

**NORTH LAS VEGAS**  
**2024 STATE OF THE CITY**

“Further Together”

March 28, 2024

Aliante Resort

Good morning, and welcome to the 28th annual North Las Vegas State of the City address! Twenty eight? So, in other words, these things started a few years before I was born! Haha, I wish!! Thank you all for being here today!

I want to thank Mitch Fox, President and CEO of the Nevada Broadcasters Association, our incredible master of ceremonies. Mitch has helped us host this event every year since it began, so he has been doing this since he was in kindergarten! This day would not be the same without him. In fact, the City of North Las Vegas would not be the same if not for him! Mitch, thank you for always having our residents and this city in your heart!

I'd also like to recognize my colleagues and friends on the North Las Vegas City Council: Mayor Pro Tem Scott Black, Councilman Isaac Barron, Councilwoman Ruth Garcia-Anderson and Councilman Richard Cherchio. Through dedication and vision, guided by integrity and compassion, this Council has created a warm and welcoming government where people's voices are heard and valued. I'd like to ask our phenomenal North Las Vegas City Council members to please stand so we can give them a big round of applause.

To our friends and partners in the audience, to the elected representatives for other jurisdictions and agencies that are here today, thank you for your partnership. I am so proud of the work we have accomplished collaborating together! Could you please stand so we may recognize you.

Another thank you to the man who brought the fire today! Jacob Levesque, thank you for creating that amazing video!! Jake is a firefighter for the City of North Las Vegas who in his own free time taught himself videography and the incredible skills you saw today. Is our Fire Department talented or what?! Let's please give Jake a big round of applause.

I want to thank our incredible City of North Las Vegas employees. They are the real everyday heroes among us. The amazing folks who treat our residents like family, who stay up late thinking of ways to make our community better, those are the people who deserve the biggest round of applause today! Could all our team members here today please stand? Let's please recognize the incredible CNLV team, it is a joy and pleasure to serve with you!

To my family, your unwavering support is immeasurable. I value your support, your advice and all you do to help keep me sane. To my biggest cheerleader, my husband Romero Brown. You are my rock. When people forget to say Goynes-Brown, you are always there to remind them loudly and proudly. ((PAUSE)) You may have noticed that my parents, who have been by my side throughout my political career, are not here today. By the grace of God, they are still with us, however both are battling their own health issues. I know they are watching! ((PAUSE)) I want to thank my sons, Bobby and Michael. They are my heart, and I love them dearly. My greatest joy came in November when I became "Gigi" to my first grandchild, Ember Raye. Hopefully she's watching too! I'd like my immediate family to please stand to be recognized. ((Applause)) Thank you, I love you all!

As a young girl, I loved sports and music. While I held my own on the softball field and track, I can't deny, I was a total band nerd! In elementary school, I practiced countless hours at the piano. It was challenging, relaxing and became therapeutic later in life. Even though I loved it, sitting alone at the piano could sometimes be long and monotonous. Listening to the other kids play outside motivated me to finish so I could go outside and join my friends.

Then something magical happened when I started middle school band. At first, my band experience began similar to piano, alone with my clarinet practicing in my parents' family room. But everything changed when all of the kids came together at school with our instruments. I will never forget the feeling of sitting in that room together with dozens of other students when the sound of all those instruments came to life.

Sure, it sounded like a bunch of cats fighting on a chalkboard ((LAUGHS)), but the feeling of being part of a group trying to master the same thing was life changing. Suddenly, individual practice had a new purpose, and it became easier to sacrifice for the greater good. I learned that one person can't whistle a symphony, it takes a team.

The value of teamwork and partnerships was further reinforced for me as an athlete in track and field. One of my favorite events was the 100 meter dash, both running individually and on the relay team. Each time I crossed the finish I knew I had given it all and thought I could not possibly run any faster. Yet, something incredible happened when I ran with the relay team: My times were always faster! Part of that could be

accounted for by a running start, but even when I started as the first leg of the relay team, coming out of the blocks, I posted a faster time!

