



Carson Water Subconservancy District  
777 East William Street Suite 110A  
Carson City, Nevada 89701

September 26, 2018

## LATE MATERIAL

MEETING DATE 10/4/18  
ITEM # 17A

Nevada Division of Forestry  
Attn: Ms. Kacey KC  
2478 Fairview Drive  
Carson City, NV 89701

Subject: Support Letter for Carson City's grant application to the Forest Legacy Program

Dear Ms. KC and the Grant Technical Advisory Committee:

Carson Water Subconservancy District (CWSD) supports Carson City's grant application to the Forest Legacy Program to fund the acquisition of three parcels totaling nearly 100 acres in the Clear Creek area, commonly referred to as the "Clear Creek Acquisition." The Carson City Open Space Division would like to acquire these parcels to prevent development, protect wildlife habitat, and enhance regional trail connectivity in this beautiful gateway to Carson City.

CWSD is charged by the Nevada Legislature to coordinate the integrated watershed management process for the Carson River Watershed. This includes coordination of a large stakeholder group called the Carson River Coalition (CRC) of which, Carson City is a member. Clear Creek is a tributary to the Carson River and is the only perennial creek in the Nevada portion of the Carson River Watershed.

Benefits of acquisition of this property by Carson City Open Space Division include:

- Multiple watershed level protection and water quality values:
  - These properties play an important role in maintaining water quality in Clear Creek – an important watershed for Carson City and the Carson River Watershed.
  - While the property itself does not serve as a principle source for water resources, Clear Creek is identified as a recharge source for at least eight public water systems according to the Carson City Community Source Water Protection Plan (2014).
  - Development of the properties would substantially increase the potential for sedimentation and possible septic leachates ending up in Clear Creek and potentially into recharge aquifers that feed the Carson City water supply. Associated water wells would also reduce the amount of water re-entering the hydrologic system.
- Protection of wildlife habitat, migration corridors, watershed values, and aesthetic viewshed.
- Specifically, protection of a portion of the [Carson Range IBA](#) (Important Bird Area) identified in the 2005 Important Bird Areas of Nevada by DE McIvor, Lahontan Audubon Society (See pages 32-34).

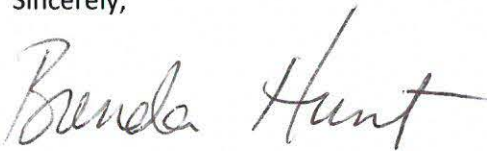
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- The parcels are located where several multi-use trails (hiking, mountain biking and equestrian) can be connected by utilizing the Highway 50 underpass at Golf Club Drive, enabling a safe regional connection between Carson City, Douglas County, and Lake Tahoe.
  - Douglas County's "Clear Creek Trail", which extends east-west from Carson Valley to Lake Tahoe, is adjacent to the property.
  - Carson City has proposed a north-south connection to the Ash-to-Kings Trail from this location.
  - If this property were to be sold to a private party, it is likely that the opportunity for trail connectivity, trailhead, and parking (see below) would be lost.
- Due to the planned 'merging' of regional trails, there will be need for a trailhead with adequate parking. The Carson City Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Department estimates a need for a 30+car parking lot with trailer parking and turn-around, and a restroom. This property makes a perfect location for such facilities.
- Opportunities for hiking, mountain biking, equestrians, and picnicking in a forest setting just minutes from Carson City.
- Cultural and Natural Resource Interpretive possibilities, for example, the Washoe People traveled through this area as they moved between the valley and Lake Tahoe.
- Aligns with Carson City's promotion of outdoor recreation-based tourism.
- Aligns with the Carson River Coalition's Guiding Principles (available upon request).

The creek was recently removed from Nevada Division of Environmental Protection Clean Water Act Section 303(d) list of impaired waters. Ensuring that Clear Creek water quality continues to improve is critical to the overall water quality of the Carson River. For these reasons and those bulleted above, CWSD supports the acquisition of these parcels to preserve this important landscape, and have it remain in public use for current residents, visitors and future generations to enjoy in perpetuity.

