

**U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management**

Environmental Assessment

DOI-BLM-NV-S010-2012-0009-EA

N-90433 & N-90433-01

Right-of-Way

**For Construction of Lone Mountain Road, between Barden Road
and Clark County 215 Beltway on Public Lands**

APPLICANT

City of Las Vegas Nevada

LOCATION

**Northwest Las Vegas, along Lone Mountain Road, between Barden Road
and Clark County 215 Beltway**

PREPARING OFFICE

**U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management
Las Vegas Field Office
4701 N Torrey Pines
Las Vegas, Nevada 89130
702-515-5000**



Environmental Assessment
Right-of-Way and Short-Term Right-of-Way for the Construction
of Lone Mountain Road, Sanitary Sewer and Drainage Purposes
on Public Lands

Identifying Information:

DOI-BLM-NV-S010-2012-0009-EA

Title, EA Number, and Type of project:

Title: Right-of-Way and Short-Term Right-of-Way for the construction of Lone Mountain Road, Sanitary Sewer and Drainage Purposes on Public Lands.

EA Number: DOI-BLM-NV-S010-2012-0009-EA

Type: Right-of-Way and Short-Term Right-of-Way

Location of Proposed Action:

Located in Northwest Las Vegas area, along Lone Mountain Road, between Barden Road and Clark County 215 Beltway

LEGAL DESCRIPTION:

Right-of-Way Grant:

Mount Diablo Meridian, Nevada,

T. 19 S., R. 59 E., section 36,

SE1/4SE1/4SE1/4SW1/4, S1/2SE1/4SE1/4SE1/4, S1/2SW1/4SE1/4SE1/4, S1/2SE1/4SW1/4SE1/4, S1/2SW1/4SW1/4SE1/4.

T. 20 S., R. 59 E., Section 1,

N1/2NE1/4NE1/4NE1/4, N1/2NW1/4NW1/4NE1/4, N1/2NE1/4NW1/4NE1/4, N1/2NW1/4NW1/4NE1/4.

Containing approximately 8.67 acres.

Short-Term Right-of-Way:

Mount Diablo Meridian, Nevada

T. 19 S., R. 59 E., Section 36,

S1/2SE1/4SW1/4, SW1/4SW1/4SE1/4.

Containing approximately 6.35 acres.

Name and Location of Preparing Office:

Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management

Las Vegas Field Office
4701 N. Torrey Pines
Las Vegas, NV 89130

Office Number: LLNVS00560

Identify the subject function code, lease, serial, or case file number:

Casefile Number: N-90433 and N—90433—01 City of Las Vegas, Nevada will manage the right-of-way.

Applicant Name:

City of Las Vegas, Nevada (Casefile N-90433 and N-90433—01)

Purpose and Need for Action:

Description: The City of Las Vegas is requesting a Right-of-Way Grant to open Lone Mountain Road to public traffic from the Clark County 215 Beltway to Barden Rd. The project also includes the re-design and construction of a new Community Pit access road on Barden Rd., north of Lone Mountain Rd. This request is being submitted due to continuous requests by the citizens residing along the south side of Lone Mountain Rd., west of Barden Rd. This roadway will provide the residents with access to the Clark County 215 Beltway, in some instances shortening commute times and providing better access to businesses and neighborhood facilities in the northwest. This roadway will also decrease response times for emergency vehicles, both police and fire, in potentially life-threatening situations.

Scoping, Public Involvement and Issues:

Located in Northwest Las Vegas area, along Lone Mountain Road, between Barden Road and Clark County 215 Beltway.

The grant will provide public access to residents and emergency vehicles along Lone Mountain Rd., west of Clark County 215 Beltway.

Stipulations will be attached to the right-of-way grant and short-term right-of-way grant which will include conservation and protection of the natural resources, cultural resources, Threatened and Endangered (T&E) Species, and the environment, where applicable.

This proposal has been reviewed by Bureau of Land Management (BLM) resource team members. Their comments and evaluations are included in this environmental assessment.

A summary of this EA is available for review by the public on the internet on the DOI.GOV website under NEPA number: DOI-BLM-NV-S010-2012-0009-EA.

