



General Improvement Districts  
March 4, 2011

Presentation to The Nevada State Governmental Affairs Committee

Members: Marilyn Kirkpatrick – Chair, Irene Bustamante Adams - Vice Chair, Elliot Anderson, Teresa Benitez-Thompson, Lucy Flores, Harvey Munford, Dina Neal, Peggy Pierce, John Ellison, Ed Goedhart, Pete Livermore, Lynn Stewart, and Melissa Woodbury.

Presenters:

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### What is General Improvement District (GID)?

A GID is a quasi-municipal corporation formed by a Nevada County to provide a specific number of municipal type services to the residents of the District. They are formed within the authority authorized in Nevada Revised Statute (NRS) Chapter 318 by the Board of County Commissioners who have jurisdiction over the defined District or portion of their County boundaries. NRS 318 outlines the specific powers a County can authorize the GID to operate. The following is the section from the NRS which states that basic powers which may be granted to a district.

**NRS 318.116 Basic powers which may be granted to district.** Any one, all or any combination of the following basic powers may be granted to a district in proceedings for its organization, or its reorganization pursuant to NRS 318.077 and all provisions in this chapter supplemental thereto, or as may be otherwise provided by statute:

1. Furnishing electric light and power, as provided in NRS 318.117;
2. Extermination and abatement of mosquitoes, flies, other insects, rats, and liver fluke or *Fasciola hepatica*, as provided in NRS 318.118;
3. Furnishing facilities or services for public cemeteries, as provided in NRS 318.119;
4. Furnishing facilities for swimming pools, as provided in NRS 318.1191;
5. Furnishing facilities for television, as provided in NRS 318.1192;
6. Furnishing facilities for FM radio, as provided in NRS 318.1187;
7. Furnishing streets and alleys, as provided in NRS 318.120;
8. Furnishing curbs, gutters and sidewalks, as provided in NRS 318.125;
9. Furnishing sidewalks, as provided in NRS 318.130;
10. Furnishing facilities for storm drainage or flood control, as provided in NRS 318.135;
11. Furnishing sanitary facilities for sewerage, as provided in NRS 318.140;
12. Furnishing facilities for lighting streets, as provided in NRS 318.141;
13. Furnishing facilities for the collection and disposal of garbage and refuse, as provided in NRS 318.142;
14. Furnishing recreational facilities, as provided in NRS 318.143;
15. Furnishing facilities for water, as provided in NRS 318.144;
16. Furnishing fencing, as provided in NRS 318.1195;
17. Furnishing facilities for protection from fire, as provided in NRS 318.1181;
18. Furnishing energy for space heating, as provided in NRS 318.1175;
19. Furnishing emergency medical services, as provided in NRS 318.1185;



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20. Control and eradication of noxious weeds, as provided in chapter 555 of NRS; and
21. Establishing, controlling, managing and operating an area or zone for the preservation of one or more species or subspecies of wildlife that has been declared endangered or threatened pursuant to the federal Endangered Species Act of 1973, 16 U.S.C. §§ 1531 et seq., as provided in NRS 318.1177.  
(Added to NRS by 1967, 1693; A 1969, 201; 1971, 261; 1977, 533; 1979, 571; 1985, 1803; 1989, 1881; 1993, 2783; 1995, 179, 1905; 1997, 483; 2001, 2083; 2003, 1513)

### What is the Incline Village General Improvement District (IVGID)?

IVGID serves the unincorporated communities of Crystal Bay and Incline Village and will be celebrating their 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary this June 2011. Last year, Crystal Bay and Incline Village jointly celebrated, respectively, their 84<sup>th</sup> and 50<sup>th</sup> anniversaries with a summer time of activities that ranged from a Memorial Day/Veterans Day celebration and culminated with the 244<sup>th</sup> celebration of America's birthday, a three day celebration crowned off by a gigantic fireworks celebration put on by Red White and Tahoe Blue, a 501(c)3 charity organization formed with the specific purpose of orchestrating the annual celebration of the 4<sup>th</sup> of July in Incline Village and Crystal Bay.

