RIO NUEVO MULTIPURPOSE FACILITIES DISTRICT

BOARD MEETING

Tucson, Arizona November 13, 2018 2:00 p.m.

REPORTED BY:
Thomas A. Woppert, RPR

AZ CCR No. 50476

KATHY FINK & ASSOCIATES

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2	BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:
3	Fletcher McCusker.
4	Chris Sheafe.
5	Mark Irvin.
6	Edmund Marquez.
7	Jannie Cox.
8	
9	ALSO PRESENT:
10	Mark Collins, Board Counsel
11	Brandi Haga-Blackman, Operations Administrator
12	Administrator
13	
14	
15	BE IT REMEMBERED that the meeting of the Board of
16	Directors of the Rio Nuevo Multipurpose Facilities District
17	was held at the Arizona State Building, in the City of
18	Tucson, State of Arizona, before THOMAS A. WOPPERT, RPR,
19	Certified Reporter No. 50476, on the 13th day of November
20	2018, commencing at the hour of 1:00 p.m.
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                      PROCEEDINGS
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               CHAIRMAN MCCUSKER: Let's call the meeting to
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    order. It's 2:06 p.m. We had a text from Edmund. He's
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    running a few minutes late. We do have a quorum.
               Mr. Sheafe, do you want to lead us in the
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7
    pledge?
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                       (Pledge of Allegiance)
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               CHAIRMAN MCCUSKER: Brandi, will you please
    call the roll.
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11
               MS. HAGA-BLACKMAN: Jannie Cox.
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               MS. COX: Here.
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               MS. HAGA-BLACKMAN: Chris Sheafe.
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              MR. SHEAFE: Here.
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               MS. HAGA-BLACKMAN: Mark Irvin.
16
              MR. IRVIN: Here.
               MS. HAGA-BLACKMAN: Fletcher McCusker.
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               CHAIRMAN MCCUSKER: Here. And, as we
    mentioned, Edmund's on his way and Jeff Hill is
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20
     indisposed.
               You have the minutes from the October 23rd
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    meeting. We don't have minutes yet from the study session
    on Friday, but the transcript is verbatim. Unless you
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    have a change or suggestion --
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MR. IRVIN: Motion to approve.

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1 MS. COX: Second.
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- 2 CHAIRMAN MCCUSKER: All in favor say aye.
- 3 (Motion passes unanimously)
- 4 CHAIRMAN MCCUSKER: Let me chat out loud here
- 5 for a while. Raise your hand if you're here for the
- 6 Armory Park agenda item.
- 7 Just a couple of you.
- 8 How about the rest of you? Are you observing?
- 9 Are you here for an agenda item? Are you in a civics
- 10 class, you know, or --
- 11 UNDIFIED SPEAKER: Sunshine Mile.
- 12 CHAIRMAN MCCUSKER: Sunshine Mile.
- 13 UNDIFIED SPEAKER: For a civics class.
- 14 CHAIRMAN MCCUSKER: There you go.
- We usually go straight to executive session and
- 16 it takes 45 minutes to an hour, so you're going to be
- 17 lonesome. I do know there's a number of Armory Park
- 18 people that I think wanted to come, but I don't know if
- 19 they were planning on coming at 2:00. Councilman Kozachik
- 20 said he wanted to speak to us. So we could flip the order
- 21 of things, but then I might confuse the people who are
- 22 going to come later, or just keep the schedule and let you
- 23 guys chill.
- 24 All right. So let's do that. Let's --
- 25 And you are here for which item? Hello? Let

- 1 me know what you're here for.
- MR. IRVIN: You're here for everything, aren't
- 3 you, Mark?
- 4 UNDIFIED SPEAKER: He's here for Armory Park.
- 5 CHAIRMAN MCCUSKER: Do an abbreviated exec, try
- 6 and get down here quickly?
- 7 Let me just say a few words about the Armory
- 8 Park item because it's unusual that we have this kind of
- 9 attendance.
- 10 A couple months ago, we had a conversation with
- 11 the city about Armory Park. And it's clear to all of us
- 12 that the current park is dysfunctional. It's also, in a
- 13 word, disgraceful. Our interest is in rehabilitating the
- 14 park to its historical accuracy. And that's the plan
- 15 you're going to see this afternoon.
- 16 On the heels of the Dusk Festival, it's
- 17 important that you all know we have nothing to do with who
- 18 uses the park. The city of Tucson issues the permits and
- 19 licenses for the use. Our interest is to make it a better
- 20 park for anyone and everyone. And it's quite simple.
- 21 It's to restore the grass where the current band shell is
- 22 and the bocce ball courts and the tennis courts and to put
- 23 the band shell back to where it was historically. So
- 24 that's it.
- I expect given the e-mail traffic I've seen, a

- 1 lot of people are concerned about the noise and crowds
- 2 associated with a music festival. This is the wrong place
- 3 to have that conversation. We know a lot of people that
- 4 want to use it for a variety of events whether it's
- 5 Shakespeare or a political event or a sports event or a
- 6 concert, whether it's jazz or rock or hip-hop. That
- 7 particular park seems to be in a great deal of demand.
- 8 However, our interest is not in changing its use or making
- 9 it more exclusive or more capable of, you know, a music
- 10 festival kind of event. That's really entirely up to the
- 11 city of Tucson, who issues these permits.
- 12 So I considered actually tabling the item, but
- 13 I think that's a disservice to the whole conversation.
- 14 We're going to keep it on the agenda. I may take calls to
- 15 the audience for that item early so that you all don't
- 16 have to sit around forever. If you're in a civics class,
- 17 you're stuck with us for as long as you have to. But
- 18 let's go to exec as planned and try and get back as
- 19 quickly as we can.
- 20 So having said that, I would need a motion to
- 21 recess to executive session.
- MR. IRVIN: So moved.
- MS. COX: Second.
- 24 CHAIRMAN MCCUSKER: All in favor say aye.
- 25 (Motion passes unanimously)

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1 (Recess)
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- 2 CHAIRMAN MCCUSKER: We need a motion to
- 3 reconvene.
- 4 MR. IRVIN: So moved.
- 5 CHAIRMAN MCCUSKER: Second, please.
- 6 MR. MARQUEZ: Second.
- 7 CHAIRMAN MCCUSKER: I never heard a second.
- MR. MARQUEZ: Second.
- 9 CHAIRMAN MCCUSKER: All in favor say aye.
- 10 (Motion passes unanimously)
- 11 CHAIRMAN MCCUSKER: Okay. We're back in
- 12 regular session. Thank you for your patience. We use
- 13 executive session primarily to talk to our attorney. I
- 14 will make my remarks brief. We'll get the financial
- 15 report, and then the Armory Park item. I will allow
- 16 people that are here for the Armory Park item to do call
- 17 to the audience as part of that item.
- 18 So it's really a busy time for us, unbelievably
- 19 busy. I think the press release from our Friday session
- 20 just went out this morning. We did have a study session
- 21 on Friday to look at the Tucson Convention Center and
- 22 capital improvement requests for that. We were presented
- 23 with a list of requests that totaled about \$42 million. I
- 24 can tell you we didn't do anything to reduce that amount.
- 25 We probably added to it to the extent of maybe 5 million

- or possibly 20 or \$25 million depending on what we do with
- 2 parking structures and the second sheet of ice for hockey,
- 3 et cetera.
- 4 The only action item that occurred out of that
- 5 is we will be soliciting commercial lenders for financial
- 6 proposals that include a scope of up to \$70 million. So
- 7 Rio Nuevo obviously does not have the kind of cash to do
- 8 that, but indeed we can finance a project of that scale.
- 9 So in the next few days, if you're a commercial lender,
- 10 you'll see an RFP on our website asking you to submit a
- 11 proposal on how you might finance and under what terms a
- 12 project of that scale.
- 13 Hotels are going up all around us. You're
- 14 following that. We've approved five new hotel projects.
- 15 I can tell you there are a couple more still out there.
- 16 People ask me all the time, oh, my God, you know, aren't
- 17 you overbuilt. We referenced a CBRE study that looked at
- 18 the downtown hotel opportunities and they identify the
- 19 need and value for at least 1,000 new beds, so combined so
- 20 far, I think we're at about 550 or under 600, so we still
- 21 think there's room. And all of a sudden now, Tucson's a
- 22 very interesting spot around the globe for hotel
- 23 developers from -- you know, name a brand and we probably
- 24 talked to them in the last few weeks.
- 25 Caterpillar is on time, on schedule. We expect

- 1 to turn the keys over to them around Christmas.
- 2 Any other project update? Nothing I can think
- 3 of.
- 4 So, Dan, let's do your financial review.
- 5 MR. MEYERS: Dan Meyers, CFO for Rio Nuevo.
- 6 Okay. As of the end of October, we had about a
- 7 little less than \$4.5 million in the bank. We've got
- 8 about \$4.2 million in committed funds. However, I spoke
- 9 to Phil Swaim a few minutes ago and we've got a
- 10 500,000-dollar contingency in there that it appears we can
- 11 take that out of the commitments, so that's really good
- 12 news.
- 13 The August TIF revenue, I got an estimate from
- 14 the state of 950,000. Our monthly budget is 1.2 million,
- 15 but if you go back and study the last few years, TIF
- 16 revenue historically July through October are kind of our
- 17 leaner times, and then it pops back up when we get close
- 18 to the holidays and through spring. So our annual budget,
- 19 I think, has an estimated surplus of \$3.7 million.
- 20 think even though we're \$300,000 off our budget for the
- 21 first two months, I don't see any reason at this point in
- 22 time to reduce that number, but we need to keep an eye on
- 23 it.
- 24 Any questions?
- 25 CHAIRMAN MCCUSKER: To be clear, the

- 1 million dollars you show remaining on Caterpillar, that
- 2 does not come from the 4.4 cash on hand; right? That's --
- 3 MR. MEYERS: No, that's our portion of our
- 4 contract with Sundt. That's our piece. And there might
- 5 be even a little bit of a surplus left on that, I'm told,
- 6 so hopefully that's not --
- 7 MR. SHEAFE: That's where the 500 is that you
- 8 referred to?
- 9 MR. MEYERS: The 500 is a line below, which I
- 10 thought, you know, when we started this project, we kind
- of always had that in there, but now that we're getting
- 12 close to the end --
- 13 MR. SHEAFE: But it's part of the Caterpillar
- 14 thing. I see what you're saying. Okay.
- MR. MEYERS: That's going to disappear on next
- 16 month's report.
- 17 Any other questions?
- 18 CHAIRMAN MCCUSKER: Any questions for Dan?
- 19 Thank you very much.
- 20 MR. SHEAFE: It's another way of saying you
- 21 also came in on time but also on budget.
- 22 CHAIRMAN MCCUSKER: Okay. We can move on to
- 23 item number seven. It's the Armory Park possible action.
- 24 I asked Ken Kavanaugh to come out and help us make a
- 25 presentation. Ken is a landscape architect who's done a

- 1 lot of work on this project over the last several months.
- 2 Again, to kind of preface, Rio Nuevo's interest in this
- 3 particular park, it is the only park in fact inside the
- 4 Rio Nuevo district. Our interest here is primarily
- 5 preservationist. We are looking at restoring the park to
- 6 its historical status and we welcome your input into that.
- 7 I can say on Ken's behalf he spent a lot of
- 8 time with stakeholders to get to the point where we are.
- 9 So, Mr. Kavanaugh, introduce yourself and let's
- 10 go.
- 11 MR. KAVANAUGH: I am Ken Kavanaugh. I'm
- 12 educated a landscape architect, primarily a golf course
- 13 architect. I design outside spaces.
- On August 14th, I met on site with Fletcher and
- 15 we started talking about how can we make improvements to
- 16 the concert venue portion of Armory Park.
- 17 We then met with the city manager. The city
- 18 manager said, that's great, have a conversation with the
- 19 neighborhood, so we have done that.
- This is the existing site with the building
- 21 here. You'll notice what I'm calling the event plaza is
- 22 rectangular. It sits right there. The existing stage,
- 23 and we're calling it a band shell, is right there, and a
- 24 game area that sits down there, that includes shuffle
- 25 board, bocce and horseshoes.

