

Resort Corridor Work Group – Meeting Notes  
March 1, 2012

Doug opened the meeting at 1:07p

Introductions were made from Metro and Public Works.

Don welcomed the group.

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Metro Hand Out

Metro – The Sheriff spoke on the fact that there should be more discussion and possibly making a decision on the level of staffing and the funding for Metro on the strip. The Sheriff thinks the 4 day and 7 day coverage on the bottom of the page of the handout is the best. Not because it's the most expensive, but due to the fact that it will help detour people who should not be in Las Vegas. The question is how will this be paid for and if the Resort Corridor is willing to pay for the coverage? Metro is looking at a deficit of 300 positions due to cost cutting measures. The Sheriff did offer to continue to work with the Resort Corridor in order to help keep crime down. If this proposal is approved, Metro will not be asking for a substation. Virginia asked how this would be budgeted and what is it that the resorts will be receiving when paying the amount for extra coverage on the strip. The Sheriff did say that if this proposal is too great, then Metro should be able to re-evaluate how many officers are on the strip. Discussion ensued. It was asked that Metro provide a matrix of before and after. This would help the resorts be more comfortable with the investment of their dollars. What is the cost benefit of the proposal? It was brought up that maybe Metro should go ahead and start enforcing the obstructive use ordinance. Mary did mention that the ordinance was not struck down, but there are parts of the ordinance that were challenged. The Sheriff wanted to know by enforcing the "white line" ordinance, how does this impact the crime on the strip? Virginia wants to enforce the current ordinance, and prove that they are useful and then the resorts will be more willing to pay for the increased Metro presence. The Sheriff did state that if the handbillers see a Metro officer, they change the way they hand out their materials. Don asked if the resorts are even interested in paying for the increased police presence or do they just wish to not entertain it at this time. Virginia stated that we should vet out the ordinances and see if they work and should we move forward or if we need to meet again to work on the ordinances. The focus has been the 1<sup>st</sup> amendment rights on the strip and how to enforce the ordinances and if we even can. If the cost is too high, could it be scaled down for a shorter period of time and then re-evaluate the proposal and possibly see if this needs to be expanded at a later time. The committee would like to do a before and after on a certain part of the strip. If this proposal

is funded, it would be a stand alone fund and not mixed into the general Metro fund and it will be kept separate from the other budget. Doug asked Virginia if the resort group feels there should be more officers on the strip or should we even go forward with this? It was brought up how many officers are working the strip in comparison with the proposal numbers of officers. Doug stated again, you are not making a commitment today, but should the group agree to possibly fund this project. Metro will get the test case information to Virginia and Don to pass out the resort group. Terry mentioned that they would like to spread the benefits beyond just the strip.

Denis brought to the group a proposed study along the resort corridor and then he would present those findings to the committee at a later date. Kimberly Horn and Associates was selected due to the fact they have done many studies with regards to vehicle traffic and pedestrian traffic. The study would only be from Sahara to Russell. This will focus on sidewalk obstructions as well as traffic congestion. They are looking at a 24 hours per day for the video and to complete the study. This will include more than just the evenings on the strip. This will also focus on the handbiller areas. Don did mention that he would like to take the Resort Corridor recommendations to the BCC in about 30 days. The company does their evaluations on the size of the sidewalks and engineering aspects of the resort corridor. It was mentioned that the 10ft sidewalk area may not work in the near future. It was mentioned that the white lines are old and may not be useful at this time. It was also mentioned that the white lines that are currently on the walkways should be a basis for enforcement and they are not at this time. This group has been collecting data for the past year via video. The current study will be important to see where the obstructive areas are currently and can we get video data of this. They would like to request that a current security camera on each individual property be designated for just the collection of data on the strip. This would have to be a camera that aimed at the strip for 24 hours. Video is the best of the quality for collecting data. This entire study is to help with future court cases so that it will prove we need time, place and manor ordinances. Denis mentioned that this would also give us a real time source of data. The resorts seem to be on board with supporting this study. It was brought up that the obstructive use ordinance was not challenged in court. It was brought up that we should go ahead and start enforcing the current white line ordinance and re-paint those areas that would still qualify and not continue with the areas that now have pedestrian bridges. This study would also benefit the Public Works department by helping identify areas that would need to be updated. Doug asked if Denis would update the resorts soon. A question was brought up with regards to the bridges and will they be included in the study. It was stated that yes they will be included in the study as they are classified at crosswalks.

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Handbillers responsible for cleaning up their immediate area and possibly include certain footage around their person. It was stated that the litter is not just those things handed from the handbillers just as if they were from several feet away. We are not stating you cannot handbill, but you should be required to police your immediate area and pick up the litter including those pieces of litter that may not even be yours and do that at least once per 15 minutes. Virginia stated that there shouldn't be anymore litter around you than you can easily collect.

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Language that approves the animal ordinance.

Training program for the handbillers and wearing a badge. Mary stated we cannot require them to wear a badge. The Business License office of the County have several different categories of business license. Mary thought having Metro work with those people with some extra training.

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Trespass and order off. Orlando is aggressively enforcing the trespass and order off but the actual ordinance is very similar to that of the Nevada.

All has been approved with the exception of the funding of more Metro.

Don stated we will write a recommendation for the Board of Commissioners with the exception of the Metro Officer funding. He also stated that the County will be willing to work with the resorts for future meetings. It was stated that Mark would like to see each of the items on the matrix be an actual ordinance instead of just a general ordinance. Don stated he would like to offer the matrix first and once the Commissioners are onboard then wait for them to give Mary direction on what ordinance to move forward with. He also stated that after the pedestrian study is completed in the early part of July that the group re-convene and discuss that study. Mary did state that regardless of the study finding the obstructive ordinance will be updated. Mark also stated that we should use the 9<sup>th</sup> Circuit language with regards to the commercial sales of anything on the strip. It was asked that if the funding part of the ordinance be brought forward with the recommendations. Don did mention that once the information is written and before it goes to the Commissioners, that Don and Mary will meet with Alan from the ACLU.

Meeting adjourned at 2:45p.