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Lazy 8 Casino clears hurdle

29 August 2007

SPARKS, Nevada -- As reported by the Reno Gazette Journal: "The Lazy 8 Casino project cleared another hurdle Monday when the Sparks City Council approved the handbook for Tierra Del Sol with the entitlement to build a resort/casino in the development.

"In a series of votes, the council approved pulling the casino/resort entitlement out of the Wingfield Springs handbook, including it in the Tierra Del Sol handbook. The vote on the Tierra Del Sol handbook was 3-2 in favor with Councilmen Ron Smith, Ron Schmitt and Mike Carrigan in the majority and Councilmen John Mayer and Phil Salerno opposed.

"Developer Harvey Whittemore and Peppermill Casinos plan to build an 18,000-square-foot casino, a 200-room hotel, restaurants and a 14-screen movie theater on the property along the Pyramid Lake Highway in Spanish Springs.

"...The project has been controversial since it initially was denied by the city council in August 2006. After that vote, the developers sued the city for \$100 million. Then, in a secret meeting, later found to be in violation of the state's open meeting law, council members voted to settle the suit. They approved the settlement again in a public meeting several weeks later..."

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