- 1 Now, when the city manager -- and its
- 2 orientation is this way. Well, this is the existing park.
- 3 You'll also notice there are vehicles parked there, there,
- 4 there, there, there, and maybe even down there. There's a
- 5 gate there and a gate there and emergency access that goes
- 6 right through there like that currently. So that's kind
- 7 of the criteria. And we're interested in reorganizing the
- 8 existing functions at Armory Park.
- 9 When we had our conversation with the
- 10 neighborhood, it turned into a history lesson. It really
- 11 did. And it started with this photograph right here.
- 12 Now, I have brought about half of the photographs that
- 13 have been presented to us and that our historic
- 14 rehabilitation is based upon.
- You'll notice in this one, and it's from 1913,
- 16 the sidewalks went -- made an X through the property and
- 17 right exactly in the middle where those sidewalks
- 18 intersected is a circle. Now --
- 19 You can go to the next one.
- I show this slide only because of the -- well,
- 21 it's historic in nature, the size of the vegetation. I
- 22 think this is Armory Park and this is the children's
- 23 library over here. I show it because of the light fixture
- 24 which currently -- which this, I think, is a five-globe
- 25 fixture. What's on site right now is a pole very similar

- 1 to this, only it's a two-globe, so we think they are --
- 2 they do have -- what's down there now does have historic
- 3 significance. We would leave those, but they could use
- 4 some paint and new globes.
- 5 This is the Armory Park side. This is the
- 6 children's museum. You can see the circle is still there.
- 7 This photograph is from the 1930s, but a building, the
- 8 armory, has appeared on site.
- 9 Next one.
- 10 You can still see the circle. This is the
- 11 building, I think there was a parade going on that day,
- 12 and a band shell was right here on the front of the
- 13 building. It was not -- current -- today it's over here.
- 14 Originally, historically, it was on the front of the
- 15 building and it was about 45 feet across. And there's the
- 16 circle and the sidewalks coming in.
- 17 I want you to notice in this photograph the
- 18 geometry of the park, and the commitment to geometry in
- 19 the park not with just the paved surfaces but also with
- 20 the landscape. The palm trees are one, two, three, four,
- 21 the same over here, one, two, three, four, the same out
- 22 here, a commitment to geometry.
- Okay. We can go on.
- Just a closeup, I think, taken on the same day,
- 25 same parade. The band shell they're setting up for an

- 1 event, the geometry of the palm trees, the geometry of the
- 2 entire park.
- Okay. Go ahead.
- 4 Why am I showing -- I'm showing this -- here's
- 5 the children's museum. This is the armory building. This
- 6 is the band shell on the front of the building.
- 7 Next one, please.
- 8 And this is it. This was the front of the
- 9 armory building at Armory Park and this was the stage.
- 10 And I think it's about 45 feet from there to there.
- 11 Now, you will notice that the base of this
- 12 stage -- well, I don't know if you can notice or not. I
- 13 would tell you that is a stone face on the base of the
- 14 stage. We think it is called A Mountain quarry stone at
- 15 the base of the stage.
- 16 Next one.
- 17 Here is what -- in our conversation with the
- 18 neighborhood, speaking only for myself, it has been a kind
- 19 of partnership relationship. As we learned the history of
- 20 the property, this is what we developed. You can see the
- 21 circle. That is 130 feet across. That's a 65-foot
- 22 diameter. That is the location of the old circle. You
- 23 can see underneath that is where the current rectangle
- 24 event plaza is. And here, that's -- that's the existing
- 25 sidewalk, existing sidewalk. There's the circle.

- 1 The material in this circle primarily, I think,
- 2 should be exposed aggregate with small aggregate no larger
- 3 than a half an inch in size because back in the very first
- 4 photograph that we showed you, it probably wasn't even
- 5 paved then. It was probably just a compacted aggregate,
- 6 and so exposed aggregate takes its inspiration from the --
- 7 from before it was even paved. And you will see the
- 8 aggregate.
- 9 We think it's important that's in these spaces
- 10 here the striping I'm calling brick header that's running
- 11 through the circle. Now, the brick header -- first let me
- 12 say it will be in the configuration that we're showing to
- 13 define and accentuate the diagonals -- the old original
- 14 diagonals running through the site, we want to accentuate
- 15 those. This is old broom finish gray concrete while this
- 16 will be exposed ag. Right there and running through,
- 17 we'll have the old just broom finish gray concrete running
- 18 through the space and then exiting that way and exiting
- 19 that way.
- We have defined -- well, let me talk about the
- 21 brick header which runs around the outside and defines
- 22 those sidewalks takes its inspiration from two places.
- 23 One, depending on how you look at it, this side of this
- 24 building is all brick and this is the main entrance to the
- 25 building, and this is a large brick patio and sidewalk

- 1 coming into the building. So everywhere there's a door on
- 2 this side of the building, which is there, there and
- 3 there, we will have brick much like the entry -- well,
- 4 just like the entry on this side of the building also and
- 5 in some ways more importantly, down at this intersection
- 6 here, here and here. If we were to blow this up,
- 7 you would see that there is brick header -- well, we're
- 8 not going to blow it up, but -- but brick header, brick
- 9 stripes, are running through the concrete at this
- 10 intersection here, here, here and here. So this becomes a
- 11 kind of transient space, and then this becomes a kind of
- 12 arrival space with brick striping and then big brick
- 13 patios at the doors. This -- so that's the event plaza.
- I'll go on to say -- I'll lastly say about that
- 15 this sidewalk is 10 feet wide, so it will go through and
- 16 exit 10 feet wide. This side here comes through 10 to
- 17 there but exits 15 feet wide. And that is because of the
- 18 emergency access thing that we have maintained through
- 19 here and access to servicing the stage on event day.
- The stage is here. It's not up against the
- 21 building like it once was because right now the building
- 22 has big double doors. That's the main entry to this side
- 23 of the building. So this is 20 feet in here. There will
- 24 be 20 feet of service kind of access behind the stage and
- 25 a ramp up to the stage. And this entire 20 feet in here

- 1 is brick, a big brick patio that not only enters the --
- 2 the main entry on this side, but it's also an
- 3 architectural element much like is back here, a big area
- 4 of brick that connects in some way the stage to the front
- of the building like it once was. The stage is three feet
- 6 tall. It has brick steps going up to it. It's just gray
- 7 concrete on top, probably broom finish, but around the
- 8 edge and bottom of it is these stone -- the U of A quarry
- 9 stone face just like the old days.
- 10 CHAIRMAN MCCUSKER: You didn't say it, but
- 11 everything that's green is grass?
- 12 THE WITNESS: And everything that's green is
- 13 grass. I was going to finish with that.
- 14 Well, actually it's not so. There are
- 15 different shades of green. This shade of green is grass.
- 16 This shade of green is not. It's like landscape
- 17 foundation planting not to exceed the height of the stage,
- 18 not to exceed three feet in height, but -- and a stone
- 19 face on the stage. I don't know if I -- I said this is
- 20 brick steps access to the top of the stage. This is
- 21 handicap ramp access on the back of the stage, so when
- 22 you're setting up for an event, you set up here, you can
- 23 use the ramp or the steps.
- Lastly, second to lastly, we would -- we are
- 25 recommending that we remove the game area, the shuffle

- 1 board, bocce and horseshoe, remove it and grass it.
- 2 And -- well, irrigation system and grass. Now, that's not
- 3 grass seed but gas sod where we just roll it out and it is
- 4 a lawn the very next day.
- 5 Since the game -- since the gaming area is
- 6 coming out, what we would put back in that area are palm
- 7 trees, 30-foot tall mature palm trees, date, date, date,
- 8 fan, just like what is out there right now here, just like
- 9 I pointed out on the historic photographs. And, lastly,
- 10 on site right now is three palms. And in order to comply
- 11 with the historic geometry, we would add one palm, a date
- 12 palm, there.
- In this area here where the existing stage
- 14 comes out, that would -- just like over here, we would
- 15 irrigate that and sod it with new turf grass.
- 16 And -- and, you know, it's -- it's just simple
- 17 and that's it. It's kind of an elegantly simple --
- 18 CHAIRMAN MCCUSKER: Talk about the monuments
- 19 and some of the other things that are --
- MR. KAVANAUGH: Well, the monuments -- the
- 21 existing monuments are one, two, three. I might say that
- 22 at least one of them has the stone base at the base of it
- 23 that will be the same stone at the base of the stage, so
- 24 yeah, there are three existing monuments down there to
- 25 remain.

- 1 The -- these arrows -- there are two drinking
- 2 fountains here to be relocated in a similar place, and the
- 3 lights on site remain. This design works with the
- 4 existing lights.
- 5 What I just completely forgot to mention is
- 6 that on the other side of the circle where this sidewalk
- 7 comes through and exits, we would add one, two three and
- 8 one, two, three Italian cypress trees, the same tree that
- 9 is out there now doing the -- the geometric landscape
- 10 entry along the diagonal sidewalks. We would pick that up
- 11 on the other side as you leave the circle, and so the
- 12 landscape plan is just geometry palm trees, geometry
- 13 Italian cypress and low flowering foundation planting
- 14 against the building and at the base of the stage.
- 15 Oh, geez, Fletcher, lastly, I promise, this
- 16 stage is roughly 40 by 40, which is 1,600 square feet.
- 17 There are four little squares on there. That would be the
- 18 pillars that would support this. We would cover these --
- 19 the new stage, 1,600 square foot stage, with a 1,500
- 20 square foot prefabricated band shell that I'm showing down
- 21 here. We would -- we would have stone pillars up here and
- 22 then the -- the supports for the band shell coming out of
- 23 the pillars. This has a stone face on it. End of story.
- MS. COX: Ken, you talked about removing the
- 25 game area and you had a lot of input from the neighbors.

