

## **AGENDA SUMMARY PAGE** **CITY COUNCIL MEETING OF: JUNE 20, 2007**

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**DEPARTMENT: OFFICE OF COMMUNICATIONS**  
**DIRECTOR: DAVID RIGGLEMAN**

**SUBJECT:**  
RECOGNITION OF GRAFFITI AWARENESS DAY

### **BACKUP DOCUMENTATION**

Submitted at meeting Copy of Proclamation for Las Vegas Graffiti Awareness Day

Minutes:

No motion required. A presentation was made.

MAYOR GOODMAN was joined by STEPHEN HARSIN, Director of Neighborhood Services, SCOTT BLACK, Detective with the Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department (Metro) Gang Crimes Bureau, and RUSSELL DAVIS, Chair of the Southern Nevada Graffiti Coalition, who assisted with recognizing Graffiti Awareness Day. MAYOR GOODMAN announced that graffiti vandalism is the most costly property crime in Southern Nevada, with approximately \$30 million being expended annually to address it. Additionally, the City of Las Vegas has had to partner with Metro and the Graffiti Coalition to create and implement numerous programs to fight graffiti vandalism, along with effective enforcement tactics to identify and hold graffiti vandals accountable. MAYOR GOODMAN stated that not only is the money being expended an issue, but also the way in which the community is perceived. Fortunately, new legislation passed increasing the penalties, making it a felony for offenders responsible for graffiti damage in the aggregate amount of \$5,000. Hopefully, this will have a significant deterrent effect.

MR. HARSIN explained that Graffiti Awareness Day is all about education and community involvement. The City has partnered with Metro and the Graffiti Coalition to hold a graffiti wipeout event to help Marble Manor clean up graffiti. He encouraged anyone interested in becoming involved or anyone with a graffiti problem to contact the Neighborhood Services Department for assistance.

DETECTIVE BLACK stated that graffiti is a very serious problem in Las Vegas and the number one property crime. In partnership, Metro and the City came up with new ideas that were to be implemented by 2008. However, Neighborhood Services has been so proactive that it implemented the ideas within a month, which speaks to the City's dedication. He considers the graffiti cleanup scheduled for Saturday to be a declaration of war against this crime. He then called forward KEVIN CHILDS with the Las Vegas Greater Association of Realtors, which is providing significant funding and supplies needed to get the programs underway.

MAYOR GOODMAN presented the Proclamation and declared June 23, 2007, to be Las Vegas Graffiti Awareness Day.