

NEVADA PLANNER



American Planning Association
Nevada Chapter

Making Great Communities Happen

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FALL 2021

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American Planning Association Nevada Chapter

Making Great Communities Happen



ON THE COVER: AGLOW IN THE MORNING SUN IS THE SITE OF THE 2021 STATE PLANNING CONFERENCE, THE CAMPUS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF NEVADA. PHOTO: UNIVERSITY OF NEVADA.

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LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

NATHAN GOLDBERG, AICP
PRESIDENT, NEVADA CHAPTER

Greetings!

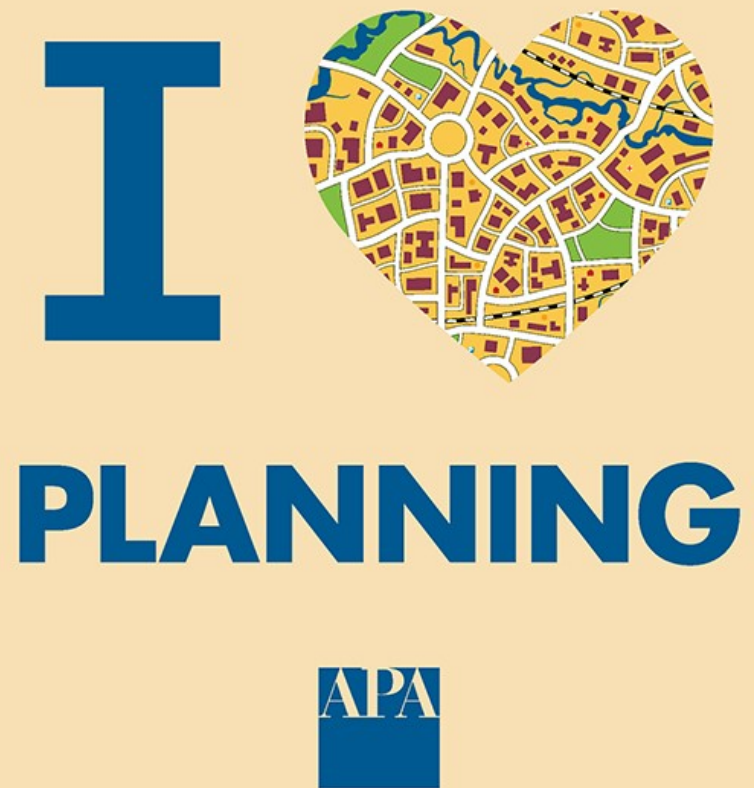
The fall season brings us to another State Planning Conference, and a highly coveted collectable, hard copy version of the Newsletter! I am looking forward to the informative sessions, sharing of ideas, and just the overall experience that events like this offer. Before I go any further, I would like to extend a huge thank you to the Northern Section and the Conference Committee for all of their hard work. So much goes into these events that often goes unheralded. Your work is truly appreciated.

At the National level, I am serving on the Chapter Presidents Council (CPC) Policy and Advocacy Committee. The CPC is actively updating a variety of policy documents and discussing the best ways to implement the new goals and directives of APA. There have also been conversations with the new APA Leadership Associate on what assistance Chapters need from National. Many of the smaller Chapters, like ourselves, are in need of the same types of resources and communications. My hope is that these Chapters can work together to build a more useful and effective set of programs that Planners can utilize to positively impact our communities. There are opportunities available both at the Chapter and National levels to get involved. If you have a specific area of the profession that you are passionate about I'm sure there is a space for you to make a difference. Please do not hesitate to reach out and I will find a place to get you involved.

Much like the previous year, 2021 has been a challenging one for everyone for a variety of reasons. My sincere hope is that this Conference is able to provide a nugget of normalcy and be a symbol of hope for a full return sooner rather than later. Thank you for your membership and participation in APA and on behalf of the Nevada Chapter Board I look forward to seeing you in Southern Nevada in 2022.

