

DRAFT



## Final Report and Recommendations

September 22, 2016



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## Tourism Infrastructure in Southern Nevada

In Southern Nevada, no single industry is more important than tourism. The leisure and hospitality sector, which includes the resort, gaming and entertainment industries, directly employs 288,000 Southern Nevadans who account for three out of every ten workers in the region. Those jobs rely on the tens of millions of leisure and business travelers who visit Las Vegas each year. In 2015, the 42.3 million people who visited Las Vegas spent an estimated \$30.5 billion on hotels, gambling, shopping, entertainment, sightseeing and other activities. When visitation rises, so does the number of tourism-related jobs. When it falls, as it did during the global economic downturn, tourism-related jobs decline, creating a ripple effect throughout nearly every sector of the regional and state economy. Today, visitation is on the rise, setting annual records in 2014 and 2015; it is on pace for another new high in 2016.

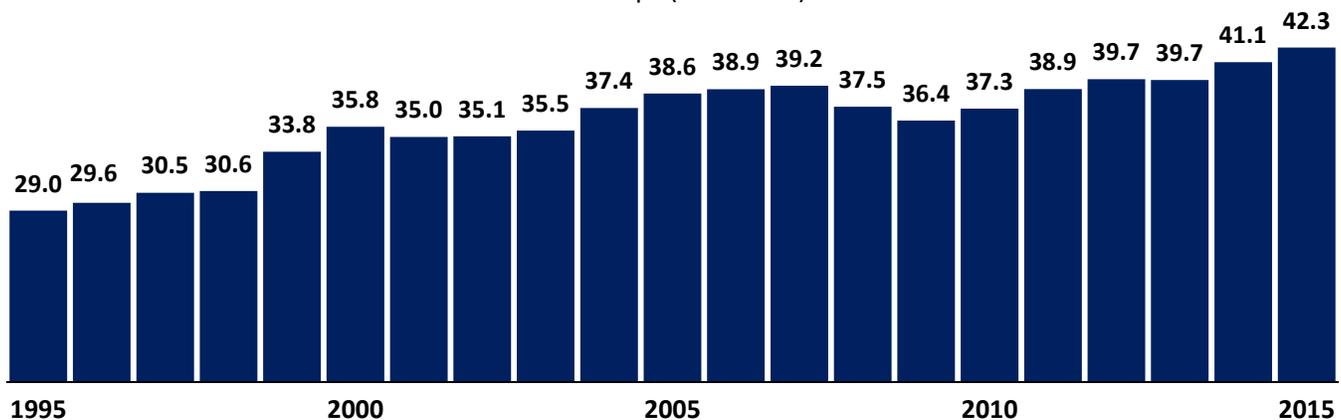
The success of Las Vegas decade after decade can be attributed to its ability to constantly evolve to adapt to the changing competitive marketplace. This evolution has manifested in the growing list of amenities and experiences offered to tourist and business travelers today, including world-class hotels, renowned restaurants, one-of-a-kind entertainment and high-end retail malls. Because of its ability to change, Las Vegas has remained a top global tourism and convention destination even as legalized gambling has proliferated across the United States and around the world.

This position would not have been possible without consistent private and public investment in the underlying infrastructure that supports and enhances the Las Vegas visitor experience. That infrastructure might be directly related to a tourist activity, such as an entertainment venue or convention center, or it might be indirectly related, such as the transportation network that moves visitors to and from Southern Nevada and, after they arrive, to and from their local destinations. Just as the resort hotels and the amenities they offer must evolve to remain competitive, so too must the infrastructure that supports them.

Recognizing the critical role that infrastructure plays in supporting the overall visitor experience and the increasingly competitive environment to attract leisure and business travelers, Governor Brian Sandoval

### Las Vegas Annual Visitation

Visitor Trips (in millions)



Source: Las Vegas Convention and Visitors Authority



issued an executive order on June 6, 2015, creating the Southern Nevada Tourism Infrastructure Committee (“SNTIC”). Comprised of leaders from local government, higher education, the business world and the hospitality industry, the committee was charged with evaluating the infrastructure Southern Nevada needs to maintain its position as a global leader in business and leisure travel, and to make formal, prioritized infrastructure recommendations to Governor Sandoval and the Nevada State Legislature. The committee’s initial areas of focus were: (1) McCarran International Airport; (2) Stadiums, Arenas and Event Centers; (3) Convention Centers; (4) Pedestrian Movement in the Resort Corridor; and (5) Roads, Highways and Mass Transit.

Governor Sandoval’s initial executive order gave the SNTIC until July 31, 2016, to issue its final report. That deadline was extended on July 13, 2016, by an executive order that set a new deadline of September 30, 2016. The additional time was granted to allow for further discussion and evaluation of a stadium development proposal as well as to consider the need for increased investment in police resources to protect Southern Nevada’s tourism infrastructure, visitors and residents.

The sections that follow summarize the committee membership and the extensive review its members undertook over 15 months. During that time, the committee held 16 meetings, listened to hours of testimony, asked numerous questions and reviewed hundreds of pages of documents related to the current and future needs for tourism infrastructure in the region. That work culminated in the research compendium attached to this report (see Appendices B and C) and resulted in five primary recommendations. The SNTIC recommends:

**Recommendation 1:** That the Nevada State Legislature increase the transient lodging tax by 0.5 percent in Clark County to fund construction of the Las Vegas Convention Center expansion and renovation project; implement a cap on the total annual transient lodging tax collection allowance local entities can receive at \$25 million, with any amount greater than that directed to fund construction of the convention center expansion and renovation project; and create a board of construction industry professionals to oversee project plans and expenditures.

**Recommendation 2:** [Recommendation pending]

**Recommendation 3:** That the Nevada State Legislature authorize the increase of the sales tax rate in Clark County by 0.1 percent, with the first portion of incremental revenue distributed to the Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department and dedicated to increasing police resources within the resort corridor in proportion to the share of countywide sales tax revenue generated within the resort corridor. The remaining incremental revenue shall be distributed to local police agencies based on population.

**Recommendation 4:** That the 2025 sunset provision of the Clark County Sales and Use Tax of 2005 be removed, effectively making permanent the incremental sales tax revenue police departments use to retain and equip additional uniformed officers throughout Southern Nevada.

**Recommendation 5:** That the Nevada State Legislature authorize an interim study of available and alternative aviation fuel resources to support the current and future needs of the Southern Nevada aviation industry. The recommendation would be for the study to be approved during the 2017 session



of the Nevada State Legislature, conducted between the 2017 and 2019 session, with a report delivered to the Governor and Legislature in advance of the 2019 session.

The committee would like to thank the members of the Technical Advisory Committee, not only for their work with the committee, but also for their day in and day out leadership in the community. Their knowledge, experience and input was, as always, invaluable.

The committee also extends its sincere appreciation for the work of Jeremy Aguero and the entire staff of Applied Analysis, particularly Brian Haynes and Melanie Framo. Without their exceptional competence, commitment and diligence, the work of the committee, the breadth and depth of the research and analysis, and the ultimate work product would not have been possible.

Finally, the committee would like to commend Governor Sandoval for his leadership and vision in creating the SNTIC and making tourism infrastructure a strategic priority for the state. The committee members also thank the Governor for the opportunity to participate in this important undertaking and to offer their input toward improving the economic well-being of Southern Nevada.



ORDER ESTABLISHING THE SOUTHERN NEVADA TOURISM INFRASTRUCTURE  
COMMITTEE

Executive Order 2015-09

**WHEREAS**, tourism is vitally important to the economy of the State and the general welfare of its inhabitants;

**WHEREAS**, the economy of Southern Nevada is dependent on the resort, gaming, and convention industries;

**WHEREAS**, Las Vegas has long been a world class business and recreation destination for millions of visitors a year and Las Vegas repeatedly ranks among the top-five destinations for conventions and business meetings;

**WHEREAS**, the economic viability of Clark County is dependent upon increasing the number of tourists and business travelers to Las Vegas;

**WHEREAS**, the growth and success of tourism depends upon continual investment in tourism, entertainment, convention, and transportation infrastructure;

**WHEREAS**, Las Vegas is in competition with other destinations that are investing significantly in convention and entertainment facilities and related infrastructure;

**WHEREAS**, investment in tourism infrastructure will result in increased employment and revenue for the State;

**WHEREAS**, there is critical need to expand, improve, develop, and revitalize public and private tourism infrastructure in Southern Nevada to stay competitive and increase the number of business and pleasure travelers to Las Vegas; and

**WHEREAS**, Article 5, Section 1 of the Nevada Constitution provides: "The supreme executive power of this State, shall be vested in a Chief Magistrate who shall be Governor of the State of Nevada."

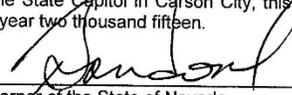
**NOW, THEREFORE**, by the authority vested in me as Governor by the Constitution and laws of the State of Nevada, I hereby direct and order:

1. The Southern Nevada Tourism Infrastructure Committee ("Committee") is hereby established.
2. The Committee shall make recommendations in a report to the Governor that identifies and prioritizes tourism improvement projects in Southern Nevada and suggests and identifies funding mechanisms for such projects.
3. The Committee shall:
  - Evaluate existing public and private convention facilities and assess and prioritize the need to revitalize existing facilities and construct new facilities;
  - Assess public and private entertainment facilities, including but not limited to, existing and planned sports stadiums and large-scale entertainment facilities, and make recommendations regarding the need and viability of new facilities;
  - Evaluate current tourism related transportation modes and infrastructure, including but not limited to, airport facilities, public and private mass transit, and transportation infrastructure, and identify areas of need and make recommendations for improvements; and
  - Identify and analyze funding for tourism infrastructure improvement projects.
4. The report shall be submitted to the Governor and the Interim Finance Committee of the Nevada Legislature on or before July 31, 2016, and the Committee shall thereafter expire, unless further directed by the Governor.

