

**BLOCK GRANT NEWS**

by

**H.P. "Fitz" Fitzgerald**

**Fifth Year Block Grant**

Richard B. Blue director of funds coordination for the City of Las Vegas presented to Mayor William H. Briare and the City Commissioners recommendations from the Block Grant Citizen participation review committee, programs to be included in the city's fifth Year Community Development Block Grant Program, on Wednesday, January 3, 1979 in the Commission Chambers.

A total of forty-five proposals from throughout the city were presented to the department of funds coordination for funding consideration for the 1979 Block Grant Funding year.

The forty-five proposals, representing funding requests exceeding \$4,000,000 were submitted by city departments and community agencies this year. However, less than \$2,000,000 is available under the fifty year Block Grant year.

The January 3rd meeting was a public hearing during which time citizens were afforded an opportunity to present their views regarding the programs recommended by the citizens participation review committee.

The next and final public hearing is scheduled for Wednesday January 10, 1979, at 9:00 A.M. in the Commission Chambers of City Hall, 400 E. Stewart Avenue.

Block Grant Funds are made available to the City of Las Vegas under Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974.

**REHABILITATION MATERIALS**

The Westside Community Development Commissions "Minor Home Repair Service Program" rehabilitated and applied 30,250 square feet of paint to the exteriors and interiors to homes of senior citizens in Vegas Heights since January 3rd this year.

All materials are provided by the Block Grant Rehabilitation Materials Program, and the work is done by three CETA program participants assigned to the WSCDC and five E.O.B. T.W.I.N.E. program enrollees.

All services and materials are free to qualifying senior and handicapped home owners.

**Governor Non-Elect Criticizes Governor Elect**

John W. Grayson, Jr., Governor--non-elect, today criticized "Governor-elect List's creation, at \$33,000, of a Nevada Planning Commission." It's another example of impetuous ferocity to seize and direct the public pulse by costly regulation.

In a conference call address to a For A Competitive Economy, FACE-Nevada, meeting at 745 Rancho Circle, Las Vegas, Grayson and Dan Becan, Northern Regional Libertarian Representative, "indited government planning for victimizing the public."

"Lear Jet's talk of being forced outside Nevada by housing shortages and the City of Las Vegas's dumping of near-raw sewage into Lake Mead are seasonal examples of the gorgeous gifts Nevadans receive from government doodlers," chided Grayson. "While Washoe Commissioners fiddle with services and zoning," said Becan "housing becomes unavailable and renns soar out of reach." "In Las Vegas, Commissioners and Mayor play the press plunger up and down to the tune of \$8--10 million through countless re-studies of sewage treatment," said Grayson "while letting flushes outstrip capacity and overflow into the lake."

"If Nevadans permit this 'Planning Czardom' to start, it'll open a year-round season for rapacious bureacurats and political pirates to again pen us up and pluck our plumage to feather their own nests. Let's stop throwing sand in Nevada's gears; the Governor-elect should fly this hour to Houston--hopefully at his own expense--to see that even the machinery of a huge city can run well without zoning.

"In '79 Nevadans need a decrease in the red tape robbing of their time and money by officials who sing slogans but talk bullets

**New Ridership Service Provided For The Handicapped**

A new service to aid in the transportation of the handicapped has been introduced to the area through the combined efforts of the Las Vegas Transit System, Nevada State Bank and the Southern Nevada Committee on Employment of the Handicapped.

The service provides for reduced one-way fares of 20¢ on all Transit company buses throughout the system.

In order to be eligible, certification of moderate to severe handicaps is required. Upon certification, applicants will be photographed free of charge for necessary identification cards at the main branch of Nevada State Bank at Fourth and Carson Streets any time during the normal banking hours. Photographs cannot be processed unless applications are on approved, prescribed forms.

Applications, or "ridership forms," must be signed by a physician or a duly authorized representative of a public or non-profit agency representing the handicapped.

Incomplete or questionable applications will be reviewed by the Southern Nevada Committee on Employment of the Handicapped. Bank and Transit company personnel may not rule on eligibility nor may either firm act as sources for the required application forms.

Completed identification cards, with photo furnished by the bank, must be presented to the bus driver upon boarding the vehicle.

The program makes it possible for many employed and unemployed handicapped persons to commute either to their jobs or to various centers where they are receiving special training or treatment.

"Ridership Forms" may be obtained at any of the following offices: Dr. Ray Holmes, Nevada Desert Developmental Center, 1300 S. Jones Blvd.; Margaret W. Gayle, Easter Seal Society, 2915 E. Sunrise Ave.; Joe M. Burnett, Las Vegas Mental Health Center, 6161 W. Charleston Blvd.; Mat Dorangricchia, NIC Industrial Rehabilitation Dept., 2601 E. Sahara Ave.; Dennis Selover, Nevada State Bureau of Vocational Rehabilitation, 628 Belrose St.; Ken Hehr, Nevada State Services to the Blind, 628 Belrose St.; Thomas M. Groome, Jr., Opportunity Village Association for Retarded Citizens, 10 E. Coolidge (at Main); Dr. Joan Owen, Special Children's Clinic, 620 Belrose St.; and Marcus D. McNally, Veterans Administration Out-patient Clinic, 102 Lake Mead Dr., Henderson.

For further information, telephone information and referral at 382-5260.



Charlotte Province, Opportunity Village client employee, is shown being photographed at Nevada State Bank's main branch at Fourth and Carson Streets for identification card to enable her to ride at a 20-cent reduced fare on Las Vegas Transit System buses. Program is co-sponsored by the transit company, the bank and the Southern Nevada Committee on Employment of the handicapped. Ronda Stevens, Opportunity Village programmer (left) and Edith Williamson, Chairperson for the committee (center), assist Mary Ann Kelley, NSB Ready Reserve clerk, to process the photo.

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Shown disembarking at one of the many frequently required destinations for local handicapped persons, The NIC Jean Hanna Clark Rehabilitation Center, are Pete Steelman, former Nevada Highway Patrolman (center) and Richard Hall, former Nevada Test Site employee (right), both accident victims and clients of the center. Carolyn Ream, member of the participating Southern Nevada Committee on Employment of the Handicapped and NIC Job Placement specialist, greets the men on their arrival. Larry Hadley, director of safety Las Vegas Transit, is seen at the wheel of the vehicle. Required identification photographs are provided free by Nevada State Bank at Fourth and Carson Streets following application approval.

The following is an actual comment one family made. We have the writer's permission to print it here.

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