Thank you,

Nathan Goldberg, AICP



NORTHERN SECTION NEWS

FREDERICK STEINMANN
DIRECTOR, NORTHERN SECTION

Since the beginning of the COVID-19 global pandemic, the Northern Section has continued to develop and deliver alternative educational opportunities for the Chapter's members. Since the Spring of 2020, the Northern Section has developed and completed over 30 hours of online virtual educational content. As we continue to return to normal in-person activities, the Northern Section will continue to work with Chapter and Southern Section representatives to provide educational content and networking opportunities.

The return of in-person Chapter and Northern Section activities began this past summer with a Reno Aces Night at Greater Nevada Field in downtown Reno, as well as the planning of the 2021 State Planning Conference, in partnership with the Nevada Chapter of the American Society of Landscape Architects. While we are excited to offer some of the upcoming Conference's sessions virtually, we are anticipating a significant in-person turnout for the Conference that will be held in downtown Reno at the Reno Ballroom on Monday, October 18, through Wednesday, October 20.

Post-conference, the Northern Section is also planning a number of holiday social events, some of which will be offered virtually and some of which will be held in-person. We are also excited to announce the development of a Nevada Rural Planning Conference that the Northern Section and Southern Section are currently in the early stages of planning for the spring of 2022!

On behalf of the Northern Section, thank you for your continued membership and continued engagement as we all continue to build a strong and resilient future for Nevada!

SOUTHERN SECTION NEWS

GARRETT TERBERG III, AICP
DIRECTOR, SOUTHERN SECTION

If you're reading this while attending the 2021 Nevada State Planning Conference in Reno, enjoy your time! The diverse planning sessions/mobile workshops will provide an incredible opportunity to learn, network, and be inspired by the best planning persons in the state and beyond! I also hope you can enjoy the experience and apply the knowledge in your respective professions, as we "Build a Strong and Resilient Future for Nevada."

Be sure to join us in Las Vegas next year for the 2022 Nevada State Planning Conference. Also, the Southern Section is working on our final events for 2021, with details forthcoming!





EXTREME HEAT VULNERABILITY REPORT SHOWS GEOGRAPHIC DIFFERENCES OF HEAT IMPACTS

PAUL GULLY, AICP
GRANT SHIRTS, AICP

We've endured another summer of triple-digit (and sometimes record-breaking) temperatures. And if it feels like summers are getting hotter and hotter each year, that's because by many measures they are.

Southern Nevada has been identified as [one of the fastest-warming regions in the U.S.](#), with temperatures increasing more than 5 degrees Fahrenheit since 1970.

The number of 100-degree days per year in the region has also been on the rise over the past three decades, according to National Weather Service data. In 2019, 84 days were at least 100 degrees and, according to a new report from the Southern Nevada Water Authority, the Las Vegas valley may see this increase to 115 days over the next 50 years.

With increasing temperatures come a host of negative impacts, ranging from prolonged drought that contributes to strains on the region's water supply to the stretching out of allergy seasons.

Most importantly, studies have found a [clear link](#) between rising temperatures and increasing heat-related deaths and hospitalizations.

Despite the history of adverse health impacts associated with extreme heat in our region, experts hold that many of these outcomes are preventable.

It was with this in mind that the planning staff within the RTC of Southern Nevada undertook a research project focused on examining the health risks extreme heat events impose upon residents across the valley. Their findings and results are included in both a [recently published report](#) and interactive, [web-based map](#). The extreme heat vulnerability composite map visualizes the spatial distribution of vulnerability to heat among the region's population, and is a composite of three component maps (Maps 1-3). Red areas in the composite map are more likely to have populations that are more vulnerable to extreme heat. In the component maps, red areas represent those with populations most vulnerable to each respective component.

To arrive at these results, RTC staff completed extensive research and spatial analysis built around the three components that contribute to extreme heat vulnerability:

- **Exposure** – Levels of exposure to extreme heat can be impacted by both the natural and built

environment.

- **Sensitivity** – Health and physiological factors can predispose people to greater risk.
- **Adaptive capacity** – The ability to prepare for or cope with extreme heat through economic, political or social means.

The map was developed by analyzing demographic, health, and environmental data, and input from local subject matter experts and stakeholders.

