solutions proposed by residents included increased and consistent enforcement, improved signage that shows where private property is located, and better educational materials and information for recreational users about boating safety, preparedness, and where paddling and tubing activities are appropriate. A majority of riverfront residents also recommended that river access for on-river activities, such as boating, be directed to areas that are publicly owned and specifically managed to support those uses, or that buffers be created between recreational areas and residential areas to preserve the quiet, peaceful character of the neighborhoods.

Traffic, Parking & Motorized Uses

Concerns, particularly among riverfront property owners, were raised about the level of traffic occurring on quiet neighborhood streets by those seeking to access the Verde River. Rustler Trail residents expressed the most concern and experienced the most significant impacts from traffic along the road as well as parking in neighborhoods by non-residents.

Irresponsible ATV use was also noted as an issue for residents, particularly those near areas where current ATV use is common, including near the I-17 parcel. Many residents complained about the noise, impact to the river and riparian habitat for wildlife, and damage caused by ATV use near the river. A number of survey respondents from both the riverfront property owners and general public indicated a desire to limit or bar ATV traffic near the river, and instead direct it to appropriate areas designated for ATV use.

Public Safety

Another common theme that emerged from community engagement efforts was the concern of residents about public safety in connection with recreational use. Fire risk was a serious concern raised by many, and residents shared experiences with campers and transients setting fires in the river corridor near their property, and concerns that those could spread within the riparian area and affect private property values.

Other residents noted that they had often seen drug deals take place on public lands near the river, and yet others complained about firearms and shooting near residential neighborhoods that left them concerned about their safety and that of their property. Transient camps were also noted as a problem along the river corridor.

Others commented that boating safety information needed to be more widely distributed to those using the river. Inexperienced or ill-informed recreational boaters trying to float the Verde River through the Town can often run into trouble, particularly during low flows or in trying to navigate stretches where diversions present significant obstacles. Educating recreational users, and providing information on where it is best to boat on the Verde River at river access points, was noted as a potential solution to address this issue.

Protection of River Resources

Almost universally through the public engagement process, the people of Camp Verde expressed their love and value for the Verde River. Among the highest values expressed by survey respondents and public open house participants in the planning process were the scenic beauty, peace and quiet, and access to recreational opportunities that the Verde River provides to the community. Wildlife habitat supported by the Verde River also ranked among the top attributes that residents supported.

Concerns were voiced by a majority of participants in the planning process that any recreational planning efforts should be done in a manner that preserves those natural values, and protects the wildlife that depends on the river. Watchable wildlife activities, including birdwatching, were noted as the most broadly supported river recreation pastimes. There is great interest among the public to develop recreational amenities that support and preserve wildlife habitat, and people's access to wildlife viewing.

In considering recreational development to improve access to the Verde River in Camp Verde, public land managers, NGO's and other landowners shared concerns about protecting wildlife and natural resources along the Verde. Protection of the ecology of the river and wildlife, restoration of natural habitat ranked high for land managers, and security for nearby property emerged as the top priorities for land managers in recreation planning.

Quote from USFWS Brenda Smith:

“The main issue we have heard about from the public is the amount of use the river is getting and potential disturbance to wildlife.... If you have designated access points for the public to use and discourage people from landing anywhere along the river, that should help to limit disturbance to wildlife habitats.”

Enforcement

A need for consistent and sustained enforcement of activities along the river corridor was also one of the solutions to managing recreational use most often cited by Town residents. This was particularly the case for riverfront property owners, who are experiencing the brunt of the impacts from recreational use of the Verde River.

Increased patrols of recreational access points and activities were often suggested in the public process to prevent trespass, littering, educate users about safe practices for on-river education, and enforce against illegal activity or uses that would degrade the resource.

Public land managers in the area also shared their interest in ensuring that agency law enforcement personnel collaborate with local law enforcement in dealing with recreation challenges along the river corridor.

Opportunities for Recreational Amenity Enhancements in Camp Verde

Even with limited recreational management of current sites, the Town of Camp Verde offers significant amenities for river-lovers of all persuasions – from boaters and anglers, to birdwatchers, equestrians, and those who simply wish to enjoy nature in a relaxed, scenic setting. Kayaking and canoeing, wildlife watching, walking, hiking and bicycling, and picnicking and outdoor gatherings are popular pastimes for Town residents. The Town is also the location for an annual kayak and canoe race, the Verde River Runoff, which draws boaters from across the state and beyond to test their paddling prowess on a 10-mile stretch of the Verde River from White Bridge to Beasley Flat.

The comments reflected in the previous section will inform the Town of Camp Verde's recreational planning efforts moving forward. In order to manage and maintain recreational sites and improvements to ensure that people can safely enjoy river recreation, while minimizing conflict with property owners along the river, the Town will work to incorporate the three “E's”

of recreational management into the Plan's implementation – engineering, education, and enforcement.

Engineering refers to the thoughtful design of river access, signage, and other recreational infrastructure in a manner that encourages ethical and responsible river use, and lends itself to self-regulation of recreational capacity and behavior in desired patterns.

Education focuses on the elements of recreational planning that provide public information, awareness building around safe river recreation practices, ethical and sustainable river use, and so forth. Educational measures are important in providing information such as where public access is located, the amenities available at different sites, particularly restrooms, trash disposal sites, and where boaters can put in or take out. Useful education tools can also assist in helping the public understand the length of time to float or boat between river access points, and the equipment and supplies needed for a safe boating experience. Such efforts can help reduce conflict between recreational use and private property owners, as well as reduce problematic recreational practices, such as littering and unsafe boating.

Lastly, **enforcement** is critical to ensure accountability for those recreating on or alongside the river. Given that the most common problems around river recreation expressed by residents were by far trash dumping and littering, as well as issues with trespass, noise and disturbance to riverfront property owners, enforcement measures to reduce those incidents is key. In planning for river recreation in Camp Verde, the engagement of local law enforcement has been identified as a critical need going forward.

Education & Interpretation

The Town of Camp Verde is exploring the development of an educational and interpretive program with the National Park Service's RTCA (Rivers Trails and Conservation Assistance) program and in collaboration with the partners of the Verde Front. Interpretive signage and other materials can share information about natural or cultural resource values, provide orientation information (e.g. maps), give critical public safety tips, and increase public knowledge and appreciation of the values of the Verde River.

Education and interpretation can take many forms – from directional signage to informational brochures, maps, web sites and social media. Along the Verde River, informing boaters of appropriate put-ins and take-outs, length of time between trips, and safe boating practices, as well as information about wildlife and cultural resources of the area, the best birding spots, and posting of private property and quiet zones are among the many needs that have emerged in the planning process.

Working with the Verde Front partners, the Town of Camp Verde has an opportunity to design signage that is consistent throughout the Verde Valley, and easily recognizable by recreational users from Clarkdale to Camp Verde. RTCA staff are working closely with the Town to identify interpretive needs for the community. Through community engagement efforts, several signage and information needs were recommended:

- Signage demarcating private property with no river access or stopping
- Safe boating information, including equipment and supplies recommended for an excursion, the time it takes to float from one river access point to another, and warnings about diversions and other hazards to discourage novice boaters from attempting stretches with long portage
- Information about appropriate recreational activities at particular sites

The Town of Camp Verde will continue to be engaged with the Verde Front and RTCA staff to develop interpretive resources for implementation in the Town. This process will continue through August of 2016.

Engineering & Site Design

In considering appropriate river recreation activities at particular sites, the role of site design in facilitating the desired recreational uses must be considered. Site design elements can serve to direct recreational users to appropriate activities on the site. They may also assist in managing recreational users in a way that will improve the recreational experience while also easing the impact on natural resources and on private property owners.

Concerns raised by residents about motorized recreation in sensitive wildlife habitat and riparian zones can be managed through site design that limits access to motorized traffic to those areas. Most survey respondents indicated that they access the river by automobile. In neighborhoods where parking by non-residents has been noted as a problem, providing parking at river access points while posting nearby neighborhoods with signs designating parking for residents only could alleviate these issues.

Issues around dumping and litter could also be improved by providing trash receptacles at recreational sites. Recreational activities that the community wishes to promote should be encouraged by the availability of amenities that facilitate those uses – such as trails, picnic tables, ramadas, or BBQ grills in areas identified for near-river recreation activities, or boat launches and boating safety information for areas identified as appropriate for boating access.

Given that the Verde River is a “flashy,” flood-prone waterway, design of recreational improvements should be done in a manner that ensures that such investments will not be wiped out in the next flood event. The durability of site improvements will need to be considered, as well as placement. Signage and other recreation management tools that would need be placed near the river to be placed on structures unlikely to be impacted by floods, or composed of inexpensive materials easily (and cheaply) replaceable. Expensive improvements should be located as far out of the flood zone as possible.

