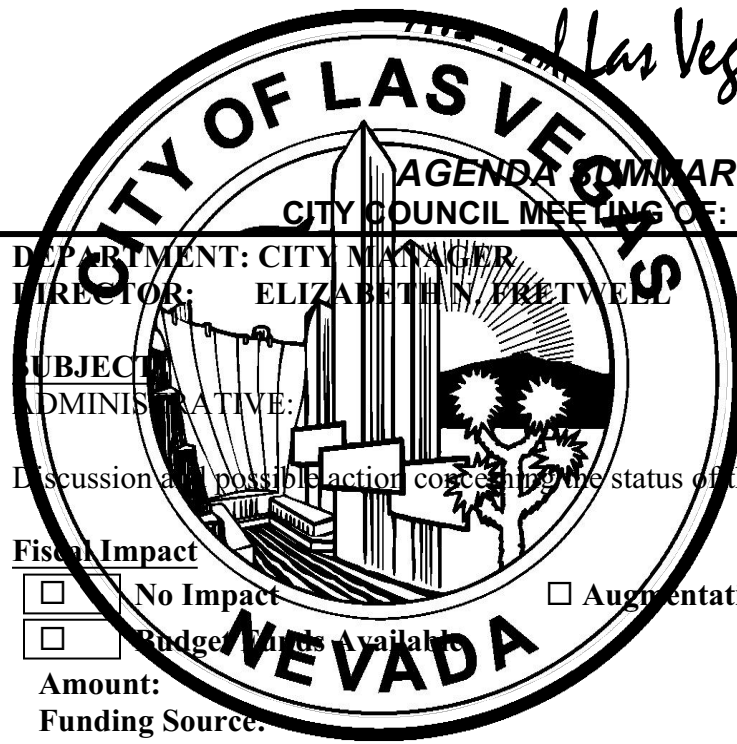




Las Vegas

Agenda Item No.: 40.

AGENDA SUMMARY PAGE
CITY COUNCIL MEETING OF: MARCH 18, 2009

DEPARTMENT: CITY MANAGER
DIRECTOR: ELIZABETH N. FRETWELL

☐ Consent ☒ Discussion

SUBJECT:
ADMINISTRATIVE:

Discussion and possible action concerning the status of the 2009 legislative issues

Fiscal Impact

☐

No Impact

☐ Augmentation Required

☐

Budget Funds Available

Amount:

Funding Source:

Dept./Division:

PURPOSE/BACKGROUND:

Staff will report on pending legislation of the 2009 Nevada State Legislature

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the City Council accept the report and direct staff if necessary.

BACKUP DOCUMENTATION:

None

Motion made by GARY REESE to Accept the report

Passed For: 5; Against: 0; Abstain: 0; Did Not Vote: 0; Excused: 2

RICKI Y. BARLOW, LOIS TARKANIAN, STEVE WOLFSON, OSCAR B. GOODMAN,
GARY REESE; (Against-None); (Abstain-None); (Did Not Vote-None); (Excused-STEVEN D.
ROSS, DAVID W. STEINMAN)

Minutes:

CHRIS KNIGHT, Director of the Building and Safety Department, gave a brief update on the 2009 Legislative Session. Regarding the City's bills, he noted that Assembly Bill (AB) 44, which would allow the City to establish a Stabilization Fund, was heard on February 17th and staff continues to provide information to the committee. AB 48, which would allow the City to settle construction contract disputes through processes other than arbitration, was heard and staff continues to work with the Association of General Contractors to address their concerns. Both bills are going forward for adoption. AB 94, which would extend the deadline for the Tourism Improvement District, has not had much movement, but redevelopment authorities and areas have been the subject of many discussions. Staff hopes more action will result from these discussions.

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Senate Bill (SB) 144 pertains to bomb squads. CHIEF GREG GAMMON, Director of Fire and Rescue, was working with SHERIFF DOUG GILLESPIE, Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department (Metro), to present an agreement between the City and Metro as requested by the bills committee. A further status on the bill would be available after March 25th.

SB 173 addresses bus turnouts with the potential to create significant financial expense for the City. JORGE CERVANTES, Director of Public Works, has worked with JACOB SNOW, General Manager of the Regional Transportation Commission (RTC), to ensure the City's concerns are addressed in the bill. The City has reached a compromise on AB 80, which pertains to sewers connecting into the City's lines, and that bill will move forward.

AB 130 would make the group negotiating any labor agreements the final authority for those agreements. This bill would directly affect the City Council and its representation on the Metro Fiscal Affairs Committee by imposing a fiduciary responsibility upon the City without obtaining the approval of the City's representatives. Staff is working to protect the City's ability to voice its opinion and the City's review authority.

COUNCILMAN REESE noted that Clark County has made an effort to increase its representation on the Fiscal Affairs Committee to three seats, a change from the current format of two representatives from both the City and the County and one independent member. He stressed the importance of the City having equal footing with the County due to the significant financial responsibilities imposed by the committee on the City. MAYOR GOODMAN and COUNCILMAN WOLFSON concurred.

AB 233 addresses copper theft, an on-going problem in the City, by making copper theft more difficult. The bill's sponsor had used the City's information during the bill's presentation and the bill was moving forward. JIM DiFIORE, Business Services Manager, stated that staff was working with members of the local recycling industry and electricians. The City's draft of a similar bill was almost ready to move forward and was expected to strengthen the State's version.

MR. KNIGHT confirmed that the bill that would make all elections run at the same time was expected to come forward. COUNCILMAN REESE expressed his support of that bill, noting the current approach of the municipal elections taking place after presidential elections was confusing to his constituents as well as very expensive.

MR. KNIGHT noted that over 220 bills have been introduced and staff would continue to monitor and report on those bills.