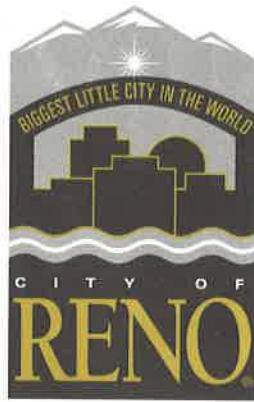


Hillary L. Schieve
Mayor



Web site: reno.gov



*"The most livable of Nevada cities;
the focus of culture, commerce and
tourism in Northern Nevada."*

October 19, 2022
Interim Finance Committee
Nevada State Legislature

Re: Agenda Item D.9: Support for the transfer of \$250 million from the Home Means Nevada Reserve to the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Home Means Nevada Initiative.

On behalf of the City of Reno, we want to thank the Chair and members of the Committee for considering this item, which is so critical to communities across Nevada. It is my pleasure, as the Mayor of Reno, to ask for your support of agenda Item D.9. We thank you for your continued commitment to addressing the affordable housing crisis that faces our state and the nation.

Your bipartisan vote to approve the first \$250 million in March sent a strong message to our community about your priority to help make great strides toward a more affordable Nevada. We wholeheartedly support the allotment of the second tranche of \$250 million to the Home Means Nevada Initiative.

When I look around, I see parts of our community that are hurting and in need. Nevada has been hit hard by the pandemic and our community is feeling the impacts of rising costs and the growing need for access to affordable housing. This investment gives us the opportunity to help to meet the needs of those that call Reno home. This once-in-a-lifetime investment will mean more housing options and more help for generations of Nevadans. The need is extensive, and there is no shortage of problem-solvers ready to take on this challenge. The time to make a difference is now. This historic investment can make a major impact on an issue that is at the forefront of our community at this very moment.

The Reno City Council has made a strong public commitment to work with the state and all stakeholders to address the affordable housing crisis. Over the course of the last year, the Reno City Council has hosted multiple affordable housing workshops. At those workshops, the Council has shown a continued commitment to this issue through our sewer and building fee reduction program. We also have allocated \$13 million in direct funding from our ARPA allocation to rehabilitation efforts for affordable units and for the construction of new affordable units. We must all work together to ensure these dollars make a lasting difference in our communities.

We urge your approval of this funding and are excited about the possibilities it provides. We want to thank the Nevada Housing Division for all of the work that is going into this program, and appreciate the leadership of this Committee in making affordable housing solutions a priority.

Sincerely,



Hillary L. Schieve
Mayor