

**CITY OF LAS VEGAS
EMERGENCY CITY COUNCIL MEETING
AUGUST 20, 2003
LAS VEGAS CITY HALL, 400 STEWART AVENUE
LAS VEGAS, NEVADA 89101
9 AM**

A G E N D A

CALL TO ORDER

ANNOUNCEMENT RE: COMPLIANCE WITH EMERGENCY OPEN MEETING LAW

This meeting is being held in conformance with the provisions of the Open Meeting Law in an emergency situation. NRS 241.020(5) defines an emergency as: "an unforeseen circumstance which requires immediate action and includes, but is not limited to: (a) Disasters caused by fire, flood, earthquake or other natural causes; or (b) Any impairment of the health and safety of the public." Due to the nature of this emergency, required notice and posting requirements were not met; however, Las Vegas Review Journal and Las Vegas Sun newspapers, Channel 3, Channel 5, Channel 8, Channel 9, Channel 13, and Channel 15 television stations, and, KXNT, KNEWS, and KNPR radio stations were provided with this information as well as announcements made on KCLV Channel 2.

SUBJECT

Discussion and possible action to approve and/or amend a resolution of the Mayor of the City of Las Vegas declaring that a State of Emergency exists within said City and directing the activation of said City's Emergency Management Plan and other matters relating thereto.

BACKUP

Resolution

CITIZENS PARTICIPATION

Items raised under this portion of the agenda cannot be deliberated or acted upon until the notice provisions of the open meeting law have been met. If you wish to speak on a matter not listed on the agenda, please clearly state your name and address. In consideration of others, avoid repetition, and limit your comments to no more than three (3) minutes. To ensure all persons equal opportunity to speak, each subject matter will be limited to ten minutes.

ADJOURNMENT

THIS MEETING HAS BEEN NOTICED AND POSTED AT THE FOLLOWING LOCATIONS:

City Hall Plaza, Special Outside Posting Bulletin Board (Meeting Location)

*** MULTI TX/RX REPORT ***

TX/RX NO 4301
 PGS. 3
 TX/RX INCOMPLETE [29]6960096
 [34]4313339
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 ERROR INFORMATION [33]3831089

LV TRIBUNE
 LATIN AM PRESS
 KCEP 88.1 FM
 SENTINEL
 EL MUNDO
 KFMS 101.9
 KKLZ 96.3 FM
 KLUC 98.5 FM
 VIEW GMIKKELSON
 KXNT 840 AM
 KOMP 92.3 FM
 KGEV HOT97.5
 NEVADA POWER
 KNPR
 KVBC 105.1 FM
 LA NUEVA 103.5
 SKYVIEW TRAFFIC
 KQOL 93.1 FM
 UNLV NEWS
 RENO PUBLIC RADI
 CHINESE DAILY
 L. V. CHAMBER
 CITY LIFE
 KRLV 1340 AM
 KMXB 94.1 FM
 KMZQ 100.5 FM
 KNEWS 970 AM
 FRANK ALBANO
 LV TRIBUNE 2
 VETERANS REP
 KXNT
 NATHAN NAYLOR
 JEWISH REPORTER
 NV EXAMINER
 TIEMPO LIBRE
 URBAN CHAMBER
 KLVX TV 10
 CONST/MINING
 LV LIFE

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AGENDA

CALL TO ORDER

*** MULTI TX/RX REPORT ***

TX/RX NO	4300	
PGS.	3	
TX/RX INCOMPLETE	[11]4711199	CITY SUN OFFICE
	[13]3840274	LV RJ
	[14]3824723	RJ CITY OFFICE
	[19]6967222	LV 1/39
	[20]7358184	K-NEWS
	[21]3820790	ASSOC. PRESS
	[22]8702677	JON RALSTON
	[23]3837264	JEFF GERMAN
	[24]2580556	TV 39
	[25]2964983	TV 15
	[62]2590580	TELEMUNDO
	[63]2694983	UNIVISION
	[64]3875241	STEVE SEBELIUS
	[65]3875211	LV MERCURY
	[66]9525545	JUDY ODIERNA
	[67]7358184	KNEWS 2
	[68]7950477	LA TIMES
TRANSACTION OK	[12]3837264	LV SUN
	[15]6573152	TV 3
	[16]4362507	FOX 5
	[17]7922977	TV 8
ERROR INFORMATION	[18]8762237	TV 13

