



# Southern Nevada Regional Planning Coalition

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## ACCOMPLISHMENTS - 2003

- Member jurisdictions unanimously adopted the Regional Policy Plan that contains 51 specific policies addressing key issues such as:
  - Conservation, open space, and natural resources
  - Transportation
  - Land use
  - Population forecasting
  - Public facilities (such as schools)
  - Air quality
  - Infill development
- SNRPC signed binding conformity agreements with all its member jurisdictions and other state and regional agencies that are subject to the plan's policies. Although not required by state law, this conformity process was designed to result in concrete actions towards implementation of the regional policy plan and to establish benchmarks to measure progress. Examples include agreement by the Regional Flood Control District to give preference to projects that combine flood control and open space/recreation objectives. Similarly, all local jurisdictions have agreed to consider new land use regulations to protect sensitive environmental resources.
- Established a formal process to review local and agency plans for conformity on an annual basis rather than once every five years as required by state law.
- Following up on the conformity agreements, the SNRPC has reviewed major planning documents from its member jurisdictions and regional/state agencies to ensure those plans mesh with the regional policy plan. Some of the plans recently reviewed by the Board include: the jurisdictions' and regional agencies' master plans, Clark County's PM 10 State initiatives, City of Las Vegas' Master Plan, and Elements of the City of Las Vegas 2020 Master Plan, the Bunkerville and Lone Mountain Trail Plan, Clark County Building Element Secondary Trails Plans, and others.
- The SNRPC developed a process for cooperative' review of Projects of Regional Significance such as power lines and large facilities like casinos. This process requires communication and cooperation among' the local entities when a significant development is proposed along an adjacent jurisdictional boundary or one that meets certain size/traffic thresholds.

- SNRPC adopted in conjunction with all of the entities a regional trails plan that is the blueprint for the building of an interconnecting parks and trails system throughout the Valley. This plan partially fulfills one of the policies in the Southern Nevada Regional Policy Plan and is the first step to creating a showcase parks and trails system in Southern Nevada.
- SNRPC produced, with the help of a grant from the U.S. EPA, an infill development study. This study examined why certain lands remain vacant for long periods of time in the Valley and how jurisdictions can solve the problem. It is an important first step to addressing the infill policies contained in the regional plan.
- SNRPC created sub-committees to tackle tough regional issues related to air quality, homelessness, chronic inebriates, and federal lands. These sub-committees help focus debate and facilitate dialogue on these crucial Valley-wide issues. These sub-committees have not only produced potential approaches and recommendations for crucial service improvements but have resulted in additional cooperative efforts for funding.
- SNRPC is the preferred forum for all the agencies in the Valley to discuss major issues and initiatives. Examples are the presentations from the Colorado Water Commission, Nevada Power, and the Nevada Commission on Mineral Resources, Utility Conflict Avoidance Program, Statewide Public Lands Policy, Sanitation District and Water Authority.
- SNRPC is sponsoring a series of Growth Summits during March and April that will involve elected officials from all its members. The Growth Summits will address "how we grow". We'll consider population projections, future transportation elements, key open space and how we will plan for those impacts. We'll be looking at different growth scenarios and making the difficult decisions about what solutions we can support.
- Demonstrating its long-term commitment to implementation, the SNRPC members have appropriated funds to hire a full time staff person for the coalition.
- The SNRPC's regional planning efforts and other activities have garnered state and national attention. Honors include the American Planning Association Excellence Planning Award for the Southern Nevada Regional Policy Plan and Certification of Appreciation from the United States Census Bureau for outstanding contributions during Census 2000.