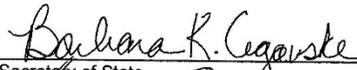


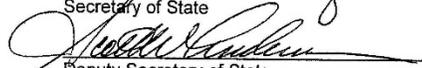
5. Members of the Committee shall be appointed by the Governor and serve at the pleasure of the Governor. The Committee shall include eleven members and be composed of the following:
  - The Executive Director of the Governor's Office of Economic Development;
  - The Mayor of the City of Las Vegas;
  - The Chairman of the Clark County Commission;
  - The President and Chief Executive Officer of the Las Vegas Chamber of Commerce;
  - The President of the University of Nevada, Las Vegas; and,
  - Six representatives of the Nevada Resort Association.
6. The Committee shall be assisted by the non-voting Technical Advisory Committee composed of the following:
  - The City Manager of the City of Las Vegas;
  - The Manager of Clark County;
  - The General Manager of the Regional Transportation Commission of Southern Nevada;
  - The Director of Aviation of McCarran International Airport;
  - The President and Chief Executive Officer of the Las Vegas Convention and Visitors Authority; and
  - An expert in economic and financial analysis appointed by the Chairman of the Committee.
7. The Committee shall be headed by a chair and vice-chair to be appointed by the Governor.
8. The Members of the Committee shall receive no compensation for their service.
9. The Committee may call on any other professionals with expertise in these issues.
10. The Committee shall hold its first meeting no later than July 15, 2015, and thereafter, as often as necessary to complete its report.
11. Any meetings conducted by the Committee shall be subject to the Open Meeting Law, as codified in Nevada Revised Statute Chapter 241.
12. The Governor's Office of Economic Development shall provide administrative support. The Office may hire or retain contractors, sub-contractors, advisors, consultants, and/or agents, and may make and enter into contracts as necessary, in accordance with relevant statutes, rules, and procedures of state regulations.
13. All records documenting the Committee's activities shall be retained and transferred to the State Archives for permanent retention in accordance with the State record retention policy.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Nevada to be affixed at the State Capitol in Carson City, this 6th day of July, in the year two thousand fifteen.

  
Governor of the State of Nevada

By the Governor:

  
Secretary of State

  
Deputy Secretary of State





Executive Order 2016-21

ORDER AMENDING  
THE SOUTHERN NEVADA TOURISM INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE

*WHEREAS*, I, as Governor of the State of Nevada, established the Southern Nevada Tourism Infrastructure Committee by issuing Executive Order 2015-09 on July 6, 2015;

*WHEREAS*, Executive Order 2015-09 directed that the Committee shall expire after it delivers its report to the Governor and the Interim Finance Committee of the Nevada State Legislature on or before July 31, 2016, unless further directed by the Governor; and

*WHEREAS*, the tourism industry of Southern Nevada, including existing infrastructure and proposed improvement projects, are best served by an adequate law enforcement presence;

*WHEREAS*, since 2013 the State of Nevada and the local governments of Clark County have sought to address the needs of area law enforcement pursuant to enabling legislation enacted during the 27th Special Session of the Nevada State Legislature;

*WHEREAS*, the enabling legislation that would have allowed additional funding of law enforcement expired on July 1, 2016;

*WHEREAS*, maintaining an ever-present vigilance to ensure the continued safety of all tourists and residents within Southern Nevada is an essential function of government;

*WHEREAS*, increased law enforcement funding is a fundamental component of analyzing any infrastructure investment in Southern Nevada, especially where improvement projects contemplate attracting new visitors and growing business opportunities; and

*WHEREAS*, Article 5, Section 1 of the Nevada Constitution provides: "The supreme executive power of this State, shall be vested in a Chief Magistrate who shall be Governor of the State of Nevada."

*NOW, THEREFORE*, by the authority vested in me as the Governor by the Constitution and laws of the State of Nevada, it is hereby ordered as follows:

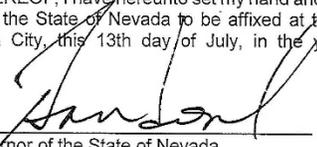
1. Executive Order 2015-09 shall be amended to extend the existence of the Committee and the time period for filing its report to the Governor and the Interim Finance Committee of the Nevada State Legislature from July 31, 2016, until September 30, 2016;
2. Executive Order 2015-09 shall be amended to allow for the Committee to make recommendations regarding funding from appropriate sources to adequately address increased law enforcement and policing needs to support and protect Southern Nevada's vital tourism infrastructure, visitors, and residents; and



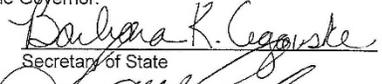
3. Executive Order 2015-09 shall remain in force and effect in all other respects.

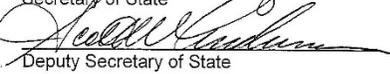
IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Nevada to be affixed at the State Capitol in Carson City, this 13th day of July, in the year two thousand sixteen.



  
Governor of the State of Nevada

By the Governor:

  
Secretary of State

  
Deputy Secretary of State



## Southern Nevada Tourism Infrastructure Committee Membership

### **Steve Hill, Chairman**

*Executive Director*  
Governor's Office of Economic Development

### **Carolyn Goodman**

*Mayor*  
City of Las Vegas

### **Kristin McMillan**

*President and Chief Executive Officer*  
Las Vegas Metro Chamber of Commerce

### **Bill Noonan**

*Senior Vice President of Industry and  
Governmental Affairs*  
Boyd Gaming

### **Kim Sinatra**

*Executive Vice President, General Counsel  
and Secretary*  
Wynn Resorts

### **Mike Sloan**

*Senior Vice President of Government Relations*  
Station Casinos

### **Len Jessup, Vice Chairman**

*President*  
University of Nevada, Las Vegas

### **Steve Sisolak**

*Chairman*  
Clark County Commission

### **Tom Jenkin**

*Global President*  
Caesars Entertainment

### **Bill Hornbuckle**

*President*  
MGM Resorts International

### **George Markantonis**

*President and Chief Operating Officer of  
The Venetian and The Palazzo*  
Las Vegas Sands Corporation

## Technical Advisory Committee Membership

### **Don Burnette**

*County Manager*  
Clark County

### **Tina Quigley**

*General Manager*  
Regional Transportation Commission  
of Southern Nevada

### **Rosemary Vassiliadis**

*Director of Aviation*  
Clark County Department of Aviation

### **Elizabeth "Betsy" Fretwell**

*City Manager*  
City of Las Vegas

### **Rossi Ralenkotter**

*President and Chief Executive Officer*  
Las Vegas Convention and Visitors Authority

### **Guy Hobbs**

*Managing Director*  
Hobbs, Ong & Associates



## Meeting Structure, Process and Organization

The SNTIC held 16 meetings between July 2015 and September 2016. The committee approached the meetings in three general phases. The first phase centered on a series of meetings that involved information gathering on the primary infrastructure areas of focus. These meetings were designed to explore relevant trends, existing challenges and potential opportunities within each infrastructure area. Meetings typically involved informational presentations from a mix of industry experts, government agency representatives and other stakeholders. Some stakeholders returned before the committee multiple times to provide additional follow-up information in response to committee inquiries. The second phase of meetings generally involved committee workshops to consider additional information, facilitate discussion, consider proposed projects and refine the salient issues. The third phase focused on developing and finalizing recommendations and this committee report.

The following table summarizes the schedule and primary topics of each SNTIC meeting. A complete index of topics as well as copies of all committee documentation, research, speaker presentations and proposals are included in the research compendium provided in Appendices B and C of this report.

	<b>Date</b>	<b>Primary Meeting Topics</b>
<b>Phase I: Preliminary Data Gathering</b>	July 14, 2015	Southern Nevada Economic Baseline
	August 27, 2015	McCarran International Airport
	September 24, 2015	Stadiums, Arenas and Event Centers
	October 22, 2015	Convention Centers Future of Transportation
	December 3, 2015	Pedestrian Movement Within the Resort Corridor Las Vegas Convention Center District Proposal
	January 28, 2016	Roads, Highways and Mass Transit
	<b>Phase II: Workshops &amp; Issue Refinement</b>	February 25, 2016
March 24, 2016		Workshop on Stadiums, Arenas and Event Centers
April 28, 2016		Workshop on Las Vegas Convention Center District Proposal Stadium Proposal Las Vegas Monorail Request
May 26, 2016		Workshop on Las Vegas Convention Center District Proposal Stadium Proposal Follow-Up Presentation



	Date	Primary Meeting Topics
Phase III: Recommendation Development	June 23, 2016	McCarran International Airport Legislative Recommendation Las Vegas Convention Center Legislative Recommendation Stadium Proposal Alternatives
	July 11, 2016	Las Vegas Convention Center Legislative Recommendation Workshop on Stadium Proposal
	July 28, 2016	Potential Stadium Site Analysis Workshop on Stadium Proposal Workshop on Resort Corridor Police Funding
	August 25, 2016	Workshop on Stadium Proposal Workshop on Resort Corridor Police Funding
	September 8, 2016	Stadium Legislative Recommendation Resort Corridor Police Funding Legislative Recommendation
	September 15, 2016	<b>[TBD]</b>

## Committee Findings and Recommendations

The following sections summarize the committee’s findings and recommendations regarding each infrastructure area of focus.