Results from this analysis find that the areas in Southern Nevada with populations most vulnerable to extreme heat are largely concentrated in and around the region's urban core and east side. These areas include many of the region's older neighborhoods. The populations in these areas are typically more racially and ethnically diverse and economically challenged than other parts of the region. And because these areas may cool less at night, they experience naturally higher temperatures. Additional results include:

- The spatial distribution of *Exposure* factors (see Map 1 on next page) is more evenly dispersed across the region than the *Sensitivity* and *Adaptive Capacity* components. However, *Exposure* is more intense in the eastern half of the valley, and is closely correlated with the region's elevation. Elevation drops by more than 2,000 feet from west to east in developed areas of the region, resulting in naturally higher temperatures in the east side, especially east of the I-515 freeway.
- Populations most sensitive to extreme heat are located in the region's urban core – largely in and around downtown Las Vegas, downtown North Las Vegas, and the resort corridor. The most influential *Sensitivity* (Map 2) indicators are related to health: Heart disease, diabetes, and respiratory disease. Persons with these conditions are particularly sensitive to extreme heat.
- Populations least able to adapt to extreme heat are primarily concentrated in the valley's urban core and east side. The three most influential *Adaptive Capacity* (Map 3) indicators are education, race, and homelessness. Low levels of educational attainment are correlated with lack of financial resources and can be a barrier to accessing weather warnings, which

allow individuals to prepare for weather-related hazards, as well as mechanisms for coping with extreme heat. Non-white populations are disproportionately impacted by heat in the U.S. due to decades of lack of economic opportunities, and homeless populations often lack many of the resources needed to prepare for and cope with extreme heat, such as air conditioning.

Identifying the geographic distribution of populations that are particularly vulnerable to extreme heat is an important element of reducing adverse health outcomes associated with extreme heat and a warming climate. Understanding where the populations most vulnerable to extreme heat exist can help local government agencies and service providers prevent negative health outcomes by targeting resources in priority areas. The results of the spatial analysis, for instance, can help guide the location of cooling stations and information campaigns throughout the region.

Furthermore, by utilizing the component maps, the analysis can also inform the types of strategies that might be appropriate or most effective in reducing vulnerability in specific areas. For example, in an area where vulnerability is driven largely by exposure factors, interventions aimed at heat mitigation – such as cool infrastructure and additional vegetation and green space – could be considered.

Included in the Southern Nevada Extreme Heat Vulnerability Analysis is a discussion of results, profiles of four areas of high vulnerability in southern Nevada, and a survey of strategies other cities have implemented that could be considered in the region.

There were nearly 600 heat-related deaths in Southern Nevada over the 10-year period from 2009-2018, according to Southern Nevada Health District data, with

numbers spiking in the most recent years. Additionally, during the three years between 2016 and 2018, there were 619 heat-related emergency room visits in the region.

And while these numbers are alarming, heat-related health outcomes are almost certainly undercounted, according to both public health and medical experts, due to the way this data is captured in hospitals. ^{NV}



