

March 8, 2022

RE: FY 2021 American Rescue Plan Act Build Back Better Regional Challenge Notice of Funding Opportunity EDA-HDQ-ARPBBB-2021-2006976- Phase 2

To Whom It May Concern:

On behalf of the Southern Nevada Water Authority (SNWA), I am pleased to offer this letter in support of federal funding directed to our community that supports infrastructure, transportation and regional initiatives.

The SNWA is the regional water agency that develops and manages water resources for the Las Vegas Valley and its 2.3 million residents and 40 million annual visitors. These efforts are detailed within our regional planning document, the SNWA Water Resource Plan, which projects our community's demands and available water resources over a 50-year timeframe under a variety of different hydrologic scenarios.

Southern Nevada is nearly fully reliant on the Colorado River to meet its demands. In the face of shrinking supplies, our community has grown by becoming one of the most resilient and efficient water users in the country. Simply put, we do more with less. Thanks to a comprehensive water conservation program that is regionally adopted by the municipalities that share our resources, our community benefits from a coordinated approach to water efficiency. Water conservation principles are embedded within all facets of our community: from more efficient development to avoid consumptive water losses, to a watering schedule that is promoted during local sports games, our community rallies behind water conservation. In fact, it's this community's dedication to preserving resources that have led to the conversion of more than 200 million square feet of irrigated grass to desert adapted landscaping, saving 152 billion gallons of water to date.

Recent Colorado River hydrologic projections remain grim and are a stark reminder that there is still work to do. More initiatives are underway to reduce community water use, thereby increasing resiliency to decades-long drought and climate change impacts. Our annual review of water resources has bolstered our community's ability to prepare for a hotter, drier future, even as we continue to diversify our local economy. Our forethought in capital planning, including the completion of our new Low Lake Level Pumping Station and third intake at Lake Mead will help secure water supplies is an example of community resilience.

Our adaptability has been recognized by rating agencies. Recently, Standard & Poor's recognized the SNWA as a leader in water conservation for its efforts in reducing non-functional turf acreage, improving landscape watering compliance, and promoting water efficiency in future development.

Southern Nevada's continued success requires ongoing support and continual reinvestment in our community. For this reason, I am pleased to provide this letter in support of federal investment in regional initiatives for the benefit of the Las Vegas Valley.

Sincerely,



David L. Johnson
Deputy General Manager
Operations

SNWA MEMBER AGENCIES