



CITY OF LAS VEGAS FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE AGENDA 2011 PLAN

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Submitted at City Council

Date 1/6/2010 Item 42



**CITY OF LAS VEGAS
2011 FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE AGENDA**

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CITY OF LAS VEGAS 2011 FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

FY 2011 APPROPRIATIONS SUMMARY

The FY 2011 Appropriations Summary for the city of Las Vegas is comprised of the following requests in priority order:

POST-FORECLOSURE FAMILY REESTABLISHMENT PROGRAM

One in 33 current U.S. homeowners nationwide is facing foreclosure within the next 18 months, as a result of subprime loans and adjustable rate mortgages made since 2005. Nevada already has one of the highest foreclosure rate in the nation with **1 in every 70** homes affected, which is more than twice the nation's second highest foreclosure rate of 1 in every 165 homes experienced by California. **The City requests \$1,000,000 for the Post-Foreclosure Family Reestablishment Program that brings together government agencies, housing counseling agencies, faith-and community-based organizations to assist the community affected by the foreclosure crisis. The program is based on a series of workshops designed to rebuild families and improve financial solvency. Participants will go through a four week series and learn how to reestablish themselves personally and financially. A savings account will be established for each participant. Low to moderate income families (120 percent Area Median Income or below) who have experienced a foreclosure since January 2005 would be eligible to participate in the program.**

CLARK COUNTY 215 BICYCLE/PEDESTRIAN TRAIL ENHANCEMENTS PROJECT

The City seeks funding to design and construct bicycle facilities and amenities along the CC215 Beltway trail between Charleston Boulevard and Alexander Road. The bicycle trail would be an extension of the recently completed Red Rock Trail along Alta Drive that connects Downtown to Red Rock. The bicycle facilities would be adjacent to the pedestrian trail which is currently under design and is anticipated to begin construction in late 2010. The CC215 Bicycle/Pedestrian Trail will provide a safe and accessible corridor from Northwest Las Vegas to existing bicycle paths in the western part of the Valley. **The City requests \$1 million for Bicycle/Pedestrian Trail Enhancements to widen the planned CC215 trail from 10 feet to 15 feet, acquire additional right-of-way and construct additional amenities including way-finding signage, rest stops, interpretive areas, and other improvements. The bicycle trail would be an extension of the recently completed Red Rock Trail along Alta Drive that connects downtown Las Vegas to Red Rock.**

BUS TURNOUTS FOR EAST CHARLESTON BOULEVARD, LAMB BOULEVARD, DECATUR BOULEVARD AND PECOS ROAD

The City seeks funding to construct bus turnouts on East Charleston Boulevard, Lamb Boulevard, Decatur Boulevard, and Pecos Road. The City recently completed the design for bus turnouts on these high transit corridors; however, due to recent shortfalls in the Regional Transportation Commission sales tax and motor vehicle fuel tax revenues, the construction funding for the turnouts was cut from their capital improvement plan. **The City requests \$1 million to construct new bus turnouts on Decatur Boulevard, East Charleston Boulevard, Lamb Boulevard and Pecos Road to enhance pedestrian and driver safety. These turnouts will increase safety for transit users and reduce traffic congestion due to blocked travel lanes from bus stops.**



**CITY OF LAS VEGAS
2011 FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE AGENDA**

FY 2011 APPROPRIATIONS SUMMARY (CONTINUED)

**DEFENDANT EDUCATION, TREATMENT, INTENSIVE SUPERVISION, AND
REHABILITATIVE PROGRAMS**

The city of Las Vegas Municipal Court is a court of limited jurisdiction. Unlike most lower courts in the nation, it has an alternative sentencing and education program for defendants who have been convicted of a misdemeanor crime and are mandated to an alternative sentencing and education requirement and/or to house arrest with an alcohol-monitoring device, or to one of its four specialty-court programs on a suspended sentence in lieu of incarceration. This model is based upon the national best practices trend among the justice community to prevent offenders from committing similar crimes in the future or to reduce incidents of recidivism with the ultimate goal of keeping citizens, neighborhoods, and visitors safe. **The City requests \$1,422,032 for the Court's Defendant Education, Treatment, Intensive Supervision, and Rehabilitative Programs to meet the City's key strategies: (1) to provide a safe environment for our residents, businesses, and visitors using a community-oriented approach; and (2) support and encourage sustainability, livability, and pride in our neighborhoods. This funding request is a viable investment to ensure public safety.**

CORRECTIONS FACILITY EQUIPMENT, TECHNOLOGY AND SAFETY

The city of Las Vegas Detention Center processes and houses in excess of 30,000 inmates annually. At any given time up to 1,050 inmates are on site along with an estimated 100 employees of the City, contractors who provide operational support and officers from multiple law enforcement agencies who book their arrestees at this facility. A failure of the fire system would have immediate and drastic impacts on the operations of the local law enforcement and judicial systems as well as on the citizens of Las Vegas. In the event the system fails during a fire incident, the immediate and obvious impact is on the safety of all persons on site. Beyond this, there are many far-reaching impacts. **The City requests \$350,000 for a retrofit of the fire alarm and suppression systems at the city of Las Vegas Detention Center. These funds will be used to replace outdated components that are no longer manufactured or have been recalled by the manufacturer, integrate systems throughout the facility so they will provide one facility-wide fire detection, alarm and suppression system and bring all fire safety systems into compliance with current fire codes. Completion of this project will allow the City to continue to meet the expectation and desires of the community in relation to incarcerating those who commit crimes, while at the same time protecting the lives and safety of all persons either incarcerated at or working in the facility.**

Post-Forclosure
Program



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POST-FORECLOSURE FAMILY REESTABLISHMENT PROGRAM



Nevada leads the nation in foreclosures, bankruptcies and credit card debt. With the unemployment rate at a staggering 13 percent, up from 4.5 percent two years ago, some wonder if the Las Vegas community will ever recovery from this recession. With many families in financial ruins, it is critical that a community safety net is created to help restore the lives of these families.

The City has data from several sources indicating the highest number of foreclosures and pre-foreclosures by zip code. These zip codes illustrate the severity of the foreclosure crises and serves as a reminder that this is a community-wide issue. In the Las Vegas area, of the properties in a foreclosure status, 52 percent are in pre-foreclosure status in which the homeowner is at least 30-days behind in their mortgage payments. This represents 11,215 households currently affected and the number continues to rise.



**CITY OF LAS VEGAS
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POST-FORECLOSURE FAMILY RESTABLISHMENT PROGRAM



One in 33 current U.S. homeowners nationwide is facing foreclosure within the next 18 months, as a result of subprime loans and adjustable rate mortgages made since 2005. Nevada is consistently ranked in the top two in home foreclosures, with 1 out of 11 projected foreclosures to homeowners.

Nevada already has the highest foreclosure rate in the nation with **1 in every 70** homes affected, which is more than twice the nation's second highest foreclosure rate of 1 in every 165 homes experienced by California. Ninety percent of Nevada's foreclosures are located in Southern Nevada that has experienced 43,040 foreclosures from February 2008 - March 2009. In any 30 day period, an average of 21,604 properties in the Las Vegas Metropolitan Statistical Area, are in a foreclosure status, such as pre-foreclosure (default), auction or bank repossession.

The City continues to experience record foreclosures and seeks further assistance from the federal government to help prevent foreclosures. The Federal Making Home Affordable Program (MHA) has been slow to address the foreclosure problem in Southern Nevada based on the eligibility criteria. In order for a homeowner to refinance their home under the MHA, the first mortgage on the home must not exceed 125 percent of current market value. Since it is estimated that nearly 70 percent of homeowners are "underwater" and the loss of value in Southern Nevada averages in excess of 40 percent, and can reach up to 80 percent, it is impossible for the majority of homeowners to take advantage of the refinance option.



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POST-FORECLOSURE FAMILY REESTABLISHMENT PROGRAM

The Post-Foreclosure Family Reestablishment Program seeks to unite government agencies, housing counseling agencies, and community/faith-based partners to create continuum of services targeting foreclosure survivors. The program seeks to empower families through financial solvency and offers a series of workshops that cover topics such as:

- Rebuilding Financial Stability
- Reducing Debt to Income Ratio
- Achieving the American Dream After Foreclosure
- Restoring Personal Credit
- Achieving Financial Solvency through Savings
- Surviving a Home Foreclosure
- Surviving a Financial Meltdown

Participants will go through a four week series and learn how to reestablish themselves personally and financially. Individual financial and family counseling will be made available to the participants. At the end of the workshops, participants will have an opportunity to enroll in the Financial Solvency Challenge, in which they will set a six month savings goal. A savings account will be established for each participant.

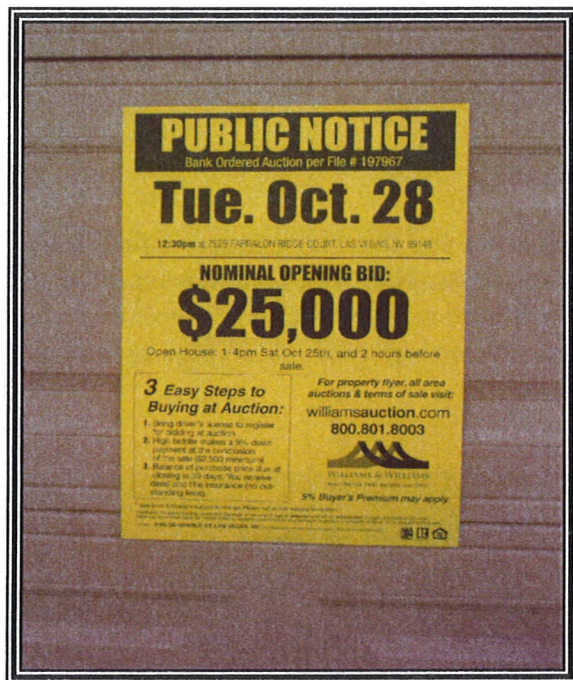




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POST-FORECLOSURE FAMILY REESTABLISHMENT PROGRAM

It is impossible for the majority of homeowners in Southern Nevada to take advantage of President Obama's Making Home Affordable initiative because of the drastic reduction of property values. For every foreclosure action, there is a family that has experienced trauma and loss both emotionally and financially. In the years to come, it will be critical to rebuild the financial solvency of families in order to stabilize our community.

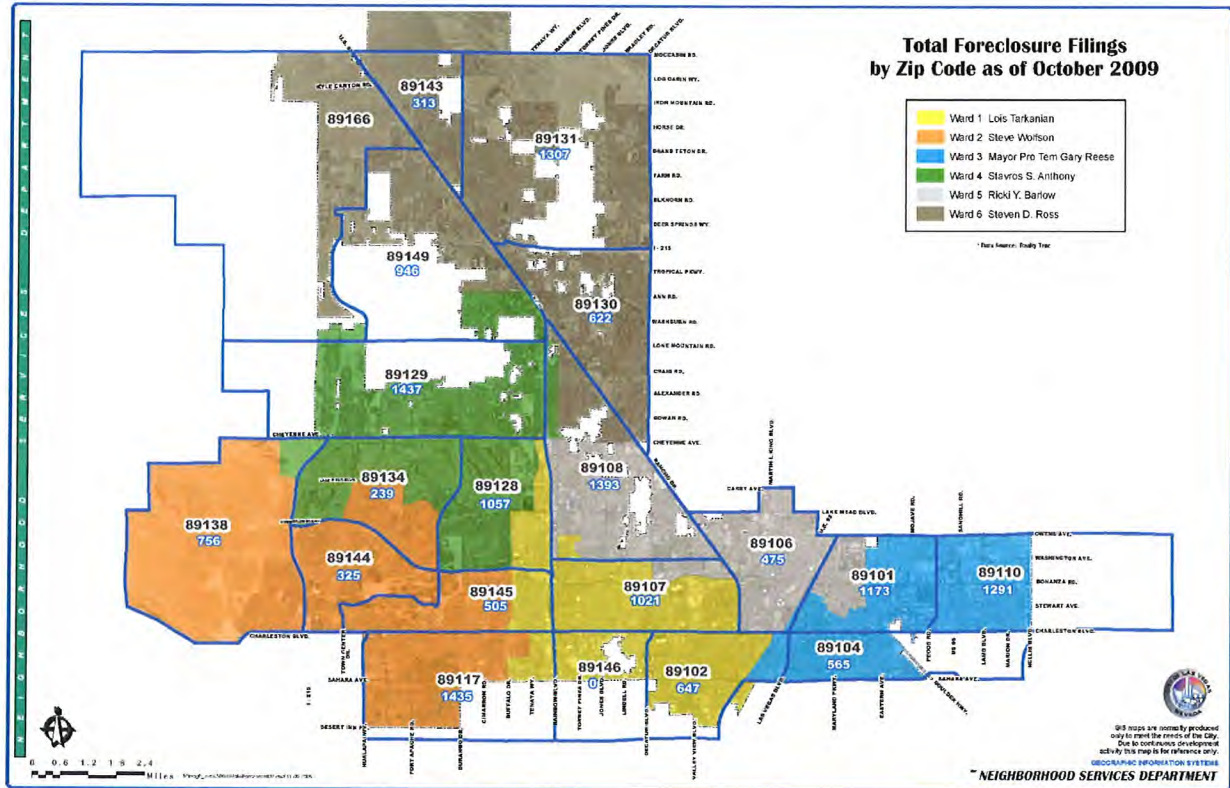


Public Notice of a Bank Ordered Auction for a tri-level townhouse that was purchased in 2006 for \$253,000. The opening bid was \$25,000.

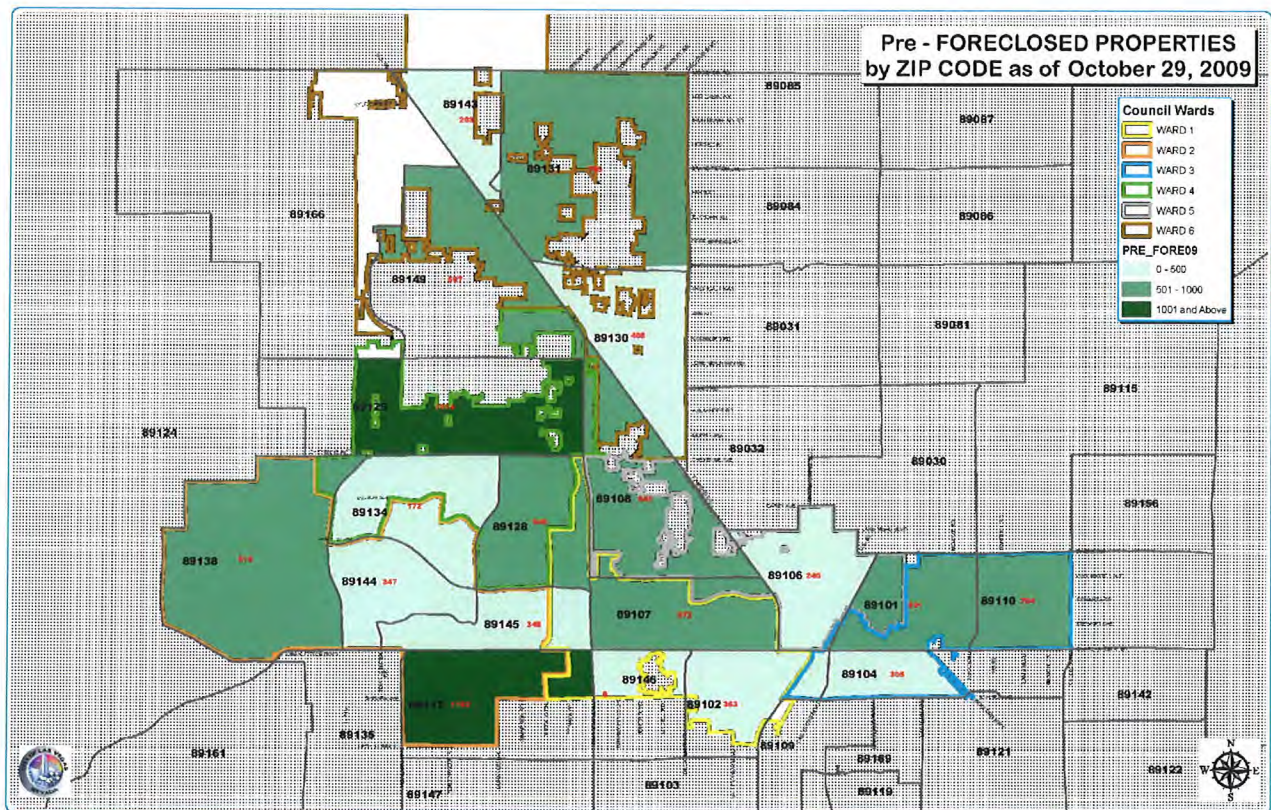
SPECIFIC USE FOR REQUESTED FUNDS

The City is requesting \$1,000,000 for the Post-Foreclosure Family Reestablishment Program. Low-to-Moderate families (120 percent Area Median Income or below) who have experienced a foreclosure since January 2005 would be eligible to participate.

GREATEST NUMBER AND PERCENTAGE OF FUTURE FORECLOSURES



GREATEST NUMBER AND PERCENTAGE OF CURRENT FORECLOSURES



CC215 Bicycle/
Pedestrian Trail



**CITY OF LAS VEGAS
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**CLARK COUNTY 215 BICYCLE/PEDESTRIAN TRAIL
ENHANCEMENTS PROJECTS**

The Clark County 215 (CC215) Bicycle/Pedestrian Trail Enhancements project will provide a safe and inviting corridor for bicyclists along the west side of the CC215 Beltway. The trail will be located on the upper bench of the Beltway, safely away from the traffic lanes, and will extend from Charleston Boulevard to Alexander Road. This project will widen the planned CC215 multi-use trail which is currently scheduled to begin construction in late 2010. The planned multi-use trail is estimated at \$3.7 million and was funded through the Bureau of Land Management's Southern Nevada Public Land Management Act program in 2006. The planned multi-use trail is being designed as a 10 foot wide asphalt trail but could be widened an additional five feet to accommodate bicyclists. Additional right-of-way may need to be acquired from Summerlin for the widening of the trail. The project could also provide other amenities for bicyclists such as way-finding signage, rest stops, and interpretive areas.



Existing Multi-Use Trail along the Southern Beltway

The CC215 Bicycle/Pedestrian Trail Enhancements will provide important connectivity to the recently completed Red Rock Trail along Alta Drive. The Red Rock Trail connects Downtown Las Vegas to the Red Rock Canyon via Alta Drive with protected bicycle lanes. This connection to the Red Rock Trail along with other linkages to the Alexander and Cheyenne Trails will enhance access for many residents who live in the Northwest and West side of the Las Vegas Valley.

