

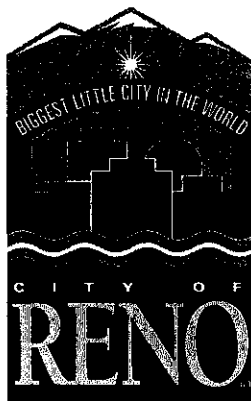
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April 10, 2003

The Honorable Mike McGinness
Chairman, Senate Committee on Taxation
Nevada State Legislature
Carson City, NV 89701

RE: SB 490 *Authorizes use of money in infrastructure fund for operation and maintenance of flood control projects in certain counties.*

Dear Chairman McGinness and Members of Senate Taxation:


At the hearing on SB 490 last Thursday, April 3, I indicated for the record that the Reno City Council had not formally adopted a position on this legislation but directed staff to seek clarification from the bill's sponsor, Washoe County, on the proposed intent of the legislation. In my testimony, I expressed the Council's concern that as originally drafted, the legislation was vague and not specifically limited to the Truckee River Flood Control Project. In working with both Washoe County and the City of Sparks an amendment was crafted to address the Council's concern. I testified that our legal counsel and staff review would inform the Council that we believe the amendment provides the surety that the Council seeks.

Yesterday, the City Council voted to support SB490 with the amendment proposed by Washoe County, and asked me to convey to you their support of this legislation. In echoing the sentiments of Washoe County and the City of Sparks, the City of Reno asks for legislative approval to allow revenue generated from the collection of the 1/8cent sales tax after debt service be used to fund operation and maintenance costs associated with the Truckee River Flood Control Project as this is the number one priority flood control project in our region.

Furthermore, the Reno City Council is committed to continuing to work with the Sparks City Council and Washoe County Commission to insure the timely construction and management of this project to protect its citizens and the business community from the devastation that would likely result from future flooding of the Truckee River. The Council plans to address additional priorities of the flood control project at its next joint meeting of the Councils and Commission. Issues such as the 1/8 cent sales tax revenue being used for debt service on the bonds issued to construct the project with the remaining funds to be for operation and maintenance and secondly, once the debt is paid for, commitment that future funds from this source will be dedicated to the ongoing operation and maintenance of this project and not diverted to other projects.

Thank you for your consideration of SB490 as amended. If you have any questions of the City of Reno, please feel free to contact me at 775/762-0473.

Sincerely,


Nicole J. Lambole
Legislative Affairs

cc: Members of Senate Taxation

P.O. Box 1900 ♦ Reno, NV 89501 ♦ (775) 321-8318 ♦

EXHIBIT F Committee on Taxation

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