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SUBJECT

Discussion and possible action to approve and/or amend a resolution of the Mayor of the City of Las Vegas declaring that a State of Emergency exists within said City and directing the activation

City of Las Vegas

CITY COUNCIL AGENDA
EMERGENCY CITY COUNCIL MEETING OF: AUGUST 20, 2003

- CALL TO ORDER
- ANNOUNCEMENT RE: COMPLIANCE WITH EMERGENCY OPEN MEETING LAW

MINUTES:

PRESENT: MAYOR GOODMAN and COUNCIL MEMBERS REESE, BROWN, L.B. McDONALD, WEEKLY, MACK, and MONCRIEF

Also Present: CITY MANAGER DOUG SELBY, DEPUTY CITY MANAGER STEVE HOUCHEMS DEPUTY CITY MANAGER BETSY FRETWELL, CITY ATTORNEY BRAD JERBIC, and CITY CLERK BARBARA JO RONEMUS

ANNOUNCEMENT MADE – Meeting noticed and posted at the following locations:
Court Clerk's Bulletin Board, City Hall
City Hall Plaza, Posting Board

(9:11 – 9:12)

1-1

City of Las Vegas

Agenda Item No. 1

AGENDA SUMMARY PAGE
EMERGENCY CITY COUNCIL MEETING OF: AUGUST 20, 2003

DEPARTMENT: CITY MANAGER

DIRECTOR: DOUGLAS A. SELBY

CONSENT

DISCUSSION

SUBJECT:

ADMINISTRATIVE:

Discussion and possible action to approve and/or amend a resolution of the Mayor of the City of Las Vegas declaring that a State of Emergency exists within said City and directing the activation of said City's Emergency Management Plan and other matters relating thereto

Fiscal Impact

No Impact

Amount:

Budget Funds Available

Dept./Division:

Augmentation Required

Funding Source:

PURPOSE/BACKGROUND:**RECOMMENDATION:****BACKUP DOCUMENTATION:**

Resolution

MOTION:**REESE – APPROVED the Resolution – UNANIMOUS****MINUTES:**

NOTE: A Verbatim Transcript of the entire meeting is made a part of the Final Minutes.

APPEARANCES:

BRAD JERBIC, City Attorney

(9:12 – 9:32)

1-43

**A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR OF THE
CITY OF LAS VEGAS DECLARING THAT A STATE OF
EMERGENCY EXISTS WITHIN SAID CITY AND DIRECTING
THE ACTIVATION OF SAID CITY'S
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT PLAN**

WHEREAS, THE Mayor of the City of Las Vegas has been informed that a flood has occurred within the City of Las Vegas; and

WHEREAS such flood represents a disaster emergency and is a substantial and imminent peril to the City of Las Vegas and to the residents thereof and the property therein; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor of the City of Las Vegas hereby finds that it will be necessary to take appropriate action to protect the public peace, health and safety, and to preserve the lives and property, of the residents of the City of Las Vegas; and


WHEREAS, in light of the exigencies of this disaster emergency, said Mayor further finds that it will be necessary to take such action without regard to the formalities, which are prescribed by law.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AND DECLARED by the Mayor of the City of Las Vegas that a state of emergency exists as of 5:37 p.m., Tuesday, August 19, 2003 within the City of Las Vegas; and

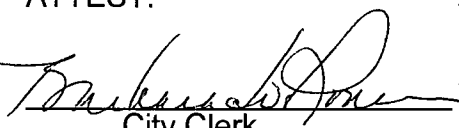
IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that Douglas Selby, City Manager, the Coordinator of Emergency Operations of the City of Las Vegas is hereby authorized, empowered and directed to activate said City's Emergency Management Plan, and he is further authorized, empowered and directed to undertake such emergency management operations and to take such other and further actions as may be necessary or appropriate in order to respond to such emergency and to implement the provisions of said plan.