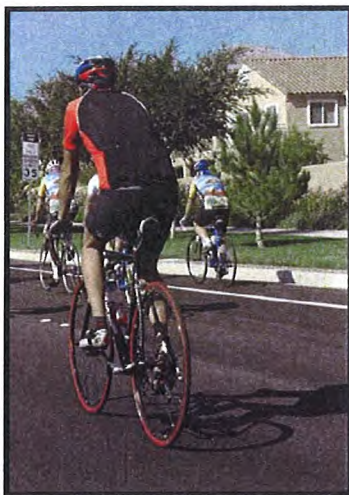
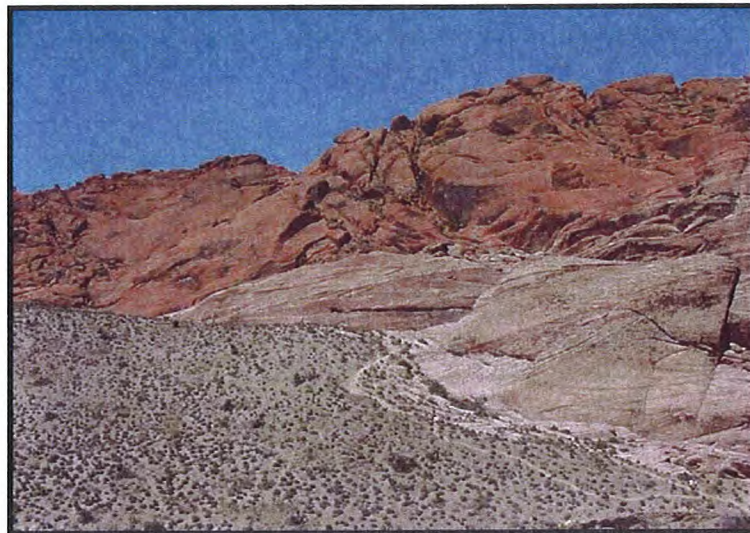


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**CLARK COUNTY 215 BICYCLE/PEDESTRIAN TRAIL
ENHANCEMENTS PROJECTS**

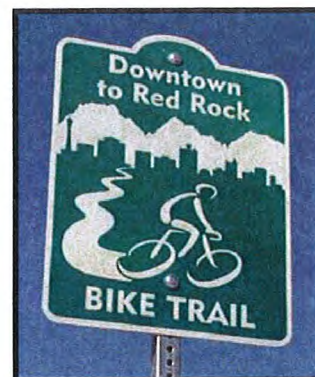
The CC215 Bicycle/Pedestrian Trail Enhancements will provide bicyclists with easy access to the Red Rock Canyon National Conservation Area. Red Rock Canyon offers several natural attractions, a 13-mile scenic loop road, and more than 30 miles of hiking trails.

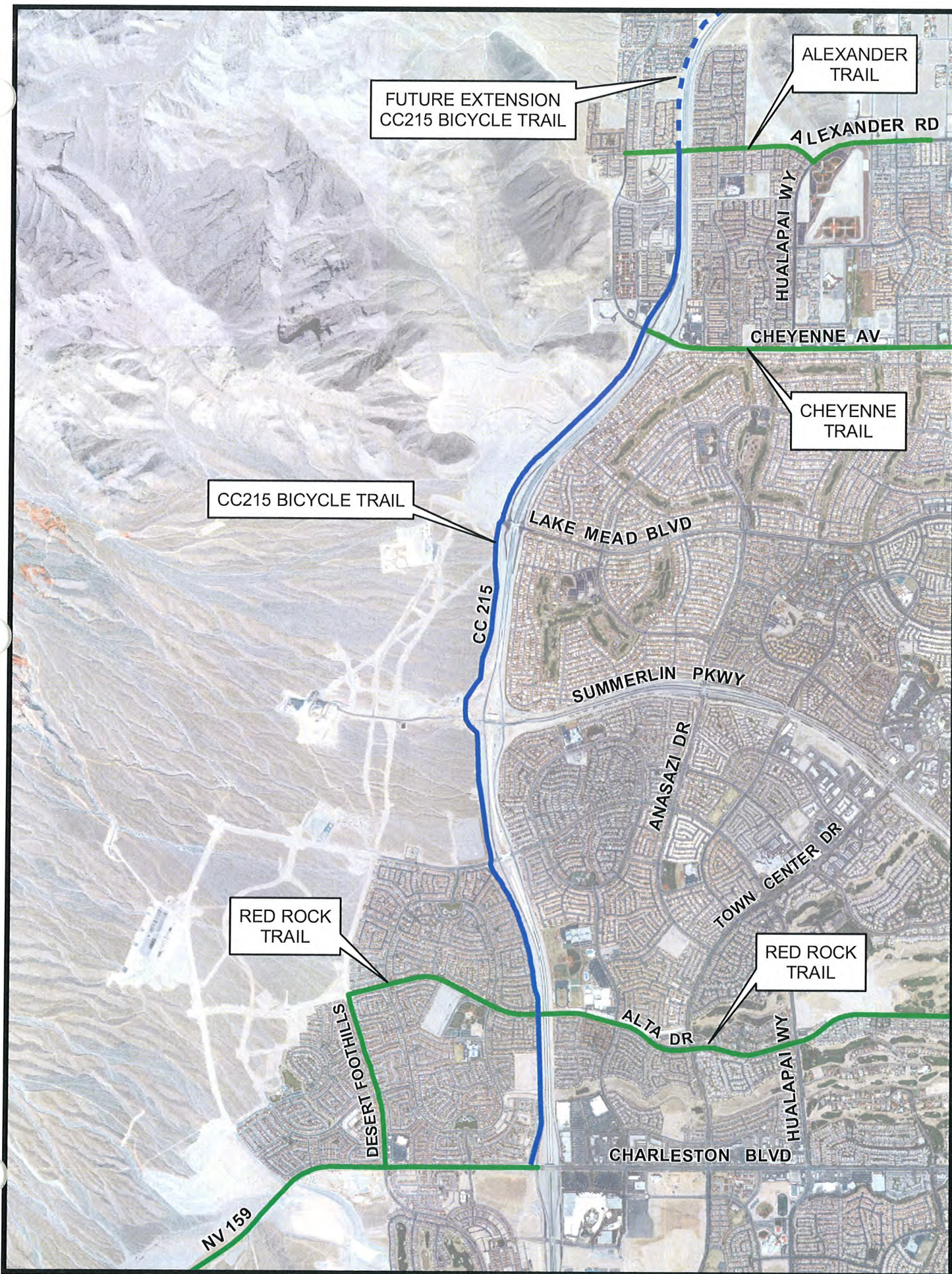
The city of Las Vegas is committed to providing a cohesive and safe network of trails and bicycle routes for its residents. The CC215 Bicycle/Pedestrian Trail Enhancements will provide a safe route free from vehicular traffic along with important connectivity to major trails in Las Vegas. The project also supports the City's strategic goals of Supporting and Encouraging Sustainability, Livability in our Neighborhoods and Promoting Healthy Lifestyles for all Segments of the Community. Nearly 50 percent of all trips are less than three miles; however, 85 percent of these trips are made by vehicle. (Source: Pedestrian Safety Guide & Counter Measures). It is the City's goal to change such statistics to promote alternative transportation modes. In the 2020 Master Plan, the City developed policies and plans that promote bicycle and trail facilities as alternative modes of transportation.



SPECIFIC USE FOR REQUESTED FUNDS

The City is requesting \$1 million to design and construct bicycle facilities and amenities along the CC215 Beltway trail between Charleston Boulevard and Alexander Road to widen the planned CC215 trail from 10 feet to 15 feet, acquire additional right-of-way and construct additional amenities including way-finding signage, rest stops, interpretive areas, and other improvements.





FUTURE EXTENSION
CC215 BICYCLE TRAIL

ALEXANDER
TRAIL

ALEXANDER RD

HUALAPAI WY

CHEYENNE AV

CHEYENNE
TRAIL

CC215 BICYCLE TRAIL

CC 215

LAKE MEAD BLVD

SUMMERLIN PKWY

ANASAZI DR

TOWN CENTER DR

RED ROCK
TRAIL

RED ROCK
TRAIL

DESERT FOOTHILLS

ALTA DR

HUALAPAI WY

CHARLESTON BLVD

NV 159

Bus
Turnouts



**CITY OF LAS VEGAS
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**BUS TURNOUTS FOR EAST CHARLESTON BOULEVARD, LAMB
BOULEVARD, DECATUR BOULEVARD AND PECOS ROAD**



Unprotected Bus Stop along Eastern Avenue

Over the past several years there have been serious vehicular/pedestrian collisions that have occurred at bus stop locations within the Las Vegas Valley. A number of these crashes resulted in fatalities of persons waiting for a bus. A majority of the transit stops throughout Las Vegas are directly adjacent to high traffic arterial corridors with little or no protection for the waiting transit users. By providing bus turnouts on heavy traffic roadways, buses can safely pull out of the travel lane thus reducing the risk of a vehicle hitting the bus or its passengers.

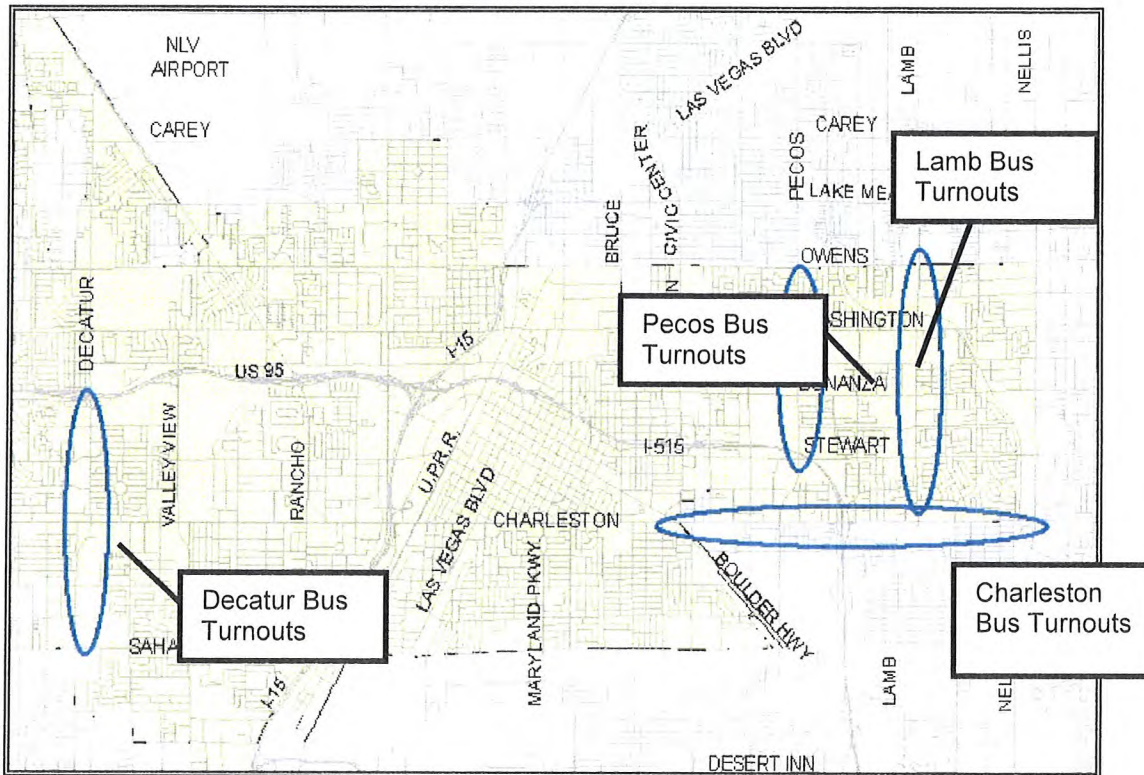
The bus turnouts allow for the bus stop to be setback from the travel lane by 10 feet and are designed to have a 10'X25' concrete pad at the stop for waiting passengers. Buses can cause heavy traffic delays when stopped to pick up or drop off passengers. Motor vehicle emissions also rise dramatically from stopped traffic which is one of the leading causes of air pollution in Clark County. Bus turnouts will allow for the bus to safely pull off of the travel lane without causing extensive delays to other traveling vehicles.



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**BUS TURNOUTS FOR EAST CHARLESTON BOULEVARD, LAMB
BOULEVARD, DECATUR BOULEVARD AND PECOS ROAD**

The City recently completed the design for bus turnouts on Decatur Boulevard, Lamb Boulevard, Pecos Road and East Charleston Boulevard. Each of these corridors has high transit ridership and high traffic volumes (over 30,000 vehicles per day). The ridership volume is due in large part to the demographics of the surrounding area. Construction funding for these bus turnouts was recently eliminated due to revenue shortfalls in Regional Transportation Commission sales and motor vehicle fuel taxes. This federal appropriation request would allow the City to construct turnouts on these congested corridors thus enhancing pedestrian and driver safety at bus stops and allowing for better traffic flow.



During the 2009 Legislative Session, the 75th Nevada State Legislature examined ways to ensure the construction of new bus turnouts within Clark County. The Legislature passed Senate Bill 173 which mandated 10 bus turnouts to be constructed within Clark County by 2012. During the session, State Senator John Lee stated, "we are giving direction to the Regional Transportation Commission and to municipalities that bus turnouts are important. We want to continue to make street traffic moving more efficiently and quickly."



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**BUS TURNOUTS FOR EAST CHARLESTON BOULEVARD, LAMB
BOULEVARD, DECATUR BOULEVARD AND PECOS ROAD**



**SPECIFIC USE FOR
REQUESTED FUNDS**

The City is requesting \$1 million to construct new bus turnouts on Decatur Boulevard, East Charleston Boulevard, Lamb Boulevard and Pecos Road to enhance pedestrian and driver safety.

Top: Newly constructed bus turnouts at the 5th Street School along Las Vegas Blvd.
Bottom: An unprotected bus stop along Fremont Street.



Defendant
Rehabilitative Programs

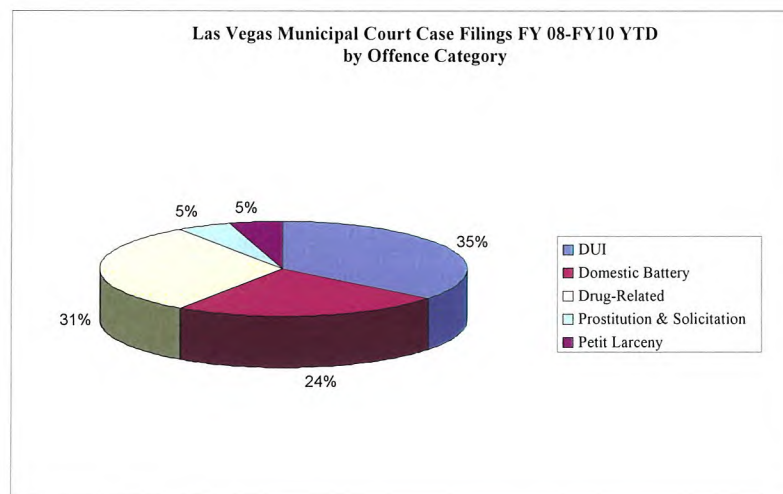


**CITY OF LAS VEGAS
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**DEFENDANT EDUCATION, TREATMENT, INTENSIVE
SUPERVISION, AND REHABILITATIVE PROGRAMS**

The Las Vegas Municipal Court (LVMC) is a court of limited jurisdiction. Unlike most lower courts in the nation, it has an alternative sentencing and education program for defendants who have been convicted of a misdemeanor crime and are mandated to an alternative sentencing and education requirement and/or to house arrest with an alcohol-monitoring device, or to one of its four specialty-court programs on a suspended sentence in lieu of incarceration. This model is based upon the national best practices trend among the justice community to prevent offenders from committing similar crimes in the future or to reduce incidents of recidivism with the ultimate goal of keeping citizens, neighborhoods, and visitors safe.

The vast majority of crimes are incidences of driving under the influence of alcohol and or drugs (DUI), domestic battery, followed by drug-motivated crimes and crimes involving petit larceny, prostitution and solicitation. In the current and past two fiscal years, Municipal Court judges (not including non-criminal cases) have adjudicated 36,577 cases among six criminal court departments¹ (Figure 1).



The increase in population growth and crime (based on increased court case filings, an indicator of crime), further exacerbated by the weakened economy has contributed to an already overcrowded jail population. The urgency to provide treatment and intensive case management to defendants in the Las Vegas Municipal Court's jurisdiction to curtail incidences of criminal activity is great, but the financial ability to do so is extremely limited. Without the necessary treatment interventions to stop defendants from re-offending, it would cost City taxpayers \$98 per day to house an offender in jail each time a defendant commits a new offense.

¹ At the time of this report, FY 2010 is only five months into the year; actual numbers will not be realized until after June 30, 2010.



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**DEFENDANT EDUCATION, TREATMENT, INTENSIVE
SUPERVISION, AND REHABILITATIVE PROGRAMS**

**Percent of Offenders Mandated to Enroll in a Class
(FY 08-FY10 by Offense Category)**

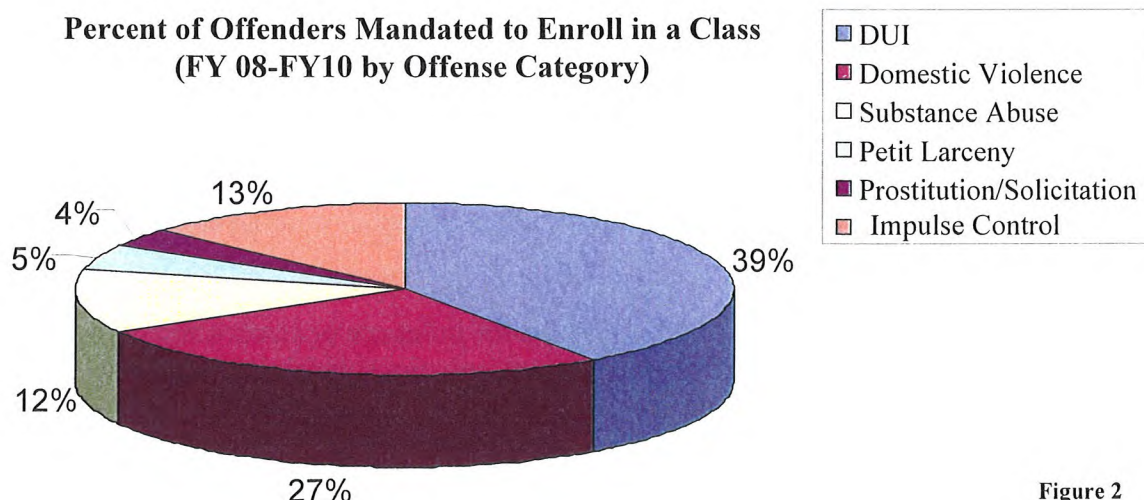


Figure 2

The court's Alternative Sentencing and Education Program coordinates more than 2,000 classes, with an estimated 832 English classes and 215 Spanish classes per year. Court counselors monitor and determine the degree to which offenders are following court orders. The class offerings are for offenders charged with Petit Larceny, Domestic Violence, Battery/Assault, DUI, Solicitation (with separate classes for the males and females), and offenses related to substance abuse.² More than 16,000 defendants have been mandated to attend at least one track of these specialized classes in the current and past two fiscal years, with DUI and domestic violence offenders comprising the largest percentage of offender groups and the biggest threat to public safety³ (Figure 2).

The entire intervention program curricula for misdemeanor criminal offenses for DUI, domestic violence, substance abuse, petit larceny, prostitution, solicitation and impulse control (which teaches anger management) has a Spanish-language counterpart. The classes run from four weeks per track to 52 weeks, depending upon the type of offense. Fourteen (14) state-licensed instructors on contractual agreement with the court are required for the 46 classes per week, each week. Moreover, Nevada law statutorily requires two licensed instructors to co-teach the Batterers Intervention domestic violence-prevention classes.

² There are mandatory classes for non-criminal traffic violators for which statistics are not part of this report.

³ *supra*, at note 1.



