



# CITY OF FERNLEY

## CITY COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT

Meeting Date: March 18, 2020

**REPORT TO:** Mayor and City Council  
**REPORT FROM:** Daphne Hooper, City Manager  
**REVIEWED BY:** Brent Kolvet, Deputy City Attorney  
**REVIEWED BY:** Denise Lewis, City Treasurer

**FINANCIAL IMPACT:**

Yes:  No:

**CURRENTLY BUDGETED:**

Yes:  No:

**FUND/ACCOUNT:**

**ACTION REQUESTED:**  Consent  Ordinance  Resolution  Motion  Receive/File

**AGENDA ITEM: Staff Report (For Possible Action):** Direct staff to prepare and submit comments to the Bureau of Reclamation regarding the Truckee Canal Extraordinary Maintenance Draft Environmental Impact Statement

**Agenda Item Brief:** An Environmental Impact Statement regarding the Truckee Canal Extraordinary Maintenance has been published in the Federal Register. Public meetings are scheduled on March 24, 2020 from 5:30 – 7:30 at Fernley City Hall and March 25, 2020 from 5:30 – 7:30 in Fallon. Staff is requesting direction from staff to prepare and submit comments to the Bureau of Reclamation.

**Recommended Motion:**

“I move to direct staff to prepare and submit comments to the Bureau of Reclamation regarding the Truckee Canal Extraordinary Maintenance Draft Environmental Impact Statement.”

**Business Impact (per NRS Chapter 237):**

- A Business Impact Statement is Attached.
- A Business Impact Statement is not required because this is not a rule (term excludes vehicles by which legislative powers are exercised under NRS Chapters 271, 278, 278A, or 278B).

See attached report for background, analysis, alternatives.

**BACKGROUND:**

The United States Department of Interior, Bureau of Reclamation has prepared an environmental impact statement (EIS) to analyze the environmental impacts of proposed extraordinary maintenance to address safety needs along the Truck Canal, a part of the Newlands Project, in western Nevada. The Canal originates at the Derby Diversion Dam on the Truckee River, approximately 20 miles east of Reno, Nevada, and ends at Lahontan Reservoir.

On January 5, 2008, the Canal's north embankment, approximately 12 miles downstream of the Derby Diversion Dam, breached after a storm. This resulted in uncontrolled water release that caused flooding and damage to approximately 590 properties in the city of Fernley, Nevada. The Truckee-Carson Irrigation District (TCID), which operates and maintains the Canal, repaired the breach in February 2008, and the Canal reopened in March 2008. Following the January 2008 Canal breach, Reclamation completed several studies that identified areas requiring repair and maintenance to address safety concerns. Until long-term repairs are made, the Canal is required to operate at a lower stage (height of water) to reduce risk.

The EIS was published in the Federal Register and a 45-day public comment period began on March 6. The deadline for comments is April 20. Two public review meetings are scheduled:

- March 24 (5:30 – 7:30pm) – Fernley City Hall
- March 25 (5:30 – 7:30pm) - Fallon

Staff is reviewing the Draft document and is requesting authorization from City Council to prepare and submit comments to the Bureau of Reclamation. Further, staff is preparing information to be shared with the public regarding the potential impacts this may have on the community.

**ATTACHMENTS:**

Draft Environmental Impact Statement