Please contact me at 775.887.9005 or [brenda@cwsd.org](mailto:brenda@cwsd.org) if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



*Brenda Hunt*  
Watershed Program Manager

CC: Ann Bollinger and Lyndsey Boyer, Carson City



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## COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

P.O. Box 218, 1594 Esmeralda Avenue  
Minden, Nevada 89423

**Mimi Moss, AICP**  
**DIRECTOR**

775-782-6201

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Building Division  
Engineering Division  
Planning Division  
Code Enforcement

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September 25, 2018

Nevada Division of Forestry  
Attn: Ms. Kacey KC  
2478 Fairview Drive  
Carson City, NV 89701

Subject: Support Letter for Carson City's grant application to the Forest Legacy Program

Dear Ms. KC,

Douglas County would like to express our support for Carson City's grant application to the Forest Legacy Program for fee-title purchase of the 100-acre Clear Creek property.

- Acknowledge Assembly Bill 15 from the 2015 Nevada Legislative Session which directs the sale of the properties and the proceeds to be used for restoration of the Stewart Indian School
- If the property is not purchased and protected as open space, development is imminent.
- The property is adjacent to other protected landscapes managed by local (Carson City Open Space) and federal (USFS) agencies, which provides nearly unfragmented benefits for:
  - Natural resources: soil and watershed protection uphill from Clear Creek, wildlife habitat and migration corridors, native plant communities including a healthy forest, scenic viewshed for people traveling between Carson City and Lake Tahoe
  - Cultural and historic resources: The Clear Creek watershed is/was one travel route for the Washo people to travel between the valley and Lake Tahoe, and they still conduct traditional ceremonies in the area. The same route used by the Washo people was used by emigrants in the mid-1800s for the California Gold Rush and later used for the Old Lincoln Highway.
  - Recreational resources: regional trail connectivity to Douglas County and Lake Tahoe
- Wide-spread regional support for all of the above reasons
- The adjacent Clear Creek development is conditioned to provide an improved trailhead in the general area of the subject site for public use. With grant approval, Douglas County will work with Carson City to identify and promote the development of a new trailhead in the area of the Clear Creek project.
- The adopted Douglas County Trails Plan identifies the need for a coordinated effort between Douglas County and Carson City on providing trail connections and amenities for this area.

Douglas County appreciates the opportunity to comment on this very important grant effort by Carson City. If you have any questions regarding this matter, please give me a call.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Mimi Moss". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Mimi" and last name "Moss" clearly distinguishable.

Mimi Moss AICP  
Community Development Director  
Douglas County



# *Nevada All State Trail Riders, Inc.*

*P.O. Box 4066, Carson City, Nevada 89702*

September 26, 2018

Nevada All-State Trail Riders  
P.O. Box 4066  
Carson City, NV 89701

Nevada Division of Forestry  
Attn: Ms. Kacey KC  
2478 Fairview Drive  
Carson City, NV 89701

Subject: Support Letter for Carson City's grant application to the Forest Legacy Program

To Whom it May Concern:

Nevada All-State Trail Riders (NASTR) is pleased to offer support for Carson City's application to the Forest Legacy Program to help fund the acquisition of land in the Clear Creek area, commonly referred to as the "Clear Creek Acquisition." The acquisition of these parcels, for sale by Nevada Division of State Lands, represents a unique opportunity to maintain the pristine wilderness character of the gateway to Carson City and protect wildlife habitat. Most importantly to our organization, these parcels can play an important role in the enhancement of regional trail connectivity. As an organization founded in 1968 for the purpose of preserving trails in Nevada and promoting horseback riding on these trails, we are fully in support of this acquisition.