- 1 I assume they're the ones who primarily played games
- 2 there. Were they supportive of changing out that game
- 3 area?
- 4 THE WITNESS: Well, I don't know if I would
- 5 make that assumption or not. However, yes, we have had
- 6 conversations with the neighbors about that. Now, I'm --
- 7 I think -- when you say they're the ones that use it, I
- 8 don't -- I wouldn't make that assumption. Now, that may
- 9 be true. I wouldn't go there because I think people from
- 10 a larger area than just this neighborhood come use the
- 11 senior citizens center.
- 12 Now, what we have heard and what I have
- observed down there is, you know, that armory building
- 14 that I was showing you in past photographs, it was like
- 15 this big. Well, this current building is -- the old
- 16 building is like a third of the size of this building down
- 17 here now. And I think and have observed that mostly,
- 18 almost always, the -- the senior citizen activities at
- 19 this park are being done inside this new big building.
- MR. MARQUEZ: And, Ken, I was down there this
- 21 weekend and I noticed there's different elevations to the
- 22 grass. And you're saying you're going to re-sod. Is
- 23 there any recommendation for adjustment to actually level
- 24 the -- the fields that's it's actually a nice, flat
- 25 surface?

- 1 MR. KAVANAUGH: Well, yes. In fact, you said
- 2 it. When the existing game area and the existing band
- 3 shell and the existing event plaza are demoed, demolition
- 4 is done, then all of those areas -- that entire area will
- 5 be graded flat, and then some of it will be paved and some
- 6 of it will be grass.
- 7 The beauty that occurred to me during this is
- 8 that, you know, if it's not raining, there's really no
- 9 difference -- as far as spectator area goes, there's
- 10 really no difference between paving and grass. You can
- 11 use both for event viewing, so --
- 12 CHAIRMAN MCCUSKER: Jannie, to your point, we
- 13 couldn't find anybody to defend the bocce ball or shuffle
- 14 board areas.
- MR. KAVANAUGH: We do have support.
- 16 CHAIRMAN MCCUSKER: Nobody uses them. They're
- 17 not regulation, we've heard. They're trip hazards for the
- 18 most part. I was concerned when we initiated this that
- 19 somebody was going to chain themselves to the shuffle
- 20 board court, our precious shuffle board court. No one
- 21 that we've talked to --
- MS. COX: I assumed that. I assumed that, but
- 23 I just needed --
- MR. KAVANAUGH: I just never say no.
- MR. SHEAFE: Well, it is popular but apparently

- 1 not here.
- MR. KAVANAUGH: This is a popular place, but
- 3 there are a lot of activities inside the building.
- 4 MR. SHEAFE: Well, you know, I'm a developer at
- 5 Rancho Del Lago and out there we have a shuffle board
- 6 facility. And I'll tell you, you can go there any day of
- 7 the week and it's being used.
- 8 CHAIRMAN MCCUSKER: A couple of comment on the
- 9 band shell. This is not rigged for sound. It's not
- 10 designed for any particular type of use. It could be
- 11 Shakespeare in the Park or it could be a, you know,
- 12 symphony, a rock band. There's really up to the user to
- 13 rig it. So it was basically just to restore a space and
- 14 to create flexibility for the users. There are a lot of
- 15 uses in this from political events to sporting events to
- 16 gatherings to musical events. We didn't really prejudice
- 17 this in terms of any particular use but to basically make
- 18 it more usable to anyone that wants to use it for any
- 19 reason. And you can talk about the cost. Are you going
- 20 to --
- 21 MR. KAVANAUGH: If you'd like me to. All we've
- 22 done is reorganize what is down there sympathetic to its
- 23 historic context. When we had or conversation with the
- 24 neighbors, they're all about the history of the place, and
- 25 so -- but we're just reorganizing what's down there

- 1 already.
- 2 CHAIRMAN MCCUSKER: I'm talking about the price
- 3 tag.
- 4 THE WITNESS: It's a work in progress. We
- 5 still have to do, you know, working drawings. What I --
- 6 the most accurate and honest answer right now is that it
- 7 will cost within 10 percent of \$450,000 for what you're
- 8 looking at. Now, what that means is -- well, 405 to 495.
- 9 CHAIRMAN MCCUSKER: Okay. And the --
- 10 THE WITNESS: The first number will be a four.
- 11 CHAIRMAN MCCUSKER: The process -- this is an
- 12 historical property. I think we've submitted to the
- 13 commission --
- MR. KAVANAUGH: Today. I'm proud to say we did
- 15 that today and it should be on an official neighborhood
- 16 agenda for November 20.
- 17 MR. IRVIN: Fletcher, can you also talk about
- 18 what -- like the million and a half bucks that the city
- 19 has got planned in part of their parks referendum? Can
- 20 you just touch -- they're not touching any of this stuff.
- 21 There's just more restrooms and other things, but can you
- 22 touch on that?
- 23 CHAIRMAN MCCUSKER: Yeah. So we haven't seen
- 24 anything that would rehabilitate the park. In the city
- 25 bond proposal, they're operating to light it, to add some

- 1 restrooms, you know, maybe modernize, my word, the park.
- 2 This is kind of, as Ken said, an evolving effort that
- 3 really was in concert with the neighbors, the preservation
- 4 people who know this park historically. We saw the value
- 5 in terms of our commitment to this and its restoration.
- 6 There's nothing in the city's bond package that would do
- 7 that. I can say if we don't do this, it's likely not to
- 8 get done.
- 9 MR. IRVIN: Right.
- 10 CHAIRMAN MCCUSKER: And what you will have then
- is still a dysfunctional park with a dysfunctional band
- 12 shell oriented to the wrong direction. Unusable bocce and
- 13 shuffle board courts would now have a bathroom and lights.
- 14 Edmund.
- MR. MARQUEZ: I really appreciate the fact that
- 16 you went to the neighbors. It's very important obviously.
- 17 What was the general feedback from the neighborhood?
- 18 MR. KAVANAUGH: Well, I don't know if some of
- 19 them are there. I -- I feel like their partner. I feel
- 20 like this plan is -- is the evolution of a kind of
- 21 partnership with the neighbors and we arrived at this
- 22 together.
- MR. MARQUEZ: Excellent.
- 24 MR. KAVANAUGH: I don't know. There are some
- 25 of them here, I -- well --

- 1 CHAIRMAN MCCUSKER: We're going to find out.
- 2 MR. KAVANAUGH: That's how I feel. Yeah, we're
- 3 going to find out.
- 4 CHAIRMAN MCCUSKER: Any other questions for
- 5 Ken?
- 6 MR. MARQUEZ: Thank you.
- 7 MS. COX: Ken, great job.
- 8 CHAIRMAN MCCUSKER: Whether you filled out a
- 9 call or not, we're going to open up comments specific to
- 10 this agenda item, Armory Park.
- 11 Brandi, you might have some calls signed, but
- 12 if you want to speak, just literally raise your hand and
- 13 we'll make sure you get a chance to do that.
- 14 A couple of rules of engagement in audience
- 15 participation. This is kind of a change in the schedule,
- 16 to call the audience, but our rules are quite simple and
- 17 quite legal. You're allowed three minutes. You can say
- 18 anything you want during those three minutes. We are,
- 19 however, not allowed to interact with you, so this is a
- 20 one-way conversation. You get to tell us what's ever on
- 21 your mind as it relates to this. We'll keep track of the
- 22 time. We're not crazy about it, but try and keep your
- 23 remarks to three minutes or less, and then we'll move back
- 24 to the board after you've had a chance to have some input.
- 25 And, again, if you didn't fill out a card, just raise your

- 1 hands, so there's no particular order.
- 2 Elizabeth Burton.
- THE WITNESS: Can I defer and have Martha go
- 4 first? She was the other card.
- 5 CHAIRMAN MCCUSKER: Sure. Martha McClements.
- 6 MS. MCCLEMENTS: Hi. My name is Martha
- 7 McClements. I'm the chairperson of the Armory Park
- 8 Historic Zone Advisory Board. And we have seen the
- 9 presentation and very happy to hear that you have an HPZ
- 10 number now because you will have to come back and do --
- 11 with your final drawings to go through our approval with
- 12 this process because it is in the historic preservation
- 13 zone.
- 14 Let me be clear. We are not the neighborhood
- 15 association of which you are about to hear some people, so
- 16 at this point, if your committee wanted to come and talk
- 17 to the neighborhood association, that would probably be a
- 18 good thing because I know for a fact some of the people do
- 19 use the -- the shuffle boards for -- God knows if it's
- 20 shuffle board but some kind of an event.
- 21 When we met with you, we as the historic
- 22 advisory board are pleased with the plans as presented.
- 23 We would like to make sure that the plants that are still
- 24 there and the trees that are still there are
- 25 representative on the drawing. Have you updated it since

- 1 your last presentation?
- 2 MR. KAVANAUGH: Yes.
- THE WITNESS: Okay. Good.
- 4 Remember, it's a neighborhood park. It's not a
- 5 regional park. That has been pointed out to me. And I
- 6 will see you on the agenda on the 20th. You don't have to
- 7 go through the entire thing for the board since you've
- 8 gone through us once before. Big sigh of relief there.
- 9 We don't want to waste your time, but I'm sure you will
- 10 get some feedback if not today. And if you ask for
- 11 feedback from the neighborhood, we're vocal, so -- as you
- 12 can see, we tend to show up.
- 13 Thank you very much.
- 14 CHAIRMAN MCCUSKER: Okay. Liz.
- 15 MS. BURTON: Good afternoon, everyone. My
- 16 name's Elizabeth Burton. I'm a resident of Armory Park.
- 17 I have the honor and privilege of serving as president of
- 18 the neighborhood association. And thank you for the
- 19 opportunity to address this committee.
- I just have a couple of observations and
- 21 comments about not the design, which I think is wonderful.
- 22 One really is the intent beyond creating a usable space
- 23 for this neighborhood park. I would agree with Martha --
- 24 or maybe she didn't say this, but I'll say this. I think
- it would be good to engage the neighborhood in a

- 1 conversation about that neighborhood park and what the
- 2 neighborhood's desires for it for the future are with the
- 3 kinds of upgrades that you're talking about.
- 4 So it prompts a question for me in terms of why
- 5 1940. Why is that the date that is being looked at to
- 6 restore to and not something else. And I know we can't
- 7 interact, but that was the question that came up to me.
- As a neighbor park, I would agree that it's not
- 9 as functional as we would like it to be, but it's, I
- 10 think, more functional than people realize and used by
- 11 more than just homeless persons. My granddaughter and I
- 12 when she is in town use that park on a regular basis. She
- 13 learned to ride her bike there. We kicked ball there.
- 14 There are charter schools who use it now for their
- 15 playground and the like.
- 16 And so I think as we look to infrastructure and
- 17 relandscaping to keep both past and present and future
- 18 uses in mind would be very important for a nearly half a
- 19 million dollar investment. I think that thinking through
- 20 the kinds of events that the infrastructure may support is
- 21 a very important part of this process as well as the kinds
- 22 of events that help to foster -- can the infrastructure
- 23 help to foster more neighborhood connection, not less.
- 24 So those are some of the kinds of issues I
- 25 think need to be a part of the process before you decide

- 1 exactly what infrastructure improvements you're going to
- 2 make.
- Thank you.
- 4 CHAIRMAN MCCUSKER: Anybody else want to speak
- 5 to Armory Park?
- 6 MS. COOPER: I'll speak.
- 7 CHAIRMAN MCCUSKER: We just need your name.
- 8 THE WITNESS: I'm Anne Cooper. I'm the
- 9 president of the Armory Park Neighborhood Association, not
- 10 the historic association.
- 11 Fletcher has come to -- came to our last
- 12 meeting and talked about the upgrades to Armory Park. We
- 13 have not had you come and I would like to see that happen.
- 14 I think it would be important to get the neighborhood
- 15 feedback. We have a meeting tonight. It's probably a
- 16 little late to have you come, but we meet once a month and
- 17 I will talk to Fletcher and see what we can do about
- 18 having you come and make this presentation.
- 19 Again, I think what you're proposing is
- 20 wonderful. I think it's -- it's -- it will be --
- 21 it will make the neighborhood want to utilize the park
- 22 even more so, but I -- I think it's important that we get
- 23 the feedback and the input from the neighbors.
- Thank you.
- 25 CHAIRMAN MCCUSKER: Anybody else?

