

the Fernley reporter

FERNLEY'S HOMETOWN NEWS

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Parade, kids games, fireworks to highlight 4th of July

By Kerry Lyman

For the first time, Fernley’s annual Fourth of July celebration will be a two-day event.

The celebration begins Thursday, July 3, with a Battle of the Bands at Out-of-Town Park from 5 to 10 p.m. A paid kids area will be available during the Battle of the Bands, and some vendors and food trucks will be set up.

“This is the first time we’ve ever done this,” said Robert Perea, president of Fernley’s Fourth of July committee.

The Fourth of July activities hit full swing starting with a \$10 pancake breakfast at the Fernley Masonic Lodge, located at 40 East Street, from 7 to 10 a.m. on Friday, July 4.

The traditional Fourth of July parade will begin at 10 a.m., starting at the intersection of U.S. 95A and Main Street and heading east on Main to Seventh Street. Many of the parade entrants, especially the classic cars, often continue to Out-of-Town Park, where the rest of the afternoon activities are held, Perea said, noting the parade usually lasts an hour and a half to two hours.

A car show featuring classic cars from the Fernley Klazzic Kruizers car club will take place at the park directly after the parade, he said.

From noon to 4 p.m., a free kids zone and dunk tank will be available on the Out-of-Town Park softball field. A live radio remote from Wild 102.9 FM will broadcast near the park’s gazebo from noon to 8 p.m., and the flag raising that begins the official celebration

is scheduled for 1 p.m., Perea said.

At 2 p.m., a kids and adults watermelon eating contest will be held. At 2:30 p.m., horseshoe and cornhole tournaments will be conducted at the park, with entrant cost determined by the event organizer. Prize money for the tournaments is based on the number of entrants, with the total divided among the winners, he said.

At 4 p.m. at the park’s gazebo, judges will announce the best parade entrants.

Also at Out-of-Town Park will be a “diving for dollars” event for children, where kids will try to collect as many coins as they can from the bottom of a splash pool in a given amount of time, with coins donated by Washington Federal Bank.

A raffle for a “staycation” of one night at the Grand Sierra Resort in a Sierra King room and \$150 in spending money will be held at 4:30 p.m. Raffle tickets cost \$2 for one, \$8 for five and \$15 for 10. Entrants need not be present to win. Sign-ups for all contests and the staycation raffle will be at tables set up around the park’s gazebo, Perea said.

“One of our most popular events,” the greased pig contest, divided into age groups, will occur at the park at 5 p.m. There is a \$10 entrant fee for the greased pig contest, and winners will either be able to keep the pig or sell it back, he said.

During the greased pig contest is also the annual “Battle of the Badges” between the Lyon County Sheriff’s Office and the North Lyon Fire Depart-



A patriotic youngster waves her flag during the Fernley 4th of July parade. Photo by Robert Perea

ment, where entrants try their best to catch the slippery porkers. The sheriff’s deputies have won that contest three years in a row, Perea said.

At 8 p.m., the Teachers Band from Fernley High School will perform at the gazebo, taking over after the Wild 102.9 FM radio remote ends.

Then, to wrap up the day at dusk, will be the annual half-hour fireworks display at Out-of-Town Park.

“We believe it to be the longest and best fireworks display in Northern Nevada,” Perea said.

Council adopts Southwest Area Plan

By Kerry Lyman

The Fernley City Council amended the city’s master plan for the second time this year by adopting another area plan last Wednesday, this time the 11,800-acre Southwest Area Plan (SW Area Plan), generally located south of the Truckee Canal and west of U.S. 95A

The 5,400-acre North Area Plan, located north of the I-80 freeway, was adopted in January. The SW Area Plan adoption was delayed twice, once in April due to the objections of a property owner controlling about 20 percent of the land area whose land had been designated as open space, which would

have prevented any future development.

Another delay occurred earlier this month when it was learned that some of the required notices to affected property owners only contained empty envelopes.

Changes made to the area plan’s land use designations satisfied the large property owner who had objected to the plan in April, which caused the planning commission to recommend approval of the amended plan last month by a super majority 6-1 vote. In addition, proper notices were mailed to affected property owners, allowing council to approve the plan

in a 3-0 vote, with Council members Felicity Zoberski and Joe Mendoza absent.

As with the North Area Plan, the SW Area Plan was adopted “due to the development pressure coming from the property owners. Several large developments are currently proposed within the area, and more are expected,” according to a city narrative summarizing the plan.

The area plan, working in conjunction with the city’s master plan and development code, is intended to establish a vision and objectives to transform the southwest area into a large master planned community “with vast

employment opportunities, supporting commercial uses and a diverse range of housing types,” according to the narrative.

In a kind of checkerboard pattern, approximately 60 percent of the SW Area Plan is currently under private ownership, with about 40 percent owned by the Bureau of Land Management, which is expected to be conveyed to the city as part of phase I or phase II of the “Lands Bill” approved by Congress in late 2014.

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FEATURES

Fernley Senior Center dedicated in memory of Goodman

By Robert Perea

Lyon County formally dedicated the Fernley Senior Center in memory of former Lyon County Commissioner and Fernley Mayor Leroy Goodman last Friday.

Goodman was born and raised in Virginia City, where his mother was a telephone operator and his father worked in the mines before purchasing the Virginia Garage. He was a member of the 1959 Virginia City High School basketball team that won the school's first state championship. After high school, he served in the U.S. Air Force and the Nevada National Guard and retired as a Lt. Colonel. He moved to Fernley in 1965 as a teacher at Fernley High School. He taught American history, journalism, Nevada history, geography and physical education and was the school's basketball coach.

He taught at Fernley High for 14 years, leaving in 1979 for a job at Nevada Cement, where he worked for 30 years as the personnel director.

Before reading the resolution passed by the Lyon County Commission in February, Commission chairman Scott Keller lauded Goodman's dedication of more than 40 years of service to his community, state and country.

"From his days in the United States Air Force, to his time as a Lyon County Commissioner, and ultimately as the Mayor of Fernley, Leroy led with vision, humility and heart for his community," Keller said. "His name became synonymous with progress, collabora-

tion and compassion."

Keller said the Senior Center is a place where stories are shared and friendships are formed.

"Lives continue to be enriched by the kind of community he spent a lifetime nurturing," Keller said. "So, it is only fitting that this building is dedicated to Leroy for giving us his wisdom, leadership and heart. May this building forever carry forward his spirit and remind us that one person can truly make a difference."