### Convention Centers

For more than two decades, Las Vegas has been the leading trade show destination in the United States. In 2015, the city hosted 54 of the nation’s 250 largest trade shows, earning the Trade Show News’ top ranking for the 22<sup>nd</sup> consecutive year. This designation is a result of the ever-growing investment in convention and meeting facilities throughout Southern Nevada. Today, the region is home to three of the 10 largest convention centers in the country that, along with many smaller facilities, drew roughly 6 million business travelers to the region last year.

The largest local facility, the Las Vegas Convention Center (“LVCC”), is the third-biggest in the United States at 1.9 million square feet of exhibit space. Locally, it hosts approximately one in every five convention attendees. The Las Vegas Convention and Visitors Authority (“LVCVA”), which owns and operates the convention center, developed a master plan to expand and renovate the facility about a decade ago, but the plan was suspended when the economic crisis triggered significant drops in convention attendance. The convention business, and the economy as a whole, have rebounded in recent years, prompting the LVCVA to move forward with its plan to expand and renovate the LVCC to remain competitive with other facilities around the country.

As proposed by the LVCVA, phase one of the LVCC expansion and renovation plan involved purchasing the Riviera Hotel site and demolishing the existing buildings to create outdoor exhibit space. Phase two



would add a new 1.4 million-square-foot convention hall featuring 600,000 square feet of exhibit space and 150,000 square feet of meeting space. Phase three involves renovating and modernizing the existing LVCC convention halls, including upgrading technology and food services. To ensure minimal disruption of existing trade show schedules and the potential loss of clients, the LVCVA would use the new hall to host shows during the phase three renovations. Finally, phase four would involve future improvements based on customer feedback and market conditions.

Rossi Ralenkotter, president and chief executive officer of the LVCVA, testified before the committee that the expansion and renovation are critical for the LVCC to remain competitive in the convention and trade show market. In recent years other cities, including Chicago, Houston and San Francisco, have invested in their convention facilities to make them more competitive in the marketplace. Additionally, operators of major trade shows such as the International Consumer Electronics Show, the National Association of Broadcasters and SEMA testified that the LVCC is not large enough to accommodate their growing show demands, and the aging facility had fallen behind many competitors in terms of its technology infrastructure and amenities. These shortcomings could lead to shows moving all or part of their conventions to other locations, the show operators told the committee.

The LVCVA funded phase one through existing revenue streams but lacks the bonding capacity to pay for the other phases. The total cost of phase two and phase three is projected at \$1.4 billion.

#### **Recommendation 1**

Based on these findings, the SNTIC recommends that the Nevada State Legislature increase the transient lodging tax by 0.5 percent in Clark County to fund construction of the LVCC expansion and renovation project; implement a cap on the total annual LVCVA collection allowance local entities can receive at \$25 million, with any amount greater than that directed to fund construction of the LVCC expansion and renovation project; and create a board of construction industry professionals to oversee project plans and expenditures.

### **Stadiums, Arenas and Events Centers**

As legalized casino gaming has spread throughout the United States and the around the world, Las Vegas has diversified its non-gaming offerings to continue to attract visitors as a world-class tourist destination. Among those offerings are special events such as concerts and sporting contests, which play an increasingly important role in the diversity of the visitor experience and the economy of Southern Nevada. Today, millions of visitors flock to the region each year to attend concerts, music festivals, awards shows and high-profile sporting events such as National Finals Rodeo, UFC, championship boxing, NBA Summer League and NASCAR racing.

This era of special events began more than 30 years ago with the opening of the Thomas & Mack Center. Since then, multiple venues have been built to accommodate the growing demand for special events. Today, Southern Nevada is home to some of the highest-grossing venues in the world, according to the



Top Stops of the Decade list released in 2012 by industry publication *Venues Today*. That list ranked Thomas & Mack Center, Mandalay Bay Events Center and Orleans Arena among the top 15 highest-grossing venues within their respective size categories. The publication also ranked UNLV's Sam Boyd Stadium fifth in the largest-venue category. These and other facilities provide a diverse mix of venues that allow the region to play host to the Electric Daisy Carnival and its more than 130,000 attendees at the Las Vegas Motor Speedway on the same weekend as the Indian National Finals Rodeo at South Point Arena.

Despite the growing number of venues within Southern Nevada, tourism officials, resort representatives and event promoters all noted during SNTIC meetings that the region lacks a state-of-the-art stadium with the seating capacity to host large-scale events such as international soccer matches, national political conventions, NFL games, neutral-site college football games and large stadium concerts. Although Las Vegas has more hotel rooms than any other U.S. market, worldwide appeal and a history of hosting major events, the absence of a modern stadium prohibits it from competing against the likes of Houston (NRG Stadium, 71,795 capacity); Phoenix (University of Phoenix Stadium, 63,400 capacity); Dallas (AT&T Stadium, 85,000 capacity) and other cities that have modern stadiums. This equates to the potential loss of large events and the hundreds of millions of dollars in economic activity they would create. The region's existing stadium, Sam Boyd Stadium, has undergone two major renovations since it was built in 1971; however, its current capacity of up to 40,000 spectators remains a limiting factor in attracting large events and enabling current events to expand.

In recent years, the University of Nevada, Las Vegas ("UNLV") has explored options for building a stadium that would serve as the home field for Rebel football games, host large-scale third-party events and provide a key selling point for the university to gain acceptance into the Pac-12 or another Power Five athletic conference. The most recent effort, the UNLV Campus Improvement Authority Board ("CIAB"), empaneled a committee of public- and private-sector leaders to study stadium needs and alternatives. The CIAB, which will continue to meet through September 2017, issued a report in 2014 summarizing the competitive landscape for large-scale events, potential stadium design options and the estimated economic impacts that a new stadium would generate. Overall, the CIAB report and speaker testimony before the SNTIC suggests that a domed stadium holds greater potential economic impact than an open-air stadium because it could host more events in its climate-controlled environment.

Whether domed or open-air, a state-of-the-art stadium will be a critical component of special events growth in Southern Nevada, both by attracting new events that are now out of reach and by supporting the expansion of current events that are constrained by the limitations of Sam Boyd Stadium. For UNLV, a new stadium within closer proximity to campus and the resort corridor would also increase interest in the football program and attendance at games, aiding its long-term goal of joining a Power Five conference and moving the university closer to aspired Top Tier status.

During the course of SNTIC meetings, a development team consisting of the Adelson family, Majestic Realty Company and The Oakland Raiders organization proposed a public-private partnership to build a 65,000-seat NFL-ready stadium in Southern Nevada. Under the proposal, the hotel room tax would be increased to fund a \$750 million public contribution to the total stadium construction cost. The development team would fund the balance of construction costs, including related infrastructure costs



and any additional cost overruns. The privately funded portion would consist of \$500 million from The Oakland Raiders with the remaining costs shared by Las Vegas Sands and Majestic Realty.

[Details of proposal are pending.]

**Recommendation 2**

Pending

**Police Protection in the Resort Corridor**

Responsibility for maintaining public safety within the resort corridor lies with the Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department, which has primary law enforcement duties in the City of Las Vegas and unincorporated Clark County. For many years, department leaders have sought alternative funding sources to increase officer staffing throughout the agency’s jurisdiction and within the resort corridor. At present, the Metropolitan Police Department deploys 1.8 officers per 1,000 residents, well below the national ratio of 2.2 officer per 1,000 residents. This ratio does not include the nearly 43 million annual visitors who swell the population by more than 300,000 on a typical day.

During testimony before the SNTIC, Clark County Sheriff Joseph Lombardo said visitors along the Las Vegas Strip and in Downtown Las Vegas account for about 9 percent of his agency’s calls for service, and as visitation grows, so do the demands on his department and the officers patrolling the resort corridor. The Metropolitan Police Department does not have a dedicated funding source to support officers deployed within the resort corridor, so during the busy summer months, Sheriff Lombardo testified that he must solicit private donations from resort hotels to fund the Safe Strip program to boost police presence along Las Vegas Boulevard.

Compared with other cities with iconic tourism destinations, such as New York and New Orleans, Las Vegas has fewer officers assigned over a greater distance to police its primary tourist zone. Police presence in these high-profile areas is particularly important in today’s homeland security environment where terrorist attacks have targeted tourist destinations around the globe. Additional police officers would provide greater presence for deterring crime, responding quickly to in-progress incidents and increasing public safety for both visitors and residents in the resort corridor.



### **Recommendation 3**

Based on these findings, the SNTIC recommends that the Nevada State Legislature authorize the increase of the sales tax rate in Clark County by 0.1 percent, with the first portion of incremental revenue distributed to the Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department and dedicated to increasing police resources within the resort corridor in proportion to the share of countywide sales tax revenue generated within the resort corridor. The remaining incremental revenue shall be distributed to local police agencies based on population.

### **Recommendation 4**

Based on these same findings, the SNTIC further recommends that the 2025 sunset provision of the Clark County Sales and Use Tax of 2005 be removed, effectively making permanent the incremental sales tax revenue police departments use to retain and equip additional uniformed officers throughout Southern Nevada.