In designing recreational improvements, the Town may also consider community character and history in developing such resources. Thompson/Westervelt Architects, the local architectural firm retained by the Town to develop design characteristics for recreational and interpretive amenities utilized this information in drafting their “vernacular” design guidelines for

recreational improvements. These included making use of local materials for construction, minimizing site impacts, and traditional architectural stylings in keeping with the Town's history.

Enforcement

As noted by many Camp Verde residents, the participation and support of law enforcement to assist in managing recreational use will be important for the long-term maintenance of recreational amenities and in reducing conflict between recreational use and property owners. Monitoring of recreational activities has been widely viewed as an important part of balancing recreational use with the interests of the community in preserving the Verde River as a resource, keeping residential neighborhoods quiet and serene, and reducing the deleterious impacts that unmanaged and unmonitored recreational use can cause.

Other communities in the Verde Valley have made successful use of ambassador programs, as well as volunteers, to assist in managing recreation. Clarkdale has a robust program for ambassadors located at the river access points to provide information, monitoring, and prevent trespass issues. The Oak Creek Watershed Council has also successfully implemented a volunteer ambassador program at recreational sites along Oak Creek, a major tributary to the Verde, to reduce trash dumping and improve water quality issues resulting from recreational impacts. Both of these programs could serve as useful, cost-effective models for the Town to examine in the context of recreational management.

Potential Recreational Improvements on the Verde River

The most common recreational pastimes that Camp Verde residents reported in the public survey results were kayaking and canoeing, walking/hiking/running, and wildlife watching. There is also a significant constituency for equestrian trail riding activities. Community members responded through the survey and public open house process about their interest in expanded recreational opportunities, with the strongest support being for increased opportunities for these four most popular recreational activities. A significant majority of residents agreed or strongly agreed that development of enhanced river access should be a priority for Camp Verde. In evaluating potential projects for the *Verde River Recreation Master Plan*, particular attention to these recreational uses will be taken into account in development of new or improved recreational amenities.

Public sentiment in the Town expressed through public open houses and survey responses shows that community members want to ensure that improving access to enjoy river-related recreational activities does not damage the natural resource values of a flowing Verde River. When considering and implementing recreational improvements, the incorporation of riparian restoration to improve watershed health would be useful in protecting the wildlife, scenic values, and watershed functions that the people of Camp Verde value.

Friends of Verde River Greenway is a nonprofit organization that supports restoration activities along the Verde River. Through the Verde Watershed Restoration Coalition (VWRC), teams of restoration specialists engage in on-the-ground projects and partnerships with local landowners, state and federal agencies to remove invasive species, such as giant reed, tamarisk, Russian olive, and tree of heaven, and restore native vegetation in the river corridor. The program works with over 200 landowners in the area to treat invasive plants and improve watershed health.

Continued partnerships with Friends of Verde River Greenway in sustainable recreation planning, building restoration components into the development of recreational amenities, will ensure that the Town of Camp Verde will be successful in striking the right balance between enabling people to enjoy the river and the natural values that community members treasure.

Trails

The number-one recreational activity that Camp Verde residents reported interest in expanding opportunities for are trail related recreational activities, such as walking, hiking, running, biking, and horseback riding. A large majority of survey respondents felt that development of a network of trails along public lands should be a priority, indicating that trails connecting the Town to parks, and trails connecting the Town to the Verde River were most broadly supported.

The Town of Camp Verde is in discussion with state and federal agency partners to explore opportunities to create trails that provide those connections for the community. Some of the trail options being examined currently include a foot trail between the Town of Camp Verde and Montezuma Castle across Jackson Flat, and uplands trails near Copper Canyon waterfall and Hidden Canyon. There are also site-specific trail loops under consideration at the Homestead parcel for wildlife watching, and at Rockin' River Ranch.

In addition to these trails, the Town is also discussing the potential development of trails in the White Hills area, originating out of the 118-acre community park property owned by the Town of Camp Verde, and may run through portions of the 160-acre water treatment facility property. Connector trails may be established between this trail network and Rezzonico Park, Jackson Flat, Montezuma Castle National Monument, and Beaver Creek communities.

Boating/Floating

The second most popular recreational use noted by residents is canoeing and kayaking in the Verde River, and residents expressed strong interest in improving boating opportunities through the Town. In managing this recreational use through the planning process, the Town is working to balance the interests of boaters and the concerns of private property owners. The Verde River through the central part of Camp Verde flows through many residential neighborhoods, and also runs through several irrigation diversions, which can present hazards to boaters as well as limiting the flows to sustain boating. In the interests of mitigating the impacts to riverfront residents, it was determined that the best reach of the Verde River in Camp Verde to direct on-river recreation to is the stretch that begins at White Bridge river access point, and flows downstream to Rockin' River Ranch and Beasley Flat.

Expansion of river access for boating, and construction/improvement of boat launches for kayakers and canoeists, is being directed to that particular reach of the river, with new boating access to be included as part of the development at Rockin' River Ranch. The Verde River between White Bridge river access point through to Rockin' River Ranch, and beyond to Beasley Flat, could hold promise as a designated paddle trail in the future. Conversations on designating the Verde River Heart Line paddle trail in this area could move forward in conjunction with development of Rockin' River Ranch.

Sidebar: John Parsons

Public recognition of the Verde River as a recreational amenity, an economic driver, and a place of scenic beauty and natural wonder has strengthened over the past decade. Recreational paddling along the Verde River corridor is on the rise, along with the attendant economic activity that comes with increased tourism. In large part, this is a tribute to the work of John Parsons. In the early 1980's, the Verde River was widely known as the "Dirty Verde" – if anyone knew where it was at all.

After a decade of work to protect the Verde River's incredible resources, and directing grant funding from the State Lakes Improvement Fund (SLIF) to develop improved access for people to enjoy river recreation activities, the Verde River made it onto the map for river-runners, bird-watchers, nature enthusiasts, and countless others who come each year to appreciate its beauty and diversity. Parsons also organized the Northern Arizona Paddlers Club as an organization of boaters who loved to spend time on rivers. In 2010, John Parsons and Josh Wheeler paddled the Verde River from Bridgeport to Beasley Flat to map river access points and develop a paddle guide for the river that boaters from across the state have come to rely upon.

In a 2011 article, Parsons is quoted as saying, "I always viewed myself as a middleman, helping people get introduced to the river so the river could speak to them and tell its story in its own way, in its own time, straight to their hearts."⁵

Without John Parsons, it is a very real possibility that the Verde River would have remained tragically degraded, largely unknown, undiscovered, and unappreciated by the public. Thanks to his efforts, the Verde is now a vibrant green corridor through the communities of the Verde Valley, bringing prosperity, scenic beauty, and a rich quality of life to the people who reside here.

Watchable Wildlife

⁵ "John Parsons and the 'Dirty Verde.'" Steve Ayers, Staff Reporter. Camp Verde Bugle. December 13, 2011.

There is a high level of interest among the public for increased opportunities to view and appreciate the region's diverse wildlife as part of the recreational planning process. The concerns of the public and the public land and wildlife management agencies in controlling disturbance for wildlife within the river corridor should be considered in recreational amenity design. Education and interpretative resources will also be helpful in informing the public about wildlife resources, responsible wildlife viewing, and directing public recreation to areas appropriate for low-impact wildlife viewing.

The Town of Camp Verde is exploring partnerships with the Arizona Game and Fish Department and its watchable wildlife program and with US Fish and Wildlife Service on identifying sensitive habitats for endangered and threatened species. The Verde Front regional sustainable recreation planning collaborative is also exploring a region-wide watchable wildlife program similar to the Arizona Watchable Wildlife Experience (AWWE) in Flagstaff. AWWE's success in Northern Arizona may serve as a model for developing a similar program in Camp Verde, and the broader Verde Valley region.

Sidebar: Important Bird Areas (IBAs)

The Important Bird Areas (IBA) Program in Arizona is an effort led by Audubon Arizona and Tucson Audubon to recognize the most important areas for birds in the state, with a purpose of identifying a "network of sites that maintain the long term viability of wild bird populations."⁶ The program also works to engage citizen scientists and bird-lovers in field activities, bird counts and surveys, and conservation projects to benefits Arizona's birds and their habitats.

Arizona's IBA program has been in operation since 2002, and has identified and designated 45 IBAs throughout the state. The greater Verde Valley has been recognized as home to several noteworthy IBAs, including the Tuzigoot IBA, which extends along the Verde River corridor from Tuzigoot National Monument to near the intersection of the river and Mingus Avenue in Cottonwood, and the Lower Oak Creek IBA that is located near the Page Springs Fish Hatchery north of Cornville.