Fernley Mayor Neal McIntyre was one of Goodman's students and basketball players. McIntyre told a story that one time in high school he and Goodman went fishing at the pond next to the river at Painted Rock and caught a bunch of catfish, which the basketball team at ate its next team meal.

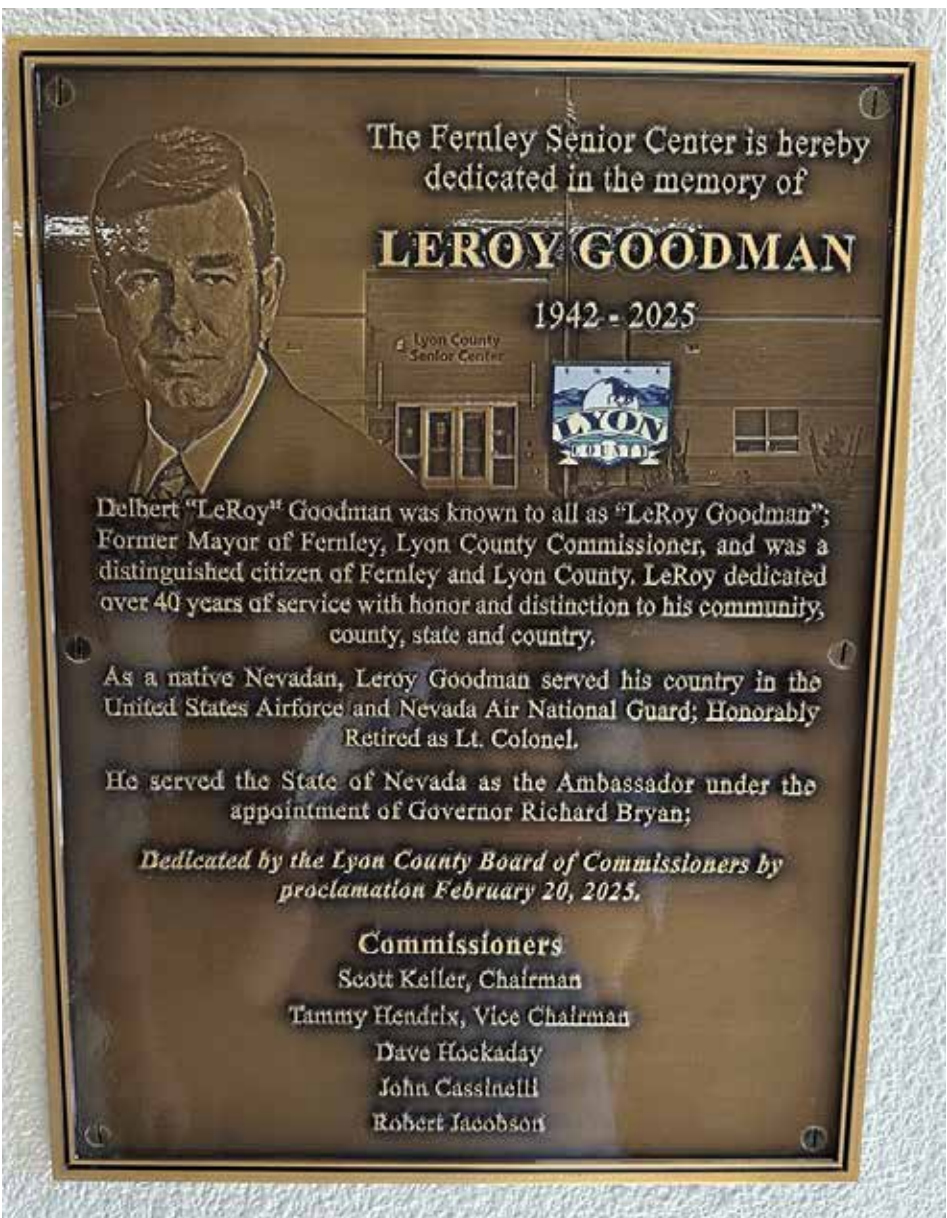
"I think this is a great honor for Mr. Goodman to show his dedication," McIntyre said. "He kind of paved the way for Fernley in the things he set. He kind of set Fernley up in this growth mode. He didn't just talk the talk, he walked the walk."

Congressman Mark Amodei said Goodman led as a commissioner and mayor the same way he coached basketball.

"It was always about the team, it was never about Leroy," he said.

The ceremony was a surprise to Diana Goodman, who said she had no idea what was happening when she and her daughter Mikki pulled up to the Senior Center.

"Just proud, that's all I can say," she said. "I'm proud of the man."



The plaque commemorating the dedication of the Fernley Senior Center to Leroy Goodman. Photo by Robert Perea

Continued from front - PLAN....

- LAND USES
- Land uses within the SW Area Plan have been designated as follows:
- Excluding existing residential uses, 3,387 acres in the northern portion of the SW Area Plan are dedicated to residential uses
 - 393 acres devoted to commercial uses
 - 1,067 acres for mixed use, including multi-family apartments, condominiums and townhomes, live/work units, commercial retail, office, and neighborhood commercial.
 - 3,908 acres to light industrial uses, including light manufacturing, distribution, data centers, logistics, warehousing, major office and business uses, flex office, research centers, corporate headquarters, clean tech and medical uses
 - 1,843 acres devoted to open space, including parks, recreational trails, hiking and biking trails, stormwater retention, and natural resource conservation
 - 177 acres for public facilities, including 20 acres for a school and 157 acres for uses such as a library, civic center, emergency services and utilities infrastructure; and
 - 341 acres for aviation related uses

It is anticipated the SW Area Plan could provide up to 28,318 housing units upon full buildout. The majority of the residential uses, 2,626 acres, anticipating up to 15,756 housing units, are devoted to low density residential (1 to 6 units per acre), while 604 acres and up to 7,852 housing units are intended for medium density residential (7 to 13 units per acre) and 157 acres and up to 4,710 units are dedicated toward high density residential (14 to 30 units per acre).

Commercial uses along major roadways in the SW Area Plan are intended for in-line and big box retail connected to adjacent land uses to try and reduce traffic in other areas of Fernley. Mixed uses, mainly along U.S. 95A, are intended to create a "town center" atmosphere in the area while providing easy access for other city residents,

according to the city narrative.

The largest land area, at 3,908 acres, is devoted to light industrial uses and is located along the southern boundary of the SW Area Plan to limit truck traffic through residential areas, the narrative indicated.

