

**RECOMMENDING COMMITTEE MEETING OF  
July 26, 2006**

**VERBATIM TRANSCRIPT BILL NO. 2006-38**

**Bill No. 2006-38 Adjusts the ward boundaries of the City. Proposed by: Bradford R. Jerbic,  
City Attorney**

APPEARANCE LIST:

OSCAR GOODMAN, Mayor

BRAD JERBIC, City Attorney

LOIS TARKANIAN, Councilwoman

FRED KESSLER, Judge

STEVE WOLFSON, Councilman

STEVEN D. ROSS, Councilman

CHRIS CHRISTOFF, Resident

TOM MCGOWAN, Resident

CHUCK THOMPSON, Resident

MAURA MESERVY, 2718 Mason Avenue

LARRY ANSPACH, 1509 Golden Oak Drive

PAULINE KENNEDY, Resident

DANIEL DEEGAN, 1801 Granite Avenue

FRANK SCHRECK, 300 South Fourth Street

LISA MAYO-DeRISO, Resident

THOMAS PREDO, Business owner in Ward 1

PAMELA STANCLIFF, 6633 Latham Lane

ROBERT REAL, Properties in Ward 1

KATHY BEST, Resident

JUANITA CLARK, Charleston Neighborhood Preservation

RICHARD RYCHTARIK, 8228 Weeping Spring Avenue

DOUG SELBY, City Manager

BEATRICE TURNER, West Las Vegas

MARK VINCENT, Director of Finance and Business Services

GARY REESE, Councilman

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE SPEAKER

ROSHAN JOSHUA COLLINS, Spokane, Washington

**RECOMMENDING COMMITTEE MEETING OF  
July 26, 2006**

**VERBATIM TRANSCRIPT BILL NO. 2006-38**

JUSTINE KING, 1260 Pinto Lane

RON ROCKWELL, Scientist, Rockwell Scientific Research, LLC

UNIDENTIFIED MALE SPEAKER

LARRY BROWN, Councilman

LAWRENCE WEEKLY, Councilman

DEBRA JACKSON, 1950 Seventh Street

3 hours

Typed by: Shamika Webb

Proofed by: Angela Crolli

**RECOMMENDING COMMITTEE MEETING OF  
July 26, 2006**

**VERBATIM TRANSCRIPT BILL NO. 2006-38**

MAYOR GOODMAN

I'll read Bill Number 2006 dash 38 into the record. Bill Number 2006 dash 38 adjusts the Ward boundaries of the City. This is proposed by Brad Jerbic, our City Attorney. Mr. Jerbic, I'd like you to give us a brief summary as to how we got to the matter that we're hearing today.

BRAD JERBIC

Thank you, Your Honor. Thank you members of Council. As you're aware, from time to time this Council decides to redistrict the City, based on lopsided wards, for one of a better term.

MAYOR GOODMAN

Excuse me; I'm advised that you should be, folks when you come up and address us please go up to the middle of the podium. Apparently, that's the way the microphones have been set up, and we'll be able to hear you from there. If you need any further audibility, sort to speak, we'll present you with a hand-held mike. Mr. Jerbic, I'm sorry.

BRAD JERBIC

Thank you, Your Honor. My apologies, I did not know we were asking microphones now. From time to time, the City engages in the process of redistricting the wards because just by the nature of the growth of the City, and where the growth occurs those wards become lopsided. This is about the fourth or fifth redistricting I've been through. Most of them have been because of disparity in population between wards. One redistricting was because it was mandatory by the Charter, and I'll talk about that in a moment, and one was mandated because the Legislature increased the size of this Council from four wards to six wards.

Just bring your attention for a moment; if we go to the overhead, I have printed Section one point one three oh of the City Charter, which talks about Wards Creation and Boundaries. This is just a relevant part that I printed. One, it reads "The wards must be nearly equal in population as

MAYOR GOODMAN

No, no. The wards must be as nearly equal.

**RECOMMENDING COMMITTEE MEETING OF  
July 26, 2006**

**VERBATIM TRANSCRIPT BILL NO. 2006-38**

BRAD JERBIC

As nearly equal in population, as can be provided and a territory which comprises each ward must be contiguous. That's a general rule. Then we go on to where you'd have to do it and there's that rule. That's part two of one point one three oh. The boundaries of the wards must be established and changed by ordinance. That's what you have before you today. The boundaries of the wards must be changed whenever the population, as determined by the last preceding national census of the Bureau of the Census of the United States Department of Commerce, in any ward exceeds the population in any other ward by more than five percent. The boundaries of the wards may be changed to include territory which has been annexed, and whenever the population in any ward exceeds the population in any other ward by more than five percent by a measure which is found reliable by the City Council. Translating that into English, every time we have a census, if the wards are off by more than five percent, you have to redistrict. In-between census years, if the wards are off by more than five percent, we may redistrict. That's why we're here today. This Council gave direction to staff over six months ago that you wish to begin, if permissible, redistricting provided by one point one three oh. The wards are off by Present is a copy of the current ward configuration, and in a moment I'll go through those numbers, but the next part of it is, if you're going to engage in a permissible redistricting, that must be by a measure, which is found reliable by the City Council. If required today, Tom Perrigo and Andrew Powell, our demographers are in the audience. They are the individuals who worked with the two thousand and one or the 2000 census numbers, and arrived at the population numbers that we used today. I think my office can say right now, and Judge Kessler will say in a moment, that we believe these numbers can be reliable, both as a measure of population in the City and as a measure of ethnic breakdown.

Sometime after Judge, after the Council asked us to go forward with redistricting, we presented the Council with a contract of (inaudible) services of retired Judge Fred Kessler. Every redistricting we've done since I have been here, it's been with the aide of Judge Kessler. Judge Kessler's credentials have, can speak for themselves. He's an expert in redistricting. He's very familiar with one man one vote, and all the legislation that accompanies a redistricting, and he's been able through his wisdom, guide us through some of the areas where we shouldn't go during the course of a redistricting.

The first thing that he did, after telling the Council members that the process had begun, was provide everybody with numbers. The numbers that we've provided are both numbers for your wards, number for the precincts within the wards, and an ethnic breakdown of the people that live in those precincts. The recent maps were generated in March of this year, and then there are maps to get the process rolling. After March of this year, it was discovered by Judge Kessler and our demographer, that there would be a better way of calculating ethnic breakdowns in a wards. We received a memo from Mr. Perrigo, excuse me, from Andrew Powell, regarding the method that they used. I'd like to file it with the Clerk at this time, so it becomes part of the record. The reason I'm doing that is that when the first maps came out, they had a breakdown as to ethnicity up in the upper corner that you see on these maps. And those ethnic breakdowns change as a result of the methodology they employed. Keeping in reading a relevant part in the letter that they (inaudible) that Planning and Development updated the 2000 census data using information from the Nevada State Health Division on births, deaths and historical migration patterns. So, by looking at actually at birth rates amongst Hispanics, amongst African/American, amongst other ethnic groups and applying those in migration patterns to the 2000 data, they arrived at numbers, that I think, they will tell you today are reliable, and should be relied on by the Council. Those numbers then became the numbers that were used for all other maps that were produced as a part of the, this redistricting process. Those maps resulted in Map Number 17, which is the final recommended proposal by Judge Kessler today.

If I can move this for a moment, with the overhead still on showing you where we started, this a map of the wards as currently configured in this City of Las Vegas. If I, don't know if you can read the language at the top, I, certainly not necessary, but it gives the ward population, it gives the

**RECOMMENDING COMMITTEE MEETING OF  
July 26, 2006**

**VERBATIM TRANSCRIPT BILL NO. 2006-38**

percentage of white, black, Hispanic and other, with respect to ethnic breakdown. And what it clearly shows is that Ward 6, to nobodys surprise, is one hundred and twenty-eight thousand eight hundred and seventy-two people large, and the smallest ward, Ward 1 is eighty thousand eight hundred and one people large. This is a difference, obviously, much more than five percent. Creates quite a disparity, not only in (inaudible) between Council members, but has created a request from Councilman Ross, Ill have him speak in a moment about that, that we take a serious look at redistributing the population to make this as an ordinance of the Charter requires, as nearly equal as possible.

The, turning to the map for a moment, and Ill just use my finger to point, the top of the map, for one of the better way to put it, shaded in brown is Councilman Ross ward. This is the ward that contains a hundred twenty-eight thousand eight hundred and seventy-two people; clearly, the largest ward by almost thirty thousand people in the City of Las Vegas. Again, about a 30 percent difference between ward population, and between the smallest and the largest, even more than 30 percent.

Its axiomatic that this redistricting process begins with a simple concept: Councilman Ross ward needs to be reduced, and so thats where this process began. If you look at the numbers that we have today, that would put everybodys ward numbers somewhere in a low nineties to a maybe a hundred thousand and that, if , they were in that range, they would be within ten percent, which Judge Kessler will talk about, is mandated under the one man one vote requirement, and it would be within what Charter requires. So, that meant, literally, that the south half of Councilman Ross ward was going to have to come off at some point, and be distributed amongst the remaining five wards. That also meant that, certainly, other things were true. Starting with Councilman Reeses ward, which is shaded in green, which is on the far east end of the City, if Councilman Reese is going to receive new people, just as everybody is going to receive new population, he is naturally going to grow to the west. If, its axiomatic, that is true. That means that he is going to grow to the northwest or he is going to grow to the southwest, but he is going to grow to the west.

In the proposed redistricting map that will be proposed by Judge Kessler, you will see that Councilman Reeses ward grows predominately to the southwest, not the northwest. Judge Kessler is gonna tell you that one of the reasons that that happened is not just by request of the Councilmember, but the consequences of what happens when you move one area of the City to another area of the City, and what happens to the ethnic breakdown. In this particular case, Councilman Reeses ward would either get into Councilwoman Tarkanians ward and that has its ethnic breakdown, than the ward currently represented by Councilman Weekly, which would also change its ethnic breakdown, if he were to move to the northwest.

After that is established, its also true that every ward in the City is going to change as a result of this redistricting. Its going to end up in people representing people that they did not represent before, and more than likely losing some people that they had represented in the past. And its with that spirit that we began the process, and we are here today to present you with, what I believe, is Judge Kesslers recommended map.

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

Mr. Jerbic, how many maps were prepared between the original map and the map that is before us for consideration as the ordinance?

**BRAD JERBIC**

Seventeen in total, Your Honor. This seventeen being the final map that Judge Kessler is recommending.

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

And when the maps are prepared, theyre prepared by whom?

**BRAD JERBIC**

Page 5 of 91

**RECOMMENDING COMMITTEE MEETING OF  
July 26, 2006**

**VERBATIM TRANSCRIPT BILL NO. 2006-38**

They are physically printed and prepared by Tom Perrigo, our Demographer and the numbers submitted to him are submitted by Judge Kessler or by members of Council who wish to see visually what a proposed change might look like.

MAYOR GOODMAN

Are all these maps distributed to each Councilmember, as theyre prepared?

BRAD JERBIC

They were distributed, depending on who requested them, if the individual at one point in time said I want to see a map of just my ward that looks like this, they would probably be the official that got that map. But prior to todays hearing, Your Honor, there was a request for all the maps and over a few, probably two or three weeks ago; all maps were distributed to everybody, so that everybody could see the whole process, even if it didnt involve them or their ward.

**RECOMMENDING COMMITTEE MEETING OF  
July 26, 2006**

**VERBATIM TRANSCRIPT BILL NO. 2006-38**

MAYOR GOODMAN

And could see how the process evolved.

BRAD JERBIC

Exactly.

MAYOR GOODMAN

The maps are dated?

BRAD JERBIC

The maps are dated. I will point out for the record, and I think that it might not be a bad idea for me to take all of those maps, which I hold in my hand at this time. This is Plans 1 through 17. And let me just state, that when I say Plans 1 through 17, that doesnt necessarily mean that any one of these was on the table as a recommendation at any point in time. This is a work in progress. This is a fabric being sewn, and sometimes you put a piece here and leaves a piece here. So, some of these might be more attractive to any member of Council. There might be something more preferable than the final version, thats fine and thats why youre here today to discuss it. But the fact is, I dont want any of you to think that because it said "Plan", that at any point in time, any one of these was proposed as the final plan or as the end plan.

COUNCILWOMAN TARKANIAN

Mr. Mayor

BRAD JERBIC

The other thing I want to point out, is what I said before

MAYOR GOODMAN

Excuse me, yes, Councilwoman.

**RECOMMENDING COMMITTEE MEETING OF  
July 26, 2006**

**VERBATIM TRANSCRIPT BILL NO. 2006-38**

COUNCILWOMAN TARKANIAN

Can I please ask a question? Even though, it wasn't presented as a plan, as he presented the maps to us, these were thoughts that he had along the line that would, could be utilized for this redistricting.

BRAD JERBIC

Absolutely. That's absolutely true.

COUNCILWOMAN TARKANIAN

So, each one of those 16 maps were thoughts that he had that this map could do it if the members agreed to it.

BRAD JERBIC

I think that's correct.

COUNCILWOMAN TARKANIAN

That's my understanding. Thank you.

BRAD JERBIC

I think that's correct. The, I don't know if any of these maps, that doesn't meet the criteria, that I outlined at the beginning as meeting the Charter requirements. They will reflect, however, a map might come out of a discussion between two Council members whose wards abut, but not two other Council members whose wards abut. And because this is like a balloon, when you squeeze out of here and bulges out here, every person's request has an affect on every other person's request. And that's why this evolutionary process took, I think, several maps.

But I think I can state, and Judge Kessler will correct me if I'm wrong, that any one of them could technically be a viable map, with respect to meeting the ordinance requirements. But with respect to consequences, each one of them is different. Each one of them have a different consequence on ethnic breakdown. It'll have a different consequence as to the geography of your ward; historically what you represented in the past, what you haven't. The, and to a certain extent, every map was taken into consideration, and I think it goes without saying, where you live, because of the one thing you don't do is redistrict you out of your ward. But in any case, the other thing I want to put on the record, as I said before, the plans that I want to hand to Roni right now and ask to be filed with the Clerk, Plans 1 through 3 have got current ethnic breakdown numbers. That is not the ethnic breakdown that appeared on those maps when they were first generated back in March. And that's just the function of the way the computer works. When these maps were reprinted a few weeks ago, the computer automatically put in the new data, and so it reflects the numbers that should have been reflected all along.

But I will state for the record, the first three maps, 1 through 3 had a different ethnic breakdown, and it was because we didn't have the right formula. That brings us to the map we have before you today, and I'll let Judge Kessler join me here at the podium as we kinda go through this right now, and explain exactly what it reflects. But if I can just read into the record before Judge Kessler, this will, if this map is adopted by Council, Ward 1 would have a population of 93,154; Ward 2 94,182; Ward 3 100,512; Ward 4 94,892; Ward 5 96,654 and Ward 6, much to your happiness, I think Councilman, would drop from a hundred and twenty-three thousand to 96,579.

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

One twenty-eight eight seventy-two down to, you advised us earlier that Ward 6 has the

**RECOMMENDING COMMITTEE MEETING OF  
July 26, 2006**

**VERBATIM TRANSCRIPT BILL NO. 2006-38**

**BRAD JERBIC**

Oh, I'm sorry, 128,872. It goes from, I'm sorry, 128,872 to 56,579.

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

What is it proposed on this ordinance map?

**BRAD JERBIC**

The proposed new Ward 6 would be ninety-six thousand five hundred and seventy nine.

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

Five hundred and seventeen (sic). All right. Thank you.

**BRAD JERBIC**

Very good. With that, I'll be glad to answer any questions, if not, I'll be glad to turn it over to Judge Kessler at this point.

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

All right, fine. Are there any questions by the Council of Mr. Jerbic at this time? All right. Thank you very much for that presentation. It is a good overview, and Judge Kessler?

**FRED KESSLER**

Well, first I would thank the members of the Council for selecting me again. I believe this is the sixth time that I have worked with the City, on assisting in redrawing the maps. It is an honor to be selected and I have to say, I've enjoyed the opportunity to work with the members and to meet and become acquainted with all of the members. I'm impressed with the quality of the elected officials and the quality of government in Las Vegas.

I also have to particularly thank City Attorney Jerbic. It's been a great pleasure to work with him. I'm an admirer of his, and I think he is an absolutely skillful assistant, City Attorney and I think the City is fortunate to have him.

**RECOMMENDING COMMITTEE MEETING OF  
July 26, 2006**

**VERBATIM TRANSCRIPT BILL NO. 2006-38**

I also wanna go out of my way to say that there are two people who have been tremendously helpful to me that I want to thank, and that's Tom Perrigo and Andrew Powell, who are in the Department of Development and Planning. They have been very (inaudible) in their services, coming late working, coming early and working late, and helping me in making sure that we got all the accurate data. And up to the very, I think, yesterday, were working very hard, working overtime to make sure we had everything that all of us wanted and all the Council members wanted.

This is an impressive City. I have to tell you that, it's the fastest growing major city in the United States, and that compares frequent redistricting. And, unfortunately, for the way things go, all that population growth is in Councilman Ross and Councilman Wolfson's ward, somewhat in Councilman Brown's ward, and it's not sort of evenly distributed the way it is in some of the other cities that haven't got fixed boundaries on the east and the south. And that, certainly, makes it necessary that we continue to move every different map, every different time we redistrict, continue to move west and north in shifting all the wards of the City.

