

County approves funding plan for police improvements

New substations, training facility closer after commission vote

Special to Sentinel-Voice

The Clark County Commission unanimously approved the funding plan for the Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department capital improvement plan. The plan, which would add two new substations in the South Strip and West Las Vegas areas, as well as the Northwest training academy, now awaits approval by the Las Vegas City Council.

Plans for individual project components must also be reviewed by the appropriate Planning Commissions before construction

can begin.

One of the core goals of the capital improvement plan is to have one substation per local population of 125,000. To help achieve that goal, Metro will relocate existing Northwest and Southeast Area Command substations, and add two new Area Command substations in underserved areas.

Clark County Commissioner Yvonne Atkinson Gates and City Councilman Gary Reese are pushing for the West Las Vegas substation which would be located inside the Enterprise Park, near Martin Luther King

Boulevard and Owens Avenue.

"A neighborhood police substation will be a tremendous resource for the West Las Vegas area, providing 24-hour service and greater access to neighborhood policing programs," Gates said. "It will be a significant force in our ongoing battle with the criminal element."

Said Reese, "We are committed to public safety efforts in West Las Vegas—one of our long-standing neighborhoods. There is widespread community support for this project and we will continue to work with the

police department to make it a reality."

Each of the new substations will be approximately 17,000 square feet with staffing ranging from 150 to 175 civilian and commissioned employees.

The Northwest training academy would bring police services to the furthest reaches of the northwest corridor.

"The new training academy facility is vital to helping the LVMPD meet the public safety needs of our fast-growing population," said County Commissioner Lance Malone, whose district includes the proposed facility.

County, North Las Vegas plan for resource center, library

Special to Sentinel-Voice

Clark County Commissioner Yvonne Atkinson Gates is teaming up with North Las Vegas Mayor Mike Montandon and Councilwoman Paula Brown to announce plans for a North Las Vegas community center and a library.

The North Las Vegas City Council last week endorsed a financial plan crafted by Clark County that greenlighted the development and building of a recreation complex, complete with a community swimming pool.

The state-of-the-art, recreation complex will provide services ranging from senior recreational activities to crafts to games and events for children.

"Certain basic recreational needs in North Las Vegas are underserved," Gates said "This financial agreement allows the board to not only provide the residents of North Las Vegas with a multi-purpose recreation center, but it will also lead to the creation of a sorely needed library."

The financial agreement,

approved by the Board of County Commissioners on June 1, will provide for the development of a community center to be funded through a combination of cash and other financing.

"Clark County has allocated \$1 million in county capital funds for the construction of the 20,000 square-foot community center. In turn, the City of North Las Vegas will finance the balance of the project, which is expected to cost a minimum of \$5 million," Gates said. "The county will also provide

funding of \$300,000 per year for a 10-year period in order to assist the city of North Las Vegas in repaying its incurred debt. In essence, North Las Vegas will bond for both the recreation center and the library."

"We are thrilled about the idea of working with Clark County to provide our residents with a second library and a community center," Montandon said. "It is important to keep pace with our rapidly growing community. It is equally essential that we provide our residents with quality recreation opportunities."

"The unique financial arrangement will enable North Las Vegas to build the recreation center as well as the new library, the second one for our City," Brown said. "Some 100,000 North Las Vegas citizens will be able to check out books, do research and enjoy all the amenities a library has to offer."

The library, slated to begin construction in Fall 2000, will be a 42,000 square-foot public library located on 4.4 acres of donated land at Alexander Road and Martin Luther King Boulevard.

Business, boxing trainer, uncle of the 'Juice' dies

*John T. Stephens III
Sentinel-Voice*

Lloyd D. Armstrong, a pioneer Las Vegas businessman, U.S. Marshal, fight trainer and uncle of football star-turned media scapegoat O.J. Simpson died June 3 of natural causes.



"My dad fought it all the way," ARMSTRONG said Stan Armstrong, a local director and producer of Civil War documentaries. "He would say, 'Son, I don't know what's on the other side, but all I know is life now.'"

Armstrong was the youngest of 13 children. Born February 15, 1915 in Shreveport, La. Armstrong would meet the love of his life Johnnie Mae Durden in 1947 and have four children, Stewart Armstrong, Stan Armstrong, Saul Armstrong, and Pamela Armstrong. Johnnie May Armstrong died June 5, 1995.

The Armstrongs came to Las Vegas in 1955 where he found employment at the Ranch Market. In 1964 he bought the store and in 1968 opened the Dixie Meat Market on H street. During the Carter Administration, he was appointed as a U.S. Marshal, serving from 1977-1984, and trained boxers at Johnny Tocco Gyms.

Services for Armstrong were held at Palm Mortuaries & Cemeteries located at 1325 N. Main St. He is survived by Stan Armstrong, Pamela Gayle, Saul Armstrong, and daughter Marva Dycus and 14 grandchildren.

Louima

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Patrick Antoine. "I did nothing wrong that night," Bruder said outside the courtroom, where he hugged Wiese. "I didn't do anything wrong. I treated Mr. Louima like a gentleman that night."

Louima had testified that Bruder came to his aid after the bathroom attack by taking off his handcuffs and helping him dress.

Louima had testified he was arrested, beaten and finally tortured with a broken broomstick in a filthy bathroom stall, suffering severe internal injuries including a ruptured bladder and colon.

The account was supported by the testimony of four police officers



Sgt. Michael Bellomo was also acquitted.

credited with shattering the so-called "blue wall of silence."

The trial was interrupted May 25 by Volpe's dramatic guilty plea. The stocky,

square-jawed patrolman admitted he attacked Louima in a blind rage because he mistakenly thought Louima had hit him outside the nightclub.

World bank: 200 million newly poor

WASHINGTON (AP)—A world that had been making progress finds itself with 200 million more people in abject poverty than a decade ago.

A new World Bank report blames the Asian financial crisis for increasing poverty across Asia and much of the rest of the world.

It calls for bailout programs and preventative measures to provide urgent relief for suffering people.

In its first detailed look at the impact of the Asian financial crisis on global poverty, the bank estimates 200 million "newly poor," with setbacks in the successful march against poverty.

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