



**CITY OF NORTH LAS VEGAS  
CITIZENS' ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
REGULAR MEETING  
SUMMARY MINUTES**

January 7, 2025  
4:00 p.m., Council Chambers,  
2250 Las Vegas Boulevard North,  
North Las Vegas, Nevada 89030

Website - <http://www.cityofnorthlasvegas.com>

**CALL TO ORDER**

**Vice Chairman Swaney** called the meeting to order at 4:05 P.M.

**WELCOME**

**Vice Chairman Swaney** welcomed all in attendance.

**VERIFICATION OF COMPLIANCE WITH OPEN MEETING LAW**

**City Clerk Jackie Rodgers** confirmed compliance with the Open Meeting Law.

**ROLL CALL**

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT**

Chairman Acosta (Excused)  
Vice Chairman Swaney  
Member Alpert  
Member Cato  
Member Henderson  
Member Koury  
Member May-Noel

## **STAFF PRESENT**

Director Community Services and Engagement Wilson Ramos  
Housing and Neighborhood Services Manager Rick Damian  
Deputy City Attorney II Madison Zornes-Vela  
City Clerk Jackie Rodgers  
Chief Deputy City Clerk Cherry Lawson  
Deputy City Clerk Isabel Rodriguez  
Deputy City Clerk Kim Schooley

## **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE - BY INVITATION**

Led By **Member Alpert**

## **PUBLIC FORUM**

**Vice Chairman Swaney** opened the meeting to receive public comment. No comments were received.

## **AGENDA**

1. Citizens' Advisory Committee Regular Meeting of January 7, 2025. (For Possible Action; Recommendation – Approve)

**MOTION:** *Member Koury moved and Member May-Noel seconded the motion to approve the agenda as published.*

**ACTION:** **APPROVED**  
AYES: 6  
NAYS: 0  
ABSTAIN: 0

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

2. Citizens' Advisory Committee Regular Meeting Minutes of December 3, 2024. (For Possible Action; Recommendation – Approve)
3. Citizens' Advisory Committee Special Meeting Minutes of November 19, 2024. (For Possible Action; Recommendation – Approve)

**Member Alpert** stated that in the December 3, 2024 Regular Meeting Minutes, the comment made in the second from the last paragraph was made by Member Koury, not Member Alpert.

**MOTION:** *Member Cato moved and Member Alpert seconded the motion to approve the Consent Agenda as presented with amendments to the December 3, 2024 meeting minutes.*

**ACTION: APPROVED**

AYES: 6

NAYS: 0

ABSTAIN: 0

## **BUSINESS**

4. Applicant Presentations for FY 2025-2026 Grant Cycle for Community Development Block Grants (CDBG). (For Discussion Only)

G. Jobs for Nevada Graduates Inc. - Program: NLV + Jobs for America's Graduates (JAG) Nevada – Lives Changed (CDBG)

**JAG Nevada Executive Director Rene Cantu** stated the funding would be used for the JAG program at Canyon Springs High School. It was the organization's first time requesting CDBG funding. Student President of the JAG Nevada program at Canyon Springs High School Melanie Hernandez spoke about her experience with the program.

**Member Korey** asked about Ms. Hernandez's career aspirations after graduation.

**Member Alpert** asked if the electives were unique to Canyon Springs High School, what content they covered, if the regular teaching staff taught the electives, and, if JAG was teaching the electives, did those instructors have credentials.

**Member Cato** asked how many students participate in the JAG program.

**El Faro Consulting Partner Mo Denis** shared how the JAG Nevada program had impacted participants. Student Vice President of the JAG Nevada program at Canyon Springs High School Kacey Miller spoke about her experience with the program.

H. Iron Sharpens Iron Mentoring Inc. - Program: Youth Mentoring/Diversion Program to Decrease Crime (CDBG)

**Iron Sharpens Iron Mentoring Founder and CEO Coach John Williams** stated the organization serves youth aged nine to 18. The participants work through a 12-week program and then have an opportunity to return as peer mentors.

**Vice Chairman Swaney** asked if the program participants are out of school or if they've been expelled.

**Member Henderson** asked about the program curriculum and what the funding would be used for.

**Member Cato** asked for clarification on how the funding would be used.

**Member Alpert** commented that the North Las Vegas Police Department had hundreds of gun locks.

I. Helping Hands of Vegas Valley - Program: HHOVV and Volunteer Transportation (CDBG)

**Helping Hands of Vegas Valley Executive Director Marcia Blake** stated the organization provides services to older adults in North Las Vegas and Las Vegas who are homebound. It offered a transportation service, a walk-in pantry, home delivered groceries, respite care vouchers, minor home repair, and a nutrition program delivering meals to older adults in the rural areas of Southern Nevada. The grant funds would be used for transportation services.

**Vice Chairman Swaney** asked how many of the participants were North Las Vegas residents.

**Member Koury** asked if records are kept on the number of times a participant is denied transportation.

**Member May** asked what the vehicle sizes were and if they were working with the Regional Transportation Commission (RTC) of Southern Nevada.

**Member Alpert** noted the organization asked for \$54,000 and asked how that number was determined.

J. Foster Kinship - Program: Kinship Navigator Program (CDBG)

**Foster Kinship Program Director Paula Ramirez** stated there are approximately 30,000 children that are growing up without either of their parents and are raised by relatives outside the foster care system and there is limited state and federal funding streams. Foster Kinship offers five programs of assistance including intake case management, donation distribution, a training institute, child and youth intervention, and an advocacy network. Success is measured through legal capacity, financial stability, community connection, and emotional support. It is an evidence-based program and the only navigator program in the state of Nevada.

