

## STAFF REPORT

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**Date:** March 22, 2023

**To:** Mayor and City Council

**Thru:** Doug Thornley, City Manager

**Subject:** Staff Report (For Possible Action) Acceptance of Report of the purchase of Gabion Flood Baskets per Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS) 332.112(2) in the amount of \$181,000. (Sewer Fund)

**From:** Travis Truhill, Maintenance & Ops Manager

**Department:** Maintenance and Operations

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**Summary:**

Due to strong and repeated weather activity creating large amounts of precipitation in the Northern Nevada area, specifically for the purpose of additional flood preparation in the North Valleys at Silver Lake and other identified area, approximately 4,300 linear feet of Gabion Flood Baskets (Gabion Baskets) was purchased on March 14, 2023, by the Maintenance and Operations Department. Due to this dire situation, this staff report serves to notify Council per NRS 332.112 that authorization was provided by the Reno City Manager for this purchase.

**Alignment with Strategic Plan:**

Infrastructure, Climate Change, and Environmental Sustainability

**Previous Council Action:**

There is no recent Council action relevant to this item.

**Background:**

Silver Lake, located in the North Valleys area of Reno, continues to experience high water levels with possibilities of matching or exceeding 2017 and 2019 lake levels. The City is primarily responsible to mitigate the impact of the 100-year flood event at Silver Lake, which places the water surface elevation of the lake to 4972' (feet). The City's Flood Response Action Plan dictates that Moya Boulevard is in the area of impact from such an event. City flood preparation for a 100-year event will place Gabion Flood Baskets (Gabion Baskets) on Moya Boulevard for protection of City infrastructure and private property. The cost to purchase the Gabion Baskets is \$181,000, and is funded by the City's Sewer Fund.

Northern Nevada is experiencing more rain than normal this year and a longer lasting snowpack. The North Valleys has three terminus playa lakes that have, in recent times, held more water for longer periods of time. These playa lakes serve as a basin or depression which allows for evaporation and recharge. Surrounding these lakes are residential and business properties. Of the three lakes, the City primarily manages flood responses to Silver Lake. In 2017 and 2019, flood barriers were deployed to prepare for rising Silver Lake waters. To mitigate the effects of recent and forecasted atmospheric rivers, including runoff from both the Peavine and Peterson Mountains watersheds, Gabion Baskets will be installed as dictated by the City's Flood Response Action Plan.

**Discussion:**

The Gabion Baskets are primarily intended for use along Moya Boulevard to mitigate the possibility of a rise in lake water levels, but can also be used for other problem areas that develop within the City. Gabion Basket installation is coordinated with the City's Flood Response Action Plan and the Utility Services Department.

**Financial Implications:**

The purchase amount of \$181,000 was funded by the Sewer Fund.

**Legal Implications:**

As this purchase is made due to emergency circumstances as outlined under NRS 332.112(1) related to the impending flood hazards and public safety concerns, the general purchasing and bidding requirements under NRS Chapter 332 are not required.

In recognition of such emergency circumstances and the immediate need to proceed with the purchase of the Gabion Baskets, the City Manager authorized the purchase pursuant to NRS 332.112(2). This item comes before Council under the requirement of NRS 332.112(2) to report to the Council at its next regularly scheduled meeting of the emergency purchase.

**Recommendation:**

Staff recommends Council accept the report.

**Proposed Motion:**

I move to approve staff recommendation.

**Attachments:**

Purchase Order

Gabion Basket Photo 1

Gabion Basket Photo 2