

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEVADA

CITY OF LAS VEGAS, A POLITICAL  
SUBDIVISION OF THE STATE OF  
NEVADA,

Appellant,

vs.

180 LAND CO., LLC, A NEVADA LIMITED-  
LIABILITY COMPANY; AND FORE STARS,  
LTD., A NEVADA LIMITED-LIABILITY  
COMPANY,

Respondents.

180 LAND CO., LLC, A NEVADA LIMITED-  
LIABILITY COMPANY; AND FORE STARS,  
LTD., A NEVADA LIMITED-LIABILITY  
COMPANY,

Appellants/Cross-Respondents,

vs.

CITY OF LAS VEGAS, A POLITICAL  
SUBDIVISION OF THE STATE OF  
NEVADA,

Respondent/Cross-Appellant.

No. 84345

Electronically Filed  
Aug 25 2022 04:14 p.m.  
Elizabeth A. Brown  
Clerk of Supreme Court

No. 84640

**JOINT APPENDIX,  
VOLUME NO. 106**

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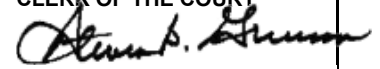
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15 **DISTRICT COURT**

16 **CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA**

17 180 LAND CO LLC, a Nevada limited liability  
18 company, FORE STARS, LTD., a Nevada  
19 limited liability company and SEVENTY  
20 ACRES, LLC, a Nevada limited liability  
21 company, DOE INDIVIDUALS I-X, DOE  
CORPORATIONS I-X, and DOE LIMITED  
LIABILITY COMPANIES I-X,

22 Plaintiffs,

23 v.

24 CITY OF LAS VEGAS, a political subdivision of  
25 the State of Nevada; ROE GOVERNMENT  
26 ENTITIES I-X; ROE CORPORATIONS I-X;  
27 ROE INDIVIDUALS I-X; ROE LIMITED-  
28 LIABILITY COMPANIES I-X; ROE QUASI-  
GOVERNMENTAL ENTITIES I-X,

Defendants.

CASE NO.: A-17-758528-J

DEPT. NO.: XVI

**SUPPLEMENTAL APPENDIX OF  
EXHIBITS IN SUPPORT OF MOTION  
FOR IMMEDIATE STAY WHILE  
CITY'S PETITION FOR WRIT OF  
MANDATE IS PENDING BEFORE  
THE NEVADA SUPREME COURT ON  
ORDER SHORTENING TIME**

**VOLUME 22**

29 The City of Las Vegas ("City") submits this Supplemental Appendix of Exhibits in Support of  
30 the City's Motion For Immediate Stay While City's Petition for Writ of Mandate is Pending Before the  
31 Nevada Supreme Court on Order Shortening Time.

| Exhibit | Exhibit Description  | Vol. | Bates No. |
|---------|--|------|-----------|
| A       | City records regarding Ordinance No. 2136<br>(Annexing 2,246 acres to the City of Las Vegas) | 1    | 0001-0011 |
| B       | City records regarding Peccole Land Use Plan and<br>Z-34-81 rezoning application             | 1    | 0012-0030 |

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| Exhibit | Exhibit Description  | Vol. | Bates No. |
|---------|--|------|-----------|
| C       | City records regarding Venetian Foothills Master Plan and Z-30-86 rezoning application                               | 1    | 0031-0050 |
| D       | Excerpts of the 1985 City of Las Vegas General Plan  | 1    | 0051-0061 |
| E       | City records regarding Peccole Ranch Master Plan and Z-139-88 phase I rezoning application                           | 1    | 0062-0106 |
| F       | City records regarding Z-40-89 rezoning application  | 1    | 0107-0113 |
| G       | Ordinance No. 3472 and related records   | 1    | 0114-0137 |
| H       | City records regarding Amendment to Peccole Ranch Master Plan and Z-17-90 phase II rezoning application              | 1    | 0138-0194 |
| I       | Excerpts of 1992 City of Las Vegas General Plan  | 2    | 0195-0248 |
| J       | City records related to Badlands Golf Course expansion   | 2    | 0249-0254 |
| K       | Excerpt of land use case files for GPA-24-98 and GPA-6199  | 2    | 0255-0257 |
| L       | Ordinance No. 5250 and Excerpts of Las Vegas 2020 Master Plan  | 2    | 0258-0273 |
| M       | Miscellaneous Southwest Sector Land Use Maps from 2002-2005  | 2    | 0274-0277 |
| N       | Ordinance No. 5787 and Excerpts of 2005 Land Use Element   | 2    | 0278-0291 |
| O       | Ordinance No. 6056 and Excerpts of 2009 Land Use & Rural Neighborhoods Preservation Element                          | 2    | 0292-0301 |
| P       | Ordinance No. 6152 and Excerpts of 2012 Land Use & Rural Neighborhoods Preservation Element                          | 2    | 0302-0317 |
| Q       | Ordinance No. 6622 and Excerpts of 2018 Land Use & Rural Neighborhoods Preservation Element                          | 2    | 0318-0332 |
| R       | Ordinance No. 1582   | 2    | 0333-0339 |
| S       | Ordinance No. 4073 and Excerpt of the 1997 City of Las Vegas Zoning Code   | 2    | 0340-0341 |
| T       | Ordinance No. 5353   | 2    | 0342-0361 |
| U       | Ordinance No. 6135 and Excerpts of City of Las Vegas Unified Development Code adopted March 16, 2011                 | 2    | 0362-0364 |
| V       | Deeds transferring ownership of the Badlands Golf Course   | 2    | 0365-0377 |
| W       | Third Revised Justification Letter regarding the Major Modification to the 1990 Conceptual Peccole Ranch Master Plan | 2    | 0378-0381 |
| X       | Parcel maps recorded by the Developer subdividing the Badlands Golf Course   | 3    | 0382-0410 |
| Y       | EHB Companies promotional materials  | 3    | 0411-0445 |
| Z       | General Plan Amendment (GPA-62387), Rezoning (ZON-62392) and Site Development Plan Review (SDR-62393) applications   | 3    | 0446-0466 |
| AA      | Staff Report regarding 17-Acre Applications  | 3    | 0467-0482 |

| Exhibit | Exhibit Description  | Vol. | Bates No. |
|---------|--|------|-----------|
| BB      | Major Modification (MOD-63600), Rezoning (ZON-63601), General Plan Amendment (GPA-63599), and Development Agreement (DIR-63602) applications                                 | 3    | 0483-0582 |
| CC      | Letter requesting withdrawal of MOD-63600, GPA-63599, ZON-63601, DIR-63602 applications  | 4    | 0583      |
| DD      | Transcript of February 15, 2017 City Council meeting   | 4    | 0584-0597 |
| EE      | Judge Crockett's March 5, 2018 order granting Queensridge homeowners' petition for judicial review, Case No. A-17-752344-J   | 4    | 0598-0611 |
| FF      | Docket for NSC Case No. 75481  | 4    | 0612-0623 |
| GG      | Complaint filed by Fore Stars Ltd. and Seventy Acres LLC, Case No. A-18-773268-C   | 4    | 0624-0643 |
| HH      | General Plan Amendment (GPA-68385), Site Development Plan Review (SDR-68481), Tentative Map (TMP-68482), and Waiver (68480) applications                                     | 4    | 0644-0671 |
| II      | June 21, 2017 City Council meeting minutes and transcript excerpt regarding GPA-68385, SDR-68481, TMP-68482, and 68480.  | 4    | 0672-0679 |
| JJ      | Docket for Case No. A-17-758528-J  | 4    | 0680-0768 |
| KK      | Judge Williams' Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, Case No. A-17-758528-J  | 5    | 0769-0793 |
| LL      | Development Agreement (DIR-70539) application  | 5    | 0794-0879 |
| MM      | August 2, 2017 City Council minutes regarding DIR-70539  | 5    | 0880-0882 |
| NN      | Judge Sturman's February 15, 2019 minute order granting City's motion to dismiss, Case No. A-18-775804-J   | 5    | 0883      |
| OO      | Excerpts of August 2, 2017 City Council meeting transcript   | 5    | 0884-0932 |
| PP      | Final maps for Amended Peccole West and Peccole West Lot 10  | 5    | 0933-0941 |
| QQ      | Excerpt of the 1983 Edition of the Las Vegas Municipal Code  | 5    | 0942-0951 |
| RR      | Ordinance No. 2185   | 5    | 0952-0956 |
| SS      | 1990 aerial photograph identifying Phase I and Phase II boundaries, produced by the City's Planning & Development Department, Office of Geographic Information Systems (GIS) | 5    | 0957      |
| TT      | 1996 aerial photograph identifying Phase I and Phase II boundaries, produced by the City's Planning & Development Department, Office of Geographic Information Systems (GIS) | 5    | 0958      |
| UU      | 1998 aerial photograph identifying Phase I and Phase II boundaries, produced by the City's Planning & Development Department, Office of Geographic Information Systems (GIS) | 5    | 0959      |

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| Exhibit | Exhibit Description   | Vol. | Bates No. |
|---------|---|------|-----------|
| VV      | 2015 aerial photograph identifying Phase I and Phase II boundaries, retail development, hotel/casino, and Developer projects, produced by the City's Planning & Development Department, Office of Geographic Information Systems (GIS)      | 5    | 0960      |
| WW      | 2015 aerial photograph identifying Phase I and Phase II boundaries, produced by the City's Planning & Development Department, Office of Geographic Information Systems (GIS)  | 5    | 0961      |
| XX      | 2019 aerial photograph identifying Phase I and Phase II boundaries, and current assessor parcel numbers for the Badlands property, produced by the City's Planning & Development Department, Office of Geographic Information Systems (GIS) | 5    | 0962      |
| YY      | 2019 aerial photograph identifying Phase I and Phase II boundaries, and areas subject to inverse condemnation litigation, produced by the City's Planning & Development Department, Office of Geographic Information Systems (GIS)          | 5    | 0963      |
| ZZ      | 2019 aerial photograph identifying areas subject to proposed development agreement (DIR-70539), produced by the City's Planning & Development Department, Office of Geographic Information Systems (GIS)                                    | 5    | 0964      |
| AAA     | Membership Interest Purchase and Sale Agreement   | 6    | 0965-0981 |
| BBB     | Transcript of May 16, 2018 City Council meeting   | 6    | 0982-0998 |
| CCC     | City of Las Vegas' Amicus Curiae Brief, <i>Seventy Acres, LLC v. Binion</i> , Nevada Supreme Court Case No. 75481   | 6    | 0999-1009 |
| DDD     | Nevada Supreme Court March 5, 2020 Order of Reversal, <i>Seventy Acres, LLC v. Binion</i> , Nevada Supreme Court Case No. 75481   | 6    | 1010-1016 |
| EEE     | Nevada Supreme Court August 24, 2020 Remittitur, <i>Seventy Acres, LLC v. Binion</i> , Nevada Supreme Court Case No. 75481  | 6    | 1017-1018 |
| FFF     | March 26, 2020 Letter from City of Las Vegas Office of the City Attorney to Counsel for the Developer Re: Entitlements on 17 Acres  | 6    | 1019-1020 |
| GGG     | September 1, 2020 Letter from City of Las Vegas Office of the City Attorney to Counsel for the Developer Re: Final Entitlements for 435-Unit Housing Development Project in Badlands  | 6    | 1021-1026 |
| HHH     | Complaint Pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 1983, <i>180 Land Co. LLC et al. v. City of Las Vegas, et al.</i> , 18-cv-00547 (2018)  | 6    | 1027-1122 |
| III     | 9th Circuit Order in <i>180 Land Co. LLC; et al v. City of Las Vegas, et al.</i> , 18-cv-0547 (Oct. 19, 2020)   | 6    | 1123-1127 |
| JJJ     | Plaintiff Landowners' Second Supplement to Initial Disclosures Pursuant to NRCP 16.1 in 65-Acre case  | 6    | 1128-1137 |
| LLL     | Bill No. 2019-48: Ordinance No. 6720  | 7    | 1138-1142 |

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|---------|--|------|-----------|
| MMM     | Bill No. 2019-51: Ordinance No. 6722   | 7    | 1143-1150 |
| NNN     | March 26, 2020 Letter from City of Las Vegas Office of the City Attorney to Counsel for the Developer Re: Entitlement Requests for 65 Acres  | 7    | 1151-1152 |
| OOO     | March 26, 2020 Letter from City of Las Vegas Office of the City Attorney to Counsel for the Developer Re: Entitlement Requests for 133 Acres   | 7    | 1153-1155 |
| PPP     | April 15, 2020 Letter from City of Las Vegas Office of the City Attorney to Counsel for the Developer Re: Entitlement Requests for 35 Acres  | 7    | 1156-1157 |
| QQQ     | Valbridge Property Advisors, Lubawy & Associates Inc., Appraisal Report (Aug. 26, 2015)  | 7    | 1158-1247 |
| RRR     | Notice of Entry of Order Adopting the Order of the Nevada Supreme Court and Denying Petition for Judicial Review   | 7    | 1248-1281 |
| SSS     | Letters from City of Las Vegas Approval Letters for 17-Acre Property (Feb. 16, 2017)   | 8    | 1282-1287 |
| TTT     | Reply Brief of Appellants 180 Land Co. LLC, Fore Stars, LTD, Seventy Acres LLC, and Yohan Lowie in <i>180 Land Co LLC et al v. City of Las Vegas</i> , Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit Case No. 19-16114 (June 23, 2020)  | 8    | 1288-1294 |
| UUU     | Excerpt of Reporter's Transcript of Hearing on City of Las Vegas' Motion to Compel Discovery Responses, Documents and Damages Calculation and Related Documents on Order Shortening Time in <i>180 Land Co. LLC v. City of Las Vegas</i> , Eighth Judicial District Court Case No. A-17-758528-J (Nov. 17, 2020) | 8    | 1295-1306 |
| VVV     | Plaintiff Landowners' Sixteenth Supplement to Initial Disclosures in <i>180 Land Co., LLC v. City of Las Vegas</i> , Eighth Judicial District Court Case No. A-17-758528-J (Nov. 10, 2020)   | 8    | 1307-1321 |
| WWW     | Excerpt of Transcript of Las Vegas City Council Meeting (Aug. 2, 2017)   | 8    | 1322-1371 |
| XXX     | Notice of Entry of Findings of Facts and Conclusions of Law on Petition for Judicial Review in <i>180 Land Co. LLC v. City of Las Vegas</i> , Eighth Judicial District Court Case No.A-17-758528-J (Nov. 26, 2018)   | 8    | 1372-1399 |
| YYY     | Notice of Entry of Order <i>Nunc Pro Tunc</i> Regarding Findings of Fact and Conclusion of Law Entered November 21, 2019 in <i>180 Land Co. LLC v. City of Las Vegas</i> , Eighth Judicial District Court Case No.A-17-758528 (Feb. 6, 2019)   | 8    | 1400-1405 |
| ZZZ     | City of Las Vegas Agenda Memo – Planning, for City Council Meeting June 21, 2017, Re: GPA-68385, WVR-68480, SDR-68481, and TMP-68482 [PRJ-67184]   | 8    | 1406-1432 |

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|---------|---|------|-----------|
| AAAA    | Excerpts from the Land Use and Rural Neighborhoods Preservation Element of the City's 2020 Master Plan adopted by the City Council of the City on September 2, 2009   | 8    | 1433-1439 |
| BBBB    | Summons and Complaint for Declaratory Relief and Injunctive Relief, and Verified Claims in Inverse Condemnation in <i>180 Land Co. LLC v. City of Las Vegas</i> , Eighth Judicial District Court Case No.A-18-780184-C                    | 8    | 1440-1477 |
| CCCC    | Notice of Entry of Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law Granting City of Las Vegas' Motion for Summary Judgment in <i>180 Land Co. LLC v. City of Las Vegas</i> , Eighth Judicial District Court Case No.A-18-780184-C (Dec. 30, 2020) | 8    | 1478-1515 |
| DDDD    | Peter Lowenstein Declaration  | 9    | 1516-1522 |
| DDDD-1  | Exhibit 1 to Peter Lowenstein Declaration: Diagram of Existing Access Points  | 9    | 1523-1526 |
| DDDD-2  | Exhibit 2 to Peter Lowenstein Declaration: July 5, 2017 Email from Mark Colloton  | 9    | 1527-1531 |
| DDDD-3  | Exhibit 3 to Peter Lowenstein Declaration: June 28, 2017 Permit application   | 9    | 1532-1533 |
| DDDD-4  | Exhibit 4 to Peter Lowenstein Declaration: June 29, 2017 Email from Mark Colloton re Rampart and Hualapai   | 9    | 1534-1536 |
| DDDD-5  | Exhibit 5 to Peter Lowenstein Declaration: August 24, 2017 Letter from City Department of Planning  | 9    | 1537      |
| DDDD-6  | Exhibit 6 to Peter Lowenstein Declaration: July 26, 2017 Email from Peter Lowenstein re Wall Fence  | 9    | 1538      |
| DDDD-7  | Exhibit 7 to Peter Lowenstein Declaration: August 10, 2017 Application for Walls, Fences, or Retaining Walls; related materials   | 9    | 1539-1546 |
| DDDD-8  | Exhibit 8 to Peter Lowenstein Declaration: August 24, 2017 Email from Steve Gebeke  | 9    | 1547-1553 |
| DDDD-9  | Exhibit 9 to Peter Lowenstein Declaration: Bill No. 2018-24   | 9    | 1554-1569 |
| DDDD-10 | Exhibit 10 to Peter Lowenstein Declaration: Las Vegas City Council Ordinance No. 6056 and excerpts from Land Use & Rural Neighborhoods Preservation Element   | 9    | 1570-1577 |
| DDDD-11 | Exhibit 11 to Peter Lowenstein Declaration: documents submitted to Las Vegas Planning Commission by Jim Jimmerson at February 14, 2017 Planning Commission meeting  | 9    | 1578-1587 |
| EEEE    | GPA-72220 application form  | 9    | 1588-1590 |
| FFFF    | Chris Molina Declaration  | 9    | 1591-1605 |
| FFFF-1  | Fully Executed Copy of Membership Interest Purchase and Sale Agreement for Fore Stars Ltd.  | 9    | 1606-1622 |



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|---------|--|------|-----------|
| FFFF-2  | Summary of Communications between Developer and Peccole family regarding acquisition of Badlands Property          | 9    | 1623-1629 |
| FFFF-3  | Reference map of properties involved in transactions between Developer and Peccole family                          | 9    | 1630      |
| FFFF-4  | Excerpt of appraisal for One Queensridge place dated October 13, 2005  | 9    | 1631-1632 |
| FFFF-5  | Site Plan Approval for One Queensridge Place (SDR-4206)  | 9    | 1633-1636 |
| FFFF-6  | Securities Redemption Agreement dated September 14, 2005   | 9    | 1637-1654 |
| FFFF-7  | Securities Purchase Agreement dated September 14, 2005   | 9    | 1655-1692 |
| FFFF-8  | Badlands Golf Course Clubhouse Improvement Agreement dated September 6, 2005                                       | 9    | 1693-1730 |
| FFFF-9  | Settlement Agreement and Mutual Release dated June 28, 2013  | 10   | 1731-1782 |
| FFFF-10 | June 12, 2014 emails and Letter of Intent regarding the Badlands Golf Course                                       | 10   | 1783-1786 |
| FFFF-11 | July 25, 2014 email and initial draft of Golf Course Purchase Agreement  | 10   | 1787-1813 |
| FFFF-12 | August 26, 2014 email from Todd Davis and revised purchase agreement   | 10   | 1814-1843 |
| FFFF-13 | August 27, 2014 email from Billy Bayne regarding purchase agreement  | 10   | 1844-1846 |
| FFFF-14 | September 15, 2014 email and draft letter to BGC Holdings LLC regarding right of first refusal                     | 10   | 1847-1848 |
| FFFF-15 | November 3, 2014 email regarding BGC Holdings LLC  | 10   | 1849-1851 |
| FFFF-16 | November 26, 2014 email and initial draft of stock purchase and sale agreement                                     | 10   | 1852-1870 |
| FFFF-17 | December 1, 2015 emails regarding stock purchase agreement   | 10   | 1871-1872 |
| FFFF-18 | December 1, 2015 email and fully executed signature page for stock purchase agreement                              | 10   | 1873-1874 |
| FFFF-19 | December 23, 2014 emails regarding separation of Fore Stars Ltd. and WRL LLC acquisitions into separate agreements | 10   | 1875-1876 |
| FFFF-20 | February 19, 2015 emails regarding notes and clarifications to purchase agreement                                  | 10   | 1877-1879 |
| FFFF-21 | February 26, 2015 email regarding revised purchase agreements for Fore Stars Ltd. and WRL LLC                      | 10   | 1880      |
| FFFF-22 | February 27, 2015 emails regarding revised purchase agreements for Fore Stars Ltd. and WRL LLC                     | 10   | 1881-1882 |
| FFFF-23 | Fully executed Membership Interest Purchase Agreement for WRL LLC  | 10   | 1883-1890 |

| Exhibit | Exhibit Description   | Vol. | Bates No. |
|---------|---|------|-----------|
| FFFF-24 | June 12, 2015 email regarding clubhouse parcel and recorded parcel map  | 10   | 1891-1895 |
| FFFF-25 | Quitclaim deed for Clubhouse Parcel from Queensridge Towers LLC to Fore Stars Ltd.  | 10   | 1896-1900 |
| FFFF-26 | Record of Survey for Hualapai Commons Ltd.  | 10   | 1901      |
| FFFF-27 | Deed from Hualapai Commons Ltd. to EHC Hualapai LLC   | 10   | 1902-1914 |
| FFFF-28 | Purchase Agreement between Hualapai Commons Ltd. and EHC Hualapai LLC   | 10   | 1915-1931 |
| FFFF-29 | City of Las Vegas' First Set of Interrogatories to Plaintiff  | 10   | 1932-1945 |
| FFFF-30 | Plaintiff 180 Land Company LLC's Responses to City of Las Vegas' First Set of Interrogatories to Plaintiff, 3 <sup>rd</sup> Supplement  | 10   | 1946-1973 |
| FFFF-31 | City of Las Vegas' Second Set of Requests for Production of Documents to Plaintiff  | 11   | 1974-1981 |
| FFFF-32 | Plaintiff 180 Land Company LLC's Response to Defendant City of Las Vegas' Second Set of Requests for Production of Documents to Plaintiff   | 11   | 1982-1989 |
| FFFF-33 | September 14, 2020 Letter to Plaintiff regarding Response to Second Set of Requests for Production of Documents   | 11   | 1990-1994 |
| FFFF-34 | First Supplement to Plaintiff Landowners Response to Defendant City of Las Vegas' Second Set of Requests for Production of Documents to Plaintiff   | 11   | 1995-2002 |
| FFFF-35 | Motion to Compel Discovery Responses, Documents and Damages Calculation, and Related Documents on Order Shortening Time   | 11   | 2003-2032 |
| FFFF-36 | Transcript of November 17, 2020 hearing regarding City's Motion to Compel Discovery Responses, Documents and Damages Calculation, and Related Documents on Order Shortening Time            | 11   | 2033-2109 |
| FFFF-37 | February 24, 2021 Order Granting in Part and denying in part City's Motion to Compel Discovery Responses, Documents and Damages Calculation, and Related Documents on Order Shortening Time | 11   | 2110-2118 |
| FFFF-38 | April 1, 2021 Letter to Plaintiff regarding February 24, 2021 Order   | 11   | 2119-2120 |
| FFFF-39 | April 6, 2021 email from Elizabeth Ghanem Ham regarding letter dated April 1, 2021  | 11   | 2121-2123 |
| FFFF-40 | Hydrologic Criteria and Drainage Design Manual, Section 200   | 11   | 2124-2142 |
| FFFF-41 | Hydrologic Criteria and Drainage Design Manual, Standard Form 1   | 11   | 2143      |
| FFFF-42 | Hydrologic Criteria and Drainage Design Manual, Standard Form 2   | 11   | 2144-2148 |
| FFFF-43 | Email correspondence regarding minutes of August 13, 2018 meeting with GCW regarding Technical Drainage Study   | 11   | 2149-2152 |

| Exhibit | Exhibit Description   | Vol. | Bates No. |
|---------|---|------|-----------|
| FFFF-44 | Excerpts from Peccole Ranch Master Plan Phase II regarding drainage and open space  | 11   | 2153-2159 |
| FFFF-45 | Aerial photos and demonstrative aids showing Badlands open space and drainage system  | 11   | 2160-2163 |
| FFFF-46 | August 16, 2016 letter from City Streets & Sanitation Manager regarding Badlands Golf Course Drainage Maintenance   | 11   | 2164-2166 |
| FFFF-47 | Excerpt from EHB Companies promotional materials regarding security concerns and drainage culverts  | 11   | 2167      |
| GGGG    | Landowners' Reply in Support of Countermotion for Judicial Determination of Liability on the Landowners' Inverse Condemnation Claims Etc. in <i>180 Land Co., LLC v. City of Las Vegas</i> , Eighth Judicial District Court Case No. A-17-758528-J (March 21, 2019) | 11   | 2168-2178 |
| HHHH    | State of Nevada State Board of Equalization Notice of Decision, <i>In the Matter of Fore Star Ltd., et al.</i> (Nov. 30, 2017)  | 11   | 2179-2183 |
| IIII    | Clark County Real Property Tax Values   | 11   | 2184-2199 |
| JJJJ    | Clark County Tax Assessor's Property Account Inquiry - Summary Screen   | 11   | 2200-2201 |
| KKKK    | February 22, 2017 Clark County Assessor Letter to 180 Land Co. LLC, re Assessor's Golf Course Assessment  | 11   | 2202      |
| LLLL    | Petitioner's Opening Brief, <i>In the matter of 180 Land Co. LLC</i> (Aug. 29, 2017), State Board of Equalization   | 12   | 2203-2240 |
| MMMM    | September 21, 2017 Clark County Assessor Stipulation for the State Board of Equalization  | 12   | 2241      |
| NNNN    | Excerpt of Reporter's Transcript of Hearing in <i>180 Land Co. v. City of Las Vegas</i> , Eighth Judicial District Court Case No. A-17-758528-J (Feb. 16, 2021)   | 12   | 2242-2293 |
| OOOO    | June 28, 2016 Letter from Mark Colloton re: Reasons for Access Points Off Hualapai Way and Rampart Blvd.  | 12   | 2294-2299 |
| PPPP    | Transcript of City Council Meeting (May 16, 2018)   | 12   | 2300-2375 |
| QQQQ    | Supplemental Declaration of Seth T. Floyd   | 13   | 2376-2379 |
| QQQQ-1  | 1981 Peccole Property Land Use Plan   | 13   | 2380      |
| QQQQ-2  | 1985 Las Vegas General Plan   | 13   | 2381-2462 |
| QQQQ-3  | 1975 General Plan   | 13   | 2463-2558 |
| QQQQ-4  | Planning Commission meeting records regarding 1985 General Plan   | 14   | 2559-2786 |
| QQQQ-5  | 1986 Venetian Foothills Master Plan   | 14   | 2787      |
| QQQQ-6  | 1989 Peccole Ranch Master Plan  | 14   | 2788      |
| QQQQ-7  | 1990 Master Development Plan Amendment  | 14   | 2789      |
| QQQQ-8  | Citizen's Advisory Committee records regarding 1992 General Plan  | 14   | 2790-2807 |

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| Exhibit | Exhibit Description   | Vol.  | Bates No. |
|---------|---|-------|-----------|
| QQQQ-9  | 1992 Las Vegas General Plan   | 15-16 | 2808-3257 |
| QQQQ-10 | 1992 Southwest Sector Map   | 17    | 3258      |
| QQQQ-11 | Ordinance No. 5250 (Adopting 2020 Master Plan)  | 17    | 3259-3266 |
| QQQQ-12 | Las Vegas 2020 Master Plan  | 17    | 3267-3349 |
| QQQQ-13 | Ordinance No. 5787 (Adopting 2005 Land Use Element)   | 17    | 3350-3416 |
| QQQQ-14 | 2005 Land Use Element   | 17    | 3417-3474 |
| QQQQ-15 | Ordinance No. 6056 (Adopting 2009 Land Use and Rural Neighborhoods Preservation Element)              | 17    | 3475-3479 |
| QQQQ-16 | 2009 Land Use and Rural Neighborhoods Preservation Element  | 18    | 3480-3579 |
| QQQQ-17 | Ordinance No. 6152 (Adopting revisions to 2009 Land Use and Rural Neighborhoods Preservation Element) | 18    | 3580-3589 |
| QQQQ-18 | Ordinance No. 6622 (Adopting 2018 Land Use and Rural Neighborhoods Preservation Element)              | 18    | 3590-3600 |
| QQQQ-19 | 2018 Land Use & Rural Neighborhoods Preservation Element  | 18    | 3601-3700 |
| RRRR    | Supplemental declaration of Seth Floyd  | 19    | 3701-3703 |
| RRRR-1  | Southwest Sector Land Use Map (1992)  | 19    | 3704      |
| RRRR-2  | 10/10/1991 Planning Commission Minutes  | 19    | 3705-3707 |
| RRRR-3  | 10/22/1991 Planning Commission Minutes  | 19    | 3708-3712 |
| RRRR-4  | 11/14/1991 Planning Commission Minutes  | 19    | 3713-3715 |
| RRRR-5  | 11/26/1991 Planning Commission Minutes  | 19    | 3716-3718 |
| RRRR-6  | 12/12/1991 Planning Commission Minutes  | 19    | 3719-3726 |
| RRRR-7  | 12/12/1991 Planning Commission Resolution adopting 1992 General Plan                                  | 19    | 3727-3728 |
| RRRR-8  | 2/5/1992 City Council Meeting Minutes   | 19    | 3729      |
| RRRR-9  | 2/18/1992 Recommending Committee Meeting Minutes  | 19    | 3730-3750 |
| RRRR-10 | 2/19/1992 City Council Meeting Minutes  | 19    | 3751-3752 |
| RRRR-11 | 3/12/1992 Planning Commission Meeting Minutes   | 19    | 3753-3754 |
| RRRR-12 | 3/16/1992 Recommending Committee Meeting Minute   | 19    | 3755      |
| RRRR-13 | 4/1/1992 City Council Meeting Minutes   | 19    | 3756-3758 |
| RRRR-14 | Ordinance No. 3636 (adopting new general plan)  | 19    | 3759-3761 |
| RRRR-15 | 2/13/1992 Citizens Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes   | 19    | 3762-3765 |
| RRRR-16 | 3/27/1991 Citizens Advisory Committee Mailout   | 19    | 3766-3775 |
| SSSS    | Excerpts of NRCP 30(b)(6) Designee of Peccole Nevada Corporation – William Bayne                      | 19    | 3776-3789 |

| Exhibit | Exhibit Description  | Vol.     | Bates No. |
|---------|--|----------|-----------|
| TTTT    | Findings of Facts, Conclusions of Law and Order Regarding Motion to Dismiss and Countermotion to Allow More Definite Statement if Necessary and Countermotion to Stay Litigation of Inverse Condemnation Claims Until Resolution of the Petition for Judicial Review and Countermotion for NRCP Rule 56(F) Continuance   | 19       | 3790-3801 |
| UUUU    | Declaration of Christopher Molina in Support of the City's Countermotion for Summary Judgment and Opposition to Motion to Determine Property Interest  | 19       | 3802-3803 |
| VVVV    | Declaration of Seth Floyd  | 19       | 3804-3805 |
| VVVV-1  | Master planned communities with R-PD Zoning  | 19       | 3806-3810 |
| VVVV-2  | General Plan Maps for Master Planned Communities with R-PD zoning  | 19       | 3811-3815 |
| WWWW    | <b>Plaintiff Landowners' Motion on Order Shortening Time to 1) Apply Issue Preclusion to the Property Interest Issue; and 2) Set a Short Hearing to Allow the Court to Consider: a) Judge Williams' Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law on the Take Issue; b) Evidence that was Presented in the 35 Acre Case on the Take Issue; and c) Very Recent Nevada and United States Supreme Court Precedent on the Take Issue</b> | 20       | 3816-3877 |
| XXXX    | Newspaper Articles   | 20       | 3878-3897 |
| YYYY    | City Council Meeting of October 6, 2021 Verbatim Transcript – Agenda Item 63   | 20       | 3898-3901 |
| ZZZZ    | Transcripts of September 13 & 17, 2021 Hearing in the 133-Acre Case (Case No. A-18-775804-J)   | 21<br>22 | 3902-4280 |
| AAAAA   | Plaintiff Landowner's Opposition to City of Las Vegas' Motion to Remand 133-Acre Applications to the Las Vegas City Council filed 8/24/2021  | 22       | 4281-4310 |

DATED this 11<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2021.