Early in life, I learned the value of teams, and how I did not want to let others down. The most important lesson learned is how we are always stronger together. This is encapsulated in a wonderful African proverb that says, "If you want to go fast, go alone. If you want to go far, go together."

Progress requires knowing when to lead and when to follow. That is the case in sports, governing, leadership, business - frankly, that is the case in life! I applied the same principles to my music - sometimes you go hard and push it, sometimes you sit back, play your part and just groove.

I thrive most when working with others. One of the fastest times I ever ran in track was as the anchor leg in a 100 meter - I got both a running start combined with the efforts of being part of a team that pushed me forward!

Last year at this event, I talked about momentum. Mayor John Lee did a phenomenal job writing the first chapter of the City of North Las Vegas' success story, and together now, this community and this Council are racing across the track writing the next. The positive and transformational momentum that this team has created has found its stride! He handed me the baton, and we took off!

"If you want to go fast, go alone. If you want to go far, go together." This principle was on full display last month when we broke ground on the long awaited water line to Apex Industrial Park. For over three decades, nobody could figure out how to get water to Apex; however, through a series of partnerships, we finally solved the problem.  
((APPLAUSE))

The first major breakthrough came by partnering with Weston Adams of Western States Contracting on a creative oversize agreement. Weston had the brilliant idea of partnering with the City to oversize the waterline he was preparing to install so water could be delivered not just to his project but to future projects in the southern part of Apex, allowing thousands of acres to immediately open for enterprise, creating thousands of jobs and jump-starting the entire park.

This paved the way for last month's groundbreaking on the Southern Nevada Water Authority waterline being built to Apex. With this waterline, Apex can achieve its promise of becoming a place where the private sector can create tens of thousands of new jobs bringing billions of dollars in revenue to our local economy. Working with SNWA, Clark County, and in particular our Commissioner Marilyn Kirkpatrick, Apex is now open for

business, and as I speak, land is being cleared to build over 11.5 million square feet of new buildings to foster the valley's newest job creators! ((APPLAUSE))

During his State of the University address earlier this month, UNLV President Keith Whitfield spoke about some of the planning our two institutions are engaged in, discussing the planning and development of the last large tract of land available in the bowl of the valley. The 5,000 acres north of the 215 between Pecos and North 5th Street are a blank canvas that provide a unique opportunity to transform our region and state. UNLV will soon own 2,000 acres, the City has stewardship of 3,000 acres. To put that in perspective, UNLV's current campus on Maryland Parkway is roughly 335 acres. This is a tremendous opportunity! President Whitfield said the "real mic drop" is to consider everyone's land together as one massive 5,000 acre opportunity.

President Whitfield is an amazing visionary and a thoughtful leader who is driving this conversation on how to use the land to rethink health care. Together we are discussing how we can use land, design, buildings, materials, public policy, ordinances and other innovative tools to improve health care outcomes for people by physically altering our environment.

America's health care model is backwards - the system is designed to wait until you get sick and then it gets paid to heal you! Just look at data on the proper diet: We are told one week to eat this and do that, only to be told months later to not eat this or do that. Government programs largely focus on gathering data to change minds, and almost every statistic available shows this is simply not working.

It isn't about willpower; good habits happen when we set ourselves up for success! We have to build communities where preventative health is the focus and systems are built to increase positive health outcomes.

Combining UNLV's stature as one of the top research universities in the United States, with an innovative and nimble policy-making institution like the City of North Las Vegas, gives us the opportunity to explore how we can study and create healthy environments to literally improve healthcare outcomes for people.