The largest open space land area along the west of the area plan was chosen because slopes in this area prevent any significant development and residents in that area had expressed a strong desire in keeping nearby mountains as a scenic amenity during the earlier planning process, according to the narrative.

In addition, a large land parcel adjacent to the western open space area in the area plan, but not part of the SW Area Plan, is expected to be conveyed to the city as part of the "Lands Bill." This will allow the city to connect the open space areas, creating a large regional park, the narrative indicated.

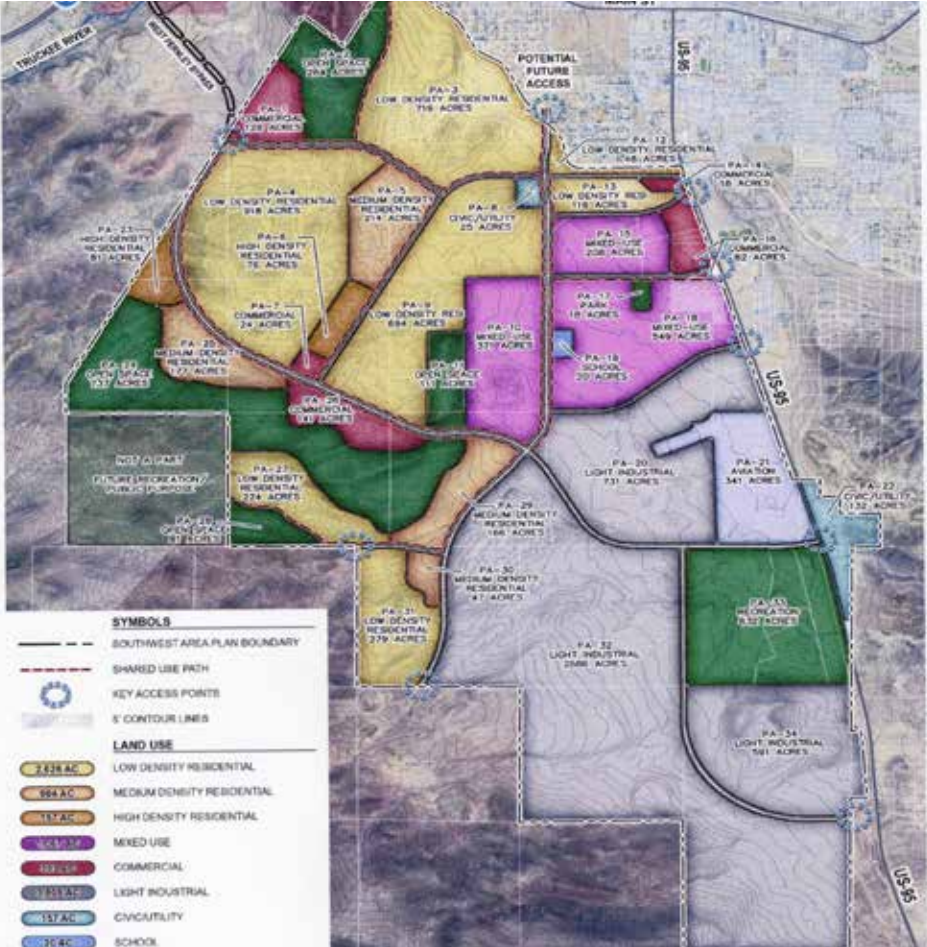
Also, 632 acres along U.S. 95A was preserved as open space due to an existing off-road racing track in this area, and 341 acres just north of the existing racing track and adjacent to U.S. 95A was dedicated to aviation due to the existing Samsarg airfield.

It is anticipated the airfield will support nearby industrial uses and could support aerospace-related land uses for offices and commercial. However, due to limited space for future expansion, it may make sense at some future date to relocate the airstrip farther south, according to the narrative.

WATER CAPACITY

As was the case with the North Area Plan, the most frequently asked question from both the public and elected officials was whether there is enough water to support expected development in the SW Area Plan. According to a water capacity study conducted by Kimley Horn, the consultant that prepared the SW Area Plan and manned all the public meetings, there is some water capacity available from groundwater wells only. Attempts by the city to obtain surface water rights may increase that capacity, it said.

The study noted that additional water needed to support development in the SW Area Plan depends on the



future development demands. No upgrades will be necessary to the city's water treatment plant or pump station, it said.

However, a new water transmission line, distribution pipes and additional water storage will be necessary. In addition, since current water storage tanks can serve up to elevations of 4,235 feet, and the majority of the southwest area lies above 4,235 feet in elevation, a new pressure zone, including additional booster pumps and storage tanks will be needed to maintain adequate water pressure, according to the study.

FISCAL IMPACT ANALYSIS

At full buildout, the SW Area Plan is expected to generate \$122 million a year in property tax revenue, of which, the city would receive \$23 million a year. "That is almost three times more than current property tax revenue," according to the city staff narrative.

IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

The SW Area Plan divides projects and

- initiatives needed to be undertaken to implement the plan into categories such as high priority (1-3 years), moderate priority (4-7 years) and low priority (8+ years) as follows:
- High Priority
- Complete surface water study
 - Adoption of an infrastructure plan
 - Zoning code update
 - NDOT coordination
 - BLM/BOR coordination
 - Master plan update
 - Capital improvement plan update
 - Stormwater runoff study
 - Airport master plan
 - City staffing study
- Moderate Priority
- Update Transportation master plan
 - Safe routes to school plan update
 - Water infrastructure upgrades
 - Water conservation plan update
- Low Priority
- Active transportation plan
 - Parks and trails plan

SEND YOUR LETTERS TO THE EDITOR TO:

Robert@FernleyReporter.com

ANNOUNCEMENTS

County considering formation of GID to provide power to NNIC

By Robert Perea

Lyon County is considering the formation of a general improvement district (GID) for the purpose of furnishing electric power to the Northern Nevada Industrial Center (NNIC).

At its June 5 meeting, the Lyon County Commission approved a resolution to initiate the formation of a GID to transmit electric power called the North Lyon County Power District. On June 18, the Fernley City Council also approved the resolution by the county.

The proposed GID would allow for the development of immediate capacity via a microgrid until the industrial center can be tied into the NV Energy grid. The district would be known as the Northern Nevada Industrial Center Power District (NNIC Power District) and is proposed in conjunction with development plans for the Northern Nevada Industrial Center, a 20,000-acre industrial zone located in unincorporated Lyon County, south-east of Fernley. NNIC is located north

of Silver Springs along USA Parkway. The Service Plan anticipates approximately 6,000 acres of commercial and industrial space will be served by electrical generation and distribution assets located within the larger NNIC boundaries. As proposed, the GID may be formed in such a way to avoid financial risk to Lyon County by ensuring general and special funds are not leveraged for the project.