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**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

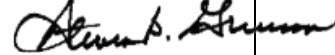
I HEREBY CERTIFY that I am an employee of McDonald Carano LLP, and that on the 13<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2021, I caused a true and correct copy of the foregoing **SUPPLEMENTAL APPENDIX OF EXHIBITS IN SUPPORT OF MOTION FOR IMMEDIATE STAY WHILE CITY'S PETITION FOR WRIT OF MANDATE IS PENDING BEFORE THE NEVADA SUPREME COURT ON ORDER SHORTENING TIME— VOLUME 22** to be electronically served with the Clerk of the Court via the Clark County District Court Electronic Filing Program which will provide copies to all counsel of record registered to receive such electronic notification.

/s/ Jelena Jovanovic

An employee of McDonald Carano LLP

# **EXHIBIT “ZZZZ”**





1 RTRAN

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4  
5 DISTRICT COURT

6 CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA

7  
8 180 LAND COMPANY LLC, ET AL.,

9 Petitioners,

10 vs.

11 CITY OF LAS VEGAS,

12 Respondent.

CASE#: A-18-775804-J

DEPT. XXVI

13 BEFORE THE HONORABLE GLORIA STURMAN  
14 DISTRICT COURT JUDGE

15 FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 2021

16 **RECORDER'S AMENDED TRANSCRIPT OF PENDING MOTIONS**

17 APPEARANCES:

18 For the Petitioners:

JAMES J. LEAVITT, ESQ.  
KERRITT L. WATERS, ESQ.  
ELIZABETH M. GHANEM, ES.  
AUTUMN L. WATERS, ESQ.

21 For the Respondent:

22 GEORGE F. OGILVIE, III, ESQ.  
ANDREW W. SCHWARTZ, ESQ.  
PHILIP R. BYRNES, ESQ.  
23 REBECCA L. WOLFSON, ESQ.  
J. CHRISTOPHER MOLINA, ESQ.

24  
25 RECORDED BY: KERRY ESPARZA, COURT RECORDER

1 Las Vegas, Nevada, Friday, September 17, 2021

2

3 [Case called at 10:04 a.m.]

4 THE COURT: We'll get the appearances of counsel and then  
5 we'll begin.

6 MR. LEAVITT: Would you like us to go first, Your Honor,  
7 Plaintiffs?

8 THE COURT: Sure.

9 MR. LEAVITT: Good morning, Your Honor. James. J. Leavitt  
10 on behalf of 180 Land and Fore Stars land owners.

11 MS. WATERS: Good morning, Your Honor. Autumn Waters  
12 on behalf of the land owners, as well.

13 MS. GHANEM: Good morning, Your Honor. Elizabeth  
14 Ghanem on behalf Plaintiffs.

15 MR. WATERS: Kermitt Waters, Your Honor, on behalf of the  
16 landowners.

17 MR. LEAVITT: And also our two legal assistants, Jennifer  
18 Knighton and Sandy Guerra, in the courtroom with us also, Your Honor.

19 THE COURT: All right, with you?

20 MR. SCHWARTZ: Good morning, Your Honor. Andrew  
21 Schwartz for the City.

22 MR. MOLINA: Good morning, Your Honor. Chris Molina for  
23 the City.

24 MR. OGILVIE: Good morning, Your Honor. George Ogilvie  
25 on behalf of the City.

1                   MR. BYRNES: Good morning, Your Honor. Phil Byrnes for  
2 the City.

3                   THE COURT: All right, counsel. So Mr. Schwartz, you want  
4 to pick up where you left off on whatever day it was?

5                   MR. SCHWARTZ: Yes, Your Honor. Thank you.

6                   I want to thank the court for giving me more time to address  
7 the claim that the property owners have constitutional rights to building  
8 permits just by virtue of zoning. This is -- it's an extremely important  
9 principle. What the developer is proposing here is a radical change in  
10 land use law and property law in Nevada. And that's not an  
11 exaggeration. In the 1970s and '80s, the State Legislature for Nevada  
12 gradually changed the land use regulatory system in Nevada. Whereas  
13 the former system was marked by very little regulation and property  
14 owners had great freedom to use their property and build on their  
15 property as they saw fit with very little oversight from the government.

16                  In the 1980s and 1990s, the Nevada Legislature made a C  
17 change in the way land use is regulated in the State of Nevada. It  
18 determined that there should be much more -- much more regulation to  
19 make sure that development served the community, that it was safe, that  
20 it was aesthetically pleasing, that it provided proper infrastructure, that  
21 communities were planned for the best interests of the community. And  
22 there was a de-emphasis on the rights of property owners to build on  
23 property. And I wanna take the Court through that change because that  
24 affects -- that directly affects what the alleged constitutional right that's  
25 at issue here, whether it's valid or not, and I think the Court will see it is

1 not a valid point.

2           So it's clear from all authority, including the *Oliver* case that  
3 the developer likes to rely on, that zoning does not confer rights. The  
4 purpose of zoning is to exclude certain uses and to limit an owner's use  
5 of the property. So the theory that a property owner has constitutional  
6 rights granted by zoning doesn't fit with the entire concept of zoning.  
7 The first zoning case was *Euclid v. Ambler Realty*, and in that case --  
8 prior to 1926 and prior to that case, developers in the community, or  
9 owners, could do virtually anything they wanted with their property. The  
10 only limit on their use was of a public nuisance. In that case, the U.S.  
11 Supreme Court upheld a zoning ordinance which said that the  
12 community could exclude certain uses from a zone to -- it was to allow a  
13 zone to be solely residential. So it excluded industrial uses and noxious  
14 uses that might interfere with the residential use.

15           That's the purpose of zoning. And unanimous Nevada  
16 authority holds that zoning does not confer property rights. It's not for  
17 the interests of property owners, as the developer claims here. And a  
18 denial of a property right is not a taking. That's not the test for a taking.  
19 If you're denied a property right, your remedy is a petition for judicial  
20 review requiring the government to allow you to do what you say you  
21 have a right to do. But the test has nothing to do with takings. The test  
22 for takings is the economic impact of the regulation on the property.

23           Now, the developer relies on the *Sisolak* case for the  
24 proposition that zoning confers constitutional rights on the property.  
25 They can do whatever they want as long as it's permitted by -- it's a

1 permitted use in the zone. In other words, if it's -- if residential use is a  
2 permitted use in the zone, the developer claims -- and this is -- this would  
3 completely up-end all land use regulation in the State of Nevada. The  
4 landlord contends they have a constitutional right to build anything they  
5 want without this -- the exercise by the government of discretion to limit  
6 that right, and they claim that *Sisolak* supports that theory. It does not.  
7 *Sisolak* is a takings case -- a physical takings case where the Court held it  
8 had nothing to do with zoning. It had everything to do with the owner's  
9 rights to exclude other people.

10           And the Court said if you -- if property is vested in an owner,  
11 which means you own it, you own the fee simple, that's the use of  
12 vesting in the *Sisolak* case. To get a preliminary title for it, it tells you  
13 who owns the property. It's called vesting. The property is vested in  
14 such. In this case, the property was vested in the developer. It owned  
15 the fee simple interest. The *Sisolak* court did not say that the property  
16 owner has a vested right to build whatever they want as long as it's a  
17 permitted use by zoning. The *Sisolak* court refers to zoning in the  
18 context of damages of the value of the property. The zoning permitted  
19 certain uses.

20           So in valuing the property, the court said, yeah, you consider  
21 the zoning, what's allowed. If zoning allows only residential, and open  
22 space, and recreation, well, you can't value the property based on a --  
23 you know, a high-rise office building. That's the context in which the  
24 court in *Sisolak* discussed the zoning. It had nothing to do with the right  
25 to exclude others. It doesn't matter what the zoning is if you're denied

1 the right to exclude others of physical taking. It doesn't matter what the  
2 zone is. You're entitled to compensation for a physical taking.

3 That's not this case. This motion goes to the categorical  
4 under *Penn Central* claims, which only concern regulation of owner's use  
5 of the property. And the court said, in *Sisolak*, not that the property  
6 owner had a right to build in the air space, but it had a vested right in the  
7 air space, which means it owned the air space. That's all it said. That's  
8 all that that decision meant.

9 In this case, as I'll explain, the R-PD7 zoning grants the City  
10 broad discretion to restrict the owner's use of the property. The  
11 developer's theory is completely inconsistent with that ordinance. And  
12 as I indicated -- as I argued at some length on Tuesday, *Sisolak* is a  
13 physical takings case and has nothing to do with the categorical and  
14 incentive claims, which concern regulation of use.

15 I want to take the Court through two state statutes and the  
16 Las Vegas zoning ordinance, which I think will make it abundantly clear  
17 that property owners do not have constitutional rights to build whatever  
18 they want as long as it's a permitted use. But I do want to refer the Court  
19 to Judge Herndon's decision. And by the way, Judge Herndon's  
20 decision was a final decision on the merits. It was not set aside by Judge  
21 Trujillo. She has not issued any orders in the case.

22 Judge Herndon's decision was well-reasoned. He took the  
23 proposed findings of fact and conclusions of law of both parties, and he  
24 took some from each, and he modified the decision. He really dug deep  
25 into these issues. And everything he said in his decision is

1 well-supported by Nevada and federal case law and statute, and the  
2 developer can't refute any of it because it's all right.

3 But at page 16 of his -- which is 10 of 11, Your Honor, in our  
4 exhibits.

5 THE COURT: No, I've got it.

6 MR. SCHWARTZ: Page 16, Judge Herndon said, "because  
7 the right to use land for a particular purpose is not a fundamental  
8 constitutional right, courts generally defer to the decisions of legislatures  
9 and administrative agencies charged with regulating land use." And  
10 Judge Herndon goes on at some length to explain how the land use  
11 regulatory system in Nevada works. There are separation of powers.  
12 Local agencies have broad discretion to regulate land for the community  
13 good. And the only situation in which a property owner is entitled to  
14 compensation for a taking is where the regulation either wipes out or  
15 virtually wipes out the property's value or interferes with objective  
16 investment-backed expectations.

17 And on page 20 of Judge Herndon's decision, he cites the  
18 authority for that proposition. It's the *State v. 8th Judicial District* case,  
19 *Kelly v. Tahoe Regional Planning Agency*, and the *Boulder City* case.  
20 And they all say the same thing. This is the test for a taking. Whether  
21 the property owner was denied some right is not the test for a taking,  
22 even if it had the right. And of course, it didn't have the right.

23 Now, I'd like to refer the Court to tab 39, please. And that is  
24 the Nevada Revised Statutes 278.150. And that's the -- this is the statute  
25 that orders local agencies to prepare a master plan. A master plan and

1 general plan are synonymous. And in subsection 2, it says that these  
2 master plans will be a basis for development of the city. And then in  
3 section 5 -- subsection 5, it says that the governing body shall adopt each  
4 of the elements in its master plan set forth in NRS 278.160.

5 278.160 is tab 40. And that says that the master plan, with  
6 the accompanying charts, drawings, diagrams, schedules, and reports,  
7 may include the following elements. And one of those -- and you can  
8 see a number of elements. And one of those, in subsection D, is the land  
9 use element. And it sets forth in subsection D that they concern  
10 community design and standards and principles governing subdivision  
11 and suggested patterns for community design and development. And a  
12 land use plan inventorying the types of land use and comprehensive  
13 plans for the most desirable utilization of the land.

14 So then the legislature adopted later, in a later section, in  
15 NRS 278.250, which is back to tab 16, Your Honor. NRS 278.250. And  
16 this is the zoning ordinance, the statute that requires local agencies to  
17 adopt zoning ordinances. And it says, within the zoning district, it, that  
18 means governing body, can regulate and restrict. So zoning regulation  
19 restricts. It doesn't confer rights. There is no law in the State of Nevada  
20 or anywhere else that holds that zoning confers rights. It's a radical  
21 proposition that would take the State back before all of these statutes to  
22 a place where property owners had virtual freedom to do what they  
23 wanted with their property. That's in the past. That's not this case.

24 It says it can regulate and restrict the -- basically, use of  
25 property. And it says in 2, and this is significant, the zoning regulation



1 must be adopted in accordance with the master plan or land use and the  
2 design. And then what follows is A through O. And this tells cities what  
3 they should do to regulate and restrict use of property to protect  
4 community interests to make for a well-planned community.

5           And then in subsection 4, the legislature said, in exercising  
6 the powers granted in this section, the governing body may use any  
7 controls relating to land use or principles of zoning that the governing  
8 body determines to be appropriate.

9           So this is significant in that you have a master plan, and the  
10 master plan is the equivalent of a constitution. And the statutes  
11 implement the constitution. They have to be consistent with the  
12 constitution. Same thing with a master plan and zoning ordinances. The  
13 master plan is like the constitution. It sets all the policies for what land  
14 can be used for and the zoning has to be consistent with it. It has to  
15 implement that.

16           But, moreover, these statutes -- and if you look through A  
17 through O, it kind of covers the universe of what you want to do to  
18 point -- to have a sound planning apparatus. It grants the government  
19 wide discretion -- wide discretion, to restrict the use of land for the  
20 community. And that discretion is completely inconsistent with the  
21 theory that zoning ordinances grant constitutional rights to do what you  
22 want without discretion. You cannot have discretion and at the same  
23 time have a constitutional right to a building permit. They can't coexist.

24           Okay. Now, I'd like to refer the Court to the R-PD7 zoning  
25 ordinance. Well, let me back up. Tabs 28 through 33, I won't take the

1 Court through those in detail, but those are all the -- this is the Unified  
2 Development Code, which is part of the Las Vegas Municipal Code. And  
3 these set the general principles for zoning and planning in the City of Las  
4 Vegas. And you will see that these -- and I've highlighted portions of  
5 these ordinances that show that the City has wide discretion. It exercises  
6 discretion at all levels in approving building permits.

7           So now, looking at -- oh, here it is. Tab 27, Your Honor. This  
8 is the R-PD7. The R-PD zoning ordinance. And I will spend a little time  
9 with this because this is what's at issue here. Tab 27 says, the RPD  
10 district has been to provide for flexibility and innovation in residential  
11 development with emphasis on enhanced residential amenities, efficient  
12 utilization of open space, the separation of pedestrian and vehicle traffic.  
13 Emphasize efficient utilization of open space. Further on in that section,  
14 it says that, the regulation has to remain sufficiently flexible to  
15 accommodate innovative residential development.

16           Then, in Subsection C, it sets forth the uses that are  
17 permitted -- permitted in an RPD zone. In this case, the property is zoned  
18 R-PD7, which means no more than seven residential units per acre, or  
19 other -- whatever uses, group care homes, childcare, family homes. No  
20 more than seven per acre. Then section C(3) says that the director,  
21 that's the Director of Planning, gets to use his or her judgment in  
22 applying this ordinance. And then in subsection D, it says, the approving  
23 body, and this is the Planning Commission and the City Council. The  
24 City Council has the final word on building permits. The approving body  
25 may attach to the amendment to an approved site development plan

1 review whatever conditions are deemed necessary to ensure the proper  
2 amenities and to assure that the proposed development will be  
3 compatible with surrounding existing and proposed land use.

4           So what we see is in state law, a wide degree of discretion.  
5 And in state statute. Judge Herndon went through in detail the wide  
6 discretion granted to local public agencies in Nevada under Nevada case  
7 law. And now the statute that applies here shows a wide degree of  
8 discretion. This says that the City can approve a development project  
9 that proposes a permitted use. Approve it with conditions or disapprove  
10 it. It has that discretion. The only constitutional limitation on that power  
11 is the takings clause. And the only -- and the takings test is, does the  
12 regulation wipe out or nearly wipe out the economic value of the  
13 property or interfere with objective reasonable investment-backed  
14 expectations. That's the test.

15           Okay. So the Nevada Supreme Court has said, the Nevada  
16 Supreme Court is unanimous -- unanimous, that where there is  
17 discretion, there is no property or vested right to a building permit. It's  
18 just that simple. And there's clearly discretion in this case. And so those  
19 cases are directly applicable. I want to refer the Court to tab 18, the  
20 *Stratosphere* case. They all say the same thing, but *Stratosphere* is a  
21 good case because it involves the City of Las Vegas, and it involves the  
22 same developments scheme here, a site development permit that's  
23 required for every development in the City of Las Vegas. And in the  
24 *Stratosphere* case, tab 18, at 120 Nev 527, the Court said that in the  
25 context of governmental immunity, we have defined a discretionary act

1 as an act that requires a decision requiring personal deliberation and  
2 judgment.

3 The language used in Section 19.18.050 clearly indicates a  
4 discretionary act on the part of the City Council. And that's -- 19.18.050  
5 is the requirement that the City approve a tentative map, and that is  
6 discretionary. All of the other permits required, you got a site  
7 development permit, a rezoning permit, a general plan amendment, all  
8 involved discretion.

9 And then, I'm at 120 Nev 528. The court said -- and this just  
10 demolishes the developer's claim in this case. Under section 19.18.050,  
11 the City Council must approve the Stratosphere's proposed development  
12 of the property through the City's site development plan review process.  
13 And the site development plan review process which is required here is  
14 UDC 19.16.100, and that's tab 33. And that says every application for  
15 development in the City of Las Vegas has to have a site development  
16 permit. And this is saying that the City must approve the Stratosphere's  
17 proposed development of the property through the City's -- the site  
18 development plan review process. That process requires the Council to  
19 consider a number of factors and to exercise its discretion in reaching a  
20 decision. There is no evidence that Stratosphere had a vested right to  
21 construct the proposed ride.

22 We have -- we've cited *Boulder City*, tab 19, the *T* case, tab  
23 20, *City of Reno*, tab 21, *Havana Contractors*, tab 22, *City of Reno*, tab 23,  
24 *Board of County Commissioners*, tab 24. They all say the same thing.

25 Now, the developer claims that these cases are not relevant

1 because they were supposed -- they were petition for judicial review  
2 cases, but that's -- that is dead wrong. A petition for judicial review is a  
3 procedure. It is a remedy. It is not a -- there's no substantive law of  
4 petitions for judicial review. No substantive law. And the developer  
5 hasn't cited any authority that there's a substantive law of petitions for  
6 judicial review. In a petition for judicial review, the standard is  
7 substantial evidence, limited to the administrative record. The remedy is  
8 equitable. That's a procedure and a remedy. There is no substantive  
9 PJR.

10 So those cases that rely on the discretion granted to public  
11 agencies -- and the law in Nevada is there is no property right conferred  
12 by zoning. That's what those cases say. That is the Nevada law of  
13 property and land use regulations. That applies in a PJR case, or a  
14 regulatory taking case, or any case. That's the law. That's the  
15 substantive law of property and land regulation in the state of Nevada.

16 And to establish with finality that this argument that these  
17 cases are petition for judicial review cases and therefore don't apply to  
18 any other case, I mean, it defies logic, and it defies all of the case law.  
19 But if the Court would please look at the *Boulder* case -- *Boulder City*  
20 case, tab 19, at page -- at 110 Nev 246. So that's on page -- well, page 6  
21 of this opinion, at the top left. It says Boulder City -- Boulder City  
22 challenged the denial of its permit as a Constitutional due process  
23 violation, not a PJR. Boulder City could not have violated Cinnamon  
24 Hill's substantive due process rights. The grant of a building permit was  
25 discretionary. Therefore, under the applicable land use laws, Cinnamon

1 Hills did not have a vested entitlement to a Constitutionally protected  
2 property interest.

3 That's this case. This is the Nevada Supreme Court saying  
4 they've got nothing. Their claim is wrong. This is not a PJR case, or at  
5 least that claim wasn't subject to a PJR. It was a constitutional  
6 challenge, just like this case. This is a challenge under the takings clause  
7 in Nevada and the federal constitutions. It's a constitutional challenge. I  
8 mean, *Boulder City* proves the point that this is not -- that there's no  
9 substantive law of PJR. If that were the case with the Boulder City, the  
10 Supreme Court in the *Boulder City* would have said, well, we've got two  
11 parallel systems of land use law in this state. One if you sue for a PJR,  
12 one if you sue for a constitutional violation. That's kind of a ridiculous  
13 proposition.

14 So what the developer is saying here is that if you are  
15 this -- that we have two parallel systems of property law and land use  
16 law in this state. So if you're a City Council, and you're presented with a  
17 building permit application, if you deny it or condition it in a way that the  
18 developer doesn't like, in other words exercise -- if you exercise your  
19 discretion, if the developer later after this happened sues for a PJR, the  
20 court is going to apply an abuse of discretion standard, a substantial  
21 evidence standard, and a failure to comply with the law.

22 But if the developer later sues for a regulatory taking, you  
23 have no discretion. That's a paradox. That can't be. That can't be the  
24 law, and it isn't. And there's no -- if you look at the developers briefs and  
25 their proposed findings, there is no authority to support what they're

1 saying. None whatsoever. All the authority is on the other side.

2 In addition to this, Your Honor, we have the 9th Circuit in the  
3 180 Land case. The developer sued the City and two members of  
4 the -- former members of the City Council in federal court. And they  
5 made the identical claim that they're making here, that they had a  
6 constitutional right to a building permit for the 103rd Street  
7 property -- for the Badlands property. And the 9th Circuit held -- and  
8 again, they made it the identical argument, and the 9th Circuit held no.  
9 And our reading of Nevada law is you do not have a property or vested  
10 right in zoning. And that was a final decision between the same parties,  
11 on the merits, on the identical issue. And under general principles of  
12 issue for preclusion, that decision ought to be binding. You don't get a  
13 re-do. Once that decision has been made, it binds.

14 By the way, on the previous page of the *Boulder City* case, at  
15 the bottom right, that's page 5, I just want to refer the Court to the part  
16 I've highlighted there where the court said no taking. No taking because  
17 the denial of the permit didn't destroy all viable economic value. And so  
18 that's the test for a taking, not whether you've been denied some right,  
19 whether you have that right or not.

20 And Your Honor, the 9th Circuit decision that I referred to is  
21 tab 25. And there, the Court said, to have a Constitutionally protected  
22 property interest in a government benefit such as a land use permit, an  
23 independent source such as state law must give rise to a legitimate claim  
24 of entitlement that imposes significant limitations under discretion of the  
25 decision-maker. So what's the court saying there? It's saying that

1 property -- what property interests an owner has, is determined by state  
2 law. They're referring to the Nevada law of property. We reject as  
3 without merit Plaintiffs' contentions that certain rulings in Nevada state  
4 court litigation established that Plaintiffs were deprived of a  
5 constitutionally protected property interest.

6 Now, Judge Williams' order -- Judge Jones ordered that  
7 findings of fact and conclusions of law in the 17 acre case that the Court  
8 received yesterday from the developer's counsel. Those are  
9 interlocutory orders. But I understand that they are -- they can be  
10 persuasive, but they also have to be correct.

11 Well, in denying the petition for judicial review in the 35 acre  
12 case, Judge Williams was correct. He said -- and that's at tab 26, the  
13 decision of the City Council to grant or deny applications for a general  
14 plan amendment, rezoning, and site development plan review is a  
15 discretionary act. A zoning designation does not give the developer a  
16 vested right to have its development applications approved.

17 Also, in that same decision, Judge Williams said, compatible  
18 zoning does not ipso facto divest a municipal government of the right to  
19 deny certain uses based upon considerations of public interest. In that  
20 the developer asked for exceptions to the rules, its assertion that  
21 approval was somehow mandated simply because there is R-PD7 zoning  
22 on the property is plainly wrong.

23 Then Judge Williams said, it is well within the Council's  
24 discretion to determine that the developer did not meet the criteria for a  
25 general plan amendment or waiver found in the Unified Development



1 Code and to reject the site development plan and tentative map  
2 application accordingly, no matter of the zoning designation. Then  
3 Judge Williams said, the Court rejects the developer's argument that the  
4 R-PD7 zoning designations on the Badlands property somehow required  
5 the Council to approve its applications. Statements from planning staff  
6 or the city attorney that the Badlands property has an R-PD7 zoning  
7 designation do not alter this conclusion.

8 Now, the developer argues that those statements from Judge  
9 Williams were made in the context of a petition for judicial review and  
10 that they have no application to their regulatory takings claim. And I  
11 submit that that is dead wrong. There is no substantive law of PJR.  
12 Judge Williams cited authority, extensive authority to Nevada property  
13 laws and land use regulatory laws. The fact that it was a PJR has  
14 nothing to do with the facts and the underlying legal basis for Judge  
15 Williams' decision to deny the petition for judicial review. It wasn't PJR  
16 law.

17 The developer also argues that Judge Williams' decision was  
18 based on Judge Crockett's finding that the Badlands was subject to a  
19 PROS designation in the City's general plan, which does not allow  
20 residential use. And that when Judge Crockett was reversed by the  
21 Nevada Supreme Court, that his conclusion that the property was --  
22 Judge Crockett's conclusion that the property, the Badlands, was subject  
23 to the PROS designation, goes out the window. Well, that's a fact. The  
24 PROS designation was imposed by ordinance, by the City, and  
25 repeatedly reconfirmed by ordinance of the City, and it was in effect

1 when the developer bought the property. It's a fact. Judge Herndon  
2 found that that was a fact.

3           You can't just get rid of facts just because you sue under a  
4 different cause of action. That's a fact. And the effect of the PROS  
5 designation is the law. Nevada Revised Statutes 278.150, the R-PD7  
6 zoning, and the City's general plan all provide that the PROS designation  
7 applies to this property and does not permit residential development.  
8 The City has discretion. Judge Williams said the city has discretion to  
9 change the PROS designation. If it has discretion, the property owner  
10 cannot have a constitutional right to a building permit. I cited to Judge  
11 Herndon's findings of facts and conclusions of law, where Judge  
12 Herndon said a landowner does not have a fundamental constitutional  
13 right to use the land for a particular purpose. It's directly on point.

14           And now, this a -- and the next point, Your Honor, is an  
15 absolutely crucial point. The developer claims that eminent domain  
16 cases hold that a property owner has a constitutional right to build  
17 whatever they want as long as it's a permitted use by the zoning. And  
18 they cite for that proposition several cases, including -- and this is their  
19 Exhibit 1. They cite *City of Las Vegas v. Bustos* and *Clark County v. Alper*  
20 [phonetic]. Okay. So this case, the instant case, is about whether the  
21 City can restrict the use of property as long as it doesn't wipe out the  
22 value. That's what this case is about.

23           So the Court is asked to determine whether the City is liable  
24 for a regulatory taking. That's an inverse condemnation, where the  
25 property owner is the Plaintiff, claims what you've done is wiping out or

1 nearly wiping out. And the issue here is liability, first. And if the City is  
2 liable, then the Court or a jury determines what the just compensation is,  
3 and that's based on the value of the property. In sharp contrast, in an  
4 eminent domain case, the City initiates the action, and it concedes  
5 liability. It concedes liability and the only issue is the value of the  
6 properties.

7           Yeah. Inverse condemnation, the liability is the issue. If  
8 liability is determined based on the tests for liability, which are wipeout,  
9 or near wipeout, or investment-backed expectations. If there's a  
10 determination taken, then the Court looks at damages. The cases that  
11 the developer cites are either eminent domain cases where liability is not  
12 an issue, so they couldn't possibly -- they couldn't possibly state the  
13 standard for liability for a regulatory taking, and they don't. And there  
14 are a couple of cases in there that are inverse cases, but the developer  
15 cites to a discussion of value.

16           In the *Alper* case that the developer relies on saying eminent  
17 domain, regulatory takings, same thing. Apply all the same rules. Well,  
18 of course, that's ridiculous because liability is not an issue. Liability is at  
19 issue here. Liability is not an issue in eminent domain cases.

20           In the inverse cases the developer cites, the discussion was  
21 about value, that there had been a finding of a taking. And the  
22 discussion was value, and in that case, the *Alper* court said we determine  
23 value the same way we do in eminent domain cases. It makes a lot of  
24 sense. Those cases say that in determination of value, an appraiser, the  
25 expert witness for each side, has to go through the following analysis.

1 The appraiser determines what the property can be used for physically,  
2 economically, and legally. So in the determination of what the property  
3 can be used for legally, the appraiser must consider the restrictions on  
4 use of the property from zoning. The appraiser doesn't consider what  
5 rights zoning grants because zoning doesn't grant rights. It restricts the  
6 use.

7           These cases say that the appraiser cannot assume a use of  
8 property that's not allowed by the zoning in valuing the property unless  
9 there's a reasonable probability that the City will change the zoning.  
10 That's the analysis that an appraiser goes through in giving an opinion of  
11 value of the property.

12           So the part of these cases that the developer relies on  
13 actually say the opposite of what the developers say. They say you  
14 can't -- you have to consider the zoning limits on the use of properties  
15 and value. You can't go wild and say, well, the property could be used  
16 for a 40 story office building if that's not allowed by zoning. Those cases  
17 don't remotely say what the developer says here. Nevada eminent  
18 domain law provides that zoning must be relied upon to determine a  
19 landowner's property interest. That's false. To determine the property  
20 value.

21           Your Honor, those eminent domain cases and a couple of  
22 inverse cases that discuss value, in addition to statements by the former  
23 city attorney and a planner, are the developer's case. They say that's the  
24 law. And of course, what Judge Williams said, "statements from  
25 planning staff for the city attorney that the Badlands has an R-PD7 zoning

1 designation, do not alter this conclusion. It's just that -- it's pretty  
2 simple. If the former city attorney wasn't familiar with the law, the state  
3 law, local law, or constitutional law, that doesn't bind this Court or a  
4 member of the planning staff. None of those statements are relevant.

5           What binds this Court are cases from the Nevada Supreme  
6 Court and statutes from the Nevada Legislature. And there is no  
7 [indiscernible]. As I said, the Court is being asked to say that discretion  
8 is out the window in Nevada for land use planning. And that's not an  
9 exaggeration. And you would think to make such a radical change in the  
10 law, that the Court would want to rely on at least one case, at least one  
11 statute. But there's absolutely nothing. If you read the developer's  
12 cases, there is no case that says what they are claiming here, and all the  
13 authority is the opposite.