According to the Audubon IBA web site, IBAs can be designated at three levels – state, continental and global. To qualify as a state IBA, an inventory of bird species is conducted by researchers and public land managers to determine whether or not a site supports significant numbers of species of conservation concern and restricted ranges. Once designated, a site may qualify for support to protect and maintain the conservation values of habitat within the IBA.

The Town of Camp Verde is examining whether a designation of an IBA within the Town's boundaries along the Verde River near Homestead Park would benefit watchable wildlife programming within the community. In order to begin the process, the Town working with Audubon Arizona to organize a bird inventory and survey at the sites would be the first step.

Sidebar: Camp Verde Riparian Preserve

The Camp Verde Riparian Preserve (CVRP) is a 124-acre parcel along approximately 1-mile of the Verde River, and is owned by Salt River Project as part of their mitigation obligations for an

⁶ Global IBA Program in Arizona. http://aziba.org/?page_id=32

Incidental Take Permit pursuant to the Endangered Species Act for impacts to federally listed species resulting from the continued operation of Roosevelt Dam and Lake. SRP's primary goal for management of the Preserve is to provide ecological and conservation benefits to the Southwestern willow flycatcher, Western yellow-billed cuckoo, and bald eagle. This is accomplished by promoting a dynamic floodplain and river ecosystem, and by protecting riparian habitat from outside threats.⁷ Due to the management objectives (protecting the riparian community for sensitive species) human and vehicular traffic is restricted within the Preserve.

In developing river-related amenities it will be important to ensure the CVRP parcel is adequately marked and that potentially destructive recreational activities are directed to appropriate areas and that enforcement actions are put in place to monitor activities in the area.

Partnerships with Local Landowners

Riverfront property owners requested that the Town of Camp Verde consider their concerns related to the impacts on peace and quiet, privacy, and safety of riverfront neighborhoods by directing recreational use toward public land sites and designated river access areas. While access by the public will not be encouraged in local residential neighborhoods, there is an important role for local landowners in improving the health of the Verde River corridor through restoration projects. Partnerships with Friends of Verde River Greenway and VWRC with local landowners can continue to improve watershed functions, wildlife habitat, and support the natural values of the Verde River. In the meantime, recreational resources can be located on the many public land sites available in the Town of Camp Verde, and minimize conflict between residents and recreational users.

Specific Projects & Site Enhancements

Through the recreational planning process, the Town of Camp Verde engaged with public land management agencies, riverfront property owners, and the public to identify specific project priorities for implementation of recreational enhancements. Discussions with the public and with the U.S. Forest Service, Arizona State Parks, and local landowners over the spring, summer and fall of 2015 revealed four specific on-the-ground priorities for improvement projects that could meet increased recreational access and demand for the community. These four priorities include:

- I-17 Property – owned by the Town of Camp Verde
- Homestead Park – owned by Prescott National Forest and Arizona State Parks
- Rezzonico Park/Black Bridge river access – owned by the Town of Camp Verde
- Rockin' River Ranch – owned by Arizona State Parks

⁷ *Management Plan for Camp Verde Riparian Preserve*. Salt River Project. March 2005; updated 2015.

I-17 Property

The I-17 property is located beneath and to the north and west of the Interstate 17 overpass as it runs through Camp Verde. It is formerly FEMA land that was quitclaimed to the Town of Camp Verde, and is currently an undeveloped parcel. Current uses are largely unmanaged and in some cases problematic. Neighboring landowners have complained about unchecked ATV use. In some cases, vehicles were running through the river itself and onto adjacent private property causing damage to the property. In addition, neighbors have noted the area as a location of frequent drug deals and other illicit behavior.

At the October 2015 public open house, renderings for potential site improvements were shared with the public and comments were solicited on recreational needs and priorities for the site. It was identified as the second highest priority among the four sites discussed as a day-use area. The potential improvements conceptualized in the renderings include a parking area to direct traffic away from neighborhoods, small road to access a boat launch and fishing areas, with paths from the parking area to the river, gathering areas, restrooms and a native garden. Wildlife blinds and birding/nesting observation sites were also incorporated. The design included the planting of native shade trees and potential ramadas. An alternative plan included only the paths to the river and parking for site users.

Public comments on the site design indicated interest in the nearness to potential boat launch sites, and the availability of shade trees, ramadas, and picnic areas. Respondents indicated that they would prefer to see fewer roads, but maintain good pathways to a boat launch. It was also suggested that, rather than routing park traffic down Rustler Trail, to use alternate routes to access the I-17 property through Long Rifle Road or Rawhide.

Homestead Park

Homestead Park is located at the end of a dirt road originating from Finnie Flat Road through the Simonton property. It is a combination of USFS land and Arizona State Parks land, and the two agencies have been discussing joint management of recreational resources and access as part of the development of the Park. The two agencies and the Town are in the midst of discussing strategies for joint management of Homestead Park. The Town of Camp Verde is working to develop a mutually beneficial joint development agreement with the Arizona State Parks and Prescott National Forest for the site. Current uses have been somewhat problematic, as it is the site for a number of transient camps, unregulated uses, and the site of significant dumping, including large items such as old sofas, mattresses, and other trash.

The Town has already negotiated with the Simonton family and the Archaeology Center to include a parking area and trailhead to access Homestead Park as a condition for paving and improving the road. This property was identified as the number one priority through public engagement on recreational priorities.

With access to Homestead Park secured and a joint management MOU in place, planning for recreational improvements in partnership with the Prescott National Forest and Arizona State Parks may be able to proceed. It is envisioned that the Homestead Park will be kept in a relatively natural state, featuring nature trails, fishing access, and watchable wildlife resources and programming, including a wildlife viewing platform. Other programming explored in the renderings included a western settler cultural exhibition, with interpretive exhibits for ditch systems, windmills, a traditional mill, and educational materials about historic agricultural practices.

Participants in the October 2015 open house indicated enthusiasm for the plan offered for Homestead Park, and interest in particular in the wildlife viewing platform and resources. Suggestions made by the public ranged from including formal campsites to picnic areas, grills and ramadas near the water. Most community members indicated that they would like access to the site to enjoy kayaking, wading, and in-river activities such as swimming and wading.

Rezzonico Park/Black Bridge River Access

Rezzonico Park is currently a lightly developed park within the Town of Camp Verde near the public library. A new library is under construction nearby, and the opportunity to improve Rezzonico Park as a community gathering place and area for connection with the Verde River near the Town's center exists. However, improvements to this site ranked lowest on the list of priorities for Town residents in light of other potential projects.

The sketches and renderings for improvements to Rezzonico Park shared at the public open house included improvements that build upon the current site features. A parking area is located near the library, with walking paths through the park. The marker for the geographic center of Arizona is located in the heart of Rezzonico Park, and conceptual drawings for enhancements include a stargazing element near the geographic center feature to take advantage of the Town of Camp Verde's dazzling night sky. Other improvement ideas include a pedestrian bridge across the Verde River from Rezzonico Park to a walkway on the other side of the river. Terraced picnic areas and ramadas, a native garden, and a small beach area for riverside recreation were also shown.

Public comments on the conceptual drawings for Rezzonico Park indicated support for a system of interconnected trails between Rezzonico Park, the I-17 property, and Homestead. However, it should be noted that any connector trails would have to be developed in partnership with private landowners along the corridor. Others expressed interest in development of a large, grassy area at Rezzonico for playing Frisbee or other outdoor sports. The need for restrooms, shade trees and shade structures, as well as parking areas and riparian ecosystem interpretation were also comments shared by community members.

Rockin' River Ranch

Rockin' River Ranch is a 209-acre historic ranch at the southern boundary of the Town of Camp Verde, and which was purchased by Arizona State Parks in 2008 as an extension of the Verde

River Greenway through the Verde Valley. It is the site of several houses, barns, sheds, and other outbuildings connected with the past ranching operation. While the site has gone largely undeveloped and inaccessible by the public for the past seven years, Arizona State Parks has identified the parcel as a top priority for development as a recreational amenity.

At the October 2015 public open house, Arizona State Parks shared preliminary draft plans for development of Rockin' River Ranch. The site plan included a river access and boat launch, with campsites for passing paddlers and other users, as well as RV hook-ups, walking trails, restrooms, parking areas, and an amphitheater. To support equestrian activities, campsites and stabling facilities for horses were included in the site plan.

