

## CITY COUNCIL REPORT

DATE: June 2, 2016

TO: Mayor, Vice-Mayor and City Council

FROM: Josh Copley, City Manager

CC: Barbara Goodrich, Shane Dille and Leadership Team

SUBJECT: Department of Veteran Services Facility in Flagstaff – Project Timeline

This City Council Report summarizes the timeline of events and key milestones related to the proposed Department of Veteran Services facility in Flagstaff. Please note that this is not an all-inclusive list of every meeting and activity pertaining to this project.

### **Prior to 2015**

- **October 5, 2012:** Councilmember Evans met with Col. Joey Strickland, Director of Arizona Department of Veterans' Services.
- **October 29, 2012:** Mayor Nabours Councilmember Oravits met with Col. Joey Strickland, Director of Arizona Department of Veterans' Services.
- **December 11, 2012:** Homer Rodgers, Assistant Deputy Director of the Arizona Department of Veterans Services presented at Council meeting on a potential Veterans Home and Cemetery in Belmont, Arizona.
- **August 8, 2014:** City Staff, select community leaders and Council member Evans met with Victor Daniels of Arizona Department of Veterans Services.
- **August 26, 2014:** City staff and stakeholder met to discuss follow up items from August 8th meeting.
- **October 16, 2014:** City Manager toured Tucson facility and mets with facility's CFO.
- **December 12, 2014:** City staff, Richard Travis, Victor Daniels and Robert Barnes met to discuss project.
- **December 16, 2014:** Staff presented information to City Council to discuss potentially using a portion of McMillan Mesa for a potential Veterans Home.

## **2015**

- **January 6, 2015:** Staff presented to Council requesting guidance regarding direction on whether there is interest in further exploring a Veterans Home opportunity. Staff was given direction to look into what it would take to deed land on McMillan Mesa.
- **January 16, 2015:** Staff prepared a short memo and provided to Council of talking points on the proposed Veterans Home for Flagstaff.
- **March 10, 2015:** Staff presented information during a work session to provide additional information on options for a Veterans Home and to receive public input.
- **March 26, 2015:** Staff presented to the Open Space Commission to discuss the possibility of using a portion of McMillan Mesa for a potential Veterans Home.
- **April 8, 2015:** Staff hosted an Open House to the general public to discuss the possibility of using a portion of McMillan Mesa for a potential Veterans Home.
- **April 15, 2015:** Staff presented to the Parks and Recreation Commission to discuss the possibility of using a portion of McMillan Mesa for a potential Veterans Home.
- **April 28, 2015:** Staff hosted an Open House to the general public to discuss the possibility of using a portion of McMillan Mesa for a potential Veterans Home.
- **May 12, 2015:** Staff presented information to city Council to discuss potentially using a portion of McMillan Mesa for a potential Veterans Home.
- **May 19, 2015:** City Council approved Resolution No. 2015-16 memorializing direction for staff to bring an ordinance for consideration providing land for veteran facility.
- **June 2, 2015:** Resolution 2015-16 amended and passed by Flagstaff City Council memorializing direction for staff to bring an ordinance for consideration providing land for veteran facility.
- **June 10, 2014:** David McIntire provided a driving tour to Victor Daniels of Arizona Department of Veteran Services.
- **July 14, 2015:** Staff, City Attorney, and Richard Travis met to discuss project strategy and path forward.
- **September 14, 2015:** Staff participated on a conference call with Col Wanda Wright and Robert Barnes of the Department of Veterans Services to discuss the Veterans Home project. Councilmembers Oravits and Evans and Mayor Nabours were on the call.

- **October 8, 2015:** Staff, Mayor Nabours, Councilmembers Evans and Oravits hosted a tour of veteran home land for Speaker of the House David Gowan.
- **October 13, 2015:** Staff provided update Department of Veterans’ Services Facility in Flagstaff via City Council Report.
- **November 17, 2015:** City Council adopted its 2016 legislative priorities, including funding for the veteran facility.
- **December 10, 2015:** Staff, Richard Travis and City Council met with Flagstaff’s state delegation to review the City’s legislative priorities.

## 2016

- **January 14, 2016:** Senate Bill 1114 introduced in Senate.
- **January 19, 2016:** Second read of Senate Bill 1114 and assigned to committee.
- **January 21, 2016:** House Bill 2329 introduced in House.
- **January 25, 2016:** Second read of House Bill 2329 and assigned to committee.
- **February 4, 2016:** House Bill 2329 passed Military Affairs Committee 6-2. Mayor Nabours and Councilmember Oravits attended alongside community stakeholders.
- **February 10, 2016:** Senate Bill 1114 passed Public Safety, Military and Technology Committee, 5 – 1. Mayor Nabours, Councilmembers Evans and Oravits attended alongside community stakeholders.
- **February 23, 2016:** Senate Bill 1114 passed Appropriations Committee, 8 – 0.
- **February 24 – 26, 2016:** Staff, Bob Holmes, Mayor Nabours and Councilmember Evans met with Flagstaff’s Congressional delegation to discuss veteran home project and the need for federal funding.
- **March 30, 2016:** Staff distributed talking points and call list to Council for lobbying state legislators in advance of budget discussions.
- **May 7, 2016:** FY17 State Budget approved, including a \$10 million appropriation for veteran home in Flagstaff.
- **May 19, 2016:** Staff provided an update on veteran facility via CCR to Council.

## RECOMMENDATION / CONCLUSION:

This report is for information only.