

SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE  
MINUTES OF MEETING  
MARCH 10, 1977

The meeting was called to order at 8:00 A. M.

Senator Floyd R. Lamb was in the chair.

PRESENT: Senator Floyd R. Lamb, Chairman  
Senator James I. Gibson, Vice-Chairman  
Senator Eugene V. Echols  
Senator Norman Ty Hilbrecht  
Senator Thomas R. C. Wilson  
Senator C. Clifton Young

EXCUSED

ABSENCE: Senator Norman D. Glaser

OTHERS: Ronald W. Sparks, Chief Deputy, Fiscal Analysis  
Howard Barrett, Budget Director  
Jean Ross, Budget  
Cy Ryan, UPI  
Norman Hall, Director Department of Conservation & Natural  
Resources  
Lowell Smith, State Forester  
Bob Long, Deputy State Forester  
John Meder, State Park System  
Bill Woods, State Park System  
John Richardson, State Park System

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Senator Lamb said he had a letter from Bill Hancock, dated February 15th. The Committee had passed S. B. 50 and it was on its way to Ways and Means; this letter says they have changed their construction program at Jean and instead of the Diagnostic Clinic for 50 inmates they are building a 6th house unit for 50 inmates. This change will result in a saving of about \$75,000. Ways and Means has taken it out and this Committee should concur and Senator Lamb asked for their concurrence. Senator Gibson moved for concurrence; Senator Young seconded and the motion carried.

Norman Hall, Director of the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources said he had two things he would like to mention before the Division of Forestry presented their budget.

In his department, among the divisions, all of the division administrators are unclassified and in some cases the number two man is unclassified and some of them are classified. He asked that the department be allowed to be consistent throughout; either they be classified or unclassified. He said he would prefer as a management tool to have the number two man unclassified as this would give the division administrators a number two man who is responsible and loyal to the policy of that administrator and director. Whatever the Legislature decides would be all right with him.

Senator Lamb asked him why he preferred this. Mr. Hall said it would make the number two man more responsive to direction from the administrator. Senator Young asked if he found it worked better if they were unclassified and Mr. Hall said he felt he did because they were more responsive to direction and policy. Senator Lamb said he was in agreement.

Mr. Hall said the next point was that the Division of Forestry has a maintenance yard in Reno, across from where the new MGM is going up. They can see in the next two or three years there is going to be a real traffic problem in trying to move the emergency equipment out of that yard. They are asking for general fund money to build a new yard somewhere else and when they get that new yard built, sell the yard across from MGM to the highest bidder, then that money will go back to general fund.

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Senator Lamb said they would probably make a little money on that. Mr. Hall said he was sure the values were quite high. Mr. Hall said that up to the end of December or the first part of January they were under the impression that the highway department was going to take this yard over. They were advised on January 21, that it did not qualify for federal funding.

Mr. Smith showed them a map giving the location of their Reno base in relation to the main entrance of MGM Grand. He showed where it would give them a tremendous problem in getting in and out of that area with their equipment. He said a legislator in the Assembly had suggested that a traffic light would solve their problem and he showed the Committee that the anticipated turning lane to go south was practically in front of the yard. He said it was full of traffic right now and after the opening of the hotel, it was going to be much worse. There are nearly ten acres in there, but the Forestry Division only owns four; their proposal is to go out on Mount Rose highway where there is land available that would be in the middle of their responsibility area.

It was decided that they would get an appraisal and put the land out for bids at public auction when the time came to dispose of it.

Senator Young asked about their property on Washoe Lake, but Mr. Smith said it was on the east side of the lake where their shrub gardens are, in conjunction with the U. S. Forest Service. It would not be suitable for the type of program they need.

Senator Echols asked if they pursued this property exchange, who would handle it; who would the person be who would be responsible for the decision for the department. Mr. Hall said his department could or Bill Hancock of the Public Works Board. The Public Works Board would build the facility. Senator Echols asked who would make the decision. Mr. Hall said he could, in the department. He said he would accept the responsibility if the Legislature gave it to them. Senator Echols asked if this would be done during this session. Mr. Hall said they could come back and keep in touch with Interim Finance.

Senator Gibson asked Lowell Smith to go thru this budget.

DIVISION OF FORESTRY: Mr. Smith explained the various sources of funding which support the division. He explained that the division is basically in the wild land fire suppression business and they have the responsibility of intermingled structures in the wild land. When areas adjacent to the City of Reno become highly structured they are then excluded from the Forestry District. He explained that the division was trying to develop an industry out of the pinon juniper rather than just burning it.

Senator Gibson asked about Truckee Meadows, whether or not they were still involved there. Mr. Smith said they have a joint dispatching situation with Truckee Meadows, who are now moving into their own central complex with Reno. Senator Gibson asked Mr. Barrett if he would have any problem if the Legislature made the deputies unclassified. Mr. Barrett said he would not. Mr. Smith outlined the need for new positions in the Budget and in answer to Senator Lamb's query explained the requests for money for trucks in the budget. He said these were 3/4 ton trucks which were used as fire trucks. They carried heavy loads and had hard usage and the division had a replacement schedule.

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Senator Wilson stated that earlier in the session when the Committee was reviewing the Capital Improvement Program, the Forestry Division was listed for the construction of a repair and maintenance facility. He had raised the question at that time if it would not be possible for the division to utilize the facilities of a highway department garage that was close by and he received two answers in the negative. He asked why? Mr. Smith said he had a letter from Mr. Grant Bastian on that subject. He also explained their type of fire equipment, pumps, etc. The highway garage said there was no room or mechanics' time available. Senator Wilson said he realized that no department likes to service another but he did not understand why this kind of accommodation could not be worked out. It would save a lot of money. Mr. Smith said their shops were loaded to the hilt and they do build the RCFP which is the rural fire protection equipment. They take military excess vehicles, which they get for nothing, and go through them and build fire trucks out of them. This operation takes up a big piece of shop space for two months. By their building these trucks they save about \$40,000 a unit. This is the only way that some of these small agencies can get a fire truck. He said that their mechanics are cross trained where they are the cat skimmers and the heavy truck tank operators. When there is a fire they roll out with a piece of equipment. This almost makes it mandatory for them to be on the Forestry Base. This cross training utilizes man power to the best advantage. He said they have a little over 400 road vehicles state-wide; these were not only their own vehicles, but the ones they supplied to the volunteer fire departments throughout the state. He explained those people who were on 24 hour duty or on call who drove a state vehicle home at night. Senator Echols said he had more complaints on this one phase of state vehicles than any other.