Public response was positive to these initial plans put forward by Arizona State Parks, particular the camping amenities, river access for boating, and the equestrian facilities. Rockin' River Ranch is also near the Truswell property, owned by Prescott National Forest. There have been discussions in the past about the opportunity to jointly manage Rockin' River Ranch and the Truswell property for recreational use. Some interest exists in transferring the river access point currently at Clear Creek river access point to Rockin' River Ranch or another parcel owned by the U.S. Forest Service, giving boaters a more convenient put in/take out launch area that does not involve hiking up a steep incline with their gear. Should legislative appropriations be secured for development of Rockin' River Ranch, such joint agreements for management could be explored more fully.

Recommendations – Priorities for Implementation

Camp Verde offers a wide range of recreational pursuits, for both residents and visitors alike, and through the river recreation planning process, additional sites for new assets to enhance quality of life have been identified. Demand for recreation on the Verde River is already significant, and growing, and recreationists have brought much needed awareness and appreciation to the river. As noted in the Camp Verde Bugle story on John Parson, “Parsons, more than anyone, is responsible for transforming the Verde from a gravel-pitted, land-filled, orphaned waif to the thing of charm and beauty that it is today.”

However, much of the current use is unmanaged, and most river access areas are primitive in their development with limited enforcement available to ensure that recreation occurs sustainably and responsibly on these sites. Without a plan; without implementation of sensible recreation management that respects and protects both the natural resources of the river as well as the property rights of neighboring homeowners; and without well designed river access amenities and adequate public education on responsible recreational practices, recreational use could threaten to degrade the natural values, wildlife habitat, and health of the watershed.

The *Verde River Recreation Master Plan* represents an opportunity for the Town of Camp Verde to balance these needs, allowing people to enjoy the wonderful opportunities that the Verde River offers. It is also an opportunity to better connect our community with the river and its tremendous values, all while protecting the sensitive areas along the river corridor, and

preserving the quiet peacefulness of riverfront neighborhoods. In the end, both river recreationists and water users, community members and visitors, all want the same thing – a healthy, flowing Verde River that will continue to support the superb quality of life that Camp Verde offers.

While this plan provides a vision for managing river recreation in Camp Verde sustainably and well, and for enhancing opportunities for residents and visitors to enjoy the Verde River, the *Verde River Recreation Plan* represents the beginning of what we hope will be a constructive, collaborative process of continuing to work with community residents, property owners, public land managers, and other stakeholders to advance this vision. The Town of Camp Verde welcomes and encourages the participation of community stakeholders in taking the next step toward developing detailed implementation plans for recreation management and improvements.

QUOTE:

“All the Casandras’ predictions about the Verde going dry may become all wet once more as more people realize and appreciate the economic and ecological values of the river and become responsible custodians.”

--James Bishop, Jr.

Managing recreation well in the community will involve continuing to monitor and evaluate recreation demand and assess carrying capacity issues. Overcrowding in some areas of the Verde has already been noted as an issue, and for recreational use to be appropriately balanced with protection of the river corridor and wildlife values, understanding and planning for management of capacity constraints will need to be a part of implementation of the plan. A key element of the success in managing recreation, particularly as access is improved and expanded in the priority areas identified, will be development of a long term strategy and framework to support ongoing education, parks and facility maintenance, and ongoing monitoring and enforcement activities to prevent damage or degradation to resources or conflict with local landowners.

In evaluating the public feedback gained through the community engagement process, stakeholder discussions with state and federal land management agencies and other partners, and conversations with riverfront property owners about their concerns with recreational use, the Town of Camp Verde has identified the following priorities for implementation through community and stakeholder engagement, mapping, inventory, and analysis that has occurred over the course of the planning process.

#1 – Implement strategies to better manage recreational use at existing and proposed sites, safeguard private property rights, and discourage damaging activities to riparian habitat and wildlife resources.

#2 – Development of Homestead Park as a day-use watchable wildlife amenity, with a viewing deck, nature trails, light development, and fishing access.

#3 – Designation of an Important Bird Area (IBA) designation to support watchable wildlife programming within the Town of Camp Verde.

#4 – Development of limited, day-use recreational amenities at the I-17 property.

#5 – Continue to explore the potential for developing riverside trails, as well as upland trails to Montezuma Castle National Monument, the Beaver Creek Communities, and the Town of Camp Verde's 118-acre community park property and the White Hills located north of the Verde Ranger Station.

#6 – Continue to work with Arizona State Parks and Prescott National Forest to develop recreational amenities and park resources at Homestead Park and Rockin' River Ranch.

#7 – Development of the riverfront amenities for Rezzonico Park just below Black Bridge.

By far the highest priority that emerged from community discussions is the need for the Town of Camp Verde to effectively and sustainably manage current recreational uses to preserve the natural values of the Verde River corridor and the rights of private property owners. There was a strong sense from the public that before consideration and development of new sites or recreational resources can occur, it will be important for a structure or strategy in place to ensure that current uses are well managed. Under the principle, "if you build it, they will come," the first order of business, and the highest priority for the *Verde River Recreation Master Plan* is to develop a program for managing recreation in the Town.

Implementation Plan for Recreational Management

- Work toward increased collaboration between law enforcement personnel for the Town and agency law enforcement personnel for state and federal agencies in managing recreational activity with the Town, particularly in managing the most problematic challenges, such as trash and trespass issues.
- Develop an ambassador program similar to the program implemented by Town of Clarkdale to provide resources and information to recreationists as well as ongoing site monitoring for capacity issues and evaluate recreational demand for various activities.
- Implement signage demarcating private property, as well as educational and safety interpretive signage about safe and appropriate recreation and how to minimize impacts to wildlife and natural values. Through the public comment process, the incorporation of "Leave No Trace" recreational ethics in educational materials and signage was recommended.

For each of the site-specific priorities, a set of next steps has been identified along with potential approaches to support construction of the recreational amenities as well as a plan for their long term management. In developing any implementation plan for developing recreational amenities for any of these priorities, it will be important for the Town to plan for not only the funding and activities to construct the actual recreational resources, but to also plan for the long term management and maintenance of those sites.

Homestead Park

The development of recreational amenities, particularly watchable wildlife and nature trails, at Homestead Park emerged as the highest priority recreational project for the Town of Camp Verde to undertake in the near term. The park is composed of two parcels managed by the Prescott National Forest and one managed by Arizona State Parks. Town of Camp Verde could enter into a joint management agreement for management of the recreational assets of the park, as well as seek funding for constructions of the site improvements.

- Enter into a joint management and development agreement for the Homestead Park site in partnership with USFS and Arizona State Parks.
- Complete the road improvements, including the development of a trailhead and parking area at the end of Homestead Parkway.
- Seek funding for construction of a watchable wildlife/nature trail loop and wildlife viewing deck in Homestead Park. Develop educational/interpretive signage for wildlife as a part of the park.
- Seek funding for development of riverside fishing areas in Homestead Park.
- Implement an ambassadors program for recreational management.

Designation of an IBA for the Town of Camp Verde

Perhaps the lowest cost recreational opportunity before the Town of Camp Verde is the designation of an Important Bird Area (IBA) through the Verde River corridor. The first step in recognizing an IBA through the river corridor would involve partnering with Audubon Arizona to conduct a survey of the species richness and diversity through the Verde River. If the area is determined to host habitat resources that can support a sufficient number of avian species of interest, with limited habitat range, and in otherwise meeting the criteria under the global program managed by Audubon and Birdlife International, and IBA designation can move forward.

Once the area qualifies as an IBA, the Town could pass a resolution recognizing the resource, the contribution it makes to the biological diversity of the region, and endorse a stewardship program for maintaining those values. The IBA Program provides some support to designated sites, including educational and interpretive signage about the ecological values and bird species of the region. Ongoing partnerships with the Town and Friends of Verde River Greenway on stewardship elements, and in on-the-ground activities to improve wildlife and bird habitat along the Verde River corridor would also benefit the long term maintenance of wildlife values.

- Partner with Audubon Arizona to conduct field surveys and assessments of the Verde River through Camp Verde and its capacity for supporting important wild bird populations.
- Town of Camp Verde may then craft a resolution in recognition of the IBA as a quality of life and ecological resource for the town.
- Construct educational and interpretive signage, with support from Audubon and Birdlife International, to inform the public and promote stewardship of the wildlife habitat values.

- Participate in ongoing partnerships with Friends of Verde River Greenway and VWRC to continue habitat improvements along the Verde River to steward birding and wildlife resources in the river corridor.