PASSED, ADOPTED and APPROVED this 19th day of August, 2003.

CITY OF LAS VEGAS

By 
Mayor

ATTEST:


City Clerk

Approved as to form

 8/19/03
City Attorney

**EMERGENCY CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
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VERBATIM TRANSCRIPT: EMERGENCY CITY COUNCIL MEETING

MAYOR GOODMAN

-- and gentlemen, if you'd be kind enough to take your seats. At this time I'll call to order the City of Las Vegas Emergency City Council meeting of August 20th, 2003. This meeting is being held in conformance with the provisions of the Open Meeting Law in an emergency situation. NRS, which is Nevada Revised Statutes, 241.020, Subsection 5, defines an emergency as quote, an unforeseen circumstance which requires immediate action and includes but is not limited to: a) disasters caused by fire, flood, earthquake, or other natural causes; or b) any impairment of the health and safety of the public, end quote. Due to the nature of this emergency, required notice and posting requirements were not met; however, Las Vegas Review Journal and Las Vegas Sun newspapers, Channel 3, Channel 5, Channel 8, Channel 9, Channel 13, and Channel 15 television stations, and KXNT, KNEWS, and KNPR radio stations were provided with this information, as well as announcements made on KCLV Cable Channel 2.

The subject is discussion and possible action to approve and/or amend a resolution of the Mayor of the City of Las Vegas declaring that a State of Emergency exists within said City and directing the activation of said City's Emergency Management Plan and other matters relating thereto. The resolution is attached as backup to the agenda.

At this time, Mr. Jerbic, are there any amendments to the resolution?

CITY ATTORNEY JERBIC

There are not, Your Honor.

MAYOR GOODMAN

Very good. Before we vote and hear comment from the Council, I'd like to use this as an opportunity to give you an update on the flash flooding that occurred yesterday. First and foremost, and we're blessed, we have no reports of any fatalities or serious injuries. And based on how quickly the rain came yesterday, our community was extremely fortunate. Our emergency crews responded to three hundred and sixty-two 9-11 calls between 5:00 p.m. and 10:00 p.m. As we told you yesterday, nine were helicopter rescues and about 50 were swift-water rescues.

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Approximately 20,000 homes are in the area impacted by the flooding, and we estimate that about 60,000 people were in the area at that time.

Our City is now moving from the initial response to the recovery phase. Road crews from the City, County, and State have been out all night. Right now all the roadways are open. But that's not to say that all the roads are clear of debris. Many roads in the Northwest have a lot of debris and gravel, so we're asking the drivers who are out there today to exercise caution and slow down.

We have some important numbers that we'd like to give to you at this time; and, hopefully, these will flash on the, this television monitor. If you'd like to report damage to our roadways or public facilities, please call 229-6227. Once again, if you'd like to report damage to our roadways or public facilities, please call 229-6227. If you're concerned about structural damage to your building or your home and you need to have a Las Vegas building inspector come out, please call on 229-6257. Once again, if you're concerned that you have structural damage to your building or your home and you need a building inspector to come out, please call 229-6257. If you need a damage assessment or if you need assistance, please call the Red Cross at 799-3311. Once again, if you need a damage assessment or if you need assistance, please call the Red Cross at 739-3311, 799, pardon me, 799 –

DAVID RIGGLEMAN, DIRECTOR, COMMUNICATIONS

791, Mayor, 7912-3311, 791-3311.

MAYOR GOODMAN

All right. My notes reflect 799. The – correct number is 791-3311. Let me do it one more time, so everybody gets it straight. If you need a damage assessment or if you need assistance, please call the Red Cross at 791-3311. And you could also call the Red Cross if you'd like to make a donation, and we're getting several calls to that effect from the community, a very generous community, a community that cares. You can call the -- Red Cross, and they will accept that donation and make sure that the money is best spent to address the issues of the flood.