## **McCarran International Airport**

Within Southern Nevada’s tourism-based economy, perhaps no single element of the region’s tourism infrastructure is more critical than McCarran International Airport (“McCarran”). Since its creation in 1948, the airport has evolved and grown along with the community while providing a convenient and popular link between Southern Nevada and cities across the United States and around the globe. Today, that link brings 45 million passengers a year through McCarran, ranking it as the eighth-busiest airport in the country and the 26<sup>th</sup>-busiest in the world. When measured by the number of origin and destination (“O&D”) passengers, the airport was the third-busiest in the U.S. The majority of the airport’s passengers, 80 percent, consists of tourists and business travelers, making it the first and last stop in Las Vegas for roughly 18 million visitors each year.

During testimony, committee members heard from representatives of McCarran, commercial air carriers, air tour operators and ground transportation providers who spoke about their operations and potential infrastructure improvements. The primary infrastructure issue identified during testimony was Southern Nevada’s reliance on a single source of aviation fuel. Currently, the region’s only source of aviation fuel is the CALNEV pipeline, a 248-mile pipeline system that runs generally along Interstate 15 between Colton, California, and Las Vegas. The pipeline consists of two pipes: an 8-inch diameter pipe used exclusively to ship commercial aviation fuel (Jet-A), and a 14-inch diameter pipe that handles a variety of fuel types, including gasoline, diesel, military jet fuel and Jet-A fuel.

A reserve supply of aviation fuel is stored in Southern Nevada; however, that supply is limited and would not be able to serve the region’s aviation fuel needs in the event of a long-term disruption to the CALNEV pipeline operation. In recent years, McCarran’s aviation fuel supply has been interrupted many times because of accidents, natural disasters or other events.



May 1989 – A Southern Pacific freight train derailed in San Bernardino County, California, damaging the underground 14-inch pipe adjacent to the railroad tracks. A subsequent fire caused the pipeline to be shut down for several days.

January 2001 – Rolling power shortages in California caused several disruptions to the pipeline’s electricity supply over a period of weeks.

January 2002 – A computer glitch caused a 36-hour shutdown of the pipeline.

January 2005 – Heavy rains and mudslides in Southern California shut down the pipeline for nearly a week.

March 2014 – McCarran experienced a weeklong fuel shortage after a five-day supply of jet fuel that didn’t meet standards was delivered to the airport.

These disruptions required emergency measures, such as restructuring aircraft fueling to only what was necessary for the next flight segment, reducing fuel exports to outlying areas and delivering fuel to the valley using trucks. These types of measures, along with McCarran’s 10-day supply of fuel in reserve, allow for the short-term management of a pipeline disruption. That said, they would be difficult to sustain over a prolonged timeframe.

#### **Recommendation 5**

Based on these findings, the SNTIC recommends that the Nevada State Legislature authorize an interim study of available and alternative aviation fuel resources to support the current and future needs of the Southern Nevada aviation industry. The recommendation would be for the study to be approved during the 2017 session of the Nevada State Legislature, conducted between the 2017 and 2019 session, with a report delivered to the Governor and Legislature in advance of the 2019 session.

### **Pedestrian Movement in the Resort Corridor**

The Las Vegas Strip is a one-of-a-kind pedestrian environment, regularly accommodating tens of thousands of walkers concentrated along four miles of Las Vegas Boulevard. Walking along the Strip remains a popular method of transportation for many visitors, despite long blocks that stretch a half mile or more and the often lengthy distances between resort entrances. In Downtown Las Vegas, heavy pedestrian movement is concentrated around the Fremont Street Experience and the Fremont East Entertainment District.

During the SNTIC meeting on the topic, representatives of Clark County and the City of Las Vegas provided testimony about their recent efforts to reduce pedestrian congestion along Las Vegas Boulevard and in downtown Las Vegas. Along Las Vegas Boulevard between Russell Road and Sahara Avenue, generally known as the Las Vegas Strip, the quality of pedestrian movement can be influenced by many factors. Although sidewalk width is generally considered the primary factor, the effective width



of a sidewalk can be reduced by permanent obstacles such as light poles, trash cans and bus stop shelters, or non-permanent obstacles such as street performers, handbillers and vendors. The greater the number of obstacles along a sidewalk, the more congested it can become when demand is heavy.

Since 2012, Clark County has empaneled a blue ribbon working group, enacted law changes and undertaken public works projects to improve pedestrian movement on the Strip. Recent ordinance changes banned pets during peak pedestrian traffic times and prohibited unlicensed vendors from selling goods on pedestrian bridges and Strip sidewalks. Additionally, ongoing construction projects are focused on widening sidewalks and relocating sign posts, fire hydrants and other physical obstructions to improve the flow of foot traffic.

The City of Las Vegas provided a presentation on investments and improvements in the downtown area to enhance the pedestrian experience. Those include numerous lighting and sidewalk improvements, a downtown circulator vehicle to help move people between various downtown destinations and an ordinance restricting busker activity at the Fremont Street Experience to 38 designated locations.

A key component of reducing pedestrian congestion along Las Vegas Boulevard or the Fremont Street area involves police enforcement of existing laws related to obstructing sidewalks and other pedestrian walkways. This enforcement is one of many responsibilities of Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department officers assigned to the resort corridor. To help enforce these laws as well as provide improved police protection and response in the state's most-important area of economic activity, Clark County Sheriff Joseph Lombardo requested additional funding to increase staffing resources and monitoring equipment in the resort corridor. Police funding was discussed in greater detail during subsequent committee meetings and is addressed as a standalone recommendation from the SNTIC later in this document.

Currently, the actions being undertaken by local governments are actively addressing necessary infrastructure projects related to pedestrian movement within the resort corridor, therefore no further action is required by or requested of the state.

### **Roads, Highways and Mass Transit**

For decades, Southern Nevada's rapid growth and expansion coincided with the addition of new lanes of roads and highways to accommodate the growing demand for vehicular travel throughout the area. As in many metropolitan areas across the U.S., Southern Nevada's roadway capacity has not kept pace with the increasing demands of one of the fastest-growing regions in the nation. This has led to rising congestion, particularly within the resort corridor, and growing frustration among residents and visitors alike.

This was a common refrain during committee meetings. Both committee members and speakers noted issues with traffic congestion impeding the efficient movement of visitors to and from McCarran International Airport and throughout the resort corridor. For a destination built on world-class experiences in accommodations, dining and entertainment, the experience of getting from one destination to another is frequently considered anything but world class.



During its meeting on the topic, the SNTIC heard testimony from representatives of the Regional Transportation Commission of Southern Nevada (“RTC”) specific to its Transportation Investment Business Plan (“TIBP”), a three-year effort to identify the community’s transportation infrastructure needs over the next 30 years to remain economically competitive. The TIBP included 65 recommended transportation projects within seven suites designed to increase mobility and connections between the economic centers within the central area of Las Vegas. Those economic centers include the Las Vegas Strip, Downtown Las Vegas, McCarran International Airport and the University of Nevada, Las Vegas. A number of projects are dedicated to improving mobility within the resort corridor, such as a light rail system connecting McCarran and the Strip, additional pedestrian bridges along Las Vegas Boulevard and increased public transit options for the workforce commuting to and from the corridor every day.

The committee also heard testimony from a panel of leaders from regional transportation agencies around the United States about their experiences in financing and building major transportation infrastructure projects in their respective cities.

Representatives from Clark County and the City of Las Vegas provided presentations on transportation improvements they have made and plan to make within the resort corridor, and the Las Vegas Monorail Company detailed plans to extend service to Mandalay Bay and add a stop at the Sands Expo Center, which would connect three of the largest convention centers in the nation. XpressWest also provided a status update on its plans to establish a high-speed rail line that would eventually connect Las Vegas with Los Angeles and provide a travel alternative for the 10 million annual visitors from Southern California.

Currently, the actions being undertaken by local governments and regional agencies are actively addressing necessary infrastructure projects related to roads, highways and mass transit, therefore no further action is required by or requested of the state. This finding is predicated on whether the forthcoming ballot question regarding fuel revenue indexing in Clark County is approved by voters in November, as the committee might have had transportation funding recommendations if fuel revenue indexing were not under consideration.



## **Appendix A**

### **Committee Recommendations**



## Committee Recommendations

The Southern Nevada Tourism Infrastructure Committee recommends the following actions be undertaken by the Nevada State Legislature.

**Recommendation 1:** *Increase the Transient Lodging Tax to Expand and Renovate the Las Vegas Convention Center*

The committee recommends that the Nevada State Legislature increase the transient lodging tax by 0.5 percent in Clark County to fund construction of the LVCC expansion and renovation project; implement a cap on the total annual LVCVA collection allowance local entities can receive at \$25 million, with any amount greater than that directed to fund construction of the LVCC expansion and renovation project; and create a board of construction industry professionals to oversee and approve project plans and expenditures.

**Recommendation 2:** *Increase the Transient Lodging Tax to Fund \$750 Million Toward Construction of a Stadium Under a Public-Private Partnership*

[Pending]

**Recommendation 3:** *Increase the Sales Tax Rate in Clark County and Dedicate a Specified Portion to Funding Additional Police Officers Within the Resort Corridor*

The committee recommends that the Nevada State Legislature authorize the increase of the sales tax rate in Clark County by 0.1 percent, with the first portion of incremental revenue distributed to the Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department and dedicated to increasing police resources within the resort corridor in proportion to the share of countywide sales tax revenue generated within the resort corridor. The remaining incremental revenue shall be distributed to local police agencies based on population.

