

Resolution

of the Nevada Association of Counties

RESOLUTION Regarding Road Relinquishments by the Nevada Department of Transportation (NDOT)

WHEREAS, NDOT has determined that certain roads on the State highway system are not of regional or State interest, and

WHEREAS, on June 21, 2012 NDOT notified Nevada's counties that it is seeking to open negotiations for the transfer or relinquishment of the responsibility for 768 miles of roads that are currently on the State highway system to local governments, and

WHEREAS, on June 25, 2012 NDOT staff notified the State Transportation Board of Directors that it had submitted a bill draft request to the Governor's Office for the 2013 Legislative Session that would enable NDOT to relinquish roads that are no longer of State interest when a fair and equitable offer of offsetting road maintenance responsibilities or trade of facilities is offered, and

WHEREAS, nearly eighty percent of the total miles of improved road in Nevada are already being maintained by local governments and these roads carry forty-three percent of the total vehicle miles traveled in Nevada, including, seventeen percent of all truck traffic, and

WHEREAS, NDOT's revenues include gasoline and special fuels taxes, motor vehicle taxes and registration fees, federal aid and three cents of property tax diverted from Clark and Washoe Counties pursuant to Assembly Bill 543 enacted in the 2009 Legislative Session, and

WHEREAS, Nevada counties do not have sufficient revenue to maintain their existing roads in part because they do not receive special fuels taxes or federal aid and that adding additional roads without additional revenues will cause many to fall into disrepair.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the traveling public is best served by a seamless system, of streets and highways, that is maintained by the State and local governments, and

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER that it is the position of the Nevada Association of Counties that road transfers and relinquishments should be a cooperative effort between NDOT and the counties as is currently set forth in Nevada Revised Statute 408.527, and that it include mutual agreement on which roads to be transferred and relinquished, that condition of the roads, and ongoing funding to maintain roads on a long term Basis and

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that it is the position of the Nevada Association of Counties that the unilateral transfer of roads to counties by the State is an unfunded mandate and a disserve to the public.

Passed, Approved and Adopted this 28th day of September, 2012 by the Board of Directors of the Nevada Association of Counties.

Attest:

Jerry Tipton
Board President

Jeff Fontaine
NACO Executive Director