



DEPARTMENT: ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

DIRECTOR: TED J. OLIVAS

☐ Consent ☒ Discussion

SUBJECT:

Discussion and possible action regarding Assembly Bill 494, passed during the 2009 Sessions of the Nevada legislature, for a report on potential consolidation/reorganization of certain functions performed by local governments in Clark and Washoe County All Wards

Fiscal Impact

☐ No Impact

☐ Augmentation Required

☐ Budget Funds Available

Amount:

Funding Source:

Dept./Division:

PURPOSE/BACKGROUND:

During the 2009 Legislature, Assembly Bill 494 (AB 494) was passed that requires the Board of County Commissioners of Clark County, the Board of County Commissioners of Washoe County and the governing body of each city in those counties to submit a report to the 76th Session of the Nevada Legislature concerning the consolidation or reorganization of certain functions performed by those local governments.

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the City Council discuss the requirements of AB 494 and direct staff accordingly.

BACKUP DOCUMENTATION:

1. Assembly Bill 494
2. Submitted at Meeting - PowerPoint Presentation by Staff

Motion made by GARY REESE to Accept the report

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

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

Minutes:

TED OLIVAS, Director of Administrative Services, provided a detailed PowerPoint presentation on Assembly Bill 494. This presentation was also made to the Southern Nevada Regional Planning Commission (SNRPC). He indicated that CITY MANAGER FRETWELL is a member of the Board and COUNCILMAN WOLFSON and COUNCILWOMAN TARKANIAN were part of the discussion.

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MR. OLIVAS recommended the approval of the report format, how to address the six areas identified in the Bill, approve the six topics for analysis, approve the recommendation to make the SNRPC the permanent committee to coordinate future efforts and approve the proposed timeline.

He thanked COUNCILWOMAN TARKANIAN and COUNCILMAN WOLFSON for their input.

MAYOR GOODMAN verified that there will be one report submitted on behalf of all groups and there will be an opportunity for any member to state his/her position or dissention of the report.

COUNCILMAN ROSS pointed out that it took a while to establish the Regional Housing Authority and every government entity is participating to address regional issues, such as housing, water and transportation. While moving in this direction, discussions need to take place. He noted that the City worked hard to create an ordinance regarding animal control, which was implemented by Clark County and North Las Vegas.

COUNCILMAN ANTHONY asked if consolidation is being taken seriously or is the report being established to satisfy AB 41. MR. OLIVAS responded that consolidation is truly being considered, but it does not preclude efforts by the City to address the budget process, in terms of consolidating its own departments. The six topics he discussed are areas where an appropriate analysis could be provided. The Councilman was pleased about establishing a committee where suggestions could be sent as well as how the committee accountable.

COUNCILMAN REESE supports consolidation but expressed concern about the names of the agencies, such as the Clark County Health District. He noted that at one point a joint air quality coalition was formed with other entities, but then it was put under the County's jurisdiction. Now, if air quality issues arise in the City of Las Vegas, those issues must be resolved through the County. He believes it should be a regional board with members from other governmental entities.

COUNCILMAN ANTHONY pointed out the name was changed to the Southern Nevada Health Board. MR. OLIVAS added that consolidation is not a remedy to fix all problems. All appropriate issues need to be analyzed.

COUNCILMAN WOLFSON remarked that he attended some of the SNRPC meetings as an alternate and found the board to be engaging, and that the legislature demanded the submission of the report. Consolidation of governments and agencies are major proposals, and it is important to look at things for the long term. For the short term, necessary steps need to be taken to work toward the same goals.

MAYOR GOODMAN commented that the Las Vegas Valley is made up of at least five jurisdictional entities and symbiotic of one another. If one entity fails, it will be disastrous for the other entities, and it would have a detrimental effect on the tourism industry. Serious

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discussions need to take place as to what would happen to Southern Nevada if the downturn in the economy continues. Discussion needs to happen a lot faster and deeper as to the ultimate consolidation of the entire Southern Nevada area. He does not believe consolidation is accomplishing anything. There should be one body making the decisions, whether monetarily or philosophically.