I-17 Property

The I-17 property was noted as the second highest site-specific project for Town investment to support recreation. This site was identified as a good opportunity for development of a day-use area to support riverside activities such as picnicking, family gatherings, and fishing. Boating access was also supported by the public input. Given concerns voiced by neighboring residents relative to the I-17 parcel, it will important to balance recreational access with impacts to the nearby property owners, particularly along Rustler Trail. Site design should incorporate some alternative access routes to reach the parcel, and also provide parking for those wishing to recreate at the site. The public expressed concern about current illicit uses as well, so site plans moving forward should incorporate an enforcement element to ensure that recreational use is appropriate and sensitive to the nearby habitat for the Camp Verde Riparian Preserve as well as the river corridor.

- Develop a detailed site plan for development at the I-17 property, including a name for the park, and measure to mitigate impacts to nearby neighborhood.
- Seek funding for construction of improvements, including road improvements and a parking area to access the site in a manner that minimizes traffic and parking concerns for residents; walking paths, restrooms, picnic tables and ramadas for day use recreational activities.
- Construct interpretive signage that incorporates Leave No Trace ethics and promotes sustainable recreational use of amenities at the site.
- Implement ambassadors program at the I-17 parcel to manage recreational use and make interpretive resources available to the public.

Rezzonico Park

Development of riverside recreational amenities along the Verde River at Rezzonico Park, while supported by the public, ranked last amongst the priorities put forward for consideration. Given downstream residential neighborhoods as well as diversions and obstacles, it may not be the most appropriate place to site a boat launch for paddling,, but public support was strong for a system of riverside trails and walking paths along the river, as well as picnic areas and a grassy, outdoor space for sports.

- Develop a detailed site plan for recreational improvements and amenities to support riverside recreational activities at Rezzonico Park.
- Seek funding for construction of improvements, such as a parking area and restrooms. Also secure funding for new recreational amenities such as terraced picnic areas, walking paths, interpretive/educational signage about the Verde River riparian corridor, and perhaps a pedestrian bridge across the river.

The project priorities reflected in the *Verde River Recreation Master Plan* were developed to meet the goals of the Town of Camp Verde in providing safe, healthy, and enjoyable recreational opportunities to connect residents and visitors alike with the significant amenity and natural resource values of the Verde River. The Town is grateful for the members of the public, riverfront property owners, state and federal agency staff, and others who participated in the planning process, offered comments and shared concerns with the Town, and contributed to developing the priorities expressed in this plan.

In implementing the *River Recreation Master Plan*, the Town will work diligently to continue to balance its management and site development activities, the need to meet demand for river recreation, and to support activities that promote economic development and tourism. The Town will also work to manage recreational use to lessen the impact on riverfront land owners, and protect the ecological integrity of the Verde River and riparian habitats.

Through the recreational planning and implementation process, the Town will seek to incorporate a restoration element to not only enhance recreational access, but improve the health of the watershed as well. Through the projects outlined above, the Town hopes to move forward with implementation in a manner that will address the concerns raised by the public and property owners for well managed recreation that does not degrade the natural values of the Verde, all while providing for increased recreational opportunities for residents and visitors alike.

A well-managed resource is one that will support a range of needs for the Town – from recreation, to economic development, to preserving the peace, scenic beauty, and natural values of the area for generations to come.

Appendices

Appendix I – Budget

Appendix II – Maps & Resources

Appendix III – Public Survey Results

Appendix IV – Results of Public Open Houses/Neighborhood Listening Sessions

Appendix V – Public Land Management Agency Stakeholder Discussion Notes

CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION

This certificate is awarded to

Mike Hough

In recognition of his valuable service to the Town for his time serving on the Board of Adjustments and Appeals



TOWN OF CAMP VERDE

Bruce M. George
Vice Mayor Bruce George

1-20-2016
Date

CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION

This certificate is awarded to

KATHY DAVIS

In recognition of his valuable service to the Town
for helping with the General Plan Update process.



TOWN OF CAMP VERDE

Bruce M. George
Vice Mayor Bruce George

1-20-2016
Date

CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION

This certificate is awarded to

TONY GIOIA

In recognition of his valuable service to the Town
for helping with the General Plan Update process.



TOWN OF CAMP VERDE

Bruce M. George
Vice Mayor Bruce George

1-20-2016
Date

CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION

This certificate is awarded to

Brenda Hauser

In recognition of her valuable service to the Town
for helping with the General Plan Update Process.



TOWN OF CAMP VERDE

Vice Mayor Bruce George

Date

TOWN OF CAMP VERDE

Proclamation

“Supporting Increased Awareness Relating to Human Trafficking”

WHEREAS, human trafficking is a modern-day form of slavery involving the illegal trade of people for exploitation or commercial gain, and

WHEREAS, every year, millions of men, women and children are trafficked in countries around the world, including the United States, and

WHEREAS, it is estimated that human trafficking generates billions of dollars of profit per year, second only to drug trafficking as the most profitable form of transnational crime, and

WHEREAS, human trafficking is a hidden crime as victims rarely come forward to seek help because of language barriers, fear of the traffickers, and/or fear of law enforcement, and

WHEREAS, traffickers use force, fraud, or coercion to lure their victims and force them into labor or commercial sexual exploitation. They look for people who are susceptible for a variety of reasons, including psychological or emotional vulnerability, economic hardship, lack of a social safety net, natural disasters, or political instability. The trauma caused by the traffickers can be so great that many may not identify themselves as victims or ask for help, even in highly public settings, and

WHEREAS, the United States Senate designated January 11th as National Human Trafficking Awareness Day and other organizations have designated January as Human Trafficking Awareness Month; and,

WHEREAS, the Town of Camp Verde is supportive of the many efforts underway in Yavapai County, including the production of the Nursery Rhymes music video, to bring awareness to the issue of human trafficking.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, The Mayor and Common Council of the Town of Camp Verde, hereby proclaim the Town of Camp Verde’s support for increasing public awareness of human trafficking.

Issued this 3 day of February , 2016.

ATTEST:

Mayor Charles German

Town Clerk

Staff Report

Agenda Item: **Human Trafficking Awareness** – Approval of a proclamation supporting increased awareness relating to human trafficking.

Staff Contact:

Meeting Date: January 26, 2016

Background: As you may have heard, there is a public awareness/educational project underway in Yavapai County called the Nursery Rhymes Video project with a goal to raise awareness on the issue of human trafficking. The unfortunate reality is that human trafficking exists in every country of the world, including the United States. The U.S. Department of Homeland Security has named Arizona as one of the highest risk states for human trafficking, and we have incidents of human trafficking here in our Yavapai County communities. While many are under the misconception that human trafficking victims are only foreign born and those who are poor, the fact is that human trafficking victims can be any age, race, gender, or nationality and they come from all socioeconomic groups.

The Nursery Rhymes Video project was born out of a song that was written by Scott Mabery, the Director of Juvenile Court Services for Yavapai County. After the kids in the Yavapai County Juvenile Justice Center sang the song in a music therapy session with Scott, the staff members of the Juvenile Justice Center felt that there was a place for the song in raising awareness on the issue of human trafficking. While there are numerous forms of human trafficking, the Nursery Rhymes Video will focus on sex trafficking of the youth of our communities. As word of the project began to gain statewide attention, more and more interest was expressed in getting the music produced and developing a video to assist with public awareness on the issue.

An incredible team of local professionals and community members has come together around the cause, and is working collaboratively to produce the song and shoot the video. Music production began in 2015 and the first scenes of the video began shooting in late December. With the support of our business community, local citizens and several cities and towns, all of the music production and video scenes are taking place in Yavapai County. With several scenes to be shot in January, 2016, the “grand finale” of the video shoot will occur on the steps of the Yavapai County Juvenile Justice Center in Prescott on February 20, 2016. Our goal is to have the video ready for use in April, 2016, which coincides with Child Abuse Prevention Month.

As a show of unity and support for this incredibly important cause, we would be grateful if the Town of Camp Verde would lend its support to our project. Those agencies that choose to sign a Declaration of Support or a Proclamation will be recognized on the Facebook page entitled “Nursery Rhymes Video”. In addition, agencies that provide in-kind or other resources for the project will be listed in the credits at the end of the video.

Finally, we invite the members of the Camp Verde Town Council the Camp Verde Marshal's Office, and others from your organization to be part of the filming of the "grand finale" of the video on Saturday, February 20th, at the Juvenile Justice Center at 1100 Prescott Lakes Parkway in Prescott. This particular scene will symbolize the community coming together to support victims of human trafficking. We anticipate 300 to 500 community members being part of this scene of the video. Although timing is subject to adjustment, those who do participate will need to plan to be on-scene from approximately 10am – 4pm. Agencies that send representatives to participate in this scene are considered in-kind contributors.

