



## **AGENDA MEMO**

**CITY COUNCIL MEETING DATE: AUGUST 1, 2007**

**DEPARTMENT: NEIGHBORHOOD SERVICES**

**ITEM DESCRIPTION: Approval to utilize \$800,000 in Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds for the demolition of two buildings owned by the Housing Authority of the City of Las Vegas (HACLV) located on the northeast corner of Comstock Drive and Balzar Avenue (2228 Comstock Drive and 1818 Balzar Avenue) Ward 5 (Barlow)**

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These buildings formerly housed the Economic Opportunity Boards administrative office and Headstart program. Recently, the police have responded to complaints of burglary, vandalism, and vagrancy contributing to the blighted conditions of the neighborhood. The roofs are damaged and leaking beyond repair as well as the mechanical, electrical systems being stripped and copper and aluminum removed. Safety is a concern because the surrounding community consists of the Imagine Academy Charter School (grades K-5), a church, County Early Childhood Center, Pierson Community Center, the new Kermit R Booker Sr Elementary School and residential neighborhood. Due to the crime element attracted to these two vacant facilities and the proximity of school children, Neighborhood Response has condemned these buildings. The HACLV does not currently have funding to eliminate this public nuisance, and therefore, requests the city's assistance to quickly remove this hazard and continue supporting efforts to revitalize this neighborhood.