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An important thing to note, because there are opportunists all the time who are ready to take advantage of a situation, if anybody comes to your home, be sure they have proper credentials and identification. Make sure that they show you a badge, identification. Don't let them in your home, don't give anybody any money, unless you're convinced that they're representatives of the Red Cross. Or if in fact there's a City employee who is coming to your home, make sure that they have their badge, that they identify themselves, so you're not going to have any problems with anybody trying to take advantage of you.

Also, and this is important too, no one is collecting donations door-to-door for the Red Cross, or soliciting donations over the phone. So, if you get a phone call from somebody who says send money to the Red Cross at such and such an address, that's a phony. Forget about that. They have to identify themselves, and the Red Cross is not going to be soliciting donations over the phone or collecting donations door-to-door.

As you know, there's still the potential for rain today and we ask you to pay close attention to the weather reports. I understand that there'll be announcements continuously through the day advising us as to the updates on the weather. And if rain begins to fall hard in your area, please avoid going out on the roadways. Just as we said yesterday, stay where you are and unless you're in a low area that has the potential to flood, then, of course, you move to a higher ground. But, if that's not the point, stay where you are, stay in place. That's the best thing to do.

We have some important resources to tell you about. If everybody has the phone book, the Sprint phone book dated January 2003, if you turn to page 14, they will give you information as to how to address issues of flashfloods, and that should be available to everybody in the community. It's – not a special – source. It's the phone book that everybody has. That's page 14. I would go there and I would take a look at it. Also, our website has important information and the website is www.lvalert.com, www.lvalert.com. Finally, if you feel you need sandbags, the City's making those available. You can either go to the east or the west service centers and those addresses are 3104 East Bonanza, that's 3104 East Bonanza, if you want sandbags, or 2900 Ronemus Drive, that's behind the Rainbow Library at Buffalo and Cheyenne.

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We have a map, which we might be able to show on the overhead, as to the areas which were affected by the – flood, and this map was prepared as of 8:45 last evening. The – flood area basically is between I-215 and Sahara and between the western beltway and Decatur. The hardest hit area, with the majority of damage, is between Lone Mountain and Cheyenne Avenue, and the secondary areas are between Summerlin and Sahara and I-215 and Lone Mountain. So that will give you an idea as to the specific – area that the flood addressed.

As I said before, it's remarkable and, I don't know how we could ever thank the people who participated in the official functions yesterday of performing the – rescue. If you saw the television coverage of it, it was almost miraculous with the way these professionals were able to service the community. It – didn't look real; it looked surreal, with the helicopters circling over folks who were trapped in the raging floods in life threatening conditions, and there was no selflessness. Everything was for other people, altruistic, the things that make a community great. This Council is grateful for those folks who – stood up and who performed the way they did yesterday, Metro, Fire, Public Works, Field Operations. It goes on and on and on and on, but remarkable. No fatalities and no injuries.

But most important, and of this this Council is most proud, and I'm most proud, the citizens. The citizens did exactly what they were asked to do, and that was to remain in place, to remain calm. The citizens reached out and they engaged in their own rescue activities. We all have to be very proud to be a part of this wonderful community, because, without each and every person stepping up and doing what they were supposed to do, this could have been a real disaster. Right now we're talking about material things, and we could always overcome material problems, but life and limb cannot be replaced. And I want to thank all the citizens of the City of Las Vegas, of the County of Clark for their cooperation, for their attentiveness, and for making this into the best of a very bad situation.

At this time I'd be happy to hear from the Council. Councilman Mack?