There's one other thing that I always like to mention, it's very impressive that Las Vegas it's probably the most integrated city in the United States. That's an extremely impressive thing. It has an impact on redistricting, but there is not a single Council district that doesn't have at least six percent African-American in a community, in which we are talking of African-American percentage of nearly, near close to ten percent.

When I drafted this map, which I'm recommending, I took into consideration, five factors. The first factor was, of course, population equality. That's clearly mandated by all the federal court cases and mandated, of course, by the ordinances and the laws of the State of Nevada. The Supreme Court has, helped dealt with the issue of what deviations are allowed in Municipal and local government and they have settled on, consistently said a ten percent deviation is allowed, both in an overwhelming number of cases. There's probably some situations where exceptions have been created, but they are very minor, and there usually has to be substantial circumstances to justify that.

So, ten percent becomes the outside limit of a deviation. And, what we have in this plan is a high deviation of four point seven percent, at, with a hundred thousand five hundred and twelve and a

**RECOMMENDING COMMITTEE MEETING OF  
July 26, 2006**

**VERBATIM TRANSCRIPT BILL NO. 2006-38**

low deviation of three point nine percent, with a ninety-three thousand one hundred and fifty-four.

That falls within the parameters that the Supreme Court allows.

I also took into consideration the requirement of contiguity, and which I interpreted also to include compactness. Certainly, no boundaries are ever absolutely perfect because of the equality of population requirements, but I am satisfied that these clearly will withstand any challenge on compactness or contiguity.

**COUNCILMAN WOLFSON**

Mayor Goodman.

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

Yes. Councilman Wolfson.

**RECOMMENDING COMMITTEE MEETING OF  
July 26, 2006**

**VERBATIM TRANSCRIPT BILL NO. 2006-38**

**COUNCILMAN WOLFSON**

Judge Kessler, I know what contiguity means. I think most people do. Why don't you define that for us and define compactness for us, please.

**FRED KESSLER**

Contiguity basically is that things have to be connected in some way geographically. You can't have an island of one, in one ward, that's not physically connected to another part of the City where there's another ward intervening. If so, that's what contiguity is, and compactness is generally a feeling that the district should be, reasonably squared or rectangle or unless there is some justification. But I have to tell you that, the only time courts have ever overturned redistricting maps because of compactness have been, when there's been a ratio impact on that. So, a 2000 census, several districts, congressional districts in Texas in Houston and in Dallas were overturned and set aside by court decisions, because they attempted to reach in, in very unusual shapes to connect Hispanic or black precincts, in order to create Black majority or Hispanic majority districts.

But I have to tell you, I wish I had brought those maps to show you. It looks like a (inaudible) shack blob. But I also have to say in the City of Chicago, the courts didn't overturn a map that connected two distinct Hispanic communities, one on the south side of Chicago and one on the north side, by a long narrow, one block strip, that extended about two miles, just to connect the two, to avoid going through the middle of a African-American majority district. So, compactness usually isn't something that's gonna be successfully challenged in a court, unless there is some effort to have a racial component that's been violated as a result of that.

The third criteria that I took into consideration were the requirements under the Voting Rights Act. Now, the Voting Rights Act basically says as follows: There are certain minority groups specifically statutory mentioned that are protected groups because they have historically been discriminated against; Hispanics, African-Americans, Native Americans, and in some cases, Asians. Those groups have been specified in the Voting Acts, Rights Act. And it's just been renewed this last week in the Congress or the House of Representatives and the President decided he would sign it. So, it's gonna continue to be the law and it's been the law since the '60s, when demonstrations persuaded President Johnson to sign the Voting Rights Act into law.

**RECOMMENDING COMMITTEE MEETING OF  
July 26, 2006**

**VERBATIM TRANSCRIPT BILL NO. 2006-38**

That basically says that if there is any wards that are reasonably compact, that contain a minority community that minor community, ought to be entitled to a proportionate representation in the City, as a whole. And so, we're talking in terms of minority communities here, that certainly when one aggregates together, the African-American and the Hispanic community, that justifies, that two of the six Council districts ought to be minority, majority districts. And we will try to make sure that there is a minority and majority districts, and since it is possible to create a Hispanic majority district, we created a Hispanic majority district in Councilman Reese's automatic district, Council district.

Theres a second district, Councilman Weekly's district, where the combined African/American and Hispanic community provides close to 65 percent of the total population, and I believe the Voting Rights Act mandates us to do that. And I think that is particularly important to keep the African-American proportion of that community together, and we've tried to do that, to the best that we could, because I think that in the African-American community you have a high percentage of citizenship, and you have a relatively high voting population.

The third part of the Voting Rights Act that's important is the sort of fundamental reason for doing it. The court cases have basically evolved to the point that the candidate of choice of the minority community ought to have a reasonable chance of getting elected, and that becomes the under pending for saying that these minority, majority districts must be created or must be preserved.

That was just affirmed again, in the new Supreme Court decision under Texas congressional rule, redistricting in which the court set aside the 23rd Congressional District in Western San Antonio and in the western part of Texas. And, basically said the candidate of choice of the Hispanic community, it happened to be a non-Hispanic, running against a Hispanic, was defeated because of the map that they made and they said that's not fair. And they set aside the congressional district map in Congressman Bonias' district. So, we wanted to make sure that the opportunities for the candidates of choice of the minority community is reasonable and protected with this proposal.

The plan that I recommended, I believe, meets all the voting rights factors. And I have to say also, those factors, one of the direction in which we could go in some of the wards, in some of the ward lines that, in particularly the direction in Councilman Reese's district. We were looking to make sure that both Councilman Reese's district and Councilman Weekly's district maintain that

**RECOMMENDING COMMITTEE MEETING OF  
July 26, 2006**

**VERBATIM TRANSCRIPT BILL NO. 2006-38**

majority, and that necessitated that we moved in certain directions and (inaudible) our ability to move in other directions.

There are two other factors that I considered that were unique to Las Vegas. The first is the Fremont Street divide. Traditionally, it's been the view in this community that downtown ought to have two Council members, and I decided that I would certainly try to continue to follow that tradition, and that is certainly, everybody I talked to strongly believes in that. So Fremont Street became a dividing line between two Council districts, so that downtown has at least two members of the Council representing it.

And the final fifth factor that I took into consideration was the factor that stalled us when we last attempted to do redistricting, and that was the inability that we have that, and the concern that people have that no area go six years without the opportunity to vote for a Council. But, that every part of the City ought to have an opportunity to vote every four years, and no citizen ought to be denied and compelled to go six years without the chance to vote for a Councilperson.

That did not play a big role, this time, it played a minor role, but it certainly will play a bigger role if there's a redistricting occurring the next two or three years, because of the fact that all the even numbered districts are located in one part of town, and all the odd numbered are located at the other part of the community.

I did not consider projected growth. Projected growth was something that, given the rapidity of population increases and the geographic concentration of the population increases, it would've been almost impossible to try to say, we can, could avoid a redistricting if we consider projected growth. We just can't under populate Councilman Ross' district, that substantially, that it would've survived four years, five years, without, again, being more than five percent out of line and in violation of the Ordinance. So, that was not a consideration.

The other thing that with, what I had is, I looked at certain goals and the process to reach those types of goals. The goal, the number one goal I had, was to try to see if I could present to you a legally sufficient map that could be adopted unanimously by the Council. And I want to say, I made substantial efforts and prepared a number of maps with that as a goal.

Seventeen of those maps were published, and, I believe they, most of the members of the Council saw all or almost all of those maps. I probably have another 30 maps that I didn't bother to even print because I can always find something that would be too substantial, a barrier, so I didn't even

**RECOMMENDING COMMITTEE MEETING OF  
July 26, 2006**

**VERBATIM TRANSCRIPT BILL NO. 2006-38**

bother to do that.

The steps in the process, of course, that we gave to you, we seek to have input from the Council members and we seek to have input from the citizens. And certainly, I see a crowd of citizens here and they're, I'm sure, prepared to give their input. And I know that two years ago citizens' input was very important in determining whether or not we went ahead with the redistricting at that time. I tried to offer the alternatives by preparing the 17 maps of the other maps. And then, I frankly, tried to act as a mediator and a facilitator. Many of you know that my real occupation is that of a being a labor arbitrator/mediator. And I was hoping I could mediate that and, from what I understand, unfortunately, I wasn't as successful as I wanted to be. I certainly am, wanna say, that probably, during the course of this process, every member of the Council, at one point or another, was angry with me and was angry at the map that I took to their office because that's just the way it is. But, I know that people got together and tried to work it out, but I realized the open (inaudible) that occurs has to occur on a one-on-one basis between the members of the Council. And, I think, that most of the decisions that were made when I offered maps, that people didn't like, they got together and tried to see if they could work that out with some of their colleagues.

I am satisfied this map meets all the legal requirements. I'm satisfied it ensures fair representation for the citizens of Nevada, and I recommend that you adopt it. And I'm happy to answer any questions.

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

Very good. Are there any questions of Judge Kessler at this time? Are there any questions of Judge Kessler at this time?

**COUNCILMAN WOLFSON**

I have one quick question.

**RECOMMENDING COMMITTEE MEETING OF  
July 26, 2006**

**VERBATIM TRANSCRIPT BILL NO. 2006-38**

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

All right. Councilman Wolfson.

**COUNCILMAN WOLFSON**

Thank you, Mayor Goodman. Judge Kessler, you certainly, helped us with redistricting here in Las Vegas many times. What about other cities? Have other cities, also utilized your services?

**FRED KESSLER**

I, in the past, I can tell you this, I've done it twice for the City of North Las Vegas, once for Clark County, three times for the Milwaukee School Board, a number of times for, twice for the Nevada Legislature, a number of times for the Wisconsin Legislature, and I've been an expert witness in court cases for a number of Indian tribes that have challenged municipal, county commission districts. I, probably, done 50 occasions where I did, either been the consultant or an expert witness on redistricting.

**COUNCILMAN WOLFSON**

Thank you.

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

All right. Any other questions at this time?

**COUNCILWOMAN TARKANIAN**

No, I just wanted to ask, we did have trouble here in the past, didn't we, one time, where you came with a map that you recommended and then it had to be changed?

**FRED KESSLER**

That, basically, what happened is, at that time, I think, the Council decided not to finish the redistricting. That was the last time.

**RECOMMENDING COMMITTEE MEETING OF  
July 26, 2006**

**VERBATIM TRANSCRIPT BILL NO. 2006-38**

**COUNCILWOMAN TARKANIAN**

Well, I was meaning, before that, I believe.

**FRED KESSLER**

Oh, before that.

**COUNCILWOMAN TARKANIAN**

Before that, there was another time, also.

**FRED KESSLER**

There was, but it ended up, that at that time the Council, ultimately, voted and made a decision over two different maps with one Councilman feeling strongly and another Councilman feeling strongly.

**COUNCILWOMAN TARKANIAN**

But what I'm trying to say is, that you did come with a map that you felt would meet all the rules and meet all the legal and

**FRED KESSLER**

Right.

**COUNCILWOMAN TARKANIAN**

that map was questioned and it was changed because of the information which was provided.

**FRED KESSLER**

Yes, but I think it was ultimately

**COUNCILWOMAN TARKANIAN**

I don't mean you didn't reach resolution.

**RECOMMENDING COMMITTEE MEETING OF  
July 26, 2006**

**VERBATIM TRANSCRIPT BILL NO. 2006-38**

**FRED KESSLER**

Yeah

**COUNCILWOMAN TARKANIAN**

I know you reached a resolution, I'm just talking about

**FRED KESSLER**

Sure.

**COUNCILWOMAN TARKANIAN**

the place where we are right now. Thank you.

**FRED KESSLER**

Okay.

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

Is it a fair statement, Judge Kessler, that each of the 17 maps that you prepared met the objectives of the five categories that you were concerned about, that you described to us?

**FRED KESSLER**

Yes they did. I wouldn't have given you, I would not have given a map that could have been successfully challenged in court, and, it wouldn't have, otherwise, met all other criteria that this City has traditionally followed.

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

All right. And, was it your expectation, that upon presentation of each of these 17 maps, that there would be a discussion between the various members of the Council, to see whether or not they could work out whatever differences that they had?

**RECOMMENDING COMMITTEE MEETING OF  
July 26, 2006**

**VERBATIM TRANSCRIPT BILL NO. 2006-38**

**FERD KESSLER**

I was hoping that would be the case.

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

And you participated in the process yourself?

**FRED KESSLER**

I did.

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

And the fact is that you were unsuccessful, and the Council, apparently, was not able to reach an accord, agreeing to each and every aspect of any of the maps.

**FRED KESSLER**

It, I, every time, this always happens. It's a process. I've never been involved in a process where I haven't made multiple maps in order to reach a final map. And, usually, the final map is reached, as a result of the consensus of all or a substantial majority of the members.

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

And, would it be a fair statement that this is part of a political process, as much as anything else?

**FRED KESSLER**

That's correct.

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

Once you satisfy the legalities, then it becomes a matter of politics, where the individuals Councilpersons either agree or disagree as to

**FRED KESSLER**

Right.

**RECOMMENDING COMMITTEE MEETING OF  
July 26, 2006**

**VERBATIM TRANSCRIPT BILL NO. 2006-38**

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

what is in their own best interest; hopefully, representing what's in the best interest of the constituents.

**FRED KESSLER**

I think most of the people who really vote on this are attempting to vote in the best interest of the citizens of Las Vegas, to make sure that there's adequate representation. And, I know, sometimes there isn't (inaudible) on the perception of what happens, but, I believe, and I have to say, I continue to be impressed with the devotion and civic concerns of the members of the Council, all of them that I've dealt with, here in Las Vegas.

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

All right. Thank you. Are there any questions, any further questions of the Judge at this time?

**COUNCILWOMAN TARKANIAN**

One last thing, Mr. Mayor, please. Could I see those 17 maps again, please?

**FRED KESSLER**

I think

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

Madame Clerk, could you pass those up

**COUNCILWOMAN TARKANIAN**

Just

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

and pass them up to the Councilwoman.

**RECOMMENDING COMMITTEE MEETING OF  
July 26, 2006**

**VERBATIM TRANSCRIPT BILL NO. 2006-38**

**COUNCILWOMAN TARKANIAN**

I just wanna glance. Thank you.

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

Sure. Would you like us to give you the opportunity to look at them before we go forward?

**COUNCILWOMAN TARKANIAN**

No, I just wanted to glance at a couple of things, thank you.

**FRED KESSLER**

Okay.

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

Fair enough. All right, any other questions of Judge Kessler, at this time, 'cause, I expect you and Mr. Jerbic will be remaining here in case we have to answer any of our constitutes questions or issues. At this time, I believe, it's appropriate to ask Councilman Ross to place on the record, why he was, in effect, a proponent of an effort to redistrict.

**COUNCILMAN ROSS**

Thank you, Your Honor. And, I feel, somewhat responsible for this meeting today and for having Mr. Kessler here in our client city, handling this situation for us, because of a great, tremendous growth. And, I say only semi responsible because the other responsibility lies with all the wonderful people who choose to live in the great northwest. Ward 6 is huge, and I'm changing the name of it to "Big Six" 'cause it's, that's how large it is.

I also happen to recognize, though, the need for me as a City Councilman to do what is right for the greater part of our City, not just for Ward 6. All of us represent individual wards. The Mayor represents the entire City, but we do, as well, share that responsibility with him. It is important to me to recognize, that I need to sacrifice. There are many voters, many constituents in the southern end of Ward 6 who voted for me. And I did not take into consideration regards to the fact that they could be having a new Council member representing them. And that's a big issue with me, but I

**RECOMMENDING COMMITTEE MEETING OF  
July 26, 2006**

**VERBATIM TRANSCRIPT BILL NO. 2006-38**

think it also had to do with that sacrifice. As our City continues to grow, which we want it to, we need to experience these growing pains. It is part of our responsibility. It is part of due diligence to do what is right for the betterment of our City.

Mr. Kessler, I don't think, I've seen all 16 maps, including this one, and I don't think, at one time, I ever been angry with you because I've recognized what I've had to do to sacrifice for this City. I do recognize that other boundaries have changed for other Council members and it will always continue to be a challenge. And I appreciate your presentation because this is not an easy process. This is a challenging process for everybody, not only the Council, but for the constituents; the voters who we represent in this great City. And with that, Your Honor, I just wanna thank Mr. Kessler for his attempt to get us this far.

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

All right, thank you very much. All right, folks. I think, rather than have the Council members express themselves at this time; it's in the best interest of the process during this public hearing to hear from the public. Just by a show of hands, if I may, how many folks plan to address us, so I can figure out how much time we have? All right, then, I'm gonna put a, we'll put a three-minute clock on, and, if anybody needs more time, we'll adjust it appropriately. But, what I would ask, of course, is, if you agree strongly with the position that's already been stated by somebody, just get up and say that you agree with so and so position. And then if you want to waddle a little bit, that's fine, but there's no need to repeat the entire position at this point in time.

This is a recommending committee meeting, and, if this matter goes forward, it will go forward to the Council, as a Council, for consideration and determination. So, I'm going to keep into consideration what, if anything, anybody has said here today, as far as the time limitations, if any, that will take place, if in fact, this goes forward to the Council, as a whole. So, I just want you to keep that into consideration. We'll keep a list of those who are speaking, and basically make a judgment at that time. But, we want to hear from you and that's the reason this' been a public hearing. Yes, Sir.