Look at what our team has done to transform our City! When experts said the financial situation facing North Las Vegas was unsolvable, our team took the traditional ways of doing government and flipped them on their head. Creative policy making, overhauling our internal processes, and reimagining a new way to govern has resulted in a dramatic turnaround and stable future for the City. In a town known for betting, putting your chips on North Las Vegas is a good call! I am excited to partner with UNLV as we embark on creating a new applied laboratory of exploration and municipal government policymaking where data can turn into action. ((APPLAUSE))

The policies and processes we have put into place are working. We have found our pace. We hear it from our residents and witness it in the magnetic pull bringing new industries to North Las Vegas. We see it in our stellar credit rating and residents' high confidence in our public safety programs. That is the trust we have earned, that is the great reputation we have gained!

By design, because of the way we do business, the City of North Las Vegas has become the irrefutable leader of economic development in Southern Nevada. Almost every year for the past decade, since we put "Grownomics" into place, the City of North Las Vegas has grown faster in assessed valuation than anywhere else in the Southwest, from \$4 billion in 2013 to \$13.3 billion today! ((APPLAUSE))

I am excited to announce that for the first time ever, the North Las Vegas development team has issued over \$2 billion in permit valuation this year, double what was once thought to be the high water mark! ((APPLAUSE)) That is possible only because of the confidence the marketplace has in us and in the future of North Las Vegas!

This is an incredible achievement considering the City was about to close its doors less than a decade ago and had cut scores of services for residents. It is the result of the smart, dedicated collaboration of everyone who is a part of this City that we were able to turn the corner, restore and expand services for residents, and become a model for efficient good government and exceptional customer service! I want to thank Land Development Director Alfredo Melesio and his team for getting these permits out the door and keeping this valley working! ((APPLAUSE))

My first year as Mayor was a whirlwind of economic development, groundbreakings and ribbon cuttings. We sprinted right out of the gate to keep the momentum and success going!

This team embarked on the largest Redevelopment Agency project in City of North Las Vegas history, reimagining 20 acres downtown. In partnership with Agora Realty and Management, we are transforming downtown North Las Vegas with a 20-acre mixed-use, master-planned, commercial-medical district. Gateway Village will include healthcare facilities, educational opportunities, shops, restaurants, parks, multi-family housing and community spaces, and will entirely transform our downtown corridor.

Regarding these educational opportunities, I would like to thank our State's newest University President Dr. DeRionne Pollard for her incredible leadership and forward-thinking vision. We have been collaborating with Nevada State University on ways to address two critical issues we face in our community, and in the coming months we will be announcing a very, VERY exciting partnership!!

Just a few miles away, at the site of the former Texas Station, Agora is developing Hyllo Park and Champion Square, a game changing mixed-use shopping, entertainment, commercial and residential development that will include needed residential units for City residents and a family-oriented athletic complex consisting of the existing ice rink along with other sports-programmed buildings, shops, restaurants, and public spaces. The Vegas Golden Knights began programming the facility in November!!  
((APPLAUSE))

I want to thank Senior Director Jared Luke and Economic Development Director Terri Sheridan and their small but mighty team. The work you all do is beyond amazing in our eyes. We set a vigorous goal, and you surpassed it! ((APPLAUSE))

We are a business whose success comes from building relationships with other businesses. It is similar to our North Las Vegas small business owners - at first you have to hustle and stand outside and ask people to come into your shop; you've got to work long hours and put in the sweat, until one day you realize your systems work, your products are excellent, and you can sit back and breathe for a moment. That isn't complacency! That is success! ((Applause))

Restaurant Row - those words have become synonymous with North Las Vegas and Craig Road! When somebody says, "Let's go to Restaurant Row," you know exactly where you are headed! Twenty four new restaurants opened on Restaurant Row in 2023. These are incredible brands and some delicious healthful options for our residents! I know we just ate, but if y'all are still hungry, hit up one of the one hundred and one restaurants we have welcomed to Restaurant Row over the past three years!  
((APPLAUSE))

People come up to us all the time and say they've seen the changes we've made, they believe in our vision, and they support the bright future we are creating for North Las Vegas!

