AGENDA
Special Meeting
Reno City Council
Friday, February 6, 2015 ● 3:30 PM
Reno City Hall - One East First Street, 7th Floor - Caucus Room, Reno, NV 89501

Hillary Schieve, Mayor

Council Members:
Ward 1 – Jenny Brekhus
Ward 2 – Naomi Duerr
Ward 3 – Oscar Delgado
Ward 4 – Paul McKenzie
Ward 5 – Neoma Jardon
At-Large – David Bobzien

Posting: This agenda is posted at Reno City Hall – One East First Street, Washoe County Central Library – 301 South Center Street, Evelyn Mount Northeast Community Center – 1301 Valley Road, McKinley Arts and Culture Center – 925 Riverside Drive, Reno Municipal Court – One South Sierra Street, Washoe County Administration Building – 1001 East 9th Street and Reno-Sparks Convention and Visitors Authority – 4001 South Virginia Street, Suite G; and further in compliance with NRS 241.020, this agenda has been posted on the official website for the City of Reno – www.reno.gov and per NRS 232.2175 and 241.020 a link to this agenda has been posted to https://notice.nv.gov/

Support Materials: Support materials are posted on the website www.reno.gov/meetings when they are provided to the governing body or if provided during a meeting, such materials will be posted on the website within 24 hours after the conclusion of the meeting. Support materials are also available at the City Clerk’s office and at the scheduled meeting. The designated contact to obtain support materials is the City Clerk, located at One East First Street, Second Floor, 334-2030.

Order of Agenda: Section titles on this agenda are for convenience and reference purposes and are not intended to define, govern, limit, modify or in any manner affect the titles of the items listed for consideration by the Reno City Council. A time listed next to a specific agenda item indicates that the specific item will not be heard before that time – it does not indicate the time schedule of any other item. Items on the agenda may be removed, postponed, taken out of order and the public body may combine two or more agenda items for consideration.

Public Comment: Public comment, whether on action items or general public comment, is limited to no more than three (3) minutes. The public may comment by submitting a Request to Speak form to the City Clerk. Public comment shall be presented to the Reno City Council as a body, and not to any member thereof. Speakers shall address questions through the presiding officer.

Rules – Procedures and Disruptive Conduct: The Reno City Council has established rules of procedure in order to ensure orderly conduct during the meeting. The presiding officer will enforce viewpoint neutral procedural rules to ensure the orderly conduct of business of the Reno City Council. The rules are available from the City Clerk, One East First Street, Second Floor, 334-2030.

Accommodations: We are pleased to make reasonable accommodations for members of the public who are disabled and wish to attend meetings. If you should require special arrangements for any meeting, please contact our offices at 334-2030, 24 hours prior to the date of the meeting.

Watch Meetings: Certain Reno City Council meetings are streamed online when Council is in session in Council Chamber at www.reno.gov/meetings and broadcast on Charter Channel 194.

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Agenda Items

1 Pledge of Allegiance

2 Roll Call

3 Public Comment  (This item is for either public comment on any action item or for any general public comment.)

4 Approval of the Agenda  (For Possible Action) - February 6, 2015.
5     Staff Report (For Possible Action): Discussion and potential approval of the Legislative Operations Plan for the 2015 Legislative Session. 
     This item was continued from the January 28, 2015 Reno City Council meeting.

6     Update, discussion and potential direction to staff regarding the 2015 Session of the Nevada Legislature. (For Possible Action)

7     Public Comment (This item is for either public comment on any action item or for any general public comment.)

8     Adjournment (For Possible Action)
5. Staff Report (For Possible Action): Discussion and potential approval of the Legislative Operations Plan for the 2015 Legislative Session. This item was continued from the January 28, 2015 Reno City Council meeting.

From: Kate Thomas, Office of Management and Budget Director

Summary: Staff has developed a Legislative Operations Plan that includes the process to be used to provide direction to the Legislative Team during the upcoming legislative session, commencing February 2, 2015, and to provide for the involvement of the City Council in the City’s lobbying efforts in the most effective way possible. Staff recommends Council approval of the attached Legislative Operations Plan.

Previous Council Action: On January 14, 2015, Council determined that, beginning the week of February 2, 2015, special meetings are to be held on Fridays for the duration of the Legislative Session.