14           Again, their theory is -- it just isn't -- there's a disconnect  
15 between their theory and zoning law. Zoning doesn't grant rights. So,  
16 you know, the developer never says, well, you have a right -- you have a  
17 right to build. They're relying on -- the developer is relying on Judge  
18 Williams' order, and that's tab 26. And at the end of Judge Williams'  
19 order -- I'm sorry it's not tab 26. Your Honor, I'm having trouble putting  
20 my finger on that order.

21           But the order says, in their -- in the -- in granting this motion  
22 to determine property interest, it says two things. One, the property is  
23 zoned R-PD7. That's never been at issue. Of course, it zoned R-PD7. The  
24 City has never disputed it. The developer acts like that's some sort of a  
25 victory for the developer that the City has denied that. And the

1 developer says the City denies that there is R-PD7 zoning or that zoning  
2 has any effect on the use of the property, the developer's right. And  
3 that's a straw man argument. We don't argue that. We argue that both  
4 zoning and the general plan apply. And they apply in very -- in very clear  
5 ways under local and state law.

6 But they submitted an order to Judge Williams, and they led  
7 him into error. The order says that single family and multi-family  
8 residential uses are the, T-H-E, the legally permitted uses in the plan.  
9 Now, if you look at permitted uses by right in the property, if you look at  
10 tab 27, and the R-PD residential zoning district, it says that the R-PD  
11 district provides for flexibility and innovation in residential development  
12 with emphasis on enhanced residential amenities, efficient utilization of  
13 open space, now that's key. So single family and multi-family are not  
14 the only legally permitted uses, but also open space. And then, if you go  
15 down to subsection C, we see that there are home occupations, childcare  
16 family homes, childcare group homes, all permitted.

17 So they led Judge Williams into error when they submitted  
18 an order that said -- that made it sound like that residential use, single  
19 family and multi-family use, the use they want to make, are the only  
20 legally permitted uses in the district. That's false. Other uses are  
21 permitted, including open space.

22 So here's what happened in this case. The developer  
23 ignores -- avoids the history of this case. In 1991 -- in 1990, '91, '90, the  
24 City approved the Peccole Ranch master plan, 1539 acres. It re-zoned a  
25 614 acre part of that property R-PD7 in a tentative zoning. That's how the

1 City worked back then. It tentatively zoned property, and then when the  
2 property was built out, it would make the zoning permanent. So in 1991,  
3 the City re-zoned a 614 acre portion of the property R-PD7.

4 Then, in 1992, the City Council adopted a new general plan.  
5 This was the City really changing the way it did things. It became much  
6 more active, had a much more rigorous land use regulatory program  
7 with the 1992 general plan. And in that plan, it designated 250 acres of  
8 that 614 acre property PROS, parks, recreation, and open space, that did  
9 not permit residential use. And the rest of the property was designated  
10 residential in the general plan, a residential use, a low-density or a  
11 medium-density residential use in that [indiscernible]. That's exactly  
12 what R-PD7 -- R-PD zoning [indiscernible].

13 Okay. So the developer is treating this case like *Lucas* case,  
14 where you've got a lot, one lot, surrounded by other residential lots, all  
15 developed. And the State of South Carolina says you can't build on this  
16 lot. Well, a house on that lot is the only use for that lot. And you know, I  
17 think that it makes sense. Well, if the only use you've got is to build one  
18 house on your property, and the government says no, you can't, well,  
19 that could be a taking. That very well could be.

20 But that is not this case. We had a 1500 acre master planned  
21 community, and the whole point of the master plan is to decide where  
22 the houses are going to go, where's the recreation and open space going  
23 to go, where the roads going to go, the fire station, the hotel and casino,  
24 the retail, to plan a sound community. A community that's safe and  
25 provides quality -- a high quality of life. That's the whole point of these

1 regulations.

2           And so when the City re-zoned a portion of the property, of  
3 the PRNP, the 614 acres, to R-PD7, it did exactly what it's supposed to do.  
4 In that area, that large area, it decided, well, here are the houses and  
5 here is the open space. And in fact, in approving the Peccole Ranch  
6 master plan, the City conditioned the approval on the set aside of  
7 recreation and open space. The zoning -- under the zoning. The zoning  
8 requires it.

9           Again, the City has discretion as to where the open space is  
10 going to go. But this zoning requires it, and it was part of the approval.  
11 They approved a project that had recreation and open space in it, a golf  
12 course. It was also a condition of the developers of the PRNP to  
13 participate in a gaming district, that they set aside a golf course. That  
14 was a condition.

15           Now, the developer argues -- and this is false. The developer  
16 argues that -- it's a straw man argument -- that the City contends that  
17 those conditions of development -- that the City argues that those  
18 conditions required that the property stay in open space or recreation  
19 permanently. That is not our argument. The conditions -- and the  
20 developer also argues there were no such conditions because the  
21 approvals of the Peccole Ranch master plan don't say, as a condition of  
22 zoning approval, you will set aside open space. That's not how this  
23 works. That's not how these approvals work. They approved a project  
24 that had in it, streets and houses, retail, a number of things, and open  
25 space. So their approval -- everything in the approval, is a condition. It



1 doesn't have to say this is a condition. However, the gaming district  
2 approval was specifically conditioned on the set aside the golf course.

3           So the Peccole is then built out. The Peccole Ranch master  
4 plan, with thousands of housing units, hotel, casino, retail, and the golf  
5 course. And this developer participated in that. Built the Queen Church  
6 Towers, Tivoli retail facility, and benefited from the amenity of the open  
7 space.

8           Now, the developer bought the open space and claims I have  
9 around the build in this area because I have a -- you know, I have --  
10 because the property is zoned R-PD7. Again, Your Honor, their theory is  
11 absurd. That means that -- every property is zoned for some uses, some  
12 for residential, some for industrial, some for agricultural. Every property  
13 in this state, practically, is zoned, except maybe federal property. So that  
14 means that any owner of property has a constitutional right to build  
15 whatever they want as long as it's a permitted use in the zone.

16           It's just such a fantastic notion. It also means that anytime a  
17 government agency denies the development permit or conditions it, it's  
18 a taking, because they have a constitutional right to develop. Again, it's  
19 just -- it's stretching the law to the point of breaking. That can't be the  
20 law. But that's what they're asking to do. And they say that they have  
21 Constitutional rights to build in the property. Well, they say they have a  
22 right to build single or multi-family residential. Well, does the City -- you  
23 know, apparently the City doesn't have any discretion. Can the City limit  
24 them to one house? If they have a right to build residential, what does  
25 that mean? One house? In this case, 133 acres times 7, the density, the

1 931 houses? What rights do they have?

2           What they're saying, again, amounts to the City has no  
3 discretion. They've never said, well, exactly what right they have, and  
4 that's because their theory just doesn't fit. It doesn't fit within the law of  
5 zoning or taking. It gets even more absurd. This means that -- their  
6 theory would mean that every time a city or county re-zones property to  
7 impose any new restrictions, it's a taking because they have a  
8 constitutional right under zoning. So that means the City can't change  
9 the zoning without paying compensation. The whole thing just is -- just  
10 collapses, Your Honor. And again, the R-PD district says the City is to  
11 provide enhanced residential amenities and sufficient utilization of open  
12 space that it approves.

13           UDC Section 19.10.050 says that in an RPD zone, single  
14 family and multi-family and supporting uses are allowed. The open  
15 space, the golf course, and the drainage for the 133 acre property was a  
16 supporting use. That's allowed. Residential is not the only use alone.  
17 And in fact, R-PD zoning encourages open space. It says single family  
18 and multi-family residential or supporting uses, to the extent they are  
19 determined by the director to be consistent with the density approved for  
20 the district and are compatible with surrounding uses. The whole  
21 section is just infused with discretion. It's pervasive. And under the  
22 *Stratosphere* and other cases, it's pretty simple. If the agency has  
23 discretion, there's no property value.

24           Now, the developer relies on a play on words of the concept  
25 of a permitted use, and a permitted use by right. The developer argues

1 that if a use is a permitted use in a zone, that means they have a  
2 Constitutional right to build it. That's not the case. And that obviously  
3 isn't the case because the *Stratosphere* case was deciding Las Vegas  
4 law. And all zones have a permitted use. That's what the zones are for.  
5 Again, *Euclid v. Ambler*. Housing is permitted; other uses are not  
6 permitted.

7           So permitted means that the government can allow that use  
8 in the zone. It cannot allow a use in the zone that's not permitted. That's  
9 what permitted means. It's not -- it's the opposite of what the developer  
10 claims. That limits saying what uses are permitted in the zone and limits  
11 the uses in that zone. It doesn't confer rights on owners to make those  
12 rights. So their theory is just, again, a big disconnect with zoning law.

13           The definition of a permitted use in Las Vegas is a -- a  
14 permitted use is permitted as a matter of right. Not by right. They  
15 misquoted in their order they presented to Judge Williams. It's  
16 permitted as a matter of right. Single family and multi-family residential  
17 uses are permitted uses. So that means they are permitted as an added  
18 right in an R-PD7 zone.

19           In tab 28 is the definition of permitted use, Your Honor. So  
20 the developer ignores all the authority that says that just because a use  
21 is permitted in the zone doesn't mean that you have a constitutional  
22 right, a property right or a vested right, to make that use. The City has  
23 discretion. And the definition of permitted has been the same for a long  
24 time. So the Court couldn't have decided that the City has discretion,  
25 and the owner has no property rights if permitted as a matter of right

1 meant that the owner has a Constitutional right. That would blow up --  
2 again, that would blow up all land use law and return to an age where  
3 owners had virtual freedom to do what they wanted.

4           The definition of permitted use is a use of land in a zoning  
5 district as a matter of right if it is conducted in accordance with the  
6 restrictions applicable to that district. That says discretion. In the RPD  
7 district, what are the restrictions to that district? Well, you have  
8 the -- you have a number of uses that are permitted uses, and then you  
9 have all this discretion to require supporting uses such as open space,  
10 ancillary uses. Again, the R-DP ordinance is infused with discretion. So  
11 permitted as a matter of right doesn't mean at the developer has a  
12 constitutional right. Permitted means it's not -- not permitted. The only  
13 way that the City Council could allow a use in a zone that's not permitted  
14 is to amend the zoning ordinance.

15           Okay. Now, Your Honor, it gets even more difficult for the  
16 developer. They don't have a constitutional right under zoning, but they  
17 fail -- the general plan is also an insurmountable obstacle to their claim.  
18 How can the developer have a constitutional right under the zoning to  
19 build wherever it pleases as long as it's a permitted use where the  
20 general plan of the City has designated the Badlands PROS, which does  
21 not allow housing. The two aren't compatible. They can't have such a  
22 constitutional right because the general plan doesn't allow it.

23           I cited to the Court Nevada Revised Statute 278.25.02, that's  
24 tab 16. It says, all zoning must be consistent with the general plan. I  
25 refer the Court to tab 43. This is UDC 19.00.040. It says the adoption of

1 this title is consistent and compatible with and furthers the goals,  
2 policies, objectives, and programs of the general plan. It is the intent of  
3 the City Council that all regulatory decisions made pursuant to this title  
4 be consistent with the general plan, and then it goes on. And then, it  
5 even makes a stronger statement. For purposes of this section,  
6 consistency with the general plan means not only consistency with the  
7 plan's land use and density designations, that's the PROS, that's a land  
8 use and density designation, but also consistency with all policies and  
9 programs of the general plan, including those that promote compatibility  
10 of uses and densities and orderly development consistent with available  
11 resources.

12               So this says two major -- three major things. One, zoning  
13 must be consistent with the general plan. Zoning implements the  
14 general plan. The general is the Constitution. It's a higher authority.  
15 And it says that in implementing the general plan, the City has -- in  
16 implementing zoning ordinances, they have to be consistent with the  
17 letter of the general plan. You know the land use designations in the  
18 general plan are controlling. They're also kind of the spirit of the plan  
19 and all of the plan's provisions.

20               In the *AmWest* case versus *City of Henderson*, the Court  
21 said -- the Nevada Supreme Court said, at the bottom of the first page in  
22 yellow, we agree with the District Court that AWD does not have vested  
23 rights in its 1989 master plan. In order for rights in the proposed  
24 development project to vest, zoning or use approvals must not be  
25 subject to further governmental discretionary action affecting the project.

1 And then on the next page, Your Honor, in the paragraph that starts with  
2 without overruling, the Court said, "This Court held, pursuant to NRS  
3 278.250, that municipal entities must adopt zoning regulations that are in  
4 substantial agreement with the master plan." The *Nova Horizon* case, at  
5 105 Nevada 92, a 1989 case, says the same thing. So if the developer has  
6 to obtain an amendment of the general plan to allow residential  
7 development in the Badlands, it can't have a constitutionally protected  
8 property or vested right on their zoning to build houses.

9 Nevada -- excuse me. Las Vegas UDC 19.16.010(a) is tab 29.  
10 It says in subsection A, "as otherwise provided by this title, approval of  
11 all maps, vacations, re-zoning, site development plan reviews,"  
12 remember, a site development plan review is required for every  
13 development project in the state with a few exceptions." Special use  
14 permits, very -- the law shall be consistent with the spirit and intent of  
15 the general plan. I cited in the subsequent tabs are a number of other  
16 ordinances -- I won't take you through those in detail -- that require  
17 zoning to be consistent with the general plan, all development to be  
18 consistent with the general plan.

19 I will refer the Court, though, to the UDC 19.16 .100, which is  
20 tab 33. I think this is significant. I've highlighted in yellow the important  
21 parts of that ordinance, Your Honor. And that says that -- in subsection  
22 A, the purpose of the site development plan review process is to ensure  
23 that each development, number one, is consistent with the general plan,  
24 this title, and other regulations. And then in the subsequent sections, it  
25 just goes to show how much discretion the City exercises. You know, it

1 contributes to the long-term attractiveness of the city. Well, that requires  
2 discretion. It contributes to the economic vitality of the community.

3 Your Honor, every property is unique, and you can't have  
4 one size fits all in zoning and planning regulations. What the legislature  
5 is telling cities is you shall use your discretion to plan your communities  
6 to achieve these objectives. There has to be discretion.

7 THE COURT: It this, like, a good time we could discuss -- we  
8 have these four different cases pending and each of these four parcels  
9 that -- the developer chose to do it this way. Each of these four parcels  
10 were submitted separately. The cases are all separate. And they're all at  
11 a different point in the process. I'm not going to say procedure because  
12 procedure is for court. I would say zoning process. So can we talk about  
13 that and how --

14 MR. SCHWARTZ: Yeah.

15 THE COURT: I mean, thank you very much for the historical  
16 perspective, but how does this apply to this situation we're in specifically  
17 here? We have the 17 acre case with Judge Jones. I appreciated seeing  
18 the order yesterday. I thought it was interesting that he said he felt that  
19 Herndon's order was very specific to Herndon's -- the situation in  
20 Herndon's case, which is the 65 acres, which apparently never had  
21 anything submitted. So clearly not ripe. I mean, Herndon's right on that.  
22 I don't think anybody can question it. He's right. That case is not ripe.  
23 Nothing was ever done.

24 The 30 -- the 17 acre, that seems to be this whole mess  
25 where that was approved, and then the property -- the neighbors sued,

1 so we had Crockett's order. It goes up to the Supreme Court. Somehow,  
2 in the midst of all this, something happens. I've never really been clear  
3 on what happened to the 17acre case. It's not mine. I don't care. But it  
4 is it relevant, because what Judge Jones says is look, this is a different  
5 case. Seventeen acres, we have this whole problem of, you know, did  
6 they or didn't they revoke it or, you know. And, you know, Herndon  
7 says, well, it doesn't matter, it was void because while Crockett's order  
8 was in place, that voids it. But then, the Supreme Court reinstates it.

9               So there we have the problem of Judge Williams' case,  
10 which is the 35 acres. Again, a different situation. The petition for  
11 judicial review is denied, and then they proceed on this other, you know,  
12 what we now understand to be -- it should be a separate case, which is  
13 this constitutional part of the case. And there, we have this whole  
14 problem where there was some action taken that had to do with  
15 amending the general plan. And so that's -- he sees that as significant  
16 and that's different in that case.

17              And so then we get to this case. So can we just talk about, I  
18 mean, because seriously, we've had enough of this.

19              MR. SCHWARTZ: Sure.

20              THE COURT: Can we just talk about some specifics of the  
21 case, please?

22              MR. SCHWARTZ: Well, that's what I've been doing. And this  
23 is a motion to determine property interest.

24              THE COURT: No, I haven't heard anything about the facts.  
25 So I would like to get into the specifics, because I see each of these four



1 cases is very different. They're all at a very different stage. I don't see  
2 how you could say well, Judge Trujillo did this, or Judge Jones did that,  
3 or Judge Herndon did this. They're all different.

4 MR. SCHWARTZ: I agree, and I'm not saying that that's  
5 what --

6 THE COURT: So let's talk.

7 MR. SCHWARTZ: I'm talking about the *Stratosphere*, and  
8 the other cases, and the statutes.

9 THE COURT: Let's move on, please.

10 MR. SCHWARTZ: That applies directly to --

11 THE COURT: Let's talk very specifically the history of this  
12 case, of these facts, because again, each of these cases have unique  
13 facts. Very different. So we're talking about 133 acres. Let's go. Let's  
14 go.

15 MR. SCHWARTZ: Okay. So if the Court thinks that Judge  
16 Herndon was right about the --

17 THE COURT: A hundred percent.

18 MR. SCHWARTZ: -- the ripeness --

19 THE COURT: Yes.

20 MR. SCHWARTZ: -- this is the exact same situation  
21 because --

22 THE COURT: And is that because what happened here is the  
23 City Council didn't, technically, act.

24 MR. SCHWARTZ: Correct.

25 THE COURT: They took it off calendar.

1           MR. SCHWARTZ: Correct. The burden is on the developer,  
2 and that's the *Haney* [phonetic] case, and we cited at tab 13. And there  
3 are other cases. The burden is on the developer. If they want to sue for  
4 a taking, they've got to file at least two applications and have them  
5 denied on the merits, and they have to be for just the property at issue.  
6 They can't be for that and the other property. Because if you combine it  
7 with other property, well, the decision maker could have other  
8 considerations that involve that other property. It's got to be two  
9 applications for the property at issue, and they have to be denied. And  
10 then you may have a ripe claim if there's no more discretion in the City.

11           That never occurred here. They say they filed four  
12 applications, but one of them was the 133 applications, which was never  
13 decided on the merits, so that doesn't count for taking purposes, for  
14 ripeness purposes. And the NDA --

15           THE COURT: And again, this is the developer chose to do it  
16 this way.

17           MR. SCHWARTZ: Yes.

18           THE COURT: They wanted to submit one massive plan for all  
19 200-and-whatever acres, they could have. They chose not to. They did it  
20 in these little -- these segments. They broke it up.

21           MR. SCHWARTZ: Okay, yes. So why --

22           MR. LEAVITT: If I might interrupt?

23           THE COURT: No.

24           MR. SCHWARTZ: Your Honor, I object to Mr. Leavitt.

25           THE COURT: I told him to sit down.

1 MR. SCHWARTZ: He's constantly interrupting my  
2 arguments.

3 THE COURT: I told him to sit down. Thanks.

4 MR. SCHWARTZ: I'm sorry?

5 THE COURT: I said I told him to sit down. Thank you.

6 MR. SCHWARTZ: Okay. Your Honor, the other three  
7 applications that Mr. Leavitt said were for the 133 acre properties were  
8 one major development agreement, but that wasn't a site specific  
9 application for the 133 acre property. A development agreement  
10 basically does two things. It says if you approve it, then the government  
11 won't change the law, but you still have to provide -- file the site  
12 development permit, a zoning permit, a general plan amendment, other  
13 permits under the UDC to have an application that the City could have  
14 acted on that only concerned the 133 acre property.

15 So that doesn't count. And Judge Herndon went into great  
16 detail to explain why it didn't count, because they made the same  
17 argument. Then they say they filed applications for a fence and for  
18 access. Those applications were not to develop the property such that  
19 they could be denied any development and habitation. They were just  
20 for certain things on the property. They never -- and this is in -- the  
21 assistant city planner filed a declaration, and I can get that declaration  
22 for the Court. They never filed the right application. They weren't  
23 denied. That's false that they were denied.

24 They were required to file a certain type of application, as to  
25 which, the planner has discretion. Now they say, oh, that planner

1 abused their discretion. Well, they can't come in here in a takings case  
2 and argue that. If there was an abuse of discretion, they had a remedy of  
3 a petition for judicial review if they wanted a fence or if they wanted  
4 access. They didn't do that. The statute of limitations is past. They can't  
5 come in here and ask this court to conduct what is essentially a petition  
6 for judicial review and review the decision of that planner about what  
7 type of application was required.

8 Again, access and a fence. This is about denial of any use,  
9 their third cause of action and, therefore --

10 THE COURT: And so then how did it get on calendar?  
11 Because there's a lot in their complaint about all these things that  
12 counselor said. Counselor Cerroda [phonetic], he said this. And then  
13 there's all -- there's just all these factual allegations of all these, like,  
14 things that people were saying and how this is all some big plot.

15 MR. SCHWARTZ: Your Honor, that is all a complete red  
16 herring. A taking, the test is quite simple, *Boulder City*, appellate, state.  
17 The takings test is quite simple.

18 THE COURT: Okay.

19 MR. SCHWARTZ: You have to have an action of the  
20 governing body alone that restricts your use.

21 THE COURT: And so -- again, so -- and actions is what I'm  
22 looking for.

23 MR. SCHWARTZ: Yes.

24 THE COURT: So is there an action?

25 MR. SCHWARTZ: No.

1 THE COURT: It somehow gets on the agenda, and then  
2 somehow, it gets off the agenda.

3 MR. SCHWARTZ: What? I'm sorry, the --

4 THE COURT: The 133 acres.

5 MR. SCHWARTZ: -- 133 [indiscernible] decision?

6 THE COURT: The 133 acres.

7 MR. SCHWARTZ: So --

8 THE COURT: Somehow it's on the agenda, and then it's just,  
9 their version, magically off. Your version, it wasn't final and couldn't be  
10 submitted.

11 MR. SCHWARTZ: It wasn't magically off. It was all  
12 conducted out in the open.

13 THE COURT: Okay.

14 MR. SCHWARTZ: There was -- the City Council struck the  
15 applications because the developer failed to file a major modification  
16 application as required by Judge Crockett's order.

17 THE COURT: Okay.

18 MR. SCHWARTZ: This Court, now --

19 THE COURT: So here we go. Now, so we got this major  
20 modification order. So that was what was required by Judge Crockett.  
21 That was the law as it stood at the time until it's voided by the Supreme  
22 Court. So because there's not this major modification, does the mere  
23 fact that later Judge Crockett is overturned by the Nevada Supreme  
24 Court, does that somehow make this whole thing wrongful retroactively?  
25 Because that seems to be what the argument is.

1 MR. SCHWARTZ: Of course not. The City -- I think this Court  
2 here in your findings of fact and conclusions of law in October -- was it  
3 29th of 2019?

4 THE COURT: Right.

5 MR. SCHWARTZ: Of course, they couldn't, or they would be  
6 in contempt. And Judge Herndon recognized this in his order. They  
7 made the same argument. They said that the 133 acre applications were  
8 an application to develop the property that related to the 65 acre  
9 property and showed that it was futile. Judge Herndon correctly said no,  
10 they couldn't approve that application because it didn't contain a major  
11 modification application, or they would have been in contempt of Judge  
12 Crockett's order.

13 And that's what this Court found. I think this is already  
14 argued and determined by this Court. And so yes, it is the height. It  
15 would be the height of injustice to require the City to pay compensation  
16 to this developer for not letting it develop anything in the 133 acre  
17 property where the City was never even given a chance to consider an  
18 application on the merits. That -- yeah, that's this case.

19 THE COURT: Okay. So what does that mean? What is your  
20 position with respect to their motion for summary judgment?

21 MR. SCHWARTZ: Well --

22 THE COURT: I know you said their whole theory is wrong,  
23 that this two-part process is wrong, that that's not the law. Fine. But  
24 what does it mean here?

25 MR. SCHWARTZ: Here, we're talking about their motion to

1 determine property interest.

2 THE COURT: Right.

3 MR. SCHWARTZ: Here's what happened --

4 THE COURT: And that's why I asked why wasn't the  
5 counter-motion taken off? It seems to me that it's either they're right and  
6 the Court should, what, grant their motion or deny their motion. What is  
7 the effect of granting versus denying? And so that's why I said, why was  
8 the counter-motion taken out? I kind of liked that counter-motion.

9 MR. SCHWARTZ: I'd like to address that, Your Honor. Okay.  
10 So the developer is dead in the water on the takings -- on the takings  
11 doctrine, for a variety of reasons. The PRNP, is the parcel as a whole,  
12 they got 85 percent of it developed. You can't carve out the Badlands  
13 and say, oh, now you have to let me develop that. You can't do that  
14 under takings. That's a developer trick. All the courts are on it. The U.S.  
15 Supreme Court and the Nevada Supreme Court in the *Kelley* case. So  
16 they can't do that.

17 Well, what if the PRNP is not the parcel as a whole? What if  
18 it's just the Badlands? Well, the City approved 435 luxury housing use  
19 the Badlands. So they can't show a wipeout or interference with their  
20 investment expectations. It increased their value by five or six times.

21 THE COURT: Well so, and here's my question --

22 MR. SCHWARTZ: And so --

23 THE COURT: Yeah. Again, like I said, it was their choice to  
24 chop this all up into these individual little parcels. But -- so on the one  
25 hand, are we looking at this as a whole or are we looking at this as four

1 separate parcels? Because the mere fact that the 17 acres now -- well,  
2 you know, whatever is going on with Judge Jones is, you know,  
3 whatever. But -- so they had the zoning on the 17 acres at one point. So  
4 that's now got some more increased value, but they've chopped this up  
5 into these other three parcels. Does that somehow give them -- provide  
6 a different evaluation as to each individual sub-parcel as to whether or  
7 not there's value to that sub-parcel?

8 MR. SCHWARTZ: Yes. Good question. This is classic  
9 segmentation. And Judge Herndon said when they bought the property  
10 in 2015, they then shut down the golf course, segmented the property,  
11 put each property under a different owner -- owner's name, but they're  
12 all the developer, and then they proceeded to apply to develop individual  
13 properties. And then, when they got approval on one, they didn't get  
14 approval on the others, they didn't file on others. Then they sued the  
15 City on all four, but only individually. That was their choice. And they  
16 asked for damages for each property.

17 Why did they carve the property up? Why did they segment  
18 it? It's the classic developer trick. You know, if you -- let's take the  
19 PRNP, 1500-some acres. The City allows them -- it says you got to set  
20 aside 250 acres for the golf course. So we allow you to develop 85  
21 percent, and it was thousands of housing units in the development.  
22 Then the developer sells off the 250 acres. Well, this developer comes  
23 in. He says, okay, you now have to let me build something on the golf  
24 course. You have to let me build some houses on the golf course or it's  
25 a taking because it's a wipeout.



1           The courts say, huh-huh, no, you can't do that. We look at  
2 the parcel as a whole. The golf course was an ancillary use. It was part  
3 of this part of this 1500 acre development. And so you can't carve it out,  
4 just like they can't buy the Badlands, the 250 acre Badlands, and then  
5 divide it into four parts. The City approves development on one, and  
6 they say, so you have -- but you have to let me build housing on the 133  
7 acre property or it's a wipeout. Well, and I think the court says, no, wait  
8 a minute. The Badlands was under one ownership, one use. You  
9 bought the property all at the same time.

10           That's classic segmentation, and we cited these cases to  
11 show they have no claim. And that's why they've got this nutty theory  
12 that zoning confers property rights. Now, can I address your question,  
13 Your Honor?

14           THE COURT: Yes.

15           MR. SCHWARTZ: Okay. So the developer can't win this case  
16 because they've got nothing under the takings doctrine. So they made  
17 up this theory of zoning rights. And then, they filed a motion to  
18 determine property interest with Judge Williams. And Judge Williams  
19 granted the motion and just signed that order. And in their order, they  
20 said, well in a regulatory takings case, there are these two sub-inquiries.  
21 And you have to determine the property interest before you can  
22 determine whether that property interest was taken. That's obviously  
23 true.

24           But they contended that it has to be a two stage process. So  
25 what they did is they filed this motion to determine property interest,

1 which is really a summary adjudication motion on one element of their  
2 taking claim, but they called it to determine property interest. And then  
3 they used the Williams order to say -- to try to get our motion in  
4 the -- our motion for summary judgment in the 65 acre case knocked off  
5 calendar so that they would -- the court would only hear their motion.

6 So they would frame the issue and not get into any of the  
7 history of this or any of the law on takings, but frame the issue with their  
8 crazy theory. That's their only way that they can prevail in this case.

9 THE COURT: Okay. But --

10 MR. SCHWARTZ: Judge Herndon heard them both at the  
11 same time. The developer -- let me -- if I can, that's how we got to this  
12 case.

13 THE COURT: Uh-huh. Right.

14 MR. SCHWARTZ: Then they misled Judge Jones in citing the  
15 *Sisolak* and the *Alper* case, that you have to do a two-stage process and  
16 you have to have a separate motion for a determination of property  
17 interest. The City filed its counter-motion for summary judgment, which  
18 adjudicated the same issue. Just like a breach of contract case. You go  
19 into a breach of contract case, summary judgment. Is there a contract?  
20 If there is, was it breached? Here, do they have a property interest? If  
21 so, was it taken? So --

22 THE COURT: Okay. Well, you know, with all due respect for  
23 my colleagues, I'm not sure they were misled by anything. These cases  
24 are all different. Judge Williams has a case where the problem was  
25 allegedly that there was some denial due to failure to file a general plan

1 amendment. So that's an action that's taken. Okay. So I get that. Judge  
2 Jones very clearly says, look, I can't follow Herndon because Herndon's  
3 case is so different. Herndon's case, no action was taken. No action was  
4 taken. Clearly, the 65 acre case is in its own category.

5           So what Judge Herndon's -- what Judge Jones is saying,  
6 well, look, maybe there's something going on here, because we have  
7 this whole problem where when this whole thing gets interfered with by  
8 the neighbors and Crockett's order gets in place, and then everything has  
9 to stop because you've got, you know, an injunction pending and, you  
10 know, what are you going to do? Are you going to violate that? So  
11 obviously, you can't. So something happens on that 17 acres, which I  
12 still can't understand. And so maybe they've got something here. So he  
13 says we'll go forward, maybe you've got something here. It's different.

14           So with all due respect to my colleagues, I do not believe that  
15 they are stupid. I believe that they all look at their cases individually.  
16 And Judge Herndon's case decision is very good about this. It lays them  
17 all out and how each of them is different. And Judge Jones says he's  
18 right, they're all different. This case isn't the 65 acre case. So ripeness  
19 isn't a problem here. We need to go forward because maybe there's  
20 something here in this alleged taking. Let's see. Let's go forward.

21           I don't think he's stupid and being misled. I think what he is  
22 saying is each of these four parcels has a different procedural history  
23 which requires a different analysis. So let's focus on us.