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**DEFENDANT EDUCATION, TREATMENT, INTENSIVE
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The second option that Las Vegas Municipal Court Judges may mandate along with attendance at educational classes is ordering defendants to the House Arrest Program, an immediate and alternative sanction. The purpose of the House Arrest Program is to provide home confinement sentencing services to misdemeanor offenders so they can satisfy their court-ordered obligations and relieve jail overcrowding, thereby creating tax savings for Las Vegas citizens. In addition, House Arrest Officers are able to enforce compliance through defendant monitoring that includes unannounced home visits and virtual real-time spot alcohol testing through specialized, in-home equipment that transmits images to the officers. This technology enhances public safety while allowing virtual interaction with defendants to efficiently apprehend and/or prohibit defendants' criminal activity.

The alcohol-monitoring bracelets are a necessary tool for House Arrest Officers engaged in mandated supervision activities of defendants' alcohol use (Figure 3). The challenge arises when defendants leave their homes in which non-portable equipment is placed. As such, it becomes necessary for them to wear alcohol-monitoring bracelets. Currently, judges refer these defendants to outside agencies because the House Arrest Officers do not have this much-needed equipment on site. This creates an unintended time lapse in monitoring the defendant. With funding, the monitoring bracelets can be placed on a defendant immediately after sentencing, in the presence of the house arrest officers, before leaving the court.

Based on the past two and one half years, the City projects that the House Arrest Officers will need at least thirty (30) ankle-monitoring devices for the House Arrest Program. There are times when a defendant presents on a charge and recent alcohol use is suspected, even as the defendant stands before the judge. Judges will order an on-the-spot test, but, there are a limited number of Breathalyzers for the court. Staff needs to be able to test on the spot at the judges' order. Currently, the unit is not financially able to purchase the equipment.

Alcohol-Monitoring Bracelet



Figure 3



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**DEFENDANT EDUCATION, TREATMENT, INTENSIVE
SUPERVISION AND REHABILITATIVE PROGRAMS**

The third option is a judicially mandated requirement to one of the court's specialty or problems solving courts, of which there are currently four: DUI, Drug, W.I.N. (Women In Need Female Prostitution Prevention) and H.O.P.E. Court (Habitual Offender Prevention Education for repeat and chronic misdemeanor offenders). The court, however, is in the process of merging these four specialty courts into one problem-solving court. These case-managed programs are within the framework of intensive supervision, which includes treatment services to target the root of defendants' substance-abuse dependencies, often co-occurring mental health disorders, and criminal activity. Moreover, the court is implementing a statutorily required policy and procedure to identify veterans who may be eligible to receive treatment-related services.

To accomplish this aggressive goal, the court has adopted the best practices in the current literature of National Drug and DUI Court models and Domestic Violence and Mental Health problem-solving courts. The court's specialty court counselors, case managers, and substance abuse-prevention specialist ensure, based upon a substance abuse evaluation and mandatory judicial requirements, the extent to which the individual needs intervention treatment services for inpatient treatment, detox, and sober living services; community referrals for individual and/or group counseling services; and drug testing supplies for random drug testing by court staff. Treatment models of this magnitude are an investment to ensure the public's safety. However, there have been four-hundred, thirty-six (436) individuals in need of such services that the court is not financially able to accommodate (Figure 4). Grant funds minimally support these costs, but are not nearly sufficient to fully address the rehabilitation requirements that form the tenets embodied in the best practices literature. This includes the detoxification process, community counseling, drug testing, vocational training and re-training; and the incentives that support recovery and encourage continued success through graduation and after-care.

Percent of offenders mandated to a specialty court from court filings FY 08-FY10 by offense category in need of intensive supervision, rehabilitation, and treatment

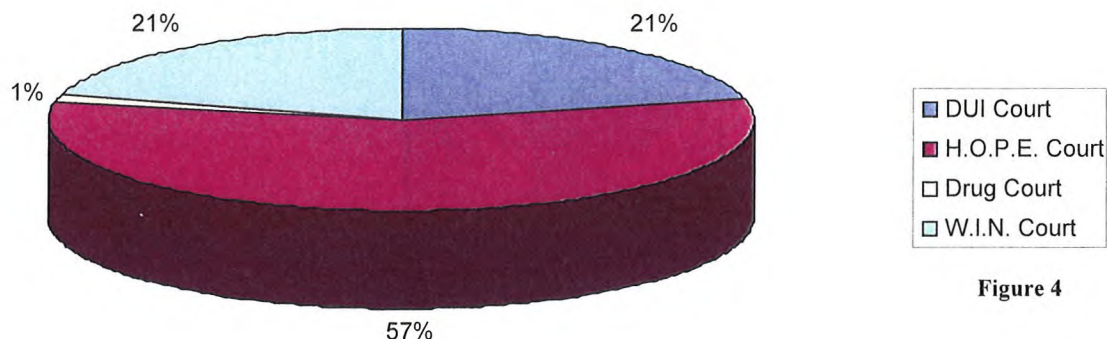


Figure 4



CITY OF LAS VEGAS 2011 FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

DEFENDANT EDUCATION, TREATMENT, INTENSIVE SUPERVISION AND REHABILITATIVE PROGRAMS

These problem-solving courts, as a part of an intensive supervision based upon a probation model and linked to treatment goals, have been successful in the Las Vegas Municipal Court's jurisdiction. The specialty court that is judge-and-team-centered is pivotal to holding defendants accountable to changing offenders' behavior and attitudes. In the Las Vegas Municipal Court, the intersection where treatment and justice meets can produce heightened outcomes with sufficient funding to accomplish the on-going goal, supported by comprehensive treatment services, to keep citizens safe.

The judge is the key component of our four specialty courts for "high-risk" offenders who use and/or abuse drugs and/or alcohol. The judge recognizes that high-risk offenders, who may have other mental health disorders and who may have previously and repeatedly failed in drug abuse treatment, fare better in specialty courts when they are required to attend frequent court status checks (appearances), along with many other judicially mandated requirements. Under this strategy of close courtroom supervision, along with case-managed treatment services, offenders move from the streets to approved housing arrangements. Each specialty court judge is very instrumental, playing an active and pivotal role in holding defendants to a very high degree of accountability.

One goal of alternative sentencing is to provide the tools for all offenders to become law-abiding, which includes the trend toward combining justice with treatment. Treatment is an extremely large part of the rehabilitative process, as the commission of criminal acts is highly correlated with alcohol and drug dependencies, equally for men and women. The national trend toward specialty courts or problem-solving courts is growing and is a response to the rising costs of incarceration and the revolving-door syndrome of repeat offenders.

The best practices models recommend, and the best solution is a continuum of care that includes detox, intensive in-patient treatment, and out-patient treatment for individuals with co-occurring disorders. To increase level-of-service coordination based on individualized treatment and goal plans, the committed court team must bridge the gaps to ensure service opportunities for financial, housing, medical, employment, social, transportation, crisis intervention, entitlement, and other essential community resource needs are met to ultimately lead to long-term sobriety and self-sufficiency.



Where Treatment and Justice Meet: Clinical Services
Manager Beverly Golston, a DUI court graduate, and Chief
Judge Elizabeth Kolkoski



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**DEFENDANT EDUCATION, TREATMENT, INTENSIVE
SUPERVISION AND REHABILITATIVE PROGRAMS**

The success of the Las Vegas Municipal Court specialty courts is due in large part to the judges and their multidisciplinary team approach. Through the court, clinical, therapeutic, vocational and educational sessions, and compliance testing services are administered. Currently, the court has four specialty courts and a process for including treatment of veterans within each court that is modeled after the national Drug Court's "10 Key Components," synthesizing the meeting of treatment and justice.

Las Vegas Municipal Court's Specialty Court Graduations



City Councilwoman Lois Tarkanian, Women In Need Court Graduate, Municipal Judge Cynthia Leung, and Las Vegas Municipal Court employee Beverly Golston.

SPECIFIC USE FOR REQUESTED FUNDS

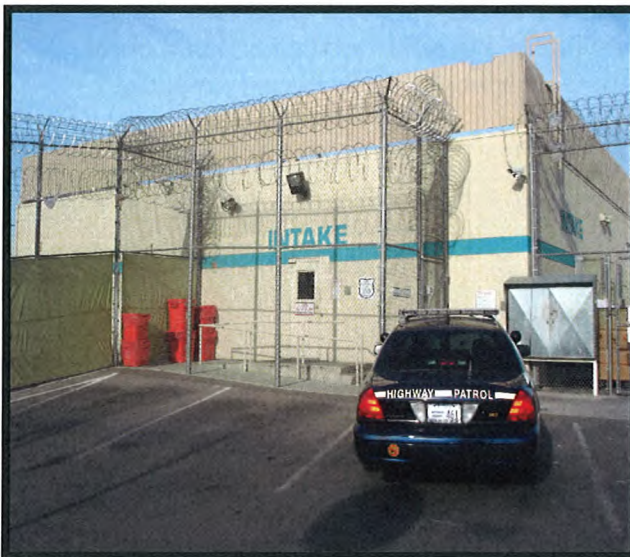
The City is requesting \$1,422,032 for the court's Defendant Education, Treatment, Intensive Supervision, and Rehabilitative Programs to meet the City's key strategies: (1) to provide a safe environment for our residents, businesses, and visitors using a community-oriented approach; and (2) support and encourage sustainability, livability, and pride in our neighborhoods. This funding request is a viable investment to ensure public safety. This critically sought request allows the court to have access to the tools it needs to combat criminal offenses, with the ultimate goal of meeting the City's strategic plan priorities, to ensure public safety, for critical times like these and for the future generations.



CITY OF LAS VEGAS 2011 FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

CORRECTIONS FACILITY EQUIPMENT, TECHNOLOGY AND SAFETY

Currently the fire alarm and fire suppression system at the Detention Center is comprised of components from various manufacturers. Some of these components date to the original construction of the facility, half of the facility was completed in 1992 and the remainders in 1998, while others have been added during expansions or as replacements for original parts which failed and were no longer available. The reliability of the resulting system is questionable and has been recommended for replacement by an independent fire safety engineering firm. General fund money has not been available to follow this recommendation.



The city of Las Vegas Detention Center processes and houses in excess of 30,000 inmates annually. At any given time up to 1,050 inmates are on site along with an estimated 100 employees of the City, contractors who provide operational support and officers from multiple law enforcement agencies who book their arrestees at this facility. A failure of the fire system would have immediate and drastic impacts on the operations of the local law enforcement and judicial systems as well as on the citizens of Las Vegas. In the event the system fails during a fire incident, the immediate and obvious impact is on the safety of all persons on site. Beyond this, there are many far-reaching impacts.

Closure of part or all of the facility due either to an incident or to a failure of the fire system to pass inspection will result in a lack of space to house local offenders. Other facilities in operation do not have the capacity to accept the inmates housed in this facility, and while there is a vacant facility being leased by the county, there is not funding to staff and operate it, leading to it being excluded as anything other than a short term emergency holding area. With no space available to relocate city inmates in the event of an incident, offenders would be released into the local population and law enforcement agencies would be unable to arrest some offenders due to lack of space to incarcerate them.

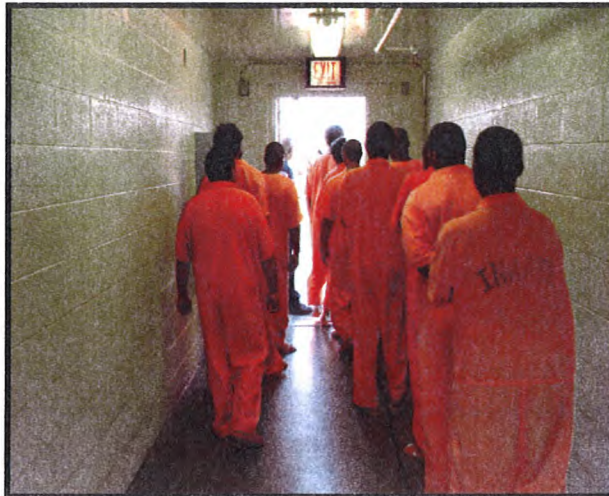


CITY OF LAS VEGAS 2011 FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

CORRECTIONS FACILITY EQUIPMENT, TECHNOLOGY AND SAFETY

Offenders remaining in or being returned to the local population would have noticeable impacts on citizens and particularly on the victims of crime. Results of not incarcerating offenders will include:

- More noticeable crime on the streets, i.e., thefts, burglaries, vandalism, increased panhandling, public drunkenness and other serious as well as nuisance crimes.
- Less accountability for those who commit more serious or repeat offenses such as battery/domestic violence and driving under the influence. Offenders could be walking out of jail rather than being booked due to lack of space to confine them.
- Decreased or no incarceration time for offenders who will quickly return to the neighborhoods where they commit their crimes. Offenders may return to sleeping/living in vacant properties, alleys and yards of occupied homes.
- Substance abusers will spend increased time in the community committing crimes to support their habits.
- Increased numbers of mentally ill individuals will have no assistance as mental health facilities are overwhelmed, therefore the only treatment these people receive is when they are arrested.
- An increase in the vagrant population both downtown and in our neighborhoods, advancing the perception that downtown Las Vegas is neither a safe tourist destination nor a good place to invest in redevelopment projects.
- A decreased ability for the public to access emergency healthcare as this will become the primary source of healthcare for offenders with chronic conditions, illnesses and/or substance abuse and mental health issues.
- A negative psychological impact on the community when there is the perception that cost takes precedence over their safety.



SPECIFIC USE FOR REQUESTED FUNDS

The City is requesting \$350,000 for a retrofit of the fire alarm and suppression systems at the city of Las Vegas Detention Center. These funds will be used to replace outdated components that are no longer manufactured or have been recalled by the manufacturer, integrate systems throughout the facility so they will provide one facility-wide fire detection, alarm and suppression system and bring all fire safety systems into compliance with current fire codes.

City of Las Vegas Detention Center



Legislative Issues



CITY OF LAS VEGAS 2011 FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

LEGISLATIVE ISSUES

BUDGET

The city of Las Vegas urges Congress, in the Fiscal Year 2011 budget and appropriations process, to continue level funding for key local government programs in the areas of housing, economic and community development, transportation, law enforcement and public safety, workforce training and environmental programs. Because of the downturn in the economy, the City, like other state and local governments across the country, is facing some difficult budget challenges.

The City's primary sources of revenue, sales taxes and consolidated taxes, are down dramatically. As a result of the economic downturn, the decline in the housing market and the nationwide credit crunch, the City realized reduced revenues in FY 2009, particularly from consolidated tax revenues that are composed primarily of sales taxes. Consolidated tax revenues originally were budgeted at \$242.1 million for FY 2009, but the City received approximately \$220.0 million in consolidated tax revenues in FY 2009.

The Las Vegas City Council began to respond to the declining revenues with an initial budget reduction of approximately \$18.5 million in FY 2008 and an additional reduction of approximately \$29.1 million in FY 2009. The City implemented special service review measures and associated targeted program reductions ("Fundamental Service Reviews") in 2009. Cumulatively since FY 2008, these measures resulted in 350 positions being closed or frozen. The City also has delayed capital improvement projects, implemented a voluntary separation program, and obtained small compensation package concessions from its unions.

The City plans to hold non-critical vacancies open in order to save additional funds. Additional actions to address the continued Las Vegas recession into FY 2010 and beyond are being formulated. Program reductions totaling \$8.7 million, with the elimination of 75 positions, already have been implemented in FY 2010. We are currently evaluating an additional \$26.3 million in reductions for 2011. As an additional precaution in FY 2009, the City also created a Fiscal Stabilization Fund totaling \$50.5 million to provide for the stabilization of operations during periods of economic downturn or for the mitigation of the effects of disasters.

While the City is aware that the federal budget is severely short of funds, the City hopes that Congress recognizes that many of the key urban programs provide direct jobs and services for many recipients. Currently, the Las Vegas City Council has directed staff to continue an initiative called the Fundamental Service Review to evaluate the efficiency of our organization and determine where the organization could save money.



CITY OF LAS VEGAS 2011 FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

LEGISLATIVE ISSUES

CLIMATE CHANGE

The city of Las Vegas is a key city for the national Carbon Disclosure Project and was a flagship city for Earth Hour 2009. Through these public efforts, the City is providing leadership and has made a strong commitment to addressing climate change. The Mayor and City Council recently adopted a Sustainable Energy Strategy. This strategy sets aggressive targets for investing in renewable energy and energy conservation. The strategy has three components: City operations, City Codes and Policies, and Community Partnerships.

The City Operations segment calls for investing in three (3) megawatts of renewable energy by 2011, and seven (7) megawatts by 2015 with a renewable-energy portfolio standard of 30 percent by 2030. The City Operations segment also calls for a 30 percent reduction in greenhouse gas emissions by 2030, and 95 percent of fuels consumed to be produced in the U.S. The City Codes and Policies section requires adoption of a sustainable zoning code, 30 percent increase in energy efficiency in the energy code, and improved incentives in the Green Building Program. The Community Partnerships section requires investment in a renewable-energy and energy-conservation rebate program for residences and businesses.

The City has been actively implementing the components of the Sustainable Energy Strategy. In the third quarter of 2009, the City completed its initial inventory of greenhouse gas emissions generated by City operations between 2005 and 2008. For 2008, an initial community inventory estimate was made. The receipt of \$5,449,200 of Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant funding through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 will help the City reach the renewable-energy, energy-consumption, and emissions-reduction targets of the strategy. One megawatt of solar covered parking will be installed under the grant. An additional four (4) megawatts of solar also is programmed to be installed at the City's wastewater treatment plant. Updates to the City's zoning code are presently under way and the 2009 International Energy Conservation Code was recently adopted. The City's Green Building Program also was updated in August 2009 to provide new incentives for Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design and "green" built structures. The City also has partnered with the local non-profits HomeFree Nevada, an Environmental Protection Agency Home Performance with EnergySTAR program, and Green Chips to launch an energy audit and retrofit program in the fall of 2009. More than 100 energy audits have been completed as of December.

These programs and projects are part of a comprehensive strategy for the City and its citizens to reduce dependence on foreign oil, support the green economy by creating jobs, and reduce the City's carbon footprint. To that end, the City supports the following federal initiatives:

- 1) National emissions regulatory model
- 2) Energy Efficiency Block Grant Program: full funding for this program
- 3) Transit funding and infrastructure investments
- 4) Smart growth and infill development
- 5) Creation of "green jobs"



CITY OF LAS VEGAS 2011 FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

LEGISLATIVE ISSUES

EMERGENCY RESPONSE SYSTEM

The Metropolitan Medical Response System (MMRS) is the only federal program that helps first responders, medical personnel, emergency management workers, businesses and other stakeholders develop effective, integrated capabilities to minimize casualties in the event of a terrorist attack using a weapon of mass destruction, natural disaster or public health emergency.

MMRS was established in the wake of the deadly release of sarin nerve gas in a Tokyo subway and the bombing of the Alfred P. Murrah Building in Oklahoma City in 1995. The program provides funds to 125 municipal authorities in 43 states for local first responder planning, training, exercises, equipment and pharmaceutical caches.

MMRS provides unique services that are urgently needed, given the determination of terrorist groups to acquire a weapon of mass destruction and detonate it inside our country, the severe preparedness gaps exposed by the failed response to Hurricane Katrina, and the current pandemic.