Senator Young asked for details on the Forest Management Program. Mr. Smith explained the programs they were carrying forward. He said they serve as technical advisors to private land sectors.

He explained, in answer to Senator Hilbrecht's question about specialized equipment, that this was for pumps, radios and other equipment that goes onto the trucks.

Mr. Barrett stated that when this budget was built there was some doubt as to whether federal funds were going to continue and they still don't know. If they do not continue there is a possibility that they will have to come to Interim Finance for general fund money to at least replace a portion of the federal dollar because the federal dollars are substantial in this budget. He said this does not mean they are going to, it is just a notice that this may occur.

FORESTRY CETA PROGRAM; This program is funded through the State of Nevada Employment Security Department under the Comprehensive Employment and Training Act, Title I. There are fifteen seasonal positions from June 1 through October 31. They work in conjunction with the inmate program on state parks lands. In addition they are a ready fire crew. He mentioned the two deaths that occurred last summer in a fire. These were the first in the history of the division; these were both members of the CETA crew. The CETA program in Las Vegas is the same as in the north. They are now working on Mt. Charleston in making a fire break around the Mt. Charleston residential area.

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FOREST NURSERIES: The objective of the Nursery program is to propagate, maintain and distribute healthy, acclimatized plant materials to qualifying agencies and private landowners for conservation purposes in the various geographic regions. He said they were going to container stock because its survival is better. In the north they have wind break and shelter built varieties. In the south they are going to go into native stock in the interests of water preservation. He said Bob Long had gone to Israel and returned with some techniques that they think can be used in Nevada with great benefits. Mr. Long showed pictures and drawings that he had developed from a study of conditions in Israel where the conditions were similar to the climatic conditions in Nevada. The type of plants and trees that had the best survival rate; ways of utilizing water and preserving it from evaporation. He said they were very interested in the development of a solar greenhouse which they understand will be one of the first in the U. S. This is a result of the Fleischmann Grant.

Senator Lamb asked if they would be in competition with private industry in the development and sale of the nursery products. Mr. Smith said they hoped to develop these and then turn them over to private industry. They had no desire to go beyond the developmental stage.

FOREST FIRE SUPPRESSION: The purpose of this fund is to pay unforeseen expenses incurred in suppressing forest and watershed fires. Due to the nature of fires and fire occurrence, it is impossible to predict how many fires or how large they will be for budgeting purposes. Senator Wilson asked why they had asked for more this year than in previous years. Mr. Smith said that the costs of fire suppression are such that at times they have to go back to Board of Examiners for additional funds. This year they have gone higher to save having to do that.

FOREST & WATER SHED REHABILITATION: The purpose of this program is to provide for the maintenance of forest and vegetative cover on forest and watershed lands. Large fires on state and private lands often seriously destroy vegetation and denude watersheds to the extent that erosion, stream filtration and contamination result. There were no further questions on these programs and Senator Lamb thanked them for appearing.

DIVISION OF STATE PARKS: Mr. Hall said he would like to make the same statement in regards to Parks that he made with regard to Forestry, namely that the number two man be in the unclassified service.

Mr. Meder spoke on the Operations and Maintenance Budget for the Division of State Parks. These monies provide the personnel and the operation and maintenance that is necessary for the 17 park and recreational areas that are in the State of Nevada. In addition, funds are provided for the three shop and district offices, and the administrative and the operation and maintenance sections in the state office. He submitted a Program Statement, copy attached. Senator Echols asked how many vehicles they had. Mr. Woods said they have about 40 or 45 types of vehicles. They are restricted to the parks. They only take them out of the park on business. He answered other questions relating to the line items in the budgets. He explained that the radios were costly as they were assigned to certain frequencies, they are a certain power and in order to maintain and meet these standards, the radios cost more. They also go through

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repeaters: there is more than one channel. Mr. Woods explained that he was not a radio technician so he could not speak on all the technical aspects. Mr. Barrett said that they have a list of the needs. He read the list and said they would give Senator Hilbrecht a copy.

The costs and advantages of having someone at each park to collect entrance fees was discussed. They do not keep one person employed as a collection agent in every park; they depend upon the honesty of the people who were visiting the parks. Mr. Woods said they had run a quick survey during the past year and it cost about \$35,000 or \$40,000 to collect the fees. The only places they have fee collectors, as such on the gate, is at Tahoe and Lahontan. The rest of the fees are collected during regular routine duties. There is a system whereby they take an envelope and pay when they enter the park. He said they could not justify fee collectors in all the parks. Under that system, some people do not pay, but they cannot justify putting someone there. He said they felt they lost very little from the envelopes, they try to have a pretty safe deposit area.

STATE PARK PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT: The primary function of this section is the preparation of park master plans, design and construction plans, specifications, contract documents and administration, construction inspections, and project coordination. Senator Hilbrecht said the policy stated by Mr. Hall and Mr. Meder of improving what the state already has, rather than going into new projects has received broad acceptance in the Finance Committee. He wondered if the Committee should put some kind of moratorium on new acquisitions until the existing developments are improved in accordance with whatever plans have been developed. He asked if this would be the division that would be involved in developing what they already had. Senator Lamb said that in a sense there was such a thing. They have to come to the Interim Committee before they can acquire anything. Senator Hilbrecht said he thought it would be wise to state their intent. Mr. Woods explained their program at Red Rock and said they did not intend to do any more at this park in the near future. The main thrust is at the ranch there. There is an agreement with the BLM for 19,000 acres which includes the loop road. There are educational programs at the ranch; these attracted about 15,000 visitors last year. It is presently just a status quo situation. Mr. Meder said that a group in Las Vegas called the Junior League have become quite interested in Red Rock and they have agreed to handle the advertising for the Shakespeare Festival this year. So a community interest is developing.