Proposed Action and Alternatives

Description of the Proposed Action — Alternative Number 1:

Description: The City of Las Vegas applied for a right-of-way and short-term right-of-way over public lands for roadway, sanitary sewer and drainage purposes in order to open Lone Mountain Road to public traffic west of Clark County 215 Beltway. The grant area will be managed by the City of Las Vegas. The city worked extensively with the BLM, current Lone Mountain Community Pit operators and Clark County throughout the design of this project. Design input and mitigation measures were incorporated into the project plans and the Plans of Development submitted with the application.

The right—of—way is entirely within the Lone Mountain Community Pit and within an existing right-of-way authorized to Clark County for the 215 Beltway. A concurrence letter for this project from Clark County has been included in the application package. The request includes areas for drainage outside of the paved roadway, as well as safety features on both the north and south sides of the roadway. The right-of-way is approximately 2,695 feet in length, with a width of 142 feet and total acreage of 8.67 acres.

The Short-Term right-of-way is entirely within the Lone Mountain Community Pit and is for the design and construction of a new Community Pit access road for community pit operators in the area. Once constructed, the City of Las Vegas will terminate the short-term grant and maintenance will again become the responsibility of the pit operators. The short-term right—of—way is approximately 740 feet long with a varying width of 315 to 390 feet and a total acreage of 6.35 acres.

The proposed project will not create any new disturbance and is surrounded by community pit contract areas as well as established subdivisions.

RIGHT-OF-WAYS OR PENDING ACTIONS WITHIN THE PROJECT AREA:

N-61323 – Clark County has been granted a right-of-way for the future build-out of the 215 Beltway. The City of Las Vegas met with the County and a letter of concurrence has been included in the application packet.

The following is a list of BLM mineral contracts that have been authorized for the removal of mineral materials from the Lone Mountain Community Pit. Design input and concurrence for this project has been given to the City of Las Vegas from the operators and has been included in the application packet.

N-88173 & N-90165 — Impact Sand & Gravel; N-88784 — Las Vegas Paving Corp.; N-88785 — Quality Sand & Gravel; N-88786 — Mel Clark, Inc.

CONSTRUCTION:

The project will incorporate the existing, paved roadway for both the eastbound and west bound lanes of traffic. The existing aggregate base will be pulverized and then blended for the new asphalt layer. The new Lone Mountain Road pavement lines will lie approximately within the limits of the existing roadway, with the exception of areas where turn lanes and traffic stacking lanes are constructed for better traffic flow and safety. Any existing drainage erosion will be back-filled and repaired. Lone Mountain Road will remain open during construction of this

project to ensure current community pit operators/haul trucks have continued access to/from Lone Mountain Road into their contract areas.

Signs will be provided both eastbound and westbound on Lone Mountain Road to caution traffic that haul trucks will be entering/exiting the roadways. There will also be signage provided to inform Lone Mountain Road traffic that Barden Road is “No Outlet — Haul Truck Access Only.” A 3-way stop intersection will be created at Lone Mountain Road and Barden Road. Stop signs will also be installed at any intersection where pit access roads intersect Lone Mountain Road.

CONSTRUCTION TIMELINE:

Construction is anticipated to begin late fall of 2011 or as soon as the grants are authorized. It is anticipated that construction will take approximately 60 days to complete.

Description of Other Alternatives Analyzed in Detail:

NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE NUMBER 2:

Under a “no action” alternative, BLM land would not be made available for issuance of the rights-of-ways. No action would result in no public access available for the existing residential neighborhood or emergency vehicles.

Alternatives Considered but not Analyzed in Detail:

ALTERNATE NUMBER 3:

No other alternatives were considered.

Conformance

The proposed action is in conformance with the Las Vegas Resource Management Plan (RMP) decisions RW-1, and RW-1-h, approved October 5, 1998.

- RW-1 — “Meet public demand and reduce impacts to sensitive resources by providing an orderly system of development for transportation, including legal access to private inholdings, communications, flood control, major utility transmission lines, and related facilities.”
- RW-1-h— “All public land within the planning area, except as stated in RW-1-c through RW-1-g, are available at the discretion of the agency for rights-of-way under the authority of the Federal Land Policy Management Act.”

Rights-of-ways are allowable on BLM-administered lands per Title V of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 and the BLM regulations (43 CFR 2800), at the discretion of the Secretary of the Interior or his/her delegated officer.

Affected Environment:

SUPPLEMENTAL AUTHORITIES

Resources below will be analyzed further if they are found to have an effect on the environment.