MMRS program guidance requires the enhancement of local capabilities for coordinating local fire, police, hospital, and public health agencies in the event of a terrorist attack, act of nature or public health incident. This planning includes preparing for treatment of 1,000 or more casualties, triage, direct distribution of vaccines and other pharmaceuticals, and protection of medical facilities in the immediate post-incident time period before sufficient external resources can arrive and become operational. In the shadow of these threats, local first responders and "first receivers" (e.g., doctors, emergency medical technicians, public health officials) must be prepared to act in a coordinated fashion and have the specialized equipment, training and information infrastructure to do so. MMRS is the only federal program that directly supports and encourages the coordination of such an integrated approach to the management of highly destructive events in order to minimize casualties.

MMRS received strong federal support during past appropriations processes. We respectfully request continued support for the emergency personnel in our local municipalities through an increase in appropriations for MMRS in the upcoming fiscal year. These "hometown heroes" will be on the front lines in the event of a major terror attack, natural disaster or public health emergency



CITY OF LAS VEGAS 2011 FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

LEGISLATIVE ISSUES

EMINENT DOMAIN

The city of Las Vegas urges Congress to thoroughly review the issue of eminent domain before moving forward with legislation that may be too sweeping and have unintended consequences for local governments.

ENERGY BUILDING CODE ENFORCEMENT

The City supports federal economic recovery efforts (American Recovery and Reinvestment Act and Jobs Bill), the Recovery Through Retrofit recommendation of the Middle Class Task Force Council on Environmental Quality, as well as full funding for the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant program. The City also supports reducing the impacts of greenhouse gas emissions resulting from inefficient buildings and homes. In order to keep pace with the new methods, technologies and housing retrofits which are part of this national movement, the City supports federal assistance to local governments, which are hard hit by the economic recession and are operating with fewer employees and resources, to keep up with the administrative, training and equipment costs associated with the inspection and permitting of these retrofits.

FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION (FAA)

During the 2009 Legislature, Senate Joint Resolution 3 was passed that urges Congress to authorize the Clark County Department of Aviation to ban flights of experimental homebuilt aircraft to and from the North Las Vegas Airport. The city of Las Vegas urges the FAA to consider safety and population density issues. Recent plane crashes originating from regional airports have caused fatalities and property destruction of homeowners along with exposure hazards to bystanders from the burning fuels and components of the involved planes.

Experimental homebuilt aircrafts represent greater risks than those associated with traditional aircraft, and recent events demonstrate that when they don't function as planned, public safety is threatened and emergency service resources are taxed. The City's Fire and Rescue Department is a responder when accidents occur at this airport, and presumably City residents in City areas nearest this airport are at risk. In addition, there is an increased hazard to police, fire, medical and other responders due to the unique nature of a plane crash resulting in a structure fire with life safety issues.

The City urges the FAA to consider the safety of persons who live near the North Las Vegas Airport when setting the standards for the number of hours experimental homebuilt aircraft must be tested before such aircraft can be operated at airports such as the North Las Vegas Airport.



CITY OF LAS VEGAS 2011 FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

LEGISLATIVE ISSUES

FEDERAL PREEMPTIONS

The city of Las Vegas opposes federal preemption of its fiscal, legal and administrative authority and flexibility.

FEDERAL UNFUNDED MANDATES

The city of Las Vegas opposes unfunded mandates. The federal government should avoid policies that impose disproportionate responsibilities on local governments or increase financial liability without recognizing the fiscal impact of those policies. In particular, federal policies should not mandate new costs for local governments without providing adequate funds to reimburse the local governments for those mandated costs.

FIRE

The city of Las Vegas supports the Fire Sprinkler Incentive Act, enhanced 911-locator capacity funding and full funding for the SAFER program. The City also supports full funding for the Fire Administration and the Emergency Management Institute. In addition, the City supports the federal programs that provide funding to Emergency Medical Services and Fire Personnel, such as the Department of Homeland Security's Metropolitan Medical Response System and the Assistance to Firefighter Grant Program.



CITY OF LAS VEGAS 2011 FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

LEGISLATIVE ISSUES

HOMELAND SECURITY

The city of Las Vegas has embarked on a number of exciting and innovative programs, such as the Fusion Center and the All Hazard Regional Multi-Agency Operations and Response (ARMOR) Team. The City supports increased Department of Homeland Security funding for training and allowing the use of DHS funds to help pay for construction of training facilities and the hardening of police and fire stations and other key public buildings.

The City recognizes the need, and has been leading the effort, for a regional public safety complex (RPSC) in Southern Nevada. The RPSC is envisioned to include an intelligence fusion center, emergency operations center (EOC), joint information center and training location. The City supports allowing construction expenses for such facilities as an eligible use of federal Department of Homeland Security funds. The House FY2008 Department of Homeland Security appropriations bill called for EOC construction as an eligible expense, and the City urges that Congress make construction expenses for EOCs permissible under the State Homeland Security Program and the Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI). In particular, the City would urge that UASI funds be allowed to be used for construction expenses for EOCs, Fusion Centers, and regional public safety complexes since UASI funds provide significantly more funding to areas like Las Vegas.

The City supports funding for domestic security needs and first responder funds to cities based upon population and risk of terrorist attack. The City supports efforts to take into consideration population increases caused by a large influx of tourists and transient populations. The City also urges Congress and the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) to fully fund rail security efforts and give cities the ability to participate in decisions made by railroads regarding routing and parking of rail cars transporting hazardous materials. The City also is concerned that while local governments are required to share sensitive information with the federal government, there is often not full reciprocity in the federal government sharing information with appropriate, cleared local government officials.

The City is participating with other government entities (Clark County, Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department, city of Henderson, city of North Las Vegas) in a Regional Communications Assessment Initiative which includes wireless communication opportunities, voice and data communications convergence, 911 emergency dispatch consolidation and contingency, E911 cellular response, reverse 911 notification and non-emergency call management (311). The City supports funding for a multi-jurisdiction comprehensive analysis of these communications systems and the development of a plan that defines opportunities, goals and responsibilities. The City supports the elimination of tiers in the administration of Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) funds as proposed in H.R. 4182 to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002. The City also supports retaining the visitor, or "tourist" population component in the risk formula that ultimately determines the risk score for Urban Areas. The City supports a transparent accounting of the individual factors comprising the risk formula, the sources of data used and the resulting score.



CITY OF LAS VEGAS 2011 FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

LEGISLATIVE ISSUES

HOME FORECLOSURES

One in 33 current U.S. homeowners nationwide is projected to face foreclosure, primarily in the next two years, as a result of subprime loans made in 2005 and 2006. Nevada is consistently ranked in the top two in home foreclosures in the nation, with 1 in every 11 homes expected to face foreclosure. Since 2007, there has been an estimated 48,000 home foreclosures in Nevada. It is projected that in 2009 there will be an estimated 61,881 home foreclosures in Nevada.

Although funds provided for the Neighborhood Stabilization Program through the Housing and Economic Recovery Act assists local governments in reducing available foreclosed housing on the market, it does not provide foreclosure intervention and prevention services. Based on the projected number of foreclosures, Las Vegas is projected to remain one of the highest-ranking cities in home foreclosures.

Eighty percent of Nevada's foreclosures are located in Southern Nevada. Due to the significant loss of value, the Making Home Affordable program is not meeting the needs of homeowners who are in imminent risk of foreclosure. Over the next 12-18 months, Southern Nevada is projected to have an increase in underemployed individuals due to layoffs, salary cuts and/or reduced hours, which will further complicate the foreclosure crises. In order to mitigate the crisis and fill unintended gaps in the Housing and Economic Recovery Act, foreclosure intervention and prevention funding is needed to provide relief for city of Las Vegas residents on the threshold of experiencing foreclosure. Foreclosure prevention assistance is critical to permanently stabilizing the Las Vegas market.

HOUSING/CDBG/HOMELESS

The foreclosure crisis in southern Nevada has negatively impacted families who previously did not require housing assistance. There is a greater need for rental assistance to keep these families housed and relieve the growing burden on homeless shelters in Las Vegas. While income is the primary limiting factor, our families are also being turned away from rental communities due to credit issues caused by foreclosure. Funding to provide rental assistance and credit counseling programs are greatly needed in our community.



CITY OF LAS VEGAS 2011 FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

LEGISLATIVE ISSUES

HOUSING

The city of Las Vegas supports efforts to provide additional federal funds to key housing and urban development programs such as the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), HOME, and Brownfields redevelopment. The city of Las Vegas opposes efforts to change the CDBG formula, if such change results in loss of funding to the City.

The City supports the concepts of housing preservation legislation that the Chairman of the House Financial Services Committee Congressman Barney Frank (D-MA) may move through the House Financial Services Committee. The City continues to experience record foreclosures and seeks further assistance from the federal government to help prevent foreclosures. The Federal Making Home Affordable Program (MHA) has been slow to address the foreclosure problem in Southern Nevada based on the eligibility criteria. In order for a homeowner to refinance their home under the MHA, the first mortgage on the home must not exceed 125 percent of current market value. Since it is estimated that nearly 70 percent of homeowners are "underwater" and the loss of value in Southern Nevada averages in excess of 40 percent, and can reach up to 80 percent, it is impossible for the majority of homeowners to take advantage of the refinance option. The modification portion of the MHA targets homeowners whose monthly mortgages exceed 31 percent of their monthly gross income and their payment is not affordable due to a financial hardship. Mortgages must be backed by Fannie Mae or Freddie Mac. While many homeowners have initiated the modification process and are in a trial status, few have been granted a permanent payment modification. Simply stated, the MHA criteria for areas hardest hit by the foreclosure crises should be modified to allow homeowners in good standing to refinance their homes into a fixed rate regardless of the loan to value. Secondly, the mortgage modification process should be completed within 120 days upon receiving a completed application, to ensure an expedited process.

The Nevada Foreclosure Prevention Taskforce recently unveiled a comprehensive foreclosure campaign to inform homeowners of the scams being perpetrated against Nevada citizens and to direct homeowners to reputable housing counseling services. The majorities of the fraudulent operators are unlicensed and have no real estate or brokers' credentials. The Fannie Mae First Look program has been very cumbersome and is not meeting the Neighborhood Stabilization Program goals and expectations. Freddie Mac does not have a strong presence in Nevada and as such it is difficult to build partnerships that address the area foreclosures. Furthermore, unlike Fannie Mae, we have not received any information as to whether Freddie Mac has a First Look program that meets the NSP requirements. The City supports the Administration's Sustainable Communities program and looks forward to working with the Departments of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), Transportation and the Environmental Protection Agency in furthering the goals of the program. The City will seek competitive funding from HUD for Sustainable Communities. The City experiences a large and growing homeless population and believes that federal funding for homelessness should be increased and should be more flexible.



CITY OF LAS VEGAS 2011 FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

LEGISLATIVE ISSUES

JOBS FOR MAIN STREET ACT

In December 2009, the House passed the Jobs for Main Street Act, which includes \$48.5 billion for infrastructure jobs, \$1.5 billion for retaining or rehiring police officers and \$500 million for firefighters. The legislation contained no direct fiscal assistance to cities with high unemployment. The top 360 metropolitan economies are the driving force in the nation's economic performance, accounting for 89.9 percent of the nation's gross domestic product, 90.1 percent of wage income and 85.9 percent of the nation's jobs in 2007. Therefore, the city of Las Vegas urges Congress to provide direct funding to the nation's cities when crafting economic recovery legislation. As the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act demonstrated, sending transportation formula funds directly to the states does not always result in the funding getting to the areas and communities in the most dire need. While the city of Las Vegas applauds the House for moving on a jobs bill, the City urges the Senate to provide for directed, targeted fiscal aid to cities with the highest unemployment.

MUNICIPAL COURT

The city of Las Vegas supports H.R. 1956, the Court Fee Intercept and Victims Restitution Act, which would help state courts collect delinquent fines, fees and victim restitution. States and localities carry substantial court-ordered fines and restitution owed to them. Estimates range as high as \$15 billion owed to all of our state courts. Collecting just a small portion of this unpaid debt nationwide would result in millions of dollars going to state and local coffers, as well as restitution returned to victims. This bill would allow for the interception of tax refunds for unpaid court fines, fees and victim restitution.

NORMAL RETIREMENT AGE

The Internal Revenue Service (IRS) issued a final regulation to amend the definition of normal retirement age. If this regulation is enforced, it could significantly change the retirement age provisions for eligible employees covered by the Public Employees' Retirement System of Nevada (PERS). This new Treasury Regulation Section 1.401 (a) – (b) has redefined "normal retirement age" for pension plan participants, including participants in the PERS plan. If this regulation stands, retirement that is based on years of service before age 55 for regular members and before age 50 for fire and police members, will no longer be an available option. The City defines normal retirement age as a fixed age or a certain length of service. This new IRS regulation means that a participant who has the required years of service under PERS might be required to postpone retirement until reaching the "normal retirement age" in order to receive full benefits. In this instance, the regulation is defining "normal retirement age" as between 55 and 62 years of age for non public safety participants. The "normal retirement age" for public safety participants may be as low as 50 years of age. The City opposes these regulatory changes that will significantly impact our Nevada PERS retirement system and will work with other local government entities to voice our concern and objections.



CITY OF LAS VEGAS 2011 FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

LEGISLATIVE ISSUES

PARKS

The city of Las Vegas supports the Urban Revitalization and Livable Communities Act, H.R. 3734. With decreased funding for capital projects, especially with past primary funding resources such as the Southern Nevada Public Land Management Act funding decreasing, this legislation provides necessary support to municipalities and helps promote the delivery of excellent quality of life for the community. With several specific park and recreation facility deficits identified in the City's Master Plan 2020 Parks and Recreation Element, adopted in 2006, it is imperative that we support such funding sources as these to aid us in delivering programs to the community.

The Urban Revitalization and Livable Communities Act would rehabilitate and improve urban parks and recreational infrastructure and revitalize communities by increasing economic development; improving public health; increasing daily physical activity; reconnecting children with nature; reducing crime; and providing safe, healthy alternatives for at-risk youth. The bill focuses on projects in urban areas that provide revitalization through:

- Providing more places and spaces for physical activity.
- Connecting children to the outdoors.
- Promoting physical activity.
- Connecting to public transportation, schools, and public housing.
- Creating green jobs and using green technologies.
- Promoting sustainable landscape features and materials.
- Increased planting of trees; stormwater management and water conservation.
- Using energy-efficient components such as energy-efficient lighting and HVAC systems.

The City supports full funding for the Land and Water Conservation Fund, which will provide much-needed assistance to the City in park maintenance and development of additional parks, ball fields, and other essential quality-of-life recreation facilities. The City has received funds for park development from this fund in the past, as long ago as the 1990s. We urge support from Congress to provide substantial and meaningful funding for this critical program.

For over three decades, the Urban Park and Recreation Recovery Program (UPARR) has been the only source of dedicated funding specifically for the construction and rehabilitation of urban parks. UPARR, which is a matching grant program, has helped cities to meet pressing park and recreation needs. With UPARR grants serving as a catalyst, cities made recreation centers safe, rebuilt deteriorating urban parks, and developed innovative methods to leverage existing resources to serve larger populations and to meet new demands. UPARR funding helped agencies provide essential health and recreation services to the most distressed areas nationwide. However, this program that provides dedicated funding for urban parks has not been funded since FY 2002. If UPARR were funded today, the City would have access to capital construction dollars to improve safety and deteriorating conditions of more mature recreation facilities and park equipment.



CITY OF LAS VEGAS 2011 FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

LEGISLATIVE ISSUES

PUBLIC RIGHTS-OF-WAY ACCESSIBILITY GUIDELINES (PROWAG)

In 1999, the Architectural and Transportation Barriers Compliance Board (Access Board) established the Public Rights-of-Way Access Advisory Committee (Committee) to make recommendations on accessibility guidelines for newly constructed and altered public rights-of-way covered by the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 and the Architectural Barriers Act of 1968. Currently, the City is in the process of reviewing the impacts of the new American Disability Act sidewalk requirements that are being proposed by the Public Rights-of-Ways Accessibility Guidelines (PROWAG). Although the full impact of these improvements has not been determined, the City is concerned about the potential costs associated with the proposed requirements, should they be adopted by Congress and passed into federal law. The City has 50,273 existing street light poles, of which approximately 80 percent (40,000) would not meet the new 48 inch minimum clearance. The estimated cost to relocate would be \$5,800 per pole. Should the PROWAG regulation become effective, it could potentially cost the City \$232 million to be in compliance. Additionally, this does not include other unknown costs, such as potential utility box or pole relocations, or other unknown criteria that will impact our project costs.

RECOVERY ZONE BONDS

The national Allocation for Recovery Zone Bond Program included \$10 billion for Recover Zone Economic Development Bonds (certain public projects) and \$15 billion for Recovery Zone Facility Bonds (certain private projects), for a total of \$25 billion. Of the \$10 billion allocation in Recovery Zone Economic Development Bonds which can be used for public projects, only four percent of the total allocation or \$384.5 million had been issued in the first five months of the program, according to data from Thompson Reuters as reported by the Bond Buyer on November 23, 2009. This seems to indicate that more time is needed to get the Recovery Zone Bonds to market.

Despite having one of the highest unemployment rates in the nation, the city of Las Vegas received no allocation in Recovery Zone Bonds due to the "static" approach used by American Recovery Reinvestment Act in looking at outdated unemployment numbers. The City requests a new round of Recovery Zone Bonds authorized by U.S. Department of Treasury to enable cities experiencing the highest unemployment in the nation to benefit from the program.

The State of Nevada has the nation's second highest unemployment rate (second only to Michigan). Yet the State received a disproportionately small share of Recovery Zone Bonds, and the allocation unfairly used outdated unemployment data which mandated that all of Nevada's allocation went to Northern Nevada. Nevada's allocation of \$225 million was only 0.9 percent of the total \$25 billion allocation. Other states experiencing high unemployment, such as Michigan and Florida, fared much better with respective allocations of \$1.9 billion (7.7 percent) and \$846.2 million (3.4 percent). The City supports a change in the allocation of the Recovery Zone Bonds that would allow Nevada and the City to benefit from this program.



CITY OF LAS VEGAS 2011 FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

LEGISLATIVE ISSUES

SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION FUNDING AND FEE WAIVERS

As reported by CNNMoney.com on November 23, 2009, the Small Business Administration (SBA) has exhausted its \$375 million in the American Reinvestment and Recovery Act funding allocated to temporarily waive fees and support loan guaranty programs. In 2009, the SBA 7(a) loan program backed half of the loans when compared with 2007. The city of Las Vegas supports additional funding for the SBA, either through the jobs bill or through additional appropriations to continue this much-needed funding to increase lending to small business. The City is particularly affected by this drop in small business lending, as the Las Vegas Metropolitan Statistical Area has one of the nation's highest proportions of small business.

TELECOMMUNICATIONS

The city of Las Vegas will continue to advocate for local government authority in the areas of right-of-way management, franchise fees and public interest obligations across all telecommunications/information services/cable platforms. There has been significant activity at the Federal Communications Commission that could directly impact cities. The City recognizes that its communications infrastructure is essential to the economic competitiveness of the nation and local governments and the City is committed to working with Congress, federal regulators and the Administration to ensure that communications policy changes reflect the core shared values of all parties involved. Public safety officers for the City need E911, Communications Assistance for Law Enforcement Act and spectrum to protect the public. Consumers deserve a broadband marketplace that includes competition for both price and service quality. The City supports preserving local authority to manage public right-of-way for the benefit of everyone, including the right to a local franchising process and the right to establish reasonable construction permitting, insurance, bond and indemnification requirements for all rights-of-way users.