ACQUISITION, GRANTS AND STATEWIDE PROJECTS: This account provides staff and operating expenses for the administration of various federal grant programs under the Land and Water Conservation Act for the State Park Acquisition Program, for the Bicycle Pathway program, and for the State Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan. Funds are made available to Nevada and its local communities under the Grants-in-Aid Program of the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act. These grants are made on a 50% reimbursable basis for planning, acquisition, and development of park and recreation areas. Mr. Meder explained in detail the responsibilities under this project and the changes that can be made to local sub-divisions. Mr. Richardson said there are presently 70 on-going projects.

Mr. Meder said they had one request. The two new positions in the second biennium were based on the assumption that the money from the park bond would be used only for property acquisition. If the local

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communities are allowed to use that for development as well as acquisition, the impact is going to hit immediately. They asked if those monies were used for development that those two positions, the travel that would accompany them, and the furniture and equipment be moved up to the first year. Senator Young asked if they rendered aid to the communities in developing the plans. Mr. Meder said that some counties have their own staffs who can do this, but in the rural areas they render some assistance. Senator Wilson asked if they saved any money on planning by using in-state planners. Mr. Meder said they did not as the contracts go out on a competitive bid and they are based on the dollar value that the bid is coming in on. But they do use in-state people when it is at all possible. Mr. Hall said in his department budget there was a request for \$6,000 for a management study of the Division of Parks to answer questions such as, how far into the construction business should the Division of Parks get, when you have a Public Works Board in state government also. Maybe the Division of Lands should have the expertise to handle land acquisition. This is a highly specialized business.

PARKS YCC PROGRAM: The Park System has been involved in the Youth Conservation Corps program for the past two years. The agency has attempted to involve all conservation agencies in the program so the crew members are exposed to all phases of conservation. This is a federally funded program which the state matches in in-kind services. Mr. Meder explained the type of work the Youth Corps did and said this had been a very successful program. Mr. Barrett explained that the Division was requested to submit a full-blown program so the Governor would have something to review. It was reviewed and the Governor decided he could not go with it. It wasn't something that the division dreamed up, they had been requested to do this. Senator Young asked what the kids were paid and Mr. Woods advised it was \$2.30 an hour. They work six hours a day and they have two hours of environmental education.

VIRGINIA & TRUCKEE RAILROAD: This account provides the operating and maintenance funding for the Virginia and Truckee Railroad Program. In 1973, the V&T project was transferred to the State Parks System and since that time the agency has provided security services to protect the historic rolling stock of the former V&T Railroad at both the Mound House storage area and the South Carson storage area. The Legislature appropriated monies to the contingency fund for the purpose of providing suitable housing for the equipment. The Interim Finance Committee allocated funds from the contingency fund to the State Public Works Board to construct the facility, which is scheduled for completion in 1977. Mr. Meder said they were waiting for the legislative direction as to what the long term plans for this project were to be.

Senator Lamb thanked them for appearing.

WESTERN INTERSTATE COMMISSION FOR HIGHER EDUCATION: Mr. Barrett explained that in this budget there was almost \$200,000 that the budget office did not take out and move as a balance forward. It was suggested that the Committee take that \$200,000, it will not revert - this budget account does not revert, and move it into the next two years and increase the dental placements from 10 to 18.

The Budget Office had been asked to look at the problem of loans for 25% of the WICHE payment that the students were asked to pick up. Computations show that it would take about \$1.25 million to

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set up a loan program for loans to the students of the 25% and have them pay it back five years after graduation. After about six or seven years this will then become a self-supporting program, with the same amount going out as comes back. He said this was based on a number of assumptions. First, that the tuition payments would not increase and the Legislature did not allow any more placements. It will probably never really become self-supporting but it will fund the program now on a self supporting basis. It does not compute interest payment by the student nor interest payment on the fund but on the other side it assumes that all the money will be paid back 100% and probably this will not be. He also suggested that the regular grant of 75% be paid back by those students who did not choose to practice in Nevada, upon graduation, for at least three years. Senator Lamb asked if perhaps they should phase this out in a few years and not have it an ongoing program. This is being done now so that the students presently in school would not suffer an undue hardship.

Senator Gibson wondered if the state would ever have a dental school or a veterinary school. He asked Mr. Barrett what he thought would develop. Mr. Barrett said he was sure there were going to be other specialties spring up that the state would not be able to develop because of its size. A general discussion followed on what would be a fair rate of interest to charge the students and when the interest should begin, at the time the loan was originally made or after they had graduated. Mr. Barrett said in the bill there should be a provision that the student who was able to pay his own way, or a portion thereof, should do, but only go through the WICHE program to get his accreditation. Senator Lamb asked Mr. Barrett if he would help draft the bill and he agreed.

Senator Gibson moved that the committee ask for the bill; Senator Echols seconded. Senator Young asked for the conditions that were to be listed in the bill. The money would be loaned at 5% for the 25% needed; payment would be made back within five years after graduation - it would all be paid back. If they don't practice in Nevada for three years they have to pay back the 75% in addition to the 25%. They would have to take out bankruptcy to avoid the repayment.

Senator Wilson asked if they were also talking about a loan to fund the deficiency to maintain some of the students in school. Mr. Barrett said that this would not cover the additional. They could not make a recommendation beyond that as they do not have the money to do that. Senator Wilson said he would rather spend money there than on some of the programs that come across the table. He felt this was a judgment on priorities. He wanted to know mechanically how could it be done; how much money would they be talking about, what provisions, reasonably, should go into such a loan program. Then the Committee could reach the policy question of do we decide to put in there or somewhere else. He asked that Mr. Barrett put it together so they could look at it and decide intelligently. He said he didn't know how much money they were talking about because he didn't know how many students were in trouble financially because of the additional costs of their education. Also he was concerned with getting more students into the program if they wished to go for the professions.

Senator Hilbrecht said that he was not sure that the whole idea of a strict subsidy is a healthy way to approach it. Most universities have shifted entirely from the full scholarship concept to the idea that they will never give more than half as a grant. The other half you have to pay back, even if you are on a full scholarship program. On this program, Nevada is subsidizing a full 75% on the program.