**RECOMMENDING COMMITTEE MEETING OF  
July 26, 2006**

**VERBATIM TRANSCRIPT BILL NO. 2006-38**

**CHRIS CHRISTOFF**

Good evening, Your Honor, and the City Council. My name is Chris Christoff. I still have property in Ward 1.

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

Oh, that's good. I'm glad you said that, Mr. Christoff. I'd like to have the folks, when you come up here, to please tell us where you live, the specific address, if you can, and tell us what ward you're in. I would appreciate that.

**CHRIS CHRISTOFF**

I'm gonna make it very brief, because I spoke to several people, on both sides. And I know what the minority is. I've been here 18 years; I know what the needs are, as well, for the balance of the whole area, including the outer wards that can expand in all directions. But I cannot see Ward 1 expand never again, to any direction. It is shrinking because we're losing our tax base, and the tax base goes on the west side of Las Vegas Boulevard, all the way down to Fremont Street.

And I believe, when you talk about balancing, as the Judge said, minorities and this and that, fine, I'm for that a hundred percent. But it's not even three percent, not even, maybe, one percent of any voters or any minorities, on voters concern that I know of, because I represent Stupak Center Educational Center. The biggest, the best and it goes through six thousand people to learn how to vote, how to be good citizens. You know that, Mayor, as well as other people.

It's been like that for nine years. I think I've covered every square foot of that area, even though the DA (sic) is going to encompass with Ward 3 and many different boundary lines all the way up. But what really telling people is, the west side, from Sahara all the way down, and starting from, let's put it this way, Charleston is the basic. Of all the commercial business into the multi billion, multi billions, not just multi millions, they're going to be enhanced in Ward 3. That is not spreading it around equally.

Every part, including the northwest, everybody has to have a balance of certain amount of money so they can say, we need to put new parks in, we need to do all these things. But saying now, because he doesn't have enough people to vote, it's because they failed to educate those people. It is up to the leaders to educate those people. Not to me, not to you. You're the Mayor. And when we

**RECOMMENDING COMMITTEE MEETING OF  
July 26, 2006**

**VERBATIM TRANSCRIPT BILL NO. 2006-38**

have, what I did in Ward 1, I don't wave flags to make it possible. Puts people; kids, grownups, so they understand our government. So, they obey the law, not all of 'em will because we have too much traffic. But the important factor, the opportunity in Ward 3 has been overwhelming, and anytime that they need anything, but they never educate those people, to vote, to live a good life like they live in other areas.

An important factor is; everybodys knowing this and everybodys signing petitions. Therell be a multitude of thousands, and itll affect Ward 3. The new ones, they will make it worse. But, Im just saying, Your Honor, that it is not balanced when you take and cherry-pick the northwest of Las Vegas Boulevard, with a multitude of billion dollars worth of tax revenue.

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

Thank you.

**CHRIS CHRISTOFF**

Thank you.

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

Preciate it. Before we go on to the next gentleman, Id like to make a matter of record submission that I received

**CHRIS CHRISTOFF**

These are the petitions.

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

actually, I received it today, a petition, with a cover note, from Jean Zorn, the President of the Rancho Manor, letters from Mrs. Paterson, Mary Gorman, Lisa Mayo-DeRiso, Ms. Garetto

**CHRIS CHRISTOFF**

Here, youll need this. I live in this area. (Inaudible)

**RECOMMENDING COMMITTEE MEETING OF  
July 26, 2006**

**VERBATIM TRANSCRIPT BILL NO. 2006-38**

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

the Meservys, Bob Goldstein, and then the position, the petition, Id like to make this all matter of public record, give it to the Clerk, at this time. I also would like to make a matter of public record a letter, which I received from Daniel J. Deegan, with his suggested amendments to the redistricting. And, I thank him, for what appears to be, an awful lot of thought and work and his suggestions. This was made available to all the Council members, and, at this time, I would like that part of the record. A letter to myself and the other Council members from James and Pauline Kennedy, that should be apart of the record. And a letter to the Council and myself, from Paul Whiting, from Donald Sheely and from Katherine Martin, that should be made apart of the record. And, we also have, what we call, our Citizens Concerns Hot Topics, which are phone calls that are received at the front desk, on the 10th Floor, where we ask for the caller to give us their name and their phone number, and whether they are for or against a particular item, and include the ward number, and make that part of the record, as well. Thank you very much. Yes, Sir.

**TOM McGOWAN**

Thank you, Mr. Mayor. Tom McGowan

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

Clock, please, clock, please.

**TOM McGOWAN**

Tom McGowan, Las Vegas resident of Ward 1

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

Clock, please, Ms. Ronemus.

**TOM McGOWAN**

for more than 50 years. First I want to commend Judge Kessler for an excellent work product and very highly exhausting labors. And now I have a question, in two parts. Which portion of percentage of these population figures are comprised of illegal aliens? And why isnt that

**RECOMMENDING COMMITTEE MEETING OF  
July 26, 2006**

**VERBATIM TRANSCRIPT BILL NO. 2006-38**

information included in the report, anywhere?

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

All right, thats the first question. Oh, those, thats the two-part question? All right. Let me ask the question my way, okay? Is the issue of, quote, illegal aliens, end quote, part of the process, as far as, the case law on redistricting?

**FRED KESSLER**

Since the census makes no effort to determine whether a person is legal or illegal. So, we would not, never be able to know if somebody is legal or illegal. I do know

**TOM McGOWAN**

I demand (inaudible) as appropriate.

**FRED KESSLER**

I do know, however, that statistically, among Hispanics, that approximately 50 percent of the Hispanics are citizens, at this time. That doesnt mean that the rest are illegal. Many of them are holding green cards and may be included, you know, as people who are potentially citizens. But the Census Bureau, basically, says and the courts have, basically, said, you cant make a determination based on the citizenship status. They said, the Census Bureau counts people regardless of whether theyre citizens or not. In fact, if you were, if Las Vegas were a port, and a Polish freighter were docked in the harbor of Las Vegas, the crew on that freight, on that freighter would be counted if they were there on census day.

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

I see. All right. Thank you.

**TOM McGOWAN**

For the benefit of the Polish crew, Ill talk slow.

**RECOMMENDING COMMITTEE MEETING OF  
July 26, 2006**

**VERBATIM TRANSCRIPT BILL NO. 2006-38**

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

Well

**TOM McGOWAN**

Wait a minute.

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

No, no, no, I

**TOM McGOWAN**

Wait

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

No. I dont think its funny.

**TOM McGOWAN**

(Inaudible) understand.

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

I dont think its funny.

**TOM McGOWAN**

(Inaudible) record.

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

This is not the time to cast dispersion on the people, no.

**TOM McGOWAN**

I think the record reflects that the figures are grossly inadequate.

**RECOMMENDING COMMITTEE MEETING OF  
July 26, 2006**

**VERBATIM TRANSCRIPT BILL NO. 2006-38**

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

Okay.

**TOM McGOWAN**

Period.

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

But I dont like those comments about Polish people, okay? Not before my Council.

**TOM McGOWAN**

(Inaudible)

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

Youre through?

**TOM McGOWAN**

(inaudible)

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

Okay, next.

**CHUCK THOMPSON**

Mr. Mayor, my name is Chuck Thompson. Im a resident of Ward 1. I have been for an excessive of 30 years. Secondly, Im a resident of Las Vegas. Im sure, much longer than anybody that Im looking at now; over 62 years. And I cannot be kind in what Im going to say, to these efforts. First of all, Ive been around enough, Mr. Goodman knows, Ive been around that I can recognize when my colleagues or try to rehabilitate or to pump up the credentials of Mr., the Judge in front of everybody, I could see that. Im familiar with all the shows.

**RECOMMENDING COMMITTEE MEETING OF  
July 26, 2006**

**VERBATIM TRANSCRIPT BILL NO. 2006-38**

Secondly, any system that you try to impose through a series of maps and getting to 17, I've played that game before, we go out two out three, till I win, is what it is. That's how you get to 17 maps that apply.

Secondly, when you have six districts, and five are expanded or granted something, and the sixth, such as mine, is slammed, shut off, you have to look at the reasons why. That's not accidentally. I don't care what the Judge says.

Next, I want to say that, the street talk has been out for a while. I don't mind telling you what it is. I get it from the bowels. I get it from the Councilwoman or Councilperson, from the bowels of City Hall, that is in an effort to benefit Congressman (sic) Reese. He wants this, his

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

Councilman you may have demoted him. You called him a congressman, right.

**CHUCK THOMPSON**

Oh, Councilman. Councilman Reese, he demands this. He's been there a long time. He feels he's entitled, that he has seniority. And it's been done to (inaudible) the Commission (sic) with him.

Secondly, I feel, almost, is another reason that bothers me even more. Councilman (sic) Tarkanian has been known to stand off and has been known to disagree with members of this Board on some positions that would take a majority. I've also heard that this is an effort to, quote, teach her a lesson. All of that is maybe mixed (sic) nixed, but I live there. I live in that district, and I'm not appreciative of having, what I call, a stunt or a caper pulled. It makes me, (inaudible) is a friend of mine, a client of mine and he could write a story about this and it's not even (inaudible), as to what's trying to be done to Ward 1.

I'm embarrassed for my City, that they would try this so overtly, that I won't go a step further and say, you know, I'm embarrassed by my City because I was in Salt, in Utah, over the weekend.

And, I picked up the Salk Lake Tribune, and there's an article on Las Vegas inside the front page. This talk about another incident going on, it's not relative, but the first paragraph said this, Nevada, known for its sin, debauchery and corruption. And I define this, and that bothered me, that hurt me, 'cause I've lived here a long time. And, as I said, when I see something such as this happen, I

**RECOMMENDING COMMITTEE MEETING OF  
July 26, 2006**

**VERBATIM TRANSCRIPT BILL NO. 2006-38**

get a little angry.

I've been angry at two, three things the Council has done, but I've kept my mouth shut. I haven't come over and raised hell. I haven't raised hell about the land give-a-ways. I haven't done anything about that because, you know, I'd like to move on. But this affects my neighborhood. This affects my residence.

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

Okay.

**CHUCK THOMPSON**

This affects my district.

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

Thank you.

**CHUCK THOMPSON**

And, as I said, enough is enough.

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

Okay. Thank you.

**CHUCK THOMPSON**

You know.

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

Thank you very much. I want the record to reflect that I am a Ward 1 resident. Yes. Next.

**MAURA MESERVY**

Maura Meservy, 2718 Mason Avenue, Las Vegas, Nevada. I've been here, at that home, well, most of my life. But

**RECOMMENDING COMMITTEE MEETING OF  
July 26, 2006**

**VERBATIM TRANSCRIPT BILL NO. 2006-38**

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

What Ward is that?

**MAURA MESERVY**

Ward 1, excuse me.

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

Thank you.

**MAURA MESERVY**

Im here to oppose this change. I wish I had known more about it sooner. I highly agree with that gentleman, that there is rumble in our neighborhood. I got a call today from a neighbor asking me to come down and explain the situation. She did a good job of explaining it. I was not aware of it. Im opposed to this map.

I did notice that, on the current configuration, we have three Councilmen and woman, showing that highly important part of Las Vegas; the Strip and Fremont Street. And that gentleman cut it down to two. And I think that thats a mistake. I think that three of you need to share that kind of power. And I also think its a mistake to cut my Ward into a powerless little thing. He said, at the beginning, this wasnt about race and hes right. Its not about race. Its about money and power and growth, and Im opposed, highly, to this and Ill fight this.

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

Okay. Thank you. Very good. Very good.

**LARRY ANSPACH**

Hi, this on? My name is Larry Anspach, 1509 Golden Oak Drive, and we live in Ward 1. Our neighborhood worked very hard to recall Janet Moncrief, and we worked even harder to elect Lois Tarkanian to represent our interests. And now this Council wants to redistrict us, which personally, I think, its a retaliation for our groups suing the City over the Social Security building.

**RECOMMENDING COMMITTEE MEETING OF  
July 26, 2006**

**VERBATIM TRANSCRIPT BILL NO. 2006-38**

The Ward 1 boundaries have changed dramatically from its historical configuration established all the way back in 1975. We virtually have no residential construction tax, since there's, basically, no new development with this new configuration, and a tax revenue that support the parks and other services needed in older urban areas. And more importantly, there's been no neighborhood meetings to talk to the constituents in Ms. Tarkanian's ward or to hear from the City Councilperson who's Ward we would come under, after this is passed. I'd like to see this motion tabled, so there could be neighborhood meetings to discuss this. This will, actually, be our fourth representative in four years.

And I have one question that, attached to this bill is Business Impact Statement, and wondering why there is not a citizen impact statement, as well. Is that part of the Ordinance or is it only a Business Impact Statement?

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

Mr. Jerbic?

**BRAD JERBIC**

That's only for a business (inaudible), Your Honor.

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

That's how I understood it.

**LARRY ANSPACH**

Okay. So anyways, as I said, I would like to have this tabled, so there could be neighborhood meetings to discuss this. Thank you.

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

Right. Thank you.

**COUNCILMAN WOLFSON**

**RECOMMENDING COMMITTEE MEETING OF  
July 26, 2006**

**VERBATIM TRANSCRIPT BILL NO. 2006-38**

Mayor Goodman.

**RECOMMENDING COMMITTEE MEETING OF  
July 26, 2006**

**VERBATIM TRANSCRIPT BILL NO. 2006-38**

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

Yes.

**COUNCILMAN WOLFSON**

May I ask Mr. Anspach a question?

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

Certainly.

**COUNCILMAN WOLFSON**

Good afternoon, I guess. Mr. Anspach, the last time you came before this Council was a very important issue involving the Social Security building, was it not?

**LARRY ANSPACH**

Yes, it was.

**COUNCILMAN WOLFSON**

Do you remember who voted in, consistent with your wishes?

**LARRY ANSPACH**

Yes.

**COUNCILMAN WOLFSON**

Who was that?

**LARRY ANSPACH**

It was yourself, which, you're saying; some of us would be under your direction. So, you don't hear me complaining about that. It's more the fact that Lois' Ward, we worked very hard in, we had many meetings with her. She comes all the time to the neighborhood to discuss things with us. And to have this, you know, a small notice in the newspaper about this today, that's why there're

**RECOMMENDING COMMITTEE MEETING OF  
July 26, 2006**

**VERBATIM TRANSCRIPT BILL NO. 2006-38**

probably not more people here that know about it. And that's why I think it's important to have neighborhood meetings, so, you can come to the area where we would become under, and people can ask few questions, and same thing with, you know, Ms. Tarkanian.

**COUNCILMAN WOLFSON**

And I'd be glad to do that.

**LARRY ANSPACH**

You know, we appreciate your vote that last time. Thank you.

**COUNCILMAN WOLFSON**

I'd be glad to do that, if it's appropriate and depending on what this Council does, but I just find it a little offensive, and I mean that with respect, to you, Sir, because you're entitled to your opinion. But when you use words like retaliation, I think you have to be careful because, one of the most important votes that occurred, as far as your neighborhood, I was in favor of your position. So, when you use a word like retaliation, it just, I find it a little offensive. But I respect your opinion.

**LARRY ANSPACH**

Okay. Thank you.

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

Mr. Anspach, after that last vote did you get an e-mail from me?

**LARRY ANSPACH**

Yes, I did. Thank you.

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

Okay. Thank you. Okay. Thank you. Next, please.

**RECOMMENDING COMMITTEE MEETING OF  
July 26, 2006**

**VERBATIM TRANSCRIPT BILL NO. 2006-38**

**PAULINE KENNEDY**

My name is Pauline Kennedy and I've lived in Ward 1 for more than three decades and we

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

You're not that old.

**PAULINE KENNEDY**

we, thirty years, okay.

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

You're not that old, I said.

**PAULINE KENNEDY**

We have, finally have someone that has represented us. We have not been well-served for many, many years. The last three speakers have pretty well summed up what I wanted to say. But, I believe that we do deserve to have had this gentleman in our neighborhood say why this is happening, not a little piece in the paper. But we deserve to find out what was going on, and Ms. Tarkanian has done this for us. But that isn't how it's supposed to work. We should not have to be here. We should have had town hall meetings or whatever, to find out all about this and the 16 or 17 maps. It's not fair that we have to show up today when it sounds to me, like a fait accompli. So, from now on, we really do need to have some input before it comes to the City Council. Thank you.

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

Thank you. Yes, Sir.

**DANIEL DEEGAN**

Good afternoon, Mr. Mayor and members of the City Council. Daniel Deegan, 1801 Granite Avenue, a resident of Ward 5. I'm here, this afternoon, to present you with a substitute redistricting proposal, which I would like you to consider on equal basis with that of the eminent Judge. I cannot claim in any way to match his qualifications or lustrous record. However, I believe, that the

**RECOMMENDING COMMITTEE MEETING OF  
July 26, 2006**

**VERBATIM TRANSCRIPT BILL NO. 2006-38**

proposal, which I put in front of you, is superior in every respect to what he is giving you. The variation in population between districts that I propose to you is less than half of the variation in his proposal; therefore, closer to the one-man-one-vote Baker vs. Carr decision in the Supreme Court. Compactness and contiguity I think, will match, if you look at the map, perhaps, superior. The map is also more comprehensible and coherent, in the sense that the major natural divisions, such as US95 Expressway are followed wherever then, leaping across occasionally to pick up a few precincts on the opposite side. These orphan precincts are appear less in this map. It's better than the previous Council map. But they still appear where protrusions of one Council Ward into another appear.

