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September 16, 2020

Re: Marlette Lake Water System
Grant Funding/State Public Works Division Letter of Support

To Whom It May Concern:

On behalf of Nevada's Legislative Committee for the Review and Oversight of the Tahoe Regional Planning Agency and Marlette Lake Water System, it is my pleasure to write a letter of support for grant applications submitted by the State Public Works Division (SPWD) of the Department of Administration. The SPWD is seeking funds that will enable critical improvements to the Marlette Lake Water System to ensure ongoing operations of the System as well as the safety of the public.

The System is historically significant; it dates back to the 1870s and was purchased by the State of Nevada in 1963. Today, it is comprised of two reservoirs—Marlette Lake and Hobart Reservoir (both supported by earthen dams)—a concrete diversion dam, water storage tanks, water catchments, approximately 7 miles of high pressure inverted siphon, and 36 miles of water transmission lines. This System provides water to both Storey County and Carson City residents and is the only water source for Virginia City, Gold Hill, and Silver City residents. Additionally, Marlette Lake and Hobart Reservoir are within Nevada's state park system and function as fish hatcheries for Nevada's Department of Wildlife.

The improvements provided by these funds will provide stability for those who rely on the System for their water supply, safety for those who live downstream of the earthen dams, and an ongoing source of recreation for Nevada's residents and visitors. The Committee fully supports the efforts of the SPWD as it seeks funding to improve the System.

Sincerely,

Senator Julia Ratti, Chair
Legislative Committee for the Review and
Oversight of the Tahoe Regional Planning
Agency and the Marlette Lake Water System