Healthy, smart economic development enables us to better support small and emerging businesses and existing businesses. Our Small Business Connector is one of the innovations that I am most proud of. In two and a half years, we have helped over 1,000 small and medium businesses! We also welcomed three new bilingual Small Business Coordinators to the team - we will not let language be a barrier to achieving success!  
((APPLAUSE))

To that end, the City has also been a national leader in implementing a revolutionary real-time, artificial intelligence language translation system to enable non-English speakers to participate more fully and richly in civic life. North Las Vegas was the first municipality in Nevada, and one of the first in the country, to use AI translation to

increase engagement, transparency and accessibility for residents. Our incredible City Clerk Jackie Rodgers and her team have been honored with numerous recognitions for their work! We have such a smart, dedicated group of people working for our residents! ((APPLAUSE))

This durable success has enabled the City to focus more robustly on an issue near and dear to my heart: Education. Our Learn NLV teachers and students initiative - started as a necessity during the COVID-19 pandemic then maintained at the urging of our residents - has become a critical tool in our pledge to fight for equal education and opportunity for North Las Vegas students. We have spent the past several years listening to families and educators and hearing what they need to succeed. We fashioned several programs around those conversations to try to meet those needs.

Over this past year, the City has awarded nearly \$1 million to teachers and schools to successfully improve attendance, increase teacher retention and boost family engagement. We partnered with the College of Southern Nevada to pilot a Spanish language program for educators to teach them relevant conversational Spanish to better communicate with families and students. Forty two percent of our North Las Vegas community is Hispanic or Latino, so educators have been extremely responsive to this course to gain new communication tools to use with Spanish-speaking families!

In both track and music, competitions and showcases were always more enjoyable for me the larger they were. I loved it when dozens of teams got together, and I got a glimpse into how each did things a little bit differently. We all collectively were training for the same purpose, but each warmup was slightly different, the coaching styles were diverse. All the teams had a different approach!

I see education the same way. No one size fits all! That is why we as a city encourage and support public schools and the Clark County School District as well as charter schools, private schools and other models of education working to help kids succeed.

As a result, the City recently acquired a 22,000 square foot building previously used as a child care facility and charter school to help us solve two unique issues. Over the past decade, more charter schools have been opened in North Las Vegas than any place in the state. We knew that if we could make it simple for schools to build, we would attract them.

While working with charter schools we quickly identified the capital cost of building a facility was a major barrier for national charters to locate to our community. Without much direct state support, charter schools have to enroll students at the same time they are trying to fund construction of a suitable building.

I am pleased to announce today our plan to open a “charter school incubator.” This unique program will allow us to target and attract top charter schools in the nation to teach children in our building while they plan and build their future school in North Las Vegas. When they complete construction, they will leave the incubator and we will welcome the next charter school to repeat the process. As a first in the nation concept, we look forward to using this exciting experiment to foster choice and increase the number or quality education seats for our North Las Vegas children!

Not only will this building be used as an innovative solution for access, the building will be used in a creative way to increase public safety in our community. The building was formerly used as both a charter school and a day care facility, creating another opportunity for us to try something that’s never been done.

Across the nation, entities are struggling to recruit and retain police officers. As with many problems, our team decided to look for innovative solutions and focused on expanding the points of access for new officers. We identified child care as a barrier for some to enter the profession and an obstacle for keeping our officers later in their career as they start their own families.

Policing can be an unpredictable job, often with unconventional hours. All you parents out there know, that can make child care REALLY difficult. It is a terrible proposition for parents to have to choose between their dreams of service and a career, and the realities of family, finances, and limited time and hands!

As is the North Las Vegas way, once we identified a problem, we set out to solve it and help in an innovative way! Today, I am announcing a unique partnership with a renowned childcare provider to expand the pool of possible officers in the City of North Las Vegas by providing child care to public safety team members. To quote another African proverb: “It takes a village to raise a child!” ((APPLAUSE)) We will be sharing more about this in the coming months!