The City seeks to protect local authority to establish taxes that are consistent with local needs and that maintain adequate revenue. The City seeks to protect and enhance local ability to provide for homeland and hometown security and recognizes local roles in promoting nondiscriminatory access to the full range of communications services. The City supports PEG (public, educational, government) channels, because they help give the public direct access to local government. The City opposes legislation that would remove state and local control, as well as their ability to levy taxes, from Voice over Internet Protocol provided telephone services. Finally, the City supports H.R. 3919 to provide for a comprehensive nationwide inventory of existing broadband services.



CITY OF LAS VEGAS 2011 FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

LEGISLATIVE ISSUES

THREE PERCENT WITHHOLDING LEGISLATION

Section 511 of the Tax Increase Prevention and Reconciliation Act of 2005 requires state and local governments that spend more than \$100 million on goods and services to withhold 3 percent of payment to vendors and contractors beginning in 2011. The provision also calls for reporting of all payments to the Internal Revenue Service. While the City appreciates that the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act postponed the date of implementation by one year, the City supports repeal of this requirement. For the City and other states and localities affected by Section 511, this is yet another unfunded mandate being imposed upon state and local governments that will have severe fiscal consequences.

TRANSPORTATION

The city of Las Vegas supports a fully funded, five-year reauthorization of surface transportation programs similar to the legislation proposed by the House Transportation and Infrastructure Chairman Jim Oberstar (D-MN). With unemployment high nationwide, and particularly high in Nevada and the city of Las Vegas, we view this as a long-term jobs bill. This reauthorization should be completed during the current Congress and not in the next Congress. Short-term extensions of current law do not allow for long-term planning and for larger transportation projects to move ahead. The City supports the efforts and priorities of the Regional Transportation Commission of Southern Nevada (RTC). Local transportation funding from the RTC has substantially decreased due to declining revenues from Motor Vehicle Fuel Tax and Sales Tax. The City supports RTC efforts in identifying alternative funding to meet the transportation needs of Las Vegas. The City supports funding for the extension of transit – either monorail or Bus Rapid Transit - into the downtown area to support redevelopment efforts and the growing density downtown.

The City advocates for regional light rail, for example, to the northwest via Rancho and Kyle Canyon. The City supports funding for the construction of the Nevada-California High Speed Rail line. The City supports the Safe Routes to Schools program. The City supports full funding for the grade separation program. The City is concerned about the movement of hazardous materials by rail or truck through the City, since City officials would be responsible for emergency response in the event of an incident or spill. The City is also concerned that the railroads store railcars within City limits. The City supports federal policies that require prior notification if hazardous materials are being stored on railcars within City limits.



CITY OF LAS VEGAS 2011 FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

LEGISLATIVE ISSUES

VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMAN ACT

The city of Las Vegas supports the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) of 1994 to address the need of prosecution for violent crimes against woman. The City remains committed to protecting and assisting domestic violence victims, their children and other family members impacted by domestic violence. The City had utilized VAWA Grant funds for several years and has two Victim Advocates which started as grant funded Victim Advocates. However, currently the City has no VAWA Grant funded positions, having opted out of applying for VAWA grant funds when its City Attorney's Office decided its domestic violence prosecutions would be far more successful if it could compel victims to testify against their abusers via material witness bail settings, warrants for failure to post such bail and/or "orders to show cause" issued by municipal court judges. Since giving up applying for VAWA Grant funds, the City Attorney Office has been successful in several domestic violence cases which involved an escalation of violence toward lethality. Several victims have thanked prosecutors, Victim's Advocates and/or judges for making them cooperate, because their forced cooperation was something their abuser more easily accepted and led to getting their abuser under control. The City supports amending the VAWA Grant terms to allow for the ability of recipients to compel the attendance of uncooperative victims when senior prosecutors have a good faith belief that such action is reasonably necessary for the safety of the victim and/or the community.

WATER INFRASTRUCTURE

The city of Las Vegas applauds funding contained in the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act and the House-passed Jobs for Main Street bill for state water-pollution control revolving-loan funds and grants. The City opposes the Clean Water Restoration Act that is intended to clarify the jurisdiction of the United States over the waters of the United States. This bill would extend the definition of waters which are currently under the jurisdiction of the federal government from "navigable waters" to a new definition called "waters of the United States." That new definition would include essentially any water that ever made a connection to a navigable waterway, including ditches, gutters, groundwater, which is now under the control of the state of Nevada, leading to the need for permits under the Clean Water Act for practically any activity in the state.

WATER RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT ACT

This year Congress may consider reauthorizing the Water Resources Development Act, which oversees Army Corps of Engineers projects for such activities as flood control, levies, dredging and environmental restoration. The City supports the request for the Las Vegas Wash from the Regional Flood Control District for the Water Resources Development Act reauthorization.

YUCCA MOUNTAIN

The city of Las Vegas is opposed to the shipment and storage of nuclear waste in Nevada. The City opposes all legislation that would require or allow transportation of radioactive waste near or through the City limits. The City passed an ordinance creating a city of Las Vegas Yucca Mountain Nuclear Repository Committee to designate Las Vegas a nuclear-free zone.

Other
Legislative Topics



**CITY OF LAS VEGAS
2011 FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE AGENDA**

OTHER LEGISLATIVE TOPICS OF INTEREST

- Adaptive/Inclusionary Programs
- Alternatives to Incarceration
- Alternative Fuel Tax
- Afterschool Programs
- Animal Control
- Broadband/WiFi Communications
- Brownsfields Grants
- Closed Captioning from English to Spanish
- Community Probation at Municipal Level
- Conduct Active Shooter and Range Training
- Cyber Security
- Day Laborers
- Digital Archiving
- Discharge Planning
- Diversity/Equal Opportunity
- Economic Development Grants
- Education Funding for Technology- Based Workforce
- Electronics Records Management
- Emergency Management
- Emergency Preparedness
- Employment and Job Readiness Skills Training for Teens and Young Adults
- Fair Labor Standards Act
- Family Leave Medical Act
- Flood Control
- Green Jobs/Clean Technology
- Higher Education
- Historical Preservation
- Housing/Rental Assistance
- Identify Theft
- Jail Bed Expansion
- Law Enforcement Mediation
- Law Enforcement Protect Equipment
- Mortgage Rescue Fraud Protection
- Nutritional Education for Youth, Teens, and Seniors
- Obesity Prevention
- Policing Issues
- Senior Services
- Senior Assisted Living Facility
- Small Business Assistance
- Smart Growth/Livable Communities
- Ten Year Plan to End Homelessness
- Transportation Services
- Veterans Support
- Volunteerism Support for Trails, Youth, and Senior Programs
- Workforce Development
- Zoning and Land Use Authority



CITY OF LAS VEGAS 2011 FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

AMERICAN RECOVERY AND REINVESTMENT ACT OF 2009 (ARRA)

The city of Las Vegas recognizes the unemployment rate exacerbates other economic indicators, such as bankruptcy, foreclosure, and declining tax revenues. Nevada ranks second in the nation both in unemployment, only behind Michigan, and foreclosure rates, only behind Florida. Consumer bankruptcies also are worsening significantly in Nevada. Nevada surpassed Tennessee this year for the most consumer bankruptcies per 1,000 residents. The increase in Nevada's consumer bankruptcies, up 65 percent, also outpaces the national average increase of 35.5 percent through September.

The primary goal of the ARRA is to create new jobs as well as save existing ones, which will promulgate economic recovery at the individual level, which will lead to economic recovery at the local, regional, state, and national level. To that end, the City also recommends that Congress and the Administration focus additional funding into specific job creation through redevelopment efforts of urban and rural governments through the promotion of small business as a primary employer.

Overview

As of October 30, 2009, recipients in Nevada reported awards totaling \$1,027,882,183 in ARRA funds consisting of contracts, grants, and loans. Of those awards, \$314,630,000 has been received for contracts and grants. According to recipients, these awards have created, restored, or retained 5,658.36 jobs statewide.

Recipient Reported Funds in Nevada by Type

Recipient Reported			
Type	# of Awards	Amount	Jobs Reported
 Contracts	72	\$60,377,418	178.23
 Grants	468	\$967,268,858	5,480.13
 Loans	1	\$175,906	0.00
Total	541	\$1,027,822,183	5,658.36
Roll over type to view source		Updated 10/30/2009	



**CITY OF LAS VEGAS
2011 FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE AGENDA**

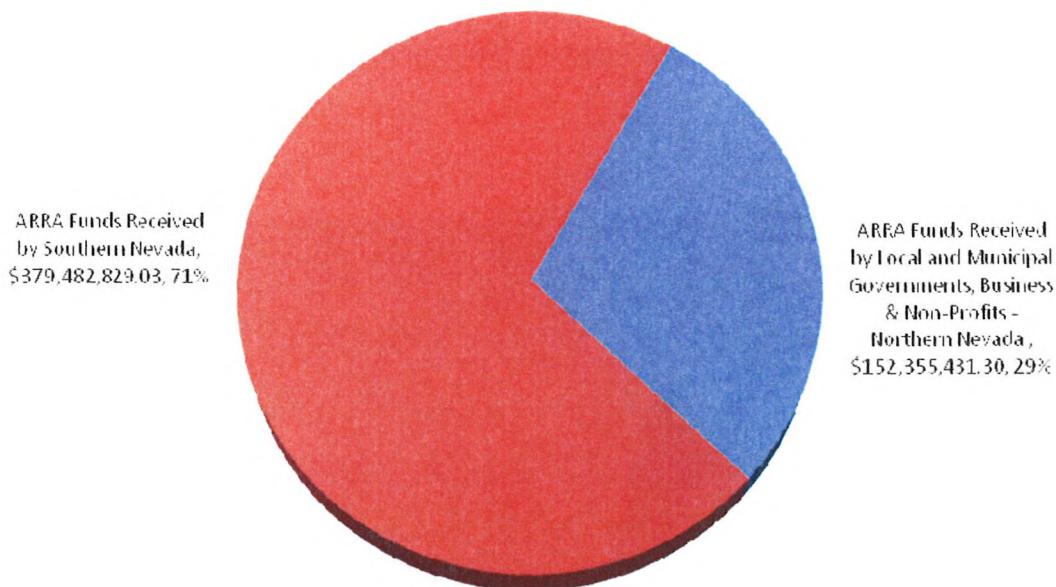
AMERICAN RECOVERY AND REINVESTMENT ACT OF 2009 (ARRA)

ARRA Fund Distribution by Region:

ARRA funds have been distributed to the State of Nevada, to departments within the state, to municipal governments, for-profit and non-profit businesses, and to individuals (unemployment insurance). As of October 30, 2009, ARRA funds have been awarded to the State of Nevada, its departments and agencies in the amount of \$765,967,803.95. A portion of these funds have stayed within the State for its own programs and services. However, a portion of these funds were required to be passed through to local governments, non-profit organizations, businesses, and individuals.

The following chart lists ARRA funding by region for funds paid to Northern Nevada and to Southern Nevada. The boundary between Northern and Southern Nevada was delineated by a horizontal line at Tonopah, with Tonopah included as part of Southern Nevada and anything above Tonopah identified as Northern Nevada.

ARRA Fund Distribution by Region





CITY OF LAS VEGAS ARRA GRANT FUNDING

In early February of 2009, the City assembled an internal ARRA Committee to research and review potential stimulus funding opportunities by the U.S. Departments and Agencies set forth in the bill. Over the last nine months, the ARRA Committee has identified open competitive grants and other ARRA funding mechanisms that now are being pursued for the benefit of the residents and businesses within the City. Six grants have been awarded for a total of \$23,756,616 out of \$220,024,101 requested funds.

ARRA Awarded Grant Funds to the city of Las Vegas:

The City primarily has received formulaic ARRA funding, **but** also competes for ARRA grants nationally. Currently, the city of Las Vegas ARRA Awards total \$23,756,616. The granting agency, the amount of each award, the program category, and the city department that submitted the application are as follows:

- DOE: \$5,449,200 – Energy Efficiency Conservation Block Grant (EECBG), administered by the Planning & Development Department.
- HUD: \$1,376,738 – Community Development Block Grant-Recovery (CDBG-R), administered by Neighborhood Services.
- HUD: \$2,105,118 – Homeless Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing (HPRR), administered by Neighborhood Services.
- DOJ: \$2,973,566 (Received 39% of \$7,558,206) – Byrne JAG (Justice Assistance Grant), a disparate jurisdiction award, administered by Administrative Services.
- DOT: \$7,262,000 – Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), Transportation Infrastructure – Roadway Overlay Projects, administered by Public Works from a Nevada Department of Transportation Pass-through Grant.
- State Stimulus: \$5,354 – Sustaining Nevada’s Arts Programs (SNAP), administered by the Office of Cultural Affairs from a Nevada Arts Council ARRA Pass-through Grant.

ARRA Denied Grant Funds to the city of Las Vegas:

The ARRA provides for both competitive and formulaic grant opportunities. In a competitive process, there is the possibility that a grant submission could be “denied” by the granting agency. The city of Las Vegas has received grant denials totaling \$8,758,882. The denials are as follows:

- FEMA: \$4,993,995 – Assistance to Firefighters Construction Grant, for construction of the fire station at the Emergency Operations Center, submitted by Las Vegas Fire & Rescue.
- DOJ: \$1,823,736 - ARRA Byrne-Justice Assistance Grant: Competitive Solicitation, submitted by Leisure Services Senior Citizen Law Project.
- DOJ: \$1,207,999 –ARRA Byrne-Justice Assistance Grant: Competitive Solicitation, submitted by Municipal Court.
- State Stimulus: \$450,871 – Byrne-Justice Assistance Grant: State Solicitation Pass-through funds via the Nevada Department of Public Safety, submitted by Leisure Services Senior Citizen Law Project.
- State Stimulus: \$92,999 – ARRA State Pass-through funds via the State Attorney General, submitted by Detention & Enforcement for the Inmate ID Program.
- State Stimulus: \$116,510 – ARRA State Pass-through funds via the Nevada Department of Public Safety, submitted by Detention & Enforcement.
- State Stimulus: \$72,771 – ARRA State Pass-through funds via the State Attorney General, submitted by the Municipal Court for a Domestic Violence Prevention Curriculum.



**CITY OF LAS VEGAS
2011 FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE AGENDA**

CITY OF LAS VEGAS ARRA BOND FUNDING

***Total Potential Funding through ARRA Bonds: \$185,320,414**

Build America Bonds- \$174,500,000 Allocation

- New City Hall financing
 - Tax Credit Bonds – Division B, Sec. 1531
 - Federal Subsidy 35% Tax Credit to bondholder
 - Volume Cap-Unlimited
 - Direct Payment Bonds – Division B, Sec. 1531, IRS 26 USC 54AA
 - Federal Subsidy 35% on interest payments by the City
 - City could realize \$100,571,647 in debt reduction on the project
 - Volume Cap-Unlimited



New City Hall with Solar Trees

**Qualified Energy Conservation Bonds -
\$5,845,921 Pending Allocation**

- Exterior lighting retrofits in public right-of-way
 - Federal Subsidy 70% Tax Credit to bondholder
 - Volume Cap determined by U. S. Treasury Allocation

**New Clean Renewable Energy Bonds –
\$4,974,943 Allocation**

- Solar covered parking at city facilities
 - Federal Subsidy 70% Tax Credit to bondholder
 - Volume Cap determined by U.S. Treasury Allocation

Recovery Zone Economic Development Bonds – Pending State Allocation

- Projects to be determined
 - Direct Payment Bonds–Division B, Sec. 1401
 - Federal Subsidy 45%
 - State could not allocate this Federal Subsidy to Southern Nevada
 - Nevada Congressional Delegation is seeking reconsideration on this issue



CITY OF LAS VEGAS 2011 FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

AMERICAN RECOVERY AND REINVESTMENT ACT OF 2009 (ARRA)

The city of Las Vegas strongly supports a jobs bill and urges Congress and the Administration, in considering a new jobs bill, to increase funding for cities that are hardest hit in this economy. The City strongly believes that directing funding through state programs exclusively does not ensure that the resources will be directed where they will do the most good and only adds an additional layer of bureaucracy. Funding should come directly to cities as targeted fiscal assistance. Many cities are reducing services and staff in areas outside of education and public safety, which are the two areas included for funding in the House-passed version of "The Jobs for Main Street Act." The City vigorously encourages the jobs bill as approved by Congress and the Administration to include all public service jobs rather than specific fields such as education, police and fire, or park services.

The City also emphatically recommends that the distribution of jobs bill funds should occur through the use of the most current data available. Criteria for eligibility should include the traditional criteria of unemployment rates, bankruptcies, foreclosures, population demographics, crime statistics, etc. The City urges Congress and the Administration to include additional screening that takes into consideration the loss of local tax revenues, number of businesses closed, and determination of future loss based upon the diversification of industry in the local areas.



The City also recommends that Congress and the Administration focus additional funding to small businesses that generate many jobs. Again, the City recognizes that the unemployment rate exacerbates other economic indicators, such as bankruptcy, foreclosure, and declining tax revenues. As Congress considers a potential jobs bill, the City supports the inclusion of a Targeted Fiscal Assistance Program that would provide direct assistance to local governments.

Targeted Fiscal Assistance would help local governments avoid further layoffs in critical service areas and allow for cities to rehire essential employees who were laid off due to budget shortfalls. The combination of Targeted Fiscal Assistance and direct funding to local governments for infrastructure projects could help fuel job recovery, prevent further lay offs and provide essential services for our mutual constituents.



City of Las Vegas

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Live Support



City of Las Vegas ARRA Recovery and Stimulus Site

This site provides information on grant opportunities that the city of Las Vegas is pursuing as part of the [American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009](#) (ARRA). Web site visitors will be able to:

- Access open city [bid opportunities](#)
- Identify grants submitted and received by participating city departments
- Explore available resources for research and [reporting requirements](#)
- Obtain details on grant awards made to the city of Las Vegas
- Gain insight on grant management oversight by the [mayor](#) and the [city council](#)

Note: The ARRA grant process and open bidding opportunities are rapidly changing at all levels - federal, state and local - so be sure to visit this site often to receive the most up-to-date information available to the city.*

The \$787 billion American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 was signed into law by President Barack Obama on Feb. 17, 2009. Nevada's portion totals \$2.2 billion, which will be distributed by the state to local communities. [Read more...](#)

City of Las Vegas Stimulus Links:

- [Frequently Asked Questions](#)
- [Stimulus Tracker](#)
- [Requests for Proposals/Contracts](#)
- [ARRA Grant Fund Types](#)
- [ARRA Grant Funds](#)

Federal Stimulus Web Sites:



GRANTS.GOV

USASPENDING.GOV

* All information furnished by the city is subject to change. Although the city has no reason to doubt the accuracy of the information it obtains and provides from other sources for this Web site, it cannot guarantee this information.



Other Stimulus Web Sites:

- Local:
 - [Clark County](#)
 - [Regional Transportation Commission of Southern Nevada](#)
 - [State of Nevada](#)
 - [Senator Reid](#)
- National:
 - [Council of State Governments](#)
 - [U.S. Conference of Mayors](#)
 - [National League of Cities](#)
 - [Federal Business Opportunities](#)
 - [U.S. Inspector General](#)

Office of Business Development
City Hall, Second Floor
400 Stewart Avenue
Las Vegas, NV 89101 ([Map](#))
General Information Phone: (702) 229-6551
Toll free: (866) 777-7483
Fax: (702) 385-3128
[Comments or Questions](#)

Business Hours: Monday to Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. (Pacific Time)

Business Development Manager: Romeo Betea

Related Links

[About the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009](#)

[Sustaining Las Vegas](#)

[ARRA - Rights and remedies regarding whistleblower protection](#)

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CITY OF LAS VEGAS 2011 FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

PUBLIC LANDS

The public lands agenda for the city of Las Vegas is comprised of the following legislative proposals in priority order:

1. The City supports amendments to the existing disposal boundary of the Southern Nevada Public Lands Management Act (SNPLMA) to further the future growth and development of the City.