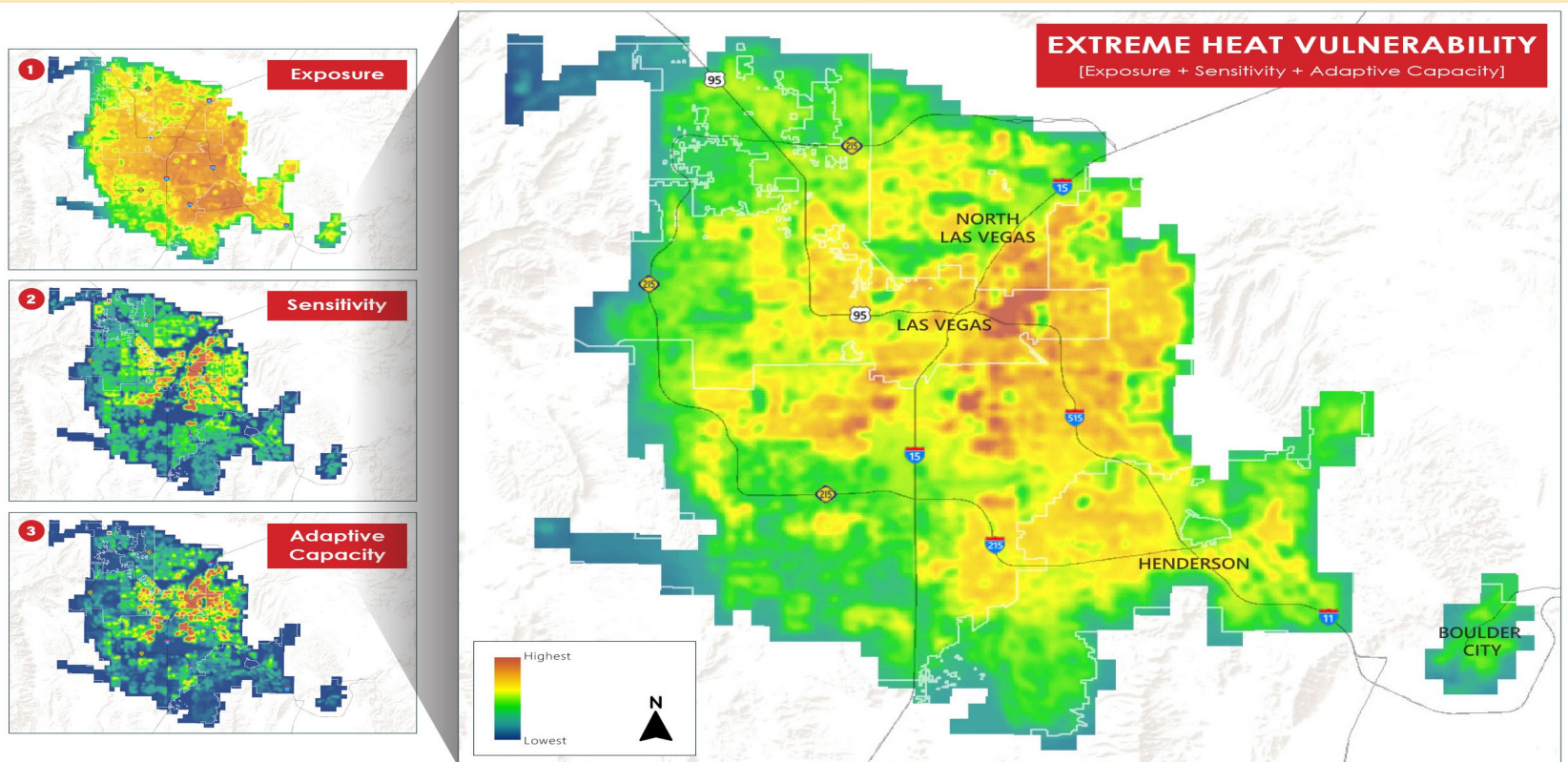
Paul Gully is a senior regional planner with the Regional Transportation Commission of Southern Nevada where he leads a variety of studies and manages projects in support of the Southern Nevada Strong Regional Plan, including those related to transportation, health, and housing.

Prior to joining the RTC in 2016, Paul studied public policy at the University of Michigan where he focused on local and regional policy and planning, and had several opportunities to gain practical experience, including a consulting project with the City of Detroit's Deputy Mayor's Office.



Grant Shirts is a transportation planner on the Regional Transportation Commission of Southern Nevada's modeling and analysis team where his primary role is to transform raw data into meaningful information and is responsible for the congestion management process. Grant holds a

BA in Humanities from Brigham Young University–Idaho and a Master's Degree in Urban and Regional Planning from University of Iowa.



Note: This analysis measured relative vulnerability to extreme heat, not absolute vulnerability. So it should not be inferred that there is little or no heat vulnerability in areas at the lower end of the spectrum (blue areas on the map), just that there are lower levels of heat vulnerability relative to other areas of the region.



which will translate into mandatory water cuts.

The projections for unhealthy air and heat related deaths are beyond concerning. These climate impacts in turn threaten our communities' cultures and traditions, natural world, economy, and way of life. Las Vegas loves winning but not if the award is being the *fastest warming city in the country!*

We have our hands full, but we're ready. These challenges demand bold action to ensure Clark County's future is healthy, livable, prosperous, and

climate resilient. The good news is that all the solutions we need to endure and embrace the changes ahead exist today. That's why Clark County is taking bold action now!