This is a great opportunity for us to come together in an effort to shed light on the issue of human trafficking. We also want those involved in this trade to understand that Yavapai County has strong support and is a united front against human trafficking in our communities.

For more information about the project, feel free to contact Scott Mabery at (928) 442-5676 or email Smabery@courts.az.gov

You can also see more information on the project's Facebook and Flickr pages:

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/138942041@N04/albums>

<https://www.facebook.com/Nursery-Rhymes-Video-1539799909665485/?fref=ts>

Recommendation: Approval of the Proclamation supporting increased awareness relating to human trafficking.



Agenda Item Submission Form – Section I

Meeting Date: February 3, 2016

- Consent Agenda Decision Agenda Executive Session Requested
- Presentation Only Action/Presentation Special Session

Requesting Department: Administration

Staff Resource/Contact Person: Town Manager Russ Martin

Agenda Title (be exact): Discussion, consideration and possible approval of Resolution 2016 - ⁹⁶⁰ A
RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND COMMON COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF CAMP VERDE, YAVAPAI COUNTY, ARIZONA IN SUPPORT OF THE I-17 BLACK CANYON CITY to CORDES JUNCTION IMPROVEMENT PLAN"

List Attached Documents:

Estimated Presentation Time: 10 minutes

Estimated Discussion Time: 10 minutes

Reviews Completed by:

- Department Head:** Russ Martin
- Town Attorney:** **Risk Management:**
- Finance Review:** Budgeted Unbudgeted N/A

Finance Director Comments/Fund:

Fiscal Impact: **Impact Fees**
Budget Code: _____ **Amount Remaining:** _____
Comments:

Background Information: At the most recent Nation/Mayors/Managers meeting this item was requested to be considered by all the communities in the Verde Valley to continue to put to the forefront the issues our residents and visitors face on I-17 South. This is an opportunity to join our neighbors in the Central Yavapai Metropolitan Planning Organization (Western Yavapai County) in requesting continued movement towards a plan and action on a dangerous stretch of I-17 that is often congested causing issues for locals as well as tourists. The other communities are all considering this and will send it out to ADOT Transportation Board as well as other transportation related entities to ensure continued diligence on this issue.

Recommended Action (Motion): NA

Instructions to the Clerk: NA

TOWN OF CAMP VERDE



RESOLUTION 2016-960

**A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND COMMON COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF CAMP VERDE,
YAVAPAI COUNTY, ARIZONA
IN SUPPORT OF THE I-17 BLACK CANYON CITY to
CORDES JUNCTION IMPROVEMENT PLAN**

WHEREAS, the Town of Camp Verde and along with the communities of the Verde Valley, have met to discuss the importance of the Interstate 17 (I-17) corridor to Arizona; and,

WHEREAS, the I-17 corridor has been identified by the Arizona Department of transportation (ADOT) as a "Key Commerce Corridor"; and,

WHEREAS, the I-17 corridor plays a significant role in the movement of people, goods, and services across the State of Arizona; and,

WHEREAS, the concern over the increasing amount of crashes on I-17, specifically between Black Canyon City and Cordes Junction, causing complete shut downs of the I-17 corridor affect not only the Verde Valley region, but all of Arizona; and,

WHEREAS, uncertain transportation funding will affect the economic vitality, mobility, safety, and general welfare of the Verde Valley region, as well as all of Arizona; and,

WHEREAS, Governor Ducey, the Legislature, elected officials and staff, transportation professionals, the business community, and private citizens acknowledge the need to seek out alternate transportation funding mechanisms; and,

WHEREAS, Camp Verde has determined that the acceleration of the identified I-17 project is in the public's best interest; and,

WHEREAS, the recently developed I-17 – Black Canyon City to State Route 69 (SR 69) Study recommendations exceed the capacity of current transportation revenue fund sources; and,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED the Mayor and Common Council of the Town of Camp Verde formally declare and support the Arizona Department of Transportation to immediately pursue a Public-Private Partnership for the purpose of delivering the identified construction improvements for the I-17 corridor from Black Canyon City to SR 69; and to continue pursuing Public-Private Partnership funding opportunities to deliver improvements for the entire I-17 corridor.

Passed and approved by a majority vote of the Common Council at the Regular Session meeting of February 3, 2016.

Charles German, Mayor

Attest:

Approved as to form:

Virginia Jones, Town Clerk

William Sims



Agenda Item Submission Form - Section I

Meeting Date: February 3rd, 2016

- Consent Agenda Decision Agenda Executive Session Requested
- Presentation Only Action/Presentation

Requesting Department: Clerk's Office

Staff Resource/Contact Person: Town Clerk Virginia Jones

Agenda Title (be exact): Possible approval of special event liquor license application for Cottonwood Chamber of Commerce Mixer to be held on February 18th, 2016 at Jones Ford Verde Valley 5980 E. Coury Dr. Camp Verde AZ 86322

List Attached Documents: Liquor License Applications

Estimated Presentation Time: 5 Minutes

Estimated Discussion Time: 5 Minutes

Reviews Completed by:

- Department Head: Town Attorney Comments: N/A

Finance Review: Budgeted Unbudgeted N/A

Finance Director Comments/Fund:

Fiscal Impact: None

Budget Code: _____ **Amount Remaining:** _____

Comments:

Background Information: Received Special Event Liquor License from Cottonwood Chamber of Commerce Mixer to be held on February 18,2016 at Jones ford Verde Valley 5980 E. Coury Dr. Camp Verde AZ 86322

Recommended Action (Motion): Move to recommend approval of the special event liquor license application for Cottonwood Chamber of Commerce.

Instructions to the Clerk: Section II not required



Arizona Department of Liquor Licenses and Control
 800 W Washington 5th Floor
 Phoenix, AZ 85007-2934
 www.azliquor.gov
 (602) 542-5141

FOR DLLC USE ONLY	
Event Date(s):	
Event time start/end:	
CSR:	
License:	

APPLICATION FOR SPECIAL EVENT LICENSE
 Fee= \$25.00 per day for 1-10 days (consecutive)
 A service fee of \$25.00 will be charged for all dishonored checks (A.R.S. § 44-6852)

IMPORTANT INFORMATION: This document must be fully completed or it will be returned.

The Department of Liquor Licenses and Control must receive this application ten (10) business days prior to the event. If the special event will be held at a location without a permanent liquor license or if the event will be on any portion of a location that is not covered by the existing liquor license, this application must be approved by the local government before submission to the Department of Liquor Licenses and Control (see Section 15).

SECTION 1 Name of Organization: Cottonwood Chamber of Commerce

SECTION 2 Non-Profit/IRS Tax Exempt Number: 86-0209700

SECTION 3 The organization is a: (check one box only)

- Charitable Fraternal (must have regular membership and have been in existence for over five (5) years)
 Religious Civic (Rotary, College Scholarship) Political Party, Ballot Measure or Campaign Committee

SECTION 4 Will this event be held on a currently licensed premise and within the already approved premises? Yes No

 Name of Business License Number Phone (include Area Code)

SECTION 5 How is this special event going to conduct all dispensing, serving, and selling of spirituous liquors? Please read R-19-318 for explanation (look in special event planning guide) and check one of the following boxes.

- Place license in non-use
 Dispense and serve all spirituous liquors under retailer's license
 Dispense and serve all spirituous liquors under special event
 Split premise between special event and retail location

(If not using retail license, submit a letter of agreement from the agent/owner of the licensed premise to suspend the license during the event. If the special event is only using a portion of premise, agent/owner will need to suspend that portion of the premise.)

SECTION 6 What is the purpose of this event? On-site consumption Off-site (auction) Both

SECTION 7 Location of the Event: Jones Ford Verde Valley

Address of Location: 5980 E Coury Dr., Camp Verde, AZ. 86322

Street City COUNTY State Zip

SECTION 8 Will this be stacked with a wine festival/craft distiller festival? Yes No

SECTION 9 Applicant must be a member of the qualifying organization and authorized by an Officer, Director or Chairperson of the Organization named in Section 1. (Authorizing signature is required in Section 13.)

1. Applicant: Tolleson, Lana 
 Last First Middle Date of Birth

2. Applicant's mailing address: 1010 S. Main St., Cottonwood AZ 86326
 Street City State Zip

3. Applicant's home/cell phone:  Applicant's business phone: (928) 634-7593

4. Applicant's email address: lana@cottonwoodaz.org

SECTION 10

1. Has the applicant been convicted of a felony, or had a liquor license revoked within the last five (5) years?
 Yes No (If yes, attach explanation.)

2. How many special event licenses have been issued to this location this year? 1
 (The number cannot exceed 12 events per year; exceptions under A.R.S. §4-203.02(D).)