The Washoe County Commissioners, starting in 1961, formed IVGID and authorized it, at the beginning, to provide water and sewer services; the Commissioners followed that action by adding Trash collection and Recreation services. Today, IVGID serves over 4,200 water, sewer and trash collection customers most of whom are residential customers along with some commercial customers; the recreation customer base is just over 8,200.



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IVGID's infrastructure, to support these four services, includes the following:

Wastewater treatment plant

Ozone water treatment plant

100+ miles of sewer pipe lines

32+ mile Effluent Export pipeline, which carries treated waste water out of the Tahoe Basin

95+ miles of water mains

Diamond Peak Ski Resort

Chateau Community Center (24,000+ square feet)

Recreation Center with indoor swimming pool and gymnasium (38,000+ square feet)

Championship Golf Course and practice ranges

Mountain Golf Course

Tennis Center Complex (11 tournament size courts)

Four beaches, one with an outdoor swimming pool and one with boat launching ramp



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Four ball fields, one with picnic area and play area, (shared through MOU with Washoe County School District

Village Green athletic field (functions as soccer fields and Dog Park)

Skateboard Park

Aspen Grove community building (functions as a Senior Center) with picnic and BBQ area

District Administration building

Public Works building

1,000+ acres of trails surrounding Incline Village

The 2010/2011 combined operating and capital budgets are just over \$50 million dollars. Approximately 4.3% is collected from IVGID's distributed share of property taxes and consolidated tax calculation. All revenues, which exceed operating expenses, are dedicated to paying interest, debt and capital expenditure, which are pre-collected. As a result, the primary source of IVGID's revenues (or 95.7%) is user fees paid by the customers who utilize the services IVGID provides under authority of NRS 318.

IVGID has created some extremely valuable cost and environment savings collaborations with Sierra Nevada College, United States Army of Corp of Engineers, State Lands, Nevada Parks and Recreation (most recently at Sand Harbor), Washoe County, South Lake Public Utility District, North



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Lake Tahoe Fire Protection District, Tahoe Regional Planning Authority and Washoe County School District. These collaborations range from sharing of infrastructure in exchange for services so neither collaborator pays cash, receiving qualified grant funding to replace environmentally sensitive natural stream zones and effluent export pipeline segments, permanent retirement of forest land, sharing of athletic fields, defensible space which leads to the creation of a halo around Incline Village and Crystal Bay, joint application to expand water flow near forest fire sensitive areas (similar to the Angora forest area), processing of the Sand Harbor waste water which led to the opening of valuable land area at Sand Harbor, and storm water projects in collaboration with Washoe County.

IVGID's creation, by Washoe County in 1961, was an outstanding visionary decision that was based upon a distance of 35 miles from the center of Washoe County. With this being a 70 mile round trip, today it proves to be even more cost effective which translates into requiring less revenue collection because the required services are centered close to the direct users of those services and Washoe County does not need manage the infrastructure from afar.

We do have challenges - the demographics of our two communities have drastically changed and some of those changes will be highlighted once the 2010 census information is published. However, what we do know is that in 2001, 50% of the home owners were second home owners and today that percentage ranges from 62% to 65%. Fortunately, we started in 2001 to learn to do more with less. Today (2011) each employee is responsible for