- Okay. Thank you. I'm going to close the
- 2 audience section of this.
- A couple of things that we're trying to do and
- 4 maybe trying not to do. This is an historical park. We
- 5 looked at kind of things that are traditional amenities in
- 6 other parks, swing sets and spinning around things and
- 7 teeter-totters. That's totally contrary to what the
- 8 preservationists in fact would allow.
- 9 The time period of reference is really the last
- 10 time anyone can identify the park post the senior center.
- 11 And at some point if you're going to do a historical
- 12 rehabilitation, you have to pick a period. If you go all
- 13 the way back to 1913, it basically was a parade ground,
- 14 just an empty field, you know, so at some point, we have
- 15 to pick a process.
- 16 We're not the final decision in this. We're
- 17 enabling some state dollars to potentially go into this,
- 18 but ultimately the city would have to approve this.
- 19 Clearly the neighbors have to engage. We wouldn't do
- 20 anything contrary to neighbor desires. And ultimately I
- 21 think Ken's demonstrated a great deal of flexibility as it
- 22 evolves. This may not be the final thing, but there are a
- 23 number of forces that bear on this. Historical
- 24 preservation is one. And if we wanted to put a big
- 25 merry-go-round in that park, we couldn't. You know, so

- 1 there are certain limitations to what you can do and can't
- 2 do as opposed to something like a Reid Park when you're
- 3 trying to create more of a public gathering.
- 4 From our perspective and people we talked to,
- 5 this is already a public gathering place. That picture
- 6 that Ken showed is the rodeo parade circa 1914 and still
- 7 is the grounds where the parade of lights is launched and
- 8 the El Tour de Tucson is launched. Any political event
- 9 that I can think of recently started and had been held in
- 10 Armory Park. There are a number of musical uses for that
- 11 now. I think the city is going to have to wrestle with,
- 12 you know, what they'll let go in there and what decibel
- 13 level they let go in there, but, you know, there are a lot
- 14 of appropriate uses.
- 15 We've seen other parks in other cities that
- 16 have routine plays which are audible in a small venue like
- 17 that. The reason that the band shell is curved is to
- 18 create the kind of flexibility you would have for any use.
- 19 It's not designed to be a music stage, it's not designed
- 20 to be a theater stage, but literally anything that you
- 21 wanted to put there you could put there.
- 22 So my interest was, A, to improve the park,
- 23 make it something that as Rio Nuevo we could be proud of
- 24 and something the neighborhood could be proud of. We
- 25 really have nothing to say about how it's used.

- I think Ken's demonstrated -- I'm perfectly
- 2 willing to -- we may not be on your agenda tonight, but,
- 3 you know, I think anything that you do to approve this
- 4 basically would earmark some money and instruct us to
- 5 continue the process to whereby we would continue to
- 6 present to the city, to the planning and development
- 7 people, the historical commission and to the neighborhood
- 8 and other stakeholders this plan.
- 9 And ultimately I think, Mr. Collins, it would
- 10 probably have to come back here before we finalized
- 11 anything.
- MR. COLLINS: Mr. Chairman, I agree with that.
- 13 CHAIRMAN MCCUSKER: So given all that, what is
- 14 your pleasure?
- 15 MR. IRVIN: It sounds like we need to make a
- 16 motion that allocates a certain amount of money. I'm
- 17 thinking half a million dollars to allow us to go and
- 18 price this and take some of those next steps. Obviously
- 19 it has to be sold to the city and other stakeholders, but
- 20 the first step is, you know, this board's willingness to
- 21 move forward with upwards of a half a million dollars
- 22 subject to working out all the other issues with the city
- 23 and other stakeholders.
- So I'd like to make a motion that we authorize
- 25 that to move forward. Obviously it needs to come back to

- 1 the board to authorize upwards of a half a million
- 2 of dollars in this subject to a study, Ken finishing the
- 3 study, and having that come back to us with the
- 4 neighborhood. And obviously you to have the city of
- 5 Tucson's approval, but up to a half a million dollars.
- 6 MR. MARQUEZ: Second.
- 7 MR. SHEAFE: You say the city's approval. Are
- 8 you referring to the neighbors? Are you referring to --
- 9 MR. IRVIN: I'm referring to both the city
- 10 council and we definitely need neighborhood input, all of
- 11 it.
- MR. MARQUEZ: I'll still second.
- 13 CHAIRMAN MCCUSKER: I have a very long-winded
- 14 motion and a second, but I think we get the drift. We'll
- 15 continue to advance that and then bring it all back good,
- 16 bad or ugly.
- So, Brandi, call the roll.
- MS. HAGA-BLACKMAN: Edmund Marquez.
- MR. MARQUEZ: Aye.
- MS. HAGA-BLACKMAN: Jannie Cox.
- MS. COX: Aye.
- MS. HAGA-BLACKMAN: Chris Sheafe.
- MR. SHEAFE: Aye.
- MS. HAGA-BLACKMAN: Mark Irvin.
- MR. IRVIN: Aye.

- 1 MS. HAGA-BLACKMAN: Fletcher McCusker.
- 2 CHAIRMAN MCCUSKER: Aye.
- 3 So we're unanimous on that. Thank you for your
- 4 input. And, Ken, thanks for all the hard work. You're
- 5 out of here.
- 6 Item number eight --
- 7 MR. SHEAFE: It's okay. You can stay if you
- 8 want to be entertained.
- 9 CHAIRMAN MCCUSKER: Item number eight I'm going
- 10 to table, but let me kind of preface the conversation.
- 11 The downtown YMCA, the Lohse YMCA, is going
- 12 through a strategic initiative to kind of look at the Y
- 13 and how it fits better into an urban environment. They've
- 14 studied Y's in L.A. and Philadelphia. Part of the
- 15 conversation is to create some retail on the street level
- 16 of the Y. And they've asked if Rio Nuevo would help. Our
- 17 response to that any time somebody says the word retail
- 18 out loud is, sure, we would like to help. What we don't
- 19 have today is what that would look like nor the forecasts
- 20 that we typically look at when we try to enable retail, so
- 21 you'll probably see that on a future agenda as we
- 22 encourage the YMCA to finalize their plans.
- MR. IRVIN: You know, one thing I might add to
- 24 that, Fletcher, is, you know, one of the first things that
- 25 the Y had to do was decide in their capital campaign what

- 1 were they going to do relative to a capital campaign. I
- 2 think one of best decisions that they made was rather than
- 3 doling money out amongst a handful of Y's, that they
- 4 picked a project. And obviously we're excited because
- 5 it's the downtown Y. And, you know, those conversations
- 6 really started because a number of people went and looked
- 7 at the Y and said, you know, I just don't think that's
- 8 going to fit what we're trying to do.
- 9 So I applaud them trying to figure out a way
- 10 to, you know, put a downtown Y stake on the map like they
- 11 have in every other community where you have a YMCA
- 12 downtown. It's well known. It's on every map and people
- 13 cherish and love to go down there. So I love it,
- 14 especially with the bicycling piece tied to it.
- 15 CHAIRMAN MCCUSKER: Okay. Watch for that on a
- 16 future agenda.
- 17 Item nine, the Volvo site, we're not making
- 18 Volvos, but this is the affectionate term for the site at
- 19 Park and Broadway.
- 20 Sloane, I think you're here. The city I think
- 21 everybody knows submitted a request for proposals and
- 22 basically a bid treating this as surplus property. Sloane
- 23 McFarland and his team who own the Welcome Diner are the
- 24 awardee, is the technical term in government procurement,
- and they're trying to advance their plans again because it

- 1 would have a significant impact on sales tax. We've
- 2 offered to participate.
- 3 So having said that, Sloane, we'll turn it over
- 4 to you.
- 5 MR. MCFARLAND: Hi. How are you. Thank you
- 6 all for having me here today.
- 7 CHAIRMAN MCCUSKER: Start with your name and --
- 8 THE WITNESS: Sure. My name is Sloane
- 9 McFarland, principal of Martha & Mary, a development
- 10 entity that we run, as well as Welcome Hospitality who
- 11 runs Welcome Diner at --
- 12 CHAIRMAN MCCUSKER: Do you have that on a
- 13 Power -- can you go to a slide show or is that PDF?
- MS. HAGA-BLACKMAN: It's PDF.
- 15 MR. MCFARLAND: So this was the -- this was the
- 16 RFP response for the site at Volvo. And I think it might
- 17 be great to -- I'll move around in a minute, but I would
- 18 probably like to get some focus on what -- where the site
- 19 is.
- There we go.
- 21 We own, control and operate the site that says
- 22 Martha & Mary Welcome Hospitality. We -- as well we own
- 23 the other two sites that are in red. We purchased those
- 24 over the last couple years. And then the Volvo site is in
- 25 yellow, and -- and we've been awarded that RFP.