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COUNCILMAN MACK

Thank you, Your Honor. You know, we were at City Hall late yesterday afternoon when we heard the call from the Northwest that the cell hit the Northwest area, and I, again, want to thank everyone who was involved. I'd really like to thank our emergency operations team, and I got to see them firsthand, with Tim McAndrews leading the charge. But the City Managers office, Doug and Steve and Betsy, the Mayor with your charge, Council, Mayor Pro Tem Gary Reese involved, and all the leadership that goes in place to make, making sure that there is a consistent flow of information going out to constituency. And, I think, as you stated, it went almost flawless. And I think how you gauge flawless is that there was no injuries or major injuries or no deaths that occurred in this downfall that has been played out in the Northwest as the biggest downfall of rain to hit, even more than the 1999 floods.

And I'd really like to also give some accolades to Councilman Brown. Under his leadership, as being chairman of the Regional Flood District, I think if we didn't have the type of capacity, the channels, the different flood components that are in place from the Regional Flood District, we would have seen some major, major damage. If we didn't have those components in place, the, we, if we had less components in '99, we would have been wiped out in the Northwest.

We have a lot of Northwest residents that incorporate almost all of the, my colleagues on the Council, but Councilman Brown and I's (sic) ward probably got hit the worst. And keeping people calm and in place, the information that the Mayor gave earlier is very important. People taking photographs of their damages, contacting the American Red Cross, and making sure that we can get help to them where we can. Our – Public Works Department, Field Ops, Larry Haugsness, heck of a job getting these streets cleared up, and I think NDOT did one heck of a job getting the freeways cleared up. But, like you said, we're not out of the woods yet. We have a – potential storm hitting us again this afternoon. So, God willing, we're gonna be okay. But we're blessed to be here today, and I think it's, it was a tough night for all of us, and we're not out of the woods yet. And just make sure that if we do have any type of flooding, if you're in the downtown area, stay in the downtown areas and try not, try to stay out of the roadways.

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VERBATIM TRANSCRIPT: EMERGENCY CITY COUNCIL MEETING

It was amazing. We're watching the video last night, and we have the month of July being Flashflood Awareness Month, and we go over and over how dangerous it is to get out into these – floodways and to play, per se, in the water, when you see kids playing in the waters and families out in the water, inner tubes. It's like, this is not fun and games, folks, and this water could swiftly take you away.

One of the big heroes of the community, I believe, are our emergency services, Metropolitan Police. And it's kind of ironic that you saw the Metro police unit rescuing our Fire Department, but it just tells you the brotherhood and how heroic we all are in the community. But I wanna thank both Metro for their heroes and – also the Fire Department for everything they did last night, as well as our Detention and Enforcement.

So all's well, knock on wood, and, hopefully, we can get past this storm.

MAYOR GOODMAN

Thank you. Councilman Brown?

COUNCILMAN BROWN

Thank you, Your Honor. Just a – couple thoughts from the Regional Flood Control District. They wanted the City to share some of these statistics from yesterday, just to give the citizens a sense of what happened yesterday compared to the '99 event, which everybody often refers to as one of the worst in recorded history.

First and foremost, this event was far more intense than '99 and not only intense as far as the rainfall, but intense as far as the impacted area. Everything was isolated, where '99 was spread across the Valley. And there were rainfall measurements upwards of 2.8 up to 3 inches in some parts of the Valley. And normally, when we have an event of this magnitude, it's spread out over hours, usually four, five, six hours. We actually, the storm lasted just about 90 minutes. And in one area up in that impacted area, a -- gentleman that works for the National Weather Service recorded at Cheyenne at Fort Apache 2.3 inches of rain in a 25-minute period. And that, again, those familiar with Southern Nevada, we average annually about four inches of rain, so that

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intensity within a 30-minute timeframe, again, as the Mayor said, it's very fortunate that we didn't have far more damage and impact than we, when we – actually had.