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He felt they should phase out so that the new students entering WICHE get no more than a 50-50 grant with a pay back program. If that was done, he felt it might be realistic to enlarge the program. Senator Wilson said he was not quarreling with that concept at all. The question is does the state want to go down that road. Senator Gibson asked if Mr. Barrett was recommending that the dental hygiene course at Community College be funded. Senator Gibson said he felt they should fund it where there is a demand. Senator Lamb said they could cross that one when they got to it. Now he wanted to consider the recommendation that Mr. Barrett had made originally.

Mr. Barrett said there would be 212 students in the WICHE program. Senator Young said if the figures were computed on that number, he felt it would be just tempting them to borrow it even if they didn't need it. Another question he had was if a student didn't borrow until his last year, was he obligated to practice three years in the State of Nevada. What if the state didn't need all those people, especially in Reno or Las Vegas; are they going to have to go to the rural areas. He said he liked the mandate of their coming back but he felt there were an awful lot of problems and he didn't have confidence that the WICHE Commission might be able to solve them. Senator Lamb said this was one reason why he felt interest should start from the time they borrowed the money. He felt if they had to borrow the money with interest, they wouldn't do it unless they needed it.

Senator Lamb reminded them that they had a motion still before the Committee. He said he felt they should put all the safeguards in that bill that were possible.

Senator Hilbrecht asked if it would be unworkable to shift from the 25% to the 50% over a period of time: He said he would like to see only half granted so that, as Senator Wilson suggested, the same amount of money would make available 25% more spots to people who want to go to graduate school. The grant programs that have been started cannot be stopped, that would not be keeping faith, but he wanted it phased out so that anyone who is not now in the program would start out with a 50 - 50 grant basis. Senator Lamb asked that they vote on the motion that a bill be drafted based on the presentation from Mr. Barrett. He asked if they wanted to amend that with Senator Hilbrecht's suggestion that starting with the second year, it will be 50%. Senator Wilson asked if they were talking about just funding the 50% in the budget but also funding a total number of spots. Mr. Barrett said he would assume that they would stay with the same number of spots in the budget, just reduce the funding to 50% and put additional money into the loan fund. Senator Echols expressed his concern that the money be available by May 1, when the students needed it. The motion to draft the bill with the provision that starting in the second year it will increase to 50% was passed unanimously.

Senator Lamb asked Mr. Barrett and Ron Sparks to work on the bill. Mr. Barrett reminded them that there were a great many alternatives that had not been discussed and in the development of the bill he was sure there would be more.

Senator Gibson said that he did not think they could put the indenture clause on those who were already in the program and Senator Young agreed. A general discussion followed on this point. Also whether there was a need for all to come back to the state. Senator Gibson



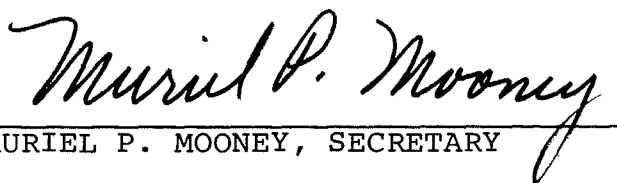
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said in his mind the justification for state money in the program was that they were needed in Nevada. Senator Hilbrecht moved that there be an indenture for three years, beginning with next year's class. Senator Gibson seconded and the motion passed.

Senator Young said he still thought they were not addressing the problem which was a need of professionals in the rural areas. He said if there was a medical school, this would not be bringing doctors back to the state, they would be already here. He was concerned with dentists and other professions that were needed in the rural areas.

The meeting adjourned at 10:15 A. M.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:

  
MURIEL P. MOONEY, SECRETARY

APPROVED:

  
FLOYD R. LAMB, CHAIRMAN



LOWELL V. "LODY" SMITH  
State Forester Firewarden

STATE OF NEVADA  
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND NATURAL RESOURCES  
**DIVISION OF FORESTRY**  
CAPITOL COMPLEX  
CARSON CITY, NEVADA 89710  
February 23, 1977

MEMORANDUM

TO: Norman Hall, Director

FROM: Lowell V. Smith, State Forester Firewarden (LVS)

SUBJECT: RENO BASE RELOCATING

With the construction of the new Reno MGM Grand Hotel, the operation of the Reno Base faces a difficult situation. The main entrance to the hotel will be across the street from the base; the expected 24-hour a day increase in traffic is approximately double. This makes access with emergency vehicles and heavy equipment extremely hazardous.

The Highway Department had a proposal to construct an access road through the property; they then would have had to relocate the facility. However this proposal was denied by the Highway Department on January 20, 1977. This leaves us in this position of being too late to put in for a Public Works Project. Also if we wait until next session, our operations will be severely hampered.

We request a General Fund appropriation of \$746,535 to acquire a site and build a new facility. After completion of the new facility, the old facility can be sold with funds reverting to the General Fund to help defray costs. The existing facility should be appraised and the minimum acceptable bid should be that appraised value.

LOWELL V. "LODY" SMITH  
State Forester Firewarden



STATE OF NEVADA  
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND NATURAL RESOURCES  
**DIVISION OF FORESTRY**

CAPITOL COMPLEX  
CARSON CITY, NEVADA 89710

February 23, 1977

M E M O R A N D U M

TO: Norman Hall  
FROM: L. V. Smith  
SUBJECT: Reno Base

The following breakdown is the information you requested concerning the Reno Base. These prices are estimates only.