- Just a quick background. Born here in Arizona,
- 2 started as an artist. My family was in real estate and I
- 3 kind of got my -- my -- my first projects were -- going
- 4 back now 20 years were -- are community and field
- 5 development projects, so I come at it from an artist's
- 6 perspective. I see things as community vehicles. We
- 7 don't just do buildings, we don't just do food. We work
- 8 with farmers, we work with artisans and we're interested
- 9 in putting together an experience.
- 10 The reason that this project began was -- came
- 11 out of one very, very simple thing, which was a 1964
- 12 diner, which was a Sambo's, and when we purchased it, it
- 13 was a Chaffin's. The building was possibly going to be
- 14 torn down. It was being sold as is. And our perspective
- 15 was, what, that can't happen, so we renovated the building
- 16 and I'm working with Alex Shafe and the owner to talk
- 17 about some bigger ideas. And Alex is an amazing community
- 18 member and we talked about some of the parcels in the back
- 19 here, the fact that the Volvo site might come up for sale
- 20 at some point and started thinking about how could the
- 21 Welcome Diner, this historic building, this building
- that's in the crossroads between downtown and Sunshine
- 23 Mile and campus and South Tucson, how could that all
- 24 coalesce really in a crossroads sort of opportunity here.
- We are looking at and what we proposed -- this

- 1 is about a 60-page document. Bear with me. This is a --
- 2 kind of a -- an area map. Number five is the site that we
- 3 were just looking at. Six is the Sunshine Mile, which, of
- 4 course, is a huge upcoming opportunity -- visionary
- 5 opportunity of future development. We have the -- the --
- 6 generically the barrio at two, the mercado at one,
- 7 downtown at three, U of A, four. It speaks to the Gateway
- 8 nature of kind of where I think this site sits.
- 9 We would -- we like the -- this is kind of an
- 10 oversight and a concept drawing. We like -- number one is
- 11 where the -- where the diner is and number two is the
- 12 existing Volvo building. And number three, you can't
- 13 really tell by looking at it if you've driven by it. It
- 14 looks like a building that was plopped there in the '80s,
- 15 but it's actually a 1940s service station, Standard Oil.
- 16 It's a fantastic building.
- 17 We're looking at how we can bring all these
- 18 assets together and build upon their -- their history and
- 19 where they sit in the San Antonio neighborhood, where they
- 20 sit in the crossroads for City of Tucson and bring our --
- 21 our particular approach, which is community-oriented
- 22 infill development focused around food and beverage,
- 23 focused around meeting and unique ways that engage things
- 24 like farmers and wine makers and -- and such.
- 25 If you look at this -- this particular site,

- 1 and, again, this is a concept site. I ought to probably
- 2 focus -- focus on -- on -- on that note once I walk
- 3 through this. The -- the thought here is that we could
- 4 activate two along with our -- our existing diner and some
- 5 kind of a food and beverage capacity, retail capacity,
- 6 create -- number four, kind of create some kind of a -- I
- 7 call it mercado sort of feeling but something that's
- 8 inside that has some element of public space. Eight is a
- 9 hotel. It's inwardly directed. And three is the existing
- 10 Standard Oil building.
- Now, what -- what I want to share about the
- 12 site itself is the very unique aspect of the -- here's
- 13 just some kind of different images that kind of run with
- 14 that. I'll try to let it stand there. Part of the
- 15 process of the -- the welcome -- this idea and the idea of
- 16 the Volvo project is very unique in that the RFP
- 17 expresses -- expresses an intention to not only work with
- 18 the neighborhood and work on the scale of it with the
- 19 neighborhood but to potentially look at the existing
- 20 buildings, but it also asks to have some density to it.
- 21 So part of the process that the city's engaged in this RFP
- 22 is to go through a PAD -- a PAD approval. And so probably
- 23 about 90 percent of that's been completed with
- 24 neighborhood meetings and different proposals, not
- 25 necessarily with our specific vision but with a vision of

- 1 density type of uses, so, for example, no billboards.
- 2 There is a desire not to do big box retail, to do some of
- 3 these more neighborhood, more infill sort of pieces, how
- 4 to approach landscaping, how to approach environmental
- 5 features.
- 6 So all that's been collated through a
- 7 preliminary PAD process through the city. The city as
- 8 part of this RFP is asking us now to take the lead to
- 9 complete that, and so we will not know -- we need to
- 10 complete that -- that process before we know exactly what
- 11 we're building.
- But I think what's important to express is, you
- 13 know, our perspective in, you know, again, where the site
- 14 sits as a gateway site, our general intention and what
- 15 we've been doing for 20 years now in terms of infill
- 16 community, artist-driven development and some of the
- 17 directions that we're taking from the neighborhood and
- 18 from the site specifically such as the existing Mobile
- 19 building and the Standard Oil project.
- 20 So I expected to have a very similar direction
- 21 of the work that we've already done with the Welcome
- 22 Diner, which we've really enjoyed building that team and
- 23 building that experience.
- 24 CHAIRMAN MCCUSKER: Sloane, when you talk about
- 25 where you are with the city and closing and -- you know,

- 1 kind of walk us through what the next steps are and the
- 2 timing of those and, you know, when your money goes at
- 3 risk, you know, the economics, really, of the --
- 4 MR. MCFARLAND: Yeah, sure. So, again, it was
- 5 a very unusual RFP process in that this PAD component's
- 6 there, so contractually we -- there's a period of time
- 7 that the closing -- that we're given to complete the PAD.
- 8 And in that process, there's a due diligence period,
- 9 what's called an inspection period in the contract, where
- 10 we're, you know, looking at -- we're doing all the typical
- 11 stuff one does when you exchange property. We're looking
- 12 at building inspections, environmental reports, surveys,
- 13 all those -- all those typical things.
- So we are -- we are in the process of
- 15 completing the PAD because that will be necessitated to
- 16 close, but working backwards, we're in the inspection
- 17 period. And the inspection period has a -- a period of
- 18 time --
- 19 Keri might be best to speak to that, where we
- are exactly.
- MS. SILVYN: November 29th.
- MR. MCFARLAND: The 29th?
- 23 MS. SILVYN: 11/29.
- MR. MCFARLAND: So currently that comes to past
- 25 November 29th where our initial monies go nonrefundable,

- 1 and then we get locked into the purchase and the -- the
- 2 PAD direction.
- 3 CHAIRMAN MCCUSKER: What happens if the PAD
- 4 goes south, if it doesn't get approved, it's so offensive
- 5 to the neighborhood, I mean, because it sounds like
- 6 there's a lot of contingencies that have to occurred in
- 7 order for you to do anything.
- 8 MR. MCFARLAND: Yeah, it's very malleable.
- 9 We're -- we're kind of -- we're a very unique player in
- 10 that we -- we -- in having property that's adjacent to it
- 11 and having such a strong development vision for it, we
- 12 are -- are -- are very excited about what can be there.
- 13 But that's very unusual for a developer. Usually they
- 14 want to have all the certainties figured out on the front
- 15 end. So this is something that we're working through and
- 16 managing through, how to take the risk of our money, you
- 17 know, becoming nonrefundable before we know really what we
- 18 build. The process is very clear that we need to -- we to
- 19 go through the PAD and we need to make the -- we need to
- 20 purchase this with that approved. And even though
- 21 we've -- a lot of the meetings have been completed and
- 22 we've -- we've had many neighborhood meetings, et cetera,
- 23 the reality is that that's -- that's a process that we
- 24 don't control and could fall apart.
- 25 CHAIRMAN MCCUSKER: Do you have a range of

- 1 kinds of scale and budget, so, you know, at a minimum --
- THE WITNESS: Keri was reminding me that we
- 3 don't close if we're not approved.
- 4 CHAIRMAN MCCUSKER: Right. So at a minimum, do
- 5 you have kind of a minimum to maximum scale in terms of
- 6 cost and density? You know --
- 7 MR. MCFARLAND: Yeah.
- 8 CHAIRMAN MCCUSKER: -- we're having some
- 9 trouble, frankly, honing in on --
- MR. MCFARLAND: Right, right.
- 11 CHAIRMAN MCCUSKER: -- the economics of all
- 12 this.
- MR. MCFARLAND: Yeah, exactly. So --
- 14 CHAIRMAN MCCUSKER: Is there a minimum under
- which you pull the trigger?
- 16 MR. MCFARLAND: In terms of purchase price or
- 17 construction?
- 18 CHAIRMAN MCCUSKER: Not the price but project
- 19 scope and scale and, you know, you do something relatively
- 20 small and affordable versus, you know, something big and,
- 21 you know, multiple levels and expensive. It sounds like
- 22 you're kind of going through that.
- MR. MCFARLAND: Oh, we're very much going
- 24 through that. And I think that's -- that's part of the
- 25 opportunity here, is to really find the scale in such a

- 1 way that it meets the maximum kind of community impact and
- 2 kind of artistic impact in terms of the value it brings
- 3 but also the reality of the economic -- the economics
- 4 working.
- 5 So is your question specifically what is the --
- 6 CHAIRMAN MCCUSKER: What do you think is the
- 7 minimum amount you would invest, you and your partners, a
- 8 total project kind of scope?
- 9 MR. MCFARLAND: Right. It's -- the
- 10 minimum is probably about \$5 million and the maximum is --
- 11 CHAIRMAN MCCUSKER: Above the purchase of the
- 12 land, so just the project cost after the land is
- 13 purchased.
- MR. MCFARLAND: Yeah. Well, the -- it depends
- on how on look at that. We have X amount that we've
- 16 already invested, so if you want to include that --
- 17 CHAIRMAN MCCUSKER: That's has nothing to do
- 18 with --
- 19 THE WITNESS: That's one number.
- 20 CHAIRMAN MCCUSKER: Five million on a small
- 21 scale.
- 22 THE WITNESS: Yeah, I think above and beyond
- 23 the purchase price, I mean, I think the very minimum
- 24 project is somewhere in that kind of 2 to 3 million-dollar
- 25 range. Maximum is \$60 million.

- 1 MR. IRVIN: Are you off of the hotel? I know
- 2 at one point in time you had discussed doing a hotel
- 3 there, Sloane. I know we've had a lot of great hotel
- 4 announcements. And my impression was that it slowed you
- 5 down, or have you changed your thought process?
- 6 MR. MCFARLAND: Well, we're -- I think the CBRE
- 7 analysis is a real thing and I think that's the beautiful
- 8 thing about where the market is right now. I think there
- 9 is room for an additional hotel. I think it adds a little
- 10 more dynamic because things are happening and moving. We
- 11 do have relationships with hotel operators that are very
- 12 much interested in the idea -- the ideas that I expressed
- 13 and the type of product that I expressed, so we're --
- 14 we're working through that. That -- I would say only it
- 15 slowed us down in that the -- that it -- the effort to
- 16 build more hotel rooms in downtown Tucson has been
- 17 successful, which is great.
- 18 MR. IRVIN: So, you know, I know just about
- 19 every other project we've done we've had a real clear
- 20 understanding and idea of what we're going to do. And I
- 21 think what we're struggling with with yours is we're not
- 22 sure what you're going to do and I think we need to get a
- 23 little better clarity on that.
- 24 MR. MCFARLAND: Well, I do think that the
- 25 concept, if I may go back to it, really does -- and there

- 1 is -- you know, for the -- for the -- this is a public
- 2 record and -- and I kind of skated over this, but this --
- 3 this really does -- this document is -- however many pages
- 4 it is, 15 pages -- is a direct reflection of the certain
- 5 components that were required for us to -- to demonstrate
- 6 our approach. And -- and I think our approach does speak
- 7 to some specificity as to the type of -- of what will be
- 8 part of the product mix.
- 9 So if you look at this, if you take that
- 10 narrative of what -- of the -- some of the specificity
- 11 approach, we -- we like additional food and beverage, we
- 12 like to see -- again, I think the mercado is a fantastic
- 13 example of something that mixes retail, food and beverage,
- 14 public space. It doesn't have the density. It has
- 15 density around it, not density within its square. This
- 16 site would be different in that it would have a density
- 17 component. But, you know, I think that -- I think that it
- 18 will take time to figure out exactly what goes into the
- 19 space.
- MR. IRVIN: I guess my point is, if you look at
- 21 the other projects that we we're doing, we knew exactly
- 22 what was going into those spaces.
- MR. MCFARLAND: Correct.
- MR. IRVIN: I don't speak for anybody else, but
- 25 I know for some of us it causes a concern not knowing