The facilities, a question that has come up yesterday and it will continue to come up today is the facilities that the Flood Control District has placed in Valley-wide. There's 62 detention basins, three hundred and forty-three miles of channels and storm drains, and we're only half the way there. And that system is designed to handle what they call the hundred-year event, a storm of great magnitude. What happened with this, again, with the intensity, the Gowan system, which is primarily located in the Cheyenne and Tenaya area, handled the flows extremely well, but Alexander, Craig, and Lone Mountain literally became rivers because of the intensity of the rain, and they were – just too quick for the hundred-year system to handle. And obviously, if you're familiar with the Northwest, they headed directly towards the 95, which serves as a dike, captures all the water, and then literally those three streets, all that water flowed from 95 down into the Gowan area. And that was one of the most visual impacts that we got to see yesterday. That is separate from the system that's been designed. And – regardless, if we for the next 25 years build out our system, these type of events, Mother Nature can be cruel. These type of events, with that intensity, we can only look to the people to be educated and aware of the dangers of flash – flooding.

And that's the message from the Flood Control District today, is we're, – literally not out of the woods yet. There – there is some threatening weather over the next 24 to 48 hours. And, as the Mayor indicated, just use common sense. And living at Craig and Buffalo, yesterday took me about an hour and fifty minutes to get the last half a mile to the house. But I'd like to commend a lot of the people that were out there, because it was orderly, it was slow, but it was very methodical. And that certainly lends to the safety factor that we witnessed yesterday.

And just one last comment, Your Honor. The Gowan south basin, the one that's located at Buffalo and Cheyenne. In '99, that basin handled approximately 300-acre feet of storage, and an acre-foot, just for a visual, is a football field filled with a foot of water. Three hundred feet in '99 filled into that Gowan basin and right up to about two feet of the berm that would have overflowed into the Mountain View Hospital and the High-Tech Park. Yesterday's event, there

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was four-hundred-and-ten-acre feet of storage in that basin. A tremendous increase. And but for the fact that the Flood Control District and the City of Las Vegas went in after the '99 event and increased the capacity in there, actually created some baseball and softball fields in there, but that capacity was able to handle the intensity of a storm that doubled and tripled in some areas and tense, again, with the – rainfall. But again, that – is an indication of a – job that's well done and a job that's yet finished.

Again, Your Honor, I appreciate the – time to make those comments.

MAYOR GOODMAN

Thank you very much. Would anybody else like to be heard? All right, at this time, may I have a motion, please.

COUNCILMAN REESE

Yes, Your Honor. Before I make that motion, I just wanna make a quick comment. I think it was just about a week ago that our Mayor and some of our department heads went back to Maryland to participate in a field operation, if you wish, an emergency situation. And I was able last night to be part of and to watch our illustrious Mayor at work. And I'm telling you, when – the chips are down, I'm glad he's on my side. Because I'll tell you what, I don't know what he learned back there in Maryland, but I'm sure he put a lot of it to work last night. Because to see the operation of the team that we have in the City of Las Vegas, you can all feel safe if we do have another emergency, that it will be taken care of. And, Mayor, I – think that money you spent to go back to Washington, or to Maryland with our employees and stuff was very, very, very well spent.

MAYOR GOODMAN

I – appreciate that. We didn't spend any money, fortunately. The Federal Emergency Management Agency paid for us. The only money I spent was for a martini.

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COUNCILMAN REESE

No martinis last night, though. Anyhow, Your Honor, with those comments, **I'll make a motion to approve the resolution.**

MAYOR GOODMAN

All right. Let's vote on that, please. Post, please. Motion carries. (**Motion carried unanimously.**) Thank you.

This is the time for citizens participation. Any items raised under this portion of the agenda cannot be deliberated or acted upon until the notice provisions of the Open Meeting Law have been met. If you wish to speak on a matter not listed on the agenda, please clearly state your name and address. In consideration of others, avoid repetition, and please limit your remarks to no more than three minutes. To ensure all persons equal opportunity to speak, each subject matter will be limited to ten minutes. Would anybody like to be heard at this time? All right, seeing none, this meeting has been, this meeting is adjourned.

(END OF DISCUSSION)

/gpb;dd

City of Las Vegas

CITY COUNCIL AGENDA
EMERGENCY CITY COUNCIL MEETING OF: AUGUST 20, 2003

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MINUTES:

None.

THE MEETING ADJOURNED AT 9:32 A.M.