<u>Building</u>	<u>Present Sq. Footage</u>	<u>In Present Capitol Imp. Budget</u>
Office & Conference Room	3,200	
Warehouse	3,899	
Dispatch & Barracks	1,120	
Shop and Parts Room 4,128		4,500 sq. ft. of additional space as approved in Governor's Budget - p. 787
Generator Room 216		
Steam Room 140	4,484	
Fire Station & Radio Shop	1,248	
Gas & Oil House	192	
Paint Storage	96	
Tire Storage	<u>480</u>	
Total Sq. Footage	14,719	<u>4,500</u>

GRAND TOTAL SQ. FT. . . . . 19,219

\$33.63 per sq. ft. conversion cost  
(this estimate is from Public Works  
Board) \$646,335

Additional Costs (see attachment) 100,200

TOTAL . . . . \$746,535

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ADDITIONAL COST

1. Five acres at approximately \$10,000 per acre. Estimated cost for location Zoliezzi Lane and Steamboat	\$50,000
2. Well - need 75 to 100 G.P.M. for fire protection and tanker refilling. (8" well)	6,500
3. Septic system	3,500
4. Blacktop estimate - 50,000 sq. ft. for parking and equipment storage @ .45 per ft.	22,500
5. Two load docks for heavy equipment - estimate: 1 - 35 " high for loading equipment on low-boy 1 - 50" high for loading equipment on regular truck	1,000
6. Gas storage and pump	8,000
7. Fence - 2,000 ln. ft. @ \$1.35 per ft.	2,700
8. Radio tower (relocate)	2,500
9. Power hookup cost - estimate:	<u>3,500</u>
<p style="text-align: right;">TOTAL</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">\$100,200</p>

The above costs are only estimates and will vary depending on location and design.



GRANT BASTIAN  
STATE HIGHWAY ENGINEER

STATE OF NEVADA  
DEPARTMENT OF HIGHWAYS

CARSON CITY, NEVADA 89712

January 21, 1977

DIRECTORS  
MIKE O'CALLAGHAN, GOVERNOR, CHAIRMAN  
ROBERT LIST, ATTORNEY GENERAL  
WILSON MCGOWAN, STATE CONTROLLER

Mr. Lowell V. Smith  
State Forester  
Division of Forestry  
201 South Fall Street  
Carson City, Nevada 89710

IN REPLY REFER TO

F-U-009-1(6), 70327, N-S Fwy,  
Mill to Glendale &  
M-476(1), 70672, Glendale,  
Truckee to Stanford Way

Dear Mr. Smith:

This will confirm the Highway Department's position as discussed in our meeting on January 20, 1977 concerning the planned improvement of Glendale Road between the US 395 freeway and the Truckee River. In anticipation of the heavy traffic volumes which are expected in this immediate area the Department was working on a street proposal affecting the State Division of Forestry property near the Truckee River, copy attached for your reference.

Recognizing that severe turning movement conflicts can be expected in the future along this section of Glendale Road the roadway through the Forestry property evolved as a solution to the problem of providing reasonable and controlled traffic movements into existing development along the north side of Glendale Road.

It was known that the matter could not be treated as a normal extension of right of way need for the US 395 or Glendale Road improvements. However we were proceeding on the basis that there exists a strong traffic engineering argument supporting the proposal.

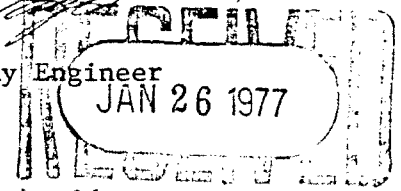
Upon further exposure of the plan to the Department's legal division and the Federal Highway Administration an opinion was issued that the basic point in question involved circuitry of travel which is not a compensable item. Therefore no Federal participation would be available for the proposal and the State could not legally proceed on its own.

As a consequence the State must now discontinue any further consideration of the proposal. We regret any inconvenience to your office which our actions over the past several months may have generated.

Very truly yours,

DIVISION OF FORESTRY  
CARSON CITY, NEVADA

William L. Nagel  
Asst. Deputy Highway Engineer



WLN:ko  
Enc.

cc: Emerson Wilson, Box 884, Reno 89504  
Gary Jensen, 140 Jensen, Reno 89502  
Wm Hancock, Public Works Board

Ans'd.....

DIVISION OF FORESTRY  
LEGISLATIVE BUDGET SUMMARY - 1977

The Division of Forestry is responsible for the protection and management of some nine million acres of State and privately owned forest and watershed land.

Forestry conservation programs are underway on four million of the nine million acres, which includes all or portions of six counties. The real value assessment is approximately \$547 million. Plans are currently proposed to include Eureka County in this program.

CURRENT PROGRAMS

1. Forest and Watershed Protection - From July 1974 through June 1976, the Division of Forestry worked on 512 fires that burned 5,834 acres. In addition, the Division assisted other agencies on 560 occasions and responded to 855 other emergency incidents such as auto accidents, false alarms, smoke investigations, camp fire checks, etc., for a total of 2,017 emergency trips. In this biennium, increased fire prevention programs will be instituted to reduce man caused fires; compile fire protection studies in counties at their request; and to develop a fuels

management and hazard reduction plan in Division areas that have high potential for disastrous fires. (Mt. Charleston area in southern Nevada, etc.)

2. Rural Community Fire Protection - Through the Federal Rural Community Development Act of 1972, Title IV, 22 communities in Douglas, Lander, Eureka, Nye, Mineral, Pershing, Humboldt, Elko and Lyon Counties received \$27,820 in matching federal funds to upgrade fire protection in 1975.

In 1976, 12 communities in Washoe, Lyon, Nye, Humboldt, and Douglas Counties received \$32,870 in matching federal funds for upgrading of fire protection.

For the coming biennium this program will continue.

3. Cooperative Forest Management - During the biennium several forest management projects such as timber stand improvements; site preparation; tree planting and seeding for erosion control; etc., were completed. A total of 233 landowners received assistance. During the next two years the Division of Forestry plans to assist approximately 350 landowners on the current agency programs.

4. Carson-Walker Resource Conservation and Development - One Forestry Work Plan was developed and the U. S. Forest Service has funded a Forester to do forestry work in the five county area in 1977.
5. Tree Insect and Disease Control - Four areas of significant insect infestation were found, evaluated and monitored during the past biennium. Some control work has been done in two of these areas and all four areas are being monitored closely to ensure a major outbreak does not occur. These four areas are Genoa, Spooners Summit, Washoe Valley and Verdi. 112 private landowners also requested assistance to evaluate insect or disease infested trees. During the next biennium the Division of Forestry will continue to monitor and/or control insect and disease problems in the State.
6. Desert Forestry - The Division has developed a program on Desert and Urban Forestry as authorized by the 1975 Legislature. In 1976 a statewide Desert Forestry committee was appointed by the State Forester. Membership includes the U. S. Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, Soil Conservation Service, University of Nevada, State Conservation Districts, Fish and Game and State Department of Agriculture. In 1976 Bob Long Assistant State Forester made a trip to Israel to gather facts, and procedures that will be

beneficial to Nevada. The Israeli's lead the world in Desert Forestry procedures.