It's quite difficult for neighborhood associations and groups of associations to work with two Councilpersons. I think, in our case, in Wards 1, we are on the border of Ward 1 and Ward 5. We've done it successfully in the past over issue regarding a traffic light on Rancho Drive. However, it takes a lot of effort to do that, basically, establish neighborhoods' need through, to belong together in a compact and contiguous and one Ward area. So, following those natural Boundaries, not having orphan precincts was a major part of my proposal. Another, which I call neighborhood integrity. Another one was the point that was brought up by Mrs. Meservy. Interesting that people, not just one person, but people are thinking this on their own. Downtown deserves to have the attention of all three Councilpersons from the older part of the City. Three people scrutinizing plans are better than one or two. The way it works in the City right now, the Councilman being virtually, ask for an extension for one minute.

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

You certainly have it.

**DANIEL DEEGAN**

Councilmen act virtually as a commissioner for their ward, semi-executive. If we have a problem in our ward, it gets solved thanks to, usually, Ricki Barlow. We call Councilman Weekly's office. His liaison is the man who can get those done for us. That kind of sort of semi-feudal ownership of a ward works, when you're talking about the ordinary services that would go on. But we have major projects where build, buildings that are past channels, from one ward to another. We're, you

**RECOMMENDING COMMITTEE MEETING OF  
July 26, 2006**

**VERBATIM TRANSCRIPT BILL NO. 2006-38**

know, were changing to a different style of Las Vegas with a more affects from major projects outside of the immediate ward boundary. Let's have Downtown. There's major projects scrutinized and considered by three lines, and the interests of all of the constituents in the older part of the City brought to bear all those problems. Rapid transit lines Downtown. Are you going to exclude the Ward 1 Councilperson from those decisions because it doesn't fall within the Ward 1 boundaries? That's what you're asking to do now.

The fact is, beating all legal requirements is not the sole purpose of this map; its ulterior agenda, it's obvious. The citizens all over the City, and I say this with all due respect, for the Mayor Pro-Tem of the City Council, we want his input into redevelopment of the City. He has a lot. There are issues where, by statute or by informal arrangements, he could look at things like coordination of transport and building projects of height limitation throughout the City. We have redevelopment areas outside of, in various wards, where there are no neighborhood plans. There are ways to bring his expertise and experience to bear without this kind of ward boss; I am the ruler of this project in my ward. I don't think that the people of Las Vegas want that kind of rule. We want his experience. We want his knowledge brought to bear in a more congenial way.

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

All right, Mr. Deegan

**DANIEL DEEGAN**

And I hope that the Council can put aside a lot of personal differences because the amount of talent up here is needed by the City and it needs to work together.

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

Thank you.

**RECOMMENDING COMMITTEE MEETING OF  
July 26, 2006**

**VERBATIM TRANSCRIPT BILL NO. 2006-38**

**DANIEL DEEGAN**

Thank you.

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

Okay. Thank you. Next, please.

**FRANK SCHRECK**

Mr. Mayor and members of the Council, my name is Frank Schreck; my office is at 300 South Fourth Street, which is in Ward 1. I'm actually here on behalf of a number of individual developers, property owners and operators that have properties and businesses within the downtown redevelopment district, that's encompassed by Ward 1, at this time.

Those individuals have indicated to me that they want me to express the fact that they've had a very good working relationship with Councilwoman Tarkanian, throughout the period of time she's been there. They have enjoyed their relationship, with respect to it. They believe that she's been a steward for their issues with the City Council, has been a liaison, has been someone they can interface with. They want to keep the status quo, with respect to that area of Ward 1.

And they also want me to make it very clear that this is absolutely not a, any type of a negative, with respect to Councilman Reese. They respect him very much. It's just the fact that it's a very positive support of a person that they've worked very closely with and they admire.

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

Thank you very much.

**FRANK SCHRECK**

Thank you.

**LISA MAYO-DeRISO**

Good afternoon Mayor and council members. My name is Lisa Mayo-DeRiso. I live in Ward 6. But I have moved in Ward 1 and was, worked very hard, initially, when trying to start, stop commercial development on Buffalo, across from a park, where there's now an IRS building. I left

**RECOMMENDING COMMITTEE MEETING OF  
July 26, 2006**

**VERBATIM TRANSCRIPT BILL NO. 2006-38**

the neighborhood and

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

Social Security building.

**LISA MAYO DeRISO**

Oh , Social Security, thank you Mayor, much better.

**COUNCILMAN WOLFSON**

Why (inaudible).

**LISA MAYO-DeRISO**

Im sorry. I'm here today for several reasons. Number one, I lived in Ward 1 and I believe that, I, there are a lot of issues in Ward 1. I've come, as many know, Im a community activist, outside of my business role, and try to help neighborhoods on several issues. And neighbors, a lot of times, just call me and ask me to help them with petitions as well as issues. In Ward 1 there is a lot of issues that have to be dealt with. There are billboards; theyre too many. And Charleston needs to be redeveloped. There are older areas of town that need to be paid attention too. And what I see with this redistricting, is I look at is the growth area, which in Ward 1 is up to Industrial, the arts area and all that, is being taken away from this ward.

It becomes very difficult, and you know and when we go to a developer and you go in and try to improve things in a neighborhood, sometimes you have to have things to trade and you have money to do that. And the way Ward 1 is configured by throwing at fate or up through Rainbow, which is really doctor's offices, the hospital, not, therere no homes that have been developed up in that area. Youre really crippling this ward. And, having gone in and tried to work with neighbors and work through the political process, you have to have some strength in a ward.

I believe in a City. I have many clients in downtown that I've brought to downtown; I'm trying to bring more clients downtown. I believe in the redevelopment of downtown. Councilwoman Tarkanian has been very helpful to me, as has Councilman Brown, and of course the Mayor, looking at some of these projects. I think the City is a great place to live, I live there.

**RECOMMENDING COMMITTEE MEETING OF  
July 26, 2006**

**VERBATIM TRANSCRIPT BILL NO. 2006-38**

You, this is like a basketball team; we have five players and one sub. If we're going to make it to the championship, and make it all the way, you can't cripple one player. You can't have Ward 5; be a player that doesn't have all the assets. Maybe they can't go to their left or whatever they do in basketball. They can't shoot a three pointer. But tip, with this new map, I do believe that you are really taking Ward 5 and really crippling it for growth, new development. This is a wonderful neighborhood, it's an older part of our neighborhood, and I have to believe that it needs to have some strength. I urge you to go back to the drawing board and really look at how you can keep Ward 5 in much the same configuration as it is. Thank you very much.

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

And, I believe you misspoke yourself, I think you're referring to Ward 1 rather than Ward 5.

**LISA MAYO-DeRISO**

I'm sorry, Ward 1, yes. Ward 1, I'm sorry.

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

May the record reflect that?

**LISA MAYO DeRISO**

Reflect that I was talking about Ward 1. Thank you

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

All right fine, you welcome. Next please. Wait, I think I seen you.

**FRANK SCHRECK**

I know, I was remiss and not identifying the individuals I was here representing, I think it would only be appropriate

**RECOMMENDING COMMITTEE MEETING OF  
July 26, 2006**

**VERBATIM TRANSCRIPT BILL NO. 2006-38**

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

Thats fine, I was going to ask you that, I didn't know whether you wanted to disclose it.

**FRANK SCHRECK**

I do.

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

Good.

**FRANK SCHRECK**

And, I'm here on behalf of the Stratosphere Hotel and Casino. The (inaudible) family, David Mitchell, Annette Lieberman and Mark Fine, Michael Trainer and the Tamarus Prosperities, among others.

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

And did they all pay you?

**FRANK SCHRECK**

Do they all pay me?

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

Yes.

**FRANK SCHRECK**

Yes, theyre most of my clients, yes.

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

Okay, I'm glad you

**RECOMMENDING COMMITTEE MEETING OF  
July 26, 2006**

**VERBATIM TRANSCRIPT BILL NO. 2006-38**

**FRANK SCHRECK**

Except for Mark, I'm given Mark a free ride.

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

You shouldn't, okay. He's a bum. Yes, Sir.

**THOMAS PREDO**

Excuse me, my name is Thomas Predo and I have a business in Ward 1. And, Id like to take a minute to say, Happy Birthday Mayor.

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

Thank very much, thank you everybody, its a wonder

**THOMAS PREDO**

I'd like to say he's the greatest Mayor in the world

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

But

**THOMAS PREDO**

And we're lucky Las Vegas to have him. We really are.

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

But let it's a great way to celebrate my birthday, folks. Thank you very much.

**THOMAS PREDO**

Well, I would like to say, it's been a year ago today, that he came down to our store at our business, and he, we had a grand opening, he spent his birthday there. I thought it was the greatest thing. But he came with Lois Tarkanian, and she came to celebrate with us too, a year ago. And we have a store thats been remodeled in the Arts District; it's down there on Charleston Boulevard. And, it's

**RECOMMENDING COMMITTEE MEETING OF  
July 26, 2006**

**VERBATIM TRANSCRIPT BILL NO. 2006-38**

right there where all the redevelopments going on. So, I would like to say this, that we have a great Mayor and we have a great City Council. All the people standing before me right now, I have to applaud you for everything you've done for downtown redevelopment, and your ideas, your dreams, your visions. But I must say that if for you look at the redistricting, I think for downtown and all the things going to happen in the next few years, we need to keep it with about three people that are able to make decisions down there. And I would like to say that Lois Tarkanian has been a lot of help to us, and a lot of help to other property owners in the area, and we like her. And she's the one that gets our vote, and we wanna see her stay on board. And, we wanna see her take these other dreams and visions that she have and put the vote on it, and, lead Las Vegas forward in the years to come, with manhattanization downtown and great things that can happen that I can see for this City. And I think she's needed on the City Council, and we need her in Ward 1, and we need her ideas and her dreams there too. And we like to see her stay there with us. In order to do that, we have to make a few changes. And, the map that you got over here, and I don't want to bore anybody, but take the knife again, look at it again, slice it up a little bit different. And I would like to thank everybody, and I mean that. You all are doing a great job.

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

Thank you. Next, please.

**PAMELA STANCLIFF**

Hi, I'm Pamela Stancliff, 6633 Latham Lane, in Ward 1. I just wanna to let you know I am very concerned about this redistricting. I was one of the people that tried to help last time, and got, it said, and everybody said, no. We are concerned about the parks and the services that we have in our older neighborhoods. We have a lot of; we have no place to grow. We are stopped; even our community college has been stopped, knowing that the psychiatric hospital has taken its place on the land on Oakey. We would really appreciate it if you would either leave us alone, and also Ward 5, or if you make us larger this wise because the outer areas are going to be growing even faster then because we can't. Thank you very much.

**RECOMMENDING COMMITTEE MEETING OF  
July 26, 2006**

**VERBATIM TRANSCRIPT BILL NO. 2006-38**

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

Thank you. Next please.

**ROBERT REAL**

My name is Robert Real; I have properties in Ward 1. I guess I need to submit for the record, since they didn't get there. I got over 50 letters by, with over a hundred parcel owners in Ward 1, in support of Lois Tarkanian, if I can just pass that to you, please.

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

All right, you better pass them up here so we can see them.

**ROBERT REAL**

Great. Great, this basically is a common stat, the owners have had for the fact that they voted in Lois Tarkanian. They feel comfortable with Lois Tarkanian. There's quite a few things going on in our downtown area that we feel the support of Lois Tarkanian is needed. None of them wanna see her leave; none of them wanna see her district be changed, especially if her desires is to stay in our district. We, she desires to stay there; we wanna support her one hundred and ten percent. The, you know, the support for the growth of downtown is imperative to us. She's been a strong supporter of that. She's been involved in every project that has been in our ward. She's given good support and strong support for everything that's been in our ward. Again, as long as she wants to stay there, we want to maintain her as our Councilwoman for our ward. There is a letter also that Mayor, when you were making some comments on letters, I don't know if you received the one from Kipp Cooper, from the Board of Realtors.

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

Yes. I did not, but I saw a copy of it in Councilman Brown's.

**ROBERT REAL**

It's two paragraph, you want me to read it?

**RECOMMENDING COMMITTEE MEETING OF  
July 26, 2006**

**VERBATIM TRANSCRIPT BILL NO. 2006-38**

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

I read it.

**ROBERT REAL**

Oh, you did read it?

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

Yes, I read it in Councilman Brown's office.

**ROBERT REAL**

Okay, great, that's

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

I don't know whether anybody else received a copy of it.

**ROBERT REAL**

Its two paragraphs, may I read it?

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

No, its okay. As I said, I've read the letter, it was addressed to Councilman Brown. Is anybody else on the Council, received this letter? Yes, apparently so, okay.

**ROBERT REAL**

Okay. It was basically the 16,000 member board realtor, supporting Lois Tarkanian, wanting there to, wanting her to be retained in that district?

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

Very good.

**RECOMMENDING COMMITTEE MEETING OF  
July 26, 2006**

**VERBATIM TRANSCRIPT BILL NO. 2006-38**

**ROBERT REAL**

To , to summarize it, shortly.

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

Good.

**ROBERT REAL**

You know, I only have a couple of comments. One, is I think there does to need to be some more discussion on this. That there seems to be a numerous amount of issues, that all of us have, with the redistricting, in particular with Lois' desire to stay in there, and with our desire to retain her. I know the judge has talked about the fact that most major cities, and ours being one of the biggest growth cities, mandates that they do redistricting upon periodic basis. But, I think one of the things that we all have to agree upon is that Las Vegas is a very dynamic City. And, the, the same things that happen in our City aren't necessarily the things that are catalyst for other cities. We have pockets of growth, like the downtown area that will probably be the most aggressive growth areas in the next, you know, 18 to 36 months coming down the line.

Two, and I think that was very adequately put by another person that came up, to have two people control that power in that area, those that we have now with three, I think its short siding us. I think that with three people, we have a seven Council member, with three peoples in with hands on efforts into the downtown redevelopment. I know Mayor that you are upon the downtown redevelopment. I think that those four votes out of the seven is something that we should try and retain. Again, if we can redraw, as Mr. Curtis, said earlier, if we can redraw that district to make sure Lois has a good position within her district, it would be mostly appreciated. And if we could just table this to where we can have more discussions, we would really appreciate it.

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

Thank you.

**RECOMMENDING COMMITTEE MEETING OF  
July 26, 2006**

**VERBATIM TRANSCRIPT BILL NO. 2006-38**

**ROBERT REAL**

Thank you.

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

Next, please.

**KATHY BEST**

Hi, Mayor. I'm Kathy Best; I live in Ward 4, Councilmans Browns. I just, you know, came to in kinda of support to Councilman (sic) Tarkanian. One thing is the fact youre the only woman that sits on this Council and, I sure like your perspective. I think it's very important and that's why I think you should maintain the downtown district. Later on, I think you should, you deserve more. I think that a lot of these wards have the potential to increase their voters because of some open space. And now the fact that, you know, when we're starting to build up now, you know, so youre going to have high rises with people, but that's not obtainable in our areas because, of course, your areas are developed. And so youre more into the revitalization. So, I think it's really important to have your perspective. I think, as a woman, you have sage advice. And, I guess that would be it. Thank you.

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

Thank you.

**COUNCILWOMAN TARKANIAN**

Mr. Mayor.

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

Yes.

**RECOMMENDING COMMITTEE MEETING OF  
July 26, 2006**

**VERBATIM TRANSCRIPT BILL NO. 2006-38**

**COUNCILWOMAN TARKANIAN**

If I could just make a comment, thank you for the comments, and, the womans point of view. I'm the third women in a hundred years, as a Councilperson. And women can do good things too, thank you.

**KATHY BEST**

Well, I think your vote should count for two. And if I get a chance, I would love to move back to your ward. Thank you.

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

Okay, thank you. Next please.

**JUANITA CLARK**

Yes, Mayor and Council. I'm Juanita Clark, and I have a statement here from Charleston Neighborhood Preservation I want to read unto the record. This is to the City of Las Vegas, Councilwoman Tarkanian and all concerned with this Bill 2006 dash 38. Respectfully, we request that Bill 2006-38 be rejected today. The year of 1996, redistricting boundary changes were for population. In 1999, the redistricting, slash, boundary changes were for adding wards. The year of 2002 redistricting and boundary changes were rejected by, one of the reasons was that the voters were unable to vote because as a ward boundary change it required a precincts removed. The legal description providing information about which precincts and the number of votes disenfranchise has not been publicized by individual Council members to their wards. Obviously, Ward 1 is being more adversely affected and the other five from our aspects. We could continue, but request that you reject this Bill today, and in the spirit of individual freedoms. Thank you.

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

Thank you very much. Please make that a matter of record, thank you. All right, next please.

**RECOMMENDING COMMITTEE MEETING OF  
July 26, 2006**

**VERBATIM TRANSCRIPT BILL NO. 2006-38**

**RICHARD RYCHTARIK**

Mr. Mayor, Councilpersons, I'm in Ward 6.

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

You gotta give us your name and, good.

**RICHARD RYCHTARIK**

Yes , I was going to get to that.

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

Okay, good.

**RICHARD RYCHTARIK**

I was in Councilman Ross' Ward, and I really dont have any dog in this fight. I was

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

Well, we have to have your name.

**RICHARD RYCHTARIK**

I'm gonna get to it.

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

Oh, okay.

**RICHARD RYCHTARIK**

My name is Richard Rychtarik.

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

Thank you.