The Clark County Public Lands Act of 2002 included approximately 12 square miles (22,000 acres) of land added to the disposal boundary in the northern portion of the Las Vegas valley. These lands were annexed to the city of Las Vegas with the intent of providing future growth opportunities for the City. The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) is currently considering the establishment of a Conservation Transfer Area (CTA) to protect the unique environmental and archeological qualities found in much of this area. Meanwhile, discussions are taking place both locally and nationally related to the possible designation of an Urban National Park Unit managed by the National Parks Service. Both possibilities have the potential to eliminate the majority of those lands anticipated for development and future City growth.

The disposal boundary was set by Congress and the establishment of a CTA or designation of an Urban National Park Unit would effectively change that boundary. The City is committed to working cooperatively with the BLM and others to preserve this area. However, the City believes that any final decision on the CTA or effort to designate a n Urban National Park Unit should be consistent with the intent of the Clark County Public Lands Act of 2002 and the subsequent 2004 Record of Decision by the BLM.

Opportunities exist on the west side of the Las Vegas Valley between the current corporate boundaries of the City and the Red Rock National Conservation Area for lands to be developed that are currently vacant or used for sand and gravel extraction. Examination of other sources for sand and gravel extraction in the Las Vegas valley may prove that a plentiful source exists in lieu of these existing pits and this area could be used for development. The Paiute Indian Tribe of Southern Nevada also has expressed strong interest in the development of a major portion of their existing reservation lands in the Northwest portion of the valley.

These lands can only be serviced by the City with municipal services needed for development. The lands are not currently within the Southern Nevada Public Lands Management Act of 1998 (SNPLMA) disposal boundary. As the various alternatives for managing the north Las Vegas valley move forward, an amendment to the disposal boundary of the SNPLMA is necessary to preserve the future growth and development of the City.



**CITY OF LAS VEGAS
2011 FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE AGENDA**

PUBLIC LANDS (CONTINUED)

- 2. The City requests that the BLM be granted authority under SNPLMA to dispose of lands for non-residential, economic development purposes.**

The SNPLMA land sale process has often resulted in federal parcels being sold for amounts far in excess of the appraised fair market value. These parcels are developed mainly for residential purposes because of the high profit margins associated with that type of development. Consequently, the city of Las Vegas has found it increasingly difficult to attract small business development, such as a technology park, on land sold through the SNPLMA auction process.

The City supports amending SNPLMA to authorize land sales exclusively for non-residential purposes. This type of land use direction should have the effect of ensuring that small business development is more economically feasible while maintaining the public's interest in the fair market value of the land in question.

- 3. The City supports a directive to the BLM, or the appropriate amendments introduced to the Recreation and Public Purposes Act (R&PP) regulations and the SNPLMA, to allow for the transfer of title to certain public lands patented through the R&PP process to the affected local governmental entities in order to address federal restrictions and regulations concerning the operation and maintenance of those facilities.**

The city of Las Vegas and other local governmental entities, including the Regional Flood Control District, develop and operate public facilities, such as water treatment plants and flood control detention basins, on R&PP leased land. Because of the BLM's reversionary interest in these lands, the local governmental entities are required to operate their public facilities as if they were located on federal land. For example, the Regional Flood Control District must dispose of materials derived from the excavation of a flood control detention basin consistent with federal regulations that require the excavated material be deposited on "other federal lands." This requirement often results in excessive costs for a public project for the transporting of this material to an acceptable site, when other private sites located adjacent to the project would accept the material.

The City faces similar problems related to the operation and maintenance of its water treatment facilities that are located on R&PP leased land. The City is required to treat its wastewater with various chemicals in order to meet federal environmental protection standards, yet it is prohibited from storing those very chemicals on site because it would then be in violation of federal land management regulations.



**CITY OF LAS VEGAS
2011 FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE AGENDA**

PUBLIC LANDS (CONTINUED)

- 4. The City seeks authorization to use public/private partnerships to manage City-owned facilities located on lands acquired by the City through the Recreation and Public Purposes Act (R&PP) and the Parks, Trails and Natural Areas (PT&NA) funding category of the SNPLMA.**

The city of Las Vegas has long attempted to take full advantage of public-private partnerships when developing public facilities on lands acquired through the R&PP process or through the use of SNPLMA funds. For example, the City has successfully partnered with the non-profit YMCA for the operation and maintenance of a community center and with a private, for-profit organization for the operation and maintenance of an 18-hole public golf course, both on R&PP leased land. Each of these ventures has provided the City with a cost-effective means of developing and maintaining two excellent public facilities that serve the residents of the northwest portion of the valley. The BLM now has communicated to the City, on the advice of the Solicitor's office, that they no longer have the authority to permit these types of public/private partnerships. A recent example has been an effort by the City to develop a Neon Museum and Park on land owned by the City and land acquired by the City with SNPLMA funds. The City is acquiring two parcels adjacent to the existing Neon Museum that include a residential duplex located on each parcel. As part of the project development, the City submitted a proposal to BLM to retain one of the duplex buildings for use as an administrative office and a small concession area for the museum. The BLM determined that no private commercial uses (the concession area and museum offices) could be permitted on the properties acquired with SNPLMA funds.

- 5. The City seeks authorization to use SNPLMA funds for capital improvements that directly benefit Parks, Trails and Natural Areas (PT&NA) funded projects.**

The SNPLMA authorizes federal land managers to utilize proceeds in the special account for capital improvements at areas they administer around the valley. Such projects include construction of a new visitor center at the Red Rock Canyon National Conservation Area (BLM), construction of the Kyle Canyon Visitor and Interpretation Center (Forest Service), construction of the Lake Mead Hatchery Visitor Center (National Park Service), and construction of the Desert National Wildlife Refuge Visitor Center (U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service).

Local government entities are not authorized to use SNPLMA funds for capital improvement projects such as visitor centers, community centers, and recreation centers, although they have a need similar to that of the federal agencies to develop these types of facilities within their larger regional parks. These facilities serve an important function in providing services for our valley residents and visitors, and they should qualify for funding in the future when adequate SNPLMA funds are available.



**CITY OF LAS VEGAS
2011 FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE AGENDA**

PUBLIC LANDS (CONTINUED)

- 6. The City seeks authorization to use SNPLMA funds for the operation and maintenance of Parks, Trails and Natural Areas (PT&NA) funded projects.**

The PT&NA category through nine rounds of funding has resulted in the approval of 169 projects and a total investment of \$1,087,414,899. To date, no monies have been allocated to the local government entities for the operation and maintenance of this investment.

**SUSTAINABLE
ENERGY STRATEGY
GOALS:**



**CITY OF LAS VEGAS
2011 FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE AGENDA**

ENERGY POLICY- Sustainability Initiative

The Mayor and City Council of Las Vegas have demonstrated a commitment to sustainability by adopting a body of public policy aimed at reducing the City's carbon footprint, supporting a strong economy and improving the quality of life for current and future generations of Las Vegas and those who come to visit. The centerpiece of the sustainability initiative, the Sustainable Energy Strategy (R-50-2008) was adopted by the City Council on September 3, 2008. Upon implementation, the City will reduce the cost of delivering public services while reducing the organization's carbon footprint.

The Sustainable Energy Strategy is a comprehensive strategy that recommends investments in energy conservation and renewable energy based on a framework developed at the 2007 City Council – Planning Commission Workshop on Sustainability. The framework was approved by the City Council in a report presented during a subsequent public hearing. There are three components to the framework: city operations; city codes and policies; and community involvement. Throughout 2009, work has progressed to achieve the goals of each component of the strategy. This work will continue at an aggressive pace in 2010, due to the receipt of American Recovery and Reinvestment Act funds.

Goals of the Sustainable Energy Strategy

The Sustainable Energy Strategy established the following goals:

City Operations

- Invest 100% of cost savings from renewable energy projects in energy conservation and additional renewable energy projects.
- By 2009, 100% of decisions on major capital projects and new City programs will be made considering life cycle financial, environmental and social costs and benefits using the Sustainability Action Map.
- By 2009, adopt preferential purchasing policy for products that are rated to be environmentally friendly or energy efficient.
- By 2009, adopt contracting policy that gives preference to firms that employ sustainable practices.
- By 2011, invest in seven (7) megawatts of renewable energy as a city-wide initiative.
- By 2011, reduce the City's carbon footprint 20%, and 30% by 2030.
- By 2011, reduce electricity consumption by 5%.
- By 2011, achieve 20% renewable energy portfolio standard, and 30% by 2030.

City of Las Vegas

SURVIVING & THRIVING IN THE NEW NEVADA

AIA Nevada Distinguished Service Award





CITY OF LAS VEGAS 2011 FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

City Codes, Regulations and Policies

- By 2009, work with Green Council to revise Green Building Program to include mandates and incentives.
- By 2010, adopt form-based sustainability zoning code.
- By 2011, adopt energy code that is 30% more efficient than current energy code.

Community Involvement

- By 2009, participate in creating fully operational Home Performance energy audit and conservation program, and provide financial incentives to City residents who enroll in the program.
- By 2009, have fully implemented residential solar rebate program.
- By 2009, implement indoor water conservation program.

Sustainability Policies Adopted by the City

The City has shown previous leadership in a number of different activities relating to sustainability, renewable energy development, and energy efficiency and conservation.

Climate Protection Resolution (R-57-06) (August 2, 2006)

The City Council adopted the Climate Protection Resolution, based on the U.S. Conference of Mayors Climate Protection Agreement, signed by Mayor Goodman in 2005. The Resolution committed the City to reducing its 2012 greenhouse gas emissions by seven (7) percent over 1990 levels.

Green Building Resolution (R-81-06) (October 18, 2006)

The City Council adopted the Green Building Resolution, showing the City's commitment to energy-efficient buildings. By adopting this resolution, the City Council agreed to:

- The adoption of the City's Green Building Program.
- Direct 25 % of any increase in franchise fees to be used for the City's cost to build new and retrofit facilities to Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Silver or equivalent standards.
- Require that new city facilities meet LEED Silver or equivalent standards.

Sustainability Policy - CM302 (July 23, 2007)

The City Manager's office identified sustainability as one of the City's top three initiatives for 2008. Sustainability Policy, CM302, establishes the purpose for the City's sustainability policy and objectives and standardizes a definition for all city departments.

**SUSTAINABLE
ENERGY STRATEGY
GOALS:**



**CITY OF LAS VEGAS
2011 FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE AGENDA**

City Council & Planning Commission Joint Workshop on Sustainability (October 4, 2007)

The Planning & Development Department hosted the Joint Workshop on Sustainability for the City Council and Planning Commission on August 27, 2007. Topics included the Urban Heat Island, American Institute of Architects Blueprint for Las Vegas, Sustainable Community Design, Sustainable Transportation and Transit-oriented Development. A report was presented to the City Council on October 4, 2007, which has provided direction for the City's sustainability initiative.

Urban Forestry Initiative (R-26-2008) (May 7, 2008)

The City Council adopted the City's first Urban Forestry Initiative, which recognizes the important contribution of trees to our community and their ability to help clean the air, improve storm water management, conserve energy, reduce the urban heat index, improve public health and increase property values. The Urban Forestry Initiative established the following three goals: (1) double the average tree canopy coverage to 20 percent by 2035; (2) work with existing partners to ensure that urban forestry remains a priority for the City and the Southern Nevada region; and (3) prepare an urban forest management plan.



Solar Photovoltaics Ordinance (Ord. #6008, 2008-45)(October 15, 2008)

The City Council approved the installation of solar panels as a conditional use within all zoning districts and eliminated existing screening requirements. Additionally, solar panels were permitted to extend up to 40 inches beyond the maximum roof height limitations when visible from a public right of way and up to a maximum of 12 feet beyond the proximity slope limitation on properties impacted by residential adjacency standards.



***Small Wind Energy Ordinance (Bill No. 2009-33)
(Approved September 2, 2009)***

The City Council also provided an opportunity for small wind energy systems, as a conditional use, within certain residential zones in 2007. The City Council approved the revised Small Wind Energy Ordinance to expand the applicable districts to include most districts, make the use permissible by means of a Special Use Permit in the Professional Office and Parking and Office districts and to make the use conditional in residential, commercial and industrial zoning districts.



CITY OF LAS VEGAS 2011 FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

International Energy Conservation Code 2009 (Bill No. 2009-48) (Approved December 2, 2009)

The City Council adopted the 2009 International Energy Conservation Code (IECC) standards, which applied to additions, renovations, alterations and repairs. The 2009 IECC standards increased the required energy efficiency for buildings by more than 20 percent.

Green Chips and HomeFree Nevada Partnerships

The City is a partner with Green Chips, a nonprofit organization, with public and private partners that include Harrah's Entertainment, HomeFree Nevada, McDonald Carano Wilson, MGM-Mirage, Nevada State Bank, the Southern Nevada Water Authority, Rebuilding Together Southern Nevada, the city of Henderson, the city of North Las Vegas and Clark County. Green Chips will use Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant money to start a revolving loan fund to perform energy audits and retrofits for households and small businesses. Proceeds from the sale of green chips will be used to provide retrofits for low-income homeowners and non-profits. The first projects include retrofits to the Shade Tree shelter, and in partnership with Rebuilding Together to 10 low-income homes at no cost to the participants. (<http://www.greenchips.org>).



HomeFree Nevada is an emerging Home Performance with Energy Star program designed to improve the energy efficiency, comfort, health, safety and durability of Nevada's existing homes while reducing greenhouse gas emissions. The program is currently in pilot phases; when fully launched, HomeFree Nevada will offer rebates to homeowners who undergo an energy audit and air conditioning tune-up through the City's Green Building Program. HomeFree Nevada is a collaborative effort that includes the cities of Las Vegas, North Las Vegas and Henderson; Clark County; Southwest Gas; Nevada Division of Housing; University of Nevada, Las Vegas; University of Nevada, Reno; Sierra Club; American Institute of Architects Nevada; Nevada Conservation League; Southwest Energy Efficiency Partnership; Nevada State Bank; National Renewable Energy Laboratory; private contractors and concerned citizens. (<http://www.homefreenevada.org>).



ICLEI – Greenhouse Gas Modeling (Ongoing)

The City has joined the International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives (ICLEI) in July 2007 (one of 500 cities in U.S. and 1,000 cities worldwide). The City is a member of the Cities for Climate Protection (CCP) Campaign, which uses five "milestones" to measure and report on the City's greenhouse gas emissions. The milestones include (which the City is performing):

- Conducting a baseline emissions inventory and forecast.
- Adopting an emissions reduction target for the forecast year.
- Developing a Local Action Plan.
- Implementing policies and measures
- Monitoring and verifying results.

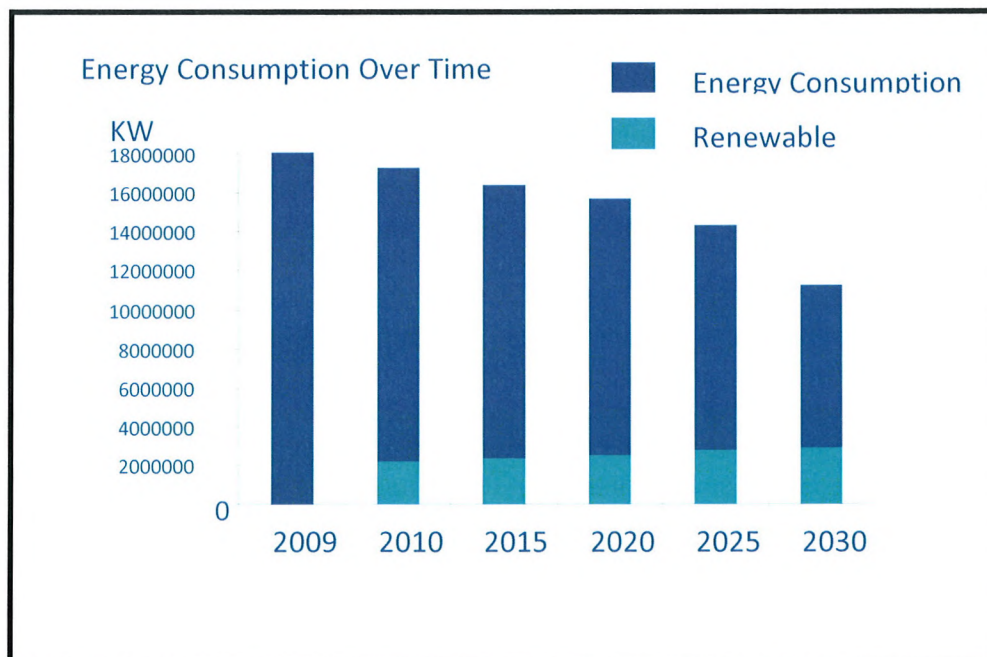
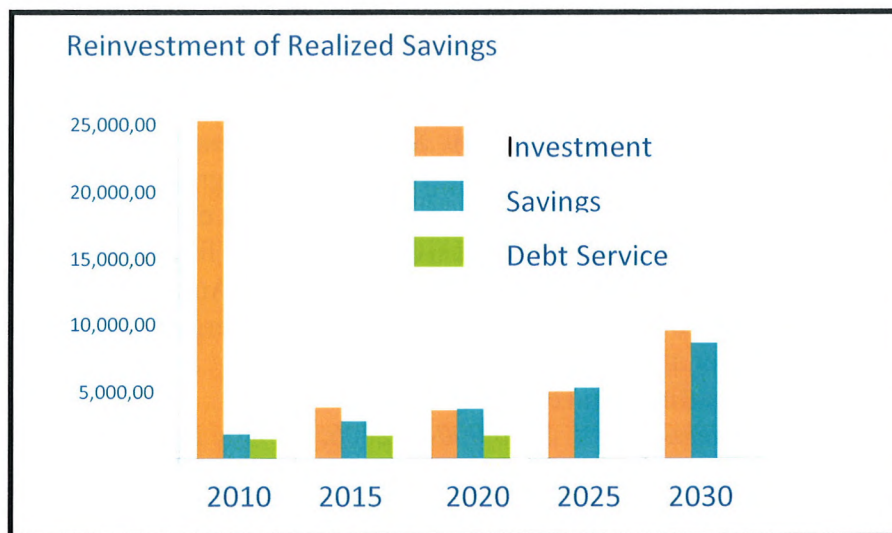
**SUSTAINABLE
ENERGY STRATEGY
GOALS:**



**CITY OF LAS VEGAS
2011 FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE AGENDA**

Financing for Energy Improvements

The Sustainable Energy Strategy is designed to ensure energy benefits and cost savings extend into the future. As a result, projects constructed in the City Energy Efficiency Program will contribute to sustain ongoing funding for future energy projects within the City



Secured Federal Funding Sources

- *Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant: \$5,449,200*-The Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant (EECBG) program provided \$5.45 million in formula funds to the city of Las Vegas for energy projects to reduce energy use, create jobs, and cut greenhouse gas emissions. Funds can be utilized to support energy audits, energy-efficiency retrofits to community buildings, and renewable-energy installations at government facilities.
- *Qualified Energy Conservation Bonds: \$5,845,921*-Qualified Energy Conservation Bonds (QECBs) are qualified tax credit bonds that may be issued by local governments at a 0% interest rate. The bond volume cap was allocated to each state based on population and then allocated to large local governments within the state based on the local government's percentage of the state's population. Bonds may be issued to pay for qualified energy-conservation projects that include energy-efficiency capital expenditures on public buildings and community energy-retrofit programs.
- *New Clean Renewable Energy Bonds: \$4,974,453*-New Clean Renewable Energy Bonds (NCREBs) are tax credit bonds that may be issued by municipalities at a 0% interest rate. ARRA allocated an additional \$1.6 billion for NCREBs, for a total new NCREB allocation of \$2.4 billion. Participants must apply to the Internal Revenue Service to receive an allocation, and then issue the bonds to pay for qualified renewable-energy generating facilities.
- *Community Development Block Grant-Recovery: \$1,276,738 for energy*-ARRA appropriated \$1 billion to carry out the Community Development Block Grant program. These CDBG-R funds may be used for a variety of measures, including improvements in energy efficiency to community facilities. In order for the City to receive its allocation from HUD through the CDBG-R, program the City was required to submit a Substantial Amendment to its Fiscal Year 2008-2009 Action Plan. This Substantial Amendment presents energy activities that can be undertaken by the City under an expedited timeframe.