- 1 exactly what your plan is. I know we talked about a plan,
- 2 and then some of that's kind of changed, so --
- 3 MR. MCFARLAND: Yeah. Well, I think the
- 4 biggest issue that's changed is that the city's position
- 5 ended up being that they would like -- on one hand, it's
- 6 saying that they want to maintain -- they -- they would
- 7 like to see a portion of the -- the historic buildings
- 8 looked at and dealt with, how that might incorporate, but
- 9 it's also looking at a maximum density as well. And so I
- 10 think if anything, there's been -- through the -- the PAD
- 11 process that's happened to this point with the
- 12 neighborhood and with the city, there's -- there's the
- 13 potential for more density on the site than what was in my
- 14 concept plan.
- 15 So I think that -- I think that -- I wouldn't
- 16 say that the specificity of understanding the value of the
- 17 site being a gateway site hasn't changed. And in that is
- 18 those elements that I mentioned, the food and beverage,
- 19 the gathering space, the retail space. We would like to
- 20 continue in the hotel direction. The question just really
- 21 is at what density and where is the massing.
- 22 CHAIRMAN MCCUSKER: The issue we're having is
- 23 the ask is about 2 million bucks.
- MR. MCFARLAND: Right.
- 25 CHAIRMAN MCCUSKER: And it's not atypical for

- 1 us. You know, is it 2 million on a 25 million-dollar
- 2 project, is it 2 million on a 5 million-dollar project?
- 3 The terms of that would be dramatically different from us
- 4 and you and, you know, ultimately the deal. So, you know,
- 5 we're trying to help you close, that's the obvious issue,
- 6 but the only thing that's going to go at risk right now is
- 7 the earnest money. So you don't really need our money and
- 8 you don't need your money and there's really no money
- 9 unless the project moves forward, and then at some point,
- 10 we could make a better educated guess about, you know, our
- 11 investment vis-a-vis your investment.
- I assume part of what you're trying to do is to
- 13 understand your commitments, you know, equity investors,
- 14 lenders, Rio Nuevo, before your earnest money goes hard.
- 15 Is that a safe assumption?
- 16 Keri, you're welcome to the table. Welcome to
- 17 the adult table.
- 18 MS. SILVYN: Keri Silvyn with Lazarus, Silvyn &
- 19 Bangs.
- 20 CHAIRMAN MCCUSKER: Keri Silvyn.
- MS. SILVYN: Yes, S-i-l-v-y-n.
- 22 A couple of things that I think I may be able
- 23 to add.
- 24 This is -- this is a weird project in the way
- 25 that the city RFP was working because the PAD is -- while

- 1 there's been a lot of public engagement, as Sloane
- 2 indicated, it hasn't even started yet in the official PAD
- 3 process, but there is a sense of what we need to provide.
- 4 So we don't know what the uses are, we don't know what the
- 5 densities are, but we're going to be starting that now.
- 6 So the issue, Fletcher, I think you're the one who just
- 7 mentioned this, is that Sloane and his team need to know
- 8 what this looks like and what Rio Nuevo's commitment might
- 9 be at the closing because he doesn't need the money kind
- 10 of up -- up front in the escrow piece of it, and then
- 11 we're going to be going through the PAD process. And as
- 12 we do that, Rio Nuevo -- we can make sure we're noticing
- 13 Rio Nuevo of all the meetings. I'm sure what you would
- 14 love to do is add another meeting to any of your
- 15 schedules, but we can also come back and report how this
- 16 is going, what this is looking like, what the maximum
- 17 densities are looking like.
- 18 We do have an addendum to the offer, which I
- 19 believe you have, that talks about some of the limitations
- 20 that are already -- that are part of the RFP relative to
- 21 some of the uses. The base zoning is OCR-1, so that
- 22 provides a tremendous amount of height. The question's
- 23 going to be they also would like us to explore saving some
- 24 of the buildings that are there. And as you do that, it
- 25 makes certain portions of the property very difficult

- 1 to -- to maximize that height. So those are the kinds of
- 2 things that we're going to have to work through with the
- 3 neighbors and work through during the PAD process, which
- 4 all has to happen before closing.
- 5 MR. MARQUEZ: So, Keri and Sloane, the city's
- 6 pushing back on you on the historic perspective. I'm kind
- 7 of looking at this design here and cognizant that our --
- 8 our district runs through the middle of it. If I look at
- 9 what you're proposing within our district -- we're
- 10 attracted to sales tax, period. We are sales tax hungry.
- 11 The Welcome Diner that's already existing in spot number
- one, I've got maybe a coffee shop or a bakery, and I've
- 13 got a recording studio. The hotel's not even within our
- 14 district.
- I kind of echo Mark. We don't -- it's very --
- 16 and I'm with you. RFPs are a little funky, so it's hard
- 17 to kind of grasp this, but really hard, I think, to get
- 18 our appetite at this point because we don't know what your
- 19 project is and what you're ask is. And if your total bill
- 20 is going to be five million, that's not a lot of juice for
- 21 the squeeze.
- 22 MS. SILVYN: And to be clear, there is no
- 23 restriction in the current RFP that we have to save the
- 24 buildings. That has come out from some of the
- 25 neighborhood groups. I mentioned there were a tremendous

- 1 numbers of neighborhood meetings. But recently there have
- 2 also been some voices from some of the neighborhoods
- 3 saying, well, hold on a second, this is an arterial, this
- 4 is really where we should be having the density. So
- 5 there's some internal conflict in some of the feedback
- from some of the neighbors who have been engaged that
- 7 we're going to have to work through in the PAD, but there
- 8 is no requirement within the RFP to save the existing
- 9 buildings.
- MR. MARQUEZ: It also comes down to the quality
- of the sales tax generation, the ROI. Look at us
- 12 historically. We're a 10 to one return. I would just
- 13 keep that in mind as you move forward with your PAD.
- MS. SILVYN: And a couple things that we -- we
- 15 had some discussions. I think you all may have had some
- 16 discussions before I got involved in the project with the
- 17 idea your traditional investment is TPT, transaction
- 18 privilege tax reinvestment, and/or a GPLET. Those we've
- 19 acknowledged at this point it's too early to even engage
- 20 in those discussions for exactly this reason. We don't
- 21 know what we're developing. We can't give you the
- 22 numbers. We can't do the economic analysis yet. It's
- 23 coming. So some of your traditional investments we've
- 24 acknowledged from the very beginning are not on the table
- 25 at the moment.

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1 CHAIRMAN MCCUSKER: We also invest in seed
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- 2 funds. We have a lot of projects. But as Mark indicated,
- 3 we know better what the leverage is. And it's interesting
- 4 because you're really not obligated to do anything.
- 5 Is there any possibility that the
- 6 2 million-dollar ask goes up? You know, if you're going
- 7 to do a 50 million-dollar project, will you need more than
- 8 what the current ask is? Can you address that this early?
- 9 MS. SILVYN: Well, I'm going to take a crack at
- 10 it. Someone correct me. I think -- for purposes of
- 11 actual seed money and investment in the land, I think the
- 12 answer's no. We've figured that out. We know what the
- 13 purchase price is. The question is whether or not it
- 14 turns into a much larger project. And there's a potential
- 15 exploration of some of those other tools we just talked
- 16 about, that yeah, we may want to come back and have that
- 17 discussion but not -- not until we know what we're doing.
- 18 MR. MCFARLAND: My understanding as well, and
- 19 maybe I'm incorrect, is there's an economic return and
- 20 they're also a return from a -- from a community
- 21 investment point of view as well as part of the
- 22 underwriting to -- to this.
- MR. MARQUEZ: In regards to like what the ROI
- is if you're adding in the community?
- MR. MCFARLAND: Well, yeah, the -- the --

- 1 there's a -- you know, all the projects that I've -- I've
- 2 looked at and seen people have done have been incredibly
- 3 impactful to whatever neighborhoods they're in or whatever
- 4 larger goals there are.
- 5 MR. MARQUEZ: We usually look at total built in
- 6 relation to how much money we put in. There's the 10 to
- 7 one.
- 8 MR. MCFARLAND: Yeah.
- 9 MR. MARQUEZ: But on top of that, we look at
- 10 economic impact.
- 11 CHAIRMAN MCCUSKER: One of the things we might
- 12 consider -- you know, the advantage of us doing this as a
- 13 public meeting is we discuss these things in public, but
- 14 maybe we share the earnest money risk, because none of us
- 15 today can really identify what's going to happen or what
- 16 your ultimate project's going to look like or how we're
- 17 asked to participate. And only thing that's really urgent
- 18 right now is 175,000 or -- what's the current earnest
- 19 money deposit that goes nonrefundable?
- MR. MCFARLAND: Roughly that number.
- 21 MR. SHEAFE: We're very, very premature on
- 22 this. And our board, what we're trying to do is encourage
- 23 people to move forward, so we're looking for every way we
- 24 can --
- MR. MCFARLAND: Right.

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1 MR. SHEAFE: -- to make that development path,
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- 2 but we just cannot at the same time make commitments that
- 3 are unclear as to what the return would be and how the
- 4 economics really work. And so I'm just speaking for
- 5 myself. I'm wondering what the city's going to do if you
- 6 say, yeah, we're just not going to go hard, period, and
- 7 we'll handle this later when you guys give us the time to
- 8 go through the process that you've imposed on us to get to
- 9 a point to where we can go get the --
- 10 MR. MCFARLAND: Well, I think one of the
- 11 reasons we've invested so heavily, again, we've now
- 12 purchased three properties, we actually operate a business
- in one of them, and why we're strategically looking at
- 14 this is that we like to look at what's -- what is -- how
- 15 do we create the project at multiple levels, whether it's
- 16 a \$60 million project or it's a five million-dollar
- 17 project. So this -- where we stand today is we're looking
- 18 to -- with the purchase price set as it is, with the --
- 19 the proposal that you all are looking at, we're really
- 20 looking at a return on those dollars based on the -- the
- 21 buildings that are there and looking at the -- the
- 22 additional value that we can have down the road.
- 23 So the -- when you're looking at underwriting
- 24 the investment, I think we're really looking at -- I just
- 25 want to be very clear. We're not looking at a

- 1 60 million-dollar project as the foundation of that or
- 2 necessarily a 130-room hotel, which would be a medium
- 3 size. We're looking at there's an existing -- when you
- 4 look at the appraisal, there's an existing 18,000 square
- 5 feet of building there adjacent to ours that has
- 6 infrastructural buildout and the -- the participation in
- 7 the purchase of this building really underwrites from that
- 8 foundational level. Anything else is -- is above and
- 9 beyond. So if you look at the appraisal and you look at
- 10 the market valuation of what that -- that building as is,
- 11 we're -- it -- it underwrites for that purchase
- 12 price and with our value added component and anything
- 13 additional is additional. So I think there is a return
- 14 that's existing.
- MR. SHEAFE: Let me ask you a question just
- 16 sort of directly.
- MR. MCFARLAND: Uh-huh.
- 18 MR. SHEAFE: If we decide we're not going to
- 19 participate until we have more specific plans, what does
- 20 that do to your plans to go hard on the 29th?
- 21 MR. MCFARLAND: It puts us in a tough spot. I
- 22 mean, I think that we're -- we're really looking at --
- 23 we're really looking at how to -- how to engage this
- 24 process in a way. And, you know, it's not just \$175,000
- just to be clear, too. It's -- it's the -- it's a year's