**RECOMMENDING COMMITTEE MEETING OF  
July 26, 2006**

**VERBATIM TRANSCRIPT BILL NO. 2006-38**

**RICHARD RYCHTARIK**

Okay. I'm at 8228 Weeping Springs Avenue, okay, in the northwest district. Councilman Ross has done a fine job for us. There is no doubt in my mind, though, and his plate has to be overloaded in his big district, or ward, in this case, I came from a different area. But, I guess what picked my interest was, I've certainly not followed this in depth, but anyway, what is the action off not expanding the number of wards? Because it seems to me that if representation is an issue, then maybe you should have eight wards not six. That's just a question I pose. I'd like to have some kind of answer.

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

Sure, we would be happy to answer that. Are, Mr. Jerbic, we discussed this earlier today. We are a Charter City and there are certain proscriptions about us increasing our wards. And I'd like our City Attorney to advise you as to the Charter provision, and answer that question, please.

**BRAD JERBIC**

That's correct. Under the Nevada law there are two types of cities. Those that are organized under Chapter 266, those are just statutory cities. And, those organized under 268, which are charter cities. We are a 268 City. We have a City Charter, and that Charter, basically, says that the City can have as many wards as this Council decides it should have. Two sixty-six cities are not that fortunate. They are mandated to have eight members on those City Council. We are not a 266 City. We're not mandated to have any particular numbers of members on our City Council, and, therefore, it's up to this Council to decide.

**RICHARD RYCHTARIK**

Okay, I mean. But there's, what was the rationale for not just to saying, let's expand while we're doing this; expand the wards to eight?

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

There was no rationale. That wasn't part of our discussion, at this point.

**RECOMMENDING COMMITTEE MEETING OF  
July 26, 2006**

**VERBATIM TRANSCRIPT BILL NO. 2006-38**

**RICHARD RYCHTARIK**

Okay, well that's the answer. Thank you. And the other is that, you know, I hear a lot talk about

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

Let me ask you this question though, now that you raised the issue, would anything preclude us from, if, we as a Council, felt that it was in the City's best interest, and the best interest of all of our constituents to expand the Council base to eight wards. Would we be able to do that without going to the legislature?

**BRAD JERBIC**

I believe we can. If you'll give me one moment, Your Honor, I have the Charter right in front of me. Your Honor, that's correct, Your Honor. Under Section one point one three oh, which this is the part I eliminated because I didn't think it was relevant for this discussion, says the City must be divided into six wards, upon the approval of the voters. Therefore, the wards may be increased, in one way, as by the City Council, if it determines that an increase is necessary.

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

Fine, as I said

**RICHARD RYCHTARIK**

Okay.

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

That has not been considered by us.

**RICHARD RYCHTARIK**

Well, thank you.

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

Apparently, you raised an issue.

**RECOMMENDING COMMITTEE MEETING OF  
July 26, 2006**

**VERBATIM TRANSCRIPT BILL NO. 2006-38**

**RICHARD RYCHTARIK**

There were a number of questions raised about this may impact my ward in one way or another. Was there any analysis done, as to whether or not there's some financial ramifications to one ward versus another? I know it's not a Supreme Court issue, obviously.

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

No, no there were discussions, there were discussions about that. There was some discussions about roof tax, construction taxes on new buildings. But, basically that's a non issue, as far as I'm concerned, as the Mayor, because, for example, I think that Ward 3, Councilman Reese's ward, over the past several years has received peanuts because there was very little development there. And yet, if I'm not mistaken, we built and improved 50 million dollars worth of parks because, I liked to think, we, as a Council do what's best for the City as a whole. And that, each Councilperson, not only protects their ward to the best of their ability, but realizes that in order to make it a great city, they have to support one another in the projects. So, I don't believe, from my prospective, that the economic impact is a relevant consideration, others may disagree.

**RICHARD RYCHTARIK**

Okay. But, so there's no mechanical methods applied to what ward gets what money, the City, the City Council in general

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

No

**RICHARD RYCHTARIK**

will determine how money flows to one ward versus another, is that right?

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

Basically that's a correct statement. However, under the roof, the construction tax, the rule is that the money is raised from that must remain in that ward, for park purposes.

**RECOMMENDING COMMITTEE MEETING OF  
July 26, 2006**

**VERBATIM TRANSCRIPT BILL NO. 2006-38**

**RICHARD RYCHTARIK**

Okay, that answers my questions.

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

Very good.

**RICHARD RYCHTARIK**

Thank you, Mr. Mayor.

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

Thank you. And, if I'm wrong, please correct me.

**BRAD JERBIC**

All right.

**RICHARD RYCHTARIK**

Thank you.

**COUNCILMAN WOLFSON**

Mayor Goodman.

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

Yes. Councilman Wolfson.

**COUNCILMAN WOLFSON**

I think it's appropriate for us to expand on that discussion briefly. And, Doctor Selby could I ask with the Mayor's permission, for you to chime in here. And, give us the exact direction, as far as roof tax revenue; what does that mean, and what happens to it? And if you can add up historical perspective, notwithstanding the fact, that Ward A may not have drawn as much revenue from roof taxes. Historically, has that type of ward been awarded monies to build parks and recreational facilities?

**DOUG SELBY**

I, Councilman, as the discussion evolved, I anticipated this coming up, so I've asked Mark Vincent to be here. And if Mark could come up, he's probably gonna be able to give you the best.

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

All right, Mr. Vincent.

**BEATRICE TURNER**

Oh, well let me let Mr. Vincent have at it. Took my (inaudible)

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

Thank you. Did you hear the question, Mr. Vincent? I know you were engaged in conversation.

**MARK VINCENT**

Yea, I didn't hear the question, go ahead, ask it again.

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

All right, would Councilman Wolfson, would you be kind enough to pose your question again?

**COUNCILMAN WOLFSON**

Page 54 of 91

**RECOMMENDING COMMITTEE MEETING OF  
July 26, 2006**

**VERBATIM TRANSCRIPT BILL NO. 2006-38**

Sure, thank you Mayor. Mr. Vincent there's been some discussion; we've touched on it a little in the last little while, about, under the current proposed redistricting map that, if it were to go through, one ward may not have as much rooftop revenue as other wards. And, therefore, they wouldn't be able to use certain monies to build parks and other facilities. Could you talk about rooftop revenue, what that means, and, and if you can add a historical perspective. If one ward didn't receive as much revenue from that source, notwithstanding that fact, where monies from other sources used to build the parks and the other facilities.

**MARK VINCENT**

Yes, I can answer your question. Excuse me. The rooftop tax is actually called Residential Construction Tax and it's a tax that's set by the rate, the tax rate is set by statute. But we are in a Ordinance, we can determine what the value, I dont know what the census were, but the value is set in our own Code. It has a limit of 1,000 dollars per residential unit. If you do the math, based upon the current tax rates and values, that's, that tops about two thousand seven hundred and eighty square feet. So, once you get to a residence that's an excessive two thousand seven hundred and eighty square feet, the tax is capped at a thousand dollars. Historically, over the years, we've seen an increase in it. This past year, we saw about three million dollars in revenue from Residential Construction Tax. For oh six, I think about two million of that was for Ward 6. The there was a significant portion that was for Ward 4, and then there was smaller amounts for the other four wards. And that, historically, has been the trend. Historically, the faster growing expanding areas in the northwest have got the bulk of the Residential Construction Tax. But again, we're only talking about, historically, any where from two to three million dollars a year in Residential Construction Tax. Now that tax has to be used for

**COUNCILMAN REESE**

Mr. Vincent.

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

Excuse me, Mr. Vincent.

**COUNCILMAN REESE**

Can I ask you, the money you were talking about, which ward got the least amount of money?

**MARK VINCENT**

For the last six years, I believe Ward 1, has the least amount of revenues.

**RECOMMENDING COMMITTEE MEETING OF  
July 26, 2006**

**VERBATIM TRANSCRIPT BILL NO. 2006-38**

**COUNCILMAN REESE**

And which was the next one?

**MARK VINCENT**

Excuse me, excuse me. Making me do this from memory. It was Ward 3 had the least amount of revenues.

**COUNCILMAN REESE**

Thank you.

**COUNCILWOMAN TARKANIAN**

Excuse me, Mr. Mayor. I didn't hear the last thing you said, the last two, three sentences, could you repeat that?

**MARK VINCENT**

Councilman asked me, which ward, over the last six years, received the least amount of residential tax revenues, and it was Ward 3.

**COUNCILWOMAN TARKANIAN**

And these are revenues that are pursued, right, by people who are in the district, Councilman working the businessman and so forth?

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

No.

**COUNCILWOMAN TARKANIAN**

No.

**MARK VINCENT**

Revenues that are pursued?

**RECOMMENDING COMMITTEE MEETING OF  
July 26, 2006**

**VERBATIM TRANSCRIPT BILL NO. 2006-38**

**COUNCILWOMAN TARKANIAN**

These, what? I didn't get that, the fuel end what you said. Could you just say it again?

**MARK VINCENT**

The Residential Construction Tax is a tax that's placed on the value of residential construction. It caps out at about a thousand, the limit is a thousand dollars per residential unit, which translates to about two thousand seven hundred and eighty square feet of residential living space. Historically, that revenues been any where from about two and a half million to three million the last six years. In two thousand and six, I think it was a little over 3 million in revenue. The bulk of that is in Wards 4 and 6. I, off the top of my head, I'm gonna tell you that maybe 15 to 20 percent of the revenues is spread amongst the other the other four wards. The, and we have a capital program, and I was starting to say that, that tax has to be used for a neighborhood park of, I think, less than 25 acres. So, it has that restriction on it, as well. And we have been tracking this, since the inception, and the reality is, which is even true for Ward 6 today, the reality is that those revenues are not sufficient to build a park in and out of itself, unless it's a very, very small park.

They, they're sufficient to supplement certain things but with the exception of Ward 6, half a million or few hundred thousand dollars is not going to be sufficient to build a park. So, we supplement those revenues from other sources, like the Las Vegas Convention and Visitors Authority, rebate of room tax, with their own general fund contributions, which are significant, in the course of the years, as well as bonds. We actually issue bonds as well. So, when our capital program for parks and recreation might be any where from 20 to 40 million dollars a year, depending whether we issue bonds or not that year, Residential Construction Tax is only about 3 million dollars of that. So, it has to be supplemented from other sources in order to carry out our program.

Its the only tax by the way, that I know of, that is currently ward specific, only because Council has defined parks district as wards, as a matter of expediency. All the other revenues that we get are not ward specific and are not collected in that manner. And you all, collectively, in our budget process decide where those revenues go. So, there's a long answer. Does that get to the, help?

**RECOMMENDING COMMITTEE MEETING OF  
July 26, 2006**

**VERBATIM TRANSCRIPT BILL NO. 2006-38**

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

Okay. Councilman Ross.

**COUNCILMAN ROSS**

Your Honor, if I may. Thank you, Mr. Vincent. And, I've asked you this question a hundred times, can I spend that residence

**MARK VINCENT**

And, I can't get the answer right?

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

You didn't put it in writing, that's why.

**COUNCILMAN ROSS**

Can I use the Ward 6 Residential Construction Tax for the other wards? And, you know I know what the answer is every time

**MARK VINCENT**

The answers no, obviously. And the answer is you cant use it for the other wards. It has to be spent in the ward that generated the revenue. However, because we used other sources, like general fund revenues to supplement or capitol program, you can offset that. I mean, obviously, as a group, you can collectively decide if theres a, for example, if there is a project in Ward 3 that was a three million dollar project, and you all agreed that that was a project you wanted to fund. And it was a project that was eligible for residential construction, there was a neighborhood park, if Councilman Reese only had a hundred thousand dollars in Residential Construction Tax, you would then have to collectively decide, that the other two point nine million of general fund money could be allocated to that, and that's what you do.

**RECOMMENDING COMMITTEE MEETING OF  
July 26, 2006**

**VERBATIM TRANSCRIPT BILL NO. 2006-38**

**COUNCILMAN WOLFSON**

And, that was my next question. You answered it before I got to ask it. We can always, in the budget process, in other wards that don't have this Residential Construction Tax, budget for those parks, budget for those improvements in those areas, am I correct?

**MARK VINCENT**

Yes, and you do that every year.

**COUNCILMAN WOLFSON**

Thank you, Sir.

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

Well, the truth of the matter is, I can't remember as the Mayor, of where any Council member who was trying to improve a park in their particular ward, and asked of the other Council members for support, ever being turned down. I can't remember that. I think that, its a matter of the way we do business up here. These, this Council thinks of the City as a whole. They take care of their wards. That's what theyre supposed to do. Theyre elected to take care of their wards. But the bottom line is, we support each other in taking care of the City as a whole. I'm not asking you to respond, but that's my statement. Okay, thank you very much.

**COUNCILWOMAN TARKANIAN**

Mr. Mayor.

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

Yes.

**COUNCILWOMAN TARKANIAN**

You talk about the monies aren't very much monies, and you couldn't buy a new park. But isn't it true that the mature Wards such as, 1, 3 and 5 have very poor parks, when you compare them to the new areas. And I mean, I've been out to some parks that I, sometimes wish I hadn't gone out there because, when I see how beautiful they are and all the amenities they offer, I feel so bad for the people in 1, 3 and 5. But, so 500,000, 40,000 those figures which you gave me, which I had received a copy of, those can be very important. I know in Ward 1, we were begging for light post. We were going to light poles that were pulled out, so that maybe we could use them in some of our parks, so that we could make places for soccer, the Downtown Soccer Association for example, and things like that. So, that amount of money, small as it is, can be very important to a mature neighborhood. And then secondly, I know what the Mayor has said, but when you get down to what you vote for a ward, it does become discretionary, and you do need the majority of the ward to vote for you and the majority of the Council people. And sometimes there might be a concern there. Thank you.

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

All right. Thank you. Thank you, Mr. Vincent. All right, Ms. Turner.

**BEATRICE TURNER**

Beatrice Turner, West Las Vegas. I would like to know, did Mr. Kessler, here; did he have a committee that worked with him, that helped him do these maps?

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

Judge would you like to respond to that, please?

**FRED KESSLER**

Page 59 of 91

**RECOMMENDING COMMITTEE MEETING OF  
July 26, 2006**

**VERBATIM TRANSCRIPT BILL NO. 2006-38**

I talked with all the members of the Council, and I talked with the members of the Council staff. And, this time I did not give any independent contacts made to me by anybody who wasn't either a Councilperson or Council staff person. But in the past I've had citizens contact me by and talk to me about that. It just didn't occur this time. But

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

Well, in all fairness, you're not answering the question, correctly.

**RECOMMENDING COMMITTEE MEETING OF  
July 26, 2006**

**VERBATIM TRANSCRIPT BILL NO. 2006-38**

**FRED KESSLER**

Right, I did not have a committee.

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

I understand.

**FRED KESSLER**

I did not have a committee working with me. But I

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

I understand that. But, Ms. Turner you weren't here when we started. Basically, there was a presentation and the Judge explained that he was working with Mr. Perrigo and his staff, long hours, getting the input from the City staff. So, it's not just talking to the Council members and their liaisons, it's also working with City staff, as far as the census numbers are concerned.

**BEATRICE TURNER**

How many people sit up here, seven?

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

Six wards and one Mayor.

**BEATRICE TURNER**

Okay, well, and you don't count, so it's six. You mean to tell me, he couldn't call a meeting with each ward and meet with, you know, and send a notice out, and meet with each ward, and get the input from the people that live out there, that this gonna affect? He got it from City staff, everybody from, but the people that it affects. He didn't contact no, no, nobody from within other wards. That didn't happen.

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

That's correct.

**RECOMMENDING COMMITTEE MEETING OF  
July 26, 2006**

**VERBATIM TRANSCRIPT BILL NO. 2006-38**

**BEATRICE TURNER**

That, you know, I stand today here today, Mr. Kessler, cause you know who I am. Cause, I'm the same black woman, that filed the law suit, when they first tried to do the redistricting, cause the Councilman McDonald, at that time, did not carry the vote on the west side, so he wanted to throw us away, and then throw us to Gary Reese and Gary Reese said, you know, cause I don't want it. So, you know, I'm the one that went down there in that courtroom, and we spent that money and filed that law suit, until Chester decide to sell us out. And, that's why God got him on a bed of affliction now. But I want to say to you, Councilwoman Tarkanian, you hold yo' head up baby, because everythang (sic) gone be all right. Cause you know what, you the only female sitting here, and you got a older area, where you at, and them people been there for 20, 30 years, cause I have worked over there. But you hold yo' head up, cause you know what, the Lord will fight yo' battle through it all. And with these power struggles that they trying to do, and they 'den hired Mr. Kessler here, from Wisconsin, only thing that Wisconsin made good is cheese, and you give that to a rat, when you put it in a rat trap.

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

All right.

**UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE SPEAKER**

I agree. I agree with Beatrice. I don't have to talk. That sums it all up.

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

Okay, Councilman Reese.

**COUNCILMAN REESE**

I just, again Beatrice, Ms. Turner? I don't remember ever, ever stating anytime, any where, any place, I did not want to represent and serve West Las Vegas.

**BEATRICE TURNER**

Don't go there today, cause I don't want to hear it.

**RECOMMENDING COMMITTEE MEETING OF  
July 26, 2006**

**VERBATIM TRANSCRIPT BILL NO. 2006-38**

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

All right, have a seat please. Yes, Sir.

**BEATRICE GOODMAN**

Don't you go there.