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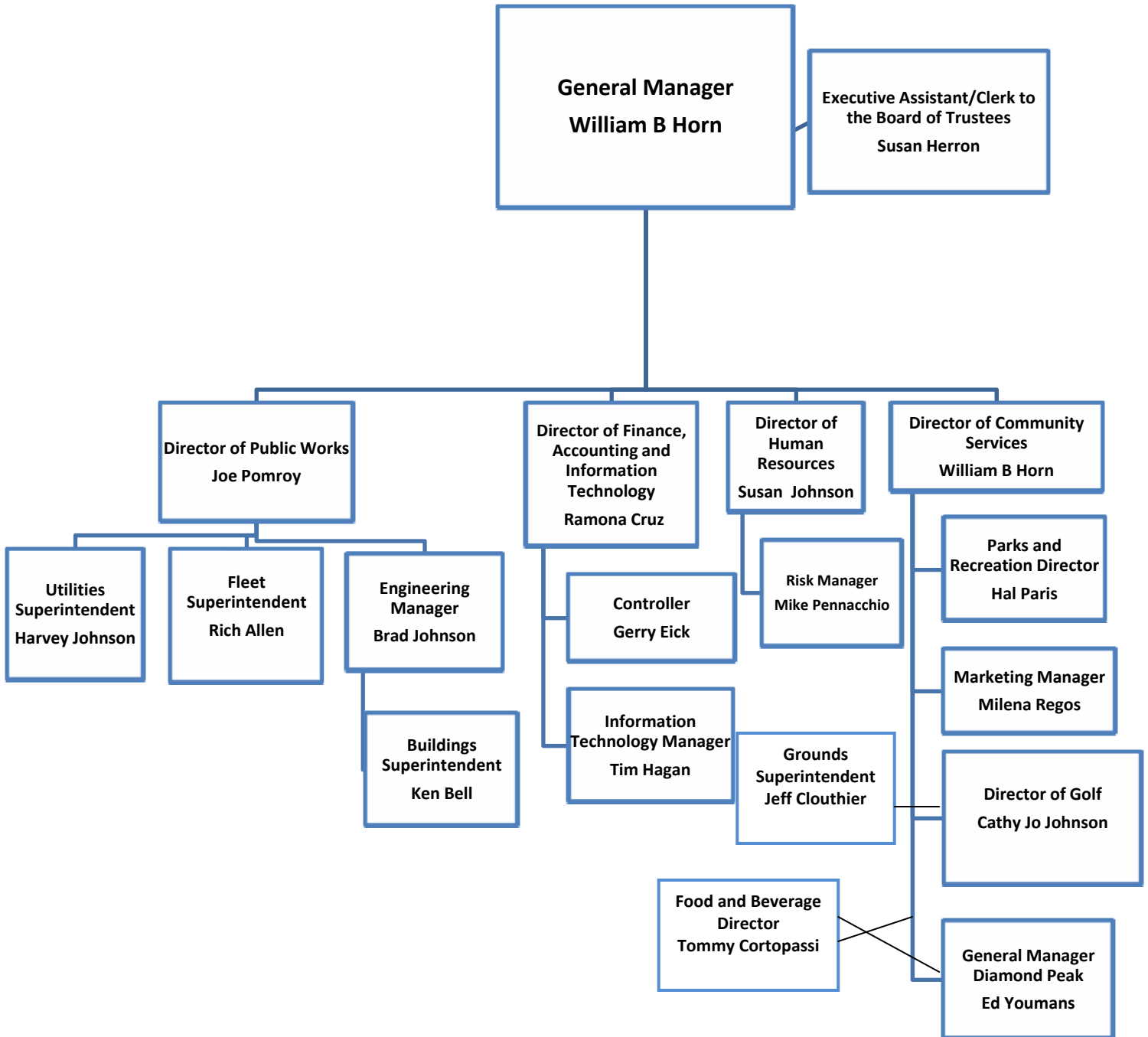
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\$214,304 vs. \$134,936 (2001) in operating services and capital projects. This has been accomplished by asking each employee to do more while still trimming employee counts by 3.3%, while the operating services and capital projects have increased by 55.6%. As a result, we have not been forced to cut services and trust we can weather the economic storm, because of our pre planning for the downturns of the past three years. We have also been diligent in our efforts to have success in our financial reporting and for the eighth year in a row, IVGID has received the Government Finance Officers Association Distinguished Budget Presentation Award for our 2010/2011 Budget Book. This award reflects the commitment of the Board of Trustees and the District Staff in meeting the highest principle of governmental budgeting. Our Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) has also received the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting from the same organization and for the same length of time.