**Recommendation 4:** *Remove the 2025 Sunset Provision of the Clark County Sales and Use Tax of 2005*

The committee recommends that the 2025 sunset provision of the Clark County Sales and Use Tax of 2005 be removed, effectively making permanent the incremental sales tax revenue police departments use to retain and equip additional uniformed officers throughout Southern Nevada.

**Recommendation 5:** *Authorize Study of Aviation Fuel Resources*

The committee recommends that the Nevada State Legislature authorize an interim study of available and alternative aviation fuel resources to support the current and future needs of the Southern Nevada aviation industry. The recommendation would be for the study to be approved during the 2017 session of the Nevada State Legislature, conducted between the 2017 and 2019 session, with a report delivered to the Governor and Legislature in advance of the 2019 session.



**Convention Center Expansion and Renovation  
Legislative Recommendation**



**Convention Center Expansion and Renovation**  
Legislative Recommendation

**EXPLANATION:** Matter in *bolded italics* is new; matter between brackets ~~[omitted material]~~ is material to be removed.

**OVERVIEW**

**SECTION 1** amends NRS 244 to increase the room tax by one-half of one percentage point (0.5 percent) in counties with 700,000 people or more. **SECTION 2** specifies allowable uses of the additional room tax revenue created in **SECTION 1**. **SECTION 3** enumerates prohibited uses of the additional room tax revenue created in **SECTION 1**. **SECTION 4** amends NRS 244A to cap the local government collection allowance for the transient lodging tax to an amount not greater than \$25 million per year in counties with a population of 700,000 or more; establishes the allowable uses and prohibited uses for the revenues in excess of the maximum collection allowance in Section 4. **SECTION 5** creates a committee for convention facilities in counties with a population of 700,000 or more. **SECTION 6** establishes the duty of the county fair and recreation board to provide support and information to an oversight committee for convention facilities. **SECTION 7** establishes certain reporting and duties of an oversight committee for convention facilities. **SECTION 8** amends NRS 268 to increase the room tax by one-half of one percentage point (0.5 percent) in all cities in a county with 700,000 people or more. **SECTION 9** specifies the allowable uses of the additional room tax revenue created in **SECTION 8**. **SECTION 10** enumerates prohibited uses for the additional room tax revenue created in **SECTION 8**. **SECTION 11** exempts the imposition of the increases in room tax as set forth in this Act from the business impact statement requirement. **SECTION 12** and **SECTION 13** exempt the Act from the legislative limitation on the imposition of additional transient lodging taxes. **SECTION 14** makes the Act effective upon passage and approval with ninety (90) days to implement the increase in room tax and sunsets the tax when the notes, bonds or other securities issued to fund the cost of the project have been paid in full or thirty-three (33) years, whichever occurs first, unless the state legislature determines it is in the best interest of the state's tourism industry to extend the tax for a longer period of time.

**LANGUAGE FOR CONSIDERATION**

**SECTION 1.** *NRS 244.335X Additional mandatory tax on revenues from rental of transient lodging: Imposition and collection; schedule for payment; penalty and interest for late payment.*

*1. The board of county commissioners:*

*(a) In a county whose population is 700,000 or more, shall impose a tax, in addition to any other tax imposed on transient lodging, of one-half of one percent (0.5%) of the gross receipts from the rental of transient lodging in that county upon all persons in the business of providing lodging. This tax must be imposed by the board of county commissioners in each county, regardless of the existence or nonexistence of any other license fee or tax imposed on the revenues from the rental of transient lodging. The ordinance imposing the tax must include a schedule for the payment of the tax and the provisions of subsection 4.*

*2. The tax imposed pursuant to subsection 1 must be collected and administered pursuant to NRS 244.335.*

*3. The tax imposed pursuant to subsection 1 may be collected from the paying guests and may be shown as an addition to the charge for the rental of transient lodging. The person providing the transient lodging is liable to the county for the tax whether or not it is actually collected from the paying guest.*

*4. If the tax imposed pursuant to subsection 1 is not paid within the time set forth in the schedule for payment, the county shall charge and collect in addition to the tax:*

*(a) A penalty of not more than 10 percent of the amount due, exclusive of interest, or an administrative fee established by the board of county commissioners, whichever is greater; and*

*(b) Interest on the amount due at the rate of not more than 1.5 percent per month or fraction thereof from the date on which the tax became due until the date of payment.*

*5. As used in this section, "gross receipts from the rental of transient lodging" does not include the tax imposed and collected from paying guests pursuant to this section.*



**SECTION 2. NRS244.33X Additional mandatory tax on revenues from rental of transient lodging: Distribution of proceeds; Use of funds.**

*1. The proceeds of the tax imposed by Section 1 shall be paid to the county fair and recreation board established by NRS 244A.597 thru NRS 244A.645 for that County and the proceeds of the tax received by the county fair and recreation board under Section 1 shall not be subject to the collection fee set forth in NRS 244A.645 and must be accounted for separately and used only:*

*(a) To expand an existing convention center owned and operated by the fair and recreation board with the addition of no less than 600,000 square feet of leasable exhibition space plus associated support space, and to further expand, construct, improve, maintain and renovate existing convention center facilities of the county fair and recreation board; and*

*(b) To pay the principal and interest on notes, bonds or other securities issued to fund the cost of projects described in subsection 1.*

*2. Such proceeds shall be treated as pledged revenues of the project for the purposes of subsection 3 of NRS 350.020.*

**SECTION 3. NRS244.33X Additional mandatory tax on revenues from rental of transient lodging: Prohibited uses of proceeds. The proceeds of the tax imposed pursuant to Section 1 may not be used:**

*1. As additional security for the payment of, or to redeem, any general obligation bonds issued prior to the passage of this Act;*

*2. To defray the costs of collecting or administering the tax incurred by the county fair and recreation board;*

*3. To fund operating activities;*

*4. To fund any general repair and maintenance on recreational facilities that would otherwise be funded from the general fund of the fair and recreation board;*

*5. To improve and expand recreational facilities other than those authorized in Section 2;*

*6. To construct, purchase or acquire recreational facilities other than those authorized in Section 2; or*

*7. For any other purpose inconsistent with Section 2.*

**SECTION 4. NRS 244A.645 Powers of board concerning license taxes assigned or appropriated by cities, towns and counties.**

In connection with any license taxes assigned or appropriated by any city, town or county, or any combination thereof, for use in connection with NRS 244A.597 to 244A.655, inclusive, the county fair and recreation board of any county, upon behalf of the county, in addition to powers elsewhere conferred, may:

*1. Collect the proceeds of such taxes from time to time, receive, control, invest and order the expenditure of all money pertaining thereto, prescribe a procedure therefor, including, but not limited to:*

*(a) Enforcing the collection of any delinquent taxes and providing penalties in connection therewith, including, without limitation, the suspension of the business license issued by a county, city or town to a transient lodging facility and the closure of a transient lodging facility for failure to pay the tax on transient lodging; and*

*(b) Creating an office and hiring personnel therefor.*

*2. Defray the reasonable costs of collecting and otherwise administering such taxes from not exceeding 10 percent of the gross revenues so collected, excluding from this limitation and from those gross revenues any costs of collecting any delinquent taxes borne by any delinquent taxpayer.*

*(a) In a county whose population is 700,000 or more:*

*(1) The incorporated cities collectively and any county shall enter into an agreement with the board for the payment of collection fees, which may not exceed 10 percent of the proceeds of the license taxes collected by a particular city or the county, except that the total payment of collection fees to all the cities and the county must not exceed \$25 million in any single fiscal year.*

*(b) Revenues in excess of the maximum collection allowance from the taxes imposed on the rental of transient lodging as set forth in Section 4 (2)(a) which would have been paid to the collecting entities shall be pledged revenues for the purpose of subsection 3 of NRS 350.020 and accounted for separately and used only:*

*(1) To expand an existing convention center owned and operated by the county fair and recreation board with the addition of no less than 600,000 square feet of leasable exhibition space plus associated support space, and to further expand, construct, improve and renovate the facilities of the county fair and recreation board; and*

*(2) To pay the principal and interest on notes, bonds or other securities issued to fund the cost of projects described in*



*Subsection 1.*

*(c) Revenues in excess of the maximum collection allowance from the taxes imposed on the rental of transient lodging as set forth in Section 4 (2)(a), which would have been paid to the collecting entities shall not be used:*

- (1) As additional security for the payment of, or to redeem, any general obligation bonds issued prior to the passage of this Act;*
- (2) To defray the costs of collecting or administering the tax incurred by the county fair and recreation board;*
- (3) To operate and maintain recreational facilities under the jurisdiction of the county fair and recreation board;*
- (4) To improve and expand recreational facilities other than those authorized in Section 2;*
- (5) To construct, purchase or acquire recreational facilities other than those authorized in Section 2; or*
- (6) For any other purpose inconsistent with Section 2.*

**SECTION 5. NRS 244A.XXX Oversight panel for convention facilities: Establishment in counties whose population is 700,000 or more; membership; terms of members; meetings.**