In North Las Vegas, we make connections and build partnerships throughout the community to expand services for residents, particularly those who are vulnerable. Director Wilson Ramos and our fabulous Community Services and Engagement Department have made incredible positive impacts on residents. Last year, they enrolled nearly 600 people experiencing homelessness into our Street Outreach program and secured permanent sustainable housing for 53 unsheltered families and individuals.

We collaborated with Commissioner William McCurdy on “Mixed-Use Microbusiness Park” next to Nevada Partners - a wonderful affordable housing project breaking ground

this year that will have retail and office space, maker space and 76 affordable housing units.

Our team is providing real opportunities for folks to take steps toward a more stable and positive life. These programs benefit all of our residents by reducing strains on emergency services, alleviating pressure on public resources and promoting safety and a better community for all of us.

Under the leadership of Veterans Services Coordinator Walter Lescano, the North Las Vegas Veterans and Community Resource Center has been such a blessing and wonderful opportunity to honor our veterans and servicemembers while addressing their unique needs and challenges. By providing them with a one-stop shop for health care, housing, and employment services, we are empowering them to thrive and are taking away the red tape that prevents so many from receiving help. The big systems in place can make it so hard to navigate getting benefits; we make local connections to reduce those barriers and get people comfortable accepting help.

The Veterans Center brings together so many people from diverse backgrounds with a common link of service. It fosters such camaraderie and a tremendous sense of unity and solidarity that we've found to be so healthy and invigorating for folks.

We expect the same will happen at the Dolores Huerta Resource Center when it opens later this year! In partnership with our amazing federal delegation who secured \$1.6 million dollars for this project, we are building a first of its kind in Nevada, one-stop community center where residents can receive free workforce training, education, legal services, physical and mental health support, and technology training in Spanish and in English. I am excited to announce that we have been working with our partners at NV Energy and are finalizing the purchase of a 6,700 square foot building to house this exciting initiative!

Instrumental to all of this success has been our incredible City Manager Dr. Ryann Juden. Ryann came to North Las Vegas more than a decade ago, armed with an incredibly lofty list of goals to help save our city. I am now comfortable saying that I was a bit nervous when I first saw his big and heavy notebook of ideas! But I had no reason for concern.

The City of North Las Vegas would not exist if not for Ryann Juden. He played an integral and essential role in guiding this City out of its financial crisis, navigating through the pandemic, bringing new industry and economic development to the region, and recruiting a world-class team that is so smart and capable, and so dedicated to serving our residents with care and pride.

I am pretty heartbroken that Ryann will be leaving us as City Manager, we are grateful he will still be working with us on major projects moving forward. I wish he would be our city manager for life, but we are grateful that his wife Debbie and his children have shared him with us for so long. Behind every successful person is a loving and supporting partner. Debbie, if you could please stand, I would like to take a moment to thank you for all your support! ((APPLAUSE))

You may have seen Ryann today walking around with a sling on his arm. Mayor Pro Tem Scott Black joked that Ryann hurt his arm from the major mic drop he did when, in the span of a week, he got recognized as one of Nevada's top CEOs, broke ground on the long awaited water line to Apex, and then announced he is leaving the City. That really is quite the mic drop! Congratulations again to Ryann and his family.

One of the thoughts that comforts me when I imagine a North Las Vegas without Ryann at the helm is knowing the tremendous team that remains, led by Micaela Moore.

Micaela has been at the side of this Council it feels like since Day One, and she has never wavered in giving good, smart, sound advice on behalf of residents. She puts the strong positive culture of our City and our team first, and the results just flow from there! I speak on behalf of my Council colleagues in saying it gives us great confidence and pleasure knowing City Manager Moore will be the next great leader of this fabulous city, and we are honored to continue serving the people of North Las Vegas alongside her!

