



Fact Sheet

BYRON L. DORGAN
CHAIRMAN

DPC Staff Contact: Erika Moritsugu (202) 224-3232
 DPC Press Contact: Barry Piatt (202) 224-2551
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The Recovery Act: A Report on the Path to Progress in Nevada Creating and Saving Jobs, Boosting Household Resources, Providing Assistance for the Vulnerable in Nevada

On February 13, 2009, the Senate approved the final version of the *American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009* and sent the legislation to President Obama to be signed into law (**P.L. 111-5**). The *Recovery Act* is an extraordinary response by Democrats to an inherited economic crisis unlike any since the Great Depression. The legislation represents an unprecedented effort to jumpstart our economy, create and save millions of jobs, and put a down payment on addressing long-neglected challenges so our country can not only recover but prosper once again.

Nationwide, we have already seen companies rehiring laid-off workers, construction and renovation of facilities, and the re-starting of environmental remediation activities. And, just a few months into the two-year *Recovery Act* programs:

- **We have minimized and avoided reductions in essential services in Nevada** by providing aid to help stabilize state and local budgets, protected critical safety-net programs, and saved teaching and law enforcement jobs.
- **Plans for job-creating infrastructure projects in Nevada are already planned and underway** with the Department of Transportation allocation of \$51.7 million for highway infrastructure investments (through the Federal Highway Administration) (as of June 2, 2009). These *Recovery Act* projects deliver jobs and make important investments in the safety of our transportation systems. [DOT Allocation Report, 6/2/2009].
- **Families and communities in Nevada that have been hard-hit by the recession** can access increased unemployment benefits, assistance with health insurance premiums for those who have become unemployed, and food aid. And one million households in Nevada – approximately 95 percent of all families and individuals – have already begun seeing an increase in their take-home pay through the landmark Making Work Pay tax credit. The typical family will have about \$800 extra cash delivered to them in their paychecks over the next year. [The White House, 4/2/2009]

Here is a sampling of projects in Nevada that have been covered by local media and press releases in the past several weeks, demonstrating the real-life impacts that the *Recovery Act* has already made for Nevadans, only four months after the enactment of the *Recovery Act*:

- **Nevada has spent *Recovery Act* funding on rural projects, repaving roads, improving infrastructure; construction projects in Clark County will break ground in June, August.** Of the state's \$201 million in stimulus money for road construction, \$110-\$120 million will be spent in Clark County. [*Las Vegas Sun*, 6/10/2009]
- **Nevada received *Recovery Act* funds for unemployment insurance, rural water projects.** On Friday Nevada's most recent 26-million installment of stimulus money was released by the Labor Department for benefits for the unemployed. Rural Nevada is set to receive funds for proposed water projects and Clark and Washoe County are on the priority list for the second round of project approvals. [*KXNT News Radio*, 6/8/2009]
- **Washoe County will expend \$3,883,000 procured from *Recovery Act* on repair of land damaged by wildfires, creating a minimum of 121 jobs.** "To help restore more than 10,000 acres ravaged by wildfires in the last decade, Washoe County commissioners Tuesday are scheduled to accept \$3,883,000 in federal economic stimulus grants to pay for projects in the hills surrounding the Truckee Meadows. Work is expected to begin this summer and could continue into next year, creating a minimum of 121 jobs. [*Reno Gazette-Journal*, 6/5/2009]
- **A federal *Recovery Act* check is in the mail, headed for Nevada's education coffers.** The state already has received \$74 million in stimulus money for Title 1 schools, which are those with the greatest economic needs and those that offer special education and vocational training. [*Las Vegas Sun*, 6/3/2009]
- **Washoe area gets *Recovery Act* money for 570 summer jobs.** 85 youth will work in parks and other areas; 32 will learn entrepreneurial skills at the University of Nevada, Reno; 60 will be overseen by the Children's Cabinet; Finishing Touch Landscaping will teach six young landscapers with \$22,500. In Carson City, the Community Council on Youth will support 30 youth; Job Opportunity In Nevada got funding for 15 youth in Elko, \$64,400 for 16 to work in Ely parks and \$28,600 for 10 in Fallon and Fernley. Community Chest got \$331,200 for 100 youth in Lyon, Storey and Mineral counties, \$48,200 for 10 Walker Paiute Tribe youth to work at the community and senior centers and \$76,700 for the Churchill County Juvenile Probation Office to have 40 youth recycling and cleaning up deserts. [*Reno Gazette Journal*, 5/22/2009]
- **Rural Jackpot will use *Recovery Act* funds to remove uranium from drinking water.** [*Times-News*, 5/20/2009]
- **Because of *Recovery Act* funds, positions will be spared and will help students and teachers already working hard in the classroom.** And that's just a sliver of the good news the *Recovery Act* is bringing to the Washoe County School District. [*Daily Sparks Tribune*, 5/19/2009]
- **Lyon County Human Services received \$5 million boost from *Recovery Act* to help low-income families.** [*Reno Gazette-Journal*, 5/13/2009]
- ***Recovery Act* provides \$16 million to help reduce wildfire fuel in Nevada.** *Recovery Act* funding will help create jobs while reducing fire danger during a summer projected to be hot and dry. [*Reno Gazette-Journal*, 5/7/2009]