AN INNOVATIVE, COLLABORATIVE, & INCLUSIVE EFFORT TO PREPARE SOUTHERN NEVADA FOR CLIMATE CHANGE

**JODI BECHTEL
KIM LUNDGREN**

Right now, in Southern Nevada we are working to rebuild our economy after COVID-19, while we plan to welcome another 820,000 neighbors by 2060 -- all amid unprecedented threats from climate change. With the stakes this high, Clark County is going big and bold with *All-In Clark County*.

We like to say that whether you're here to grow a family, build a career, or celebrate and explore, the collective vision is a sustainable Clark County -- one with clean air and water as well as affordable housing, clean energy, job diversity, and a livable climate. But that won't happen without planning and collaboration.

What's at Stake

The stakes are high because the projected impacts of a warming climate -- not to mention what we're already living through -- are intense. The facts as we know and feel them:

- Throughout 2020, 100% of Nevada was in some form of abnormal dryness or drought.
- July 2021 was the hottest month ever on record, hitting record temperatures nearing 120 degrees and exceeding the typical number of heat days over 100 degrees.
- By August 2021, the federal government declared the first-ever water shortage in the Colorado River basin,

About *All-In* Clark County

All-In Clark County is the comprehensive effort to prepare Southern Nevada for a changing climate and create a sustainable future for all. The name, of course, draws on gaming lingo you might hear in a casino, but it primarily speaks to the intentional, inclusive stakeholder and community engagement process at the heart of *All-In*. Reaping the benefits of previous initiatives and cultivating the long-standing partnerships in the County coupled with involving all layers of the community are the key ingredients driving forward a sustainable pathway.

As part of this initiative the county has completed a County Operations Sustainability and Climate Action Plan, is leading a regional Greenhouse Gas Inventory and Climate Vulnerability Assessment and has just kicked off its Community-wide Sustainability and Climate Action Planning Process the *All-In* Community Plan. This plan has six focus areas and four Guiding Principles: Equity, GHG reductions, Resilience, and Transparency. The constant is a focus on leveraging existing collaborative relationships and forging new creative partnerships.

This planning process builds off years of collaborative, cross-jurisdictional engagement efforts among a diverse range of regional stakeholders with the one unifying vision: a sustainable Southern Nevada.

- Through a collaboration of Clark County (unincorporated), its 5 municipalities (Boulder City, Henderson, Las Vegas, Mesquite, and North Las Vegas), two indigenous communities (Las Vegas Paiute Tribe and the Moapa Band of Paiutes) and the Clark County School District and Reclamation District, a Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan was developed and released in 2018. This plan assessed

the region's vulnerability to a wide range of hazards and identified strategies for mitigating impacts of those hazards.

- Together with the Southern Nevada Water Authority, the County along with six municipalities and water districts in the valley developed a [Joint Water Conservation Plan](#) in 2018.



This collaborative spirit continues through *All-In Clark County* projects and is showcased in the representation of the advisory groups for all three active projects (Regional GHG Inventory, Climate Vulnerability Assessment, and the Community-Wide Plan).

Working to Have All Community Voices in the Plan

Beyond the stakeholders from key regional organizations and jurisdictions, *All-In Clark County* has a primary focus of bringing diverse voices, experiences, and perspectives from the community to the table. The strategy to deliver this is currently underway and is designed to:

- Raise awareness of the impacts of climate change on Southern Nevada
- Grow climate literacy
- Engage a wide audience in the *All-In* planning process
- Build local capacity to take action to address climate change

The innovative approach to engagement includes:


- Leveraging new virtual platforms/digital whiteboards (e.g. Miro).
- Sharing “Meeting-in-a-box” materials to encourage individuals to engage members of their own communities around the *All-In* initiative.

- Recruiting organizations (Equity Partners) and individuals (Ambassadors) that have community-based expertise and compensating them for that expertise to spark on-the-ground, person-to-person engagement, particularly where members have been historically left out of the planning processes.
- Hosting focus groups and/or open houses to engage all members of the surrounding communities.