7. Las Vegas Nursery (Tule Springs) - Development of the Tule Springs Nursery continues after some delays in lease arrangements, water rights, and excessively high bids that had to be rejected. New bid dates for the Utility Building are February 1977 and some time in May for the solar greenhouse. The lath house has been constructed. The Division cooperated with Boulder City in planting over 4,000 trees on City property to start a man made forest on four square miles of city property. Work on endangered species continues to be slow because of the problem of determining what is "endangered". Dr. Mozzingo and the Native Plant Society are cooperating on developing an endangered species list. Large scale thefts of desert plants in southern Nevada is a major concern of the Division. We currently have cases under investigation, but our authority is very limited on federal lands where the majority of the thefts are taking place.
8. Reno Nursery - Accomplishments include selling of 215,430 trees for conservation purposes the last two years. Limited water stress plantings are planned for Washoe Valley Shrub Garden to find new desert species for Nevada.

9. Pinyon-Juniper Utilization Progress Report 1973-76 - An Interagency

Pinyon-Juniper Committee was formed in 1973 to investigate the possibility of utilizing the 11.5 million acres of Pinyon and Juniper in Nevada. A federal grant was funded to assist in the utilization study during 1975-76.

Pinyon and Juniper samples were tested for making particle board, paper products and decorative pillars.

Results were positive for certain levels of particle board and a good quality Kraft paper, but negative as decorative pillars. Coordinating work with B.L.M., U.S.F.S. and private landowners to develop best management practices on Pinyon-Juniper types will enhance income to landowners and provide a labor field in many parts of our state.

A four day chipping project funded by State Department of Community Services provided some harvesting costs and production estimates.

A commercial firewood harvesting program is now operating in the Ely area. (approximately ten cords per day)

A completed program has been developed to evaluate optimum plant location and size, transportation distance and product marketing.

This program is in conjunction with a report on the economic framework for analyzing the feasibility of Pinyon-Juniper utilization. A complete chemical analysis of the Pinyon foliage is currently being done in cooperation with the U. S. Forest Service to determine the quality and quantity of resin available for extraction. Additional work has been done to determine if these trees can be used on a commercial basis for livestock feed and bedding, charcoal, paneling, fuel and novelty items.

Future goals are to stimulate interest in the chemical extraction industry and a major wood fiber using industry for total utilization of the trees.

10. Marlette-Hobart Lake Watershed Plan - The 1975 Legislature authorized

the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources to perform a watershed study of Marlette-Hobart Lake which was assigned to the Division for completion.

Results found the watershed relatively stable, but needing coordination and management. Three management alternatives were recommended along with consolidated administration of the property.





STATE PARKS, PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT  
101-4164  
Pages 668-670

PROGRAM STATEMENT

The funds recommended in this budget are for the Planning and Development Section's daily activities. This section contains Clerical, Accounting, Engineering, Landscape Architectural, Acquisition, Grants and Statewide Studies Units. The Acquisition, Grants, and Statewide Studies Unit's budget is presented in budget account #4190. Three full-time positions and a half-time position have been transferred to the Planning and Development Section from the Operations and Maintenance Section. The responsibilities of this section are more specifically defined as follows:

Clerical Unit

Provides the section's typing, dictaphone, telephone, Ty-Data and reception service.

Accounting Unit

Maintains budget control, payroll, personnel work, and billings.

Engineering Unit

Primarily responsible for construction drawings, construction administration, consultant administration, construction inspection, and technical assistance to political subdivisions concerning the Land and Water Conservation Fund program and the Bicycle Path program.

Landscape Architectural Unit

Responsible for potential sites studies, master planning, construction drawings, construction administration, consultant administration, construction inspection, and technical assistance to cities, counties, and state agencies concerning the Land and Water Conservation Fund grant program.

Acquisition, Grants and Statewide Projects Unit

Primarily responsible for statewide planning concerning the Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan; Bureau of Outdoor Recreation programs; grants administration of Land and Water Conservation Funds and Bicycle Paths; technical assistance; and the land acquisition program. This budget will be further explained in budget account #4190.

EXISTING POSITIONS

Existing personnel include the Assistant Administrator, who is responsible for all the section's work; a Supervising Landscape Architect, responsible for all landscape architectural works developed in the section; two Senior Landscape Architects; and one Park Landscape Architect. The Supervising State Park Engineer is responsible for all engineering work in the section. Assisting him is one Senior Park Engineer and one Construction Engineer. The Principal Clerk Typist is the supervising secretarial position. Assisting her is one Senior Clerk Typist (half-time); and one MT/ST Operator, Range B. The Principal Account Clerk is responsible for all the section's accounting, payroll, and personnel work. The recommendation is for \$204,292 in FY 1978 to support the existing positions and \$207,458 for FY 1979.

TOTAL OUT-OF-STATE TRAVEL

The recommendation is for \$500 for each fiscal year which is the same level as the last two years.

TOTAL IN-STATE TRAVEL

The recommendation is \$12,500 for FY 1978 and \$13,200 for FY 1979. These funds would be used to carry out the Park Improvement and Marina Development programs during their various stages of development including predesign and prebidding meetings, construction inspections, and postconstruction follow up. Funds also are requested to carry out the potential sites studies and other work as directed.

OFFICE SUPPLIES

The recommendation is for \$3,300 for each fiscal year for office supplies, i.e., pens, pencils, paper clips, typewriter ribbons, stationery, envelopes, to carry out the day-to-day production of work assignments and projects.

OPERATING SUPPLIES

The recommendation is \$772 for FY 1978 and \$714 for FY 1979 for supplies, i.e., small office equipment, books, publications, Ty-Data cassettes.

COMMUNICATIONS EXPENSE

The recommendation is \$1,000 for communications expenses for FY 1978 and \$1,050 for FY 1979. These funds will be used to mail plans, specifications, master plans, contract documents, vendor checks and correspondence. Approximately 50 percent of our mail is standard one-ounce mail and the other 50 percent is heavy mail.

