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Planning Commission Denies Lazy Eight Amendment

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The Planning Commission voted four to two to deny a master plan amendment for the project Thursday night.

Anti-Lazy Eight pins were distributed at the meeting. About 20 opponents of the casino project demonstrated outside City Hall prior to the meeting.

Some cited concerns about traffic, and the affect of a casino on the residential areas of Spanish Springs.

The developer, Red Hawk Land Development, was represented at the meeting by several attorneys. One stated the project would bring millions of dollars into the region and prove an asset to the community.

Commissioners considered whether to change an area on the master plan map near the Pyramid Highway from "general commercial" to "tourist commercial." A motion to approve the amendment failed to pass. However, commissioners then passed a motion denying the request. Commissioner Kendall Mattina cited concern for the precedent approval would set for future development along the highway.

A lawyer representing Red Hawk said the master plan amendment was sought to be consistent with other approvals given to the project. He said the denial in no way prevents the project from

moving forward.

The controversial casino proposal was challenged in court. A settlement was reached, which allowed the Lazy Eight to move ahead. However, that settlement is now being reviewed by the Nevada Supreme Court.

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