- 1 worth of time and all the -- the -- the cost associated
- 2 with doing the underwriting of that and -- you know, it's
- 3 a project that we're passionate about, so I tend to -- I
- 4 tend to just move forward with things that I'm passionate
- 5 about because I want to see it exist, but it adds a
- 6 significant challenge to -- I mean, it's a significant
- 7 challenge. It's not a -- it's a significant challenge to
- 8 go nonrefundable with monies when there's -- there's still
- 9 a process that needs to be --
- 10 MR. SHEAFE: Well, you do own three of the
- 11 other parcels and the city's in a little bit of an awkward
- 12 position if you decide not to go hard in that they just
- 13 can't say, oh, well, we'll just stick somebody else in
- 14 there. I would think anybody else would be very
- 15 tentative, so maybe you're in a rather good position to
- 16 save the city. You've asked us to put some conditions in
- 17 place, but you haven't given us a time to do it. We're
- 18 not interested in going hard until we have that process --
- 19 MR. IRVIN: I'm not sure myself just splitting
- 20 an earnest money deposit does much more than just kick the
- 21 can down the road. First of all, we believe in you. We
- 22 wouldn't be sitting here having this conversation. You
- 23 know what we've done for other people downtown. You know
- 24 we want to help you, but it's really impossible to
- 25 responded to a hypothetical development plan. And I think

- 1 you're in a position right now where you've got some
- 2 developer's risk. And I agree with Chris. I think you
- 3 need to figure out what you're going to do with that
- 4 developer's risk. And once you get your plan a little bit
- 5 further along, come sit down and have a serious discussion
- 6 with us when you've got that plan. But I think for me to
- 7 try to respond to a hypothetical, I'm not really sure, but
- 8 I think we're going to do X, Y and Z, is not something I
- 9 can see myself supporting right now. Do I like what I
- 10 think you're going to do, yeah, but I'm not sure what
- 11 you're doing yet.
- 12 CHAIRMAN MCCUSKER: Do you have any issue
- 13 committing \$2 million of our money subject to a final
- 14 plan?
- MR. IRVIN: I think again, Fletcher, that in my
- 16 mind depends on the size of the overall plan, like you
- 17 testified, is it, you know, a \$2.5 million plan, is it a
- 18 \$5 million plan, is it a \$60 million dollar plan. I think
- 19 my support or lack thereof would be really conditioned
- 20 upon what you're going to do, what's the size, what the
- 21 scope of the project.
- 22 MR. SHEAFE: But it has something to do with
- 23 how much retail is going to be created and how much tax
- 24 revenue is going to come out of it. We're way premature
- 25 on that.

- 1 MR. MCFARLAND: Well, I think part of the --
- 2 the glue in all this is that -- and this is kind of why I
- 3 was spending time on it earlier, is our -- our
- 4 perspective, and I think it's in general agreement, is
- 5 that this is a crossroads location that's going to have a
- 6 lot of impact, especially on Sunshine Mile.
- 7 And we're in a very unique time period where
- 8 the city's gone through the process of RFP. There's no
- 9 guarantee that that's going to happen again. And there's
- 10 no guarantee our investors who own the other part --
- 11 parcels are going to wait. You know, they've got their
- 12 money taken away. So I think -- I think that speaks
- 13 highly to our -- our -- our commitment to the project at
- 14 this point that we're -- we're -- we've -- you know,
- 15 we've -- we've gone hard with dollars. We own real real
- 16 estate. We're operating real businesses that have, I
- 17 believe, community impact that's demonstrated.
- 18 CHAIRMAN MCCUSKER: You asked the city for an
- 19 extension? Is there any flexibility or is this governed
- 20 by the --
- 21 MS. SILVYN: We are in the midst of working on
- 22 an extension of the inspection period, but the RFP was
- 23 very clear from the very beginning that it would be
- 24 subject to whoever wins the RFP doing the PAD process.
- 25 And while the closing is conditioned on the PAD, they're

- 1 not willing to extend the inspection period, the escrow
- 2 money being nonrefundable to that -- to that point in
- 3 time.
- 4 MR. MCFARLAND: If I may add one other element
- 5 that I think speaks to some of the questions you were --
- 6 were raising. You know, the -- the -- and I think,
- 7 Fletcher, you as well. The reason we haven't come in and
- 8 brought to the table like a construction number or
- 9 participation in that is because we really were trying to
- 10 look at it from a very foundational issue of the existing
- 11 asset. And I mentioned briefly to that earlier. But I
- 12 think the return is easily demonstrable from that
- 13 perspective if that's -- if that's an element that the
- 14 board needs to focus on.
- 15 It's not -- you know, it comes from an praised
- 16 value. There's a sitting asset there. We have an
- 17 operating history. We own the property around it, which
- 18 brings more value. There's a lift in all these things.
- 19 And we come from, you know, a 20-year history of building
- 20 projects like this, you know, where -- you know, coffee
- 21 shops have been around for 20 years that we started and
- 22 retail stores. And we brought, you know, folks like
- 23 Undefeated from Los Angeles into our buildings. We
- 24 brought James Beard award winners into our buildings, we
- 25 do a 20-acre site that does community events. We know how

- 1 to activate existing infill buildings and bring
- 2 demonstrable measurable leverage value both economic
- 3 and -- and community-wise, so I think that's measurable.
- 4 CHAIRMAN MCCUSKER: Are any of these other
- 5 parcels encumbered? Do you have mortgages or --
- 6 MR. MCFARLAND: Correct. Yes.
- 7 CHAIRMAN MCCUSKER: They are?
- 8 MR. MCFARLAND: Uh-huh.
- 9 CHAIRMAN MCCUSKER: The Welcome Diner?
- MR. MCFARLAND: Yes.
- 11 CHAIRMAN MCCUSKER: And the other two parcels?
- MR. MCFARLAND: Correct. Yes.
- So, you know, I wonder -- that's something that
- 14 just in that mindset of demonstration I think is what are
- 15 we demonstrating. I don't know that demonstrating -- I
- 16 think you guys are right. Demonstrating a
- 17 60 million-dollar project is not something that we can do.
- 18 And in thinking about this process and developing it, the
- 19 demonstration from my perspective, and maybe I didn't do
- 20 as good of a job as -- as one could, is really looking at
- 21 it from the -- the existing asset and -- and developing it
- 22 as is and then working through a process with the city to
- 23 see what kind of density is desired or needed or wanted,
- 24 and then we can add that on top of that.
- 25 So as an example, if we wanted to -- this

- 1 speaks to your -- your part of your, I think astute
- 2 question. This is a concept plan. And when we look
- 3 through -- and we've learned more about the tax district
- 4 and the GPLETs and all that. We've looked at massing that
- 5 onto the building where the -- where number three is. And
- 6 that's doable and we have those massing plans that have
- 7 done that. That was one of the first things that kind of
- 8 came up as we were looking at that. And the critical
- 9 question was, all right, well, can we still maintain the
- 10 community value piece to it, and we came up with scenarios
- 11 that it do that, so it met both the economic necessities
- 12 of the project but also the intrinsic community adds. So
- 13 I think all those things are things that can be addressed.
- 14 CHAIRMAN MCCUSKER: Let me make a couple of
- 15 suggestions.
- 16 I don't think you can assume that we can play
- 17 hardball with the city and have a favorable outcome. It's
- 18 just not predictable. Who knows what they would do. They
- 19 may sit on it, they may tell -- who knows what they would
- 20 do. You know, Edmund's used our kind of standard
- 21 reference point of 10 times leverage. You know, I don't
- 22 think we have any issue if you were sitting there today
- 23 with a 20 million-dollar project and asking for \$2 million
- 24 and some portion of it was retail and going to make X.
- 25 The one thing we might think about doing is doing a deal

- 1 subject to those parameters, that, you know, we would
- 2 agree to invest \$2 million into your project so long that
- 3 its total value was greater than \$20 million.
- 4 MR. IRVIN: And generate a certain amount of
- 5 tax.
- 6 CHAIRMAN MCCUSKER: I don't know how vague you
- 7 can being on the tax piece, but it generated kind of our
- 8 standard returns on -- on taxes. I think what we want to
- 9 do is get you in a position where you have enough comfort
- 10 to risk your nonrefundable deposit.
- 11 Edmund, Chris, what do you think about some
- 12 kind of contingent proposal?
- MR. SHEAFE: Well, let me -- and I like the
- 14 fact that we're in public session because I want to
- 15 express this in two ways. First, I think we're very
- 16 fortunate to have a team like Sloane and his partners in
- 17 town. I really appreciate -- I took time to go look at
- 18 their developments in Phoenix and was very impressed. And
- 19 I don't in any way want to discourage that, but on the
- 20 other hand, I think what we're doing here -- and
- 21 considering also it's talking to what we're going to face
- 22 all the way up and down Sunshine Mile. And I personally
- just can't justify in my own mind making commitments
- 24 without having anything that we really can put our arms
- 25 around because I'm the guy that's trying to figure out how

- 1 much money we have out there and I don't want to have 10
- 2 projects out there that I have no idea what's going to
- 3 happen, and yet I've got it all tied up and all of a
- 4 sudden I'm arguing against a very good, specific project
- 5 because I think everything is already allocated. So my
- 6 own -- and I'm only speaking for myself. I think you have
- 7 to decide. Are you willing to risk 175,000 bucks and
- 8 continue this process or do you go to the city and say,
- 9 we're not going to take this risk, we're continuing --
- 10 we're willing to continue it, but you, city, are going to
- 11 back down and give us the time to do it, and then you have
- 12 a time to come back, present a tight enough proposal that
- 13 we can put our arms around it and create the kind of
- 14 commitment with a timeframe and the other elements that
- 15 we've been able to do with other developments that have
- 16 actually resulted in dirt being moved and buildings being
- 17 built or improved.
- 18 MR. IRVIN: Well said.
- MR. MARQUEZ: My take at the end of the day,
- 20 we're still appointed by the state legislature. I
- 21 represent Governor Ducey sitting up here. We invest state
- 22 dollars.
- MR. MCFARLAND: Uh-huh.
- MR. MARQUEZ: And I love that you're in our
- 25 community and willing to invest in our community. I love

- 1 Welcome Diner. You guys make some great trout. You know,
- 2 I'd love to see what the actual project is. In the
- 3 example Fletcher gave of a 20 million project that -- you
- 4 know, that had a certain amount of retail, that gave us X
- 5 amount of dollars on return of TPT, that's something I can
- 6 get my mind around. It's really hard to get my mind
- 7 around a concept in which we're not sure what we're
- 8 building. It's not completely your fault. It's really
- 9 our process with the city of Tucson, but I'm with Chris on
- 10 this.
- 11 MS. SILVYN: So, if I can, I just want to
- 12 clarify. We do have the -- we have about nine months to
- 13 get through the PAD process before we have to close, so
- 14 the city has given us -- there's a distinction between the
- 15 earnest money and the actual closing, so the city has
- 16 given us the time to get through the PAD process. What
- 17 we're trying to do is be very careful because, as you all
- 18 are aware, that PAD process is a very public process.
- 19 We're going to be working with the neighborhoods, we're
- 20 going to be working with the city. So we don't have a
- 21 project yet to necessarily show everybody, but we
- 22 certainly have ideas and there are some basic parameters
- 23 that have been set up.
- One of the things that we were just sitting
- 25 here chatting about is the idea that if Rio Nuevo is so