Because the boundaries of the proposed district fall within seven miles of Fernley’s incorporated limits, the formation of the district is authorized by Nevada Revised Statutes through a majority vote of the county commission when accompanied by a resolution of consent from the city council. “This is really an opportunity to solve one of the most interesting economic development opportunities Nevada has ever seen but to do it in a collaborative, cooperative way with the company,” said attorney Bob Sweetin, representing NNIC.

Dave Brown, representing NNIC, said they were requesting the county

consider forming the GID because they’ve been unable to obtain electrical service through NV Energy.

Ryan Bellows, Vice President for Government and External Relations at NV Energy, said NV Energy does not currently support the formation of a GID, and has significant plans to bring electrical infrastructure, but would need a customer in place with a signed agreement.

“We’re moving forward on those plans and certainly open and willing to discuss any opportunities with NNIC if there is a customer that’s willing to commit to a long-term energy supply,” Bellows said. “The bottom line is we have pathways available; we want to be part of the solution here.” However, Brown called it a “chicken or the egg” conundrum.

“We need to have the framework in place, or power committed, for us to actually entice customers to come,” Brown said.

He said NNIC did have a customer in escrow about 24 months ago, but he said that customer was told

that it would be 2032 for power to be brought to them by NV Energy.

“They canceled escrow and went elsewhere,” Brown said.

County Manager Andrew Haskin said the resolution approved by the commissioners initiates the process to form a GID, and the commissioners would have to approve an initiating ordinance, followed by a creation ordinance.

“We’ve been waiting in Lyon County for development for a long time, and if we keep waiting and waiting, nothing’s going to happen,” Commissioner Scott Keller said.

In the meantime, if NNIC and NV Energy come to an agreement either before the GID is formed, or afterward, the GID would be dissolved at that point.

“If NV Energy is able to match that standard, wonderful,” Sweetin said. “Putting customers in service in 18 to 24 months is much more reasonable and practical and beneficial, frankly, to the county and the state than waiting roughly seven years.”



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Monday, June 23 <i>Baked Chicken Tenders</i> <i>French Baked Potatoes</i> <i>Steamed Carrots</i>	Tuesday, June 24 <i>Spaghetti in Meat Sauce</i> <i>WW Spaghetti</i> <i>Garlic Bread</i> <i>Steamed Spinach</i>	Wednesday, June 25 <i>Chicken Parmesan</i> <i>Tossed Salad</i> <i>Pineapple Chunks</i> <i>Green Beans</i>	Thursday, June 26 <i>Pub Style Battered Fish</i> <i>WW Roll</i> <i>Corn</i> <i>Creamy Coleslaw</i> <i>Peaches</i>	Friday, June 27 <i>Chicken Fried Steak</i> <i>Mashed Potatoes</i> <i>Country Gravy</i> <i>9 Grain Bread</i> <i>4 Bean Salad</i> <i>Applesauce</i>
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A birthday letter to the Army...

We watched your birthday parade on Saturday, amazed that you have been rolling along for 250 years now. How far you have come since the rebellious days of your infancy. Days when you struggled to march, keep a clean camp, scrounge a shirt to wear, or a musket to shoot. With some guidance, you improved quickly and went on to affect the greatest military triumphs of your time: Yorktown, Gettysburg, D-Day, Kuwait. There have been failures too, but our capacity to forgive them is endless, for your rank and file are our very flesh and blood.

Without hesitation, you have gone when dispatched to all manner of places hostile and foreign: humid jungles, scorching deserts, via parachute deep behind enemy lines; and to places regrettably familiar: Little Rock, Oklahoma City, New York City, New Orleans. Your willingness to answer the call of duty has saved our country, indeed the entire world, from tyranny and disaster.

Your actions in those places explain why our sons and daughters proudly volunteer to join. It is a decision that would make any parent proud. Nonetheless, it is possible you are harder on the families than the soldiers themselves. It is the families who must untangle a baffling jumble of numbers and letters, forts, posts, units, and acronyms. Who listen with one ear and elevated heart rate wherever the news is on. When the burdens of duty ebb, they are the ones who must salvage the wreckage that has washed ashore.

Sure, we poke fun on shows like MASH*, during our V.A. appointments, with nicknames and cartoons. Sometimes it might seem like we are hard on you. There are persistent grumbings from one political party or the other about your inefficiency or poor spending habits. Your customs can be mysterious to civilians and downright tedious to soldiers. Yet the plume of campaign streamers that adorn your flag is evidence enough of the soundness of your methods.

From within your ranks, many giants have emerged to color the American landscape with their greatness. Countless others emerged to simply lead the quiet life, raise a family, cast a watchful eye over their little parcel of freedom. Seeing you on parade reminded us of what war steals from a nation, what it means to see uniformed soldiers standing hat in hand on your neighbor’s porch, the missing-man tables that appear for a week every May, the Gold Star banners displayed in mournful perpetuity by thousands of irretrievably broken families across our great nation.

Some have asserted your birthday parade was political frivolity at the taxpayer’s expense. Those who mischaracterize it as such should think of Abraham Lincoln and how disturbed he was to see enslaved humans sold on the streets of Washington. If your birthday parade was meant to please any one President, it was him... for last Saturday, beneath the bobbing helmets and atop the clomping horses were soldiers of every race and creed. You have come to embody the spirit which moved our forefathers to proclaim this country Columbia, the Gem of the Ocean, not just the fighting force that helped make it so.

That is something worth marching for.

Gratefully yours,
Justin Miller

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**LADIES APPRECIATION TUESDAYS**



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LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Municipal Court to move to Justice Court building

By Kerry Lyman

The Fernley City Council approved an interlocal agreement last Wednesday with Lyon County to consolidate the city's Municipal Court with the county's Justice Court upon completion of the Justice Court remodel that is currently underway.

This will free up space in City Hall to house the city's growing number of employees, eliminating the need for a modular building at City Hall that was being considered in earlier city budget deliberations to house the city's growing employee base.

The interlocal agreement takes effect at the end of June. However, the Justice Court remodel is not expected to be completed until early next year. As a result, both the Justice Court and the Municipal Court will continue to operate out of City Hall until completion of the Justice Court remodel.