Micaela was most recently our City Attorney and has been one of the leaders who helped move the dial in making North Las Vegas a safer place to live. This Council and team has invested significantly to drive down crime in our community, and it has worked!

The CARE Court and our North Las Vegas Community Correctional Center are making tremendous progress in their mission of rehabilitation and reducing recidivism. Both are helping to break cycles of homelessness, poverty and petty crime, reducing long-term costs for taxpayers for emergency services, health care and criminal justice.

By supporting these efforts, we are creating a stronger, more resilient community for everyone! I want to recognize our stellar North Las Vegas Municipal Court judges - Chief Judge Chris Lee, Judge Courtney Ketter and Court Administrator Erin Tellez. They perfectly balance justice and accountability with transformational opportunities, which is what the City of North Las Vegas is all about! ((APPLAUSE))

It is our job in government to enhance quality of life for residents. We have made that our mission, and we have delivered in carrying out projects and programs for residents that are tangible and meaningful. We ask folks what services they want and need, and we listen! The results are substantial and impactful investments in our community.

I want to thank our Assistant City Managers Rebecca Gipson, Sally Moore and William Harty for their impeccable leadership and oversight of our departments and city. There is a no more capable group! I'd also like to recognize Finance Director William Riggs and his team for the role they played and continue to play in the financial health of the City. ((APPLAUSE))

It is no surprise that our incredible Finance Department has received the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting for 41 consecutive years! That's older than me! (Did you believe that?! I'll let you guess which part is true!)

As I mentioned, our libraries have expanded their service hours and are increasing programming faster than I can keep up! Alexander Library, in partnership with Workforce Connections, opened the first Employ Nevada Youth Hub this year in North Las Vegas to support young adults ages 16 to 24 with career counseling, STEM training and schooling. The Library District also increased the number of programs offered to the public by 87 percent from last year. As a result, attendance increased by 154 percent! That is fantastic work by Library Director Forrest Lewis and his team!

The long-term fiscal health that we have secured for North Las Vegas has allowed us to make investments well beyond the scope of what the City has ever been able to do before, and frankly beyond our wildest dreams a few short years ago. It is hard sometimes to see the finish line when you are still early in the race! But despite the sweat and tears - both in track and in saving the City - we pushed on and pushed hard and exceeded all expectations!

Earlier in this presentation, you saw some pretty impressive slides about the economic impacts of the companies we are recruiting. I am not going to lie and say it isn't fun to stand here and rattle off big numbers about capital investment. Bringing in these global companies and new industries are critically important - they are the financial backbone of our community. But the heart and lifeblood of our community are the people! Economic development breeds job creation and fiscal stability, which translates directly into services, programming and amenities for residents! Economic development is the fuel that enables us to make these more important investments in our community and people.

When I drive down I-15 or 215 and see all of the industrial development, a light bulb goes off in my head. This is why we have restored library hours; this is why we have beautiful rec centers. Then my mind goes to this CNLV team, and I think of the smart decisions made to put us and our residents in this good position.

It is very important to me that each ward benefits from this citywide strategic growth and development, and I wanted ALL of our parks to represent the tremendous North Las

Vegas community properly. I need our parks to SPARKLE! That is why my first act as Mayor was to commit \$11 million dollars to beautify every North Las Vegas park south of Craig Road. ((APPLAUSE))

The dirt has been flying! We are currently in the process of updating and improving 20 parks with sports fields, new playgrounds, splash pads, dog parks, better lighting and other amenities. In partnership with Impact Nevada, we are planting 5,000 new trees across North Las Vegas. Our Nevada summers are only getting hotter, and we want to provide pockets of paradise for our residents in the desert! This is key to a vibrant, healthy and sustainable community!

