

Magic Sports submits its plan

VINELAND — Developers of the proposed \$300 million Magic Sports complex have submitted an application to the city outlining their vision for the massive 288-acre facility in South Vineland.

The application was given to the city by the end of the day Monday, allowing it to be placed on the agenda for the Nov. 28 Zoning Board meeting, officials said.

The cost of the project would be paid for by Magic Sports.

“It’s a win-win for the city and we’re not paying a penny,” Mayor Robert Romano said Tuesday.

Romano said his administration has known about Magic Sports’ intentions for the past two years.

“None of our residents can make complaints,” Romano said. “There is no funding coming from the city or Urban Enterprise Zone funds. The sheer amount of jobs this project will create is phenomenal.”

Plans submitted to the Zoning Board call for:

- A 500-room hotel and 50,000-square foot indoor water park along with a 7-acre outdoor water park. The hotel also would

contain an approximately 25,000-square-foot conference center and three restaurants.

- The Magic Dome Sports Arena, a 10,500-seat indoor facility that would host tournament championship games as well as other events throughout the year. The Magic Dome also would include two restaurants and corporate office space.

- An office/fitness center. It would be in a 16,000-square-foot building consisting of a 4,000-square-foot medical office, a 4,000-square-foot day care center and an 8,000-square-foot fitness center.

In addition to the four buildings, the plan includes:

- Seven tennis courts.
- One outdoor track/football field.
- 12 outdoor baseball diamonds.
- Eight softball fields.

Advertisement

THOUSANDS OF TEENS
 IN FOSTER CARE
 WOULD LOVE TO
 PUT UP WITH YOU



ADOPTUSKIDS.ORG >

- Four soccer/lacrosse fields.
- An outdoor recreation area.
- Two special population fields.

Magic Sports also has submitted an application to the state Department of Environmental Protection's Division of Land Use Regulation for a Freshwater Wetlands Protection Act Letter of Interpretation, according to city officials. The letter of interpretation is a legal document issued by the DEP to confirm the limits of wetlands, open water or wetland buffers on a property, city officials said.

Steve Hawk, the city's senior planner, said Magic Sports' proposal will be heard in two parts, the first on Nov. 28. Hawk said that after the first meeting, Magic Sports will be asked to go back and prepare a site plan for the project.

Several years ago, Magic Sports was unsuccessful in its bid to develop a similar project in Atlantic County. Hamilton Township officials voted against allowing the complex to locate in the Mays Landing area because of traffic and cost concerns. The developers have looked at Cumberland County for a while, ultimately settling on Vineland as the ideal location.

Romano said he heard a lot of positive response from citizens after The Daily Journal reported the proposal Monday.

Magic Sports plans a news conference Thursday to release details.

Romano said the announcement was not political. He faces four challengers in the Nov. 6 mayoral election.

Bruce Farrell, the project's director of development, said Magic Sports could create hundreds of permanent jobs as each phase is completed, as well as 200 to 400 temporary construction jobs.

Magic Sports Complex of New Jersey LLC was founded by Ron Nametko.

The land for the project has a 500-foot frontage along South Lincoln Avenue, a 350-foot frontage along Sheridan Avenue and 1,827 feet along Route 55, according to plans submitted to the city. There also are 414 feet along Whitaker Avenue in Millville, according to plans submitted to the city.

A sale agreement is in place with South Jersey Industries, which owns the vast majority of the land that makes up the site's 288.6 acres, the developers said. Magic Sports also is working with a few other

Advertisement

THOUSANDS OF TEENS
IN FOSTER CARE
WOULD LOVE TO
PUT UP WITH YOU



ADOPTUSKIDS.ORG >

property owners in the area — including the city of Vineland — officials said.

What's next:

The Vineland Zoning Board meets at 7:30 p.m. Nov. 28 in the Vineland City Hall council chambers.

Advertisement

THOUSANDS OF TEENS
IN FOSTER CARE
WOULD LOVE TO
PUT UP WITH YOU



ADOPTUSKIDS.ORG >

