

\$4 million bond to hasten Windsor Park rehab

Special to Sentinel-Voice

The relocation of residents of Windsor Park will be expedited thanks to a \$4 million bond purchased by Fannie Mae, the nation's largest source of financing for home mortgages and multifamily housing.

The 10-year, general obligation bond was issued by the City of North Las Vegas and the financing allows the city to continue the revitalization plan for the 241-unit subdivision, which is presently considered uninhabitable.

The bond allows the city to have immediate access to the funds, allowing them to respond quicker to residents requests and speeds up the revitalization process by nearly 10 years.

Under the plan, qualified residents are offered \$50,000

to buy another residence in North Las Vegas.

Residents of the 30-year-old subdivision began experiencing unexplained damage to home foundations about 10 years ago. Studies revealed soil sinkage due to geologic fault line activity.

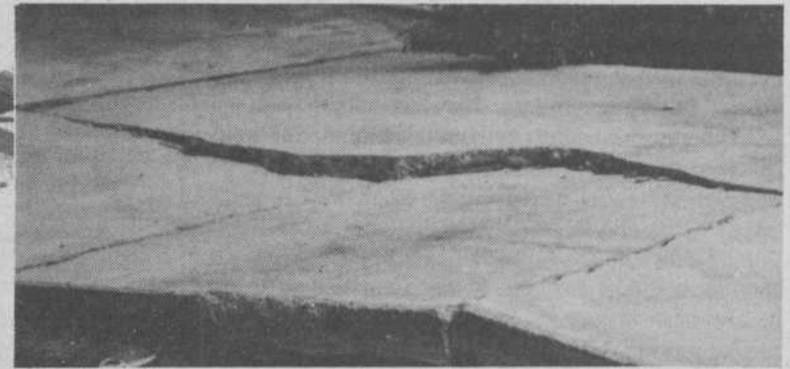
Since 1988, the city has offered financial assistance to help residents move to other North Las Vegas neighborhoods. However, limited resources resulted in the relocation of only five families in seven years. More than 100 residents still live in the sinking subdivision.

The city had relied on federal assistance for the relocation. The process would have taken 15 years to move the 240 residents. The bond reduces that time by nearly one-third and will be repaid through Community



Conditions such as cracked sidewalks in the Windsor Park area will give way to new hope and dreams as federal dollars become available to relocate and build new homes.

Sentinel-Voice file photos.



Development Block Grant funds over 10 years and through the city's general fund for six of those years.

"The city of North Las Vegas is dedicated to helping these homeowners find a new, safe place to call home, and believe this \$4 million bond

will help us do just that," North Las Vegas City Councilman John Rhodes said.

"Today marks the beginning of the end of this decade-old problem."

"The \$4 million bond

means as many as 20 families each year can relocate into new homes," said Charlene

Peterson, director of Fannie Mae's Nevada Partnership Office in Las Vegas.

County commission OKs the police review board

Special to Sentinel-Voice

In an unanimous decision Tuesday, the Clark County Commission decided that a civilian review board will investigate charges against Las Vegas police.

The board would be made up of 25 citizens, with 13 appointed by the commissioners and the remaining 12 by Las Vegas City Council members.

Groups of five would get together to hear cases with one panel acting as a screening group. That group would decide which cases were worth looking into by the other sets.

The board would be staffed by an executive director and a legal secretary. The city of Las Vegas would foot half of the bill.

Commissioner Dario Herrera, asked to revise the initial proposal, came back with changes that swayed the commission in favor of the new plan.

Among the alterations Herrera made are that the citizen review board can only investigate cases after the police Internal Affairs Bureau finishes its own examination. The sheriff also has to wait until both investigations are complete before administering discipline. Officers can use the current Civil Service Board to appeal disciplinary decisions.

One of the most controversial issues was that former police officers will be allowed to serve on the board.

An ordinance detailing the role of the board will be introduced tentatively for a Mar. 16 public hearing and voted on Apr. 6. The City Council will vote on the new group after the County Commission approves it.

Jackson: I didn't call Gov. Pataki a racist

ALBANY, N.Y. (AP) — Jesse Jackson said last week he didn't mean to imply that Gov. George Pataki was racist when he likened the second-term Republican to segregationists George Wallace and Orval Faubus.

"I did not call him a racist, didn't even infer that," Jackson said. Jackson, in a telephone interview he initiated, said he was simply complaining last week about what he felt was Pataki's refusal to provide sufficient funds for New York's public schools, not the governor's views on racial issues.

"This is not about black and white, this is about right and wrong," he said.

"In the case of Wallace and Faubus, these guys blocked doors of public education trying to appeal to an extremist element. That's the same thing Pataki is doing," Jackson said last week. Wallace was governor of Alabama, Faubus of Arkansas.

Jackson said he planned to call Pataki at some point to discuss the issue, but not to apologize "because I have not offended him."

There was no immediate

comment from Pataki who is being touted by supporters as a potential candidate for president or vice president next year and has stepped up his out-of-state travel in an attempt to boost his national stature.

In his comments last Tuesday, Jackson also invoked the name of former California governor Pete Wilson, chastising him for turning against affirmative action and cracking down on illegal immigrants.

"Pataki is trying what Wallace tried, what Faubus tried, what Wilson tried, and

they all failed," said Jackson, who testified last Tuesday at a legislative hearing against Pataki's budget plans for education.

Jackson, the two-time Democratic presidential contender, said Pataki wanted to spend too much on prisons and not enough on classrooms.

"Whether you're blocking school doors in Alabama and Arkansas or simply locking kids out of closed school doors in New York, this is not the wave of the American future," Jackson said.

(See Jackson, Page 5)

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