A Memorandum of Understanding between the city and county was entered into late last year to temporarily have both courts operate out of City Hall and use the city council chambers as the courtroom during the Justice Court remodel.

Judge Lori Matheus, who serves as both the Fernley Municipal Court Judge and the Canal Township Court Justice of the Peace, suggested the court consolidation remain after seeing a higher degree of coordination of cases and efficiency in administering the court docket during the temporary arrangement, according to former City Manager Benjamin Marchant.

"This experience led Judge Matheus to consider retaining those benefits by continuing this arrangement when the Justice Court remodel is complete," he said in April.

According to the interlocal agreement, each entity will continue to

retain and manage their own revenues collected from fines and fees, to pay its own employees, judges, prosecutors and public defenders, and to retain their own assets. The agreement will be presented to the Lyon County Commission for approval on July 3.

The current Justice of the Peace will also serve as the city's Municipal Court Judge. Despite having the same presiding judge, the Justice Court and the Municipal Court remain separate legal entities with distinct jurisdictional authority, case types, and statutory obligations. The agreement states that the Judge shall ensure that municipal and justice court matters are adjudicated in accordance with their respective laws and procedures.

Either party may terminate the agreement with or without cause upon 90 days written notice to the other party or upon mutual consent. However, the agreement will automatically

renew on July 1 unless either party delivers written notice by April 30 of their intent not to renew the agreement for the following fiscal year.

In a related matter, the Fernley City Council also voted last Wednesday to increase the pay for the Municipal Court judge from \$45,000 a year to \$95,000 a year to bring the salary in line with other Municipal Court judges serving in comparable jurisdictions.

During the 2025 fiscal year budget discussions, the city adopted a new class and compensation study that resulted in wage increases for the majority of the city's staff. The Municipal Court Judge position was not included in this study, because it contracts for the position and does not have a city employee filling the position. The amendment adding \$50,000 annually to the contract brings the salary range for the position in line with comparable entities.

McIntyre reaching out to consulting firms to help with new city manager search

By Robert Perea

Mayor Neal McIntyre said during the June 18 Fernley City Council meeting that he has reached out to two consulting firms to help with the city's search for a new city manager.

McIntyre provided the update as part of city staff reports at the beginning of Wednesday's meeting. McIntyre said one firm, CPS HR Consulting, has been in contact with him, and he was still waiting to see if one other

firm would respond. He said he planned to give them until the end of the week to respond.

McIntyre said he would provide the council members with the names of both firms to research them and provide recommendations on how to proceed.

The city is looking for a city manager following the resignation of Ben Marchant, who offered his resignation during a budget discussion. The council had voted 3-2 on May 21 to approve the city's 2025-26 fiscal

year budget and defund the city manager's position, but McIntyre vetoed that vote. During a subsequent budget meeting on May 28, the three council members who voted to defund the city manager's position offered several reasons for their position, accusing Marchant of insubordination, untruthfulness and lack of communication.

Marchant denied those claims, then said if that was what was holding up the city from moving forward, he would

offer his resignation. The council then went into a recess, during which McIntyre announced the city attorney was negotiating a separation agreement with Marchant. After about three hours, the council reconvened and approved its final budget with no further comment. The council approved the separation agreement with Marchant at the June 4 meeting as part of the consent agenda.

Council hears results of roundabout survey

By Kerry Lyman

After receiving about 700 votes in a survey on how to beautify Fernley's roundabout at the intersection of U.S. 50A and U.S. 95A there is no clear favorite, though softscape, a mix of natural plants, flowers, shrubs and other living materials seemed to have a small edge over other alternatives, according to Olivia John, Fernley's deputy public works director.

The survey was publicized using the city's website, social media platforms and the city's reader board, as well as link to the survey being mailed to the public with monthly water bills, John told the city council during a presentation last Wednesday.

Four main alternatives were presented during the survey, John said, hardscape, softscape, artificial and xeriscape. A mix of two of the main options was also allowed, as well as other ideas. Softscape received 26 percent of the votes, hardscape 23 percent, a mix of two received 20 percent, while artificial, xeriscape and other options received 17 percent, 9 percent and 5 percent of the votes, respectively, she said.

When mixing two of the four main options, representing 20 percent of all the votes, there was even less

consensus: artificial and hardscape, 29 percent; artificial and softscape, 29 percent; hardscape and softscape, 28 percent; artificial and xeriscape, 6 percent; hardscape and xeriscape, 5 percent; and softscape and xeriscape, 3 percent.

Regarding actual votes, softscape, with 350 votes, led the pack. Hardscape came in a close second at 309 votes, while artificial came in with 221 votes, xeriscape gleaned 122 votes and all other alternatives came in at about 100 votes or less, John said.

The city council took no vote on the alternatives. The survey was requested by the council in March to get a feel for how the public wanted the roundabout to be designed. At that meeting, John noted that the Nevada Department of Transportation (NDOT) is responsible for maintenance of the roundabout, except for the center of the roundabout, which is the city's responsibility.

However, although the city will be responsible for the costs, design and maintenance of the roundabout's center, the city must work with NDOT to implement any center design that is decided upon, and nothing in the center may intrude upon the roadway if it is toppled over by the wind or a vehicle accident, she said.



Fernley City Councilman Joe Mendoza created this rendering of a sample design for the Fernley roundabout using ChatGPT. Courtesy City of Fernley

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ECONOMIC & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

How Development Funds Can Support Police, Fire, and Parks

By John Mueller
Sponsored Content by Mark IV Capital

As Fernley grows, so do the demands for its public services. More residents bring more calls to the fire department. Increased industrial activity expands the patrol zones for law enforcement.

More families mean more kids in parks, more cars on roads, and more pressure on already stretched infrastructure.

For many fast-growing communities like Fernley, the challenge isn't just managing population growth, it's ensuring that public services remain funded, responsive, and effective in the face of mounting demand. This is where development-driven investment plays a crucial role. Projects like Victory Logistics District don't just bring jobs and boost tax revenue, they help fund the essential civil services that keep communities safe, connected, and livable.

Large-scale developments generate more than buildings. They generate long-term revenue streams that can be reinvested into the local community. These include property taxes, impact fees paid by developers, special assessments that fund improvements such as road upgrades or sewer expansions, and even voluntary contributions from developers—particularly within master-planned projects. When structured well, these tools create sustainable funding mechanisms that can support long-term capital needs for Fernley's most critical departments.