- 1. The oversight committee shall be comprised of seven (7) members that live in the county.*
- 2. Oversight committee members shall be nominated by the board of county commissioners, city councils of any incorporated city in the county, the Majority Leader of the Nevada State Senate, the Speaker of the Nevada State Assembly, and the association of gaming establishments whose membership in the county collectively paid the most gross revenue fees pursuant to NRS 463.370 in the preceding year, and shall be appointed by the Governor.*
- 3. The seven (7) members appointed by the Governor shall include:*
  - (a) Five members who are executives and/or directors of construction of active commercial hotel resort properties who have experience managing the design, engineering, cost estimating and construction of commercial conference and/or convention facilities; and*
  - (b) Two members who are experienced in the financing of capital projects within the State of Nevada.*
- 4. No two members of the oversight panel for convention facilities shall be representatives of the same company.*
- 5. The initial term for members appointed under Section 5(3)(a) shall end on June 30, 2018, and the initial term for members appointed under Section 5(3)(b) shall end on June 30, 2019. After the initial terms, the term of each member of the oversight panel is two (2) years. Members of the oversight panel are eligible for reappointment.*
- 6. The chair and vice chair of the oversight panel shall be appointed by the Governor.*
- 7. The oversight panel for convention facilities may meet at the call of the chair of the oversight panel, but is not required to hold meetings except for the purposes of carrying out its duties pursuant to this Act, or at the request of the Legislature, the Governor or county fair and recreation board.*
- 8. The oversight panel shall comply with NRS Chapter 239 and will dissolve upon the earlier of ten (10) years after the date of passage of the Act or the completion of the expansion and renovation projects as set forth in Section 2, as certified by an independent public accountant.*

**SECTION 6. NRS 244A.XXX Oversight panel for convention facilities: Duty of county fair and recreation board to provide support and information. The county fair and recreation board in a county whose population is 700,000 or more shall:**

- 1. Provide administrative support to the oversight panel for convention facilities to ensure its ability to fulfill the duties and responsibilities pursuant to this Act;*
- 2. Comply with all requests by the oversight panel for information;*
- 3. Prepare a 3-year plan for the renovation and expansion of convention facilities and a 5-year plan for the construction of convention facilities funded by this Act for submission to the oversight panel for its review and recommendations on or before June 30 of each even-numbered fiscal year;*
- 4. Provide an annual progress update of all projects undertaken pursuant to Sections 2 and 9 of this Act.*
  - (a) The annual progress update shall have been accepted by the fair and recreation board before being submitted to the oversight panel for convention facilities.*
- 5. Consider each recommendation, approval or disapproval of the oversight panel for convention facilities.*
  - (a) The fair and recreation board may reject the recommendation, approval or disapproval of the oversight panel for convention facilities. If the recommendation, approval or disapproval of the oversight panel for convention facilities is rejected by less than 67 percent of the voting members of the fair and recreation board, the fair and recreation board*



*shall revise and resubmit the recommendation, approval or disapproval to the oversight panel for convention facilities before taking any further action on that recommendation.*

*6. On or before August 31 of each fiscal year, submit to the oversight panel for convention facilities for review an annual third-party audit of all construction or renovation payments made with the proceeds of the license taxes in Section 1 and 8 of this Act and the revenues retained pursuant to Section 4 of this Act for the immediately preceding fiscal year; and*

*7. On or before August 31 of each fiscal year, submit to the oversight panel for convention facilities for review an annual third-party audit of all bond activity and uses related to the proceeds of the license taxes in Section 1 and 8 of this Act and the revenues retained pursuant to Section 4 of this Act for the preceding fiscal year.*

**SECTION 7. NRS 244A.XXX Duty to review and submit recommendations for convention facility expansion and renovation plans; oversight panel required to approve or deny request for issuance of certain bonds.**

*1. The oversight panel for convention facilities shall review and, within 30 days approve or disapprove plans for expansions to or renovation of any convention facilities undertaken pursuant to this Act.*

*2. In a county whose population is 700,000 or more, the oversight panel for convention facilities shall review and, within 30 days, approve or disapprove a request of the county fair and recreation board for the issuance of bonds or any other form of indebtedness pursuant to this Act.*

*3. The oversight panel's approval of any issuance of bonds or any other form of indebtedness as set forth in subsection 2 shall be made after the approval, if any, required by any debt management commission and prior to adoption of a resolution of intent pursuant to subsection 3 of NRS 350.020.*

**SECTION 8. NRS 268.09X Additional mandatory tax on revenues from rental of transient lodging: Imposition and collection; schedule for payment; penalty and interest for late payment.**

*1. The city council or other governing body of each incorporated city:*

*(a) In a county whose population is 700,000 or more, shall impose a tax, in addition to any other tax imposed on transient lodging, of one-half of one percent (0.5%) of the gross receipts from the rental of transient lodging in that city upon all persons in the business of providing lodging. This tax must be imposed by the city council or other governing body of each incorporated city, regardless of the existence or nonexistence of any other license fee or tax imposed on the revenues from the rental of transient lodging. The ordinance imposing the tax must include a schedule for the payment of the tax and the provisions of subsection 4.*

*2. The tax imposed pursuant to subsection 1 must be collected and administered pursuant to NRS 268.095.*

*3. The tax imposed pursuant to subsection 1 may be collected from the paying guests and may be shown as an addition to the charge for the rental of transient lodging. The person providing the transient lodging is liable to the county for the tax whether or not it is actually collected from the paying guest.*

*4. If the tax imposed pursuant to subsection 1 is not paid within the time set forth in the schedule for payment, the county shall charge and collect in addition to the tax:*

*(a) A penalty of not more than 10 percent of the amount due, exclusive of interest, or an administrative fee established by the board of county commissioners, whichever is greater; and*

*(b) Interest on the amount due at the rate of not more than 1.5 percent per month or fraction thereof from the date on which the tax became due until the date of payment.*

*5. As used in this section, "gross receipts from the rental of transient lodging" does not include the tax imposed and collected from paying guests pursuant to this section.*

**SECTION 9. NRS 268.09X Additional mandatory tax on revenues from rental of transient lodging: Distribution of proceeds; Use of funds.**

*1. The proceeds of the tax imposed by Section 8 shall be paid to the county fair and recreation board established by NRS 244A.597 thru NRS 244A.645 for that County and the proceeds of the tax received by the county fair and recreation board under Section 8 shall not be subject to the collection fee set forth in NRS 244A.645 and must be accounted for separately and used only:*

*(a) To expand an existing convention center owned and operated by the fair and recreation board with the addition of no less than 600,000 square feet of leasable exhibition space plus associated support space, and to further expand, construct, improve, maintain and renovate existing convention center facilities of the county fair and recreation board of*



*the county fair and recreation board; and*

*(b) To pay the principal and interest on notes, bonds or other securities issued to fund the cost of projects described in subsection 1.*

*2. Such proceeds shall be treated as pledged revenues of the project for the purposes of subsection 3 of NRS 350.020.*

**SECTION 10.** *NRS268.09X Additional mandatory tax on revenues from rental of transient lodging: Prohibited uses of proceeds. The proceeds of the tax imposed pursuant to Section 8 may not be used:*

*1. As additional security for the payment of, or to redeem, any general obligation bonds issued prior to the passage of this Act;*

*2. To defray the costs of collecting or administering the tax incurred by the county fair and recreation board;*

*3. To fund operating activities;*

*4. To fund any or general repair and maintenance on recreational facilities that would otherwise be funded from the general fund of the fair and recreation board;*

*5. To improve and expand recreational facilities other than those authorized in Section 9;*

*6. To construct, purchase or acquire recreational facilities other than those authorized in Section 9; or*

*7. For any other purpose inconsistent with Section 9.*

**SECTION 11.** *Exemption from Business Impact Statement requirements. Any ordinance or other action of the board of county commissioners or city councils taken pursuant this Act is exempt from the requirements of NRS 237.030 thru 237.150.*

**SECTION 12.** NRS 244.3359 Taxes on rental of transient lodging: Limitations on imposition of new tax and on increase in rate of existing tax; legislative declaration; exceptions.

1. A county whose population is 700,000 or more shall not impose a new tax on the rental of transient lodging or increase the rate of an existing tax on the rental of transient lodging after March 25, 1991, except pursuant to NRS 244.3351, 244.3352, ~~and~~ 244.33561 *and Section 1 of this Act.*

2. A county whose population is 100,000 or more but less than 700,000 shall not impose a new tax on the rental of transient lodging or increase the rate of an existing tax on the rental of transient lodging after March 25, 1991, except pursuant to NRS 244.33561.

3. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 2 and NRS 387.191, the Legislature hereby declares that the limitation imposed by subsection 2 will not be repealed or amended except to allow the imposition of an increase in such a tax for the promotion of tourism or for the construction or operation of tourism facilities by a convention and visitors authority.

**SECTION 13.** NRS 268.0968 Tax on revenues from rental of transient lodging: Limitations on imposition of new tax and on increase in rate of existing tax; legislative declaration.

1. Except as otherwise provided in NRS 268.096, ~~and~~ 268.801 to 268.808 *and Section 8 of this Act*, inclusive, a city located in a county whose population is 700,000 or more shall not impose a new tax on the rental of transient lodging or increase the rate of an existing tax on the rental of transient lodging after March 25, 1991.

2. Except as otherwise provided in NRS 268.7845, a city located in a county whose population is 100,000 or more but less than 700,000 shall not impose a new tax on the rental of transient lodging or increase the rate of an existing tax on the rental of transient lodging after March 25, 1991.

3. The Legislature hereby declares that the limitation imposed by subsection 2 will not be repealed or amended except to allow the imposition of an increase in such a tax for:

(a) The promotion of tourism;

(b) The construction or operation of tourism facilities by a convention and visitors authority; or

(c) The acquisition, establishment, construction or expansion of one or more railroad grade separation projects.