The parcels in question surround an existing highway underpass which would provide a safe crossing for hikers, mountain bikers, and equestrians such as ourselves. The parcels are located where several trails, including the Clear Creek Trail and a proposed connection to the Ash-to-Kings trail, can be connected by utilizing the highway underpass, and thus enable regional connectivity between Carson City, Douglas County, and Lake Tahoe.

Carson City has considered a parking facility and trailhead on the property in question, which would include trailer parking and turn-around, and a restroom. This property makes a perfect location for such facilities and an excellent accommodation for equestrians from around the region to enjoy Carson City's trail network.

If this property were to be sold to a private party, it is likely that the opportunity for trail connectivity, trailhead, and parking would be lost. NASTR supports the acquisition of these parcels in order to preserve this important landscape for current residents and future generations to enjoy in perpetuity.

Sincerely,

Cortney Bloomer  
President, Nevada All-State Trail Riders

*NASTR Triple Crown*  
*Nevada Derby 50 ♦ NASTR 75 ♦ Virginia City 100*



# Tahoe Area Mountain Biking Association

PO Box 13712, South Lake Tahoe, CA 96151

[www.tamba.org](http://www.tamba.org)

September 21, 2018

Nevada Division of Forestry  
Attn: Ms. Kacey KC  
2478 Fairview Drive  
Carson City, NV 89701

Subject: *Support Letter for Carson City's grant application to the Forest Legacy Program.*

Ms. Kacey KC:

The Tahoe Area Mountain Biking Association would like to offer the support of our organization to the Carson City Open Space Advisory Committee in their pursuit of the purchase of four Nevada Division of State Lands (NDSL) parcels, commonly referred to as the "Clear Creek Acquisition".

The acquisition of these parcels and subsequent trailhead and trail development will provide a much-needed connection of regional trails connecting Carson City, Carson Valley and the Tahoe Basin. The parcels are in a place where the Clear Creek Trail can connect to the proposed north-south connection to the Ash-to-Kings Trail utilizing the existing highway under pass. If this property were to be sold to a private party, it is likely this opportunity for regional trail connectivity, trailhead, and parking would be lost. Carson City has a proven track record of trailhead and trail connectivity improvements and will be able to deliver on this important project.

Representing mountain bikers in the Tahoe region, our organization has worked successfully with federal, state and local agencies to build, improve and promote natural surface recreational trails. In the last eight years, we have organized more than 15,000 hours of volunteer labor to build new sustainable trails and perform needed maintenance to existing trails while representing the mountain bike community.

Sincerely,

Ben Fish, President

Cc/ Ann Bollinger, Carson City, Open Space Administrator  
Cc/ Gregg Berggren, Carson City, Trails Coordinator

Washoe Tribe of Nevada and California  
Tribal Historic Preservation Office/Cultural Resources Office  
*Protect, Preserve, Promote Washoe Culture*



September 20,2018

Nevada Division of Forestry  
Attn: Ms. Kacey KC  
2478 Fairview Drive  
Carson City, NV 89701

Subject: Support Letter for Carson City's grant application to the Forest Legacy Program

Dear Ms. KC,

The Tribal Historic Preservation Office of the Washoe Tribe of Nevada and California would like to express our support for Carson City's grant application to the Forest Legacy Program for fee-title purchase of the 100-acre Clear Creek property.

Like much of the Carson and Eagle Valleys, the Clear Creek area is an important place for the Washo people. Historically, the Washo people traveled between the valleys and Lake Tahoe; and today, several sites remain throughout this corridor for us to conduct traditional ceremonies. While the Washoe Tribe will ultimately benefit from the sale of this property (per an Assembly Bill in the 2015 Nevada Legislative Session), we prefer to see this property preserved as open space rather than be developed. We believe the protection and preservation as open space is complementary to our values of protecting the Clear Creek watershed including water quality, native plant communities and wildlife habitat.

We encourage your favorable consideration towards this nomination. Thank you.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Darrel Cruz". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping initial "D".

Darrel Cruz, Director  
Tribal Historic Preservation Office/CRO  
Washoe Tribe of Nevada and California