Supplemental Authority	Not Present	Present/Not Affected	Present/May be Affected	Rationale
Air Quality		X		Ensure dust control permit is obtained from DAQEM for all soil disturbing activities and permit stipulations are in compliance for the duration of the project(s). Currently, no dust palliatives (chemicals) are authorized on BLM managed land.
Area of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC)	X			The proposed project area is not within an ACEC or any critical desert tortoise habitat.
Cultural/Historical	X			To comply with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), the BLM Archaeologist conducted an existing data review of the area of potential effect (APE) according to 36 CFR 800.4. The APE was previously evaluated in support of the Valley Disposal Boundary Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). Results are detailed in BLM Cultural Resource Report 5-2467. There are no historic properties within the APE; no further evaluation is required unless the scope of the undertaking changes. As proposed, the undertaking will have no effect to historic properties.
Paleontological Resources	X			No fossil-bearing strata will be impacted by the undertaking as proposed.
Environmental Justice	X			No minority or low-income communities are present in project area.
Farmlands Prime or Unique	X			There are no prime or unique farmland designations in the District.

Supplemental Authority	Not Present	Present/Not Affected	Present/May be Affected	Rationale
Noxious Weeds/Invasive Non-native Species		X		Before construction begins Proponent must control on-site Tamarisk ramosissima and Pennisetum setaceum using BLM-approved methods. Additionally, clean equipment standards apply to construction activities.
Native American Religious Concerns	X			An ethnographic assessment was conducted in support of the Valley Disposal Boundary EIS by the Chambers Group. The Nevada State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) concurred on the adequacy of the report and consultation efforts. No Native American concerns were identified for this portion of the Las Vegas Valley; no further analysis is required.
Floodplains	X			There are no floodplains present in the project area. There are no floodplains present in the project area.
Riparian/Wetlands	X			There are no wetlands/riparian zones present in the project area.
Threatened, Endangered or Candidate Plant Species	X			Not present.
Threatened, Endangered or Candidate Animal Species.	X			The above proposed action has a no affect determination on the threatened desert tortoise (<i>Gopherus agassizii</i>). This project will have no affect on any other federally listed species or designated critical habitat. No new disturbance will occur. Desert tortoise survey data conducted for the preparation of the Disposal Boundary EIS indicates no tortoise sign located in the proposed project site. The area is fragmented, contains high amounts of urban

Supplemental Authority	Not Present	Present/Not Affected	Present/May be Affected	Rationale
				<p>activity and development and the project area is devoid of vegetation. As the area immediately surrounding the project no longer constitutes suitable habitat capable of supporting desert tortoises, the opportunity for any desert tortoise to wander onto the project site is unlikely. Hence, no impacts to desert tortoises are expected and no remuneration fees are required.</p> <p>This notice will serve as the Section 7 Determination and no additional paperwork will be provided (Sec 7 Log # NV-052-12-018).</p>
Migratory Birds		X		As there will be no new surface disturbance associated with the proposed action, there will be no impact on migratory birds.
Waste - Hazardous/Solid	X			Ensure standard HazMat Stipulations are attached to the grant or authorization.
Water Quality		X		Any widening of the road may cause additional runoff during a storm event, so BMPs should be adhered to, especially during construction.
Wild & Scenic Rivers	X			Not present.
Wilderness (Study Area)	X			The proposed action is not located within or adjacent to the elements of wilderness characteristics.
Forests and Rangelands (HFRA only) Woodlands	X			Cactus and yucca are considered government property and regulated under the BLM Nevada forestry program. Because the proposed action is limited to existing disturbed areas, no new impacts to cactus and yucca and other forestry products are expected.

Other resources of the human environment that have been considered for this environmental assessment (EA) are listed in the table below. Any elements that may be affected will be further

described in the EA. Rationale for those elements that would not be affected by the proposed action and alternative is listed in the table below.