**Member May** asked if the grant funds would be used for new or existing families.

**Member Alpert** commented that Foster Kinship received CDBG funds from the City of North Las Vegas for the past three years and asked if the Cities of Las Vegas and Henderson and Clark County granted them funds as well.

K. Community in Schools of Nevada Inc. – Program: ISS and Academy Support (CDBG)

**Community in Schools of Nevada Senior Director of Grants Jamie Chazen** stated the grant funds would support the Integrated Student Support (ISS) program at Bridger Middle School and Martinez Elementary School. The ISS program is evidence based and addresses the systemic and nonacademic barriers that prevent students from achieving academically.

**Vice Chairman Swaney** asked if the program site coordinators were bilingual.

**Member Alpert** asked if the program was new or existing at Bridger Middle School and Martinez Elementary School and how many years the program had been in existence at the schools.

L. Catholic Charities of Southern Nevada - Program: Meals on Wheels (CDBG)

**Catholic Charities of Southern Nevada Meals on Wheels Program Manager Jennie Duarte** stated the organization's mission is to provide food, shelter and comprehensive services and inspire the community through collaboration. It offers the largest home delivered meals program for seniors in Southern Nevada. Meals on Wheels Supervisor Armin Garcia shared the story of Joanne and Terrance, a senior couple impacted by the Meals on Wheels program. Grants Manager Kate Thurn shared client demographic data for clients in North Las Vegas.

**Vice Chairman Swaney** asked what days of the week meals are delivered.

**Member Alpert** asked if there was a charge for the meals and if there were income restrictions to qualify for meal delivery.

**Member Henderson** asked how clients access the program if they are unable to leave their homes and if there is an application process on-line.

**Member May** asked how long the requested grant funds would last.

M. Boys & Girls Club of Southern Nevada - Program: Hope and Opportunity (CDBG)

**Boys and Girls Club of Southern Nevada representative Chelsea Elliot** stated they are an after-school program with 13 locations, including one in North Las Vegas. Their mission is to enable all young people to reach their full potential as caring, productive, responsible citizens. The grant funding would be for a proposed new program designed for children in grades Kindergarten through 5 who come from low to moderate income households for emotional wellness, specifically at the James Clubhouse.

**Vice Chairman Swaney** asked how many students utilize the James Clubhouse and what are the hours of use.

**Member Alpert** asked if the organization has any partnerships with the North Las Vegas Police Department.

N. Baby's Bounty - Program: North Las Vegas Diaper Bank (CDBG)

**Baby's Bounty CEO and Executive Director Kelly Maxwell** stated they are a 16-year-old nonprofit organization working to improve health outcomes for families living in poverty. The requested funds would be used to support the North Las Vegas Diaper Bank, which serves between 600 and 858 families, and is open the second Wednesday of every month.

**Vice Chairman Swaney** asked where the diapers are purchased and if contracts are set up with wholesale companies. He also asked how many diapers are given per family at the North Lake Vegas diaper monthly events and if cloth diapers were a cost-saving option.

**Member Alpert** asked where other diaper banks are located in North Las Vegas and how many people would be at the North Las Vegas Diaper Bank on the second Wednesday of the month.

**ACTION: DISCUSSED**

5. Discuss and Set the Dates for Community Development Block Grant Applicant Bus Tour. (For Possible Action; Recommendation - Approve)

**Housing and Neighborhood Services Manager Rick Damian** stated that Jaini Christison was working with Committee Members on finalizing the dates, which are Tuesday, January 14, 2025 from 8:00 am to 3:30 pm and Thursday, January 23, 2025 from 8:00 am to 1:30 pm.

**Member May** stated she would not be able to attend either day.

**Member Alpert** asked if each applicant would be available during the proposed dates, if a meal would be provided, and if the members would meet at City Hall before departing for the tours.

**Member Koury** asked for clarification on the conference room in City Hall where the members would first meet.

**MOTION:** *Member Koury moved and Member Alpert seconded the motion to approve January 14 and 23, 2025 for the Community Development Block Grant Applicant Bus Tour.*

**ACTION:** **APPROVED**  
**AYES:** 6  
**NAYS:** 0  
**ABSTAIN:** 0

#### **STAFF COMMENTS**

**Mr. Damian** thanked Committee Members for helping to review and score the pending grant applications and Vice Chairman Swaney for leading the meeting in Chairman Acosta's absence.

#### **COMMITTEE COMMENTS**

**Member May** commented that the Baby's Bounty presentation puts the cost of diapers into perspective and Vice Chairman Swaney agreed.

**Member Koury** stated it was helpful to him when the applicants brought hard copies of their presentations to the meetings.

### **PUBLIC FORUM**

**Vice Chairman Swaney** opened the meeting to receive public comment. No comments were received.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

**Vice Chairman Swaney** adjourned the meeting at 5:15 P.M.

### **CERTIFICATION**

I certify that the foregoing are true and correct minutes of the City of North Las Vegas Citizens' Advisory Committee Regular Meeting held on January 7, 2025. I further certify that a quorum was present.

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Jackie Rodgers, City Clerk