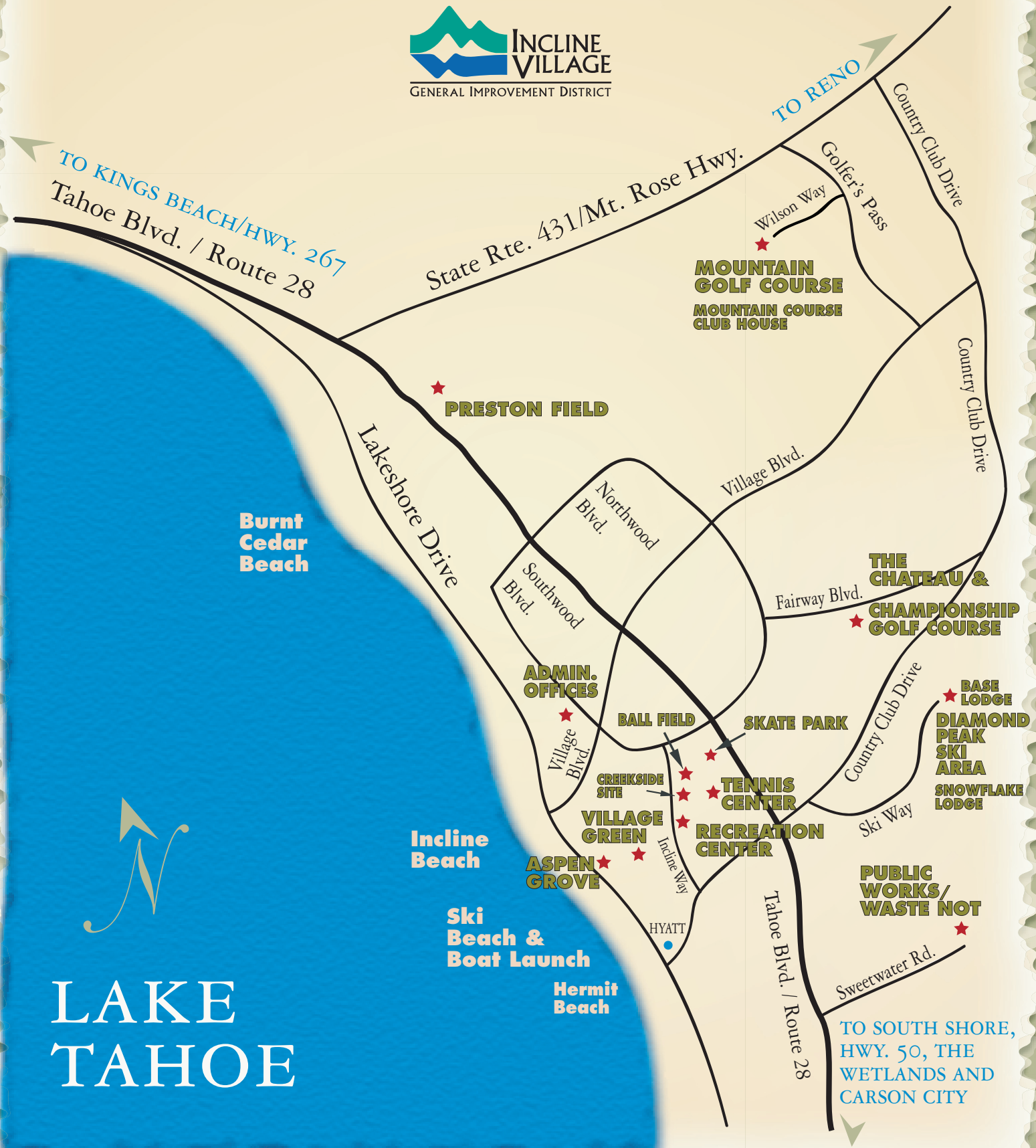
IVGID is a committed environmental partner of the Tahoe Basin along with the other Basin governmental agencies and our critical business partners. As a community we are fortunate to have the solid support of Washoe County, our Congressional delegation and the Nevada State legislature, particularly our representatives Senator Ben Kieckhefer, Assemblyman Kelly Kite and Assemblyman Randy Kirner.

Thank you for inviting us today and if we can share an idea with you, please don't hesitate to contact either one of us.





# INCLINE VILLAGE LAKE TAHOE



**LAKE TAHOE**