Nowhere is this more evident than in public safety. As Fernley's footprint expands, fire protection and emergency response must evolve. Longer response distances, increased call volumes, and the unique challenges of new industrial operations all require strategic investments, new fire stations near growth zones, upgraded equipment, additional training, and coordination with developers to ensure emergency access and hazard mitigation plans. Law enforcement faces similar needs, from the expansion of police facilities to the purchase of patrol vehicles and communication systems, to the hiring of additional officers or support staff.

At Victory Logistics District, Mark IV Capital works closely with public safety stakeholders early in the development process to anticipate these needs. By doing so, the infrastructure is designed from the ground up to support both future tenants and the surrounding community.

Beyond safety, public investment in parks and community wellness becomes even more vital as Fernley welcomes more families and workers. Parks and recreation facilities not only improve mental health and reduce crime but also raise property values and quality of life. Development-driven funding can be used to build new parks, enhance existing ones, and add amenities such as sports fields, walking trails, and shaded recreation areas.

Shared funding models also make it possible to incorporate child development centers, splash pads, and community gardens into larger development plans—fostering livability alongside economic expansion.

With the right partnerships and policies in place, Fernley has an opportunity to become a model for smart, responsible growth—a city that doesn't just expand but evolves in a way that uplifts everyone. By aligning development incentives with public service investments, Fernley can ensure infrastructure keeps pace with new demands, maintain high standards of safety and recreation, and reduce pressure on city budgets through strategic public-private collaboration.

At Mark IV Capital, we believe development must serve more than just the bottom line—it must serve the people who call Fernley home. As Victory Logistics District continues to grow, we remain committed to collaborating with city leaders and service departments, designing infrastructure that anticipates community needs, and investing in sustainable, resilient, people-centered solutions.

Growth is inevitable. But how we grow, and who benefits, is a decision we make together. With thoughtful planning and strong partnerships, we can ensure Fernley's future is not just bigger, but better.



This page is brought to the community courtesy of Victory Logistics District and is aimed at informing Fernley residents about community development and economic growth. Each week we provide in-depth coverage of key issues shaping the city's future focused on fostering transparency and encouraging engagement.

We'd love to hear from you.

Have a story?

robert@fernleyreporter.com

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A Bridge to the Future of Fernley

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LAW & ORDER

LCSO provides stats for SRO program

By Robert Perea

The Lyon County Sheriff’s Office this week provided its year-end statistics for its School Resource Officer program.

The Sheriff’s Office provides school resource officers for schools in Fernley, Dayton, Silver Springs and Smith Valley. In April, the Lyon County School District Board of Trustees approved a new Memorandum of Understanding with LCSO to handle law enforcement functions in all Lyon County schools. This decision added the Yerington schools to the School Resource Officer program, beginning with the 2025-26 school year.

In 2025, the Sheriff’s Office expanded the School Resource Officer program from three deputies to five, including a sergeant who oversees the program. Two SROs are assigned to Fernley schools and one to Dayton. Previously, the fifth SRO split time between Smith Valley and Silver Springs schools, but with the new configuration, there will be an SRO full time in Silver Springs, and one will split time between Yerington and Smith Valley. In adding Yerington to the SRO program, the school board cited its desire for a consistent policy in all district schools, particularly the zero tolerance to crime policy the district and Sheriff’s Office partnered on several years ago.

“Schools are not immunity zones for crime; this policy does not mean that

every student who commits a crime is arrested,” Sheriff Brad Pope said. “Much like the adult justice system, the level of crime determines the action taken by the Sheriff’s Office.”

Pope said most of the time, a criminal report is taken, and the offending student is referred to the Lyon County Juvenile Probation Office.

“We have seen improvements within the schools around Lyon County and will operate the Yerington Schools under the same mindset,” he said.

For the 2025-26 school year, Pope said SROs in the four areas, which didn’t include Yerington, took a total of 328 reports, referred 213 cases to Juvenile Probation and there were 21 arrests made. Deputies also made 214 traffic stops in school zones around the county.

The majority of the reports, referrals to Juvenile Probation and arrests were in Fernley, which has nearly half of the county’s enrollment.

There were 191 reports taken in Fernley schools, 118 referrals to Juvenile Probation and 18 arrests. In Dayton, 89 reports were taken, 64 cases were referred to Juvenile Probation and three arrests were made. Silver Springs and Smith Valley, there were a combined total of 48 reports, 31 referrals to Juvenile Probation and no arrests.

According to a report presented to the district for its 10-year facilities master plan by Orcutt Winslow, the total enrollment in the six Fernley



schools in 2024-25 was 4,141. The report said Dayton has five schools with total enrollment of 2,354, the three schools Silver Springs have a total enrollment of 1,025. Yerington, with three schools, had a total of 1,215 students. Smith Valley is a K-12 school with 162 total students.

Lyon County Sheriff’s Office School Resource Officers participate in Career Day in Fernley last month.

Photo courtesy of LCSO

BUSINESS

New business licenses

The Fernley City Council approved the following new business licenses at its June 18 meeting:

- Zion Builders, Inc., Sparks, Careentry Contractor
- The Complexion Studio, Fernley, Cosmetology
- Key Motive LLC, Fallon, Mobile Locksmith
- Endeavor Wireless Construction, Inc., Sacramento, CA, Telecom Contractor
- Anam Cara Counseling, Fernley, Telehealth Counseling and Coaching
- Wreathing Havoc, Fernley, Hobby/Crafter
- Lopez Company handyman LLC, Fernley, Handyman
- Northern Nevada Electric LLC, Spanish Springs, Electrical Contractor

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LAW & ORDER

Arrest Report
June 15 – June 22, 2025

All information for the arrest report is provided by the Lyon County Sheriff’s Office and is considered by law to be public information.
All subjects are innocent until proven guilty in a court of law