Other Resources	Not Present	Present/Not Affected	Present/May be Affected	Rationale
Grazing Management	X			The proposed action area is not located in any authorized grazing allotments.
Green House Gas Emissions (Climate Change)		X		Currently there are no emission limits for suspected Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions, and no technically defensible methodology for predicting potential climate changes from GHG emissions. However, there are, and will continue to be, several efforts to address GHG emissions from federal activities, including BLM authorized uses.
Minerals		X		<p>Potential impacts to minerals and the mining operations have been mitigated through the Plan of Development (POD). Due to the existence of several mine operations that use Lone Mountain Road and Barden Road to access their mining and operating areas BLM has developed mitigation measures to ensure continued access along Lone Mountain Road and Barden Road for the Community Pit. See mitigation section.</p> <p>In addition to the language found in Item No. 7 of the Lone Mountain Road Right-of-Way Grant application POD, and as a result of an on-site meeting with the City of Las Vegas on November 29, 2011, access to the pit south of Lone Mountain Road (currently operated by Rice Construction) will be constructed at the eastern, existing access road. However, the city's plans will also include, in</p>

Other Resources	Not Present	Present/Not Affected	Present/May be Affected	Rationale
				<p>the design, the ability to open the western access road not currently being used. If it is determined by the BLM or by the City that the western access road needs to be opened, the City will construct this area as designed and addressed in the POD. The eastern entrance will also remain open for their use.</p> <p>Mitigation Measures:</p> <p>Lone Mountain Road and Barden Road must remain open to haul trucks and mining related traffic in perpetuity, or until such time as the BLM determines it is no longer needed. At no time will the city limit or prevent mine related traffic on Lone Mountain Road or Barden Road. Also, in the event that road maintenance or additional construction is needed, Lone Mountain Road and Barden Road shall remain open to ensure current pit operators have continued access into their contract areas.</p> <p>If it is determined by the BLM that the western access road into the pit south of Lone Mountain Road is needed, the City of Las Vegas shall construct it as designed.</p> <p>If excavation that produces mineral materials within the ROW is necessary, the mineral materials must be used within the ROW or stockpiled on site for disposal by the BLM. If</p>

Other Resources	Not Present	Present/Not Affected	Present/May be Affected	Rationale
				mineral materials are to be stockpiled on site for disposal, specific BLM use authorization in the form of a contract or permit will be necessary before the stockpiled mineral materials can removed from the ROW.
Socio-Economic Values		X		This project will not disproportionately impact social or economic values.
Soils/Hydrology		X		Impact to soils would be minimal since the roadway is already constructed. Watering during construction activities during construction will decrease airborne dust.
Vegetation	X			Because the proposed action is limited to existing disturbed areas, no new impacts to BLM special status plants are expected.
Visual Resources		X		The proposed action is in VRM Class III, which allows for moderate levels of change to the existing landscape. The original EA contains visual resource mitigation measures which should still be employed. Since the proposed action is surrounded by similar existing development, it is not anticipated to dominate the view of the casual observer.
Recreation	X			No impacts are expected. This is not located in a recreation area.
Fish and Wildlife excluding Federally Listed Species	X			As there will be no new surface disturbance associated with the proposed action and the surrounding parcels are developed and no longer constitute suitable wildlife habitat, there will be no impact on wildlife.

Environmental Effects:

Impacts to Minerals have been mitigated through the Plan of Development. BLM has developed mitigation measures to ensure continued access along Lone Mountain Road for the community pit. Therefore, a detailed analysis of the proposed action is not required.

The remaining resources were found to have no affect on the environment, therefore, they will not be analyzed further.

CUMULATIVE IMPACTS:

The proposed action is a right-of-way for the construction of Lone Mountain Road, between Clark County 215 Beltway and Barden Road, as well as a short-term right-of-way for the construction of a new community pit access road for Barden Road, north of Lone Mountain Road for the community pit operators. These application are located in the northwestern part of the Las Vegas Valley.

Cumulative impacts associated with this action were analyzed on pages 4–58 through 4–66 of the Las Vegas Valley Disposal Boundary Environmental Impact Statement, signed March 2005.

PAST, PRESENT, AND FUTURE ACTIONS CONSIDERED:

Clark County, Nevada, has an existing right-of-way grant in this area for future build-out of the 215 Beltway and Lone Mountain interchange. They have given their concurrence to the city's project via a letter that was part of the application submittal package. Therefore, this project should not conflict with the County's existing grant.

Future impacts associated with this action should be minor since the entire area within the grant requests is previously disturbed and is surrounded by the Lone Mountain Community Pit and existing residential. The main impact will be increased traffic due to opening the roadway to the public. However, these impacts have been mitigated by the city working extensively with the BLM, current Lone Mountain Community Pit operators and Clark County throughout the design of this project. Design input and mitigation measures were incorporated into the project plans and the Plans of Development submitted with the application.