**ROSHAN JOSHUA COLLINS**

My name is Roshan Joshua Collins. I'm not from here. I'm from Washington State, actually, Spokane, Washington. Im a street preacher. Well, I warn people about, you know, heaven and hell, that's the kind of thing I do. And Im also concerned about what a state manager said, about the poor. Is , my concern right now, because there was a statement made, well, these Council people care for those in the City. Well, what about the law that was just passed, that won't allow you to feed the homeless? That shows me that they don't care about the people in the City, but they care about that are in power and are in charge. You know, that, that's just the truth. It's obvious that you don't care about the people in this City, if you can pass a law that you can't feed a homeless person, you know. But, I don't have all the clues on this districting and all these issues, but I just ask that you seek God on this, because it's serious. The repercussion, if you don't walk with the world, like my sister, here, said, I pray to God that she was here. Its encouraging to you to hear a voice for the Lord, and that's what we need to follow. God bless.

**BEATRICE TURNER**

(Inaudible) to you. Amen.

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

All right. Thank you. Yes, Ma'am.

**JUSTINE KING**

My name is Justine King and I live on 1260 Pinto Lane. I'm a Ward 1 resident, and I was asked to read a letter on behalf of a neighbor, that is, faxed in a letter because they were not able to be here. And it was not made public record, so I'm asked to read it. It states, Dear Mrs. Tarkanian, I, just now, at 1:00 o'clock pm, was notified by a neighbor about today's City Council meeting agenda, including a proposal to redistrict the area where I live. This would remove me and my neighbors from your district, and I feel no less than outraged. I was not notified directly. Instead, I heard the agenda was published in a newspaper. I'm on summer vacation in Reno, and Tahoe, and, of course, wouldnt know about this, as well as other people who are vacationing out of town. If this redistricting happens, we will have the fourth City Council representative in as many years. Does the Mayor and the City Council truly believe that this is the best action for the constituents? We do not think so. This neighborhood went through a lot to gain Mrs. Tarkanian as our Councilwoman, and we are very angry. Why is this happening? What happened to the communication with your Council and the constituents? There has been no neighborhood informational meeting and no notification. Ms. Tarkanian we voted you into office to represent our entire neighborhood, not half of it. Please do not allow this to happen. Thank you.

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

Signed by whom?

**JUSTINE KING**

It's anonymous.

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

Excuse me.

**RECOMMENDING COMMITTEE MEETING OF  
July 26, 2006**

**VERBATIM TRANSCRIPT BILL NO. 2006-38**

**JUSTINE KING**

I don't have the name.

**UNIDENTIFIED MALE SPEAKER**

Caroline Stone.

**JUSTINE KING**

Caroline Stone.

**RECOMMENDING COMMITTEE MEETING OF  
July 26, 2006**

**VERBATIM TRANSCRIPT BILL NO. 2006-38**

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

Caroline Stone, all right, would you make that a part of the record, please? Thank you.

**JUSTINE KING**

You're welcome.

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

All right, next please.

**RON ROCKWELL**

Could you hand this one to the Mayor. That's the original and the copy for each one of the Board.

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

Thank you.

**RON ROCKWELL**

Happy Birthday, Your Honor.

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

Thank you very much.

**RON ROCKWELL**

Mayor.

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

Thank you.

**RON ROCKWELL**

You look a year longer from last year.

**RECOMMENDING COMMITTEE MEETING OF  
July 26, 2006**

**VERBATIM TRANSCRIPT BILL NO. 2006-38**

**BEATRICE TURNER**

Don't tell that lie, it ain't gone get you no vote.

**RON ROCKWELL**

Mayor, I live in Ward 1. I'm Chief Scientist with Rockwell Scientific and Rockwell Mining Oil and Gas in South America. And, I got a very big concern about this. When a notice comes up, if you read the start of that, I received it two days ago. And I'm concerned if you readjust these wards, is that going to achieve for high rise buildings just to come in and change your, change everything into a commercial zoning in residential, and leave the houses out or is there any intentions in there?

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

That hasn't been part of the discussion.

**RON ROCKWELL**

Cause there's a concern right on here, Your Honor, Mayor. The Business Impact Statement is to adjust the ward boundaries of the City. It shows no adverse affects, no beneficial affects, no direct affects and no indirect affects. But if you go to the Bill Number 2-0-0-6 dash 38, the Ordinance, it states in contradiction to that, right on the heading. The Ordinance to adjust ward boundaries of the City needs to provide for other related matters. Now, does that bring a change or increase to taxes for everybody?

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

It, to my knowledge it has no barren whatsoever on taxes.

**RON ROCKWELL**

So, by not having all these drawings present is there a reason not to have them here, or is that just an error why we didn't have these other maps here?

**RECOMMENDING COMMITTEE MEETING OF  
July 26, 2006**

**VERBATIM TRANSCRIPT BILL NO. 2006-38**

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

No, the testimony has been that 17 maps were prepared and distributed over the course of time. And it's the final map that's before this Council for consideration.

**RON ROCKWELL**

Okay, cause the reason for that is, we're planning on putting a very large facility here in Vegas. I was kinda concerned about, if that was going to be a big tax impact on private industry.

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

It would not.

**RON ROCKWELL**

All right, thank you very much.

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

Very good. Thank you. And we'll make Mr. Rockwell's letter a matter of record. All right. Thank you. Would anybody else like to be heard at this time? This is the time to be heard at the Recommending Committee. All right, don't want anyone to feel that they haven't been given the opportunity to express themselves; that's why we're here today. All right, seeing none, what I would like to do at this time, and I'll use this methodology, which I pick out of the thin air, basically. If the Council members would like to express their position at this time, they certainly would have the opportunity to do so. We'll do it in order of wards. We'll start with Councilwoman Tarkanian in Ward 1, if you'd like to be heard on this, Ma'am.

**COUNCILWOMAN TARKANIAN**

I'd like to be heard last Mr. Mayor, please.

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

Well, no, I like you to go first

**RECOMMENDING COMMITTEE MEETING OF  
July 26, 2006**

**VERBATIM TRANSCRIPT BILL NO. 2006-38**

**COUNCILWOMAN TARKANIAN**

Well, why don't we do the alphabet backwards?

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

As I said, I'd like to hear from you first, please.

**UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE SPEAKER**

Speak up (inaudible).

**COUNCILWOMAN TARKANIAN**

Okay, thank you very much, Mr. Mayor.

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

You're welcome.

**COUNCILWOMAN TARKANIAN**

First of all, I'd like to go back to August 31, 1999, where Judge Kessler came to town, and spoke with the people. And he said that, when I came here and was hired to assist in the redistricting of the City of Las Vegas, I came here with a strongly held belief, that one of the most important things that we want to do, when we redistrict is assure that everybody has access to the decision making table. I think that's what the people here are talking about, today. I think that's what a lot of the telephone calls, I've had are about. And I think that's one reason why I'm getting more involved, in open government and the spreading of information. It's because there's a feeling there's not open access. There's not enough time to get the information out. We tried, in our office, as people called, to send out the maps, and do whatever we could. In fact, some of the maps we sent out were early on, and then we find out that number had been changed, and it was some confusion there. But we did as best we could, but that's not enough. Not enough people know. People should be involved in the decision making process. And if this is political or not political, it still belongs in the hand of the people to a great extent, and I think they should be more involved. I think Judge Kessler you believe that, from what you said. And I think from your time in office and other places, that's true.

Secondly, I would like to say that on August 31, 1999, you stated the downtown is very, very important. And the health of downtown is very, very important to the prosperity of a City as a whole. And therefore, the City as a whole benefits by the downtown having more than one voice on the Council. Didn't say two voices, three voices, four voices, five, it said more than one voice. And I feel when I came on this Council, I thought how intelligent these people were, they took the three most mature wards. The three that need the most help, they took those wards and they shared in that redevelopment area downtown. And what's going to happen with this new map, if it's accepted, is that Ward 1 is going to be knocked out of it, totally.

Thirdly, you again stated the reason as I stated earlier, was I felt that in a City that is important for a downtown, particularly because of its importance and vitality, for the whole community to have the opportunity to have more than one Councilperson. And that's a persuasive reason to go in that direction. Those were quotes from August 31, 1999.

You know, I listened today to some of my fellow Councilmen speak, and they talked about what's best for the City as a whole. To me, what's best for the City as a whole is for the entire City to be vibrant, the entire City to be able to achieve and to look at what's needed. I understand Councilman Ross' need, in the area that he represents, and how crowded it is. I have no objection to that type of balance. But for the problems he has, they're very, very different than the problems in Ward 1, as one or two of the speakers mentioned. And those problems need to be addressed too. And we are not going to be able to address them, if all redevelopment and development is almost, totally, taken away from Ward 1.

**RECOMMENDING COMMITTEE MEETING OF  
July 26, 2006**

**VERBATIM TRANSCRIPT BILL NO. 2006-38**

When we began this process, I told the Judge that I wanted to keep the ward that I had now and I'd take whatever else they wanted to give me. It was the smallest ward, and so whatever else they wanted to give me, I'd be glad to take, but I wanted to keep the ward that I had now. I think that from some of his maps, he made an attempt to try and make changes, and what, before we came to this final map. But on the other hand, he also told me some things that concern me. And I don't know, Judge, if I could ask you this now or if you could say this, but could you tell me why, you told me it would be a six one or five two vote, at most? Could you tell this Council why I would be concerned because of that statement you made to me and my staff? I believe, Mr. Jerbic, was there, also. Do you remember?

**FRED KESSLER**

Unfortunately, I don't remember.

**COUNCILWOMAN TARKANIAN**

Okay, then I'll say what I remember and what the other people who were there remember. That the reason why I could not get votes to change, or you, when you talked with them and you were working diligently to talk with them, the reason why was because friends that Council members had stated they were friends with Councilman Reese. He had done things, you know, that had helped out in their situations. That's all right, but also because, perhaps, there was retaliation for votes I had made. You had said that to me. Now, I want you to know, I have tried

**UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE SPEAKER**

Tell the truth and shame the devil.

**COUNCILWOMAN TARKANIAN**

very hard while I've been on this Council, never to think there was there was any reason why a retaliation. And yet, and yet you stated that day, and it just like put a quiver in my heart, because then it began to make me feel, yes, there are these things happening. And to me, I can't count, I can't count on being able to vote, my conscience, and doing what I think is right, if it's a six-one vote or whatever vote it is, if I have, and that I'm gonna get a fair shake. Because right now I don't feel, from what you said to me, and from what others have said to me that that's happening. I truly feel that in my heart. Now, I want you to know that there were people, other people that were there that heard this, because I was very surprised, and very concerned and we discussed it after you left.

**RECOMMENDING COMMITTEE MEETING OF  
July 26, 2006**

**VERBATIM TRANSCRIPT BILL NO. 2006-38**

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

Judge Kessler.

**UNIDENTIFIED MALE SPEAKER**

Tell the truth and shame the devil.

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

Wait . Judge Kessler.

**FRED KESSLER**

Yea, I wouldn't know if

**UNIDENTIFIED MALE SPEAKER**

Speak up here.

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

Wait, that's not the way we do business.

**UNIDENTIFIED MALE SPEAKER**

Want to hear this.

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

As I said, Judge Kessler.

**FRED KESSLER**

I would not know if anybody was engaged in any retaliation action. I'm not involved. I never set in any other Council subject matter other than this. I don't recollect any such statement that I ever made because, its certainly something that I would be totally unaware of.

**RECOMMENDING COMMITTEE MEETING OF  
July 26, 2006**

**VERBATIM TRANSCRIPT BILL NO. 2006-38**

**COUNCILWOMAN TARKANIAN**

Okay. And , Judge, you did not tell us that you had been told this by that , you did not tell me and my staff that you had been told this by people who were involved in any retaliation. You told me that you have been told that this is one of the reasons why, there was not a movement on the five-two or the six-one. That's what you told me. But I'll move off of that, but I want you to know, that this is come to a point, where I feel very strongly, that if you get elected and you represent the people you should be allowed to represent the people. There were two other concerns I wanted to mention. One of them is that, could someone just put this under, the map, for me, under the light or the machine, the technological aspect of it.

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

Overhead please. Thank you.

**COUNCILWOMAN TARKANIAN**

I would like to have you look at this map. I'm talking about development and redevelopment, and, how this realignment of wards will affect Ward 1. You see that little glove down there on the left hand side? That's all that's left for any development or redevelopment in Ward 1. And that little glove contains our girly industries. What's the first; fifth, what's the official name?

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

Adult business.

**COUNCILWOMAN TARKANIAN**

Gentleman, adult education clubs. I think therere probably

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

No, no, no, no, no, no

**COUNCILWOMAN TARKANIAN**

No, no not that? Okay.

**RECOMMENDING COMMITTEE MEETING OF  
July 26, 2006**

**VERBATIM TRANSCRIPT BILL NO. 2006-38**

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

No, no it's not adult education. It's just Sexually Oriented Businesses.

**COUNCILWOMAN TARKANIAN**

Well, thats what I meant. There you go. Okay, okay.

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

Right, well I'm an expert on that, but

**COUNCILWOMAN TARKANIAN**

Well have an expert on that. That little glove contains the Sexually Oriented Businesses, which I don't know if they would want to sell, no matter what they get for a high raise, from the money I've been told they earn off of their businesses. But that's all that's left. Now, if you look at the other, if you look at all the way through there, those are the other two mature wards. Those are Wards 3 and 5. All of that goes to them, and that little thing at the bottom, which probably will never, ever develop pass the orient, Sexually Oriented Businesses, that's what left. That's what I'm talking about, when I'm saying youre taking all opportunities for redevelopment and development out of Ward 1. And we can talk about financial figures, we can talk. And, one thing I've learned is there's a lot of different ways to say things. Nonetheless, I think that map shows that.

Lastly, I'd like to say, the people elected me to represent them, and I think these people here and I think others have indicated they want to retain me. I think we're talking about developers. I think we're talking realtors. I think we're talking about residents. I think we're talking about a lot of people. We've worked very hard in this ward, and we have started an impetus of progress that I think is, is very, very important. And that impetus could be, can be utilized by anybody who has that type of development, even on the other side of the Las Vegas Boulevard. But you have to work with the people and you have to try and do the best you can there.

The key factor here, I think, is representative of government. How do you elect somebody and then have them move.

It's not on? Thank you very much; my paper knocked it over. How can you elect somebody to represent you and feel that that's your right in an American democracy, when in fact, it can be changed like that, without really much due notice, without much input. I mean, we're talking about a fundamental right of representation. And we're saying, okay, you know, our Charter says that if you have, you have a discretion, you don't have to, but you have a discretion, in-between census years, that if you feel you should, you can make these changes. But, you make them based upon, what is thought by, what is found to be permissible by the City Council. You listen to those words. You have the right to change them on what is found to be permissible by the City Council.

When I talked to a group of individuals, over the weekend, about that, they were aghast at that wording, even in that. I mean what can the City Council do? It doesn't have to be just; it doesn't have to be fair. But it should be, because we're talking about the fundamental rights that individuals have in our country. And it probably is the most precious right, the right to vote, the right to have your representative there, and have them represent you. Thank you very much.

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

Thank you, all right. All right. Thank you. Councilman Wolfson, please.

**COUNCILMAN WOLFSON**

Thank you, Mayor Goodman, and thank you Councilwoman Tarkanian for your comments. Id like to talk about the subject of notice. This process started about six months ago, would that be a fair statement? And it's actually an extension of what we almost did two years ago. I was elected to this Council about 24 months ago, and soon after I was elected in oh four, the subject matter of redistricting came up because there was a recognition that one ward had so many more people than another ward. And the process started, but it was, it was ended. I'm not sure why, but I think there

**RECOMMENDING COMMITTEE MEETING OF  
July 26, 2006**

**VERBATIM TRANSCRIPT BILL NO. 2006-38**

was a consensus that, well, we're not going to do it this year, we're going to do it next time. And I was new on the Council. Like I said, this is about two years ago. And, and I said okay, so we started the process again, about six months ago. And this wasn't a secret process by, any means. Councilwoman Tarkanian, I think you and I together have had perhaps three meetings face to face. I had a number of meetings with Judge Kessler. There were discussions amongst my colleagues. It certainly wasn't a secretive process. I appeared on the Access City Las Vegas television show, as I do and as we all do every six weeks. And I spoke about this subject matter, I believe, on two separate occasions, on television, about redistricting and that it was going to occur. So, I don't think it was a secretive process, by any means. In fact, it was talked openly by a number of us. It was published in the newspaper, and it was discussed just in general. I believe in the open government and the flow of information, and Councilwoman you and I have talked together about that. And we have agreed about the problems that we've seen in the City of Las Vegas, on the issue of flow of information, we've advocated together on that. So, when we talk about, and I respect what you folks are saying about not getting enough notice, but I don't understand that, because it's been talked about, it's been published in the newspaper. I trust Councilwoman Tarkanian and her staff has talked to a number of people, and you're here. And I'm not sure what better notice there could be.

And then the subject of retaliation, and I must address that again. Before I became a Councilperson, I knew Mayor Goodman professionally in our other lives. We weren't good friends by any means, but we knew each other. Until I got on the Council, I never met Councilman Weekly, I never met Councilman Brown. Councilwoman Tarkanian, perhaps, we met, but we didn't know each other. Councilman Reese we never met or weve met once, I mean, hardly knew each other. And, I never met Councilman Ross, 'til a year ago. So, when we talk about retaliation, I don't even understand that. You and I have voted together on a couple of issues. When you stood by yourself, Ive been there with you a couple of times. And I just don't understand what this retaliation means. I really don't.