**SECTION 14. 1.** *This Act shall become effective upon passage and approval except that Sections 1 and 8 shall be imposed ninety (90) days after passage and approval.*

**2.** *Transient lodging taxes created in Sections 1 and 8 of this Act shall sunset:*

*(a) When the notes, bonds or other securities issued pursuant to Section 2(b) and Section 9(b) of this Act have been fully*



*paid; or*

*(b) Thirty-three (33) years from the effective date of this Act, whichever occurs first.*

*3. On a date not less than three years prior to the sunset of the transient lodging tax as set forth in subsection 2, the Nevada State Legislature shall consider in a public hearing whether it is in the best interest of the state's tourism industry to extend the imposition of the transient lodging taxes set forth in Sections 1 and 8 for a longer period of time.*

##### END #####



**Stadium Funding Construction and Oversight  
Legislative Recommendation**



**Incremental Funding for Police Protection  
Legislative Recommendation**



**Suspension of the More Cops Funding Sunset  
Legislative Recommendation**



**Suspension of the More Cops Funding Sunset**  
Legislative Recommendation

**EXPLANATION:** Matter in *bolded italics* is new; matter between brackets ~~[omitted material]~~ is material to be removed.

**OVERVIEW**

**SECTION 1** to **SECTION 21** set forth the existing provisions of the Clark County Sales and Use Tax Act of 2005. **SECTION 22** of this act removes the sunset date of October 1, 2025, for any taxes imposed by the act.

**LANGUAGE FOR CONSIDERATION**

***Chapter 249, Statutes of Nevada, the Clark County Sales and Use Act of 2005, is Hereby Amended as Follows:***

***The People of the State of Nevada, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows***

**SECTION 1.** Short title. This act may be cited as the Clark County Sales and Use Tax Act of 2005.

**SECTION 2.** Legislative findings and declaration. The Legislature hereby finds and declares that:

1. Nevada continues to be the fastest-growing state in the nation, with the overwhelming majority of this population growth occurring in Clark County, which adds 6,000 to 7,000 new residents each month; 2. The increase in the number of police officers to protect the residents of Clark County has not kept pace with the explosive growth in the numbers of these residents, so, while the nation as a whole averages 2.5 police officers for each 1,000 residents, the current ratio in Clark County is now only 1.7 police officers for each 1,000 residents;
3. The crime rate in Clark County is increasing, and so is the time it takes for police officers to respond when a resident reports a crime, while the very real threat of terrorism means that police now must assume added responsibilities for homeland security;
4. A majority of the voters in Clark County approved at the November 2, 2004, General Election Advisory Question No. 9, indicating their support for an increase in the sales tax of up to one-half of 1 percent for the purpose of employing and equipping more police officers to protect the residents of Clark County;
5. It is intended that 80 percent of any additional police officers employed and equipped pursuant to this act be assigned to uniform operations for marked patrol units in the community and for the control of traffic;
6. It is further intended that each police department that receives proceeds from any sales and use tax imposed pursuant to this act establish a program that promotes community participation in protecting the residents of the community that includes, without limitation:
  - (a) A written policy of the department that sets forth its position on providing law enforcement services oriented toward the involvement of residents of the community;
  - (b) The provision of training for all police officers employed by the department that includes, without limitation, training related to:
    - (1) Methods that may be used to analyze, respond to and solve problems commonly confronted by police officers in the community;
    - (2) The cultural and racial diversity of the residents of the community;
    - (3) The proper utilization of community resources, such as local housing authorities, public utilities and local public officials, that are available to assist in providing law enforcement services; and



(4) Issues concerning not only the prevention of crime, but also concerning improving the quality of life for the residents of the community; and

(c) The formation of partnerships with the residents of the community and public and private agencies and organizations to address mutual concerns related to the provision of law enforcement services;

7. A general law cannot be made applicable to the purposes, objects, powers, rights, privileges, immunities, liabilities, duties and disabilities provided in this act because of the demographic, economic and geographic diversity of the local governments of this State, the unique growth patterns occurring in Clark County and the special financial conditions experienced in the County related to the need to employ and equip more police officers; and

8. The powers, rights, privileges, immunities, liabilities, duties and disabilities provided in this act comply in all respects with any requirement or limitation pertaining thereto and imposed by any constitutional provisions.

**SECTION 3.** Definitions. Except as otherwise provided in this act or unless the context otherwise requires, terms used or referred to in this act have the meanings ascribed to them in chapter 374 of NRS, as from time to time amended, but the definitions in sections 4 to 8, inclusive, of this act, unless the context otherwise requires, govern the construction of this act.

**SECTION 4.** “Act” defined. “Act” means the Clark County Sales and Use Tax Act of 2005.

**SECTION 5.** “Board” defined. “Board” means the Board of County Commissioners of Clark County.

**SECTION 6.** “County” defined. “County” means Clark County.

**SECTION 7.** “County Treasurer” defined. “County Treasurer” means the County Treasurer of Clark County.

**SECTION 8.** “Department” defined. “Department” means the Department of Taxation created pursuant to NRS 360.120.

**SECTION 9.** Imposition of tax; allocation and use of proceeds; prerequisites to change in use.

1. The Board may enact an ordinance imposing a local sales and use tax to employ and equip additional police officers for the Boulder City Police Department, Henderson Police Department, Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department, Mesquite Police Department and North Las Vegas Police Department.

2. Before enacting such an ordinance, the Board shall hold a public hearing to present its plan for implementing the local sales and use tax.

3. The proceeds from the tax authorized pursuant to this section, including interest and other income earned thereon, must be:

(a) Allocated among the police departments within the County in the same ratio that the population served by each department bears to the total population of the County. As used in this paragraph, “population” means the estimated annual population determined pursuant to NRS 360.283.

(b) Used only as approved pursuant to section 13 of this act and only for the purposes set forth in this section unless the Legislature changes the use. The Board shall, before submitting to the Legislature any request to change the uses for the proceeds from the tax, submit an advisory question to the voters of the County pursuant to NRS 295.230, asking whether the uses for the proceeds from the tax should be so changed. The Board shall not submit such a request to the Legislature if a majority of the voters in the County disapprove the proposed change.



**SECTION 10.** Required provisions of ordinance. An ordinance enacted pursuant to this act must include provisions in substance as follows:

1. A provision imposing a tax on the gross receipts of any retailer from the sale of all tangible personal property sold at retail or stored, used or otherwise consumed in the County, including incorporated cities in the County, at a rate of:
  - (a) One-quarter of 1 percent if the date on which the tax must first be imposed is on October 1, 2005; and
  - (b) Up to an additional one-quarter of 1 percent if the date on which the increased rate must first be imposed is on or after October 1, 2009, and if the Legislature first approves the increased rate,  $\square$  the total rate not to exceed one-half of 1 percent.
2. Provisions substantially identical to those contained in chapter 374 of NRS, insofar as applicable.
3. A provision that an amendment to chapter 374 of NRS enacted after the effective date of the ordinance, not inconsistent with this act, automatically becomes part of the ordinance imposing the tax.
4. A provision that the Board shall contract with the Department, before the effective date of the ordinance, to perform all the functions incident to the administration or operation of the tax in the County.
5. A provision that a purchaser is entitled to a refund, in accordance with the provisions of NRS 374.635 to 374.720, inclusive, of the amount of the tax required to be paid that is attributable to the tax imposed upon the sale of, and the storage, use or other consumption in the County, including incorporated cities in the County, of, tangible personal property used for the performance of a written contract for the construction of an improvement to real property:
  - (a) That was entered into on or before the effective date of the tax; or
  - (b) For which a binding bid was submitted before that date if the bid was afterward accepted, and pursuant to the terms of the contract or bid, the contract price or bid amount may not be adjusted to reflect the imposition of the tax.
6. A provision that specifies the date on which the tax must first be imposed or on which any change in the rate of tax becomes effective, which must be the first day of the first calendar quarter that begins at least 120 days after the effective date of the ordinance.

**SECTION 12.** Amendatory ordinances. An ordinance amending an ordinance enacted pursuant to this act, except an ordinance authorizing the issuance of bonds or other securities, must include a provision in substance that the Board shall amend a contract made pursuant to subsection 4 of section 10 of this act by a contract made between the Board and the Department before the effective date of the amendatory ordinance, unless the Board determines with the written concurrence of the Department that no such amendment of the contract is needed.

**SECTION 13.** Requirements for expenditure or transfer of proceeds.

1. A police department shall not expend proceeds received from any sales and use tax imposed pursuant to this act unless the expenditure has been approved by the body designated pursuant to this section for the approval of expenditures of that police department. The body designated pursuant to this section must approve the expenditure of the proceeds by the police department if it determines that:
  - (a) The proposed use of the money conforms to all provisions of this act; and
  - (b) The proposed use will not replace or supplant existing funding for the police department.
2. The body designated to approve an expenditure for:
  - (a) The Boulder City Police Department is the City Council of the City of Boulder City;
  - (b) The Henderson Police Department is the City Council of the City of Henderson;
  - (c) The Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department is the Metropolitan Police Committee on Fiscal Affairs;
  - (d) The Mesquite Police Department is the City Council of the City of Mesquite; and



(e) The North Las Vegas Police Department is the City Council of the City of North Las Vegas.

3. In determining that a proposed use meets the requirement set forth in paragraph (b) of subsection 1, a body designated pursuant to subsection 2 must find that either:

(a) The amount approved for expenditure by the body for the fiscal year for the support of the police department, not including any money received or expended pursuant to this act, is equal to or greater than the amount approved for expenditure in the immediately preceding fiscal year for the support of the police department; or

(b) The amount approved for expenditure by the body for the fiscal year for the support of the police department, not including any money received or expended pursuant to this act, is less than the amount approved for expenditure in the immediately preceding fiscal year for the support of the police department and the body projects a decrease in its receipt of revenue in that fiscal year from consolidated taxes and property taxes of more than 2 percent from its base fiscal year.