Secured State and Local Funding Sources

- *Green Building Special Revenue Fund: \$700,000*-In 2006, the City adopted the Green Building Resolution that established the Green Building Special Revenue Fund, which dedicates 25% of any increase in the total of franchise fees collected from providers of electricity, gas and solid waste collection services over the total collected in 2007, not to exceed \$2.5 million per year.
- *RenewableGenerations Utility Incentives from NV Energy: Applied for at least \$1,326,000*-The Nevada Legislature created a pilot incentive program in 2003 that provided rebates to NV Energy customers that installed solar photovoltaic systems. The SolarGenerations Program was launched in 2004 and was successful enough to be made a permanent program in 2007. In addition, the Legislature added the HydroGenerations and WindGenerations programs to form the RenewableGenerations Program. Incentive levels for public facilities vary by program and system type, but provide another mechanism to reduce energy consumption and taxpayer burden.

Other Potential Funding Sources

- *Sure Bet Rebates*-The Sure Bet Program focuses on helping organizations use energy wisely and offer incentives to NV Energy non-residential electricity customers.
- *Sewer Enterprise Fund*-The city of Las Vegas Water Pollution Control Facility, the City's wastewater treatment plant, is funded by the Sewer Enterprise Fund, which contains revenue from system user charges and sewer connection fees. Funds may be available for energy improvements related to wastewater operations, which represent a sizeable portion of the City's energy consumption.
- *Municipal Bonds*-The City may also issue general obligation municipal bonds to pay for renewable energy and retrofit projects.



**SUSTAINABLE
ENERGY STRATEGY GOALS:**



**CITY OF LAS VEGAS
2011 FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE AGENDA**

Implementation Progress to Date and Next Steps

- Decisions on major capital projects now are made considering the impacts the improvement will have on sustainability. The Capital Improvements Project form requires a description of how the improvement is in line with the City's Sustainability Initiative
- The City will use EECBG funds to install solar covered-parking structures throughout the City to provide renewable energy and educate the community on the use of solar. By investing the savings from these initial projects into additional renewable energy projects, the City will meet its goal of investing in three (3) megawatts of renewable energy, achieving a 10% renewable energy portfolio standard, and reducing the City's carbon footprint 10% by 2011.
- EECBG funds will be used to complete energy retrofits on City buildings. That money will be combined with other funding sources for a total investment in energy retrofits of \$12.53 million, resulting in 7.834 million kilowatt hours saved, 40 jobs created/retained, 6,039 tons of CO₂ reduced.
- Tax credit bonds will be used to complete upgrades of City street lighting and exterior lighting retrofits at City facilities. Under the City Energy Efficiency Program, the City's Field Operations and Public Works departments will replace existing lighting with energy-efficient lighting. This action is in line with the goals of reducing the City's carbon footprint 10 percent and reducing the rate of electricity consumption five percent by 2011.
- The Water Pollution Control Facility, the City's wastewater treatment plant, will house future renewable generation projects at this facility that could include wind turbines, a fuel cell, and a small hydroelectric generator.
- On May 18, 2009, the Sustainable Purchasing Policy was approved that says the City will purchase and use environmentally preferable products whenever they perform satisfactorily and can be acquired at similar total value (cost and quality) within the applicable public purchasing statutes.
- The City continues to be a leader in alternative fuels and sustainability. The City has approximately 1,500 vehicles with 90% utilizing alternative fuels with the City's fleet running on hydrogen, compressed natural gas, biodiesel, and hybrid technology.



**SUSTAINABLE
ENERGY STRATEGY GOALS:**



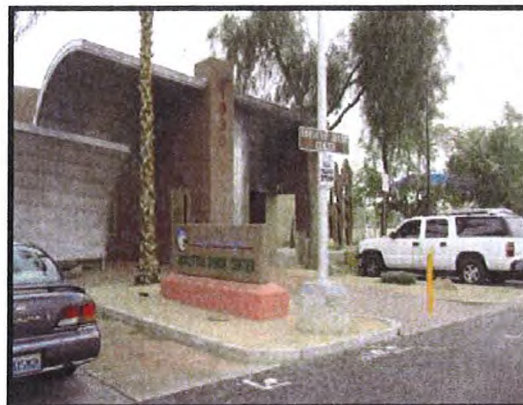
**CITY OF LAS VEGAS
2011 FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE AGENDA**

Implementation of City Code, Regulation and Policy Goals

- Staff from the Planning and Development Department are currently producing a draft form-based sustainability zoning code by combining elements of the Title 19 Zoning Code and Title 18 Subdivision Regulations Code in order to improve walkability and connectivity standards. In addition, the Planning and Development Department is working with Public Works to coordinate a "Complete Streets" chapter and will address storm water and other sustainability measures. A draft document is under development and was reviewed in late 2009. Code revisions will be considered by the City Council in 2010.
- The Department of Building and Safety has provided leadership for the City to adopt the 2009 IECC, an energy code that will put the City on track for a code 30% more efficient than the 2006 IECC.
- Between September 2008 and May 2009, the Green Council (a cross section of the community brought together to advise the City Manager on the Sustainability Initiative), supported by the departments of Planning and Development, Building and Safety and Human Resources, analyzed the current Green Building Program, identified goals, developed ideas for new minimum standards, and formulated recommendations for new incentives. The revised Green Building Program was launched in August 2009.

Implementation of Community Involvement Goals

- Under the City's nonprofit partner HomeFree Nevada, energy audits will be performed for community residents based on the EPA's Home Performance with Energy Star. The City also will use funding from its Green Building Special Revenue Fund to perform energy retrofits. Under the retrofit program, home energy audits will be provided to community applicants by certified contractors. The City will rebate a portion of the audit to applicants that perform improvements to specified standards. This project is in line with the goal of creating a regional Home Performance energy audit and conservation program by 2009. To date, more than 100 audits have been performed, and a number of homeowners are taking steps to perform energy retrofits. Recognizing this growing demand, Wells Fargo is working with the growing home performance contracting industry to develop a loan program for retrofits.
- Green Chips also is creating a loan fund to provide loans for residential energy retrofits. Under this program, funds will be used for a revolving loan fund to finance residential energy retrofits. A residential retrofit ramp-up program is planned to be implemented in coordination with other grant opportunities.



\$780,000 from EECBG will be used to
complete energy retrofits on City
buildings

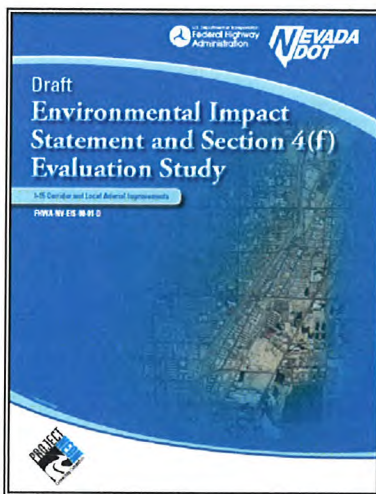
SAFETEA LU



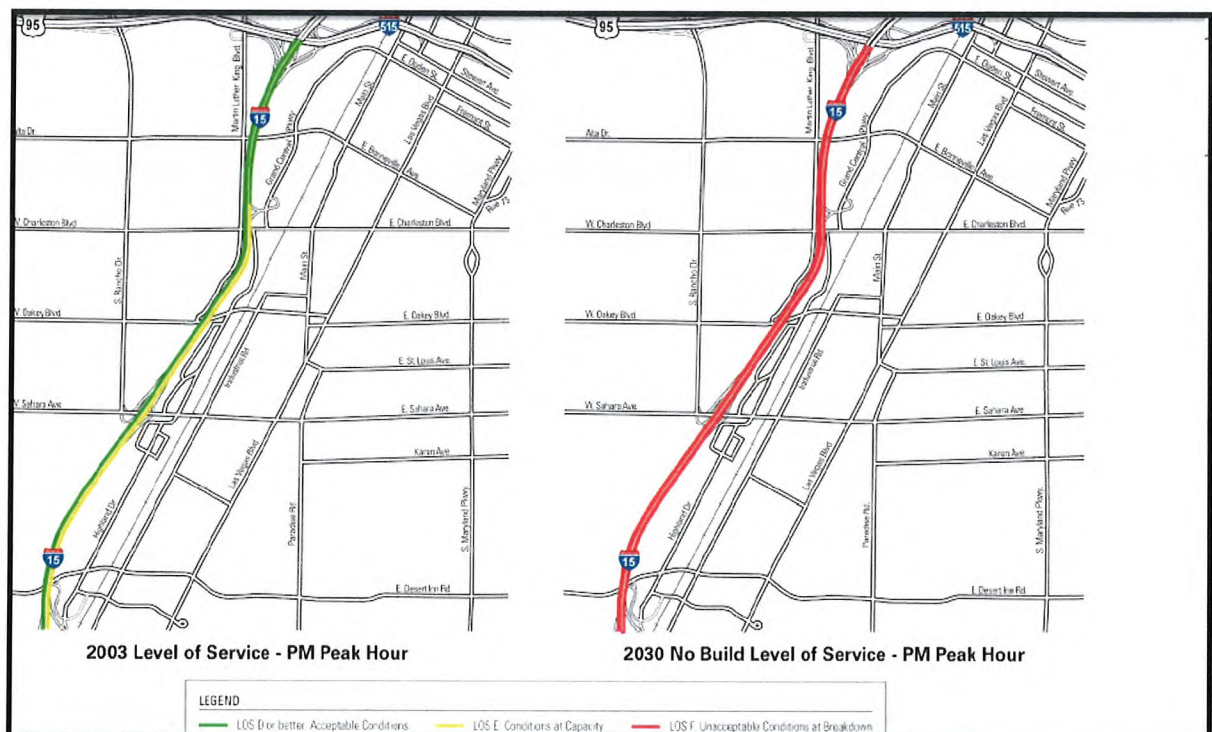
**CITY OF LAS VEGAS
2011 FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE AGENDA**

**SAFE, ACCOUNT, FLEXIBLE, EFFICIENT, TRANSPORTATION EQUITY ACT-A-LEGACY
FOR USERS REAUTHORIZATION PROJECTS (SAFETEA LU)**

**PROJECT NEON
(REAUTHORIZATION – PRIORITY NO. 1)**



The I-15 Corridor within much of the city of Las Vegas is heavily congested and is currently operating at a low level of service according to recent Nevada Department of Transportation (NDOT) studies. According to NDOT, traffic volumes along I-15 are projected to double from 250,000 to 500,000 vehicles per day over the next 25 years. This increase will undoubtedly create more congestion along the I-15 corridor and push the level of service (LOS) to F. Presently, NDOT is underway with an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for Project Neon which includes improvements to I-15 and surrounding roadways between the Spaghetti Bowl and Sahara Avenue. The primary purpose of the project includes increasing vehicle carrying capacity along I-15, enhancing local access to Downtown Las Vegas, improving safety throughout the corridor and facilitating economic redevelopment by improved access



I-15 Level of Service if NOT constructed by 2030



**CITY OF LAS VEGAS
2011 FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE AGENDA**

**SAFE, ACCOUNT, FLEXIBLE, EFFICIENT, TRANSPORTATION EQUITY ACT-A-
LEGACY FOR USERS REAUTHORIZATION PROJECTS (SAFETEA LU)**

**PROJECT NEON
(REAUTHORIZATION – PRIORITY NO. 1)**



The major improvements of Project Neon are the provision of five general purpose lanes, HOV lanes and auxiliary lanes in both directions along the I-15 mainline. Local improvements include the Martin L. King Boulevard/Industrial Road Connector, the Oakey Boulevard/Wyoming Avenue Grade Separation over the Union Pacific Railroad, reconstructing the Charleston Boulevard Interchange and constructing a new half-diamond interchange at Alta Drive.

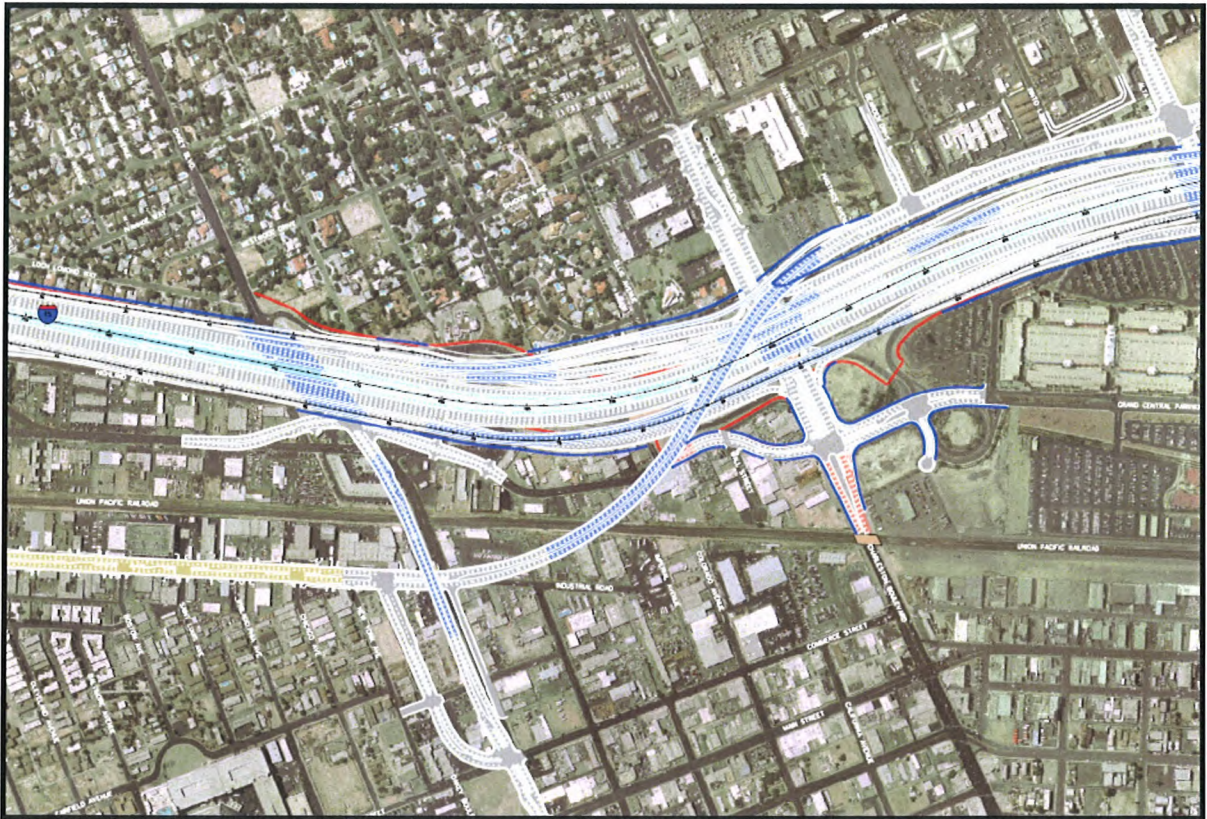
Current cost estimates for Project Neon are over \$2 billion. Due to the instability of the construction industry and right-of-way costs over the past few years, Project Neon has become very challenging to fund. State and local funds for the project are unable to cover the cost of the entire construction project and future revenue forecasts remain depressed. The City requests that additional federal funds be appropriated to this project to cover the design, right-of-way purchase and construction of this important project.



**CITY OF LAS VEGAS
2011 FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE AGENDA**

**SAFE, ACCOUNT, FLEXIBLE, EFFICIENT, TRANSPORTATION EQUITY ACT-A-LEGACY
FOR USERS REAUTHORIZATION PROJECTS (SAFETEA LU)**

**PROJECT NEON
(REAUTHORIZATION – PRIORITY NO. 1)**



Project Neon Plan View at Charleston Boulevard

SPECIFIC USE FOR REQUESTED FUNDS:

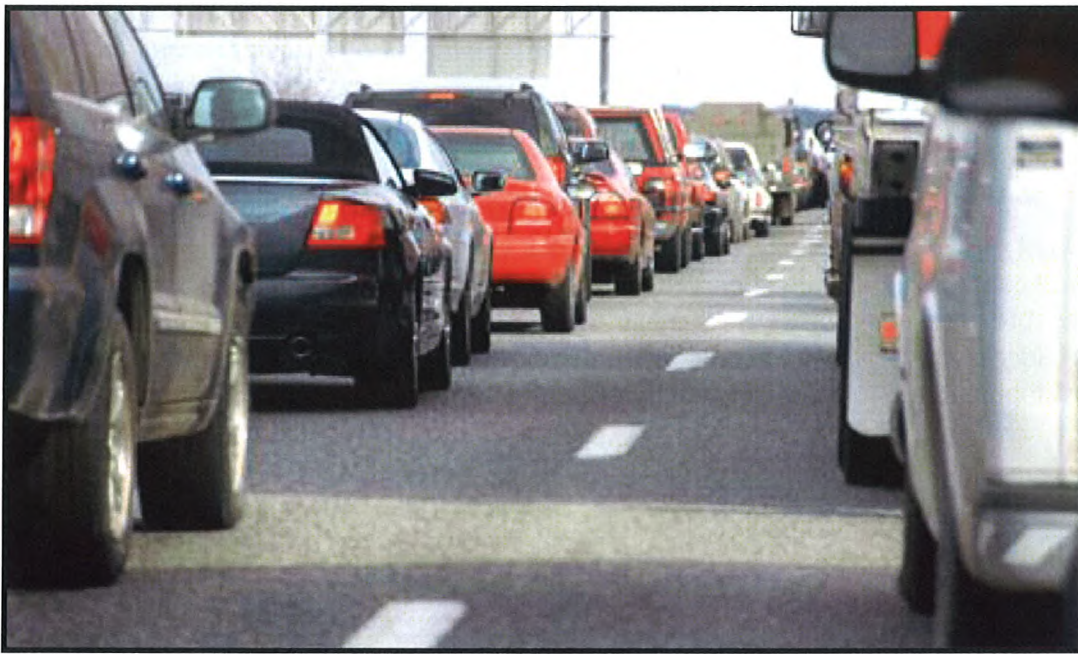
The City is requesting \$20 million to assist in funding Project Neon (I-15 Corridor) between the Spaghetti Bowl and Sahara Avenue. The funding would help accelerate the design and construction of roadway improvements to relieve traffic congestion, improve safety, increase vehicle capacity and improve access to Downtown Las Vegas.