24           MR. SCHWARTZ: Well, so here's what happened in this case.

25           THE COURT: Yeah.

1 MR. SCHWARTZ: The developer filed its motion to  
2 determine property interest.

3 THE COURT: All right. I wasn't talking about the procedure.  
4 I'm talking about the facts. Because with all due -- even though this is a  
5 summary judgment, you got to look at the facts. And I believe that my  
6 colleagues -- as I said, I think Judge Herndon and Judge Jones lay it out  
7 pretty clearly. The facts are different in every one of these situations.  
8 And so how do you analyze the facts? I don't want to talk about the  
9 procedural motions. I'm talking about what's the merits of the case.

10 MR. SCHWARTZ: Well Your Honor, we filed a motion for  
11 summary judgment. He filed a counter-motion for summary judgment.  
12 And then the Court said I'm going to hear the developer's motion to  
13 determine property interests, and I am not going to hear the City's  
14 summary judgment motion. And you --

15 THE COURT: I don't remember saying that.

16 MR. SCHWARTZ: -- you removed it from the calendar. And  
17 so we withdrew the motion because the Court removed it from the  
18 calendar. We lay all this out in our motion for summary -- our counter-  
19 motion for summary judgment. We lay it all out.

20 THE COURT: Because I read it, so I'm -- I said I wouldn't hear  
21 it?

22 MR. SCHWARTZ: Yes.

23 THE COURT: I don't remember that.

24 MR. SCHWARTZ: Well, that's because when Mr. Leavitt  
25 presented you with an order, the order said we're going to hear the

1 City's motion to remand and motion to dismiss first, and then we're  
2 going to hear the developer's motion to determine property interest.  
3 And the City's motion -- we're not going to hear the City's motion --

4 THE COURT: Okay.

5 MR. SCHWARTZ: -- for summary judgement. So the Court  
6 took it off calendar, so we withdrew the motion, because it wasn't going  
7 to be heard. So what we're here today for is this motion to determine  
8 property interest.

9 THE COURT: Right. Okay.

10 MR. SCHWARTZ: And so we address this motion because  
11 it's an element of the takings claim in our motion for summary  
12 judgment. And the cases that Mr. Leavitt relied on for -- that he gets to  
13 go first with his theory, *Sisolak* and *Alper*, they resolved this claim on  
14 summary judgment or trial, not in a separate motion, so they knocked  
15 the City's motion off calendar. So that's why we're here today.

16 So I can tell the Court why this case is different. It's identical  
17 to the 65 acre case because it was not ripe, and it is identical to all the  
18 other cases in the fact that you don't have a property interest in zoning,  
19 so their theory of relief goes out the window. And I was going through  
20 with the Court all the reasons why they don't have such a property  
21 interest to --

22 THE COURT: Yeah. I don't know --

23 MR. SCHWARTZ: -- so that the Court would deny their  
24 motion.

25 THE COURT: Thank you. So two things. We have the one

1 issue, which I'm sure they'll argue that this is ripe, because it's not the 65  
2 acres. The 65 acres, nothing ever got filed. They just said, you know, it's  
3 futile. The City is never going to do anything for us, so let's just sue  
4 them. So fine. So here, there was -- and this is what is just -- like, I'm  
5 trying to understand what the respective positions are with respect to the  
6 facts. I like facts, so let's talk about the facts.

7           They submit something, which somehow makes it through  
8 the process, somehow, and it gets on an agenda, but then it goes off the  
9 agenda because there's something missing. So that's not action?

10           MR. SCHWARTZ: No. I --

11           THE COURT: I'm not sure I understand.

12           MR. SCHWARTZ: I think it's the opposite.

13           THE COURT: Okay.

14           MR. SCHWARTZ: They filed a set of applications, a site  
15 development review application, another application, an application to  
16 amend the general plan, as they were required to do because their  
17 application was for housing. The general plan doesn't allow housing.  
18 They filed these set of applications, and when the City Council ruled on  
19 the applications, the City Council said two things. Number one, this  
20 property was part of a larger property that the developer applied for a  
21 general plan amendment previously. You can't apply for a general plan  
22 amendment on the same property within one year. That's in the UDC.

23           But more important, the developer failed to file a major  
24 modification application, which Judge Crockett said was required. So  
25 there was a discussion about what you should do, and the city attorney

1 made his recommendations. But what the Council did was strike the  
2 applications because there was no major modification application filed,  
3 and it wasn't the City Council's responsibility to file one for the  
4 developer. It was the developer's responsibility under Judge Crockett's  
5 order. The developer didn't like Judge Crockett's order, so it didn't file.  
6 The City Council may have also decided you can't file a general plan  
7 application for the same property within one year. But the main reason  
8 they did it was because it didn't have a major modification application  
9 with it. Now the developer wants to -- is asking the Court to get into the  
10 motivations of the City Council members.

11 THE COURT: Yeah.

12 MR. SCHWARTZ: They didn't like the developer  
13 [indiscernible]. That's completely irrelevant. That's a red herring. The  
14 takings doctrine provides that it's not a taking unless it wipes out or  
15 nearly wipes out the economic value.

16 THE COURT: Okay. Thank you.

17 MR. SCHWARTZ: It doesn't matter why, why the City did  
18 what it did. That's the *Lingle* case. The *Lingle* case says it doesn't  
19 matter one bit what the motivations were, if they wanted to get this  
20 developer, or if they didn't like the developer. It doesn't matter what  
21 anyone said. It doesn't matter what anyone did. The only thing that  
22 matters is the action of the decision-maker. In this case, it was the City  
23 Council.

24 THE COURT: So -- and is this where we get into the  
25 segmentation issue? Because like I said, I mean, what do you do? Do

1 you prorate the \$4 million over the whole 200-and-however-many acres?  
2 I mean --  
3 MR. SCHWARTZ: You mean the purchase price?  
4 THE COURT: Yeah. Because I'm trying to figure out how do  
5 you argue --  
6 MR. SCHWARTZ: No. They bought --  
7 THE COURT: -- wipeout or nearly wipeout?  
8 MR. SCHWARTZ: They bought a 250 acre golf course and  
9 [indiscernible] for four and a half million dollars.  
10 THE COURT: Right. Right.  
11 MR. SCHWARTZ: Now, they say that they paid, I don't know,  
12 45 million or 100 million. There's not a --  
13 THE COURT: It's varied.  
14 MR. SCHWARTZ: -- single document to support that.  
15 THE COURT: Understood.  
16 MR. SCHWARTZ: So they paid four and a half million. Then  
17 they got approval for the 435 acre property, which they shouldn't have  
18 carved it up. Or if they did, they can't come into this Court and say, hey,  
19 you won't let me develop the 133 acre property, because they already  
20 got to develop all of the Peccole Ranch master plan. They already got  
21 435 units on the 17 acre property. That increased their investment in the  
22 entire property by five times, and they've still got 233 acres left to  
23 develop or use for parks and recreation and open space.  
24 THE COURT: So you would go all the way back to the  
25 original Peccole.



1 MR. SCHWARTZ: You have to.

2 THE COURT: Which by the way, I used to live in Peccole  
3 Ranch about 30 years ago.

4 MR. SCHWARTZ: One has to. And we briefed this -- we brief  
5 this in our motion for summary judgment.

6 THE COURT: Right. So are you suggesting that we go all the  
7 way back to the original Peccole Ranch development and the whole -- all  
8 the way from Sahara to -- we're basically into the freeway.

9 MR. SCHWARTZ: The original --

10 THE COURT: The whole development --

11 MR. SCHWARTZ: -- Phase Two, 1500 --

12 THE COURT: -- and not just their four and a half million-  
13 dollar golf course.

14 MR. SCHWARTZ: Yeah. That's what the U.S. Supreme Court  
15 and the *Kelley* court require. You look at the factors, and you don't let  
16 developers segment property and then claim, oh, you've deprived me of  
17 any use or development of this property when it's not the whole  
18 property. That's a developer trick so that they get greater density. You  
19 see, this how they do it. They buy a 250 acre golf course, and they say,  
20 okay, we want to build as many houses as we can. So what we do is we  
21 carve it up into four parts, we apply for 435 units on one. I mean, how  
22 much has the City -- the City has discretion. How much are they going to  
23 give us on this? Well, you know, if we just have this one property,  
24 maybe we'd get 500 units. Okay.

25 They carve it up into four parts. Then they apply for

1 development on one part. They get it approved, which is -- this case  
2 should be over. The 17 acre case should have been thrown out. You  
3 can't have a taking if the government approves your project. But they  
4 get it approved, and then they say, okay, we want to develop the 133  
5 acre property. And the City says no. You've got to develop the whole  
6 Peccole Ranch master plan, and this was supposed to be the open space.  
7 We have discretion. We want to keep it. Our general plan says this is  
8 PROS. It said that when you bought the property. You knew that you  
9 couldn't do this unless we exercised our discretion. You took a chance.  
10 And the City says no, we don't -- and again, the City didn't do this.

11 But if the City said no, or as Mr. Leavitt argues, it would be  
12 futile to apply to develop on the 133 acre property. You know, he fought  
13 remand because they don't want to actually -- they don't want the City to  
14 actually call their bluff. But he said it's futile. So even if it were futile,  
15 they don't have a taking because they segmented the property. They got  
16 substantial value from the Badlands. They got substantial value if you  
17 expand your analysis of the parcel as a whole, from the PRNP. So they  
18 weren't injured. In fact, their gamble paid off. They paid four-and-a-half  
19 million for a 250 acre golf course. They shut it down, and they got 435  
20 luxury units approved already. And the City --

21 THE COURT: Well, they say they don't.

22 MR. SCHWARTZ: Pardon me?

23 THE COURT: They say they don't anymore, but.

24 MR. SCHWARTZ: Well, that's nonsense, Your Honor.

25 THE COURT: I know. I know. I know.

1 MR. SCHWARTZ: And if you look at --

2 THE COURT: But anyway, so --

3 MR. SCHWARTZ: If you look at tab 3 --

4 THE COURT: So can we get to the -- like, the so what? So  
5 you're saying deny the motion for summary judgment because --  
6 because what?

7 MR. SCHWARTZ: This is a motion to determine property  
8 interest. It's a disguised motion for summary adjudication of one issue.  
9 We're saying deny the motion to determine property interest on the law.  
10 When the Court gets to the merits of the -- you know, that claim goes  
11 away that they have a constitutional right to build in a -- you know, just  
12 because it's zoned for residential. That goes away, and they're stuck.  
13 They're stuck with their categorical and Penn Central claims, what  
14 they've actually alleged in those claims, which is that the City wiped  
15 them out, or nearly wiped them out, or under *Penn Central*, it interfered  
16 with their investment-backed expectations.

17 THE COURT: Okay. There we go. Now we're where I want  
18 to be. So say you say I don't believe that you have a theoretical -- like, a  
19 vested property interest in the fact that you may theoretically be able to  
20 build and assuming that you can get the zoning change. And so when  
21 you don't get the zoning change, you therefore have your damage.

22 However, here's my question. They've alleged all this, like,  
23 you know, carrying costs and all this delay, and it's been years and years  
24 and years. So that seems to me to be something different. And that  
25 seems to me that that's where they're saying they fall under *Penn*

1 *Central* because hypothetically speaking, had this gone forward in  
2 whatever year -- what year was this? I don't know, 2016. We would  
3 have been done building this out and, you know, houses in Las Vegas  
4 are selling for probably twice what they're really worth. So we would  
5 have made all this money. So it seems like that's really what they're  
6 saying, is that that's the value. That's where they have a damage claim.

7 MR. SCHWARTZ: No, you don't get there --

8 THE COURT: I don't think that is.

9 MR. SCHWARTZ: They didn't have a right to build, so you  
10 don't get to --

11 THE COURT: Okay.

12 MR. SCHWARTZ: -- what expenses they had or their carrying  
13 costs. That's the -- you know, developers -- you can make a lot of money  
14 as a developer. You can also -- you know, you can make bad decisions.  
15 They bought a golf course that they now claim is not economic. They  
16 voluntarily shut it down. They paid a price. That's the *Guggenheim*  
17 [phonetic] case that we've had put in your -- that is tab 50. The  
18 *Guggenheim* case. *Guggenheim* says you get what you pay for. In that  
19 case, a man bought a mobile home park that was subject to rent control.  
20 He said rent control is a taking. And the court said, are you kidding?  
21 And this is an en banc decision of the Ninth Circuit. En banc. They said  
22 are you kidding? You bought the property subject to the rent control.  
23 You pay the price that reflected it. You pay price that reflected the value  
24 as restricted. Now you can't come to us and say that, you know, we  
25 need to get rid of the rent control when you knew about it, and that it's

1 preventing you from making a profit.

2 THE COURT: Right.

3 MR. SCHWARTZ: It's exactly the same situation here. The  
4 PROS designation was adopted by the City, by ordinance in 1992, and  
5 reconfirmed over and over again, and it was in effect when the  
6 developer bought the property. You cannot use property for  
7 residential --

8 THE COURT: Now that's my next question.

9 MR. SCHWARTZ: -- and then take four and a half million  
10 based on the fact --

11 THE COURT: They've changed a bunch of -- like, there's a  
12 new plan here, lots of pretty pictures, 2020. New maps, all sorts of stuff.  
13 So what's the significance of -- I mean --

14 MR. SCHWARTZ: They didn't change --

15 THE COURT: -- it's been how many years?

16 MR. SCHWARTZ: -- the PROS.

17 THE COURT: So have things -- have things changed?

18 MR. SCHWARTZ: No. I can take you through. And I --

19 THE COURT: Yeah, where are those things?

20 MR. SCHWARTZ: -- I can take you through Exhibits I through

21 Q.

22 THE COURT: Yeah, here they are.

23 MR. SCHWARTZ: Tab 41. Now -- and, Your Honor, the PROS  
24 designation is fatal to their takings claim. And that's why they throw all  
25 this mud against the wall about why they're invalid, including that the

1 City didn't follow the right procedures in adopting these ordinances. The  
2 burden is on them to show that the City didn't, and they had 25 days to  
3 bring a PJR to challenge that. They didn't do that, so they can't come  
4 into this court and make that argument.

5           So Exhibit I is the 1992 general plan where the City -- and by  
6 the way, all of these -- we've given the Court excerpts here. The  
7 Exhibit -- the Exhibit QQQ is all of these exhibits, the entire thing,  
8 because the developer has alleged in the past, oh, we only attach  
9 excerpts. You know, we had some mercy on the Court, and we didn't  
10 want to attach -- so Exhibit I. I think we're going to need to go to Exhibit  
11 QQQ, Your Honor, to see the maps, or QQQQ, to see the maps. And I  
12 have not given that to the Court.

13           THE COURT: No, it's -- it should be on here.

14           MR. SCHWARTZ: But -- oh, here it is. All right. So Exhibit I,  
15 which is the first one in the tab. And I think it's Bates page -- or we've  
16 numbered our exhibits. This is 0229, page 0229. And that shows the  
17 Badlands as parks. This is the 1992 general plan. This was a major  
18 change in the City's plans. They adopted this 1992 plan, and they  
19 adopted these maps. The developer is going to tell you that the City  
20 didn't follow the proper procedures, but that's false. And again, statute  
21 of limitations has run. But even so, we filed with the Court, I think  
22 Exhibit RRRR, that explains that these maps -- these general plan maps  
23 were all adopted, particularly the 1992 general plan, was adopted in  
24 accordance with all procedures. So I won't get into that, Your Honor.  
25 That's a red herring.

1                   So there you show these -- the Badlands in the configuration  
2 that was originally proposed. Then, on page -- let's see. Oh, I think it's  
3 at our page 248, Your Honor, deep in Exhibit R. It's --

4                   THE COURT: Yeah, it's a map. I've got it.

5                   MR. SCHWARTZ: Okay. That shows -- that's the  
6 [indiscernible]. That shows the original golf course configuration in  
7 green. And then in the key, you'll see it says parks, schools, recreation,  
8 open space. Okay. So that's -- this was adopted by ordinance of the City  
9 Council in 1992. And that imposed the PROS designation. And  
10 remember, the general plan is the constitution. That's the highest  
11 authority.

12                  Then in Exhibit L, adopting the Las Vegas 2020 general plan,  
13 which was in the year 2000, the map -- well it looks like the map for the  
14 southwest section has been left off, Your Honor. The definition of parks,  
15 recreation, and open space is at page 269, but I'll take you forward to  
16 Exhibit N, as in Nancy, and that was the 2005, again, readopting the land  
17 use element of the 2020 master plan. And there, you see at page 291 --

18                  THE COURT: Yeah, I do.

19                  MR. SCHWARTZ: There, you'll see -- and that is the  
20 current -- that is -- that was the configuration of the Badlands, the 250  
21 acre Badlands, after it was built out. It changed the contours. The  
22 developer argues, oh, well, you know, the PROS designation doesn't  
23 apply because the original PROS was on a different configuration. Well,  
24 the City Council then adopted, by ordinance, these plans with a map that  
25 showed it in its current configuration.

1                   So then you get to Exhibit O, and that is the 2009 version --  
2 2009 ordinance, excuse me. And at page 301, you see the very same  
3 Badlands, same configuration. Then you get to Exhibit P, which is a 2011  
4 ordinance. Again, same definition of parks, recreation, and open space  
5 at 316 and at 317. That's it. This was the map in effect when the  
6 developer bought the property. It knew. It knew that it couldn't develop  
7 the property unless it got the City Council, in its discretion, to lift that  
8 general plan designation of PROS to a designation that allowed  
9 residential use. And finally, in Exhibit Q, which was the most recent  
10 adoption of the plan, at page 322, same configuration. That's what's in  
11 effect today.

12                   So Your Honor, even if -- even if the Court were to find, and I  
13 don't think the Court can under the law of takings, find that it would have  
14 been futile for the developer -- you know, that the case is ripe. In other  
15 words, that the developer complied with the ripeness prerequisite to a  
16 taking claim, and even if the City -- the Court found that the City had  
17 denied applications to develop housing on the 133 acre property, there  
18 wouldn't be a taking for two reasons.

19                   First, because when the developer bought the property, the  
20 PROS designation did not allow residential use. The developer paid a  
21 price for that property that reflected that fact. That's the *Guggenheim*  
22 case. The second reason is because the developer segmented the  
23 property. Even if there weren't the PROS designation, the City said you  
24 cannot develop the 133 acre property with housing. We want it to stay  
25 an open space for the community. They segmented the property. They



1 got substantial development of the Badlands. They got substantial  
2 development of the PRNP. They can't come into this court, carve out a  
3 piece of property, and say either you let me develop this or it's a taking.  
4 That's the part that was a hold-up. So that's the case we make in our  
5 motion for summary judgment.

6 THE COURT: Okay. But we're talking about theirs. So their  
7 motion for summary judgment should be denied, because they -- first of  
8 all, they're wrong on the law. So I understand your argument is they're  
9 wrong in the law, that the mere fact that property is zoned something  
10 doesn't mean you are absolutely 100 percent entitled to build what you  
11 want to build.

12 MR. SCHWARTZ: Got no entitlement. None.

13 THE COURT: No entitlement from zoning alone. So instead,  
14 you have to have some action taken by the governmental entity to deny  
15 you whatever rights you do have. And here, we're missing action.

16 MR. SCHWARTZ: No.

17 THE COURT: Okay. Sorry.

18 MR. SCHWARTZ: We -- well, we argue in opposition to this  
19 motion --

20 THE COURT: Right.

21 MR. SCHWARTZ: -- that it's moot because the case isn't ripe.  
22 You can't have a taking if there is no action that meets one of the takings  
23 tests, which is the wipeout or the categorical taking, a mere wipeout, or  
24 interferes with their investment-backed expectations for *Penn Central*.  
25 And their investment-backed expectations are the four and a half million

1 dollars they invested in this property that they have a right to expect the  
2 City to allow them to develop the 133 acre property so they can make big  
3 bucks. They don't have that right, because the law restricting use to  
4 residential was in effect when the developer bought the property. They  
5 knew about it.

6 THE COURT: Okay.

7 MR. SCHWARTZ: They don't have a Constitutional right --

8 THE COURT: Okay.

9 MR. SCHWARTZ: -- for the City to change it.

10 THE COURT: All right. So this motion should be denied and  
11 what?

12 MR. SCHWARTZ: The Court should put our motion for  
13 summary judgment back on calendar.

14 THE COURT: Yeah.

15 MR. SCHWARTZ: They can oppose it. Mr. Leavitt is going to  
16 stand up, and he's going to wave Judge Jones' order at the Court that  
17 Judge Jones handed down yesterday. And there's a lot in Judge Jones'  
18 order.

19 THE COURT: Right. Like I said, I've got the most important  
20 thing, which he said this is a different case.

21 MR. SCHWARTZ: But the law is the law.

22 THE COURT: Herndon's is right.

23 MR. SCHWARTZ: What I'm saying is the law is the law.

24 THE COURT: Ruled on ripeness. This isn't the same case,  
25 so --

1 MR. SCHWARTZ: I'm saying the law --  
2 THE COURT: -- even --  
3 MR. SCHWARTZ: -- the law of property -- the law of property  
4 in Nevada and land use regulation is the law. It applies to that case, to  
5 this case. Judge Jones -- this order was prepared by the developer.  
6 THE COURT: No, I understand.  
7 MR. SCHWARTZ: Judge Jones signed it without any  
8 modifications. There is a lot in this order that's going to contradict what  
9 I've been saying. And I could go through this order one by one, as Mr.  
10 Leavitt's going to do, and explain why this is wrong. This is wrong.  
11 They cite the *Bustos* case, and the *Buckwalter* case, and the --  
12 and the *Alper* case for -- they have a constitutional right for -- a  
13 constitutional right to build housing in the 133 acre property.  
14 THE COURT: Okay.  
15 MR. SCHWARTZ: Those are eminent domain cases. They  
16 have nothing to do with liability. They don't say that. They depend on --  
17 you know, they depend on the courts taking their word for it, and they  
18 misrepresent those cases gravely.  
19 So Your Honor, I would -- I would like an opportunity to just  
20 go through this order briefly just to point out where --  
21 THE COURT: And then can we take a break?  
22 MR. SCHWARTZ: Yes. In paragraph six --  
23 THE COURT: The facts or --  
24 MR. SCHWARTZ: -- excuse me, paragraph seven of Judge  
25 Jones' order.

1 THE COURT: Which part? Paragraph six?  
2 MR. SCHWARTZ: I'm sorry, the --  
3 THE COURT: They're --  
4 MR. SCHWARTZ: Oh, there. The paragraphs are numbered  
5 numerically.  
6 THE COURT: It's under findings of fact?  
7 MR. SCHWARTZ: Yes, in the findings of fact.  
8 THE COURT: Got it.  
9 MR. SCHWARTZ: I'm sorry.  
10 THE COURT: I got it.  
11 MR. SCHWARTZ: They say -- their Exhibit 30 shows that the  
12 17 acre property was zoned R-PD7 in May 1981. That's false. It was  
13 temporarily zoned R-PD7 in 1991, I think. And then permanently zoned in  
14 2001. That's an important fact because they say it's always been zoned  
15 R-PD7, and we have a right -- we've always had a right to build anything  
16 we want in the property as long as it's permitted use in that zone.  
17 They say that -- in paragraph nine, that the R-PD7 zoning  
18 ordinance in 2001, this time the right one -- by the way, Exhibit 30 in  
19 paragraph seven has nothing to do with zoning. It's the first page of the  
20 brief -- of one of the developer's briefs. It's not a zoning ordinance. In  
21 paragraph nine, that when the City permanently zoned the 133 acre  
22 property R-PD7 in 2001, the ordinance said all ordinances or part of  
23 ordinances for sections in conflict with this are hereby repealed. The  
24 R-PD7 zoning and the general plan designation of PROS are not in  
25 conflict. R-PD7 zoning allows for ancillary open space. Therefore, the

1 PROS designation does not conflict.

2 Your Honor, I want to show you just a couple of maps here.

3 Okay. I can't get my PowerPoint.

4 [Counsel confer]

5 MR. SCHWARTZ: Here we go. Your Honor, I'm going to  
6 show you 10 slides. The first five are other planned developments in the  
7 City of Las Vegas. Painted Desert is the first one. And can we cycle  
8 through these? You'll see residential around a golf course or around  
9 open space. These properties are zoned -- the entire thing is zoned  
10 residential, just like the Badlands. Entire thing. In fact, the Badlands is  
11 part of a 614 acre zoning. So these are just like the Badlands. Painted  
12 Desert is one. Next? Oh, I'm sorry. Is that the second one?

13 THE COURT: Los Prados, yeah.

14 MR. SCHWARTZ: Los Prados. Third, Canyon Gate. Fourth,  
15 Lakes at Sahara, and then finally, Desert Shores. Okay. All of those are  
16 just like the 614 acres in the PRNP. Then let's go through the next slide.  
17 So you see the houses, and you see the golf course or the open space in  
18 between, just like the -- this property.

19 Okay. So now, we're back. We've done -- the first one  
20 is -- just a second. Okay. So Desert Shores, this shows the general plan  
21 designation of the property. And it shows that the residential is  
22 designated for a residential use and the open space, the golf course, is  
23 designated PROS. There are five of these that we're bringing to the  
24 Court's attention. Lakes at Sahara, Canyon Gate, Painted Desert, Los  
25 Prados.

1           Okay. So the zoning is compatible with the general plan  
2 because the City came along and zoned the entire thing. But the zoning  
3 allows for open space. It in fact encourages open space. So then they  
4 designate for, in the general plan, the housing under a residential  
5 designation and the open space under the PROS designation. This is  
6 common practice. That's what they did here.

7           So what they are saying is every owner of this area, these,  
8 they have a constitutional right to build housing in this open space?  
9 Again, every property owner's property is zoned. They have a  
10 constitutional right to build in it? Okay. So --

11           THE COURT: Well, some of these have deed restrictions.  
12 And that's the true significance.

13           MR. SCHWARTZ: Well, they may, but that's not relevant  
14 because --

15           THE COURT: Okay.

16           MR. SCHWARTZ: -- this is regulation. This is land use  
17 regulation.

18           THE COURT: Okay. Go on.

19           MR. SCHWARTZ: In fact, one of Mr. Leavitt's ten orders  
20 where the court said that they have a constitutional right to build here is  
21 a deed restriction case that has nothing to do with regulation. It's the  
22 neighbors and the developer, they have a contract with CC&Rs. It has  
23 nothing to do with regulation.

24           THE COURT: Okay.

25           MR. SCHWARTZ: So by saying that all -- anything in conflict

1 here is repealed. They're arguing that the master plan designation PROS  
2 was repealed. The master plan is not part of the UDC. It's not an  
3 ordinance. It's the master plan. It wasn't repealed. It's not in conflict  
4 anyway. They are consistent.

5 And then they say in paragraph 10 -- and this is the note.  
6 This residential zoning conferred the right to develop the 17 acre  
7 property residentially. That's false. That is contrary to all authority. In  
8 paragraph 14, they say the zoning and the likelihood of rezoning governs  
9 the property interest determination in this inverse condemnation case.  
10 False. If the City wipes them out, or near wipes them out, they may have  
11 a takings claim, but it has nothing to do with the zoning and their rights  
12 under zoning.

13 They cite *Sisolak*. They say *Sisolak* -- they say in *Sisolak*,  
14 zoning was also used to determine the compensation due Mr. Sisolak.  
15 This is the first time that they haven't misrepresented what Sisolak said.  
16 That's correct. The zoning was used to determine the damages that  
17 Sisolak incurred after the court found there was a taking. It had nothing  
18 to do with whether the developer had rights to develop that property.

19 They cite -- then they cite *Alper*, *Bustos*, *Buckwalter*,  
20 *Andrews*, all those cases, and they say that they're the same, that the  
21 court relies on these eminent domain cases, they're governed by the  
22 same rules and principles applied to formal condemnation proceedings.  
23 Well, yeah, just value. They're really misrepresenting those cases. They  
24 have nothing to do with liability nor could they possibly have anything to  
25 do with liability because the City concedes liability in an eminent domain

1 case.

2           They then cite to NRS 278.349, a state statute that says that  
3 on tentative map applications, that zoning prevails over the general plan.  
4 This isn't relevant because the zoning and the general plan are not  
5 inconsistent. But in 1991, the State Legislature amended NRS 278.250.  
6 That's the state statute that says zoning must be consistent with the  
7 master plan. It said in its previous versions, zoning shall be consistent  
8 with the master plan. They amended it to say zoning must be consistent  
9 with the master plan. And that was 14 years after this 278.349 was  
10 adopted.

11           The amendment shows the legislative intent that, you know,  
12 this -- unfortunately, they didn't amend this because this is inconsistent.  
13 But the later amendment made it -- and they were emphatic -- zoning  
14 must be consistent with the general plan. Again, not relevant because  
15 there's no conflict. But if they were, the general plan would prevail. All  
16 the other cases, authorities, you know, the *Stratosphere* case and the  
17 other cases, they cite to 278.250, or the *AmWest* case cites to 278.250 as  
18 controlling.

19           They talk about City departments that supported the  
20 developer. The City attorney supported the developer. Completely  
21 irrelevant. They don't make the law. They don't make the law. The City  
22 Council makes the law. And the only thing that the Court can consider is  
23 the effect of the law or a decision on a permit application, which is the  
24 action that allegedly was -- well, it wasn't taken in this case, but they  
25 allege that there would be an action. If they actually got consideration



1 on the merits, they allege that that action would be to deny. That's the  
2 only action you could consider if it happened.

3           They cite to the tax assessor. The tax assessor has nothing  
4 to do with any of these regulations. The tax assessor's opinion is  
5 completely irrelevant insofar as they construe it. And the tax assessor is,  
6 again, valuing property. It has nothing to do with the liability for a  
7 regulatory taking. Insofar as they say the tax assessor thinks that they  
8 have a constitutional right to develop housing on the property, of course  
9 the tax assessor has no authority to make that determination.

10           They allege that their zoning verification letter from the City  
11 gives them a constitutional right to develop the property. Well, let's look  
12 at the zoning verification letter.

13           THE COURT: I thought we were going to go through this  
14 quickly. Can we -- seriously, we need to take a break. So can we wrap  
15 this up so that we can take a break?

16           MR. SCHWARTZ: Yes. All right. Tab 37 --

17           THE COURT: We'll appreciate that.

18           MR. SCHWARTZ: -- the zoning letter doesn't say any of that.  
19 It says you got R-PD7 zoning. Here's what's permitted. It doesn't say  
20 anything about rights or constitutional rights.

21           They claim that *City of Henderson*, the new case, they claim  
22 that that case holds, that because the Court shouldn't mix petitions for  
23 judicial review and civil complaints. But that means that *Stratosphere*  
24 and the other cases, *Boulder City*, all those cases that were petition for  
25 judicial review cases, that the underlying law that they rely on, the

1 underlying substantive law they rely on, goes out the window. That's  
2 absurd. That's an absurd interpretation of *City of Henderson*.

3           They claim that the Nevada Supreme Court -- in paragraph  
4 47, the Nevada Supreme Court precedent relies on zoning to determine  
5 the property interest in inverse. Fine. They don't cite a case because  
6 there is no case. It's the opposite. The law is the opposite.

7           Well, you know, it comes back down to they've got eminent  
8 domain cases, and they have a statement of the city attorney. The city  
9 attorney said there is absolutely no document that we could find that  
10 really explains why anybody thought it should be changed to PROS.  
11 That's really the best argument they got going, the former city attorney  
12 statement. And just because the former city attorney was unaware of  
13 Exhibits I through Q, you know, and the master plan, and how to find the  
14 master plan on the website, because the city attorney was unaware of all  
15 that doesn't mean that that's the law. Thank you, Your Honor.