PRINTING, DUPLICATING AND COPYING

The recommendation is \$5,840 for each fiscal year for printing, duplicating, and copying. These funds would be used for Xerox, printing and reproduction, photo-copying, and the operation of the Ozlid machine.

INSURANCE EXPENSE

The recommendation is \$65 for insurance expense for each fiscal year. These funds would be used for liability and bond insurance through General Services Accounting.

OTHER CONTRACT SERVICES

The recommendation is \$2,407 for each fiscal year. Funds requested are to make monthly payments on the Ty-Data Selectric Power Typewriter.

LEGAL AND COURT EXPENSES

The recommendation is \$500 for each fiscal year for legal and court expenses necessary for filing and recording fees, legal documents, court hearing transcripts, etc.

EQUIPMENT REPAIR

The recommendation is \$1,000 for each fiscal year for equipment repair. Funds would be used to service and repair the office equipment not covered under manufacturer guarantees or service agreements. This would include the survey instrument, the Ozlid machine, cameras, and calculators.

MAINTENANCE OF BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

The recommendation is \$500 for FY 1978 and will be used to complete the shelving and cabinets for the storage room.

CDP SYSTEM PROGRAM FACILITY CHARGE

The recommendation is \$500 for each fiscal year for the CDP systems program facility charge. These funds are necessary to continue using the personnel time and activity coding for the retrieval of federal funds on qualifying projects.

TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSE

The total funds recommended for FY 1978 are \$15,884 and \$15,376 for FY 1979.

CAPITAL OUTLAY EQUIPMENT

The recommendation is to purchase filing cabinets, a replacement typewriter, a bookcase, additional chairs for the conference room, and two calculators.

TRAINING

A total of \$500 is recommended each fiscal year for training purposes. This will keep the 11.5 staff people current on development of special technical systems concerning the Park Improvement program and day-to-day responsibilities. This will also be used to update clerical and accounting skills.

The total amounts recommended for the Planning and Development budget for FY 1978 are \$235,201 and \$237,734 for FY 1979.

PROGRAM STATEMENT

The funds recommended for this budget are for administering the three district offices and maintenance shops (Clear Creek near Carson City, Panaca and Las Vegas), for the operation and maintenance of the 17 parks and recreational areas, and for the Administrative and Operation and Maintenance Sections in the State Office. Due to the increased number of State Parks and recreation areas, the increasing visitor use, the type of sophisticated equipment needed to meet water quality, quantity and sanitary standards, and resource management problems, the role of the Operations and Maintenance Section is changing. In addition to park maintenance, rangers must be trained to meet safety, communication and law enforcement demands. Park Rangers, after completing the 120-hour Peace Officers' Standard Training Course, are designated State Peace Officers. Also, most rangers have completed the Emergency Medical Technician Training Course.

SALARIES

Salary increases are for new personnel which includes: a resource manager to administer a growing resource management program; a radio technician to maintain the park system's 96 pieces of radio equipment, a treatment plant operator to coordinate operation of the existing sewer plant at Lake Tahoe and the sanitation systems to be built at Lahontan and Washoe Lake; one park supervisor for Washoe Lake because of facility development, security and law enforcement; one park ranger at Lahontan to provide supervision for seasonal employees and to perform additional patrol duties as well as to assist in law enforcement; and one park ranger at Red Rock for additional patrol and to assist in staffing a facility to be constructed by the Bureau of Land Management.

In addition to existing seasonal employees, new seasonal positions are for the Valley of Fire, Washoe Lake, Lahontan and Red Rock. In the second year of the biennium, additional seasonal positions are for the new facilities at Spooner and Cave Rock at Lake Tahoe.

TRAVEL

Travel funds are for park inspections, trips for administrative staff, park personnel travel and travel expenses for the Park Advisory Commission.

OPERATION

Funds are for maintaining new facilities to be constructed and for maintaining existing levels of operations of current facilities with inflation factors considered.

EQUIPMENT

Trucks

This request is for buying trucks for new positions plus replacement vehicles for Fiscal Years 1978-1979.

Office Equipment

Requested funds are for the purchase of replacement and new pieces of office furniture and equipment for the State, District and Park Offices.

Other Furniture and Equipment

This request is for purchasing communication and law enforcement equipment; first-aid equipment; general tools; and equipment.

TRAINING

Monies are to provide special training opportunities to operating and maintenance personnel.

ACQUISITION, GRANTS AND STATEWIDE PROJECTS  
101-4190  
Pages 671-673

PROGRAM STATEMENT

The Acquisition, Grants and Statewide Projects budget is the new title given to the old Land and Water Conservation Fund Budget. The title was changed to reflect the programs that were added to the program over the past four years.

Currently, this budget supports four permanent full-time positions and the part-time Public Service Intern. The primary responsibilities of this unit are maintenance of the Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP); Land and Water Conservation Fund (L&WCF) grant acquisition (assistance to state agencies, cities and counties); assist in the Park Bond Land Acquisition program, administer the state Bicycle Path grant program; and coordinate reviews of Environmental Impact Statements, Environmental Assessments, and State Clearinghouse requests.

Nevada has received over \$16.6 million since 1965 through the Land and Water Conservation Fund which is administered by the Federal Bureau of Outdoor Recreation (BOR). The BOR projected that Nevada will receive some \$3.1 million in 1977, \$3.7 million in 1978, and \$4.7 million in 1979.

Program responsibility under the Governor's recommendation would be expanded to administer the recently passed park bond issue.

REGULAR APPROPRIATION

General Fund monies need to carry out these program responsibilities includes \$78,261 for FY 1978 and \$100,353 for FY 1979.

LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND

Projected income to this budget from Land and Water Conservation Funds is \$32,692 for FY 1978 and \$26,700 for FY 1979. These funds are reimbursable matching funds available to the State.

LOCAL REIMBURSEMENT

Some \$10,000 is the projected income for each fiscal year from cities and counties for services rendered by State Parks concerning the Land and Water Conservation Fund grant project review, which includes, but is not limited to, plan review, appraisal review, site inspection, and general engineering review.