**CITY OF LAS VEGAS
2011 FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE AGENDA**

**SAFE, ACCOUNT, FLEXIBLE, EFFICIENT, TRANSPORTATION EQUITY ACT-A-LEGACY
FOR USERS REAUTHORIZATION PROJECTS (SAFETEA LU)**

**RANCHO DRIVE BUS RAPID TRANSIT
(REAUTHORIZATION – PRIORITY NO. 2)**



Typical Morning Traffic Delays along US95

The Rancho Drive corridor within the city of Las Vegas is one of the most congested roadway segments in the region. According to the Rancho Drive Corridor Study done by the Parsons consulting firm in 2005, Rancho Drive, between Decatur and US 95 ranked as the fourth most congested roadway in the Las Vegas valley. In Northwest Las Vegas, US 95 shoulders the highest daily traffic volumes. However, Rancho Drive carries the next highest daily volumes at just under 65,000 vehicles per day. As one of the busiest roadway corridors in the northwest, many of the intersections along Rancho Drive operate at very low levels of service (LOS). The Parsons Corridor Study identified six major intersections that function at E and F levels of service, meaning severe congestion and long standing queues. This is understandable as much of the explosive growth over the past 15 years occurred in Northwest Las Vegas.

The Regional Transportation Commission (RTC) currently operates CAT Route 106 along Rancho Drive between Centennial Center and the Downtown Transportation Center (DTC). Route 106 is a mid-level transit route due to lower density residential developments and the high number of transit stops along the corridor.



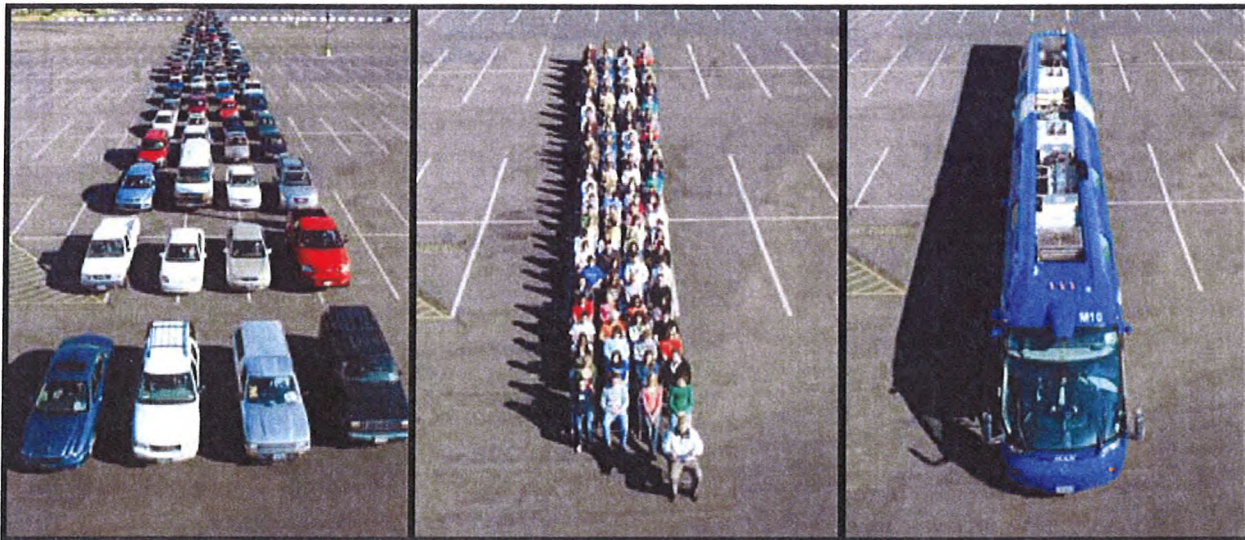
**CITY OF LAS VEGAS
2011 FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE AGENDA**

**SAFE, ACCOUNT, FLEXIBLE, EFFICIENT, TRANSPORTATION EQUITY ACT-A-
LEGACY FOR USERS REAUTHORIZATION PROJECTS (SAFETEA LU)**

**RANCHO DRIVE BUS RAPID TRANSIT
(REAUTHORIZATION – PRIORITY NO. 2)**

The average commuting time from Centennial Center to the DTC exceeds one hour and 20 minutes. Another RTC study in 2004 was the *Las Vegas Valley Long Range Transit Survey*. The study identified 81 potential corridors in Las Vegas to upgrade service, add exclusive transit lanes, and enhance stop facilities. Rancho Drive was one of the few corridors identified for further consideration.

The City would like to begin preliminary design and initiate environmental clearances for the bus rapid transit (BRT) system. It should also be noted that right-of-way width for the ultimate cross section already exists for much of the corridor, see below. By reducing vehicle congestion on Rancho Drive it is estimated that we can greatly improve safety, reduce travel times and reduce emissions. A successful BRT route would also enhance the City's ability to promote higher density redevelopment along the corridor thus furthering our goal of sustainability.



The impact a Bus Rapid Transit route could have on Rancho Drive

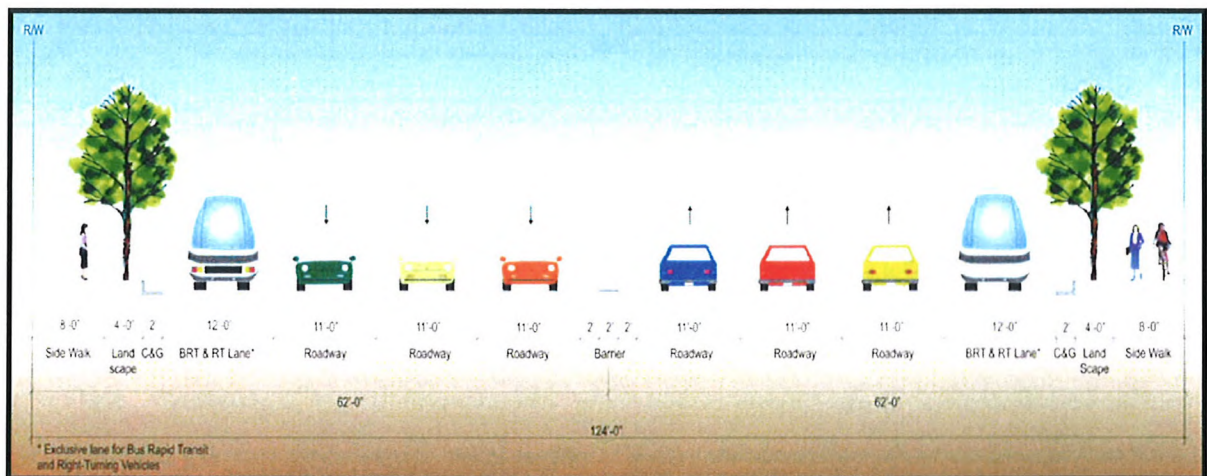


**CITY OF LAS VEGAS
2011 FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE AGENDA**

**SAFE, ACCOUNT, FLEXIBLE, EFFICIENT, TRANSPORTATION EQUITY ACT-A-LEGACY
FOR USERS REAUTHORIZATION PROJECTS (SAFETEA LU)**

**RANCHO DRIVE BUS RAPID TRANSIT
(REAUTHORIZATION – PRIORITY NO. 2)**

The estimated cost for converting Rancho Drive to a BRT/Super-Arterial with grade separations was \$348 million in 2005. This cost includes engineering design, right-of-way acquisition, construction and construction management expenses. Due to the major cost of the project, it would be necessary to phase the improvements over the next 20 years while implementing the BRT exclusive lanes as soon as possible.



Typical Rancho Drive Cross Section with Exclusive BRT Lanes

SPECIFIC USE FOR REQUESTED FUNDS:

The City is requesting \$20 million to assist in the initial funding of the Rancho Drive BRT project. The funding would help provide for the environmental clearances, preliminary design and right-of-way acquisition of the Rancho Drive improvements to relieve traffic congestion, improve safety, reduce emissions, and increase capacity and improve redevelopment along the corridor.

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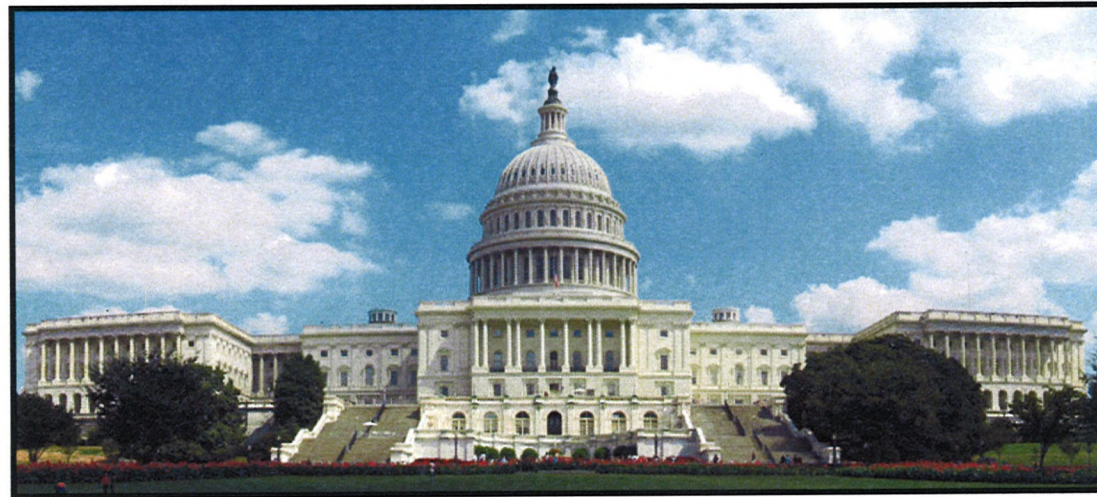
APPROPRIATIONS MATRIX

FY '2010 CITY OF LAS VEGAS

PROJECT	REQUEST	ACCOUNT	HOUSE	SENATE	CONFERENCE FINAL	NOTES
BONNEVILLE CLARK COUPLET	\$2,500,000	TTHUD STP	-0-	\$500,000 (REID)	\$487,000 (REID/BERKLEY)	
MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE	\$1,000,000	TTHUD HUD/EDI	\$200,000 (BERKLEY/TITUS)	-0-	\$200,000 (REID/BERKLEY/TITUS)	
REGIONAL PUBLIC SAFETY COMPLEX	\$2,000,000	HS/EOC	\$600,000 (BERKLEY/TITUS)	-0-	\$600,000 (REID/BERKLEY/TITUS)	
SUSTAINABLE HOMES PILOT NEIGHBORHOODS	\$1,500,000	ENERGY & WATER DoE/EERE	-0-	-0-		
SUSTAINABLE SOLAR	\$850,000	ENERGY & WATER DoE/EERE	-0-	-0-		
URBAN FORESTRY	\$500,000	INTERIOR & ENVIRONMENT	-0-	-0-		
TOTAL					\$1,287,000	

City of Las Vegas 2011 Federal Legislative Agenda

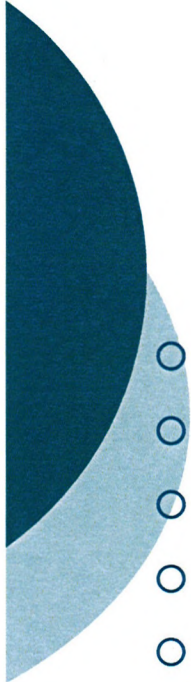
Ted J. Olivas
Administrative Services
Director



Submitted at City Council

Date 1/16/2010 Item

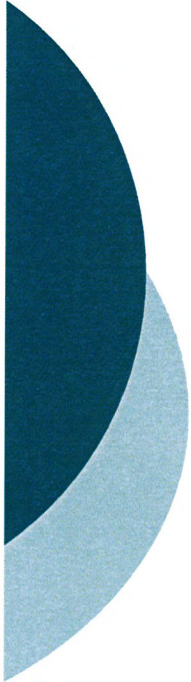
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City of Las Vegas

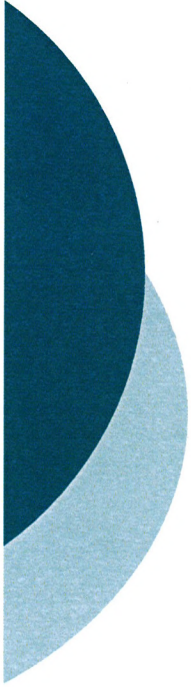
2011 Federal Legislative Agenda Overview

- FY 2011 Federal Appropriations Summary (Section 1)
- Individual Federal Requests (Sections 2-6)
- Legislative Issues (Section 7)
- Other Topics of Interest (Section 8)
- American Reinvestment and Recovery Act of 2009 (ARRA) (Section 9)
- Public Lands (Section 10)
- Energy Policy- CLV Sustainability Initiative (Section 11)
- Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient, Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA LU) (Section 12)
- 2010 CLV Appropriation Matrix (Section 13)



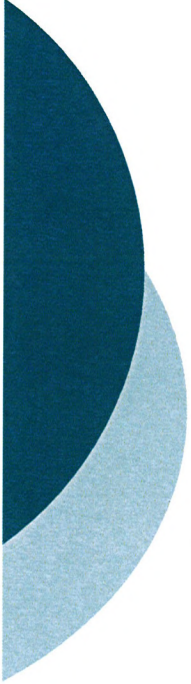
FY 2011 Federal Appropriations- Section 1-6

- Post-Foreclosure Family Reestablishment Program (Requested \$1,000,000)
- Clark County 215 Bicycle/Pedestrian Trail Enhancements Project (Requested \$1,000,000)
- Bus Turnouts- East Charleston, Lamb Blvd, Decatur Blvd, Pecos Road (Requested \$1,000,000)
- Defendant Rehabilitative Programs (Requested \$1,400,000)
- Corrections Facility Equipment (Requested \$350,000)



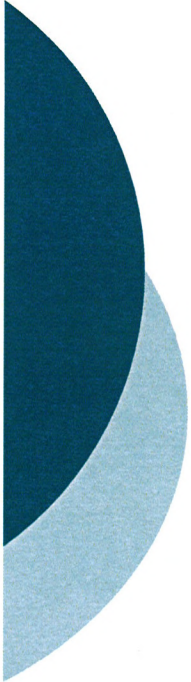
Legislative Issues- Section 7

- Climate Change
- Transportation
- Affordable Housing
- Yucca Mountain
- Federal Unfunded Mandates
- Jobs for Main Street Act
- CLV Budget Update



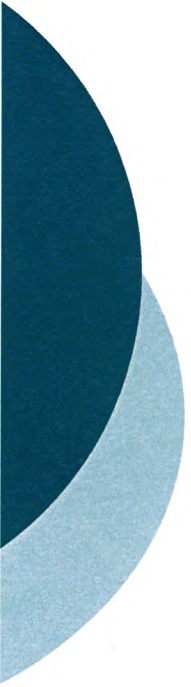
Other Legislative Topics of Interest- Section 8

- Economic Development Grants
- Emergency Management
- Senior Services
- Small Business Assistance
- Veterans Support
- Workforce Development
- Zoning and Land Use Authority



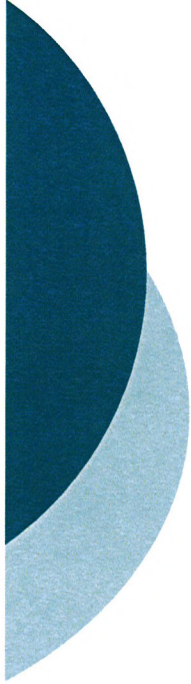
American Reinvestment and Recovery Act of 2009 (ARRA)- Section 9

- Overview of the ARRA Fund Distribution by Region
- Overview of the ARRA grant funds that were awarded and denied to the City
- ARRA Bonds
- Targeted Fiscal Assistance



Public Lands- Section 10

- Our SUPPORT for amendments to the existing disposal boundary of the Southern Nevada Public Lands Management Act (SNPLMA) to further the future growth and development of the City.
- Our REQUEST that the BLM be granted authority under SNPLMA to dispose of lands for non-residential, economic development purposes.
- Our SUPPORT to allow for the transfer of title to certain public lands patented through the Recreation and Public Purposes Act (R&PP) process to the affected local governmental entities in order to address federal restrictions and regulations concerning the operation and maintenance of those facilities.
- The City seeks authorization to use public/private partnerships to manage City-owned facilities located on lands acquired by the City through the R&PP and the Parks, Trails and Natural Areas (PT&NA) funding category of the SNPLMA.
- The City seeks authorization to use SNPLMA funds for capital improvements that directly benefit Parks, Trails and Natural Areas (PT&NA) funded projects.
- The City seeks authorization to use SNPLMA funds for the operation and maintenance of Parks, Trails and Natural Areas (PT&NA) funded projects.



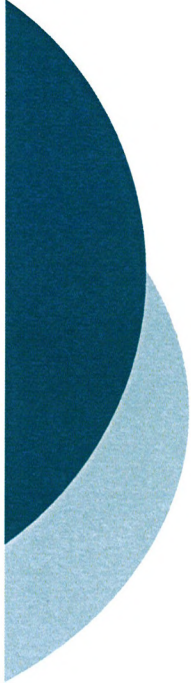
Energy Policy (Sustainability Initiative)- Section 11

- Goals of the Sustainable Energy Strategy
- Highlights all Sustainability Policies Adopted by the City
- Details community partnerships such as the Green Chips and HomeFree NV Partnership.
- Discusses how Energy Efficiency and Conversation Block Grants (EECBG) funds would be use to retrofit buildings



Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient, Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA LU) Reauthorization Projects (Section 12)

- Priority #1- Project Neon
(Requested \$20,000,000)
- Priority #2- Rancho Drive Bus Rapid
Transit (Requested \$20,000,000)



2010 Federal Appropriations Requests- Section 13

- Last Year's Requests. CLV received \$1,287,000:
 - \$200k for our Mortgage Foreclosure Program (Berkley/Titus)
 - \$487k for the Bonneville Clark Couplet (Reid)
 - \$600k for the Regional Public Safety Complex (Berkley/Titus)

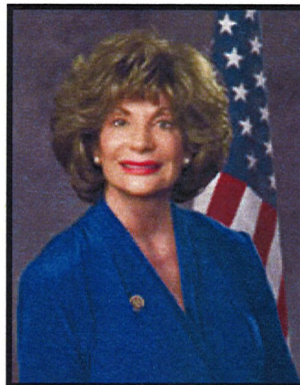
Our Federal Representatives



**Majority
Senate Leader
Harry Reid
(D-NV)**



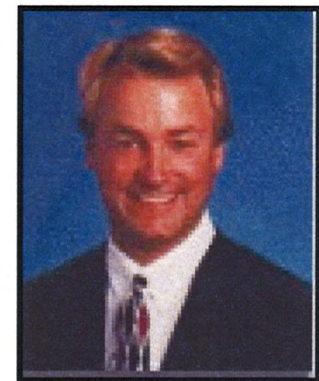
**U.S. Senator
John Ensign
(R-NV)**



**U.S. Congresswoman
Shelley Berkley
(D-NV)**



**U.S. Congresswoman
Dina Titus
(D-NV)**



**U.S. Congressman
Dean Heller
(R-NV)**