3. Is the organization using the services of a promoter or other person to manage the event? Yes No
 (If yes, attach a copy of the agreement.)

4. List all people and organizations who will receive the proceeds. Account for 100% of the proceeds. The organization applying must receive 25% of the gross revenues of the special event liquor sales. Attach an additional page if necessary.

Name Cottonwood Chamber of Commerce Percentage: 100%

Address 1010 S. Main St., Cottonwood AZ. 86326
Street City State Zip

Name _____ Percentage: _____

Address _____
Street City State Zip

5. Please read A.R.S. § 4-203.02 Special event license; rules and R19-1-205 Requirements for a Special Event License.

Note: ALL ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE SALES MUST BE FOR CONSUMPTION AT THE EVENT SITE ONLY.

"NO ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES SHALL LEAVE SPECIAL EVENT UNLESS THEY ARE IN AUCTION SEALED CONTAINERS OR THE SPECIAL EVENT LICENSE IS STACKED WITH WINE /CRAFT DISTILLERY FESTIVAL LICENSE"

6. What type of security and control measures will you take to prevent violations of liquor laws at this event?
 (List type and number of police/security personnel and type of fencing or control barriers, if applicable.)

0 Number of Police 4 Number of Security Personnel Fencing Barriers

Explanation: Staff and Bartender hold Certificates for Title 4 Management & Basic Liquor Law Training.

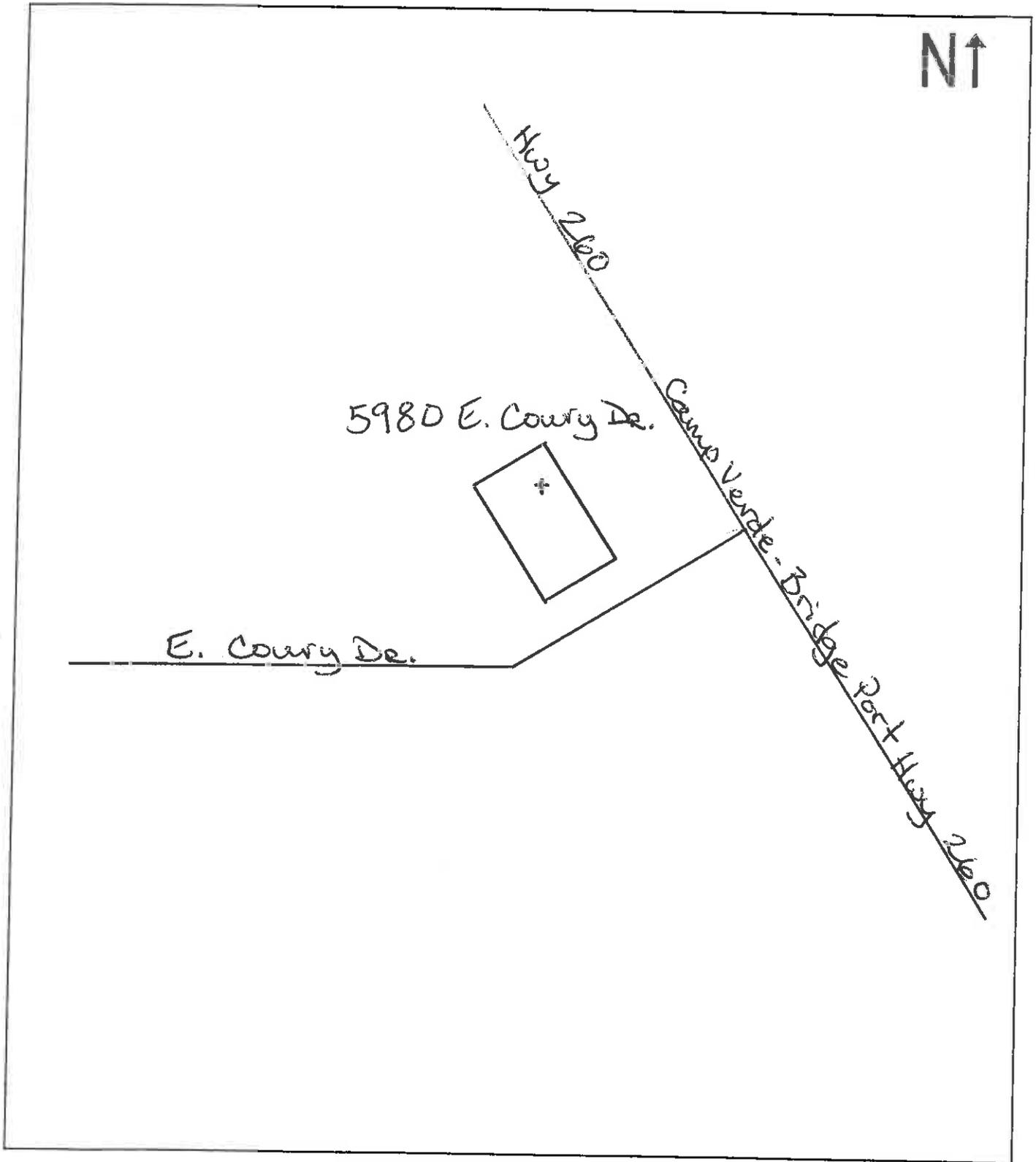
TiPS Concessions Trained: ID# 2689196 and ID# 2689200

Staff-Security at front door and serving area. Event is being held at a place of business.

SECTION 11 Date(s) and Hours of Event. May not exceed 10 consecutive days.
 See A.R.S. § 4-244(15) and (17) for legal hours of service.

	Date	Day of Week	Event Start Time AM/PM	License End Time AM/PM
DAY 1:	<u>02/18/2016</u>	<u>Thursday</u>	<u>6:00 PM</u>	<u>8:00 PM</u>
DAY 2:	_____	_____	_____	_____
DAY 3:	_____	_____	_____	_____
DAY 4:	_____	_____	_____	_____
DAY 5:	_____	_____	_____	_____
DAY 6:	_____	_____	_____	_____
DAY 7:	_____	_____	_____	_____
DAY 8:	_____	_____	_____	_____
DAY 9:	_____	_____	_____	_____
DAY 10:	_____	_____	_____	_____

SECTION 12 License premises diagram. The licensed premises for your special event is the area in which you are authorized to sell, dispense or serve alcoholic beverages under the provisions of your license. The following space is to be used to prepare a diagram of your special event licensed premises. Please show dimensions, serving areas, fencing, barricades, or other control measures and security position.



SECTION 13 To be completed only by an Officer, Director or Chairperson of the organization named in Section 1.

I, Lana Tolleson declare that I am an OFFICER, DIRECTOR, or CHAIRPERSON
(Print Full Name)
appointing the applicant listed in Section 9, to apply on behalf of the foregoing organization for a Special Event
Liquor License.

Lana Tolleson President/CEO 1-21-16 928-634-7593
(Signature) Title/ Position Date Phone #

The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me this _____
State _____ County of _____ Day Month Year

My Commission Expires on: _____
Date Signature of Notary Public

SECTION 14 This section is to be completed only by the applicant named in Section 9.

I, Lana Tolleson declare that I am the APPLICANT filing this application as
(Print Full Name)
listed in Section 9. I have read the application and the contents and all statements are true, correct and
complete.

Lana Tolleson President/CEO 1-21-16 928-634-7593
(Signature) Title/ Position Date Phone #

The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me this 21 JANUARY 2016
State ARIZONA County of YAVAPAI Day Month Year

My Commission Expires on: 03-30-2019
Date Signature of Notary Public



Please contact the local governing board for additional application requirements and submission deadlines. Additional licensing fees may also be required before approval may be granted. For more information, please contact your local jurisdiction: http://www.azliquor.gov/assets/documents/homepage_docs/spec_event_links.pdf.

SECTION 15 Local Governing Body Approval Section

I, _____ recommend APPROVAL DISAPPROVAL
(Government Official) (Title)
on behalf of _____
(City, Town, County) Signature Date Phone

FOR DEPARTMENT OF LIQUOR LICENSES AND CONTROL USE ONLY

APPROVAL DISAPPROVAL BY: _____ DATE: _____

A.R.S. § 41-1030. Invalidity of rules not made according to this chapter; prohibited agency action; prohibited acts by state employees; enforcement; notice
B. An agency shall not base a licensing decision in whole or in part on a licensing requirement or condition that is not specifically authorized by statute, rule or state tribal gaming compact. A general grant of authority in statute does not constitute a basis for imposing a licensing requirement or condition unless a rule is made pursuant to that general grant of authority that specifically authorizes the requirement or condition.
D. THIS SECTION MAY BE ENFORCED IN A PRIVATE CIVIL ACTION AND RELIEF MAY BE AWARDED AGAINST THE STATE. THE COURT MAY AWARD REASONABLE ATTORNEY FEES, DAMAGES AND ALL FEES ASSOCIATED WITH THE LICENSE APPLICATION TO A PARTY THAT PREVAILS IN AN ACTION AGAINST THE STATE FOR A VIOLATION OF THIS SECTION.
E. A STATE EMPLOYEE MAY NOT INTENTIONALLY OR KNOWINGLY VIOLATE THIS SECTION. A VIOLATION OF THIS SECTION IS CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINARY ACTION OR DISMISSAL PURSUANT TO THE AGENCY'S ADOPTED PERSONNEL POLICY.
F. THIS SECTION DOES NOT ABROGATE THE IMMUNITY PROVIDED BY SECTION 12-820.01 OR 12-820.02.



