



AGENDA SUMMARY PAGE
CITY COUNCIL MEETING OF NOVEMBER 7, 2007

DEPARTMENT: CITY MANAGER
DIRECTOR: DOUGLAS A. SELBY

Consent Discussion

SUBJECT:
ADMINISTRATIVE:

Report and possible action on the status of the 2007 federal legislative action plan and municipal issues at the 110th US Congress - 7th Wards

Fiscal Impact

- No Impact Augmentation Required
 Budget Funds Available

Amount:
Funding Source:
Dept./Division:

PURPOSE/BACKGROUND:

Our Federal Lobbyist, Vicki Cram of Ball Janik, LLP, will present an update report on federal issues regarding the City of Las Vegas from the 110th US Congress.

RECOMMENDATION:

Accept the report and direct staff accordingly.

BACKUP DOCUMENTATION:

None

Motion made by LARRY BROWN to Approve and Accept the report

Passed For: 6; Against: 0; Abstain: 0; Did Not Vote: 0; Excused: 1
RICKI Y. BARLOW, LOIS TARKANIAN, LARRY BROWN, GARY REESE, STEVE WOLFSON, STEVEN D. ROSS; (Against-None); (Abstain-None); (Did Not Vote-None); (Excused-OSCAR B. GOODMAN)

Minutes:

TED OLIVAS, Director of Government and Community Affairs, introduced VICKI CRAM, Federal Lobbyist with Ball Janik, who updated the Council on federal issues of import to the City on the Federal Agenda. She indicated that every year the City makes requests for congressionally directed spending projects. Although Congress has not yet completed the FY 2008 appropriations process, the City is very well situated, with possible funding of almost \$2 million for key projects, such as the Post Office museum, Mountain Edge Parkway assessment, after school youth initiatives and the program EVOLVE. Lobbyists are also working with the delegation to allow Homeland Security funds that already flow to Southern Nevada to be used for constructions costs, as they are limited or prohibited, for the Southern Nevada Regional Safety Complex.

CITY COUNCIL MEETING OF: NOVEMBER 7, 2007

Congress has been very active on a number of policy fronts. It passed the Water Resources Development Act, which funds Army Corps of Engineers for a number of flood control projects. Both houses are working out their differences on a number of their differences. Both houses are working on resolving their differences on two energy bills introduced. But there are measures for a new program, the Energy Efficiency Block Grant, which would provide \$10 billion from 2008-2012 to state and local governments to provide energy efficiency strategies to help reduce green house gases.

The House of Representatives has also been very active on the issue of affordable housing, passing the Affordable Housing Trust Fund Act to provide for the production and rehabilitation of 1.5 million housing units over ten years. Almost \$1 billion will be made available. The House is also considering legislation to address foreclosures and to establish minimum standards for all mortgages based on an assessment of the ability to pay the loan.

A Congress senate sub-committee passed a bill that seeks to cut by 63 percent greenhouse gas emissions by mid-century. This bill would limit emissions from the electric, power, transportation and energy sectors, and businesses that go beyond the limits could buy allowances from businesses that do meet the limits.

Congress will continue to work on these and resolved legislative initiatives through the fall and into the new year.

Ball Janik will continue to work with City staff on the 2008 City's legislative agenda, which should be presented toward the end of this year to the Council for approval.

COUNCILMAN BARLOW stated that from his meeting with the design groups for the Post Office Museum and the FBI director, who is contributing great artifacts, the museum will be great and state-of-the-art.