Tribes, Individuals, Organizations, or Agencies Consulted:

Table 1. List of Persons, Agencies and Organizations Consulted

Name	Purpose & Authorities for Consultation or Coordination	Findings & Conclusions
City of Las Vegas, Nevada Mike Janssen, Chris Finberg, Rebecca Rury Matthew Meyer, Slater Hanifan Group	Applicant City of LV Consulting Engineer	Applied for the rights-of-ways. Drew plans for the project.
Denis Cedarburg, Director Public Works, Clark County	County had authorized grant in the area of this project.	Gave concurrence to the city's project via letter.
David Rice, Rice Construction	Community Pit Operator	Design input & concurrence requested & received.
Denim Leigh & Mel Clark, Mel Clark, Inc.	Community Pit Operator	Design input & concurrence requested & received.
Bob Motis, Impact Companies	Community Pit Operator	Design input & concurrence requested & received.
Dan Peresini, Las Vegas Paving	Community Pit Operator	Design input & concurrence requested and received.
Steve Irvine, Service Rock/Nevada Ready Mix	Community Pit Operator	Design input & concurrence requested and received.

List of Preparers

Table 2. List of Preparers:

Name	Title	Responsible for the Following Section(s) of this Document
Rebecca Rury	Voluntary Realty Specialist	Introduction, Purpose and Need, Scoping, Land/Access
Lisa Christianson	Environmental Protection Specialist	Air Quality, Greenhouse Gas Emissions
Fred Edwards	Botanist	Botanist, Forest Initiative, Healthy (Cactus/Yucca), Threatened, Endangered or Candidate (Plant Species), Vegetation Excluding Listed Species
Susanne Rowe	Archaeologist	Cultural Resources, Native American Religious Concerns, Paleontology,
Katie Kleinick	Natural Resource Specialist	Fish & Wildlife, Migratory Birds, Threatened, Endangered or Candidate (Animal Species),
Boris Poff	Hydrologist	Floodplains, Hydrologic Conditions, Riparian/Wetlands, Soils, Water Resources/Quality (Drinking/Surface/Ground), Wetlands/Riparian Zones, Wild & Scenic Rivers
Amelia Savage	Wildlife Biologist	Fish & Wildlife, Migratory Birds, Threatened, Endangered or Candidate (Animal Species)
Evan Allen and George Varhalmi	Geologist	Geology/Mineral Resources/Energy Production
Marilyn Peterson	Recreation Specialist	Recreation
Krystal Johnson	Wild Horse and Burro Specialist	Farmlands, Prime or Unique
Jill Craig	Natural Resource Specialist	Invasive Species/ Noxious Weeds
John Evans	Planning and Environmental Coordinator	Environmental Justice
Greg Marfil	Fire Management Specialist	Fire Management
Sendi Kalcic	Wilderness Planner	Areas with Wilderness Characteristics

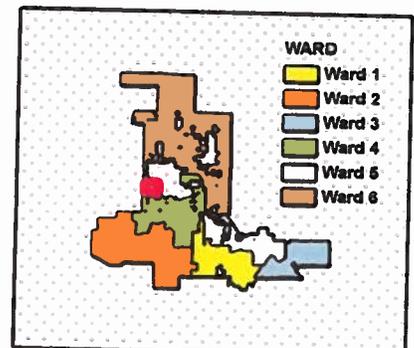
EXHIBIT B — AERIAL MAP

LONE MOUNTAIN BLM APPLICATION

N-90433



 = ROW Grant Area



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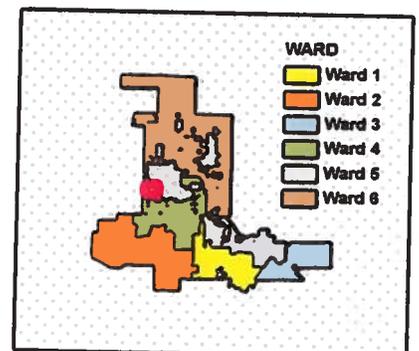
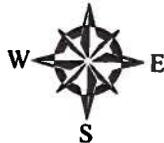
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LONE MOUNTAIN SHORT TERM BLM APPLICATION

N-90433-01



 = Short term ROW GRANT AREA



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