— Legislative Bulletin —

Issue 1 - January 15, 2016

Legislative Overview

On Monday, January 11, the second regular session of Arizona's 52nd Legislature convened. Many mayors, council members and municipal staff attended the Opening Day ceremonies. In addition to the excitement and activity associated with welcoming legislators, Governor Doug Ducey delivered the annual State of the State Address. You can find his speech here: [On the Rise](#).

Governor Ducey unveiled his budget today, and we have done a preliminary review of the documents. Our analysis indicates that there are no major year-over-year changes to the budget areas that impact cities and towns.

The two areas municipalities will have an interest in are the Highway User Revenue Fund (HURF) allocation and the amount that is billed to cities and towns to fund the Department of Revenue's (DOR) transaction privilege tax collections. HURF remains at the same level as last fiscal year and fees to be paid to the DOR also remain unchanged. Be advised that the amount billed to your individual city or town for the DOR fee may change based on changes in your population.

The Governor's tax reform plans were not included in the Executive Budget. We will notify you as soon as we have any information about this issue.

There are no changes in the distribution of revenue sharing funds.

Here is a link to the governor's proposal: azgovernor.gov/budget.

Session Deadlines

Every session has deadlines pertaining to bill submissions and hearings. These are established by rule and are subject to change. This year, the schedule is as follows:

January 2016

Monday, the 11th - First day of session

Thursday, the 14th - House 7-bill Introduction Limit Begins (5 p.m.)

February 2016

Monday, the 1st - Senate Bill Introduction Deadline (5 p.m.)

Monday, the 8th - House Bill Introduction Deadline (5 p.m.)

Friday, the 19th - Last day to hear bills in the chamber of origin

March 2016

Friday, the 19th - Last day to hear bills in the opposing chamber

April 2016

Tuesday, the 20st - 100th Day of Session

Monday Teleconferences

The League will continue to host a weekly teleconference to report on the status and impact of various legislative bills in the 2016 session. The calls are scheduled for Monday mornings promptly at 10:00 a.m. Mayors, managers and other city or town officials and staff who are interested in legislative activities are invited to participate. Call-in numbers and a brief agenda will be sent out prior to the calls. If you would like to receive the Monday agendas, please contact league@azleague.org and request to be added to the distribution list for the Monday teleconference.

Legislative Bulletin

The League will electronically distribute the Legislative Bulletin every Friday during the legislative session. The Bulletin serves as a way for the League to communicate to elected officials, staff and other interested parties about activities at the Legislature that are relevant to cities and towns. If you know of any municipal official or staff member that would like to subscribe to the Bulletin please have them send their name and email to league@azleague.org and request to be added to the Legislative Bulletin distribution list.

As in the last few years, the Bulletin will highlight the top half-dozen or so topics and bills. Other legislation that the League is actively engaged on will still be monitored and updated; however, that information will be available on our [Legislative Bill Monitoring](#) page on the League website. The Bulletin will link to the legislation that has been updated in our Legislative Bill Monitoring Section. This format should make it more convenient for you to keep up to date on the latest legislative activities, while still providing a resource for more detailed information.

Legislative Intern

The League is pleased to welcome Morgan Dick as our legislative intern for the 2016 session. Morgan's background is in youth sports management at the Valley of the Sun YMCA, and leadership as a campus tour guide at Arizona State University. Currently, Morgan is a junior at ASU and will be receiving her bachelor's degree in both Political Science and Spanish Linguistics, along with a certificate in Civic Education. Morgan will be assisting the League's legislative staff for the duration of the spring 2016 semester.

Your Voice

The 2016 edition of Your Voice at the Capitol, our listing of senators and representatives, is [available here](#). Please use this document to access your delegation. Early contact with your legislators is strongly recommended in order to establish a relationship with the elected officials representing your district. Maintaining good communications with your legislators provides them with invaluable insight as to how proposed legislation may affect their communities.

Additionally, you can contact our legislative division at (602) 258-5786  or email using the information below:

Patrice Kraus, Legislative Director: pkraus@azleague.org

Dale Wiebusch, Senior Legislative Associate: dwiebusch@azleague.org

Legislative Bill Monitoring

(All bills being actively monitored by the League [can be found here.](#))

SB 1017: municipal service access cards; requirements

Legislative Bulletin is published by the League of Arizona Cities and Towns.
Forward your comments or suggestions to league@azleague.org.



Issue 2 - January 22, 2016

Legislative Overview

Today marks the 12th day of the 2016 session. This week saw minimal bill action related to municipal concerns. We expect that to change next week as agendas get more fully developed. Last Friday Governor Ducey released his budget proposal which is analyzed further in the article below.

To date there have been 798 bills introduced, with 62 memorials and resolutions. This is ahead of last year's pace, as there were 665 bills introduced, with 39 memorials and resolutions at this time.

Governor's Budget Proposal

The Governor's budget proposal came out last Friday afternoon. There were no specific mentions of any changes that directly affect cities and towns. The Governor is effectively proposing to leave in place the various charges that were in the final budget last year. Here is a brief recap and update on those issues.

Funding the Department of Revenue

- An ongoing charge to cities and towns totaling \$10,912,898 for DOR operations. This is a permanent charge for administering DOR operations based on the city/town share of all local revenues handled by DOR. The amount is allocated to the cities and towns based on population, so the amounts per municipality will change compared to last year once the revised population figures for cities that had a mid-decade census performed are included in the calculations. Most cities will see a slight reduction, while the census cities will an increase in their share of the total.
- A charge of \$0.76 per resident to help offset programming costs related to TPT Simplification, billed to any city that is not on the State collection program as of July 31st. This charge will total roughly \$2.8 million, assuming DOR will not be ready to take over administration for the 14 remaining self-collecting cities on or before the billing date of July 31, 2016. Again, since this fee is based on population, the final amount due will be somewhat higher than last year for the Non-program cities that performed a mid-decade census.

HURF

The Governor's proposal regarding HURF remains the same as last year: \$30 million restoration but with a total diversion of \$89 million from local governments to DPS.

This link will take you to all of the Governor's budget documents; then use the "2017" tab:
azospb.gov/publications2014newweb.aspx

Census Adjustments

At the League's request, Representative Justin Olson (R-Mesa) has introduced **HB2483 (municipal population estimates; use)** that will allow municipalities to use the U.S. Census Bureau's annual population estimates to update the population used by the Arizona Department of Revenue for the distribution of shared revenues (HB 2384 municipal population estimates; use). The use of the Census Bureau's estimate as an alternative to conducting a special census will save significant taxpayer dollars in the future while providing the opportunity to update population numbers in real time. This legislation represents a compromise that was reached this summer after a series of meetings with cities and towns throughout the state. We appreciate all of the assistance we received in resolving this issue and will keep you updated on the progress of the bill as it moves through the process.

PSPRS

The League continues to participate in stakeholder workgroups on the issue of PSPRS reform. There has not been a bill dropped yet, but Sen. Debbie Lesko (R-Peoria) and Rep. Justin Olson (R-Mesa) will be the bill's primary sponsors. From the perspective of cities and towns, a number of important points are included that have general consensus including: 50-50 contribution to pension from the employer and employee, pensionable pay cap (to prevent "spiking"), new Board structure and a higher minimum retirement age. These changes will apply to new public safety employees hired after the bill's effective date.

The bill will also include a Constitutional referral that is expected to be on the May Special Election ballot to change the PBI (Pension Benefit Increase) for existing employees and retirees to a more traditional COLA formula. Issues that are still unresolved include the structure for Disability Boards and whether the new system will have a single, pooled rate or maintain the 256 separate ones. The League supports pooling all members together to provide uniformity of contribution rates.

Legislative Bulletin is published by the League of Arizona Cities and Towns.
Forward your comments or suggestions to league@azleague.org.