16           THE COURT: All right. Thank you. So Mr. Leavitt, I would  
17 just ask you, again, like, incredibly briefly, how long is it going to take  
18 you to do a reply? Because it's 20 after, so can we just take a brief recess  
19 and wrap this up in a relatively short period of time or do we take our  
20 lunch break?

21           MR. LEAVITT: About an hour, Your Honor. Hour.

22           THE COURT: Okay.

23           MR. LEAVITT: There's a lot of things that I need to address.

24           THE COURT: All right. Okay. So then, we will return at 1:30.  
25 Thank you. We'll be in recess until 1:30.

1 [Recess from 12:21 p.m. to 1:31 p.m.]  
2 MR. LEAVITT: Your Honor, I've looked at this. I might go a  
3 little bit over an hour. Just a head's up. Not much.  
4 THE COURT: Okay.  
5 MR. LEAVITT: Okay. So, Your Honor, as you'll recall, we  
6 appeared before you at a status check hearing. And, you know, at that  
7 status check hearing, we presented to you the case law on the state of  
8 Nevada on how to -- and it's the specific procedure that every single  
9 inverse condemnation case must go through in the state of Nevada.  
10 And that procedure is step one -- well, first of all, and the Court said, just  
11 like this, and I'm going to quote them, "We undertake two distinct sub  
12 inquiries."  
13 And so, the Nevada Supreme Court requires two distinct sub  
14 inquiries of these inverse condemnation cases. And so, when we were  
15 before you at the last status check, we presented that case law to you  
16 and we explained, Judge, we have to do two distinct sub inquiries in this  
17 case. We first have to decide the property interest issue, which is the  
18 bundle of sticks --  
19 THE COURT: But we first have to decide if you have a case.  
20 MR. LEAVITT: Well, yeah.  
21 THE COURT: Yeah.  
22 MR. LEAVITT: No. Well, Your Honor, no, I agree with you on  
23 that. Absolutely. We first have to decide the property interest issue and  
24 then --  
25 THE COURT: No. We have to decide if you have a case. If

1 your case isn't ripe, you don't have a case, and we're done, right?

2 MR. LEAVITT: And I'll talk about that, Your Honor, because --

3 THE COURT: I'd like to be done. I think we're done.

4 MR. LEAVITT: What's that?

5 THE COURT: I said I think we're done. I mean I -- seriously, I

6 reread all the decisions of all the other decisions.

7 MR. LEAVITT: Right.

8 THE COURT: All four of these cases are very different.

9 MR. LEAVITT: They are. And so, Your Honor --

10 THE COURT: So I'm not really persuaded by what anybody

11 else has done. Every case is different.

12 MR. LEAVITT: And I agree with you on that. But if the Court

13 will let me. Then you move to the second issue, which is whether there's

14 been a taking. Your Honor, the ripeness issue only comes up at that

15 second issue. It cannot up at the first issue. And, Your Honor, if -- we

16 have the status check order, and this is what happened, is we appeared

17 in front of you and we made this argument. And we said, Judge, we're

18 only going to talk about the property interest issue. And we'll talk about

19 the take issues at a later date. And the take issues do involve the

20 ripeness issue. That's the only time ripeness comes up.

21 And at that status check hearing and in the Court's order, the

22 Court said to us we're not required to brief those issues. And so, we

23 have not briefed those issues. We haven't briefed the ripeness issue.

24 We haven't briefed the case law in the state of Nevada that says that a

25 per se categorical taking, a per se regulatory taking, and a non-

1 regulatory taking are not subject to a ripeness standard. The Nevada  
2 Supreme Court flatly stated that ripeness does not apply to three of our  
3 claims. And so, Judge, that's why we didn't brief ripeness.

4           The sole issue that we briefed before you today is  
5 extraordinarily narrow. It's just what property rights did the landowner  
6 have prior to the city interfering with those property rights. And Judge  
7 Williams and Judge Jones did the same exact thing. They said there's  
8 two distinct sub inquiries. And I -- and in those cases, they said -- here's  
9 what Judge Jones said. The landowner's request narrowly addresses  
10 the first sub inquiry. This Court will only determine the first sub inquiry.  
11 So that's all Judge Jones decided was the first sub inquiry, the property  
12 interest issue. He did not decide ripeness or the take issues. Judge  
13 Williams said --

14           THE COURT: But, you see, here's my problem.

15           MR. LEAVITT: Yeah.

16           THE COURT: There was action taken in the 17 acre case.  
17 There was action taken in the 35 acre case. There's no action taken in  
18 this case. So is there ripeness or that -- is that just like what are your  
19 property interests, your property interest is -- I mean you have an  
20 interest in your property, but what is their interest in zoning?

21           MR. LEAVITT: Absolutely. And I'll talk about it.

22           THE COURT: If there's no action taken.

23           MR. LEAVITT: And, Your Honor, there was action taken. And  
24 we didn't brief that for you. We didn't brief that for you because we  
25 were expressly told, in finding number six here, that the parties are not

1 required to brief the take issue at the hearing, that the Court will only  
2 decide -- they'll only decide the property interest issue. And the Court  
3 even cited in its order the *Sisolak* case that says that we're going to do it  
4 this way, because this is the procedure the *Sisolak* case requires us to  
5 follow.

6           So, Your Honor, if this court enters an order on the ripeness  
7 issue, we will have been denied our due process, because we haven't  
8 addressed the ripeness issue and we haven't addressed the take issue  
9 yet. But -- and, Your Honor, when we do address those issues, I will lay  
10 out to you, Your Honor, that we did file an application for the 133 acre  
11 property.

12           THE COURT: Well, Your Honor.

13           MR. LEAVITT: Yeah.

14           THE COURT: I understand that.

15           MR. LEAVITT: Not only --

16           THE COURT: But it was taken off calendar.

17           MR. LEAVITT: No, Your Honor. And that's what I -- that's  
18 what I'm saying. For the 100 -- for the whole property, when the  
19 landowners wanted to develop the individual 133 acre property, they  
20 were expressly told that the only application they could file to develop  
21 the 133 acre property was a master development agreement. And this is  
22 the evidence we'll present to you at the take side, and that's undisputed  
23 evidence. We have undisputed evidence that that's the only application  
24 the city would accept to develop the 133 acre property.

25           And the landowner, Your Honor, worked two-and-a-half

1 years on that application and paid an extra million dollars in fees. And  
2 the City wrote that application, Your Honor, that master development  
3 agreement application to allow the development of the 133 acre  
4 property. The City wrote it. And the planning department said that --  
5 this was important -- that the master development agreement which  
6 would have allowed the development of the 133 acre property, the  
7 planning department said it was consistent with zoning. They said it was  
8 consistent with the Nevada Revised Statutes. And they said it was  
9 consistent with the city's master plan. And the planning department  
10 actually -- the planning commission approved that master development  
11 agreement to allow the 133 acre property to be developed. It went to the  
12 city council. And the City Council had a hearing and denied it.

13               So, Your Honor, yes, there has been an application, and yes,  
14 it has been heard by the City Council, and yes, it has been denied. But,  
15 Your Honor, that's only for the ripeness issue, which is part of the take.  
16 So that -- I know, Your Honor. I'm going to go back. I'm going to go  
17 back to this very narrow issue that we're here for today. And this is what  
18 the Nevada Supreme Court said. They said, in an inverse condemnation  
19 case, the Court has to first decide the bundle of sticks -- and this is what  
20 they say -- prior to the government interfering with those bundle of  
21 sticks.

22               So before the government takes any action against the  
23 property, the district court judge is required for define the bundle of  
24 sticks. And that makes sense. Here's why. Because once you define the  
25 bundle of sticks prior to government action, you can say okay, this is

1 what the landowner had. Then and only then can you move to the next  
2 phase and then say okay, here's the aggregate of government action.  
3 How did that impact the bundle of sticks. How many sticks did the  
4 government take out through its actions. We're not at that second  
5 phase. We're not at the phase where we talk about ripeness on what the  
6 government did. We're only at the phase of deciding an extraordinarily  
7 narrow issue. What did the landowner have prior to the City interfering  
8 with those rights? And that's what the Nevada Supreme Court said the  
9 court must decide. That's what Judge Jones decided. That's what  
10 Judge Williams decided. And they're both following this procedure, and  
11 they both --

12 THE COURT: But their cases are different.

13 MR. LEAVITT: No, Your Honor, they're not.

14 THE COURT: They're -- they are.

15 MR. LEAVITT: No, no, no. Let me say this.

16 THE COURT: Every one of these cases turns on very different  
17 facts.

18 MR. LEAVITT: I agree with you.

19 THE COURT: And I appreciate you guys are talking about all  
20 these theoretical legal issues, but you're not -- you don't look at it the  
21 way we do.

22 MR. LEAVITT: Okay.

23 THE COURT: We look at our case.

24 MR. LEAVITT: I agree.

25 THE COURT: My case is very different from their cases.



1 MR. LEAVITT: I agree when you get --

2 THE COURT: So --

3 MR. LEAVITT: -- to the take side.

4 THE COURT: Okay. All right.

5 MR. LEAVITT: When you get to the take side. But, Your  
6 Honor, here's why they're the same exact when you're on the property  
7 interest side, because every one of these properties had the same exact  
8 zoning. Every -- so that's what we're -- that's why I say Judge, you're  
9 right, I agree with you. When we're talking about ripeness and we're  
10 talking about takings, law that we haven't briefed to you today, the cases  
11 will be fact specific. And that's actually -- that's what the courts even  
12 hold as you look at the aggregate of actions against this one specific  
13 piece of property. But we're not there, Your Honor.

14 And so, when we're talking about the narrow property  
15 interest issue, all of the facts are the same for all four cases. All of the  
16 facts that the -- all of the properties have the same exact zoning. And so,  
17 Your Honor, it -- we have a huge concern in representing the landowner  
18 in this matter right now that we've now moved, and counsel has made  
19 significant argument in regards to the take issue and the ripeness issue.  
20 And we haven't briefed that. And that's a concern for -- we haven't  
21 briefed it according to the Court's order, and we haven't briefed it  
22 according to the Nevada Supreme Court procedure and due process for  
23 deciding these cases.

24 The very narrow issue that we briefed is what was the  
25 property interest prior to the government interference. And so, we have

1 a huge concern, Your Honor. If you're going to move over into the take  
2 side and start deciding take issue and ripeness issues, that causes us  
3 great concern, because we haven't been heard on that. We're only being  
4 heard and we --

5 THE COURT: What are you proposing?

6 MR. LEAVITT: Yeah. We're only -- our -- in fact, it's our  
7 motion, Your Honor. And we write very clearly in our motion that we're  
8 very narrow in our request.

9 And remember, when the city filed their countermotion, they  
10 properly removed it according to the order, the status check order.

11 THE COURT: Okay. Well, since then I've read all this stuff,  
12 and I think I was wrong. I -- seriously, I just think this is the wrong  
13 approach.

14 MR. LEAVITT: Well, Your Honor, you mean to decide -- to do  
15 the two distinct sub inquiries?

16 THE COURT: No, that this is a whole wrong approach. Like I  
17 said, I think that Judge Herndon had it right.

18 MR. LEAVITT: Oh, on the ripeness issues and things like  
19 that?

20 THE COURT: I think he's right. As I look at this --

21 MR. LEAVITT: Uh-huh.

22 THE COURT: -- all these -- your 17 acre case and your 35 acre  
23 case --

24 MR. LEAVITT: Right.

25 THE COURT: -- is very different. Very different --

1 MR. LEAVITT: Uh-huh. No.

2 THE COURT: -- from your 65 and 133.

3 MR. LEAVITT: And that goes to the ripeness issue. But,  
4 Judge -- yeah, Your Honor. And the reason I'm bringing this up is  
5 because Judge Herndon I understand -- Judge Herndon did not address  
6 and resolve the property interest issues that we're here for today. He  
7 expressly said he did not decide that.

8 THE COURT: Exactly.

9 MR. LEAVITT: Okay. Yeah. So he's only on the taking side.  
10 He -- yes, that's what he said.

11 THE COURT: I think he said that this is all premature.

12 MR. LEAVITT: Absolutely, because he decided the taking  
13 issue. See, Your Honor. And that's why Judge Trujillo, in that case, set  
14 that order aside, as he said wait -- Judge Trujillo said wait a minute. He  
15 didn't follow the mandatory two-step procedure. And because he didn't  
16 follow --

17 MR. SCHWARTZ: Objection, Your Honor. That misstates the  
18 evidence. I --

19 THE COURT: Sir, please have a seat. Have a seat. We didn't  
20 let Mr. Leavitt interrupt you. So --

21 MR. LEAVITT: Okay. And since he didn't follow the  
22 mandatory two-step procedure, I, Judge Trujillo, now have to do that.  
23 Okay.

24 And then, Your Honor, the 17 acre case is different. You're  
25 right, when you get to the facts. And when you start talking about

1 ripeness, this was another thing that she found -- Judge Trujillo found  
2 with the Herndon order is that, wait a minute. There's three claims that  
3 the landowners have that the Nevada Supreme Court expressly said are  
4 not subject to a ripeness standard. And I'll explain that later, Judge,  
5 exactly why. The Nevada Supreme Court says exactly why three of our  
6 claims are not subject to the ripeness standard. And so, Judge Trujillo  
7 said listen, I've read the case law and Judge Herndon was wrong. The  
8 ripeness standard doesn't apply to three claims. You're -- just let me -- if  
9 I can, Your Honor, just one --

10 MR. SCHWARTZ: Objection, Your Honor. No foundation,  
11 Your Honor.

12 THE COURT: Please, sir. Please don't interrupt. We didn't  
13 let him interrupt you. We aren't going to let --

14 MR. SCHWARTZ: Sorry.

15 THE COURT: -- you interrupt him. Thank you.

16 MR. LEAVITT: So here, let me explain. I'll just explain just  
17 very briefly one of them. A per se regulatory taking. The Nevada  
18 Supreme Court, that's one of our taking claims. The Nevada Supreme  
19 Court, in the *Sisolak* case, this is what they said. They said *Sisolak* was  
20 not required to exhaust his administrative remedies by applying for an  
21 application before bringing his inverse condemnation claim for a per se  
22 regulatory taking of his property.

23 In other words, the Nevada Supreme Court said it's a per se  
24 regulatory taking claim. Ripeness standard doesn't even apply. And  
25 then in the *Hsu* case, Your Honor, the Nevada Supreme Court addressed

1 that issue again and said where there's a per se taking, a per se  
2 categorical taking or a per se regulatory taking. The Court said we  
3 conclude that the landowners were not required to apply or otherwise  
4 exhaust their administrative remedies prior to bringing the claim.

5 So that -- so, Your Honor, if we get to the ripeness side and  
6 the take side, I'll cite you this case law and I'll say to you, Judge, you  
7 don't do a ripeness analysis under a per se regulatory taking or per se  
8 categorical taking, which are claims. We've also cited a non-regulatory  
9 de facto taking claim. And in the case of *State v. Eighth Judicial District*  
10 *Court*, the Nevada Supreme Court, again, did not apply a ripeness  
11 standard. Here's why. Because when you're focusing on those claims,  
12 the Nevada Supreme Court says you look at one thing. You look at the  
13 government's actions towards the property.

14 And the Nevada Supreme Court said those actions can be  
15 anything. You have to look at the aggregate of the government's  
16 actions.

17 THE COURT: Okay.

18 MR. LEAVITT: And --

19 THE COURT: And what are they here?

20 MR. LEAVITT: What's that?

21 THE COURT: And what is it here? What happened here?

22 MR. LEAVITT: Well, Your Honor --

23 THE COURT: What do you think happened?

24 MR. LEAVITT: -- that's -- see, your question, it's a concern for  
25 me, because we're not -- we didn't brief that issue for you --

1 THE COURT: Okay.

2 MR. LEAVITT: -- because we're not at the take side. But I can  
3 tell --

4 THE COURT: Well, with all due respect, this is the way you  
5 wanted it. And all you've done is create a whole bunch of questions for  
6 me, because I'm just not seeing how we get there. This is the approach  
7 you wanted to take.

8 MR. LEAVITT: Yes, Your Honor. And the approach I want to  
9 take today was that you just define the property, you define the bundle  
10 of sticks.

11 THE COURT: But I don't think you can do that until we get  
12 past this question that I have, which is what are you talking about.

13 MR. LEAVITT: Okay. I'll do it. I'll do it, Your Honor. I'll do --  
14 I'll absolutely go to the facts. This is what -- and you know what, Your  
15 Honor? The history is important. So I'll go through the history. And you  
16 asked this of counsel. Here's the facts, okay, Your Honor.

17 Because counsel said that the planning commission and the  
18 city attorney, they don't adopt the law, but they do state the facts. And,  
19 Your Honor. We've laid out the facts. Here's the facts. The landowner,  
20 in 2001, approaches Mr. Peccole and says I want to buy this property.  
21 And the Peccole family disclosed to him that there's no restrictions on  
22 development. The landowners then go to the city of Las Vegas on three  
23 different occasions, and the city of Las Vegas discloses to the landowner,  
24 as part of his due diligence, that the property is zoned R-PD7, that R-PD7  
25 trumps everything, and that the landowners have the right to develop.

1 So these are facts, Your Honor, that are critical to why we're here today.

2 And so, after the landowner gets that information from the  
3 city of Las Vegas, he says to the city of Las Vegas I want you to do a  
4 study to confirm what you just told me. Again, all part of his due  
5 diligence. And the city of Las Vegas does a three-week study and comes  
6 back to the landowner prior to his acquisition of the property. And the  
7 city told him you have R-PD7 zoning. Your R-PD7 trumps everything.  
8 And you have the right to develop your property.

9 And so, he asked the City of Las Vegas to put that in writing  
10 as part of his due diligence. And the City of Las Vegas did that, which is  
11 Exhibit number 134. That's the zoning verification letter. And, Your  
12 Honor, the zoning verification letter in -- that was issued to the  
13 landowner from the City of Las Vegas, prior to his acquiring the property,  
14 says, unequivocally, the property is zoned R-PD7, which means seven  
15 units to an acre. The zoning verification letter then discloses to the  
16 landowner the R-PD7 is intended to provide flexibility and residential  
17 development.

18 Then the letter says the density that you're allowed to build  
19 on your R-PD7 is identified by a number. And then they say right in the  
20 letter that they give to our client, for example, R-PD4 means you can  
21 build four units to an acre. Again, this is the zoning verification letter  
22 that he received prior to acquiring the property. And then the -- then that  
23 letters says, and I'll quote, "A detailed listing of the permissible uses on  
24 your property and the applicable requirements for R-PD7 are in our  
25 code."

1           Your Honor, the landowner didn't just show up one day and  
2 buy the property. He did 14 years of due diligence. And during that 14  
3 years of due diligence, he confirmed with the city of Las Vegas on at  
4 least four or five different occasions, including in writing, that the  
5 property is zoned R-PD7. The R-PD7 trumps everything else. And R-PD7  
6 gives the landowner the right to develop the property.

7           So here's -- so that right there, Your Honor, lays that first --  
8 the foundation, the foundational facts for that first issue of the property  
9 interest. So your question is okay, well, what happened after that? Your  
10 Honor, after the -- oh, I need to point something out here, Your Honor.  
11 When the landowners acquired the property, there were five different  
12 parcels. The landowners didn't insidiously split this property up. And if I  
13 may, I'm going to, I'm going to quote -- there's a deposition that was  
14 taken by Peter Loinstein in this matter, Your Honor. And this says  
15 volume one. It's part of the record. Peter Loinstein. He said -- the  
16 question was, and he was referring to this property. "Okay. So you the  
17 city wanted the developer here to subdivide the property; is that  
18 correct?"

19           And then the answer is, "As part of the submittal, we were  
20 looking for that to be accomplished prior to notification. Yes."

21           So the property -- the landowners purchased five parcels.  
22 And then, Your Honor, Peter Loinstein, who's the head planner of the  
23 City of Las Vegas, Your Honor, he's the one that the landowners were  
24 working with. Peter Loinstein confirmed that the City asked the  
25 landowners to divide the property up as part of the development. So



1 then what happened is the landowners went to submit their  
2 development applications.

3 And you had a great question, Judge. Why are these cases  
4 all separate? Here's why. Because when the landowners file a  
5 development application, for example, for the 35 acre property, and a  
6 city denies it, they have 25 days to bring the lawsuit. So they had to  
7 bring the lawsuit immediately for the 25 acres. When they refused to  
8 accept the applications for the 133, they then filed the lawsuit for that  
9 one, because they had to file it within 25 days.

10 THE COURT: It's the petition for judicial review.

11 MR. LEAVITT: Petition for judicial review.

12 THE COURT: Yeah.

13 MR. LEAVITT: Under the old law, joining the claims together.  
14 So, Your Honor, that's why there's four separate lawsuits is because the  
15 landowners were following this process to try and develop the property,  
16 and they had to bring them at the appropriate time. Thereafter, the  
17 landowners sought to join them, and they received opposition from the  
18 city of Las Vegas on the joinder. So, Your Honor, that's where we are  
19 today, and that's why they're split up.

20 Now your question is -- okay. I'm going to move to the take  
21 side for just a minute, so the Court can see the larger context. The  
22 landowners then go to the city and say we want to build. We want to  
23 build. And the city said you can only do one application, the master  
24 development agreement. The landowners did it, as I explained to you,  
25 and the city denied it. The landowners then said we want to at least

1 access our property to use it. And the City denied the access permit.  
2 Wouldn't even let them access their property.

3 Why is that so important? Because the Nevada Supreme  
4 Court, in two cases, held that landowners have the absolute right to  
5 access their property. In a case called *State v Schwartz*, the Nevada  
6 Supreme Court said when you abut property here, here, and here, you  
7 have a legal right to access your property. And in discovery, the city  
8 admitted that the landowners have the legal right to access their  
9 property. And the city denied that access.

10 Then, Your Honor, one of the important parts of ownership is  
11 being able to exclude other people. And so, the landowner said we want  
12 to put a fence around our property. And they said we want to prohibit  
13 other people from coming onto it. And we want to also fence our ponds.  
14 And the City of Las Vegas denied those applications also, Your Honor.

15 So right now we have three denial of applications to use the  
16 133 acre property. And then, Your Honor, here was the -- probably the  
17 worst part of what happened at the City of Las Vegas is the City then  
18 drafted a bill. It's called Bill 2018-5 and 2018-24. That bill did three  
19 things. It targeted only the landowner's property. It made it impossible  
20 to develop the property. And then this is what that bill said, Judge. It  
21 said all of the public have, they said, ongoing public access to the  
22 property. That bill right there, in and of itself, is a taking. And let me  
23 explain why.

24 In the *Sisolak* case, the Nevada Supreme Court held that if  
25 the government engages in actions that preserve property for use by the

1 public or authorize the public to enter onto property, if they adopt a bill  
2 that authorizes the public to enter onto your property, that is a per se  
3 taking. Makes sense. If there is a --

4 THE COURT: Well, that's what I talked to Mr. Schwartz  
5 about. It's like -- as I said, there's, well, various different causes of action  
6 in here. And there's a lot of these allegations about things that the city  
7 did.

8 MR. LEAVITT: Absolutely.

9 THE COURT: They seem somewhat unrelated to like the  
10 specific narrow question of was this denial of the -- well, actually, that  
11 was my problem. I didn't see a denial. This -- when they took this 133  
12 acre application off the agenda and didn't act on it --

13 MR. LEAVITT: Yes.

14 THE COURT: -- was that a taking? Well, that didn't really  
15 seem to me to be -- like what right to that? That doesn't make any sense.  
16 This other stuff, as I said, well, what's that, that's something else.

17 MR. LEAVITT: And I'm telling you the something else.

18 THE COURT: Okay.

19 MR. LEAVITT: So you have to look at the aggregate of  
20 government actions. You just don't look at one action.

21 THE COURT: Okay.

22 MR. LEAVITT: And remember, the master development  
23 agreement was to develop the 133 acre property. And here's -- Your  
24 Honor, the City said you can only develop the 133 acre property with the  
25 master development agreement. The landowners after that was denied

1     tried the single application and the City struck them. Your Honor, the  
2     landowners also tried a singular application for the 35 acres. And the  
3     City denied it, because it wasn't the master development agreement.  
4     That's why when you say there wasn't a denial, there absolutely was.  
5     The only application the landowner were permitted to file to develop the  
6     133 acre property was worked on for two-and-a-half years and filed and  
7     submitted to the City Council and denied.

8             THE COURT: Which one was denied? Because we've been  
9     talking about this one that goes under the agenda. And they --

10            MR. LEAVITT: Uh-huh.

11            THE COURT: -- talk it off. They say well that's not -- it  
12     doesn't have -- I forget what it was. It didn't -- it has something it didn't  
13     need.

14            MR. LEAVITT: Yes.

15            THE COURT: And so, they take it off. And so, how is that a  
16     denial?

17            MR. LEAVITT: That's different.

18            THE COURT: Okay.

19            MR. LEAVITT: That's totally different. The master  
20     development agreement is totally different. That's what I'm saying.  
21     There are numerous applications filed by the landowners to try and use  
22     the property. The master development agreement was for the whole 250  
23     acre property --

24            THE COURT: Right.

25            MR. LEAVITT: -- including the 133 acre property. And

1 remember, that's the only application the city would accept to develop  
2 the property. It refused to accept any other application. And that  
3 application was undeniably denied, Your Honor. That's not disputed in  
4 this case, that that application was denied.

5           So we have an application, and we have a denial of that  
6 application. In addition to that, we have the three other attempts to use  
7 the property, which were applications to use the property. Your Honor,  
8 the landowners asked for access, and the City wouldn't even let them  
9 access onto their property. That's a denial of an application. The  
10 landowners also wanted to fence it, and they wouldn't let them fence it.  
11 That's another denial of an application.

12           But I think even more important than that -- that's important,  
13 obviously, but you have these three denials where the City was putting  
14 up a shield saying you can't use your property. But then they took out  
15 their sword and went and jabbed it into the property and adopted a bill  
16 that said you can't even use your property. Your Honor, that bill is  
17 critical. And we'll present that evidence to you on the take side, where  
18 the city said we're going to target one property here, your property.  
19 We're going to make it impossible to develop. We -- you can't develop  
20 the property, and you have to allow the public to use your property.

21           Now you're probably saying why would the city possibly do  
22 that? Here's why. We will present to you the evidence at the take part of  
23 this case, where the surrounding property owners went to the City of Las  
24 Vegas and said to the City of Las Vegas we do not want you to allow  
25 these people to use their property. We have that -- we have the affidavit

1 evidence. We have the emails. We have the written statements by the  
2 city itself, where the city says we're preserving this property for use by  
3 the surrounding landowners. So, Your Honor, that's the take evidence  
4 that we will present to you, specific to this 133 acre property.

5 Your Honor, is there any more questions that you have?

6 THE COURT: Yeah, because I'm trying to understand then --  
7 because, as I said, there were all these different causes of action in --

8 MR. LEAVITT: Yes.

9 THE COURT: -- your complaint. Are you saying that they all  
10 have to go through this same process of determining, quote, your  
11 bundle of sticks? Because with all due respect, with respect to, you  
12 know, taking the application off the agenda, you know, I don't see that as  
13 being a violation that rises to the level -- it seems premature.

14 MR. LEAVITT: Okay.

15 THE COURT: As I said, there are all these other allegations  
16 about things that the city did. Didn't allow them access. Why are you  
17 not allowed to fence your property? Does that cause you harm? It  
18 seems like -- those like a tort. Those are more like the city didn't properly  
19 allow you to make use of your property and to protect your property.  
20 You don't want people dumping. I mean the place is going to turn into a  
21 junkyard. I mean so you've got to be able to protect your property. I  
22 understand that.

23 So that seems to be the -- different -- and it doesn't have to --  
24 seem to have anything to do with this -- what you're talking about, which  
25 is this overall they wouldn't let us, I guess, develop our property. And

1 they seem very different and distinct. And I'm trying to figure -- what are  
2 you -- how do you define what you believe your bundle of sticks is,  
3 because these are all different things, but to you they seem to be all one  
4 big thing. And I don't get it. I don't see how they can be.

5 MR. LEAVITT: Two things. Under all of the claims, yes, the  
6 Nevada Supreme Court says you have to do the two distinct sub  
7 inquiries. Second thing, on a tort, Your Honor, you hit it on the head.  
8 You can't sue the government for a tort --

9 THE COURT: Right. Right. That's what I said.

10 MR. LEAVITT: -- under these circumstances. You can only  
11 sue them in imminent domain.

12 THE COURT: Right, because -- discretionary act. So they  
13 have --

14 MR. LEAVITT: Absolutely.

15 THE COURT: They have immunity.

16 MR. LEAVITT: So we have to sue them in inverse  
17 condemnation and say you took our property. But, Your Honor, the  
18 other part is I understand the 133 acre application standing alone was  
19 stricken from the agenda. But, Your Honor, we have another application,  
20 a master development agreement application that was denied. Your  
21 Honor, but here's the situation. The landowners have a piece of  
22 property. They have zoning. They have the right to use it. They go to  
23 the City. They say there's only one road you can go down to build.  
24 That's the master development agreement. They do every single thing  
25 the city says. They file the application to develop, and then the City says

1 no. That's your classic taking action.

2 The exact same thing happened in a case called *Del Monte*  
3 *Dunes v City of Monterey*. It went to the United States Supreme Court.  
4 The city of Monterey denied the application to develop. And then the Del  
5 Monte Dunes sued, and the United States Supreme Court, and the  
6 United States Supreme Court held that that was a taking.

7 But, Your Honor, here's my great concern, and my great  
8 problem here, again, is I'm at a huge disadvantage. And I think you are  
9 too, Your Honor, because you haven't heard our case. You haven't  
10 heard our facts. You haven't heard our taking facts. And so, your last  
11 question there is so how do you define the bundle of sticks? You have to  
12 define them before the government action. They have to be defined at  
13 that point in time. And that's what the -- that's what the Nevada  
14 Supreme Court said. Here's what the Court said. They said in analyzing  
15 a taking claim, we undertake two distinct sub inquiries, a) whether the  
16 appellant's real and personal property constitutes private property under  
17 the constitution. So they say we decide A first. Then they go on and  
18 say, b) whether the city's actions denied -- in that case it was access --  
19 whether the city's actions denied them access to constitute a taking.

20 The Nevada Supreme Court adopted this mandatory  
21 procedure, and the mandatory procedure makes sense. And that's why,  
22 at the last hearing that we had, said we're going to split these two issues  
23 entirely up and separate them. And that's why --

24 THE COURT: Well, that was your recommendation, and I  
25 agreed to go along with it. I now think it's wrong.



1 MR. LEAVITT: Okay.

2 THE COURT: This doesn't make any sense. It's out of  
3 context. I think this is not a good approach.

4 MR. LEAVITT: Your Honor, I -- the only way I guess I could  
5 respond to that is to say it's the approach the Nevada Supreme Court  
6 has required us to take. And the Nevada Supreme Court, I mean it --  
7 they -- I mean the -- to address it for a second time, the Nevada Supreme  
8 Court did it again. And here's what the Court said in *Sisolak*.