On August 20, 2014, Council approved the utilization of one of its two bill draft requests ("BDRs") to submit the City of Reno’s Anti-Graffiti Task Force’s recommendations to the Legislature.

On June 25, 2014, Council approved the utilization of one of its two BDRs to submit the City of Reno Charter Committee’s final recommendations for amendments to the Charter, as modified at a Joint Meeting held between Council and the Committee, to the Legislature.

On December 12, 2012, Council selected The Capitol Company as the City’s Legislative Consultant and approved an agreement for Legislative Consulting Services with The Capitol Company for the period of December 2012 through June 2015.

Discussion: In order to provide the City Council with accurate and current information on the issues under consideration by the Legislature during the 2015 Legislative Session, there will be a standard item on the agenda for each Regular Council Meeting for legislative updates. Under this agenda item, updates will be provided through a staff report, and staff will seek Council direction
on policy issues. Additionally, on Fridays, Council will hold special meetings to receive legislative updates and provide direction to the Legislative Team. When any subject matter comes before the Council for action, the majority vote will be the position of the City Council, and the Legislative Team will communicate to the Legislature the majority position of the City Council. Minority positions or opinions will not be communicated to the Legislature so as to not send mixed messages about the City’s position.

Set forth in the attached Legislative Operations Plan is a set of General Principles which provide guidance to the Legislative Team as to the City’s interest with regard to certain legislative issues.

**Financial Implications:** Costs include Legislative Consultant costs and staff, as needed, to review and analyze various issues or to attend legislative committee hearings. These costs are included in the various departmental budgets for FY14/15.

**Legal Implications:** None at this time.

**Recommendation:** Staff recommends Council approval of the Legislative Operations Plan for the 2015 Legislative Session.

**Proposed Motion:** I move to approve the staff recommendation.

**Attachments:**

- City of Reno Legislative Operations Plan 2015  
  (PDF)
**CITY OF RENO LEGISLATIVE OPERATIONS PLAN**

**2015 LEGISLATIVE SESSION**

**Legislative Session Activity – February 2, 2015 through June 1, 2015**

**Weekly Updates/Adopting Positions**

The Legislative Team will be communicating bi-weekly with the City Council under a standard item on each Regular Meeting agenda, as well as at weekly Special Meetings, to provide information and receive input and direction from the Council on specific upcoming issues. When a subject comes before the City Council for action, the majority vote will be the official position of the City Council. The Legislative Team will communicate only the majority position of the City Council to the Legislature. The Council will not allow minority positions or opinions to be communicated to the Legislature. Sending mixed messages to the Legislature would be detrimental to the success of the City’s legislative agenda.

Individual Council Members acting in a private capacity may communicate with legislators and appear before the Legislature regarding issues not related to the City of Reno.

**Policy Issues**

Policy issues relating to significant changes, including but not limited to state/local revenue structure, Open Meeting Law, consolidation of services, public safety, redevelopment, labor law, collective bargaining, regional planning, etc., will be brought before the City Council by the Legislative Team at bi-weekly Regular City Council meetings or at Special Meetings.

**Operational Issues**

The Legislative Team will have the authority to make decisions on the City’s position on those matters known to be in the best interest of the policy making/management position of the City. Typically, these matters include ministerial changes such as accounting/reporting procedures or practical changes to zoning matters. Functional questions will be directed to the City Manager and/or department managers to determine the best position on issues. If there is a question regarding the impact of an issue, the City Manager will determine whether or not the item should be brought before the Council or handled administratively. Such information will be reported to the Council at each bi-weekly meeting.

**Legislative Team**

The City’s Legislative Team will be led by Assistant City Manager, Kate Thomas. She will be responsible for coordinating all City staff and consultants who will be representing the City at the Legislature. The team will consist of the following individuals:

Andrew Clinger          City Manager
Kate Thomas             Assistant City Manager
Bill Thomas  
TBD  
John Griffin, The Capitol Company  
Karl Hall  
Beverly Beaty-Benadom  
Fred Turnier  
Daniel Johnson  
Robert Chisel  
Michael Hernandez  
Robert Chisel  
Cassandra Jackson  
Ryan High  
Andy Bass  
Steve Pitts  
John Flansberg  

Assistant City Manager  
Legislative Relations Program Manager  
Legislative Consultant  
City Attorney  
City Clerk  
Community Development  
Emergency Communications and Technology  
Finance and Administration  
Fire  
Human Resources  
Municipal Court  
Office of Management and Budget  
Parks, Recreation and Community Services  
Police  
Public Works

In consultation with the City Manager, other City staff may be designated as members of the Legislative Team, particularly when specific issues require the input of technical subject matter specialists.

