



CITY OF KUNA

CITY NEWSLETTER

May 2006

763 W. Avalon

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To the Citizens of Kuna,

THERE ARE SEVERAL GREAT THINGS OCCURRING IN THE CITY OF KUNA!

First and foremost are the financing, design, and construction of a new sewer treatment plant which will provide many new opportunities for the City.

Sewer Treatment Plant

The first significant step in the process of constructing the new treatment plant recently occurred with the City's acquisition of 10 acres near the intersection of Lake Hazel and Ten Mile Roads. Arranging for financing of the project is the next step to be accomplished and, to that end, the City is forming a Local Improvement District (LID) with participation by volunteer property owners. The City has successfully recruited more participants in the LID than what was targeted...**which means that the new wastewater treatment plant will be constructed at no expense to the current citizens of Kuna!** The LID is anticipated to be formed at the end of August with financing in place shortly thereafter making it possible for the treatment plant to be operational late in 2008. The LID is a great benefit to the citizens of Kuna as it provides a long-term solution to sewer service at no cost to you and will provide additional opportunities to consider.

Recreation Center

There has been ongoing communication with expert golf consultants, designers, developers, engineers, and property owners about the feasibility of constructing a recreation center south of town at the existing sewer lagoon treatment facilities. Amenities to consider include an 18-hole golf course, soccer and baseball fields, indoor swimming pool, physical fitness equipment, indoor basketball and racquetball courts, and even nature pathways (Birds of Prey Interpretive Center).

In order to make this a reality, the **lagoons must disappear!!** *Who would want a multi-million dollar golf course and recreational facilities next to sewer lagoons?* The developers we have talked with simply would not pursue this project if the lagoons remain. In order to make the recreation center a reality, the lagoon's treatment capacity must be displaced and incorporated into the new treatment plant. Pipeline rerouting and pump station modifications would also be required. This results in increasing the new treatment plant sufficient to accommodate the additional capacity, which results in an initial larger project cost. *Because of the increased cost, additional money beyond the LID funds must be generated.* As growth is paying its way for the new treatment plant via the LID, Kuna Citizens will need to consider paying for their portion in the new treatment plant.

Please come to a **Town Hall meeting Wednesday, May 31 at 7 pm in the City Council Chamber, Kuna City Hall, 763 W. Avalon** to learn more.

City leaders and staff are aggressively pursuing the implementation of a recreation center. At the Town Hall meeting, further discussion will take place with a possible project scope and budget to be presented. Realize that this is a "gold mine" with the approximate 500 acres the city owns at the lagoons. The value of this land will be "traded" for the above amenities...*but there will still be a shortfall which will require additional funds in order to get all that is currently being considered.* The purpose of the Town Hall meeting will be to simply **(1) learn if you are interested in pursuing this project,**

ultimately leading to a Bond Election, (2) what amenities you would like to see, which will affect the project budget and financial impact to you, and (3) answer any questions.

Simply stated, in order to raise the additional funds to displace the lagoons and assist with the cost of the recreational facilities that are currently being considered (which can always be decreased or increased) a "Recreational Bond" may be presented to the Kuna Citizens. The Bond Election will be Tuesday, August 1. The bond amount will depend on the magnitude of the project...which will be determined by YOU. How this impacts you will be presented at the Town Hall meeting. Please keep in mind: **This "Recreational Bond" is NOT required to construct the new treatment plant, it is only an opportunity that is being posed for your consideration. If the Bond is not pursued or fails...nothing changes, the lagoons will remain operational and the new treatment plant gets built.** The "recreational bond" will increase your taxes for purposes of having land available and suitable for public recreational facilities, NOT to actually construct the new sewer treatment plant.

YMCA

Currently, the City has been in discussions with the YMCA and has been given the green light to proceed with the formal process of gathering information and learning what your desires are. Many of the above facilities could be constructed, managed, and operated by the YMCA. **The YMCA is very interested in locating here in Kuna** if it makes financial sense and there is community support. No guarantees have been given...but the YMCA is very optimistic and positive. What a great asset an organization like the YMCA would be to a young, growing community!

South Overpass

Are you tired of waiting to cross the train tracks?! With all the activity going on south of town, the City has received more of the ACHD's attention! The City is in dialogue with the ACHD and a plan is being formulated to begin the process of selecting an overpass location and ultimately constructing a facility. Financing is currently the big hurdle that needs to be overcome.

Please feel free to contact me, any councilmember or staff to learn more about what the City is doing and the City's future plans. We appreciate your input and involvement in the community. Please come to the **Town Hall meeting Wednesday, May 31st at 7pm in the Council Chamber as Kuna City Hall** to learn more and make your opinion known.

Meridian Road and Deer Flat Road Signalization Project

Thanks to the efforts of the Ada County Highway District, installation of traffic signals at the intersection of Meridian and Deer Flat Roads has begun with an anticipated completion date of August 15, 2006.

Together we can keep Kuna a quality, friendly, family-oriented place in which to live.

Dean Obray, Mayor