- 1 inclined to acknowledge a level of commitment subject to
- 2 some minimums, 20 million-dollar investment, whatever that
- 3 needs to be, we are going to have the nine months to be
- 4 working through that. We're going to have a much better
- 5 idea of the entitlements and what it is we're going to be
- 6 doing as we work our way through that process.
- 7 MR. SHEAFE: Speaking for myself, Keri, we're
- 8 willing to be in the background, but we don't -- I don't
- 9 want to support anything specific because, when I do that,
- 10 I have to start thinking about setting that money aside
- 11 and I really don't know where this is going to go. And,
- 12 frankly, the whole problem would go away if the city would
- 13 say, we understand. This is kind of a pioneering effort.
- 14 We want these benefits. You know what, we don't need your
- 15 175,000. We'll pick up the contingency and keep working
- 16 with you. And that's what I I'm --
- 17 CHAIRMAN MCCUSKER: When you have a public RFP,
- 18 you're not allowed to alter it. We know that from our own
- 19 experience. They can't make a deal with Sloane that they
- 20 didn't advertise. And anyone else who wrote an RFP now
- 21 has a contestable situation. So, you know, you're trying
- 22 to read between the lines, so I think what people on this
- 23 board are suggesting is you go hard on the -- on the
- 24 nonrefundable, get your plan together and we wouldn't have
- 25 any issues supporting something in the range that we

- 1 typically do, but it's got to have some meat on the bone.
- 2 MR. MCFARLAND: Okay. I appreciate the -- the
- 3 honest feedback as to -- and direct feedback. It's -- you
- 4 know, I appreciate it very much.
- If we are successful in moving that date with
- 6 the city to a point at which we could be on your agenda
- 7 and come with a specific plan, the specific dollar amount,
- 8 the specific underwriting that met your -- your charter
- 9 perspectives, is that something that would be acceptable
- 10 to the board?
- 11 CHAIRMAN MCCUSKER: We're totally independent
- 12 of --
- MR. MCFARLAND: I'm saying if --
- 14 CHAIRMAN MCCUSKER: Whether it goes hard or
- 15 doesn't go hard doesn't really affect us. We would value
- 16 the product. We would look at the total --
- 17 THE WITNESS: Yep. Good point.
- 18 CHAIRMAN MCCUSKER: -- your commitment to the
- 19 project versus ours, and then we would look to a sales
- 20 forecast to estimate the TPT returns.
- 21 MR. SHEAFE: We want to be as encouraging as
- 22 possible.
- 23 CHAIRMAN MCCUSKER: And what you might think
- 24 about doing is that regard is doing the minimum, you know,
- 25 say, at a minimum, we're going to do this.

- 1 MR. MCFARLAND: Right.
- 2 CHAIRMAN MCCUSKER: And there's the --
- 3 the dollars we're committing to the project, there's the
- 4 return on the project, here's what we ask of you. And I
- 5 think you've seen the reaction. If that's something under
- 6 \$20 million total, you know, we're going to have to
- 7 swallow hard. Now, we've done deals with less leverage,
- 8 but they had significant sales tax returns to them, so --
- 9 MR. MARQUEZ: Keep it mind, not to make it even
- 10 more difficult, but if you come to us with a \$20 million
- 11 project, which is 10 to one, only half your property's in
- 12 our district.
- 13 THE WITNESS: Yeah, it will be on that side.
- MR. MARQUEZ: Make the south side a parking lot
- 15 and build everything on the north side of that line.
- 16 MR. SHEAFE: Put all the retail north of the
- 17 line.
- 18 MR. MCFARLAND: Right. Right.
- 19 MS. SILVYN: I think that can be done
- 20 relatively quickly. It would still be subject to the
- 21 PAD --
- 22 CHAIRMAN MCCUSKER: Yeah. I mean, nothing
- 23 happens until we all ready to close. You know, I think
- 24 we're just trying to find a way to get you a firmer
- 25 commitment.

- 1 MS. SILVYN: December --
- 2 CHAIRMAN MCCUSKER: 11th is our next meeting.
- 3 MR. MCFARLAND: Okay. Well, great. I think --
- 4 I think you've spoken. I think we understand it and
- 5 appreciate the time to --
- 6 CHAIRMAN MCCUSKER: So I'm hearing no action
- 7 from us, nobody's making a motion, Sloane and Keri, thank
- 8 you very much.
- 9 MR. MCFARLAND: That you very much. Appreciate
- 10 your time.
- 11 CHAIRMAN MCCUSKER: Although we did lose Jannie
- 12 Cox. We still have a forum.
- The FORS project we have previously approved,
- 14 Mr. Collins. We're just backing into the documents;
- 15 correct?
- 16 MR. COLLINS: Mr. Chairman, members of the
- 17 board, yes. On the July 24th meeting, you authorized and
- 18 directed me to work with FORS to put together the
- 19 documents necessary to memorialize what they have proposed
- 20 to you. We've done that.
- This is the property at 2020 and 2022 East
- 22 Broadway. Most of you have been there. They are going
- 23 to -- they've acquired it. They're going to spend
- \$525,000 improving it. We've started the economic
- 25 analysis. I have a draft economic analysis report, as you

- 1 all know, for you to be able to do a lease of the nature
- 2 they requested. The public's got to benefit by more than
- 3 a dollar than FORS does. And I will tell you that the
- 4 study indicates that the public gets a lot more than a
- 5 dollar over and above it.
- 6 The economic analysis is almost completed. You
- 7 will purchase the property for its appraised value,
- 8 \$255,000. You will then -- when it is improved, you will
- 9 lease the property back to the FORS Architecture entity
- 10 for 25 years. The rent will be \$1,000 per year. I can
- 11 bore you to tears with the rest of the terms, but the
- 12 economic incentives are as we usually do or as you usually
- 13 do. There's rebates -- TPT rebates. The rebate cap is
- 14 \$375,000. At any time during the 25-year lease, the
- 15 developers have the option to buy the property and they
- 16 must buy the property at the end of 25 years. The
- 17 purchase price will be \$255,000, the same number that you
- 18 had purchased it for. There is an open question about
- 19 what the interest would be. That's where we are.
- MR. SHEAFE: So I move that we approve the
- 21 documents as written with the addition of the interest
- 22 rate in conformance of the earlier discussions that we've
- 23 had. That will all be posted publicly and the public will
- 24 be able to see the full deal once we get it done.
- MR. MARQUEZ: Second.

- 1 CHAIRMAN MCCUSKER: Okay. We have a motion and
- 2 a second to approve the FORS documents as presented by
- 3 Counsel.
- 4 Brandi, call the roll.
- 5 MS. HAGA-BLACKMAN: Edmund Marquez.
- 6 MR. MARQUEZ: Aye.
- 7 MS. HAGA-BLACKMAN: Chris Sheafe.
- 8 MR. SHEAFE: Aye.
- 9 MS. HAGA-BLACKMAN: Mark Irvin.
- MR. IRVIN: Aye.
- MS. HAGA-BLACKMAN: Fletcher McCusker.
- 12 CHAIRMAN MCCUSKER: Aye.
- 13 Thank you very much. That passes unanimously.
- 14 Sunshine Mile, we're going to wear people out,
- 15 but, you know, we're moving ahead. The Project for Public
- 16 Spaces were here, a lot of action. The city's working on
- 17 deeds. We want to move forward on the project manager
- 18 piece of that.
- 19 And, Mr. Collins, we've had a proposal from
- 20 Swaim to help us with that project, which I don't have in
- 21 front of me, but if you could kind of just tick off the
- 22 pertinent parts.
- MR. COLLINS: Yes. Mr. Chairman, members of
- 24 the board, Swaim Associates has proposed that they would
- 25 be the project manager. Swaim is not involved -- was not

- 1 involved in any of the RFPs. Swaim obviously is familiar
- 2 with the property. They have proposed that their partner,
- 3 Michael Becker, would act as the project manager. They
- 4 have proposed various rates from a principal rate of \$145
- 5 an hour down to administration rates of \$65 an hour.
- 6 Services will be reviewed monthly. It will be very much
- 7 like an agreement that you have with your lawyer.
- 8 CHAIRMAN MCCUSKER: And this is a professional
- 9 service, so we can -- we don't have to procure these
- 10 competitively.
- 11 MR. COLLINS: Absolutely correct.
- 12 CHAIRMAN MCCUSKER: And it's obviously a firm
- 13 that we're familiar with.
- Many times, Mr. Sheafe, we would cap this kind
- 15 of contract. You know, I think we could do that here.
- 16 The problem is we really don't know the extent of what
- 17 we're getting into. So the hourly rates are consistent
- 18 with market and we keep our eye on it if it gets beyond
- 19 something that we anticipate.
- MR. COLLINS: And as I read the proposal, this
- 21 contemplates monthly or periodic, anyway, billings, so you
- 22 can keep an eye on it.
- MR. SHEAFE: You don't mind if we pay only once
- 24 a year?
- 25 CHAIRMAN MCCUSKER: What's your pleasure on the

- 1 proposal that Swaim be the project manager for the
- 2 Sunshine Mile?
- 3 MR. MARQUEZ: I move to retain Michael Becker
- 4 as project manager for Sunshine Mile for properties within
- 5 our district.
- 6 MR. SHEAFE: Second.
- 7 CHAIRMAN MCCUSKER: Okay. We have a motion and
- 8 a second.
- 9 Brandi, call that roll.
- 10 MS. HAGA-BLACKMAN: Edmund Marquez.
- MR. MARQUEZ: Aye.
- MS. HAGA-BLACKMAN: Chris Sheafe.
- MR. SHEAFE: Aye.
- MS. HAGA-BLACKMAN: Mark Irvin.
- MR. IRVIN: Aye.
- MS. HAGA-BLACKMAN: Fletcher McCusker.
- 17 CHAIRMAN MCCUSKER: Aye.
- 18 So that passes unanimously as well. We're on a
- 19 roll.
- 20 Meeting dates, Brandi, I will defer to you.
- 21 With some board members absent, I don't really want to do
- 22 that now, so we'll table that.
- 23 A call to the audience. Any other cards from
- 24 anybody else?
- 25 I'll entertain a motion to adjourn.

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               MR. IRVIN: So moved.
                CHAIRMAN MCCUSKER: Second, please.
 2
 3
               MR. SHEAFE: Second.
              CHAIRMAN MCCUSKER: All in favor say aye.
                    (Motion passes unanimously)
 5
                CHAIRMAN MCCUSKER: See you in December. Thank
 6
 7
    you very much.
                           (4:37 p.m.)
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Page 74
     STATE OF ARIZONA
                       ) ss.
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     COUNTY OF PIMA
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                 BE IT KNOWN that the foregoing transcript was
     taken before me, THOMAS A. WOPPERT, RPR, a Certified Court
     Reporter in the State of Arizona, in shorthand and
 5
     thereafter reduced to print under my direction; that the
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 7
     foregoing pages are a true and correct transcript of all
    proceedings, all done to the best of my skill and ability.
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                         Thomas A. Woppert, RPR
                         AZ CCR No. 50476
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