9 Accordingly, the Court -- this is their language. Accordingly,  
10 the Court must, first, determine whether there plaintiffs possess a valid  
11 interest in the property affected by the government action before  
12 proceeding to determine whether the government action at issue  
13 constituted a taking. So that's what the United -- the Nevada Supreme  
14 Court said you -- that's what the -- the language they used, the Court  
15 must, first, determine the property interest before proceeding to  
16 determine the take issue.

17 And, Your Honor, yes, I did invite you to do that. And yes,  
18 that's -- and the only reason I did that, Your Honor, is because I want to  
19 avoid error on appeal. I don't want the Court to -- I don't want to go  
20 through a whole process here, and then we go to the Nevada Supreme  
21 Court, and the Nevada Supreme Court remands it.

22 THE COURT: Okay. Well, here's my problem with *Sisolak*.  
23 Okay. So Mr. Sisolak, not then governor, owns these -- like this raw land.

24 MR. LEAVITT: Yes.

25 THE COURT: And the City passes an ordinance --

1 MR. LEAVITT: Yes.

2 THE COURT: -- that says height restrictions.

3 MR. LEAVITT: Absolutely.

4 THE COURT: That's not what we're talking about here.

5 MR. LEAVITT: Excuse me, Your Honor.

6 THE COURT: We aren't talking about that here.

7 MR. LEAVITT: We're talking about the same thing.

8 THE COURT: It's totally -- no, it's not.

9 MR. LEAVITT: Let me explain. And, Your Honor, again,

10 you're at a disadvantage, because I haven't briefed that for you.

11 THE COURT: Okay.

12 MR. LEAVITT: And that's why it's a huge concern for me. In

13 Sisolak, we tried those cases. What happened is the city adopt -- the

14 county adopted height restriction ordinance number 1221.

15 THE COURT: Uh-huh.

16 MR. LEAVITT: It did one thing. It authorized the airplanes to

17 enter at a certain air space above the property in 1990. We then sued the

18 county, and we went through 14 years of litigation. And the Nevada

19 Supreme Court said the passage of the ordinance that authorized the

20 public to use the property was the taking.

21 THE COURT: Okay. So that was 10 years after he bought the

22 property.

23 MR. LEAVITT: Yes. Oh, absolutely. He bought the property,

24 and the Nevada Supreme Court said that, in 1990, when the ordinance

25 was adopted, that was the taking.

1 THE COURT: He had air space rights.  
2 MR. LEAVITT: Yes.  
3 THE COURT: What rights here -- you're saying zoning is a  
4 right. How is zoning a right? Because it's not saying we can't use your  
5 property because we're going to land planes over the top of Badlands.  
6 MR. LEAVITT: Right.  
7 THE COURT: That's not what they said.  
8 MR. LEAVITT: No. No. What they said -- what the ordinance  
9 said, Your Honor --  
10 THE COURT: No, I'm not talking about *Sisolak*. I'm talking  
11 about here.  
12 MR. LEAVITT: I know.  
13 THE COURT: Yeah.  
14 MR. LEAVITT: The City adopted an ordinance here --  
15 THE COURT: Right.  
16 MR. LEAVITT: -- that expressly states -- it's written right in  
17 the ordinance -- that the landowners -- it's up. Here it is right here. This  
18 is ordinance -- this is the bill, 2018-25. It says the landowners must allow  
19 ongoing public access to their problem.  
20 THE COURT: Okay. So again, to me, that seems very  
21 different from the 133 acres developing. That's why I said it seems to me  
22 like it's -- it almost sounds -- like I said, it's not a tort, because you can't  
23 sue for tort, but those -- that seems very different to me from the zoning  
24 action. That's this, overall, the county takes punitive actions against us.  
25 They don't want us developing our land.

1 MR. LEAVITT: Yeah.

2 THE COURT: They're going to not let us use it. That's a  
3 different case than the 133 acre specific -- so that's why I didn't  
4 understand why these things are all separated out, because these zoning  
5 applications seem to be one thing. And all these other things that's like  
6 pattern and practice that you allege, it seemed more global. And so, I'm  
7 trying to figure out why did you separate that into -- I mean that just  
8 didn't make any sense to me.

9 MR. LEAVITT: No, Your Honor --

10 THE COURT: The PJRs, with respect to specific denials of  
11 specific zoning applications, are one thing.

12 MR. LEAVITT: Right.

13 THE COURT: This big, you know, you not letting us use this,  
14 because you keep enacting all these crazy laws that keep --

15 MR. LEAVITT: Right.

16 THE COURT: -- Mr. Lloyd from using his land --

17 MR. LEAVITT: Right.

18 THE COURT: -- that seems like one thing. But yet, it's split  
19 up into four different cases. And that's where I just -- it seems like an  
20 odd choice.

21 MR. LEAVITT: Well, and some of the facts are different. You  
22 were right, Your Honor. Some of the facts are different. But I want to go  
23 back to the bill.

24 THE COURT: Okay.

25 MR. LEAVITT: The bill specifically authorized the public to go

1 onto the 133 acre property. It was specific to that property. It said you  
2 have to allow ongoing public access to the 133 acre property. And if I  
3 may, just two months ago, the United States Supreme Court had the  
4 exact issue before it, in a case called *Cedar Point v Hassid*. In *Cedar*  
5 *Point v Hassid*, two months ago, the United States Supreme Court had to  
6 decide whether a statute adopted by California -- and this is what the  
7 statute said. It said farmers had to allow the union to go onto their  
8 property something like -- I can't remember how many days a year, like a  
9 couple -- a few --

10 THE COURT: Yeah.

11 MR. LEAVITT: -- days a year. So you --

12 THE COURT: [Indiscernible]

13 MR. LEAVITT: You have to allow them to go onto the  
14 property.

15 THE COURT: Right.

16 MR. LEAVITT: That's the *Cedar Point v Hassid* case. One of  
17 the landowners in that case that sued the farmer, the unions hadn't even  
18 come onto his property yet. The United States Supreme Court held that  
19 is a per se taking. When you adopt a statute that authorizes the public to  
20 go onto property, that's a per se taking. That means it's a taking in and  
21 of itself. And when we move to the taking side of this case, we're going  
22 to present to you this bill that the city adopted that said the landowners  
23 must allow the public -- all the public, not just some but all of the public  
24 to go onto their property.

25 THE COURT: This is what I'm trying to figure out. What are

1 you saying you want defined? Because as I told you, I think a lot of times  
2 now, I have an issue with this -- like what's -- but, essentially, it's been  
3 severed off. It's the PJR. The 133 acres denied. That to me is, one, it's a  
4 very concrete thing. I just don't see it. I don't think it's right. I don't  
5 think that's --

6 MR. LEAVITT: Okay.

7 THE COURT: And that's why I was asking. What about -- and  
8 I asked Mr. Schwartz this. What's all this other stuff that they're alleging  
9 in here about these -- what these city counselors were up to and all these  
10 allegations that the City had this plot and this plan and this effort to try to  
11 keep them from using this whole big --

12 MR. LEAVITT: Yeah.

13 THE COURT: -- you know, Badlands.

14 MR. LEAVITT: Those are --

15 THE COURT: That seems to me to be very different.

16 MR. LEAVITT: Those are specific to the 133. And, Your  
17 Honor, we will -- again, at the take side of this, we will present that  
18 evidence where the City specifically targeted the 133 acre property.

19 THE COURT: Okay. I'm -- maybe I'm not making myself  
20 clear.

21 MR. LEAVITT: Okay. Go ahead.

22 THE COURT: Specifically the PJR.

23 MR. LEAVITT: Yeah.

24 THE COURT: We went in. We had this application.

25 MR. LEAVITT: Yeah.

1 THE COURT: They took it off the agenda. File a PJR. Fine.  
2 MR. LEAVITT: Got it.  
3 THE COURT: That's a very specific thing.  
4 MR. LEAVITT: Right.  
5 THE COURT: And that's where I -- so I felt like that's where I  
6 thought Herndon was right.  
7 MR. LEAVITT: Right.  
8 THE COURT: That's not right. There's no actual final action  
9 there. The rest of all this, which is what I'm trying to get you people to  
10 explain to me, is this -- all this -- I often -- I don't know, it's not really  
11 pattern and practice, but that's what it is. It's like the history --  
12 MR. LEAVITT: Yes.  
13 THE COURT: -- of how the City dealt with Badlands. They  
14 had, you know, the big fancy people like Jack Bennion mad at them --  
15 MR. LEAVITT: Right.  
16 THE COURT: -- over taking away the golf course.  
17 MR. LEAVITT: Right.  
18 THE COURT: So they said oh, wait a minute, we're going  
19 [indiscernible] detail work out. Although, as they point out, you know,  
20 we went in and fought for the 17 acres at the Supreme Court. We were  
21 on their side. So --  
22 MR. LEAVITT: So --  
23 THE COURT: -- to me, they're two different things. So are  
24 you asking the Court to say -- this is what I think you have for your,  
25 quote, take consideration. All this other stuff that they did, to me, that

1 seems like it's a whole different case.

2 MR. LEAVITT: Totally is, Your Honor. We're here today just  
3 on the inverse condemnation case.

4 THE COURT: Uh-huh.

5 MR. LEAVITT: That's only why we're here today is on the  
6 inverse condemnation case. Okay. Everything else that I've talked about  
7 to you today about the government action towards the property is not  
8 relevant to why we're here today. You asked me about those take  
9 issues, and I addressed them.

10 THE COURT: Right. So there's -- and here's --

11 MR. LEAVITT: Yeah.

12 THE COURT: So then the next step is if we're talking about  
13 the zoning action, which, you know, that's the PJR. I think that's a  
14 different thing.

15 MR. LEAVITT: Totally.

16 THE COURT: Now we're going to just talk about this whole  
17 rest of the allegations in the complaint.

18 MR. LEAVITT: Yes.

19 THE COURT: Their point is first you have to say do you have  
20 a right.

21 MR. LEAVITT: Yes, absolutely.

22 THE COURT: What's the right?

23 MR. LEAVITT: Okay. So that's where I want to go to now.

24 THE COURT: Okay.

25 MR. LEAVITT: And so, Your Honor, that's the, that's the,



1 that's the question is what property rights --  
2 THE COURT: Right.  
3 MR. LEAVITT: -- does the landowner have. It's the, it's the,  
4 it's --  
5 Can we bring this one up?  
6 And may I approach, Your Honor?  
7 THE COURT: Sure.  
8 MR. LEAVITT: I can just hand this to you. And that's what I  
9 addressed on Monday.  
10 THE COURT: Is it the same one? Because I still have them.  
11 MR. LEAVITT: I can -- I'll give you another one, because it  
12 summarizes it pretty well. It summarizes it pretty well. May I approach,  
13 Your Honor?  
14 THE COURT: If it's one of these, I've got them.  
15 MR. LEAVITT: Okay. Let's do that. Three questions on the  
16 property.  
17 [Counsel confer]  
18 MR. LEAVITT: So the three questions on the property, Your  
19 Honor --  
20 THE COURT: I've got it.  
21 MR. LEAVITT: I know, but I can't find mine now.  
22 THE COURT: Do you want mine?  
23 MR. LEAVITT: No, no, no, no. Hold on, Your Honor.  
24 [Counsel confer]  
25 MR. LEAVITT: Yeah. Here it is, Your Honor. Yes.

1 THE COURT: Good work is gone.

2 MR. LEAVITT: So this is how the property interest issue and  
3 we're -- the sole issue we're here today on the inverse condemnation  
4 cases was all.

5 THE COURT: All right.

6 MR. LEAVITT: Is number one, is zoning used to determine  
7 the property rights? Okay. That's the proverbial issue before you.  
8 That's the number one issue is how do we decide that. We turn to the  
9 next page, Your Honor. And the next page, the Nevada Supreme Court  
10 addressed this issue in six cases. And remember, in the *Sisolak* case,  
11 that's the case where the court said we have to do two distinct sub  
12 inquiries, right? That's the one the court said that in. We must, first,  
13 define the property.

14 And so, in that case, on page 4 of our outline here, I have the  
15 page from the *Sisolak* case, where the court used zoning to determine  
16 the property right. That's important, because Mr. Sisolak, exactly like  
17 our client, had a vacant piece of property. And so, the court had to say  
18 okay, what does Mr. Sisolak have. They had to, they had to define his  
19 property interests for purposes of the take. And -- go ahead.

20 THE COURT: Sisolak owned raw desert.

21 MR. LEAVITT: Raw desert.

22 THE COURT: Your client bought a golf course.

23 MR. LEAVITT: No, Your Honor. Your Honor, he acquired raw  
24 land. It's the same thing. It was being used as a golf course. And, Your  
25 Honor, at the time of the take, the golf course was closed, and it was

1 converted to -- it was --

2 THE COURT: I thought he, I thought he closed it.

3 MR. LEAVITT: It was closed. He closed it. It was shuttered  
4 because it was an absolute financial failure. What he --

5 THE COURT: It's also apparently a really difficult golf course  
6 to play.

7 MR. LEAVITT: From what I understand. I don't golf, Your  
8 Honor, but from what I understand.

9 THE COURT: Everybody I know who golfs says it's the  
10 hardest one in town. So --

11 MR. LEAVITT: But what he had at the time of the taking --  
12 remember, he had a vacant piece of property with R-PD7 zoning. What  
13 did Mr. Sisolak have? A vacant unused piece of property with H-2  
14 zoning. So the Nevada Supreme Court had to decide, okay, what are Mr.  
15 Sisolak's property rights. And the Nevada Supreme Court decided Mr.  
16 Sisolak's property right was a vacant piece of property with H-2 zoning  
17 that gave him the right to build into the space. He didn't have  
18 entitlements. All he had was zoning. And the Nevada Supreme --

19 THE COURT: Which they changed?

20 MR. LEAVITT: Huh?

21 THE COURT: Which they did -- after this ordinance, that  
22 affected his right to build.

23 MR. LEAVITT: No. His zoning was not changed.

24 THE COURT: No. His zoning was. The ordinance changed --

25 MR. LEAVITT: The ordinance said now the public can enter

1 into your air space. But here's the point. If Mr. Sisolak didn't have the  
2 right to use his air space under that zoning, there wouldn't have been a  
3 taking. So that's what the Court said. I -- that's why the court said we  
4 have to separate these out and the court first decided the H-2 zoning on  
5 his vacant piece of property gave him the right to develop. And, Judge,  
6 they used these words. Gave him the vested right to develop his  
7 property. That's the words the Nevada Supreme Court uses. And I'm  
8 going to, I'm going to address that in just a minute, Your Honor.

9           And then -- so, and then, we go to the next case, which is the  
10 *Alper* case. And Your Honor, I'm going to go through these kind of  
11 quickly. In the Alper case, it's an inverse condemnation case. Again, the  
12 Nevada Supreme Court looked at the zoning to determine the property  
13 rights that Mr. Alper had in the inverse condemnation case.

14           And then they did the same thing in the next case, which is  
15 *Alper v. State*. Same thing. They looked at the H-2 zoning. They  
16 actually took a copy of the zoning and put it into the case and said, we're  
17 going to use the H-2 zoning to determine Mr. Alper's property rights in  
18 this inverse condemnation case.

19           And then we go the next case. This is an interesting case,  
20 the *Buckwalter* case. Again, Mr. Buckwalter was actually using his  
21 property for apartments. And how -- what property right did the Nevada  
22 Supreme Court identify there? They said it's zone for casino. And so  
23 that -- they said that gave him the right to use the property for a casino.  
24 And therefore, that's how they identified the property right, based on  
25 zoning and the rights you have under the zoning.

1                   And I want to go to a couple more cases. *Andrews v.*  
2 *Kinsburg* [phonetic]. The Court said, again, the property was zoned, and  
3 they used that. But I want to end with *City of Las Vegas v. Bustos*  
4 because counsel addressed *City of Las Vegas v. Bustos*. If we can bring  
5 that up. In *City of Las Vegas v. Bustos*, the Nevada Supreme Court said,  
6 the district court properly considered the current zoning of the property,  
7 as well as the likelihood of a zoning change to determine the property  
8 rights that Mr. Bustos had.

9                   Now, what we brought to you, Judge, we brought to you  
10 three inverse condemnation cases where the Court went through the  
11 exact same thing we're asking you to do. And they used zoning to  
12 determine the property rights. We also brought to you three eminent  
13 domain cases where they use zoning to determine the value of the  
14 property. And counsel says, well, you don't use -- that's irrelevant here  
15 because in those cases, they just use zoning to value the property. Well,  
16 Your Honor, you don't value something that you don't have. So whether  
17 it's a direct eminent domain case or an inverse condemnation case, the  
18 very first step is to identify the property interest. Then and only then can  
19 you determine whether it was taken in an inverse condemnation case.  
20 And in a direct condemnation case when the government admits liability,  
21 then and only then can you value that property. So no matter what case  
22 we're in, you always have to determine the property rights before the  
23 government interferes with those property rights.

24                   And if I may -- if I may -- if I may do one thing in the *Bustos*  
25 case, Your Honor, again, because counsel addressed it. In the *Bustos*

1 case, you can see that there's a footnote. It's footnote 10 behind the  
2 citation. And then -- I'll just reference it, Your Honor. In footnote 10,  
3 there's ten cases cited. The Nevada Supreme Court cited ten cases to  
4 say zoning is what's used. And they even said, if you have the  
5 reasonable probability of a higher zoning, that's what's used to  
6 determine the property rights.

7           So what the Court looks at is what was the property's  
8 condition, what did it look like, what did the landowner have before the  
9 government entered the picture. And so that's why they said in ten  
10 cases in the *Bustos* case you always look at and focus on zoning. And  
11 Judge, the Nevada legislature adopted the same type of rule.

12           Now, counsel -- you heard counsel. Counsel said what you  
13 have to look at is the master plan. So really, that's where the fight is,  
14 Judge. That's where the fight is in this case. The City says you should  
15 use the master plan to determine the property rights. And the  
16 landowner's saying you should use zoning to determine property rights.  
17 That's really where the fight is. Sorry, Your Honor. I had to catch my  
18 breath there.

19           The Nevada Legislature resolved that issue. And here's what  
20 the Nevada Legislature said in 278.349. They said, i there is an existing  
21 ordinance that is inconsistent with a master plan, the zoning ordinance  
22 takes precedence. Zoning is of the highest order. The master plan is  
23 down here. And then, Your Honor, we've also submitted to you an  
24 Attorney General opinion from the executive branch where the Attorney  
25 General's Office did an analysis, the same exact analysis, and concluded

1 that it's always been the intent in the State of Nevada under the  
2 legislative provisions that zoning is of the highest order, and it  
3 supersedes a master plan.

4 That the master plan is -- they wrote it right here. They said,  
5 it's also intended that local ordinances control over general statements  
6 or provisions of a master plan. Why? Because zoning, Your Honor, sinks  
7 its teeth into the property. It runs with the land no matter what. A  
8 master plan is exactly what the title says. It's a plan that the city has for  
9 future possibilities on properties. That's all it is. That's why the Court's  
10 focus for why we're here today -- that's why the courts always focused  
11 on zoning.

12 And Your Honor, there is no case that -- and we stay within  
13 the box of inverse condemnation case. There is six cases that use zoning  
14 to determine property rights. There's not one inverse condemnation  
15 case in the State of Nevada that uses a master plan to determine  
16 property -- the property rights issue. Not one.

17 And so Your Honor, we also go to the next section here. You  
18 have three City of Las Vegas departments. You'll recall that I went  
19 through this where the City Attorney's office prior to trial has submitted  
20 briefs to you, Your Honor. They've submitted affidavits to you. They've  
21 submitted briefs to other eighth judicial district courts. And in those  
22 briefs, they have confirmed what I'm telling you today. Uniformly, every  
23 single one of those city attorneys represented to the Eighth Judicial  
24 District Court and the Nevada Supreme Court that zoning is of the  
25 highest order and the master plan is below zoning. That the courts must

1 use zoning to determine property rights in the State of Nevada.

2 We turn to the next page, Your Honor. That's also been the  
3 practice of the city planning department. Can we turn that next page?  
4 Your Honor, can you see what we're bringing up on the screen?

5 THE COURT: Yes.

6 MR. LEAVITT: Okay.

7 THE COURT: Yes.

8 MR. LEAVITT: Okay. So this is the city planning department.  
9 The city planning department over the -- remember, the landowners did  
10 all of this due diligence. And the city planning department confirmed  
11 over the 14 years that the landowners did due diligence that zoning was  
12 of the highest order and that the master plan was below the zoning, and  
13 that the zoning trumped everything else, meaning that when  
14 determining property rights in the City of Las Vegas, zoning applied.

15 And if we turn to the next one, which is the Tax Department  
16 of the City of Las Vegas. And Judge, this is critical here. After the  
17 landowners acquired the property, the City Tax Department came to the  
18 landowners and said, we now under NRS 361.227 have to determine  
19 what the taxes are on your property. And that statute requires the City  
20 Tax Department to determine the lawful use of the property. And what  
21 did the City Tax Department use to determine the lawful use? They used  
22 the R-PD7 zoning and said R-PD7 zoning gives you, the landowner, the  
23 legal right to use the property for residential uses. The City then put an  
24 88 million dollar value on the landowner's residential property and then  
25 taxed them a million dollars a year.



1 THE COURT: Now, those are all directed to Michelle  
2 Schaeffer who is county assessor. So how did that work?  
3 MR. LEAVITT: Yes, Your Honor, if I may.  
4 THE COURT: Because it looked like it was county me, so.  
5 MR. LEAVITT: The City of Las Vegas adopted a city charter.  
6 THE COURT: Uh-huh.  
7 MR. LEAVITT: And the City of Las Vegas City Charter in  
8 Section 3.12, decided and elected to make that county tax assessor its  
9 county assessor.  
10 THE COURT: Okay.  
11 MR. LEAVITT: This is what it says.  
12 THE COURT: It's city tax assessor. Okay. Got it.  
13 MR. LEAVITT: I'm sorry, you're right.  
14 THE COURT: Uh-huh.  
15 MR. LEAVITT: The county assessor of the county is exofacial  
16 the city assessor of the city. So that's the City's charter. This is actually  
17 in the City's constitution here.  
18 THE COURT: Uh-huh.  
19 MR. LEAVITT: That's their charter where they elected to be  
20 bound by everything the county assessor does. And the city was well  
21 aware of that. And the city was collecting taxes from the landowners  
22 based on that residential use, which is based on zoning.  
23 So Your Honor, we have -- and I've got to be clear here. The  
24 landowners entered into a stipulation to that effect. So we have a  
25 stipulation from -- between the landowner and a city department that the

1 lawful use of the landowner's property is based on R-PD7 zoning and  
2 that that zoning is residential, and the lawful use of the property is  
3 residential. We have that stipulation.

4           And so Your Honor, we have three city departments now that  
5 have agreed because we talked about the facts. And I love what you said  
6 here, I want to see the facts. Those are the facts. Those are the  
7 historical facts. All three departments of the City of Las Vegas have  
8 conceded, agreed, and stipulated that the zoning on the property is R-  
9 PD7, that R-PD7 gives the right to use the property residential, and that  
10 that should be used to determine the use of the property.

11           So then we go to question number 2, Your Honor. If we can  
12 flip to the -- question number 2 is, okay, what is the zoning on the  
13 property, right? So we have the -- we have the law -- the unequivocal  
14 law that says zoning has to be used to determine the property rights,  
15 right? So the next question is what's the zoning. We don't have a  
16 dispute on that. If we go to this page right here, Your Honor, and we flip  
17 a couple pages over, the 133 acres zoning is R-PD7. Residential --

18           MR. SCHWARTZ: What is it you're referring to?

19           MR. LEAVITT: Residential --

20           MR. SCHWARTZ: Thank you.

21           MR. LEAVITT: -- plan development, seven units per acre.  
22 That's what the landowners acquire at the time they acquired this  
23 property was an R-PD7 zoned property. Okay. Everybody agrees to that.  
24 Here's -- here it is right here, Your Honor. This one right here. So then  
25 the final question to determine the property rights issue is question

1 number 3 if we can go to that. Question number 3, what does this R-PD7  
2 zoning give to the landowners?

3 And Judge, this was the exact question before Judge  
4 Williams, and it was the exact question before Judge Jones. Both of  
5 them addressed this very, very narrow issue is what does R-PD7 give to  
6 the landowners. And this was what -- that was their question. That was  
7 the number one question because remember, Your Honor, the 17 acre  
8 property had R-PD7. The 35 acre property had R-PD7. The 133 acre  
9 property had R-PD7. And this is what Judge Williams said. The Court  
10 concludes that 19.10.050 lists single family and multi-family residential  
11 as the legally permissible uses of R-PD7's own properties. That issue  
12 has been fully litigated in the 35 acre case and resolved by Judge  
13 Williams.

14 The issue was also fully litigated before Judge Jones. Judge  
15 Jones agreed. He said the same thing, Your Honor, is that the R-PD7  
16 zoning -- let me get there. The Court's indulgence. He said, the legally  
17 permitted uses of properties owned R-PD7 are included in the city's code  
18 and that code provides that the legally permissible uses are single-family  
19 and multi-family residential. I understand, Your Honor, that the 17 acre  
20 and the 35 acre property do have different take facts. But they don't  
21 have different property interest facts. The facts are the exact same for  
22 the Williams 35 acre case and the exact same for the Jones 17 acre case.  
23 In both of those cases, the Court said I used zoning to determine the  
24 property interest. The zoning is R-PD7. And the city's R-PD7 gives the  
25 landowner the legal right to use the property for single-family multi-

1 family residential uses prior to any interaction with the government

2 THE COURT: But see they also have elements of this action  
3 being taken on the zoning application that I have a problem with in this  
4 case. You've got your, like, eight causes of action here.

5 MR. LEAVITT: Yes.

6 THE COURT: Petition for judicial -- again, we have to  
7 separate this --

8 MR. LEAVITT: Yes.

9 THE COURT: -- pleading, I guess. So you've got your  
10 petition for judicial review. And then you have -- I'm not really quite sure  
11 if this is part of the condemnation or if this is -- I guess this is your  
12 condemnation. So first alternative cause of action for a dec relief.  
13 Second is preliminary injunction, which really seem more to go with this  
14 zoning problem. Third, this is where we get into categorical taking,  
15 consensual regulatory taking, per se regulatory taking, nonregulatory  
16 taking, which is really kind of the one that it seemed like this was  
17 headed. Seventh is temporary taking. Again, kind of seemed like that  
18 was the problem when they wouldn't let you put up your fence.

19 MR. LEAVITT: Right.

20 THE COURT: So like I said, these sound almost like torts to  
21 me. And you can't have torts as a discretionary meeting. So to me  
22 that's -- it's different where you have the cases where there's a zoning  
23 action.

24 MR. LEAVITT: Okay. And so Your Honor, yes. Okay. The  
25 cases are the same in this narrow property interest issue. The cases

1 then become different because the city did take different action towards  
2 each one of the properties.

3 THE COURT: Uh-huh.

4 MR. LEAVITT: Okay. And you're right. And maybe I should  
5 explain it. We're teasing out the inverse condemnation claims. Your  
6 Honor, this is extraordinarily -- I agree, this is extraordinarily confusing --  
7 is that you have to tease out the petition for judicial review claims from  
8 the inverse condemnation claims. Those have to be -- we argued that on  
9 Monday and we said they have to be separated out.

10 THE COURT: Uh-huh. Yeah.

11 MR. LEAVITT: We're not here on the petition for judicial  
12 review claims at all. We're here just on the inverse condemnation  
13 claims. And when we decide the inverse condemnation claims, we  
14 obviously have to -- we've talked about this --

15 THE COURT: But here's what I'm trying to understand. What  
16 do you think is part of the inverse condemnation plan? As I said, the  
17 zoning action I have a problem with.

18 MR. LEAVITT: Okay.

19 THE COURT: I think Herndon's right on that.

20 MR. LEAVITT: Uh-huh.

21 THE COURT: You don't have the multiple actions taken and  
22 the denial and the equitable refusal. I get your point though that you've  
23 got this problem with this Lowie bill and this, like, pattern of what  
24 happened --

25 MR. LEAVITT: Right.

1 THE COURT: -- that appears kind of suspect at the  
2 commission meetings.

3 MR. LEAVITT: Right.

4 THE COURT: Like I said, that sounds almost in tort to me.  
5 And that tort is discretionary. So what are you actually saying that is?  
6 And that's why I'm struggling with what kind of an interest is that?

7 MR. LEAVITT: So --

8 THE COURT: That's bizarre.

9 MR. LEAVITT: -- a government tort, Your Honor, another  
10 name for it is inverse condemnation. The government torts are inverse  
11 condemnation cases. This is what the courts say is all government  
12 action in the aggregate must be considered when deciding an inverse  
13 condemnation case. So what --

14 THE COURT: I tried an inverse condemnation case once  
15 where he -- Paul Christenson said a mobile home park could expand --

16 MR. LEAVITT: Yeah.

17 THE COURT: -- if they made the rest of -- because it's right  
18 by Ellis --

19 MR. LEAVITT: Uh-huh.

20 THE COURT: -- made the rest of their -- if they had impact  
21 proof mobile homes. There was I guess a bunker.

22 MR. LEAVITT: Those were good times.

23 THE COURT: Yeah. So I mean, I've done this. I mean, I get  
24 that. But that was like -- that was how that was tried. It wasn't about a  
25 petition for judicial review, or you did a bad zoning thing. It was you

1 acted unreasonably --

2 MR. LEAVITT: Exactly.

3 THE COURT: -- and you made it impossible for us to --  
4 because what are we going to build, bunkers? No, these are mobile  
5 homes. So I understand what you're saying. I mean, I've been here, I've  
6 done that.

7 MR. LEAVITT: Yeah.

8 THE COURT: Okay. But this is why -- because of how -- no  
9 offense -- this was all smooshed into one big thing --

10 MR. LEAVITT: I know.

11 THE COURT: -- I have issues with the way this is pled. And it  
12 just doesn't make any sense to me. What are you trying to say you think  
13 this Court should do with this motion to define what you believe has  
14 been taken because I'm not sure it has been?

15 MR. LEAVITT: Right.

16 THE COURT: But I get your point that you think something  
17 nefarious happened.

18 MR. LEAVITT: Yeah, because we -- and we haven't briefed  
19 the take issue.

20 THE COURT: Exactly.

21 MR. LEAVITT: So you don't have that before you. So I  
22 understand, Your Honor, that we haven't briefed that. We haven't had  
23 the opportunity to present that. So we're not asking you to say what's  
24 been taken. We're absolutely not asking you that today. All we're asking  
25 you for is what did the landowner have in his possession as his property

1 right before he went to the City of Las Vegas and asked to develop?

2 That's what the Court requires us to do.

3 THE COURT: Uh-huh.

4 MR. LEAVITT: So -- and the reason I say that is because the  
5 Court requires us to say, okay, I've got to find out what Mr. Lowie had.  
6 What did he have? Because if he didn't have a property right, they didn't  
7 take anything, right? If you don't -- for example, if you -- I'm trying to  
8 think of a -- the example the Court used. If you're not an owner of a  
9 property, Judge, then of course, you don't have the right. If you have a  
10 property and you don't have -- and it's -- let's say this.

11 You have a property, and it's landlocked, right, the Court has  
12 to first define that property. The Court has to first say it's landlocked.  
13 And then we go to the next phase which is, well, the government didn't  
14 allow you access to your property. Was there anything taken? No,  
15 because your property was landlocked. But you can't decide that second  
16 step unless you first decide the property interest issue. So that's what  
17 we're saying here.