Arresting Agency: Lyon County Sheriff’s Office: 26 State of Nevada: 1 Tribal: 3 Yerington Police Department: 0	Bail Amount: \$970.00 Charges: Criminal Contempt	Bail Amount: \$1,000.00 Charges: Contempt of Municipal Court	Bail Amount: None Charges: Tribal Charge
BANKS, BRIAN ERIC Area of Arrest: Schurz Bail Amount: \$2,500.00 Charges: Tribal Charge	DICKINSON, GWENDALYN MI- CHELLE Area of Arrest: Silver Springs Bail Amount: None Charges: Failure to Appear After Bail, Felony Crime; Assist Other Agency— Hold; Felony Arrest for Violation of Probation/Conditions of Suspended Sentence	MCKENZIE, IAN JAMES Area of Arrest: Fernley Bail Amount: \$3,140.00 Charges: DOM Battery, (1st)	SHEPARD, SCOTT ALAN Area of Arrest: Yerington Bail Amount: \$5,000.00 Charges: Unlawful Act Regarding Ex- creta/Fluid by Prisoner in Custody, (1st)
BERGMAN, SHALOM PAUL Area of Arrest: Fernley Bail Amount: \$3,140.00 Charges: DOM Battery, 1st	GONZALEZ, KRISTOPHER Area of Arrest: Yerington Bail Amount: \$213,140.00 Charges: Violation of Domestic Vio- lence TPO; Harassment (1st); Stalking, (1st); Violation of Domestic Violence TPO (second count); Unlawful Use of Emergency Phone Number (911); Stalking, Use of Internet/Electronic Communication; Intimidate Public Of- ficial/Others with Threat of Force, (1st)	NGUYEN, ANDREW DUY Area of Arrest: Fernley Bail Amount: \$20,000.00 Charges: DUI, (3rd)	SHORT, CHRISTOPHER GAYLAND Area of Arrest: Fernley Bail Amount: \$25,000.00 Charges: Own/Possess Gun by Prohib- ited Personl Prohibited Act – Violation of Sex Offender Registration, (1st)
BONNIE, WILLIAM THOMAS Area of Arrest: Yerington Bail Amount: \$0.00 Charges: Court Commitment		PASOLD, MARK DENNIS Area of Arrest: Yerington Bail Amount: \$150,000.00 Charges: Sex Assault Against Child Under 14	THORNTON, JOSHUA ADAM Area of Arrest: Fernley Bail Amount: \$2,135.00 Charges: DUI, (1st); Minor in Posses- sion of Alcoholic Beverage in Public; Open Alcohol Container in Vehicle
BROCK, ERIC DANIEL Area of Arrest: Fernley Bail Amount: None Charges: Felony Arrest Fugitive from Other State/Complaint/Warrant		RANGEL, MATTHEW WILLIAMS Area of Arrest: SCSO Transfer to LCSD Bail Amount: \$1,345.00 Charges: Failure to Appear After Bail, Misdemeanor Crime	VILLAGRANA DIARTE, LUIS AR- MANDO Area of Arrest: Dayton Bail Amount: \$1,140.00 Charges: DUI, (1st)
BURRELL, GARTH J Area of Arrest: Fernley Bail Amount: \$8,640.00 Charges: Obtain/Possess Credit/Debit Card Without Cardholder’s Consent; Possess ID Info for False Statement/ Occupation/License/ID; Use/Possess Drug Paraphernalia	GREEN, AUSTIN GEORGE Area of Arrest: Silver Springs Bail Amount: \$4,500.00 Charges: Criminal Contempt (2 counts)	RATTO, NICHOLAS ENRICO Area of Arrest: Fernley Bail Amount: \$1,140.00 Charges: Convicted Person Failing to Register with Law Enforcement With- in 48 Hours	WEBB, MONICA LINDSEY Area of Arrest: Dayton Bail Amount: \$3,140.00 Charges: DOM Battery, (1st)
CAMPAN, CARLOS NOAH Area of Arrest: Fernley Bail Amount: \$1,105.00 Charges: Assist Other Agency—Hold	HOLLAND, AMANDA CHRISTINE Area of Arrest: Fernley Bail Amount: \$20,000.00 Charges: DUI, (3rd)	ROSEBUSH, GARY DEWAYNE Area of Arrest: Yerington Bail Amount: \$10,000.00 Charges: Prohibited Act – Violation of Sex Offender Registration, (1st); Felony Arrest for Violation of Probation/Con- ditions of Suspended Sentence	WELLS, COURTNEY ALLEN Area of Arrest: Fernley Bail Amount: \$10,000.00 Charges: DOM Battery by Strangula- tion
CONWAY, MARK ANTHONY Area of Arrest: Yerington Bail Amount: \$1,100.00 Charges: Tribal Charge	HUNTER, CHRISTOPHER BLAKE Area of Arrest: Yerington Bail Amount: \$1,000.00 Charges: Criminal Contempt – Failure to Obey Court Order	SABINO, KEVIN MICHAEL Area of Arrest: Dayton Bail Amount: \$3,140.00 Charges: Violation of Domestic Vio- lence TPO	WELLS, JONATHAN DALLAS Area of Arrest: Fernley Bail Amount: \$2,670.00 Charges: Trespass, Not Amounting to Burglary; Resist Public Officer
DAGNELL, WILLIAM ANTHONY Area of Arrest: Yerington	KING, SHARI VENICE Area of Arrest: Fernley Bail Amount: \$1,140.00 Charges: DUI, (1st)	SANCHEZ, SANTINO Area of Arrest: Schurz	
	LONGWORTH, JENNIFER LEE Area of Arrest: Fernley		

Fernley Church Directory

Summit Church

Silverland Middle School

Living Faith Church

110 Center Street

St. Robert Bellarmine Catholic Church

625 Desert Shadows Lane

Grace Baptist Church

460 W. Main Street, Suite 108
gbcfernley.org

Crosswinds Assembly of God

3015 Farm District Road

Fernley Free Methodist Church

100 N. West Street

Fernley First Baptist Church

485 E. Main Street

Calvary Chapel

875 Fremont Street

Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints

155 Hwy 95A South

Gift of Grace Lutheran Church

290 N. West Street

Joy! Alliance Fellowship

www.facebook.com/JOYchurchFernley

Living Stones Church

868 Cottonwood Lane

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SPORTS

Little League All-Stars reach District 3 championship game

By Robert Perea

The High Desert Little League Majors Division All-Stars reached the championship game of the District 3 Tournament in Winnemucca and were scheduled to face Silverada (Dayton) Tuesday morning for the championship.

The Fernley All-Stars beat White Pine 6-3 on June 18, Hawthorne 21-3 on June 20 and Silverada 10-2 on June 22 to reach the championship game. If they win the championship, High Desert will advance to the State Tournament July 23-27 in Reno.

Weston DeGolyer had three hits in the win over White Pine and Greyson Kuntz drove in two runs to lead the offense, while Ayden Pagni, Garrett Conner and DeGolyer split the pitching

duties.

