



NORTH LAS VEGAS, Nevada –The National Park Service is seeking public comment on a proposed land exchange within Tule Springs Fossil Beds National Monument between the City of North Las Vegas and the National Park Service (NPS).

As illustrated above, the city currently holds an easement for roadway, drainage and public utility facilities, including a 20.5 acre-portion which bisects the Eglington Preserve area of Tule Springs. This easement was granted by the Bureau of Land Management to the city prior to the establishment of the national monument.

If the easement is developed, a multi-lane roadway could separate the sensitive Eglington Preserve area from the rest of the park. As such, the NPS is interested in obtaining from the city, the roadway portion of the easement within the boundaries of the park.

The city is interested in obtaining from the NPS three easements on land in the Eglington Preserve area of Tule Springs, totaling approximately 5.6 acres. The easements are included in the development plan for The Villages at Tule Springs, a 2,002-acre master-planned residential community within North Las Vegas.

If the exchange is approved, the easements would provide access and utilities to a part of the planned community that is surrounded by NPS-managed land and connect two other areas of the development. The proposed exchange also includes a trailhead (CNLV Monument Trailhead) and trail (Tufa Trail), to encourage visitors to access the monument in a manner that will protect park resources.

The NPS's position is that the exchange of three easements for the multi-lane roadway easement that would dissect the park would be in the best interest of the national monument and preservation of its resources.

The NPS is seeking public comment on the land exchange in order to develop an environmental assessment. The assessment will provide a decision-making framework that analyzes all reasonable alternatives to meet the objectives of the proposed exchange; evaluate potential issues and impacts to resources and values; and identify mitigation measures to lessen the degree or extent of these impacts.