- **Recovery Act funds target wildfires in Sierra.** The money will help fund thinning of vegetation in overgrown forests and grasslands and restore areas damaged by past fires. Selected projects include efforts along the Nevada- California state lines; high-priority hazardous fuels reduction in Humbolt-Toiyabe National Forest; restoration for areas burned in Reno's Arrowcreek Fire in 2000 and last year's Skinner Fire near Washoe Valley; restoration of Reno's 2007 Hawken Fire area, areas burned by the Peavine Fire of 2006 and the 1996 Belli Ranch Fire; watershed improvements in Carson City, which suffered the Waterfall Fire in 2004; and reduction of cheatgrass in Washoe and Lyon counties. [[Reno Gazette Journal](#), 5/7/2009]
- **Ace Boulder Highway bus route will begin construction one year ahead of schedule thanks to Recovery Act funding.** [[Las Vegas Sun](#), 5/6/2009]
- **Lyon Human Services receives additional federal funding for employment program in the form of additional Community Services Block Grant funding.** The tentative plans for the employment incentive initiative are to use the money for two main objectives: to improve life skills for individuals to become more stable and reliable employees; and, to build partnerships with employers to identify their needs to reduce turnover rates. [[The Fernley Leader](#), 4/29/2009]
- **The federal government has awarded \$1.73 million in Recovery Act funds to Nevada's Division of Environmental Protection to fund clean diesel projects.** The money will bolster the state's economy by creating new, green jobs and by improving the state's air quality. [[Nevada Appeal](#), 4/29/2009]
- **The Southern Nevada Workforce Investment Board will soon nearly triple its budget thanks to \$14.8 million in Recovery Act funds.** Most of that money will be passed on to local nonprofit organizations. The workforce board's mission — training people and helping them find jobs — increases in importance as the valley suffers from a double-digit unemployment rate; agency vows to keep better tabs on money it gives groups. [[Las Vegas Sun](#), 4/28/2009]
- **Growing number go 'green'; diverse groups support using Recovery Act funds.** A line of union, conservation and Gibbons administration officials expressed their support for a plan to use about \$100 million in federal funds to train or retrain workers to carry out weatherization projects at about 6,500 low-income homes and several public buildings. Senator Reid: "As Nevada's unemployment rate continues to rise, it is important that these funds get to those who need them most. Whether used for job training, child care, or food for those most in need, this money will go a long way toward helping Nevadans get back on their feet." [[Las Vegas Review Journal](#), 4/23/2009]
- **Recovery Act funding (\$44 million) will create jobs to clean up the Nevada Test Site.** Senator Reid: "This is exactly the type of project the economic recovery package was intended to fund. This money will keep southern Nevadans safe and healthy while also helping maintain the Nevada Test Site as the nation's premier security research and testing site." [[The Lincoln County Record](#), 3/31/2009]
- **Nevada test site to get \$44 million for cleanup.** The work at NTS will identify waste characteristics within the soil at three corrective action sites and install groundwater monitoring wells to provide additional data on groundwater contamination

to support future cleanup work. There will also be demolition of three major facilities and two smaller structures, removing contaminated materials and providing opportunities for future beneficial use of the land. [[Las Vegas Sun](#), 3/31/2009]

- **Clark County to get millions for summer jobs for an estimated 1,500 teens.**
Recovery Act goal: find work for teens, retrain laid-off workers. [[Las Vegas Sun](#), 3/31/2009]