

STAFF REPORT

Date: July 24, 2024

To: Mayor and City Council

Through: Jackie Bryant, Interim City Manager

Subject: Staff Report (For Possible Action): Presentation, discussion, and adoption of the City of Reno's Language Access Plan.

From: Noemi Gomez Martinez, Community Relationships Manager

Department: City Manager's Office

Summary:

The attached Language Access Plan (LAP) serves the purpose of ensuring equitable access to government services, programs, and information for individuals with limited English proficiency (LEP). This document provides a framework in compliance with Assembly Bill (AB) 266 passed during the 2023 legislative session.

Alignment with Strategic Plan:

Economic and Community Development

Previous Council Action:

December 6, 2023 - Council authorized the City Manager to designate one or more employees to be responsible for developing and biennially updating an LAP for the City pursuant to AB 266 (2023).

Background:

The City of Reno LAP will support equitable access to government services, programs, and information for individuals with LEP. It highlights existing language access services, identifies language gaps, and proposes recommendations to expand language services. The LAP ensures compliance with AB 266 passed during the 2023 legislative session.

Discussion:

Staff launched a Language Access Survey in English, Spanish, Tagalog, and Mandarin to solicit feedback on the language access needs within the Reno community. Public community meetings provided opportunities for members to learn about and engage in the development of the LAP. Staff provided presentations at all the Neighborhood Advisory Boards (NABs), the Reno Access

Advisory Committee (RAAC), and the Reno Human Rights Commission.

City of Reno and Washoe County staff hosted a joint listening session where community members had the opportunity to review the City of Reno draft plan and provide feedback. Members of the public who were not able to attend the listening session in-person were given the opportunity to review the plan online and provide feedback.

All related information, including meeting dates and community engagement opportunities, is available on the designated website page at [Reno.Gov/Language-Access](https://reno.gov/language-access).

Staff will submit the final plan to the Governor's Office for New Americans by August 1, 2024, in every even-numbered year. City of Reno staff will be responsible for continuing to develop and update the City of Reno LAP.

Financial Implications:

There are no financial implications associated with this item at this time. If financial implications arise in the future, staff will bring any items related to the LAP at that time.

Legal Implications:

Legal review completed for compliance with City procedures and Nevada law.

Recommendation:

Staff recommends Council adopt the City of Reno Language Access Plan.

Proposed Motion:

I move to adopt the City of Reno Language Access Plan.

Attachments:

Draft Language Access Plan
Assembly Bill 266