Leading by Example

While spearheading community wide efforts, the Clark County Department of Environment and Sustainability is also driving internal action to ensure implementation of the **All-In** Operations Plan. From coordinating the All-In Steering Committee, developing training for all staff, and supporting the development of new policies and programs that support everything from electric vehicle infrastructure to sustainable affordable housing, and financing options for renewable energy, the County is demonstrating its commitment to go All-In on tackling climate change.

With this comprehensive, phased, and inclusive process, there are endless opportunities to improve the quality of life for all while creating a more vibrant, sustainable future for generations to come. Won't you join us in being *All-In*?

To learn more about *All-In Clark County*, read the [All-In County Operations Plan](#) and visit the [All-In Dashboard](#) to track our progress. 



Jodi Bechtel currently serves as the Assistant Director of the Clark County Department of Environment and Sustainability, providing oversight to the agency's Office of Sustainability, Endangered Species Act compliance program, and the Planning and Monitoring Sections of the Air Quality compliance program. Jodi has over 20 years of experience in the natural resource field, working for non-profit, private, and government agencies. Jodi has a Bachelor of Arts in Anthropology and a Masters in Public Administration.



Kim Lundgren is the Chief Executive Officer of Kim Lundgren Associates, Inc. (KLA), a woman-owned, benefit corporation that delivers solutions to create sustainable communities by addressing climate change. Kim has more than 20 years of professional experience working with local governments to design, secure funding for, implement, and evaluate sustainability plans and programs focused on climate change adaptation and mitigation.

IN MEMORIAM:

CARL ROBERT WEBB, JR.,

AICP

Carl Robert Webb, Jr., known to many as Bob Webb, of Reno, Nevada, passed away at the age of 65 on Monday, April 26, 2021. Bob was surrounded by his loved ones as he ended his battle with metastatic cancer.

Born in McAllen, Texas, on October, 12, 1955, to Carl Robert Webb, Sr., and Ernestine Garnett Webb, he was the second of four children.

As the son of an active military officer, Bob moved frequently throughout his childhood, living everywhere from Okinawa, Japan, to Topeka, Kansas. As a high school senior in Tucson, Arizona, he met the love of his life in the form of a Danish exchange student named Lone. After high school, he attended the University of Arizona on a ROTC scholarship, earning a Bachelor's Degree in marine biology (in a completely landlocked state). After graduation, Bob became an active duty Army officer, graduating from Airborne and Ranger schools and completing two tours of duty in Germany.

During Bob's first tour in Germany, he continued to woo his high school sweetheart in Denmark and they eventually married in June, 1981. They have two children, Lars Robert Webb and Ellen Hagelund Webb. After his children were born, Bob transitioned from active duty to the Nevada National Guard and the family relocated to Reno, where Bob spent the rest of his life.


Bob earned a Master's Degree in public administration and became a county planner with Washoe County, where he worked in the county planning office for more than 30 years. Colleagues would note that Bob attended an awful lot of meetings, filled his office with Happy Meal toys, and met many of his life-long friends during his tenure. During this time, he continued to work with the National Guard, graduating from the Army War College and attaining the rank of Colonel before retiring in 2005.

Although Bob was not a native Nevadan he loved Northern Nevada. A very active member of the community, Bob volunteered for many local organizations, including Keep Truckee Meadows Beautiful, Boy Scouts of America, PBS, and Friends of the Nevada Wilderness, to name a few. He loved the outdoors and could always be found hiking, fishing, kayaking, skiing, etc., in his free time. Bob loved regular camping trips with close friends, and even though these trips often ended in misadventures, the trips made great stories to retell friends and family later. A patron of the arts, Bob also contributed to and



attended many events with the Reno Philharmonic, Broadway Comes to Reno, and Lake Tahoe Shakespeare Festival, as well as attempting to privately fund his local independent bookstore, Sundance Bookstore, through his frequent book purchases.

