
Spanish Trail Plan moves ahead

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By

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BARSTOW — The Shoppes at Spanish Trail project moved one step closer to construction when the City Council approved the acceptance of state lands during its meeting last week.

The City Council approved a resolution to accept the relinquishment of Caltrans rights-of-way near L Street during its meeting Monday night. The relinquishments include a portion of old Highway 58 and “collateral facilities,” as well as an inadvertent portion of Route 66.

According to consulting city engineer Brad Merrell, these portions are comprised of sections of the L Street roadway where it intersects with Main Street and Interstate 15. The resolution also gives the city full control of drainage systems near L Street, which Merrell said was “the only way” the relinquishment could happen.

“We can’t develop the property with the freeway right-of-way on it, so we have to get that relinquished,” Merrell said.

Monday’s resolution marks the next step needed to continue the progress of the Spanish Trail Specific Plan, accepted by the city in 2013. The development of 112 acres will include an 801,100-square-foot shopping center that will be located along L Street, according to a previous Desert Dispatch report.

Approximately 58 acres in the project site is owned by the State Lands Commission, but city manager Curt Mitchell said the project’s developers — Joseph W. Brady of the Bradco Companies and Malcomb Riley — have reached a

“tentative agreement” to obtain those acres by August. This would give the city full control of the land surrounding L Street between Interstate 15 and Old Highway 58 — a necessary step in the project’s future.

“The developers are actively seeking letters of intent for potential retail tenants to move ahead with the project as quickly as possible,” Mitchell said.

With a motion by Mayor Pro Tem Carmen Hernandez and a second from Councilman Merrill Gracey, the resolution won unanimous approval.

Mitchell said the city is coordinating with the project’s developers on a successor disposition and developer agreement, with a draft version currently under review. An agenda item on the agreement is expected to be presented at a council meeting next month.

The next City Council meeting is at 7 p.m. May 1. Visit for more information.

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