18 Here's -- and let me put it in a real nutshell. We're saying,  
19 Judge, here's what we want. We want an order from you which is  
20 exactly like Judge Jones and Judge Williams. We want an order that  
21 says on the 133 acre property, the landowners have R-PD7 zoned  
22 property and that R-PD7 zoned property gave him the legal right to use  
23 that property for single-family and multi-family residential uses. That's  
24 it. And --

25 THE COURT: It gave him the right to apply for approval. It



1 didn't -- it didn't give him the right to do it. That's the problem I have.

2 MR. LEAVITT: Well, I get what you're saying.

3 THE COURT: You have the right to apply. And see, that's

4 why I said to me, I see this -- all this issue of did they do all these things

5 deliberately to keep him from doing that. That's a totally separate thing

6 from the zoning. He had the right to apply for approval.

7 MR. LEAVITT: Okay. But --

8 THE COURT: He didn't have the right to build. Otherwise, he

9 wouldn't have had to apply for the right to build.

10 MR. LEAVITT: Now, Your Honor, what that -- and

11 respectfully to the Court, that says that landowners don't have property

12 rights. That -- no, that's what it says.

13 THE COURT: It's just the opposite of what he says. It says --

14 MR. LEAVITT: Yeah.

15 THE COURT: -- okay. All right.

16 MR. LEAVITT: No, because if you don't -- if all you have is

17 the right to apply and the city has discretion to deny that, what does that

18 mean?

19 THE COURT: They have to act reasonably.

20 MR. LEAVITT: No. It means you have no property rights.

21 THE COURT: Okay.

22 MR. LEAVITT: That's what that means is you have no

23 property rights. Now, that's why -- Judge, that's why the Court says you

24 have to separate out what the government did --

25 THE COURT: Okay.

1 MR. LEAVITT: -- from the property right. And Your Honor,  
2 that would mean that the Nevada Supreme Court was wrong in *Sisolak*  
3 because in *Sisolak*, the Court said his property was zoned for hotel  
4 casino. That gave him the right to use the property for hotel casino.

5 THE COURT: No. It gave him access to the air space. The  
6 ordinance affected his air space. Same problem with my aircraft impact  
7 proof mobile homes.

8 MR. LEAVITT: If I -- and Your Honor, I think I might be able to  
9 answer it this way.

10 THE COURT: Sure. Go ahead.

11 MR. LEAVITT: May I approach? So this is the government's  
12 arguments in this case.

13 THE COURT: Okay.

14 MR. LEAVITT: And I think this will resolve it. First, the city  
15 made the argument the petition for judicial review law should apply.  
16 Okay. They cited to you 16 of their 26 cases -- or 16 of their first 26  
17 exhibits were petition for judicial review law. Petition for judicial review  
18 law does give the city discretion. But remember, we were here on  
19 Monday, and we argued ad nauseum for why these cases had to be  
20 separated out and the petition for judicial review law could not apply  
21 here. They're like water and oil. That's what counsel said. They even  
22 wanted the case dismissed because they were so different. The body of  
23 law is so very different.

24 So you can't bring petition for judicial review law into inverse  
25 condemnation law. And I'm concerned that that's what's happening.

1 The city has cited to you the *America West* case, the *Stratosphere* case,  
2 all of these cases that are petition for judicial review cases that say the  
3 government has discretion to deny land use applications. And they're  
4 bringing that over into inverse condemnation law. And let me explain  
5 why that's so inappropriate. Your Honor, if we could turn to the next  
6 page here. It says, the City's argument relies upon petition for judicial  
7 review law. That's that one, Your Honor. Okay. Actually, we can go to  
8 this one right here. You see this one?

9 THE COURT: Uh-huh.

10 MR. LEAVITT: Okay. So here's the City's argument. The City  
11 has discretion under petition for judicial review law to decide the  
12 property may not be used. Therefore, there are no rights in the City of  
13 Las Vegas. And he said it. This is their argument. I wrote it down. He  
14 said, if the city has discretion, there is no property right. And when  
15 you're in a petition for judicial review case, which are all of the cases that  
16 the City has cited to you, that's correct, the City does have discretion to  
17 deny land use applications. But you can't carry that discretion over to  
18 inverse condemnation cases. Otherwise, counsel will say, if the City has  
19 discretion, there is no property right.

20 Let me tell you how the Nevada Supreme Court resolved that  
21 in *Sisolak*. This is what they said. They said the City can't apply valid  
22 zoning ordinances that don't amount to a taking. So Your Honor, they  
23 don't have this absolute discretion. Otherwise, you and I don't have  
24 property rights in the City of Las Vegas. That's what he said. I'll quote it.  
25 "If the City has discretion, there is no property right."

1           That exact same argument was made in *McCarran*  
2   *International Airport v. Sisolak*. And if I could refer the Court to the  
3   quotes from *Sisolak*. They're right here. There are six of them that  
4   reject that argument. They say the first inalienable right in the  
5   constitution is a right to acquire, possess, and protect your property.  
6   They say in Nevada, we've adopted expansive property rights in the  
7   context of inverse condemnation cases. And then they go on to say this.  
8   Governor Sisolak's property was zoned for development of a hotel.  
9   Governor Sisolak's property had "the vested property interest" in the air  
10   space above his property. Then they say this. Governor Sisolak's  
11   property rights include the right to possess, use, and enjoy the property.  
12           So when you come over into an inverse condemnation case,  
13   you have to use the zoning. And that discretion stays in the PJR side of  
14   the case. You cannot carry that discretion over, otherwise, there are no  
15   property rights, exactly as counsel just argued.  
16           THE COURT: All right. So here's the problem we've got here  
17   though.  
18           MR. LEAVITT: Yes.  
19           THE COURT: So 30 years, Mr. Peccole builds Badlands.  
20           MR. LEAVITT: I'm sorry, built what?  
21           THE COURT: Built the golf course.  
22           MR. LEAVITT: Got it.  
23           THE COURT: He builds Badlands. Okay. Fine. Later, it's  
24   purchased by Mr. Lowie.  
25           MR. LEAVITT: Yes.

1 THE COURT: He says, this is an impossible golf course to  
2 play, it's terrible, it doesn't make any sense, let's close it.  
3 MR. LEAVITT: Right.  
4 THE COURT: Nobody wants to play here. It's too hard.  
5 MR. LEAVITT: Got it.  
6 THE COURT: So we should build on it.  
7 MR. LEAVITT: Right.  
8 THE COURT: So we need to change the zoning of it --  
9 MR. LEAVITT: Got it.  
10 THE COURT: -- because it's approved for a golf course that  
11 was built. Let's change that into houses. Right, that's what the  
12 application was for?  
13 MR. LEAVITT: No, Your Honor.  
14 THE COURT: Okay.  
15 MR. LEAVITT: And here, let me explain why. Mr. -- the  
16 evidence -- the uncontested evidence shows that Mr. Peccole from the  
17 very beginning never put a golf course zoning on the property.  
18 THE COURT: He didn't put a deed restriction on it.  
19 MR. LEAVITT: He didn't put a deed restriction. Neither did  
20 he zone it for golf course. For golf course the zoning is C-V.  
21 THE COURT: True.  
22 MR. LEAVITT: And I didn't bring the exhibit with me but -- so  
23 here's what happened is Mr. Peccole kept the property at R-PD7 zoned  
24 property, which means up to seven units per acre. Then he said -- then,  
25 listen to what he did.

1 THE COURT: They didn't -- he didn't change -- they weren't  
2 trying to change the zoning. They were trying to change the use.

3 MR. LEAVITT: Okay. But this is what Mr. -- let me state it this  
4 way. Mr. Peccole always intended to develop the 250 acre property.  
5 That's the evidence that's in the case. We've cited --

6 THE COURT: Right. Yeah. He didn't put a zone -- a deed  
7 restriction for that reason.

8 MR. LEAVITT: And he didn't put -- not only did he not put a  
9 deed restriction on it, but when he drafted the Queensridge CC&Rs for all  
10 the homeowners, he expressly said that the golf course can be  
11 developed. And if I may, Your Honor, I'll show you one page from that.  
12 I'll provide you one page.

13 THE COURT: Well, anybody who lives on a golf course in  
14 this town knows this. Some of them have it. Some of them don't.

15 MR. LEAVITT: So here's -- this is a page from the CC&Rs.  
16 Future development. This is the golf course property.

17 THE COURT: Uh-huh.

18 MR. LEAVITT: He kept the property for development. He  
19 specifically put in the CC&Rs that the golf course property is not part of  
20 the Queensridge community, that the golf -- that nobody has any rights  
21 to the golf course community, and nobody can stop development of the  
22 golf course community. And then he listed the amenities and he  
23 expressly stated that the golf course community is not one of the  
24 amenities. So the plan here for Mr. Peccole was to always develop the  
25 property into homes. And he kept the zoning on the property to allow

1 that to happen. And Your Honor --

2 THE COURT: So it's developed though because it was not

3 developed with houses on it, right?

4 MR. LEAVITT: Correct.

5 THE COURT: I mean, there was a period of time it was --

6 MR. LEAVITT: It was a golf course.

7 THE COURT: -- a golf course.

8 MR. LEAVITT: Yes.

9 THE COURT: So in order to then take that golf course and

10 build homes on it, you need to get that changed.

11 MR. LEAVITT: No. No. And here's why.

12 THE COURT: Okay.

13 MR. LEAVITT: Because Mr. Peccole from the beginning

14 always intended to develop the property for residential. So he kept the

15 zoning R-PD7 on the property. He never went in and said, hey, I want

16 this to be zoned golf course. He never said I want to keep the deed

17 restriction on it. He specifically and expressly kept the residential zoning.

18 THE COURT: But it wasn't houses. It was a golf course.

19 That's the use to which it was for.

20 MR. LEAVITT: Exactly. And Your Honor, we've presented

21 the evidence that back in the days when he built the golf course, that was

22 actually contrary to the -- or he didn't actually even file the applications

23 necessary to build the golf course. It was always intended to be a

24 residential development.

25 THE COURT: Uh-huh.

1 MR. LEAVITT: It was never -- or I'm sorry, let me state it this  
2 way. It was very clear that the golf course was an interim use until he  
3 got ready to develop the property into homes.

4 THE COURT: Wasn't there also a wash?

5 MR. LEAVITT: There's a wash. Absolutely. Through part of  
6 the property, there's a wash. And there's actually a development  
7 agreement with the City to reconfigure that wash to allow development.  
8 So that was the plan from the very beginning, Your Honor. The plan was  
9 always to develop this property residential. And the residential zoning  
10 carried all through the years. All the way from 1981 up to today, that  
11 zoning has never changed.

12 THE COURT: So it's your position then that, you know, like I  
13 said, for *Sisolak* -- *Sisolak* is different. He owned land, which was zoned  
14 a certain way. And because of that land, he acquired certain rights.

15 MR. LEAVITT: Yes.

16 THE COURT: Which they changed when they enacted the  
17 ordinance that said you couldn't build that high.

18 MR. LEAVITT: Okay.

19 THE COURT: That was the problem in *Sisolak*.

20 MR. LEAVITT: Yeah.

21 THE COURT: What did they do here? He had land. It was  
22 being -- zoned a certain way. Being used --

23 MR. LEAVITT: Right.

24 THE COURT: -- for a certain purpose.

25 MR. LEAVITT: Right.



1 THE COURT: He wanted to change the use.

2 MR. LEAVITT: Well, no. And Your Honor, I guess the better  
3 way to say this --

4 THE COURT: How do you -- if you're not changing the use  
5 from golf course to houses, what do you call that?

6 MR. LEAVITT: Well, no, no, no.

7 THE COURT: That's change of use.

8 MR. LEAVITT: No, no, no. He -- you're right. He closed the  
9 golf course and went to use the property for the purpose for which it was  
10 always intended. Let me give you another example.

11 THE COURT: Okay. All right.

12 MR. LEAVITT: Okay. In the *Hsu* case -- the *Hsu* case is  
13 another airspace taking case. In the *Hsu* case, that property was being  
14 used as a mobile home. It was actually -- it was -- we litigated that case  
15 for 14 years. It was a mobile home.

16 THE COURT: Right.

17 MR. LEAVITT: And the county argued our air space is not  
18 changing that use, therefore there's not a taking. And then the United  
19 States -- or the Nevada Supreme Court rejected that argument. They  
20 said that the property, even though it was being used as a mobile home,  
21 had H-2 zoning, which gave them the right to build into the airspace.  
22 Our same exact facts here. We have a golf course, but we have R-PD7  
23 zoning which gives us the right to build single-family and multi-family  
24 residential units on it. And the government has stopped us from doing  
25 that. So it's the same exact scenario.

1           Again, in *Hsu*, the property being used is a mobile home, but  
2 it had zoning for hotel casino, H-2. And the Court found that that zoning  
3 defined the property interest the landowners had. So that's all we're  
4 asking for here is exactly as was done in the *Hsu* case is to say even  
5 though the property was being used as a golf course, it had RPD 7  
6 zoning, which gives the landowner the legal right to use it for single-  
7 family and multi-family residential uses. It just doesn't give the legal  
8 right to apply, otherwise you have no property rights. Again, that's the  
9 rule in PJR law. But when you go to a domain law, the rule is very  
10 different. Zoning must be used. And the rights that are permissible  
11 under that zoning are how the property is defined. I hope I made that  
12 straight, Your Honor. So that's the very, very narrow is.

13           And if I may refer back to this page right here because the  
14 Department of Justice made that same exact argument that you have  
15 discretion, so you really don't have property rights. Here's what the  
16 United States Supreme Court said two months ago. Just two months  
17 ago the Court said, under the Constitution, property rights cannot be so  
18 easily manipulated. And then they said the protection of property rights  
19 is necessary to preserve freedom. So in that *Hassid* case, the *Cedar*  
20 *Point Nursery* case, the party in that case tried to make the exact same  
21 argument that's being made here today. Since the government has  
22 discretion to deny these land use applications, there is no property right.  
23 And the court said, well, wait a minute, you're manipulating property  
24 rights.

25           THE COURT: Okay. Well, the -- and here's a really good

1 point. The judgment that this court immediately entered an order  
2 finding PROS designation on the 133 acre property is invalid.

3 MR. LEAVITT: Correct.

4 THE COURT: I thought you just told me it was R-PD7.

5 MR. LEAVITT: Yes. Now, that's -- and that's -- yes. The  
6 property is zoned R-PD7.

7 THE COURT: Right.

8 MR. LEAVITT: But what all courts have found, and what the  
9 city argues is that there is a master plan land use designation of PROS.

10 THE COURT: Right.

11 MR. LEAVITT: Zoning is different from a master plan. And  
12 so yes, we asked for that. Judge Jones just entered an order stating that  
13 it was not -- the PROS is not valid.

14 THE COURT: Okay.

15 MR. SCHWARTZ: He did not.

16 MR. MOLINA: He did. He did. It says that.

17 MR. LEAVITT: Yes, it says that in the order. I think Mr.  
18 Molina just corrected Mr. Schwartz that it does say that in the order. So  
19 Your Honor, would it be okay if -- I'd like to --

20 THE COURT: Okay. If you want --

21 MR. LEAVITT: What's that?

22 THE COURT: The CF --

23 MR. LEAVITT: Yeah. Can I approach? Because I have  
24 another one that talks about what zoning rights are in the City of Las  
25 Vegas. This is right here. So what are zoning rights? What does the City

1 Code say about zoning rights? This is the City Code. It says -- 19.18.020  
2 says, zoning district is defined as certain uses that are permitted.  
3 Permitted uses are then defined as uses that are permitted as a matter of  
4 right. So when you have a zone designation of R-PD7, and it says the  
5 permitted uses are single-family, multi-family residential uses, that's a  
6 use permitted as a matter of right under the City's own code. Otherwise,  
7 Your Honor, there'd be no property rights. You would go and buy a  
8 piece of property that has H-2 zoning on it, and you'd have no property  
9 rights. And this has been the law in the State of Nevada for 50 years is  
10 that zoning determines the property rights.

11 And Your Honor, we -- I've also referred in our brief to -- this  
12 is Las Vegas Municipal Code 19.12.010. This is the City's land use table.  
13 And in the land use table it says the uses permitted as a principle use in  
14 that zoning district, by right. So when you have a use that's  
15 permitted -- and Your Honor, that's 19.12.010. The City's own code says  
16 that when you have a use that's permitted, you can use that property as  
17 a matter of right, by right, which is why Judge Jones and Judge Williams  
18 in both of their decisions stated -- used those words. They said when  
19 you have zoning, it gives you the legal right to use that property for that  
20 use. And Your Honor, I got -- if I may have the Court's indulgence. I got  
21 a little sideways here.

22 So I want -- I'd like to now, Your Honor, address the City's --  
23 actually, let me go back for just a moment, Your Honor, because I really  
24 want to focus for just one more minute. And then I'm going to go to  
25 another argument that the city made to you. And what I like to focus on

1 is those four -- or those six cases that we've cited to you. Remember we  
2 cited to you those six Nevada Supreme Court cases that all relied upon  
3 zoning? There were -- the reason we did this, there was three inverse  
4 condemnation cases and three eminent domain cases. We cited both of  
5 those cases because the Nevada Supreme Court said that the cases are  
6 the constitutional equivalent of one another and that the same rules and  
7 procedures apply to both eminent domain and inverse condemnation  
8 cases. And in all of those cases, the courts again use zoning to  
9 determine the property rights.

10 [Pause]

11 MR. LEAVITT: Sorry, Your Honor.

12 [Pause]

13 MR. LEAVITT: Okay. Your Honor, if I can now go to -- we  
14 were -- I was following along here on the City's arguments because I do  
15 want to have the opportunity to respond to some of the City's other  
16 arguments on this issue. And the main argument that the City made  
17 Your Honor was this PROS argument. And if I may, Your Honor, I'd like  
18 to approach. I've just got one more for you --

19 THE COURT: Okay.

20 MR. LEAVITT: -- on the PROS issue. It says rebuttal to the  
21 City's masterplan PROS argument. So here, Your Honor, is the City's  
22 argument. What they say is they say, Judge, you should not use the  
23 zoning to determine the property rights. You should use the PROS to  
24 determine the property rights. What I did right here, Your Honor, is I  
25 summarized the ten times where this PROS issue was presented to the

1 courts and the ten times the courts did not accept the PROS argument.

2           Number one, Judge Williams in his 35 acre property interest  
3 motion rejected the City's PROS argument. Judge Jones just two days  
4 ago, again, rejected the City's PROS argument, laid it out in detail. The  
5 City in number three made the PROS argument as part of the 35 acre  
6 case to dismiss it. Judge Jones -- Judge Williams denied that. That  
7 issue went to the Nevada Supreme Court. It was presented three times  
8 to the Nevada Supreme Court. And the Nevada Supreme Court did not  
9 accept that PROS argument that the City made.

10           There was one time when the City's PROS argument was  
11 accepted. It's number four. It's the Crockett order. Judge Crockett  
12 accepted the City's PROS argument. That issue went up to the Nevada  
13 Supreme Court. And the Nevada Supreme Court reversed Judge  
14 Crockett's order. And then the argument was made vehemently to the  
15 Nevada Supreme Court that the PROS was on the property and the court  
16 should apply the PROS and a petition for rehearing and reconsideration.  
17 And the court rejected it again.

18           The City filed the PROS argument as a reason to dismiss the  
19 17-acre case. And Judge Bixler denied the PROS argument. And then  
20 the Queensridge homeowners, Your Honor, this is a -- this is another  
21 important part right here. The Queensridge homeowners brought a  
22 lawsuit to try and stop development on the whole 250 acre property.  
23 And the district court judge in that case said two things critical to why  
24 we're here today. They said the property had RPD 7 zoning and that RPD  
25 7 zoning gives the landowner the right to develop. That's a quote from

1 that district court decision that was appealed to the Nevada Supreme  
2 Court and affirmed.

3 So we have this issue that's been litigated heavily. It's a very  
4 narrow issue that's before you, heavily litigated. Should you apply  
5 zoning, or should you apply the masterplan PROS? And there's been ten  
6 orders that have said you don't apply the master plan PROS, instead you  
7 apply zoning. And we have a specific case saying that the R-PD7 zoning  
8 gives the landowner, the right to develop. Those orders were affirmed  
9 by the Nevada Supreme Court.

10 THE COURT: Okay. Here's what I'm thinking.

11 MR. LEAVITT: Okay.

12 THE COURT: As I said, we have to -- now that we know we  
13 have to separate the PJR and the condemnation cases --

14 MR. LEAVITT: Yes.

15 THE COURT: -- trying to do that. As I said, the zoning issue  
16 to me seems -- does not seem to be right, which is why all the  
17 condemnation issues related to the zoning question to me, I just -- I'm  
18 not seeing.

19 MR. LEAVITT: Uh-huh.

20 THE COURT: What I've always said seemed to me to be  
21 something was this issue of what's with the Lowie bill --

22 MR. LEAVITT: Yeah.

23 THE COURT: -- what's with pulling the application off the  
24 agenda? What were they doing there? Were they, you know, setting up  
25 the landowner for failure?

1 MR. LEAVITT: Yes.

2 THE COURT: That to me is what the condemnation action is  
3 about.

4 MR. LEAVITT: Yes.

5 THE COURT: Maybe I'm wrong about what you think it is.

6 MR. LEAVITT: You're correct.

7 THE COURT: So -- but my problem is it's things like, should  
8 you have access to your property. If they're not going to let you develop  
9 it, can't you at least fence it, so people don't dump on it?

10 MR. LEAVITT: Right.

11 THE COURT: I mean, I drive past that corner all the time.

12 MR. LEAVITT: Uh-huh.

13 THE COURT: So I'm just trying to figure out, what are you  
14 trying -- when you say you want to determine what this bundle of sticks  
15 is, that for me is what it is. It's this question of -- the zoning issue I don't  
16 think we're at yet because I don't -- they never actually finally said for all  
17 these oddball reasons that, you know, Crockett's order was up on appeal.  
18 I said, well, I'm not going to decide it -- I mean, I'm going to dismiss it  
19 unless Crockett gets overturned. That's all the zoning issues. They want  
20 it remanded. And I said, okay, fine, makes sense, we should just decide  
21 the PJR and not just give -- let's decide the PJR. So we'll rule on that at  
22 another time.

23 But this condemnation case that you -- we've got to go  
24 forward on this condemnation case now, decide what the bundle of  
25 sticks are. That's where I'm troubled with this idea that somehow there



1 was some denial of a zoning right when I can't see that it's ever been  
2 denied. I see this as a different problem, that they're interfering with his  
3 ability to plan and develop.

4 MR. LEAVITT: Totally agree.

5 THE COURT: Totally different question.

6 MR. LEAVITT: I get it. You -- Judge, you're right. Okay. So  
7 what you're saying is, I can't see the interference with the zoning, right?

8 THE COURT: Right.

9 MR. LEAVITT: But we do see clearly the interference with the  
10 development. Clearly, they did that.

11 THE COURT: Right. There's some --

12 MR. LEAVITT: I mean, it's very clear.

13 THE COURT: -- that's --

14 MR. LEAVITT: Yeah. Very clear.

15 THE COURT: -- something else.

16 MR. LEAVITT: Yeah. So it's -- although it's something else,  
17 it's all part of that taking action. Interference with zoning is part of the  
18 taking because that's government action towards the property. Denying  
19 applications, again, you know, interfering with the development  
20 property, that's again government action to take the property. So -- but  
21 before we get to that government action that takes the property, before  
22 we get to the government action that interferes with that zoning, you  
23 have to come over and define the bundle of sticks.

24 THE COURT: Okay. And so this is where, like, I keep get --  
25 we keep getting. And I -- my problem is I can't really say -- I mean,

1 you're -- you want to say that they have this absolute right --  
2 MR. LEAVITT: Uh-huh.  
3 THE COURT: -- to build houses.  
4 MR. LEAVITT: Correct, Your Honor.  
5 THE COURT: And I'm saying, I don't see that that's been  
6 interfered with yet because we got interrupted. Through third-party -- I  
7 love Judge Crockett more than anybody else. The man's amazing. But it  
8 interfered with this whole process.  
9 MR. LEAVITT: Got it.  
10 THE COURT: And then we got remanded to go to court.  
11 Whatever. So I don't see that.  
12 MR. LEAVITT: Right.  
13 THE COURT: What I see is all this other stuff that was in  
14 there from day one.  
15 MR. LEAVITT: Right. Okay.  
16 THE COURT: What are they up to?  
17 MR. LEAVITT: So you're right. You don't see where they  
18 interfere with that legal right to use the homes.  
19 THE COURT: To build the homes.  
20 MR. LEAVITT: To build the homes.  
21 THE COURT: Uh-huh.  
22 MR. LEAVITT: You don't see that because we haven't briefed  
23 it for you.  
24 THE COURT: Okay.  
25 MR. LEAVITT: We have -- we don't have that issue before

1 you. All we have before you -- and that's why it's such a narrow issue.  
2 It's so -- and that's what Judge Jones said, that's what Judge Williams  
3 said is this is an extraordinarily narrow issue. They say before the City  
4 interfered with the zoning, before the City interfered with development,  
5 what did the landowner have. And all we're here today is to decide what  
6 did the landowner have.

7 THE COURT: Right. So this is what I --

8 MR. LEAVITT: That's it.

9 THE COURT: -- this is what I'm trying to get at is since I don't  
10 think in this retrospect of 133 acres --

11 MR. LEAVITT: Yeah.

12 THE COURT: -- that the right to build the houses has ever  
13 been finally determined.

14 MR. LEAVITT: Okay.

15 THE COURT: It got sidetracked. But there was this whole  
16 other -- and I keep calling it pattern of practice. I don't know what you'd  
17 call it. Course of action, history, whatever. That something was going  
18 on with respect to no money is going to allow this developer to change  
19 the golf course into houses. It was some sort of a pressure from the  
20 community. We don't want to give up this beautiful golf course. It was a  
21 desert. We don't want to give up this beautiful golf course and have a  
22 bunch of houses there. So what does the City do? They find all these  
23 roadblocks.

24 But -- so this is where I'm trying to figure it out. Where I  
25 struggle with this is if you're saying they had an absolute right to build,

1 you know -- seven houses is a lot of houses on an acre -- seven houses  
2 per acre on 133 acres, you haven't been interfered with that. What's  
3 been -- what's happened is you've had the hearing costs and all the  
4 hassles and all the efforts of trying to develop it over these many, many  
5 years. And they keep throwing up these artificial roadblocks. To me  
6 that's -- like I said, it's not because you have a right to the zoning. You  
7 have a right to have it considered. I agree with you there. You have a  
8 right to have -- to apply for it, to change it. I understand that. But my  
9 problem is are -- if you're trying to say my client has an absolute right to  
10 seven houses -- how many is -- how many acres is it? Seven times 133,  
11 whatever that is.

12 MR. LEAVITT: We're not saying that.

13 THE COURT: Okay.

14 MR. LEAVITT: Yeah. Your Honor, we're not saying that. All  
15 we're asking you to do, Your Honor -- this is all we're asking you to do --

16 THE COURT: Okay.

17 MR. LEAVITT: -- is --

18 THE COURT: Are you on the same thing?

19 MR. LEAVITT: I'm sorry, Your Honor. It's the three questions  
20 now.

21 THE COURT: The three questions.

22 MR. LEAVITT: Three questions. At the very last page there --

23 THE COURT: Yes.

24 MR. LEAVITT: -- that's R-PD7 zoning.

25 THE COURT: Okay.

1           MR. LEAVITT: Judge Jones didn't say, you have the right to  
2 build 700 homes. Judge Williams didn't say you have the right to build  
3 700 homes. Neither of them said that in their decision. What they did is  
4 they went to this code, and they looked at permitted uses. And they said  
5 that LVMC 19.10.050 lists single-family and multi-family residential uses  
6 as the legally permissible uses on R-PD7 zoned properties.

7           THE COURT: Right.

8           MR. LEAVITT: So they said that's what you get to use your  
9 property for. They didn't say you get 700 or 800 homes. That's not what  
10 they said. Then they went on to say, therefore, the landowner's motion  
11 to determine property interest is granted in its entirety and it's ordered  
12 that the 35 acre property is zoned R-PD7 at all times and the permitted  
13 uses by right of the 35 acre property are single-family and multi-family  
14 residential. That's what this says.

15          THE COURT: Uh-huh.

16          MR. LEAVITT: It says, permitted uses, single-family and  
17 multi-family residential. Well, how is permitted uses defined in the City's  
18 code? It means you get to use it as a matter of right. So when you have  
19 a residential zoned property, you have the right to use your property  
20 residentially. When you have a commercial zoned property, you have  
21 the right to use it for commercial purposes. Now, what you're talking  
22 about is if you want to build a 7-11 on your commercial property, yeah,  
23 you have to go and apply and get the application for that 7-11. If you  
24 have an H2 property, you have the right to build a hotel casino on that  
25 property.

1           Now, when you're going -- when you say, hey, I want to  
2 build -- that doesn't mean you can build a 400 story hotel casino there.  
3 There's certain things you have to do. You still have to comply. All  
4 these orders do is they say zoning is R-PD7 and the permitted uses under  
5 R-PD7 are legal single-family residential and multifamily residential,  
6 which gives the landowner the right to use the property for that purpose.  
7 You see, what counsel said to you is he said, Judge, they're asking to  
8 build whatever they want, they're asking to build 900 units, they're  
9 asking to build whatever. That's not what we're saying here today,  
10 Judge. We're just saying apply the zoning to determine the property  
11 rights, as was done in six cases, and find, as was done in the Sisolak  
12 case, that the zoning gives the landowner the right -- it's a residential  
13 zoning -- the right to use the property for residential uses. That's exactly  
14 what Sisolak said.

15           THE COURT: See, here's my problem. I have a hard time  
16 with *Sisolak* being applicable here because *Sisolak* had raw desert zoned  
17 for a certain purpose. They didn't change the zoning on its property.  
18 They changed an ordinance for the height restrictions. His right was to  
19 the air space. They changed the ordinance saying he couldn't use his air  
20 space.

21           MR. LEAVITT: Yeah.

22           THE COURT: That was the problem with *Sisolak*. Here you  
23 have somebody who has a golf course. They don't use it as a golf  
24 course. It's a terrible golf course. They wanted to build houses.

25           MR. LEAVITT: But Your Honor --

1 THE COURT: So they need to change these.  
2 MR. LEAVITT: Yeah. But you don't need to change the  
3 zoning.  
4 THE COURT: Right. I get that. I get that.  
5 MR. LEAVITT: Yeah.  
6 THE COURT: So that's my point is I'm struggling with --  
7 MR. LEAVITT: I get it.  
8 THE COURT: -- how we merge --  
9 MR. LEAVITT: I got it.  
10 THE COURT: What it is exactly --  
11 MR. LEAVITT: I got it.  
12 THE COURT: -- you want to do in this alleged taking part of  
13 the case because as I've said, I see the zoning PJR part of it very  
14 different. I think --  
15 MR. LEAVITT: Right.  
16 THE COURT: -- it might even be dismissed because it seems  
17 like that's premature. What you have over here in this other part of the  
18 case though, that's what I've said -- that always seemed to me to be --  
19 like I said, I know you can't say tort. But it -- that seemed to me to be  
20 something because there seemed to be something going on --  
21 MR. LEAVITT: Right.  
22 THE COURT: -- where there was some interference in the  
23 efforts that were being made to figure out how can we do something  
24 with our land, even if it's just put a fence up so people stop dumping on  
25 it.

