

## Coastal Commission to decide fate of California golf course project

SEAL BEACH, Calif. — After many delays, the California Coastal Commission was due to vote on the 196-acre Hellman Ranch project in mid-September at a meeting in Eureka, according to the *Los Angeles Times*.

Dave Bartlett, representing developer Hellman Properties LLC,

said Hellman hopes to build a gated community of 70 homes and a Ted Robinson-designed course along with open space and restored or new wetlands.

Hellman would fill 18 of the 27 wetland acres, restore the remaining nine acres and create another 30 acres of wetlands.

Seal Beach officials strongly endorse the project. But, the Coastal Commission staff has said filling wetlands to create a golf course is not allowed under the Coastal Act.

The staff originally accepted the course but later called for it to be removed from the plan because it did not adhere to the Coastal Act. The latest staff report recommends approving the 70-home project without the golf course.

### VEGAS OFFICIALS TO CHOOSE BETWEEN 3 COURSE PROPOSALS

LAS VEGAS — The Clark County Commission is still debating between three competing golf course proposals for a parcel of Bureau of Land Management property at the southern end of the Strip. Local course developer William Walters wants to build a

27-hole course. Club Corporation of America plans a similar project. The United States/Grand Prix-Las Vegas Partnership, headed by Sig Rogich, hopes to hold a golf course and Formula One auto racetrack on the site. No deadline has been set for a decision.

## Jones dedicates New Brunswick golf facility

MONCTON, N.B., Canada — Rees Jones of Montclair, N.J., was in Moncton on Sept. 2 to take part in a sod-turning ceremony to officially kick off the construction of a championship golf course called Royal Oaks Golf & Country Club, which should be ready for play next summer.

Ronald J. Goguen, president of Royal Oaks, said that hiring an architect with Jones' reputation and experience and combining those skills with the quality of work performed by the contractor, NMP Construction, will all but ensure that Royal Oaks will be designed and built to world class standards. Jones has played a key design role for such courses as The Country Club at Brookline, Baltusrol, Hazeltine, Congressional and Bethpage Black for either past or future U.S. Open Championships.

Royal Oaks is well under construction and many of Jones' design features with rolling fairways, huge bunkers and easy-to-reach, large greens are evident. This championship course will play at 7,190 yards from the back tees and has more than 10 lakes incorporated into the design.

Chris Pinnell, of course builder NMP Construction, has built many Canadian courses, but said that this has been the highlight of his 28-year career.

Royal Oaks, Jones' first course design in Canada, will cater to all golfers, he said.

The Hon. Roly McIntyre, minister of economic development & tourism for New Brunswick, said Royal Oaks will be an excellent catalyst for attracting golfers, high-profile events and tourists from not only other parts of Canada but the United States.

Mayor Brian Murphy reflected on the various economic spinoffs that this project has and will provide to the region. Royal Oaks is also a housing community, and will offer a unique lifestyle featuring an outdoors theme centered around the golf course as well as the bordering 2,600-acre nature park.



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