Those who knew him know Bob was a man of schedules and order: Every shelf was perfectly organized, books alphabetized, county codes meticulously memorized, and you could set your clocks to his daily morning runs through his neighborhood. He was a wealth of knowledge in seemingly every possible subject and was always ready to be appointed an unofficial historical tour guide for locations across Northern Nevada and beyond. He was a proud and involved grandfather to five grandchildren — Rowan, Bryn, Marlow, Corvin, and Elka.

Bob is preceded in death by his father Carl Webb. He is survived by his wife, Lone; his children and their spouses, Dr. Lars and Cortney Webb, and Drs. Ellen and Milad Webb; his mother, Ernestine "Nana" Webb; his siblings Penny Webb, Steven Webb, and Craig Webb as well as their families; and his five grandchildren. 

IN MEMORIAM:

EDWARD DWAYNE WYNES,

AICP

Ed Wynes passed away at the University of Utah Hospital in Salt Lake City after a brief illness; he was 79.

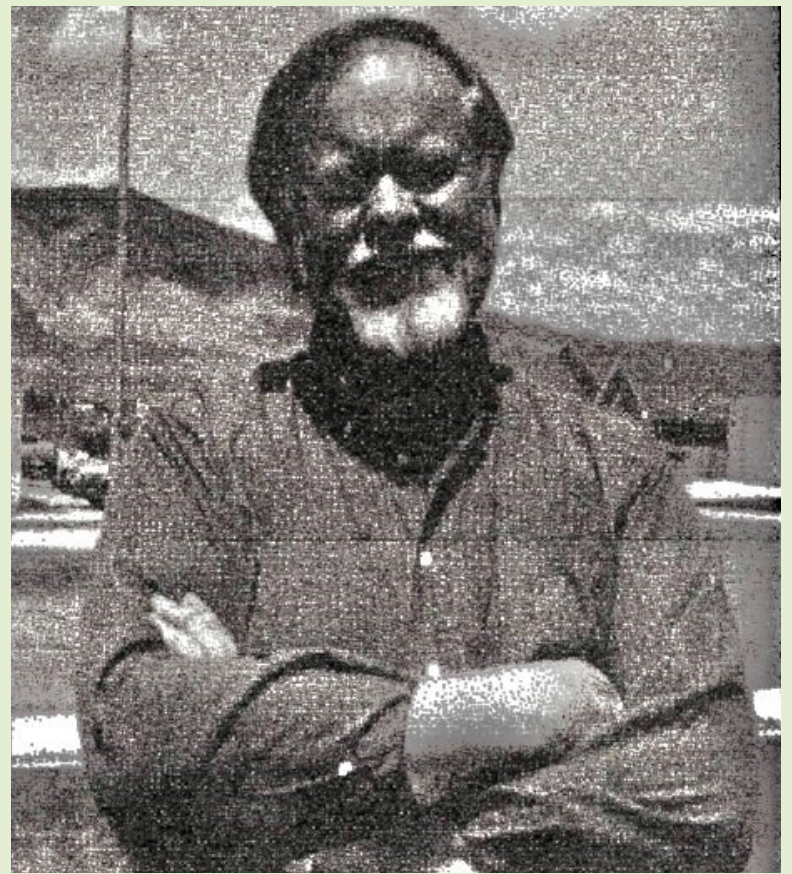
A resident of Elko, Ed lived a storied life. He was born in Woodland, CA, to William Edwards Wynes and Marion Hannah Smith Wynes, both deceased. Ed's younger sister, Marion Judith Wynes, is also deceased.


Ed's family moved around northern California before settling in Winters, CA, where Ed graduated from Winters Joint Union High School in 1959. Ed attended Sacramento City College and Southern Oregon College (now Southern Oregon University) between high school graduation and 1964. By his own admission, Ed was not a stellar student.

In the spring of 1964, as his draft number was coming up, Ed enlisted in the U.S. Army, specifically in the Army Security Agency (ASA). During his enlistment, Ed was posted in Massachusetts, Virginia, Turkey, and Vietnam. In 1968, Ed mustered out of the Army with the rank of sergeant.