4. If a body designated pursuant to subsection 2 makes a finding pursuant to subsection 3, the body shall adopt a resolution setting forth the finding and the reasons therefor. If the finding is made pursuant to paragraph (b) of subsection 3, the finding must include, without limitation, all facts supporting the projection of a decrease in revenue.

5. If a body designated pursuant to subsection 2 does not make a finding pursuant to subsection 3 for a fiscal year on or before July 1 of that fiscal year, the body shall retain the proceeds received for that fiscal year from any sales and use tax imposed pursuant to this act in the special revenue fund created by the body pursuant to section 17 of this act for use pursuant to this section. Any other body designated pursuant to subsection 2 which makes a finding pursuant to subsection 3 for that fiscal year may apply to the County Treasurer requesting approval for the use by the police department for which the other body approves expenditures of any portion of those proceeds in accordance with the provisions of this section.

6. The County Treasurer, upon receiving a request pursuant to subsection 5 and proper documentation of compliance with the provisions of this section, shall provide written notice to the designated body which failed to make a finding pursuant to subsection 3 that it is required to transfer from the special revenue fund created by the body pursuant to section 17 of this act to the County Treasurer such amount of the proceeds received for that fiscal year from any sales and use tax imposed pursuant to this act as approved by the County Treasurer for use by the designated body that submitted the request.

7. Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection 3 of section 17 of this act, a designated body that receives written notice from the County Treasurer pursuant to subsection 6 shall transfer all available required money to the County Treasurer as soon as practicable following its receipt of any portion of the proceeds. Upon receipt of the money, the County Treasurer shall transfer the money to the designated body that submitted the request, which shall deposit the money in the special revenue fund created by that designated body pursuant to section 17 of this act.

8. As used in this section, "base fiscal year" means, with respect to a body designated pursuant to subsection 2, Fiscal Year 2009-2010, except that:

(a) If, in any subsequent fiscal year, the amount approved for expenditure by the body for that subsequent fiscal year for the support of the police department, not including any money received or expended pursuant to this act, exceeds by more than 2 percent the amount approved for expenditure in Fiscal Year 2009-2010, the base fiscal year for that body becomes the most recent of such subsequent fiscal years.

(b) If the base fiscal year is revised pursuant to paragraph (a) and, in any subsequent fiscal year, the amount approved for expenditure by the body for that subsequent fiscal year for the support of the police department, not including any money received or expended pursuant to this act, is equal to or less than the amount approved for expenditure in Fiscal Year 2009-2010, the base fiscal year for that body becomes Fiscal Year 2009-2010 but is subject to subsequent revision pursuant to paragraph (a).



**SECTION 13.3.** Suspension of requirements for expenditure of proceeds from sales and use tax imposed on or after July 1, 2013, but before July 1, 2016; report of expenditure.

1. The provisions of paragraph (b) of subsection 1 and subsections 3 to 8, inclusive, of section 13 of this act do not apply to any expenditure of proceeds from any sales and use tax imposed pursuant to this act on or after July 1, 2013, but before July 1, 2016.
2. In addition to the requirements of section 13.5 of this act:
  - (a) The periodic reports required by that section must include, with respect to the period covered by the report, a separate detailed description of the expenditure of any proceeds from the sales and use tax imposed pursuant to this act as a result of the provisions of subsection 1; and
  - (b) A governing body that is required to submit a report pursuant to section 13.5 of this act shall submit a copy of the separate detailed description required by paragraph (a) for the period covered by the report to the Director of the Legislative Counsel Bureau for transmittal to the Interim Finance Committee on or before the date by which the governing body is required to submit the report for that period to the Department pursuant to section 13.5 of this act.

**SECTION 13.5.** Reports.

1. Any governing body that has approved expenditures pursuant to section 13 of this act shall submit to the Department the periodic reports required pursuant to this section and such other information relating to the provisions of this act as may be requested by the Department.
2. The reports required pursuant to this section must be submitted:
  - (a) On or before:
    - (1) February 15 for the 3-month period ending on the immediately preceding December 31;
    - (2) May 15 for the 3-month period ending on the immediately preceding March 31;
    - (3) August 15 for the 3-month period ending on the immediately preceding June 30; and
    - (4) November 15 for the 3-month period ending on the immediately preceding September 30; and
  - (b) On or before August 15 for the 12-month period ending on the immediately preceding June 30.
3. Each report must be submitted on a form provided by the Department and include, with respect to the period covered by the report:
  - (a) The total proceeds received by the respective police department from the sales and use tax imposed pursuant to this act;
  - (b) A detailed description of the use of the proceeds, including, without limitation:
    - (1) The total expenditures made by the respective police department from the sales and use tax imposed pursuant to this act;
    - (2) The total number of police officers hired by the police department and the number of those officers that are filling authorized, funded positions for new officers; and
    - (3) A detailed analysis of the manner in which each expenditure:
      - (I) Conforms to all provisions of this act; and
      - (II) Does not replace or supplant funding which existed before October 1, 2005, for the police department; and
  - (c) Any other information required to complete the form for the report.
4. The Department may review and investigate the reports submitted pursuant to this section and the expenditure of any proceeds pursuant to section 13 of this act.

**SECTION 13.7.** Determination and use of adjusted base fiscal year. Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection 8 of section 13 of this act, for Fiscal Year 2015-2016, the base fiscal year for each body must be adjusted for the purposes of section 13 of this act as provided in this section, and that adjusted base fiscal year must be used as the base fiscal year for all purposes, including future calculations of base fiscal years. To determine the adjusted



base fiscal year for Fiscal Year 2015-2016, any expenditures authorized as a result of the provisions of subsection 1 of section 13.3 of this act must not be included when calculating the amount of money received or expended in that fiscal year.

**SECTION 14.** Payment of proceeds to Department; distribution of proceeds.

1. All fees, taxes, interest and penalties imposed and all amounts of tax required to be paid to the County pursuant to this act must be paid to the Department in the form of remittances payable to the Department.
2. The Department shall deposit the payments with the State Treasurer for credit to the Sales and Use Tax Account in the State General Fund.
3. The State Controller, acting upon the collection data furnished by the Department, shall monthly:
  - (a) Transfer from the Sales and Use Tax Account to the appropriate account in the State General Fund 1.75 percent of all fees, taxes, interest and penalties collected pursuant to this act during the preceding month as compensation to the State for the cost of collecting the tax.
  - (b) Determine the amount equal to all fees, taxes, interest and penalties collected in or for the County pursuant to this act during the preceding month, less the amount transferred to the State General Fund pursuant to paragraph (a).
  - (c) Transfer the amount determined pursuant to paragraph (b) to the Intergovernmental Fund and remit the money to the County Treasurer.

**SECTION 15.** Redistribution of improperly distributed proceeds. The Department may redistribute any proceeds from the tax, interest or penalty collected pursuant to this act which is determined to be improperly distributed, but no such redistribution may be made as to amounts originally distributed more than 6 months before the date on which the Department obtains knowledge of the improper distribution.

**SECTION 16.** Creation by County Treasurer of fund for use of proceeds; distribution of money.

1. The County Treasurer shall deposit money received from the State Controller pursuant to paragraph (c) of subsection 3 of section 14 of this act into the County Treasury for credit to a fund created for the use of the proceeds from the tax authorized by this act.
2. The fund of the County created for the use of the proceeds from the tax authorized by this act must be accounted for as a separate fund and not as a part of any other fund.
3. The County Treasurer upon receipt of the money remitted to him or her pursuant to this section shall distribute it to the appropriate accounts in accordance with the allotments established pursuant to section 9 of this act.

**SECTION 17.** Creation by city treasurers of special revenue fund for use of proceeds.

1. The City Treasurers of Boulder City, Henderson, Mesquite and North Las Vegas and the Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department shall deposit the money received from the County Treasurer pursuant to subsection 3 of section 16 of this act into a special revenue fund created for the use of the proceeds from the tax authorized by this act.
2. Each special revenue fund created for the use of the proceeds from the tax authorized by this act pursuant to subsection 1 must be accounted for as a separate fund and not as a part of any other fund.
3. Interest earned on a special revenue fund created pursuant to subsection 1 must be credited to the fund. The money in each such fund must remain in the fund and must not revert to the County Treasury at the end of any fiscal year.



**SECTION 20.** Action by Department on behalf of County. In a proceeding arising from an ordinance imposing a tax pursuant to this act, the Department may act for and on behalf of the County.

**SECTION 21.** Construction of act; severability of provisions.

1. The powers conferred by this act are in addition and supplemental to, and not in substitution for, the powers conferred by any other law and the limitations imposed by this act do not affect the powers conferred by any other law.
2. This act must not be construed to prevent the exercise of any power granted by any other law to the County or any officer, agent or employee of the County.
3. This act must not be construed to repeal or otherwise affect any other law or part thereof.
4. This act is intended to provide a separate method of accomplishing the objectives of the act, but not an exclusive method.
5. If any provision of this act, or application thereof to any person, thing or circumstance, is held invalid, the invalidity shall not affect the provisions or application of this act which can be given effect without the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this act are declared to be severable.

**SECTION 22.** *This act is hereby amended upon passage and approval and shall not expire by limitation at any future date.*

##### END #####



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