Nibley City Council
Agenda Report for
December 12, 2015

Agenda Item #5/6

Description	Public Hearing: A hearing to receive comment concerning a proposal to amend the Nibley City Parks Master Plan to include a concept regarding the design of a 20-acre expansion to the west side of the Virgil Gibbons Heritage Park. Discussion and consideration of Resolution 15-12: A Resolution Amending the Nibley City Parks Master Plan to Include A Conceptual, Non-Construction Design for a 20-acre Expansion of Virgil Gibbons Heritage Park (First Reading).
Department	City Council, Planning
Presenter	
Sponsor	n/a
Applicant	n/a
Background	The purpose of the public hearing on Saturday, December 12, 2015, is to gather public input regarding amending the Parks Master Plan to include a non-construction, conceptual design for the expansion of Virgil Gibbons Heritage Park. An ad-hoc committee was formed to explore preliminary ideas regarding the development the Virgil Gibbons Heritage Park expansion. On March 19, 2015, the City Council authorized the purchase of 20 acres of property west of Virgil Gibbons Park. The purchase was made as part of a land and grant funds swap with Cache County. As part of that land swap, the City entered into an agreement with the County on December 4, 2014, which required the City to adopt a concept design for the park. That concept was referred to at the time as the Nibley SunriseNatural_Passiveconcept, and is attached to this memo. The property was purchased for$440,000. Pursuant to the city's agreement with the County, the County will reimburse these funds to the City after the County's North Logan park property is sold. This is expected to occur within the next few years. In addition to that reimbursement, the County has agreed to reimburse the City for 50% of the cost to develop the park. The County will use RAPZ funds to reimburse the city. It is estimated that the County will contribute more than $600,000 in RAPZ funds to the City to assist with the development costs. The City must match those funds dollar for dollar.

	The ad-hoc committee consisted of: • Councilmember Hellstern (retired science educator and coach) • Nate Norman (professional wetland specialist) • Becky Yeager (professional wildlife biologist) • Rob Davis (graphic designer) The committee visited the property at different times of the day, to observe soils, flora & fauna and water sources. The committee also collected data on observable wildlife species, both rare and common. The committee consulted with entomologists at BYU and ornithologists at Cornell University regarding the various insect and bird populations present on the property. The committee provided the City Council with three different concepts, and the Council will receive comment on the concepts and select which one should be included as a conceptual, non-construction design, in the Parks Master Plan.
Recommendation	Receive and review the information; advance to second reading.
Financial Impact	NA
Reviewed By	Mayor, City Manager, City Planner