

Michelle ROMERO

HENDERSON MAYOR

NEWSLETTER | SUMMER 2025



DEAR FRIENDS AND NEIGHBORS,

With fall approaching, we have many great events and activities planned, but I want to draw your attention to one in particular. On Saturday, September 6, JustServe will host a Community Day of Service in collaboration with over a dozen local nonprofits, churches of faith, the City of Henderson, and Boulder City. The goal is to provide the community with the opportunity to give back to nonprofits who serve those in need. There are a wide range of projects available allowing people of all ages, skills, and interests to participate.

The intent and purpose of this day defines the spirit of our city and brings us together for the common good. Organizations participating include American Red Cross, Ronald McDonald House, Spread the Word Nevada, Jeremy's Thoughtful Thermals, Boys & Girls Club, The Embracing Project, The Ashley Strong Foundation, Living Grace Homes (Limpieza del Patio), St. Jude's Ranch for Children, Childhood Cancer Foundation, Emergency Aid of Boulder City, The Lullaby Connection and Hope for the City.



The day starts with a free breakfast held at Cornerstone Park, 1600 Wigwam Parkway, Henderson, NV 89074, beginning at 8:00 a.m. All residents of Henderson, Boulder City, and neighboring communities are invited to participate in a wide range of service projects from 9:00 a.m. to noon. For more information and a full list projects available visit: <https://www.cityofhenderson.com/Home/Components/Calendar/Event/5289/113?siteid=1&curm=9&cury=2025#!> To stay in touch with everything going on in our city, please download the City of Henderson APP.



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HIGH PERFORMING PUBLIC SERVICE

Governments at every level across the country are tightening their belts and prioritizing needs over wants in these turbulent financial times. Henderson is not unique to this challenge as tourism lags, inflation persists, and costs remain stubbornly high. What makes this budget cycle a little different than in recent years, is the fact that Henderson and other cities in Nevada are also facing major increases in workers compensation costs, insurance, and PERS. For example, because of changes made at the State legislature, Henderson's workers compensation budget was mandated to increase from \$18 million to \$58 million over a few short years. As a Mayor and Council, we have a responsibility to balance our budget—and we do so every year, even when cuts need to be made. We do not kick the can down the road for future leaders to solve.

City priorities, including public safety, must be responsibly balanced to maintain long-term financial sustainability in the face of the challenges mentioned above that are impacting governments across the state and the nation. It is the job of the Mayor and Council to ensure that every aspect of government is fulfilling its mission and that the city is fully prepared for any future negative financial shifts. As part of the budgeting process this year, every department at the city was requested to reevaluate their budgets to see what could be given back to the general fund, without impacting services, to make up for the declining revenues and increased costs. The good news is, the cuts were made, priorities were maintained, and the city still has healthy rainy day and financial stability reserves for emergencies.

In the budgeting process, we work with four unions within the city, Teamsters Local 631, Henderson Professional Fire Fighters (HPFF), Henderson Police Officers Association (HPOA) and the Henderson Police Supervisors Association (HPSA). We understand the value they bring to our city, always have, always will. Currently we are at a very public impasse between our city administration and the HPOA and the HPSA during their contract negotiations. I think it is important to reinforce our commitment to you, our residents, and businesses on the importance and value we place on public safety and clear up any confusion on this topic. Nearly 60 percent of the City's General Fund budget is dedicated to public safety.

The city offered a proposal that would have made Henderson Police officers, sergeants, and lieutenants the highest compensated in the Valley, but this proposal was ultimately declined by both unions. In a final good-faith effort to reach an agreement and avoid arbitration, the city has extended another generous proposal to both unions, which covered PERS increases, allowed for retention bonuses for longer-tenured officers, and would make Henderson's force the highest paid in the Valley. Because of the cost of the offer, both unions would be required to reduce one of their benefits to a level that was in line with the national average, to free up enough funding to cover the additional costs. If the offer is declined, an arbitrator will come in and decide on all matters within the contract. At that time, all compensation offered by the city will be reexamined. We remain committed to a fair solution that responsibly serves our officers and community.

To learn more about our budget please visit: <https://cityofhenderson.openbook.questica.com/#/spotlight/4d3ffe49-9c6f-428f-9fe6-64263fc95607>

HEALTHY, LIVABLE, SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES

Our Parks and Recreation team does more than just manage parks. In addition to caring for 74 parks, they oversee 8 recreation centers, 105 athletic fields and over 300 miles of trails, creating spaces for our community to stay active, healthy, and connected. These venues host a wide variety of major City events and cultural programming, like the annual Fourth of July celebration and Art Festival of Henderson and serve over 470,000 meals a year to seniors and children. There will be a bond question on the November 2027 ballot relating to parks and recreation. Last July, the City Council made a request to the Debt Management Commission to consider the City's request to continue to levy an elective tax rate \$0.12 per \$100 of assessed valuation. If approved, the tax rate shall continue upon the expiration of the existing tax rate of July 1, 2027. This funding has been used, and will continue, to fund the operation and maintenance of Park and Recreation facilities for the next 30 years. What does this mean to you? Regardless of how you vote, your Henderson will not be increased nor decreased. A Yes vote simply keeps the money in the City of Henderson; a No vote will allow the money to roll back to the County. Parks and Recreation makes it possible for everyone in our community to enjoy a high quality of life. I strongly urge you to vote Yes to keep the funds within the city.



COMMUNITY SAFETY

VEHICLE TYPE	ROAD LEGAL	SIDEWALKS	PARKS/TRAILS
E-Bike (with pedals)	Yes (<28 mph)	Yes (<15 mph)	Yes (<15 mph)
Scooter (no pedals)	Yes (<28 mph)	Yes (<15 mph)	Yes (<15 mph)
E-Motorcycle/Dirt Bike (with pegs, no pedals)	No	No	No

Last spring, Councilman Stewart and I hosted an open discussion on e-bike safety as we realized this is a growing concern not only in Henderson, but across all southern Nevada. The Henderson Police Department wants to ensure the safety of everyone who utilizes our roadways, parks and trails. We are asking parents to make sure your child is the right age and size for the e-bike or scooter they're riding, and to teach them the rules of the road, and the life-threatening dangers of reckless driving. Also check the brakes, tires, and battery before each ride. Riders, we ask that you always wear a helmet, no exceptions. Ride in bike lanes when possible and obey traffic signs. Stay visible—wear bright clothes and use lights—and never ride with more people on the bike than it is designed for. Ride smart and stay safe.

QUALITY EDUCATION

We are excited to share that Keshner Academy was approved as a charter school operator during the August 5, 2025, City Council meeting.

As a charter school authorizer, we are excited to expand educational opportunities for Henderson families. Our thorough and rigorous application process ensures that the charter schools we authorize to operate in our city will be held to high standards—providing our community with accountable, responsive and high-quality educational options. We support giving families more choices to find the best learning environment for their children.

RE-ELECT



HENDERSON MAYOR 2026