The City re-invested substantially this year in our crown jewel Craig Ranch Regional Park with new infrastructure, security and programming. Our wonderful skate park, beloved by so many kids, got resurfaced, and we converted seating in The Amp to accommodate more attendees to shows, concerts and watch parties. There are also six new multi-use athletic fields under construction, to be finished in late summer! I want to thank Clark County Commissioner Marilyn Kirkpatrick and her colleagues for supporting these new fields.

In January, Ice Age Fossils State Park opened near Tule Springs. The park is an amazing community resource that's being used for cultural and natural history programming, tours and interpretive hikes, and major scientific research and fossil discoveries. It connects to the Villages at Tule Springs with a beautiful trail system the City developed as part of an innovative partnership between developers, the City and the State. I want to thank Governor Joe Lombardo and Assemblywoman Daniele Monroe-Moreno for their support and leadership on this awesome project!

The effective management we've implemented in North Las Vegas is precisely why our parks are being upgraded, new fire stations are being built and more police officers are on the road.

People count on us to invest dollars in staff and infrastructure to make sure North Las Vegas is a safe and wonderful place to live. These are wise investments made by a world class team that is bringing our community to the next level!

Right now, we are about to open our newest North Las Vegas police station near Tule Springs! The Command Center is complete, and our teams are putting the finishing touches on the parking lot and exterior. This will add dozens of officers to neighborhoods and make our police teams even more accessible to residents.

In October, the City of North Las Vegas was named the second safest city in the state of Nevada! The entire state!! ((APPLAUSE)) The Wallethub study placed North Las Vegas second only to Henderson, ahead of both Las Vegas and Reno.

The men and women of the North Las Vegas Police Department are the frontline protectors of safety and security in our City. They build meaningful connections with residents, address concerns, and collaborate with stakeholders to develop proactive solutions to neighborhood challenges. These are wonderful partnerships!

Our officers serve with unwavering dedication and professionalism to prevent crime and ensure residents can live their lives free from fear or harm. Let's please give a huge round of applause for our guardians in blue, and recognize our public safety leaders - Police Chief Jacqueline Gravatt and Assistant Chiefs Michael Harris and Adam Hyde. ((APPLAUSE))

Our North Las Vegas community is growing, we are innovating, and we've gained a tremendous amount of momentum! But a city is not a viable place without public safety. The time has never been more critical than now to keep our groove going - we are making public safety improvements never seen before in this City! We must maintain, into the future, the investment our residents have made to enable us to continue hiring police officers and building police stations!

On the Fire/EMS side, crews broke ground on Fire Station 58 on Deer Springs Way to serve more than 30,000 residents in the Tule Springs area. Our team is hiring 24 additional firefighters to staff the station!

At the same time, the Fire Department improved response times on critical emergency medical incidents by over 15 percent! As Mayor Lee used to say, fast and faster! Let's please give a round of applause for our Fire Chief Joseph Calhoun and the best fire department in America! ((APPLAUSE)) Supporting these firefighters and paramedics and the projects they take on to keep our community safe is so paramount.

Our efforts in public safety and our parks are supported by and rely on two revenue streams approved by voters nearly thirty years ago. This summer, voters will be presented with two critical ballot questions for residents to decide to preserve funding for North Las Vegas public safety, road safety and parks.

Questions 1 and 2 maintain the same property taxes that exist now - 2 cents per hundred thousand of assessed valuation. These funds directly pay for city police, firefighters, parks and street maintenance.

These tax dollars fund police officers who patrol our streets, firefighters who rush us to the hospital, the parks we play in with our children, and the streets we walk and drive every day. In total, that funding amounts to one hundred and six positions, including firefighters and police!! As residents decide the future of North Las Vegas, I can't help but think again: "If you want to go fast, go alone. If you want to go far, go together."

The City of North Las Vegas is winning. Our residents are winning. Let's play it out to the finish line!

This is the momentum we have maintained. This is the race we are going to finish and win - together. We know the course, we've done our training - now we let muscle memory take over and run our little hearts out!

Thank you all for being here! Have a great day!