**COUNCILWOMAN TARKANIAN**

Mr. Wolfson, if I could address that.

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

Its up to you, Steve.

**RECOMMENDING COMMITTEE MEETING OF  
July 26, 2006**

**VERBATIM TRANSCRIPT BILL NO. 2006-38**

**COUNCILMAN WOLFSON**

Sure.

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

Sure, yes.

**COUNCILWOMAN TARKANIAN**

Mr. Mayor, I would like to tell you, that I did not begin thinking there was retaliation. I was repeating to you what was told to me, in a very, very important situation for my ward. And that's what I'm telling you. Did I think that there was retaliation at the beginning? No. I, you know I feel the data supports, I think the history supports, that we shouldn't be doing this map. But on the other hand, I think I even told the newspapers that I was hoping when the data came out, that that would be so when they tried to ask me if there was retaliation and get me in a position to say it. But you know, when I am told in a meeting, such as I was told from somebody from out-of-state, that has heard it from people in his area, in the City, then I'm concerned, yes.

And, secondly, let me tell you there's a difference. I , if you don't mind mine adding, theres a difference between knowing that your discussing redistricting and then knowing, okay, this is the map and this what we're going to go on. And the calls I had were people who saw the notice in the mail on Sunday, on the, in the RJ on Sunday. And they were saying, what, this is done? We haven't had time to talk about it. Because in the past when Judge Kessler was here, you didn't just have one Recommending Committee, you had other open, you didn't just have it at 4:00 o'clock. I met someone coming up here that works from in the City Hall, and said will it last pass 5:00? I work 'til 5:00, and I'm gone try and get up there. It's hard for people who work to get here at 4:00 o'clock. And that's what I think these people are saying.

**COUNCILMAN WOLFSON**

Well, I certainly appreciate that. But the fact of the retaliation respectfully, I just don't see it. And I don't understand it. And I certainly haven't participated in that process. My final comments are that, this is a difficult process because we have such a large City and such an imbalance between the wards. We have to restructure precincts to take from Councilman Ross and give to Councilman Reese, and then Councilman Brown and I, are kinda in the middle. It's a process, its required to, to best represent our constituents. And this process requires the reassignment of, of ward boundaries, and the reassignment of precincts. And this is the first time I've been through this process and it's not pretty. It's not pretty. It's got its ugly side, it certainly does. I don't know that this process can be 100 percent full proof, where everybodys happy. Because if you take precinct A from Council Ward A, and put it in another ward, somebodys gonna be unhappy. Because this gentleman might like their Councilman, but this person, who's in the same ward may not like their Councilperson; they may want the new one, but they don't want to give up the old one. So, I just think that this process is democratic, it's open. But by its nature, it's going never to please everyone. And I just know that, on my behalf, and I really believe on my colleagues behalf, we're just trying our best to accomplish what we think is fair. Thank you.

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

All right. Thank you. I'm going to have a three minute recess so the staff can rest up a little bit. Three minutes in recess.

**RECESS  
RESUME MEETING**

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

**RECOMMENDING COMMITTEE MEETING OF  
July 26, 2006**

**VERBATIM TRANSCRIPT BILL NO. 2006-38**

All right folks, thank you very much. Would everyone have their seat please? Call the meeting back to order. I'd like to hear from Ward 3, Councilman Reese, please. Please, folks, please have a seat.

**COUNCILMAN REESE**

Thank you, Your Honor. I too, want to thank those that participated today.

**BEATRICE TURNER**

We can't hear.

**RECOMMENDING COMMITTEE MEETING OF  
July 26, 2006**

**VERBATIM TRANSCRIPT BILL NO. 2006-38**

**COUNCILMAN REESE**

I too want to thank

**UNIDENTIFIED MALE SPEAKER**

Can't hear.

**COUNCILMAN REESE**

I want to thank those who participated today, the information that was passed along. My ward, Ward 3 is probably the hardest when it comes to redistricting. On the north I'm bounded by

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

Excuse Council, please, are indicating they can't hear. Is there anyway to turn up?

**UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE SPEAKER**

We can't hear you.

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

What, that's what I'm talking about.

**UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE SPEAKER**

Something is wrong with the mikes.

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

So, is there any way to turn up the mikes? All right, Councilman, if you don't mind, good. Now everyone will be able to hear.

**COUNCILMAN REESE**

Can you hear me?

**RECOMMENDING COMMITTEE MEETING OF  
July 26, 2006**

**VERBATIM TRANSCRIPT BILL NO. 2006-38**

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

Yes.

**COUNCILMAN REESE**

Thank you. One more time, I too want to show my appreciation for those who came out here today participated in this process. I feel like that my ward is probably the hardest ward to redistrict. I think that on the north side I'm bounded by North Las Vegas, and on the east side I'm bounded by the County, and on the south side I'm bounded by the County. If Ward 3 were to go, it's, if Ward 3 were to go in north westerly direction, the affect would be to cut African American's out of their current district, and dilute the racial makeup of that district. To me that isn't acceptable. If Ward 3 were to go in a south westerly direction there would be no disruption in minority representation, and I can represent again in an area that I previously represented and know pretty well. I think fairness and common sense, to me, make the second choice the best. Thank you, Your Honor.

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

Thank you. Preciate (sic) it, if

**COUNCILMAN REESE**

Councilman Brown.

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

This will be Councilman Brown, please.

**COUNCILMAN BROWN**

Lets see if my mike works.

**BEATRICE TURNER**

No, it ain't working. Say wee, see if it works.

**RECOMMENDING COMMITTEE MEETING OF  
July 26, 2006**

**VERBATIM TRANSCRIPT BILL NO. 2006-38**

**COUNCILMAN BROWN**

Beatrice can you hear me?

**BEATRICE TURNER**

No.

**COUNCILMAN BROWN**

Thank you, Your Honor. Just a couple comments, I would like to make, prior to any kind of motion being made. This would be my third redistricting effort. And as has been indicated by a couple of speakers and Council members, sometimes it's not always pretty and sometimes it's not always easy. But one of the points that needs to be emphasized here is, we've gone through 16, 17 maps. I would offer that Mr. Deegans map, likewise, would meet all of the criteria and it, in all of those maps, all of the wards are affected. One of the things that I agree with Councilwoman is that we are elected to represent our areas, and we do, especially with those areas that we've worked hard in. And projects that were passionate about, at times it's difficult to lose some of those areas or projects, but that's inevitable because as was stated to start the presentation, we are growing so quickly.

But to try to maintain what we have, even for two years or four years or six years it's difficult. And no one ward can stay the same, at the cost of all five other wards, it's just impossible. In for one of us to say that we want to remain intact, is impossible because it's a domino effect, as we've seen with the 16 or 17 versions. So, what I've seen in the past few times, and certainly with this, what we hope to get to, is a point where there's compromise that we all don't lose the areas that we wanna keep and gain the areas we don't want to gain. And that comes down basically to compromise and communication. And perhaps one of the messages obvious that come out today, is the communication hasn't been there or miscommunication has been there. I know that some of the speakers spoke on issues today that did receive bad information. Some of the petitions and such that we received are from residents that are protesting the redistricting effort, but are not impacted by any of the redistricting areas.

I think we've put to bed the issue that was profiled the last week or so, as far as the loosing of taxes or redevelopment or RCT. That is the furthest thing from the truth. I will comment, because it came up again today, some of the perception that Wards 2, 4 and 6 get the newest and nicest and biggest parks. Well it's probably true, because it started with the fact that Wards 4 and 6 had no parks. , And we were able, with the growth of Las Vegas to go onto BLM land, and we still are, to get large tracks forty, eighty, a hundred and twenty acres or greater for a hundred dollars and build the newest City facilities. That gets so turned around sometimes. The toughest challenge we've had is to go back into the more mature areas, 1, 3 and 5, that do not have 200 acres of BLM land that they can go on, and don't have the large open spaces that we can get in there and build some brand new facilities. But despite that reality about the 2, 4, 6 versus 1, 3, 5, all you have to do is look at what has been accomplished over the last five years or six years.

Any Wards, 1, 3 and 5, acknowledging that we still wanna continue, that we've had some tremendous redevelopment in the open space areas. We had the All American Park, which is part of Ward 1. We have the Mirabelli Community Center, long overdue, but now one of the nicest facilities and newest facilities in the City. Councilman Reese's area, of the East Las Vegas Community Center, the plan is for Freedom Park, Mike Morgan Park. So, that whole issue of RCT and inequality or losing the opportunity that is a red herring. This Council has demonstrated, not talked about, has demonstrated its ability to deal with City parks and open space as one City. And if there are issues when it comes down, even to neighborhood lights or covering playgrounds or things like that, we have a process that, I'll agree with the Mayor, we've never said no to request that came into the process. Sometimes it's a competitive process; some times a project gets put on hold a few years. But overall it's been tremendous, as far as what's been accomplished throughout the City.

**RECOMMENDING COMMITTEE MEETING OF  
July 26, 2006**

**VERBATIM TRANSCRIPT BILL NO. 2006-38**

The one area that, maybe the toughest, is this whole compromise, and certainly, I think the positions of a couple of the members here have become entrenched because they're both passionate; Ward 3 are passionate about certain areas. But it reaches a point where if there's not going to be continued dialogue, if there's not going to be, well maybe we'll consider this or consider that. If the attitude comes to the point where I want it this way or I'm not agreeing to anything, then we run into the problems. Because that's never going to happen, it's impossible for someone to want only what their ward boundaries are today, it just can't happen. And that miscommunication, lack of communication and entrenched positions were worse this go around, than what I've experienced the last few times.

And we also hear that I'm losing good areas and gaining bad areas. Well, take a look at the entire map. And I can speak only for Ward 4, but I'm losing three of the finest precincts I have in the Summerlin area out of necessity. Because there is no other movement I can make, other than northerly. I'm picking up, along the Rainbow corridor, three precincts that are some of the most challenging, when it comes to crime and densities and lack of development opportunities. It's not that I wanted to jump across the highway and take 'em. But from the overall domino effect, it certainly made sense. It's not going to hurt my ward; it's just going to be part of the new divisions. So, Your Honor, the point I'll leave with is that we run through so many iterations, that there were opportunities for compromise and give and take. This map represents either the lack of consensus or the entrenchment that's been involved. But I feel very comfortable that we have tried to do the things that Judge Kessler says we have to do, to meet all of the criteria. And you know, unless someone willing to be very specific what they want, as far as a compromise or what's on the table to make it more equitable, both real and perceived, then I'm willing to move forward with what's before us today.

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

All right. Thank you. All right, Councilman Weekly.

**COUNCILMAN WEEKLY**

Thank you very much, Your Honor. And thank you to everyone who came out to share their participation, today. You know, I'm reminded of a poet, Nicky Giovanni, who said, life for us ain't been no crystal scale, in Ward 5. And I know that everything that we have had to endure in this ward has not always been easy. And since I've been on this Council, I know that I've had to struggle and scrape and fight and beg and lobby and do everything that I possibly can to get the kinda support that you know, we've been getting.

You know, redistricting is not a very pretty process. It's difficult and it's extremely stressful. And I'll go on the record and say it. I'm sure Mr. Kessler can vouch for this that, you know, I didn't act very nice during redistricting, during this process. I wasn't very nice at all. I wasn't disrespectful, but I wasn't, I was one of the ones that was not very nice because I was not happy with the maps. I was not happy with some of the things that I saw; that was presented to me.

You know you look at Ward 5; Ward 5 is a ward that, it's one of those wards that actually we are the only ward that touches everybody. We're kinda centrally located. And, so we're kinda this ward in the initial beginning, we received everything no one wanted. And that's the kind of ward that I represented. The ward where I got precincts that people dumped off on because either they didn't want 'em, or it you know, that's just the attitude I had a long time ago.

And so, you know, I looked at some of these maps that was presented to me, I you know, I too said that, you know, I could really have a hard time with all of this. But I've endured it over six years and I dealt with what I have had to deal with. And, you know, you go through Ward 5, and you know, I, it's no secret we are the most diverse ward. We are the ward that deals with the most social issues. You know, people weren't knocking on my door asking for some of those precincts. You know, we're the ward where, you know, in my opinion, you know, we have a lack of development, and things are getting better. But for a long time we hadn't had any real ward that has had to deal with outdated parks. And so, you know, we've dealt with our issues, but we've kept

**RECOMMENDING COMMITTEE MEETING OF  
July 26, 2006**

**VERBATIM TRANSCRIPT BILL NO. 2006-38**

pressing on.

And, you know, one of the things that I've learned, and through this redistricting process, this will be my third time, and I've only been on the Council now, six years. I have had to go through it on several occasions, and I have not liked it any time is been presented to me. But I, Chester will tell you, and everybody else on this dais, there was an issue that, you know, Ward 6 and I had, as our bordered his ward. And, I went to the Councilman, and I appreciate, I mean, we didn't agree on some of the precincts that, you know, they were recommending to me. But you know, you have to stand firm and you have to say just what's on your mind, and what you can handle. And you know, they say the Lord don't put no more on you then you can bear. And I was refusing to take any more, because I know what I can deal with at this time. And, you know, again my ward is, and I'm not making any excuses for it, because I'm very grateful, Las Vegas, to have an opportunity to serve, I really am. It's not easy, but I'm very grateful to have an opportunity to serve.

And Councilwoman, I understand your frustration, you know, because I was very frustrated with this process, but it's about, you know, same thing like Councilman Ross, I remember you came in to speak with me about it. And, again I'm the ward that I almost have to talk to everybody about it. If you look at the ward map now, you can see I, I'm one of those ones that have had to have a conversation with everyone, because I had to do some bargaining.

But I'm here to say, I want my constituents in Ward 5 to know, behind the scenes I'm cool, out here, on the dais, I raised some saying up on the tenth floor, because I wasn't haven't it. I have to represent my ward, and I have to keep what I can bear. And that's just it in a nutshell. Thank you.

**BEATRICE TURNER**

All right.

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

Councilman Ross.

**COUNCILMAN ROSS**

Can you hear me? Can you hear me now? Councilman, thank you very much for those comments. I do want to publicly admit that you're one tough guy, cause you are; you fight hard for your ward. Councilwoman, I have the utmost respect and admiration for you. I expected in this audience tonight that we would see folks from every ward, because every ward is affected by this redistricting. I am losing 16 precincts, if I counted correctly, I may be wrong. But that's a whole heck of a lot of people, and don't see any of them down here. So, I'm kinda bummed out that they're not down here protesting the fact that I may lose them as a constituency. What does that tell you? Those 16 precincts should go into Councilman Brown and Councilman Weekly, and I would just image that my constituents happened to like their kinds representation, and that's why their not down here.

I'm a little offended in regards to an allegation or a thought or a comment that someone made about retaliation. And Councilwoman, I need you to know that, because that's not where where I sit here at this dais, I will stand up and do what is right for the right reasons for this City. That's why I was elected by the constituents to do so. And I think that's correct for all of us on this Council and the Mayor.

This is definitely a challenge, and Councilman Weekly says he's gone through this three times. My goodness, this is my first time and I'm getting hit the hardest here. And it's not in a bad way, its because it has to be this way. If you look at those maps you'll, see that great big brown empty space out there towards the northwest? All of thats gonna be filled in, in the upcoming years, the upcoming months, actually. It's happening today. I'm not opposed to even filling in the white spots, to represent the County islands it's challenging for me, as it is, to represent the City folks, but I also have to stand up and fight for those folks as well. Thank you, Your Honor.

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

Page 80 of 91

**RECOMMENDING COMMITTEE MEETING OF  
July 26, 2006**

**VERBATIM TRANSCRIPT BILL NO. 2006-38**

All right. Thank you. Can you folks hear me? All right good. All right you can hear me louder now. As the Mayor of the City of Las Vegas, I have no horse in the race. What I want is what's best for my constituents. I pride in myself for the past seven plus years. And being the Mayor of a Council, albeit with changing members that was collegial, that was able to work together, and was able to do what was best for the City, as a whole.

This process has been a divisive process, by its very nature, because it is a political process unlike any other, where representatives are trying to fight for a particular area of the City, which has to be devised in accordance with the Voting Rights Act and the other areas that Judge Kessler discussed. During the course of the process, we've attempted to arrive at some consensus. Unfortunately, that consensus was not achieved, but that's the nature of the beast of redistricting. Because unless the Council people can work out their differences, it has to go forward, and the Council, as a whole, has to vote as whether or not, we meet the criteria of the Voting Rights Act and the other aspects, as far as redistricting.

We knew from the get go that Councilman Ross ward was too big, and there had to be adjustments and that's the reason that we went forward. We had 17 different maps to study. I know that there were discussions between all of the Council members and myself, as far as their wishes, their desires and the like. And, it was obvious at the end of the day, that they weren't able to reach an agreement. And, therefore, it comes before us with certain feelings that have been expressed today, not only by the Council members themselves but also the constituents, who came down here to be heard, and I thank you for that.

Unfortunately, during the course of the process, certain allegations and accusations have been made. And as the Mayor of the City of Las Vegas, I must take issue with them. I don't believe them to be true. I believe that they are offensive, and are inconsistent with what I know of my Council members. There has been an allegation of retaliation, I specifically deny that. It has never been discussed with me. And I'm the fulcrum. I'm the center guy, the point man that people come to talk to discuss what's happening during the process. I have never heard one word, about retaliation, until today.