TOTAL FUNDS AVAILABLE

Total funds recommended for the various programs listed above are \$120,953 for FY 1978 and \$127,053 for FY 1979.

EXISTING POSITIONS

The four existing full-time positions and the part-time Public Service Intern are currently engaged in the work outlined in the program statement. Funds required to support these positions are \$60,499 for FY 1978 and \$61,847 for FY 1979.

NEW POSITIONS

The recommended new positions will be needed by July, 1978, to handle increased work loads generated by the 1976 bond issue. We contacted local political subdivisions regarding available funds and it was determined that the work load would not require new positions until that time if the bond money can be used only for land acquisition. The positions needed for FY 1979 include a Projects Specialist I, who will assist in administering the bond monies, and a Senior Account Clerk, who will help with project billings, auditing, and fiscal management.

The total amount requested for salary, including payroll costs, is \$71,578 for FY 1978 and \$94,637 for FY 1979.

OUT-OF-STATE TRAVEL

The \$600 recommended for each fiscal year is to consult with the Federal Bureau of Outdoor Recreation Regional Office for planning and grants administration.

IN-STATE TRAVEL

For in-state travel the recommendation is \$6,000 for FY 1978 and \$8,025 for FY 1979. The funds are to administer the grants to local subdivisions; update the Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan; contractual administration; the administration of the various bond issues and other projects listed in the program statement.

OPERATING EXPENSES

The recommendation is \$200 for FY 1978 and \$350 for FY 1979 for routine office supplies.

COMMUNICATIONS EXPENSES

The recommendation is \$300 for each fiscal year for communication expenses. These funds are for extra large or special mailings that are associated with the grants administration and the Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) update.

PRINTING, DUPLICATING, AND COPYING

The recommendation is \$800 for FY 1978 and \$1,380 for FY 1979 for printing and duplication of manuals, publications, special studies, and update of the Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP).

#### CONTRACTUAL SERVICES

The recommendation is \$25,000 for each fiscal year for contractual services. Approximately \$15,000 will be used to update the Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) as required by the Bureau of Outdoor Recreation to maintain Nevada's qualification to receive federal funds. The remaining funds will be used to review land appraisals and specialized plans for federal grants to cities and counties for land acquisition and construction.

#### CDP SYSTEM PROGRAM FACILITY CHARGE

A total of \$15,000 for FY 1978 and \$4,000 for FY 1979 will be used to initiate a computerized program and maintain it for collection; input and retrieval of current statewide recreation data. The system will increase the usability of the existing Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) data and reduce future costs of SCORP updates.

#### DUES AND REGISTRATION

A total of \$75 is recommended each fiscal year for dues and registration. These funds are for registration dues at meetings concerning the Land and Water Conservation Funds administration; Bond Issues administration; land acquisition administration; Environmental Impact Statements; and State Clearinghouse reviews, etc.

#### TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES

Recommended operating expenses for FY 1978 total \$41,375 and \$31,105 for FY 1979.

#### CAPITAL OUTLAY EQUIPMENT

The recommendation is for office furniture and equipment which includes dictaphone units for existing stations and equipment for the two new positions in FY 1979.

#### TRAINING

Some \$750 is recommended each fiscal year for training purposes will be used to attend training workshops sponsored by the Bureau of Outdoor Recreation and to keep the staff current with new work methods, planning techniques, and new information sources.

PROGRAM STATEMENT

Since 1973 the Nevada State Park System has been responsible for the Virginia and Truckee Railroad project and has provided security for the rolling stock at both the Mound House and Carson City storage sites. Currently, the State owns 23 pieces of Virginia and Truckee equipment, 4 locomotives and 19 cars. Engine #25 is in the process of being restored for static display purposes. Many of the other pieces are in poor condition and will need to be restored before they can be displayed. The recommended \$9,050 for each fiscal year will be used for security and maintenance of the V&T equipment, storage building and grounds.

OUT-OF-STATE TRAVEL

Funds recommended are for expenses and per diem to travel to Promontory, Utah, to arrange transportation to Carson City for the two locomotives now on loan to the National Park Service. The agreement requires the National Park Service to pay for the transportation, but we must make the arrangements. A total of \$200 is recommended for each fiscal year.

IN-STATE TRAVEL

The \$160 will be used to conduct research at UNR and State Historical Society. Also, some travel is necessary for routine maintenance and security of facilities and equipment.

OPERATING EXPENSES

A total of \$8,690 is recommended for each fiscal year. These funds would be expended as follows:

Operating Supplies

Materials must be purchased to construct storage bins for miscellaneous railroad parts and supplies that are now scattered in various storage areas, and for purchasing protective coverings and related materials for the equipment that cannot be stored inside. A total of \$1,040 is recommended for each fiscal year.

Printing, Duplicating, and Copy Expense

Xerox and blueprint charges to prepare reports and future plans. Recommendation is for \$50 for each fiscal year.

Insurance Expenses

Insurance expenses of \$1,000 for each fiscal year is for fire and extended coverage on the storage building, the restored equipment, and selected pieces of equipment awaiting restoration.

Utilities

Security lighting, water and telephone charges required for Central Station fire alarm system, and other utility costs necessary to operating and maintaining the storage building and grounds. A total of \$3,600 is recommended for each fiscal year.

Maintenance of Buildings and Grounds

A total of \$3,000 is recommended for each fiscal year for inmate crews to keep the grounds free of weeds, trash, etc., and for professional services to repair damage caused by vandalism, i.e., broken windows, lights, etc.

YOUTH CONSERVATION CORPS  
101-4440

PROGRAM STATEMENT

The Nevada State Park System has participated in the Youth Conservation Corps Program for the past two years. The object of the YCC Program is to accomplish needed conservation work on public lands and provide seasonal employment for young men and women, 15 to 18 years of age. By doing conservation work, the participants develop a better understanding and appreciation of our nation's natural environment and heritage.

Conservation projects include soil and bank stabilization, installing guard rails, trail construction, general park cleanup and maintenance.

The 1977 Summer Youth Conservation Corps Program will consist of seven 10-person crews and will be funded by a \$70,000 federal grant. The State contribution will be provided by in-kind services.