**Appearing Before the Legislature**

Any requests for City staff testimony by state officers or departments should be directed to the Legislative Relations Program Manager. He/she will coordinate the City’s testimony and appearances at legislative committee hearings to ensure that the City’s position is communicated consistently. The Legislative Team will speak generally to the City’s position, but at times, it may seek the expertise and knowledge of City staff on particular issues. Any member of the Council or City staff who appears before the Legislature will be accompanied by a member of the Legislative Team.

**Legislator/Legislative Counsel Bureau (LCB) Requests**

All requests from a Legislator and/or the LCB should be directed to the Legislative Relations Program Manager. He/she will coordinate responses and make sure that the Legislator’s and/or LCB’s request is answered in a timely manner. Exceptions to this practice would be when a member of the City staff has been identified as the point of contact on a specific technical issue. It would then be the responsibility of such designee to ensure the Legislative Team is apprised of any such request and response.

**Coordinating with Other Local Governments**

The Legislative Relations Program Manager and other members of the Legislative Team, as appropriate, will meet regularly during the session with lobbyists representing the Cities of Sparks, Las Vegas, North Las Vegas and Henderson; Washoe County; the Nevada League of Cities; as well as other local government lobbyists to discuss strategy associated with bills of common interest.
**General Principles for Legislation**

The following statements are intended to give general guidance to the Legislative Team as to the City’s interest in potential legislation.

The City will identify issues and coordinate with other units of local government to enact legislation favorable to local government that allows for increased flexibility and discretion in decision-making ability at the local level. The City’s position is that cities and towns are voluntarily created by the residents of a community to provide local self-governance. We oppose efforts that would create unfunded mandates or preempt the ability of local governments to set appropriate policy at the local level.

**Revenues, Taxes, and Funding**

- The City supports legislation that provides funding for infrastructure and other local government services, so long as the distribution of the funds is equitable among local governments and the source of funding does not impose an undue burden on taxpayers.

- The City supports legislation that provides local authority over raising revenue when supported by the local electorate. Conversely, the City does not support legislation that would limit a local government’s ability to issue or use voter-approved proceeds.

- The City supports legislation that increases the number of alternatives available to local government bodies as they make decisions related to funding and provision of services at the local level.

- The City supports legislation that would allow for the provision of services, either by the City alone or in conjunction/cooperation with other units of local government, in a more efficient and effective manner with no additional burden to the taxpayers or local government(s).

- The City supports changes to Nevada’s tax structure that would increase the stability and equity of the system, provided that those changes allow for full funding of the vital services provided by local government.

- The City supports legislation that would prevent diversion of local revenues to the State without the prior approval of the local governing body.

- The City does not support legislation that would shift the responsibility for federally or state mandated programs to cities and/or counties unless the legislation also provides for full funding of the program(s).

- The City does not support the creation or imposition of any new unfunded mandates that may be proposed by the Legislature, including measures which would grant new employee benefits to be paid by local governments.
The City supports legislation that requires local government employers to fund deferred benefit plans, retirement plans, and other personnel related liabilities.

The City supports legislation that provides funding for Parks, Recreation and Community Services facilities and programs and for open space and greenways, so long as those funds are not diverted from existing local revenue sources.

Public Works

The City supports legislation that would give preference to local bidders on public contracts and projects, to the extent allowable under federal law.

Collective Bargaining

The City supports revision of Chapter 288 of Nevada Revised Statutes to provide local governments with greater management authority regarding terms and conditions of employment.

The City supports revision of Chapter 288 of Nevada Revised Statutes to prohibit a fact finder or arbitrator from considering funds set aside to fund deferred benefit plans, retirement plans, and other personnel related liabilities when determining a local government employer’s financial ability.

The City supports revision of Chapter 288 of Nevada Revised Statutes to prohibit a fact finder or arbitrator from considering the maximum allowable tax rate when determining a local government employer’s financial ability.

Redevelopment

The City supports legislation that maintains and enhances redevelopment efforts.

The City does not support legislation that prohibits or limits the establishment of new redevelopment project areas or the expansion of existing project areas.