He re-enrolled at Southern Oregon College (SOC) that same year and graduated with a degree in political science in 1971. It was at SOC that he met and married Pam Whiting in 1971; they were married for 43 years before her passing in 2014. Ed completed his education with a Certificate of Urban Studies from Portland State University in 1973. That year, Ed began his 38-year career as a land use planner working for a number of public agencies - mostly rural communities - in Oregon (Washington County, Tillamook County, City of Reedsport) and Nevada (City of Reno, Humboldt County, Elko County, and City of Elko).

In many of these positions, he was the Director of Planning. Ed was a member of the Nevada Chapter, a member of the American Institute of Certified Planners (AICP), and a member of Western Planning Resources, Inc. Ed was honored by Western Planning Resources, Inc. with the Planner of Year Award in 2000. Ed also co-authored the first NVAPA Planner's Guide and co-authored a published article on the regulation of local houses of prostitution, which is still legal in some Nevada counties. After



Ed's retirement, he became very interested in genealogy and was working on a family history of his and Pam's family. Ed is survived by his brother-in-law, Eben Whiting. Ed and Pam are very much missed by those who had the pleasure of knowing them. 

TRANSFORM CLARK COUNTY INITIATIVE

GARRETT TERBERG III, AICP
DARCIE WHITE, AICP

Clark County is updating its entire Master Plan for the first time since 1983 – although individual plan elements have been periodically updated since then. The draft Master Plan (released in July 2021) establishes a cohesive vision and policy framework based on six core values:


- Unique communities, neighborhoods, and lifestyles
- Equitable access to programs, services, and amenities
- A healthy and sustainable natural and built environment
- A more connected Clark County
- A diverse and resilient economy
- Sustainable and resilient growth and development

This framework was developed over 18 months based on extensive input from residents, businesses, partner agencies and organizations, County leaders, and other stakeholders.

The draft Master Plan is scheduled for adoption in November 2021. The Master Plan will be implemented through a set of County-led and County-supported initiatives that will be used to guide annual work programs and increase awareness of collaborative efforts throughout the region. One of these key initiatives is the process of reviewing and updating the County's Development Code (Title 30 of the County Code), which includes ordinances for zoning, the subdivision of land, off-site improvements, signs, and other land development related issues. The Development Code rewrite was initiated concurrently with the Master Plan update and is anticipated for completion in late 2022.

Clark County encompasses a large geographic area (approximately the land area of New Jersey) and a diverse community of interests. Ensuring that the updated Master Plan and Development Code are reflective of both countywide and area-specific priorities has required, and will continue to require, extensive community and stakeholder input. That feedback will help to shape Clark County's future!

On behalf of the County, the project team is being led by Clarion Associates, a Denver-based consulting firm that specializes in comprehensive planning and plan implementation, with support from Denver-based MIG, a consulting firm specializing in urban design and placemaking.

For more information about the Transform Clark County process, visit: www.transformclarkcounty.com 



Garrett TerBerg, III, AICP has served at various planning agencies in Nevada and Arizona, served on APA Chapter Boards in both states, and has taken on teaching/mentoring roles throughout the Southwest US since the 1980s. He's made Southern Nevada his home since 1992. Travel, both domestic and international, is his passion, which enriches his understanding of what planning is all about!

Darcie White, AICP, is a Director with Clarion Associates, LLC, based in the Denver office, and has been a member of the firm since 2000. She has assisted nearly 40 U.S. communities with updates to their comprehensive plans, with a particular focus on plan implementation and strategies to promote sustainability and resilience.

NEVADA PLANNER

The *Nevada Planner* is a publication of the Nevada Chapter of the American Planning Association, with a circulation of approximately 300 Chapter members, members of APA leadership, and Chapter Presidents. It is published three times per year.

ARTICLES

To submit articles, letters, announcements, events, or photos, please contact Greg Toth, Editor, at greg.toth@cityofhenderson.com. The next issue is planned for Winter 2021/2022.

CHANGES OF ADDRESS

The Nevada Chapter receives all member mailing and email addresses from APA's National database. To change your mailing or email address, please log in to your account at **www.planning.org** and update your information there.

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Become a member of the Nevada Chapter! For only \$40 annually, you'll receive all emails, newsletters, announcements, in-state registration discounts, and Chapter voting privileges that National members receive. Visit our website for an application and mail it with your payment to:

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