Against Hawthorne, High Desert needed only three innings to put 21 runs on the board. Ten different players scored at least one run, eight of them had at least one hit. High Desert scored five runs in the first inning, 10 in the second and six in the third.

Daniel Maguin drove in three runs to lead the charge against Silverada in the win that sent High Desert to the championship game. Tanner Karol had two hits, including a double, and scored two runs.

Three other High Desert teams competed in their divisions at the District Tournament. The Minors All-Stars lost their first game to Walker River on June 18, then beat Lovelock on June 20 and Battle Mountain on June 21, before being elimi-

nated by Silverada on June 22. The Junior Division All-Stars lost to White Pine on June 19, beat Winnemucca on June 20, then got eliminated with a loss to White Pine on June 21. The Senior Division All-Stars beat Walker River in the first game on June 20, then lost to Winnemucca on June 21 and were eliminated by Walker River on June 22.

Rosters for this year's All-Stars were:
Minors: Cash Shively, Malcom Clarke, Jesus Reyes, Brody Harlow, Mack Barchi, Jasiah Ward, Louie LaBee, Johnny Sandoval, Kendra Paredes, Tucker Maguin, Milen Escartin, Zachary McGuigan, Keegan Mares, Rogan Mastin

Majors: Ayden Pagni, JJ LaCroix, Tanner Karol, Garrett Conner,

Greyson Bailey-Duran, Asher Kuntz, Callan Holt, Greyson Kuntz, Kayden Alexander, Weston DeGolyer, Dillion Stockton, Kade Ressler, Daniel Maguin

Juniors: Briar Kuntz, Hayden Smith, Eastin Stapleton, Carter Ward, Jose Velazquez, Trenton Fuller, Deegan Holt, Andrew Walker, Teegan Karol, George Standfill, Richard Thibodeaux, Francisco Espinoza

Seniors: Drake Lyon, Mason Smith, Hector Bernal, Landen Kestle, Kayden Paredes, Kyle Edwards, Carson Foster, Jayse Jones, Clayton DeGolyer, Carson Glass, Owen Parale, Bodie Henderson, JJ Karol

COMMENTARY

Mayor Lawson worries about future after failed federal land deal gives Sparks little room to grow

Sparks Mayor Ed Lawson had a big stake in the land-sale amendment inserted recently into the "One Big, Beautiful Bill" by U.S. Rep. Mark Amodei, R-Carson City.

The proposed land sale included 14,000 acres of federal land in Washoe County that would be added to Sparks, with much of that ear-marked for affordable housing in a community already bursting at its city limits.

Amodei's congressional district includes Sparks and much of Northern Nevada, but his amendment included putting up for sale a swath of land in Clark County, which is not in his district.

The move upset some of Nevada's congressional Democrats who represent Clark County. They said they were never consulted before Amodei's move and felt Nevada was getting short-changed in the bill's congressional reconciliation process. So after some public complaining, the Nevada land-sale amendment was struck from the "OBBB."

Lawson, obviously disappointed, called the Congressional kerfuffle "a roller-coaster ride," on Nevada Newsmakers recently.

"I was a little surprised," he told host Sam Shad.

Lawson added that the failed amendment has put Sparks in an economic lurch.

He said he understood some of the Democrats' concerns, then added: "But

at the same time, we need a bill, and we need land. I mean, we're seeing the median house prices now going over \$630,000. So it's simple supply and demand. There's no magic wand to do affordable housing other than supply and demand."

The median cost for a home in Sparks is \$569,000, according to Realtor.com but Lawson's quote is still in the ballpark.

Losing out on the 14,000 acres in Amodei's failed amendment, coupled with Nevada's current property-tax cap, could spark a series of circumstances that could led an economic catastrophe in the next decade for Sparks, Lawson said.

"If the property-tax system doesn't get changed, and we don't get any land or any combination thereof, we could see a disaster in probably 10 to 15 years," Lawson said. "We won't have the land, so we will have to try to grow vertically, which means prices goes up, which means the cost of housing goes up."

Lawson lauded the work on land bills done by Nevada's Democratic Sen. Jacky Rosen and Amodei, the only Republican in Nevada's delegation. But he also understands the politics that rule Congress.

"I kind of understand that you're playing a team sport, and that's what it is at the national level -- and at the state level -- for that matter," Lawson said. "You're a D or an R, and that's the team

you play for.

"I wish it wasn't that way," Lawson said. "That's not the way I operate as a local (elected official). I mean, I represent all the citizens, not just the ones who are in the same party.

"It's just the way it's done today," Lawson said about the congressional process. "I wish things could get done because we need a lands bill in the worst way for Sparks. I mean, we're going to be out of land pretty soon."

Lawson supported and pushed a bill in the recent Nevada Legislature that would have allowed for the construction of a 13-mile toll road from northeast Sparks to the Tahoe-Reno Industrial Complex.

TRI, which has become the economic engine of Northern Nevada, is nine miles east of the Reno-Sparks metro area on the Interstate-80 corridor and home to major tech companies like Tesla, Switch and Google as well as logistics and distribution centers like Walmart and FedEx Supply Chain.

The toll-road idea was seized upon because Nevada Department of Transportation funding was not available. More importantly, traffic between east Sparks and the Tahoe-Reno Industrial Center in Storey County had become overwhelming -- and frightening, Lawson said.

"If you're not doing 75, you're getting run over," Lawson said. "So it's a little scary."

An average of almost 40,000 vehi-

cles traveled on I-80 between TRI and Sparks each day in 2023, according to the Nevada Department of Transportation.

Before the Tesla Gigafactory opened at TRI in 2017, the daily average was less than 26,000 vehicles per day, according to the Reno Gazette-Journal. Yet Lawson's toll-road bill went nowhere at the Legislature. It didn't even get out of its first committee -- the Assembly Growth and Infrastructure Committee.

"What I heard was that certain people (state legislators) said, 'I have to run for re-election and this is too much like a tax,'" Lawson said, giving a reason for the bill's failure.

It was reported in a major publication soon after the bill failed in April that Lawson "vowed to keep fighting for a new road."

Yet he said on Nevada Newsmakers that he will not re-introduce the measure at the next Legislature, in 2027.

"No, not by me," he said. "I got beat up for it."

The proposed toll road may follow the path of a new and popular connecting highway between Reno and Sparks -- the Veterans Parkway, Lawson said.

"It'll be like Veterans Parkway, you know that it was approved in the 1960s, and it didn't get built until 2000s," Lawson said. "And yet now you go on that road... and everybody loves it."

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