Two, to teach a lesson, I don't know what lesson is to be taught by this. Other than the lesson that, in order to get what you want, you have to be able to speak to your colleagues and you have to be able to reach a consensus. That's the only lesson. Three, I live in Ward 1, so I'm not going to allow anything to happen, which is adverse to the interest of people who live in Ward 1, because it would be committing suicide. And that's not my nature.

I don't believe that anybody on this Council had the auto dialer script prepared which went out, either last night or the night before. There was an auto dialer that went to many people throughout the City. And as I say, I don't believe that anybody sitting up here on dais composed this script, but I find it to be offensive. I take issue with it, and I will; I'll act in accordance. Quote, the good old boys are at it again. Now that's a good one, so that some of the people who think that they shape public opinion, can start off an article with. The Las Vegas City Council is considering redistricting the wards in Las Vegas, and, all they think about is their own re-election and the special interest they represent. I haven't heard any of that today, haven't heard one comment about re-election, that there was a gerrymandering in order to get voters that were favorable to one Councilperson or another, in order to get votes. And the special interest they represents, I don't know what that means. What special interests, other then the City of Las Vegas do any of us represent? They don't care what the voters in Las Vegas think. That's the reason that we listen to you, and we hear what you have to say. That's the reason when Mr. Deegan provided me with his work product, that I thanked him for it, because, whether it's followed or not, that's not the relevant issue. The relevant issue is that we appreciate what our constituents have to say, and that's the reason that we listen.

All they think about is their re-election and their ward chest. Well, I'm not sure who's up for re-election; I am. I'm not worried about my ward chest. I'll raise more money than anybody in this community in one day with my eyes, with a blindfold on. And, excuse me, and Councilman Brown can't run again, he's term limited. Councilman Ross, he's not up for re-election. Councilman

**RECOMMENDING COMMITTEE MEETING OF  
July 26, 2006**

**VERBATIM TRANSCRIPT BILL NO. 2006-38**

Wolfson is not up for re-election, so I don't know what that means. That all we think about is our re-election and our ward chest. Call 2-2-9 6-4-0-5, and tell the good old boys that they need to represent the citizens of Las Vegas, not special interest. I'm not sure what that means, but I find it offensive. That number is 2-2-9-6-4-0-5 or show up at the City Council Chambers tomorrow, at 4:00 pm to voice your opinion, which is good, and we wanna hear from you. I wish we had ten times as many people here today, to tell us what they think. Stop them, I guess it's the good old boys, don't let them do this to you any more. The good old boys with their special interest, that's bull. Thats bull.

I know how seriously, all the folks up here, every Councilperson has taken this and has worked with one another, to try to get the right thing done, for the people of Las Vegas, and not to feather their own nest. And I find that very, very offensive. This has been a wound that has been afflicted on the Council, this process, more so then any other that I've been through since I've been the Mayor. And a wound festers, unless you do something about it, and that's the reason that I want to go forward.

And I'm going to move at this Bill Number 2006 dash 38, goes to the Council for consideration, August the 2<sup>nd</sup>, so that the, the wound will start its healing process. And in the meantime, I'm going to advice my Council and the City staff, that I will work with anybody, between now and August 2<sup>nd</sup>. I will meet with them on weekends or nights or whatever, if they want to sit down, and use me a mediator, in order to get something agreed upon and to have the comments of our constituents taken into consideration. If you wanna change it, we could always amend this bill when it comes to our consideration. But my motion is to move forward as a Recommending Committee, and forward this to the City Council for consideration on August the 2<sup>nd</sup>.

**COUNCILWOMAN TARKANIAN**

Mr. Mayor.

**RECOMMENDING COMMITTEE MEETING OF  
July 26, 2006**

**VERBATIM TRANSCRIPT BILL NO. 2006-38**

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

Yes.

**COUNCILWOMAN TARKANIAN**

I just want to say one thing and that is I want to thank everybody here and for all the nice things you said. There many people in this audience, I don't think I've ever met, and I think it would make any Councilperson here feel very pleased, that you said such nice things. So, thank you.

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

All right. Thank you, Councilwoman. Let's vote please.

**COUNCILMAN WOLFSON**

Before we vote, may I just, a question of procedure, perhaps. If this motion were to carry and it were to come before us on August 2nd, for consideration, should the Council pass the Ordinance on August 2<sup>nd</sup>, what kinda effective date would it carry Mr. Jerbic?

**BRAD JERBIC**

Normally it would go into effect upon signature and publication, assuming the Mayor signed it right after the meeting that would be normally Sunday, at midnight, Saturday night, Sunday midnight the following weekend. The Council could always amend it, to make an affective date different than that, if you want to. But keep in mind that we do have primaries coming up next year and things like that. And, people need notice, as to who's gonna file and who's gonna vote.

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

Besides that, if anybody wants to use my services as a mediator, I'm there. Let's vote. Post. Motion carries. Thank you. **(Motion carried unanimously with TARKANIAN voting no)**

All right. At this time, folks, its Citizen Participation. Public comment during this portion of the agenda must be limited to matters within the jurisdiction of the Committee. No subject may be acted upon by the Committee unless that subject is on the agenda and is scheduled for action. If you wish to be heard, please step up, give us your name and lets put a three-minute timer on. Its been a long afternoon. In the middle

**CHRIS CHRISTOFF**

Can I get a microphone?

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

Yeah. Sure.

**COUNCILMAN BROWN**

Youre good.

**CHRIS CHRISTOFF**

My name is Chris Christoff. I live at property at Ward 1 and I have five other properties in other areas. But

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

Please folks lets be courteous. Theres a speaker.

**CHRIS CHRISTOFF**

Your Honor, the person or the culprit that you think that may be here, is not here. The important factor of telephone calls, of telling people, thats another instrument that anybody can pay or do. The groups that are interested with Ward 1, there are many, into the hundreds, wouldve liked, and I

**RECOMMENDING COMMITTEE MEETING OF  
July 26, 2006**

**VERBATIM TRANSCRIPT BILL NO. 2006-38**

think, right now, to meet with you, as an audience to the Mayor, because you live in Ward 1, you represent Ward 1. It is not a pretend

**MAYOR GOODMAN**  
I represent everybody.

**RECOMMENDING COMMITTEE MEETING OF  
July 26, 2006**

**VERBATIM TRANSCRIPT BILL NO. 2006-38**

**CHRIS CHRISTOFF**

you dont want Pro Tem Mayor or anybody else. But you said the golden word, just now, I want to meet with my people in Ward 1. So, I will make arrangements with the multitude, that we use this place, as, not as argumentaly (sic), but a concern support because everybody is going to say the one word. And I have nothing against anybody on this subject, you can leap, we can go from one boundary to another and expand and subtract. You cannot take the commercial area and say its residential as what we call bounce off like it was (inaudible). And Im just saying, taking northwest from Oakey all the way down to Fremont and giving it to Ward 3, this is the biggest argument going all the way around. And its upset every merchant on Las Vegas Boulevard and around, not because of him; its off balance. I believe that the Judge was trying to balance it, but youre taking multi-million dollars and billions away and giving it to a person who wants rezone of going to another part of the area to expand. And to me, thats what Ward 1 its going to say, thats what every business, merchant thats going to come here too, be invited, saying, we dont mind you taking Meadow Village, we dont mind you taking this. Why arent you just, the person in Ward 1 say, we want all this business area; has no residents there. Theres nothing voting in those areas. So, I believe, as the Judge supposedly understands and other people, were talking about balance of minorities and things like that, not business, not to take a cherry pick. And thats the word thats going around in this whole area. Its not to embarrass you or the Pro Tem Mayor, but its going to backfire. Is going to backfire, like you said and I said that, how many precincts thats in Ward 1 that theyre going to take to be in Ward 3, that ten or fifteen percent of the, I mean, a precinct, fifteen percent of that or more in that whole area is going to be in Ward 3. And when he runs for Ward 3, next year, and plus other aspects of his ward that hes now, he aint going to have a leg to stand on. And I dont care if hes got three million dollars. Those people want to have representation not to touch that area down (inaudible) business. Thats all I have to say.

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

All right. Thank you.

**RECOMMENDING COMMITTEE MEETING OF  
July 26, 2006**

**VERBATIM TRANSCRIPT BILL NO. 2006-38**

**CHRIS CHRISTOFF**

And this is going to be, I will make it very clear, at a reasonable time we set it up, get some (inaudible) and have a meeting

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

Always happy

**CHRIS CHRISTOFF**

between your Ward 1 and Lois Tarkanians Ward.

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

always happy to meet with the constituents; they know that. And, but what I was saying, Mr. Christoff, Im happy to meet with my Council members. If they want me to act as a mediator, Im happy to do that. I'll make myself available day or night.

**CHRIS CHRISTOFF**

But you'll do it for Ward 1 and you should. You said, I want to meet with my people in Ward 1.

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

I'll meet with anybody. But I'm just saying, as far as the Council members are

**CHRIS CHRISTOFF**

Do they have to be here at this meeting with the people that represents Ward 1?

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

No.

**CHRIS CHRISTOFF**

Right. Okay. That's all. Thank you.

**RECOMMENDING COMMITTEE MEETING OF  
July 26, 2006**

**VERBATIM TRANSCRIPT BILL NO. 2006-38**

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

Yes. Yes, ma'am.

**KATHY BEST**

Hi, Kathy Best, again. Previously, I forgot to show you what I feel like my idea is of the way it should be, redistricting from one, of course, giving her back the downtown.

**UNIDENTIFIED MALE SPEAKER**

Isn't that upside down?

**KATHY BEST**

I just like to say, I would certainly like to meet with you, Mayor Goodman, only because, you know, my Councilman knows that he can call me anytime. And not once did he even ask me, you know, and I've seen him. As a matter of fact

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

Who's that? You?

**KATHY BEST**

what I even thought about the map, you know, and the redistricting and things like that. Now, I've come into the building and I've seen the maps sitting there, and I think for the majority of the people, they didn't even know they had the idea they could respond, you know. The only, the first time I had the idea was in this morning's paper, that I could even come up here and respond.

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

You're always welcome to come to the Council.

**RECOMMENDING COMMITTEE MEETING OF  
July 26, 2006**

**VERBATIM TRANSCRIPT BILL NO. 2006-38**

**KATHY BEST**

So, yeah, Ill definitely be meeting with you. I'd probably call everybody, because I think we deserve a chance to be heard and our opinions and that we should make it easier to be in touch with you guys. That's all.

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

Great. Thank you.

**KATHY BEST**

Okay.

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

Okay. Next, please.

**BEATRICE TURNER**

Beatrice Turner, West Las Vegas. You know, and I want to say, to you, Councilwoman Tarkanian, I know how you feel. I've been there when Ive had everybody, that a board that I sit on and everybody turned their back on me and said I was a troublemaker and I was this and I was that. But, see, you know, what an old lady told me, she say, you keep the faith, baby, and you keep doing what you're doing 'cause the Lord going to make a way for you. And, you know, yesterday he did make a way for me when that audit report came out.

But you know what, through it all and I'd been through it all and my good friend sitting here, the good Mayor, who came and grandstanded at the Housing Authority and told all of us he wanted us to resign from the Board. But, you know, I was the only one that wouldn't resign. And if he had let us do our job then, the taxpayers wouldn't have been caused all this money that been wasted at the Housing Authority. 'Cause, you know, and then he brought the almighty Bobby Gronauer to the Board, 'cause, you know, massa was supposed to control this colored girl, but that didnt work and it ain't going to work.

And I want you to know, brother, I ain't putting all my egg, my bas, my eggs in one basket, 'cause see, it takes (inaudible), you got to throw them a little and let them do what they're supposed to do. So, you know, now that I got this one yesterday, on Friday I got another, some more eggs to throw out there to 'em and after that I've got some more eggs and then I'm done. 'Cause I can say, I have fought a hard battle, when it come to the Housing Authority. I've been in this battle 25 years and its time, now, that Beatrice throws her hands up and walk on. And, you know, the lady from DC told me, she said, Ms. Turner, you know, they're really scared to issue this report 'cause you have been so vocal, 'cause we don't want nothing to happen to you. You know what, like I told her, I said, let the chips fall where they may, and I wasn't born to live forever.

And I say to you, Councilman Weekly, if something happen to Beatrice, all I want you to make sure you do, you make sure Council, no, Council, Lynette Boggs McDonald, you make sure the good (inaudible) is singing at Beatrice memorial service here. 'Cause see, I take whatever happen to me you all going to see me again 'cause my ashes are going to be spread right here.

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

All right. Thank you.

**UNIDENTIFIED MALE SPEAKER**

Amen.

**DEBRA JACKSON**

My name is Debra Jackson. I live at 1950 Seventh Street and I'm in Councilman Weekly's ward. But, I came here today, I don't come here too often, but I had to come. I felt compelled to come.

**RECOMMENDING COMMITTEE MEETING OF  
July 26, 2006**

**VERBATIM TRANSCRIPT BILL NO. 2006-38**

I had been to several Housing Authority Board meetings. I went to one in the past and I stopped going years ago because of the way people were treated that live there. I've known Beatrice Turner for 20 years, and the way I met her, she was fighting for tenants' rights back when Arthur Sartini was the Director of the Housing Authority. And back then we had Larry (inaudible) who was a whistleblower and exposed the wrong doings and two million dollars was left unaccounted for. No charges filed; nothing happened. What I want to stand here before you and say today, is that there are some people that we know, if I'd known, I know that you know, that are scum, I call them scum because they will come before bodies such as yourselves and represent the people, people from the community, but the only way they'll come is if they get a little change. And when I say a little change, I'm talking about more than just popcorn and hamburger money.

Beatrice, Marzette Lewis and myself, we have been out here and been activists for a lot of years, and that's how I know the good Councilwoman Tarkanian because on that school district board she's always been a person. They may not have always agreed, but she was always there; anytime we called her, anytime we wanted to meet with her. But for that Housing Authority, it has to be people appointed that have these people in mind. That Authority is not there for these egos and these people that are on different committees and they look good on a resume or paper. It's there for the tenants, and the thing that's happened to these tenants, for all these years, is a disgrace. It is a travesty. I have never lived in public housing, but I have compassion in my heart for people.

Beatrice, when I met her, did not live in public housing, but she has a compassion. We don't get money. We don't ask for it and I don't look for it, and I'm letting you know that. But, Mayor, we must have it cleaned up. It's a cesspool. The things that have happened and what, I guess what really bothered me made me compelled, 'cause I remember reading all the terrible things in the paper about Ms. Turner and the fact that she was there being a troublemaker. And nobody wanted to listen what she was saying. Well, you know what, when you exposing dirt, people don't like what you're saying.

But that's when you, as the Mayor, when you appoint people, you have to look beyond the personality or the way the message comes, and say, let me get to the bottom of it. Because a person such as this, just like me, there's no reason to come before you and (inaudible). I've never known here to give me bad information. We need to make sure that whoever is running district, when I went through that report, and I saw how money has been spent, that they were supposed to be, can I please just have a little more time?

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

Certainly.

**DEBRA JACKSON**

Scattered housing purchased and it wasn't even purchased and money has been spent. The tenants are the ones whos suffering. There are units that are boarded up that have not been lived in for at least two years. That is a fact. Now, someone will tell you, Debra's lying, but I'm telling you, I'm not lying. Those, they'll tell you that the units are filled because they get money for having so many units filled and that is not true. You have managers that terrorize these tenants in these buildings. I know for a fact because I know how many people have called me because they are troubled, and over the years I've called Beatrice a troublemaker, who would go over there and make them move them out of this nasty apartment that the ceiling is falling in and everything else.

We need somebody to run that Housing Authority. Get the person out that's in there. Get rid of the people that dont need to be on that Board. We need to have somebody on there that really have the compassion, the compassion to make sure that the tenants rights are represented, that the taxpayers' dollars are spent the way they need to be spent. We need to make sure that it's cleaned up.

And I want just close by saying this, and I'll be through, Mayor, that in my time, you know, when we look at what happens in times, as a little girl asked my grandmother about significant things I heard about in history, where you there? What did you think about the depression? Did you hear Doctor Martin Luther King speak? What did you feel? I'm so happy in my time, it was a big thing

**RECOMMENDING COMMITTEE MEETING OF  
July 26, 2006**

**VERBATIM TRANSCRIPT BILL NO. 2006-38**

to me, to see the wall of Berlin crumble. That was a significant thing, and I hope the Lord blesses me to live for my grandchildren and my great-grandchildren come to me and say, how did you feel about that. I know that if we can crumble the wall of Berlin, we can clean up the Housing Authority. You said to be the happiest Mayor, well, the people of Las Vegas arent the happiest people.

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

Okay. Thank you.

**DEBRA JACKSON**

And I'd like to see you, as our Mayor, come forth and be the person, that I know you can be

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

Thank you.

**RECOMMENDING COMMITTEE MEETING OF  
July 26, 2006**

**VERBATIM TRANSCRIPT BILL NO. 2006-38**

**DEBRA JACKSON**

and clean this mess up. Let us see it in our lifetime.

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

Thank you.

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

Anybody else, please?

**BEATRICE TURNER**

(Inaudible) board member off that board.

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

Anybody else, please.

**BEATRICE TURNER**

(Inaudible)

**MAYOR GOODMAN**

All right. Well, thank you very much everybody. We appreciate your participation and the Special Recommending Committee meeting is adjourned.

**BEATRICE TURNER**

(inaudible) dysfunctional Board.

**(END OF DISCUSSION)**

/sw;ac