1 MR. LEAVITT: Right. I got that. So it's akin -- and maybe I --  
2 I keep saying *Sisolak*. So the better case is the *Hsu* case. That's the  
3 better case to use.

4 THE COURT: Okay. Probably. Yeah.

5 MR. LEAVITT: Yeah. Because in the *Hsu* case, mobile homes  
6 were being used on the property that had zoning for H-2. In this case,  
7 there's a golf course that's on the property that has zoning for  
8 residential.

9 THE COURT: Residential. Uh-huh.

10 MR. LEAVITT: And in the *Hsu* case the Court held, even  
11 though the property was used as a golf course, it had the right to build a  
12 hotel casino because it had an H-2. We're asking you for the exact same.  
13 Even though the property's being used as a golf course, it has residential  
14 zoning, which gives them the right to use it for single-family and multi-  
15 family residential uses.

16 THE COURT: Right.

17 MR. LEAVITT: Now, obviously, at some point -- well, that's  
18 the rule we're asking for. We're not asking for more, Judge. We're not  
19 asking you to define the number of units that can be built. We're not  
20 asking you for that. We're just saying, number one, that you say that  
21 zoning applies, and number two, what that zoning says. That -- and that  
22 again, Your Honor, is -- I understand on the take side the 35 and 17 acre  
23 cases are different. But on the -- this property bundle of sticks side,  
24 they're identical. Absolutely identical issues. There's no difference in  
25 the cases between the 17 acre case and the 35 acre case. And maybe I



1 should have explained that better, Your Honor, on exactly what the issue  
2 is, how we're teasing out. I probably should have explained that better.  
3 And I probably should have explained a little bit better that we're not  
4 asking to build whatever we want. We're asking for a very limited and  
5 narrow order.

6 THE COURT: Well, I think the concern that the City has is that  
7 your -- they view your argument as any landowner has an absolute  
8 vested right to use their property within whatever its zoned, no matter  
9 what the -- how -- no matter what. They have the absolute right to use it.  
10 No matter what other zoning regulations, no matter what other master  
11 plans, no matter what other uses are being used, no matter what it's  
12 already being used for that you want to change it from, you have an  
13 absolute right to do what you want to do. I don't think that's true.

14 MR. LEAVITT: Right. I agree.

15 THE COURT: And I don't think you would necessarily agree  
16 with that. They're concerned about that. And that is the logical  
17 extension of this argument. I see how -- why they're concerned. But --  
18 so I'm trying to say, specifically, what do you want this to say --

19 MR. LEAVITT: I understand.

20 THE COURT: -- because as I've said, I don't see this as a case  
21 where attorney action was taken. This whole other universe of things  
22 that were going on including like -- what do you mean you can't even  
23 build fence? All of those kinds of things to me are something.

24 MR. LEAVITT: Yes.

25 THE COURT: And I'm trying to figure out what it is you want

1 from this Court with respect to everything else that's in your complaint.

2 MR. LEAVITT: Yeah. First, let me explain what I don't want.

3 THE COURT: Okay.

4 MR. LEAVITT: Okay. I don't want to decide the take issue  
5 today. I don't want to decide whether the City interfered with zoning. I  
6 don't want to decide whether the City interfered with development  
7 because I haven't briefed it, I haven't argued it, and the Court held that  
8 we were not required to brief it, so we did not. So that's what I don't  
9 want.

10 THE COURT: Okay.

11 MR. LEAVITT: All I want is for a definition of the property  
12 rights. And here's what it would be is number one, the property has R-  
13 PD7 zoning. Okay. Everybody stipulates to that, so that easily can be put  
14 in the order. Okay. Then, a finding that Section A of 19.10.050, which is  
15 this right here says the intent for the R-PD district is residential  
16 development. So that's the second finding we would want is the intent  
17 of R-PD7 is residential development. That's in Section A.

18 THE COURT: Uh-huh.

19 MR. LEAVITT: And then go down to section C, which says --  
20 and I'm quoting from Judge Jones' order here -- that section C lists the  
21 permitted land uses as single-family and multi-family residential uses.  
22 That's what the permitted land uses are. And then what we do is we go  
23 to say, okay, what does permitted land uses mean? Permitted land uses  
24 is defined by Judge Jones, by Judge Williams, and by the City's own  
25 code that you have the legal right to use the property for that general

1 use. Just that general use. Residential. That's all we're asking for,  
2 Judge. We're not asking you to take the next step, which is -- which  
3 means you can build 700 units and that you can build this many units.  
4 That's not what we're asking for.

5 THE COURT: Okay. That last one is the one that's  
6 problematic.

7 MR. LEAVITT: Okay.

8 THE COURT: I don't have a problem with your first two.

9 MR. LEAVITT: Got it.

10 THE COURT: The last one is the one that I think is where the  
11 City is -- their hair's on fire --

12 MR. LEAVITT: Okay.

13 THE COURT: -- because if you take that to its logical  
14 extension --

15 MR. LEAVITT: Uh-huh.

16 THE COURT: -- that is saying you have an absolute positive  
17 right, the City cannot exercise its discretion, you must be allowed to  
18 build. And this is where I think the problem is with what Judge Jones  
19 did. And I think this is where we kind of got strayed from what Judge --  
20 the importance of what Judge Herndon did because Judge Herndon was  
21 right in what he said. In the 65 acre case, it wasn't right. No application  
22 had ever been made.

23 MR. LEAVITT: Okay.

24 THE COURT: So he's right about that. There is no  
25 application. So why is it -- he stopped there. And other people say you

1 shouldn't stop there, you should still keep going because -- and that's my  
2 point here is with respect to the 133 acres on the issue that Judge  
3 Herndon addresses, I agree with him 100 percent right down the line.

4 MR. LEAVITT: Okay.

5 THE COURT: So the problem is when you go to that last  
6 step.

7 MR. LEAVITT: Okay.

8 THE COURT: That's the problem.

9 MR. LEAVITT: Okay. So let me --

10 THE COURT: You have the right to apply.

11 MR. LEAVITT: Okay. Okay. So here's -- let me tell you  
12 where I think it's a little incorrect. And I'll tell you why, Judge.

13 THE COURT: Okay.

14 MR. LEAVITT: Okay. Is we all agree -- so we're past the R-  
15 PD7. We all agree --

16 THE COURT: Right.

17 MR. LEAVITT: -- zoning applies.

18 THE COURT: I think so. Yeah. I think so.

19 MR. LEAVITT: We all agree that the zoning is R-PD7.

20 THE COURT: Right.

21 MR. LEAVITT: So we got those two findings. Okay. So the  
22 third finding is -- okay -- and it's very specific. In an inverse  
23 condemnation case what does R-PD7 give you. Okay. That's the precise  
24 issue.

25 THE COURT: Right.

1 MR. LEAVITT: And here --

2 THE COURT: And this is where I think we diverge.

3 MR. LEAVITT: Exactly. So the question is in an inverse  
4 condemnation case, does the City have discretion to deny that use? And  
5 Your Honor, the answer is unequivocally no.

6 THE COURT: Okay.

7 MR. LEAVITT: And let me explain why. Okay. If we're in a  
8 petition for judicial review case, of course they have discretion, right.  
9 They have discretion to deny the use. Okay. But if they deny -- if they  
10 exercise that discretion, that's a taking. But let me explain why that  
11 discretion can't carry over to the eminent domain case because if you  
12 have the residential zoning that gives you the legal right to use your  
13 property for homes, right, it gives you the legal right.

14 THE COURT: Uh-huh.

15 MR. LEAVITT: And then if you take the next step and say, but  
16 the City has discretion to deny those land use applications, then you  
17 have no property right because all the City would have to do in an  
18 inverse condemnation case -- all they've had to do is say we have  
19 discretion to deny your zoning, therefore, you never had a property right,  
20 therefore, we can never take anything. That's the problem.

21 THE COURT: I think that where we diverge is you have a  
22 right to build residential --

23 MR. LEAVITT: Yes.

24 THE COURT: -- homes on the land --

25 MR. LEAVITT: Yes.

1 THE COURT: -- subject to -- subject to whatever other zoning  
2 codes, building codes, whatever other codes this -- whatever interest the  
3 city has, whatever they have to look at --

4 MR. LEAVITT: Absolutely.

5 THE COURT: -- in order to approve. And so to me --

6 MR. LEAVITT: Right.

7 THE COURT: -- what you're saying is we have this right,  
8 that's our property right, you can't do anything about property right. We  
9 have this absolute property right. It's not absolute.

10 MR. LEAVITT: And maybe I said it wrong. And let me be  
11 clear. We're not saying that we can come in and do whatever we want.  
12 Absolutely. All we're asking for is you have the legal right to build  
13 single-family, multi-family residential, okay --

14 THE COURT: And see, this is where I --

15 MR. LEAVITT: -- but --

16 THE COURT: -- this is where I diverge from you.

17 MR. LEAVITT: But --

18 THE COURT: I think you have the legal right to apply for this.

19 MR. LEAVITT: Okay. But let me finish, Your Honor.

20 THE COURT: All right.

21 MR. LEAVITT: If I could finish.

22 THE COURT: All right.

23 MR. LEAVITT: I agree with you the City still has discretion.  
24 For example, sewer, drainage, traffic, compatibility. There's those kind  
25 of issues. But Your Honor, if all you have is a legal right to apply, that's

1 not a property right. That's no right at all.

2 THE COURT: Oh, see, I guess that's where we disagree.

3 MR. LEAVITT: Yeah.

4 THE COURT: That's where we disagree.

5 MR. LEAVITT: Because if you -- listen, if my -- if I go and I  
6 buy a 40 acre property that's zoned hotel casino on the Las Vegas strip  
7 and I paid 40 million dollars for it and all I have is the legal right to apply,  
8 I have nothing.

9 THE COURT: No. But you -- absolutely. You have the legal  
10 right to apply the hotel casino because it complies. And so you can -- as  
11 long as you meet every other standard, whatever requirements there are  
12 that the city or county have, then you can build. But it doesn't mean you  
13 get the absolute right --

14 MR. LEAVITT: Well --

15 THE COURT: Hypothetically speaking, remember Red Rock  
16 Casino?

17 MR. LEAVITT: I remember Red Rock. Yes. I've got you.

18 THE COURT: You remember Red Rock? They want -- they  
19 had the right to build 300 feet. They had the right to build up to 300 feet.

20 MR. LEAVITT: Yes.

21 THE COURT: The neighbors -- I might know some people  
22 who are involved in this. The neighbors said, wow, that's a lot, it's really  
23 only supposed to be 10, you're asking to build 300.

24 MR. LEAVITT: Got it.

25 THE COURT: It's supposed to be ten. Stay at ten. You know,

1 they're not -- Aliante had to stay at ten. They were going to keep it to ten  
2 there because they had these -- you know, they had the -- all around the  
3 valley -- they had to build around the valley.

4 MR. LEAVITT: Uh-huh.

5 THE COURT: Stations have their --

6 MR. LEAVITT: I remember.

7 THE COURT: -- places all around the valley. They were all  
8 zoned for ten stories. They wanted to build them all 300.

9 MR. LEAVITT: Right.

10 THE COURT: And the neighbors were able to keep it to 200.

11 MR. LEAVITT: Absolutely.

12 THE COURT: So you have the right to apply to build what  
13 you want to build on your land subject to whatever else there may be  
14 that might limit it. In that case it was a bunch of neighbors screaming.  
15 And every time they have fireworks, they have to send us a letter.

16 MR. LEAVITT: I got that letter, by the way.

17 THE COURT: So -- like the other day, what was it? I forget.  
18 Like their anniversary or something.

19 MR. LEAVITT: Yeah. But what --

20 THE COURT: It's also so startling when you get a letter from  
21 them.

22 MR. LEAVITT: But Stations Casino bought a vacant piece of  
23 land --

24 THE COURT: Right.

25 MR. LEAVITT: -- with hotel casino zoning.



1 THE COURT: Right.

2 MR. LEAVITT: That hotel casino zoning gave them the

3 right --

4 THE COURT: To build a hotel. Yeah.

5 MR. LEAVITT: There it is. But it didn't give them the right to

6 do whatever they want.

7 THE COURT: It didn't give them the right to build a 300 story.

8 MR. LEAVITT: And that's all we're asking for --

9 THE COURT: Uh-huh.

10 MR. LEAVITT: -- is that we have an R-PD7 zoned property,

11 which gives us the right to build homes. We're not saying that we can

12 build seven-story homes or that we can build a high-rise condo.

13 THE COURT: And see, I guess this is where I think that we're

14 diverging from that is you view we have the right to build homes.

15 MR. LEAVITT: Yes.

16 THE COURT: And my view is no, you own this property, and

17 you have the right to apply for all the permits to build on it in accordance

18 with what it was zoned for, a hotel. And you wanted to build it 300 feet.

19 We didn't let you build it 300 feet. We made you -- the neighbors only

20 wanted you to build it 100 feet. So we made you keep it at 200 feet.

21 That's how that process works.

22 MR. LEAVITT: I agree. But Your Honor, they had the

23 underlying right to build a hotel casino, right?

24 THE COURT: Uh-huh. Right. Yeah. Okay.

25 MR. LEAVITT: Okay. That's all we're asking for is that we

1 have the underlying right --

2 THE COURT: Okay.

3 MR. LEAVITT: -- to build single-family, multi-family. That's  
4 it. We're not taking it the step further and saying, hey, that means we  
5 can build 500 feet.

6 THE COURT: And I guess this is -- for me, I have a modifier  
7 there where you don't, which is you have the right to apply to build on  
8 that property in accordance with the zoning.

9 MR. LEAVITT: And --

10 THE COURT: You don't have the right to build, which is what  
11 I think you're --

12 MR. LEAVITT: Well, Judge, if you don't have the right to  
13 build, then we would have no right.

14 THE COURT: Yes, you do.

15 MR. LEAVITT: What is the right?

16 THE COURT: Because you have the right to apply. And that  
17 to me is the right. It's not the right to do it. It's the right to seek approval  
18 to do it because otherwise, there's no zoning code. What's the point of  
19 having it.

20 MR. LEAVITT: Exactly. And that's where we're at is what  
21 does --

22 THE COURT: See, that's the only thing we disagree on. I  
23 think after, you know, two full days of this, we've narrowed it down to  
24 where you and I have a disagreement. I agree with everything else here.  
25 I don't have any problem with it. Like I said, I think you can -- you can

1 make all four of these orders in all four of these cases line up. They  
2 make perfect sense --

3 MR. LEAVITT: Okay.

4 THE COURT: -- if you look at the facts.

5 MR. LEAVITT: Here is the --

6 THE COURT: It makes perfect sense what Judge Williams  
7 does. It makes perfect sense what Judge Jones does. The only thing I  
8 disagree with -- and I understand why Judge Herndon did what he did.

9 MR. LEAVITT: Okay.

10 THE COURT: I'm not so sure that it was -- he was wrong in  
11 stopping. I think he was probably right in stopping.

12 MR. LEAVITT: Okay.

13 THE COURT: But here now that we know we have to split  
14 these, the zoning, PJR issue, and the --

15 MR. LEAVITT: Yes.

16 THE COURT: -- condemnation case --

17 MR. LEAVITT: Uh-huh.

18 THE COURT: -- here's where it -- the one thing -- the only  
19 thing I disagree with these other people on. And that is how you define  
20 the right. And for me, you have the right within the zoning code to seek  
21 approval to build what you want to build. You may not be given that  
22 approval because there may be other things that prevent you from  
23 building what you want to build. You may want to build the most ugliest  
24 building in the world --

25 MR. LEAVITT: Yeah.

1 THE COURT: -- but it's within the zoning. And the City says,  
2 absolutely not, that's a ridiculous looking building, we're not going to let  
3 you build it. So it's not the right to do it. It's the right to apply to do it.

4 MR. LEAVITT: Okay. And if I may --

5 THE COURT: And that's where you and I differ.

6 MR. LEAVITT: And if I may, Your Honor.

7 THE COURT: Yeah.

8 MR. LEAVITT: I -- the same exact issue was present in the  
9 *Hsu* case. It really was.

10 THE COURT: Uh-huh.

11 MR. LEAVITT: Okay. Because the Court didn't say in the *Hsu*  
12 case that you only have the right --

13 THE COURT: I hope you know that I printed that.

14 MR. LEAVITT: Or --

15 THE COURT: Let me get it.

16 MR. LEAVITT: Yeah. And in the *Sisolak* case, the court didn't  
17 say you just have the right to apply. They didn't say that. What they  
18 said is that zoning gave them the right to develop --

19 THE COURT: Right.

20 MR. LEAVITT: -- hotel casino. Okay. And Judge, I want to be  
21 really clear that what we're asking for is not a specific plan. We're not  
22 asking you to say, hey, we can have a specific plan. We're just asking  
23 you to, as the courts have done in the other cases, use the zoning to  
24 determine the property rights and what property rights are permitted  
25 under that zoning.

1 THE COURT: Exactly. And that's what I keep saying. My  
2 view of what the property right is, you're right, is to seek to use your  
3 land in accordance with the applicable zoning.

4 MR. LEAVITT: In accordance --

5 THE COURT: I know that Ms. Ghanem doesn't agree with  
6 me, but that's what I believe.

7 MR. LEAVITT: Well, yeah.

8 THE COURT: And I appreciate that differs because your view  
9 is you have the right to do it.

10 MR. LEAVITT: I think we're talking -- I think we might be  
11 talking about the same thing. And here's why is because I think what  
12 you're saying is you have the right to seek approval to use the property  
13 for that zoning. Your Honor, the *Hsu* case is 123 Nev 625.

14 THE COURT: Yeah. I --

15 MR. LEAVITT: Okay.

16 THE COURT: We found it at the same time, I think.

17 MR. LEAVITT: And --

18 THE COURT: Our internet is just so fast.

19 MR. LEAVITT: I've got you. And Life is Beautiful is going on  
20 down here right now. And so it's a big mess right now.

21 THE COURT: Yeah.

22 MR. LEAVITT: If I may, Your Honor. I think I might be able  
23 to -- I know you're looking at that. So while you're looking at that I'm --

24 THE COURT: Right. So that's why I said, you know, if -- an  
25 order to come out of this -- I understand an order to come out of this.

1 And I'm just trying to tell you where I think it is.

2 MR. LEAVITT: Okay.

3 THE COURT: Only talking about the condemnation --

4 MR. LEAVITT: Yes.

5 THE COURT: -- because we've had to sever off the PJR. I

6 don't -- and that's where I see Judge Herndon 100 percent on the

7 ripeness because this predated all that. So he was -- he got hung up on

8 the ripeness, and he's stuck. It's -- it makes total sense.

9 MR. LEAVITT: Okay.

10 THE COURT: And I agree with him that he was right when he

11 did that. We now have this new case that says sever these two issues.

12 So you know, all the zoning stuff, the PJR stuff, totally separate. He

13 never looked at this other part of the case.

14 MR. LEAVITT: Right.

15 THE COURT: I get the point that the judge truly is looking at

16 the other part of the case, just as Judge Jones and Judge Williams are.

17 They got there differently because their cases are factually different.

18 Now we're here in this 133 acre case. As I've said, I always thought this

19 other stuff -- I don't know what to call it -- all the other causes of action,

20 that that was something. And I understand your point that you have to

21 define what it is.

22 MR. LEAVITT: Yeah.

23 THE COURT: So if we're -- and to go to the next step, I

24 understand we need this order. So here's my -- I have no problem with

25 the first two things that you've said.

1 MR. LEAVITT: Okay.

2 THE COURT: I just don't define that last one the exact same  
3 way you do. So maybe there's a way we can come to a common  
4 understanding of what that last one is. I think your version's a little --

5 MR. LEAVITT: Okay. Can I have a 30 second sidebar with co-  
6 counsel?

7 THE COURT: Yes, you can. And meanwhile, I'm looking at  
8 *Hsu*. Which by the way, is H-S-U. It's spelled H-S-U.

9 [Pause]

10 THE COURT: Give us a minute here, the Clerk stepped out.

11 [Pause]

12 So we'll go back on the record and see if we can come up  
13 with language for our third item.

14 MR. LEAVITT: I think we get there, Judge.

15 THE COURT: Okay.

16 MR. LEAVITT: You tell me when you're ready.

17 THE COURT: We're ready.

18 MR. LEAVITT: Okay, Your Honor. So, I mean, in the -- just  
19 really quick. In the *Sisolak* and *Hsu* cases, I'm looking at it. They said  
20 that the property was zoned for development of a hotel, a casino, or  
21 apartments. And in the *Alper* case, what they did is they just printed the  
22 zoning code in the decision itself. So maybe we could just do this, Your  
23 Honor. Is zoning is used to determine the property rights issue. The  
24 zoning is R-PD7, and just do like what they did in the *Alper* decision and  
25 say, the property may be used for residential, or the permitted uses

1 under that code provision are single family, multi-family residential. Just  
2 copy like what the Court did here in the *Alper* case. And the way we  
3 could do that is going to the -- going to the --

4 [Counsel confer]

5 MR. LEAVITT: With the -- there it is. With the R-PD7 in the  
6 back, Your Honor. So we say the R-PD7 zoning applies. The permitted  
7 land uses in the R-PD7 are single family, multi-family residential. We're  
8 just simply quoting from the zone. And then that way we don't add -- I  
9 think what's causing concern here is we want the word legally permitted.  
10 We want the words, as a matter of right.

11 THE COURT: Right.

12 MR. LEAVITT: And that's directly from the code, which is  
13 exactly what the Court did in *Alper*.

14 THE COURT: I can go there.

15 MR. LEAVITT: Okay.

16 THE COURT: Yeah. Okay. So then to be clear about what  
17 we're doing.

18 MR. LEAVITT: Okay.

19 THE COURT: I'm granting your motion, I believe, in part.

20 MR. LEAVITT: Okay.

21 THE COURT: Because I think the way it was originally  
22 framed; it would have addressed both.

23 MR. LEAVITT: Got it.

24 THE COURT: And given our recent decision that we have to  
25 sever the PJR and the condemnation case, I specific -- I believe that with



1 respect to the zoning issues that Herndon's analysis of ripeness is  
2 correct. So that would mean that I wouldn't -- I'm not going to discuss  
3 the zoning issue. However, all of the other causes of action in this, like,  
4 multi-part complaint, I understand how they stated cause of action, even  
5 in our really limited Nevada motion to dismiss, which is why I don't think  
6 it's appropriate. I think there's something there.

7           So if we're going to define it, my belief is with your first two  
8 items, which are -- you had land zoned R-PD7. I would add something to  
9 that, which would be previously used as a golf course, and when he  
10 acquired it, and that that zoning use includes residential homes.  
11 Because the rest of what I'm concerned about is the -- all the stuff that  
12 happened at the meeting. How it appeared like there was some sort of --  
13 I don't know, you didn't use the word conspiracy, but it kind of almost  
14 seemed like that's where it was headed.

15           MR. LEAVITT: I'll probably use it later.

16           THE COURT: Okay. You'll use it later. Yeah, the actions  
17 taken at the zoning meetings, which you view as interfering in that right,  
18 to me didn't actually deny the zoning, because we never got there, but  
19 there were actions taken in that process that you believe interfered with  
20 your client's right to use that property. So that, I believe, you can pursue  
21 through inverse condemnation. Not because you were denied zoning,  
22 but because of in this process other things happened, so you had  
23 [indiscernible]. Did it amount to a taking?

24           MR. LEAVITT: And so what will --

25           THE COURT: That's part two.

1 MR. LEAVITT: And I just want to refine it. So what we'll do is  
2 zoning is used to determine property rights issue. The zoning is our --

3 MR. OGILVIE: No, Your Honor.

4 MR. LEAVITT: Your Honor, can I speak without being  
5 insulted. We've gone --

6 THE COURT: Yeah. Yeah. You can -- I'll allow you to object  
7 later, but --

8 MR. LEAVITT: We've gone through this, Your Honor.

9 THE COURT: Yeah, just say what you want to say.

10 MR. LEAVITT: So zoning is used -- zoning is used in eminent  
11 domain cases and inverse condemnation cases to determine the  
12 property rights issue, which is consistent with the six cases. The zoning  
13 on the property is R-PD7. And the -- we could just quote that the  
14 property was previously used as golf course when acquired, and that the  
15 permitted uses -- we'll just use the exact one we got out of the code, the  
16 permitted land use is our single family, multi-family residential.

17 THE COURT: Now the challenge that we have here is this  
18 idea that zoning defines the property rights.

19 MR. LEAVITT: Uh-huh.

20 THE COURT: The problem that I have with that is zoning  
21 defines what you can apply to use your property as, not your absolute  
22 right. Within that zoning, you could apply to use your property with  
23 something that complies with that zoning.

24 MR. LEAVITT: Well, you --

25 THE COURT: And so the way I think you're putting it, it just --

1 it makes it seem that, you know, you've got -- and you've said, you never  
2 said we've got the right to seven houses per acre. I appreciate your  
3 clarifying that.

4 MR. LEAVITT: Yeah.

5 THE COURT: So that's my problem, is when you say -- the  
6 way that sounds to me is that because zoning defines the property  
7 rights, we have this absolute right to build seven per acre and the  
8 absolute right to do it.

9 MR. LEAVITT: Yeah. And --

10 THE COURT: And that's why I'm saying it doesn't. What  
11 zoning does is it defines what you can apply to do with your land.

12 MR. LEAVITT: And, Your Honor, I think --

13 THE COURT: And that's --

14 MR. LEAVITT: -- so now we're back to where we were  
15 before. And I thought --

16 THE COURT: Yeah. And that's always what I've said.

17 MR. LEAVITT: -- and I thought we got beyond that. But  
18 here's all I want.

19 THE COURT: I've never given up on that.

20 MR. LEAVITT: I know. I've got to tell you -- here's all I want,  
21 Your Honor.

22 THE COURT: Okay.

23 MR. LEAVITT: Okay. Is that under the six Nevada Supreme  
24 Court cases that are inverse condemnation cases -- and we can just say it  
25 this way. In those six cases, the Nevada Supreme Court used zoning to

1 determine the property rights. They did. That's undisputed.

2 THE COURT: Okay.

3 MR. LEAVITT: You can read the cases, and you can see that  
4 the Nevada Supreme Court used the zoning. In not one of those cases  
5 did the Court use the master plan. It used zoning to determine property  
6 rights. Otherwise, there would be no reason to --

7 THE COURT: Well, that's true.

8 MR. LEAVITT: That's true. Otherwise, there would be no  
9 reason to quote the R-PD7 zoning in this case.

10 THE COURT: Right. Okay.

11 MR. LEAVITT: So then the next step would be that the  
12 zoning in this case is R-PD7. And then all we do is we then say -- we can  
13 just use the language from 19.10.050 on what that zoning is.

14 THE COURT: Okay. So, again, let's be very, very clear about  
15 this. And I know this is the sticking point between the two of us. I just --  
16 I'm very uncomfortable with this idea that zoning defines the property  
17 interest. Your property interest is to use your property in the way that  
18 conforms to the zoning.

19 MR. LEAVITT: Agreed.

20 THE COURT: You have the right to apply to use your  
21 property in the way that it's complied with the zoning. I know that that's  
22 the distinction between the two of us that you don't agree with. And so  
23 that's my -- that's our hang up. And that is a hang up, because I cannot  
24 agree that it's an absolute. Which you may not be intending it to be this,  
25 but it seems to me that you're making it an absolute right, and I just

1 [indiscernible].  
2 MR. LEAVITT: And I'm not, Your Honor.  
3 THE COURT: Okay.  
4 MR. LEAVITT: But here's what -- and I think maybe it's the  
5 use of the verbage.  
6 THE COURT: Okay. All right.  
7 MR. LEAVITT: Okay. What the Court saying is you have the  
8 right to -- they don't say you only have the right to apply, otherwise,  
9 again, there's no [indiscernible]. What they say is you have the right to  
10 use the property consistent with the zoning.  
11 THE COURT: Correct. Okay. Right.  
12 MR. LEAVITT: Okay. So maybe if we just change the word  
13 apply to use, and then that would, I think, result --  
14 THE COURT: A landowner's use of their property is defined  
15 by the zoning.  
16 MR. LEAVITT: Yeah, I know.  
17 THE COURT: Yeah. I have no problem with that.  
18 [Counsel confer]  
19 MR. SCHWARTZ: Your Honor, am I going to get a chance to  
20 respond to this?  
21 THE COURT: In a minute, yeah.  
22 MR. LEAVITT: Your Honor, this is my motion.  
23 THE COURT: Yeah, in conclusion you can. Yeah. You can.  
24 MR. LEAVITT: If you've got an opposition, I got a reply.  
25 THE COURT: I'll let you have something to say in the end

1 because when it comes to drafting an order, I'm sure he'll have issues  
2 with how the order is drafted.

3 MR. LEAVITT: Yeah. And, Judge, maybe we can just --  
4 because I get the concern. Maybe we can just use the exact language  
5 right --

6 THE COURT: Are we looking for our three-part thing?

7 MR. LEAVITT: -- right out of the *Sisolak* case.

8 THE COURT: Oh, *Sisolak*.

9 MR. LEAVITT: Yeah.

10 [Counsel confer]

11 MR. LEAVITT: And maybe there's another way to say it,  
12 Judge. And, actually, maybe this is the best way to do it, which is from  
13 the *Hsu* and *Sisolak* cases, and from the *Bustos* case, is that zoning is  
14 used. The R-PD7 is zoning, and you can use the property consistent with  
15 the zoning. I think that gets us there. You can use the property  
16 consistent with the zoning. Instead -- and I see the concerns. You don't  
17 want us to put in there legal, legal, legal this, and is right, is right, but  
18 you can use the property consistent with the zoning. There should not  
19 be a consternation about that.

20 THE COURT: Okay. All right. Great. Thank you. And if you  
21 have something brief to say in conclusion, Mr. Schwartz. Briefly.

22 MR. SCHWARTZ: Yes.

23 THE COURT: Briefly in conclusion. Because we're to the  
24 point where now we are discussing what counsel is going to put in the  
25 order. I'm granting it in part. I'm only granting it in part as to the portion

1 of the complaint that deals with their --

2 MR. LEAVITT: Property.

3 THE COURT: -- inverse condemnation claim, other than the  
4 zoning issue, which I believe has to be severed out and solely separate,  
5 and I think is not ripe. So we're only looking at those other issues in the  
6 complaint alleged. Okay. Great.

7 MR. LEAVITT: And, Your Honor, since we got to that issue  
8 of, hey, we use zoning here, and we're going to use the R-PD7, I'm not  
9 addressing any other arguments to rebut this whole master plan,  
10 because we're already at zoning, according to the six Nevada Supreme  
11 Court cases.

12 But what I'll say is that in the *Bustos* case, the Nevada  
13 Supreme Court made it really clear that it would be reversible error to  
14 not use the zone.

15 THE COURT: Okay.

16 MR. LEAVITT: And so if we say the zoning applies, it's R-  
17 PD7, and the property would -- the property right was to use the property  
18 consistent with the zoning, I think we could go that route; is that correct?  
19 I think that would be --

20 THE COURT: So this may not be the part that Ms. Ghanem is  
21 thinking of from *Sisolak*, but an individual must have a property interest  
22 in order to support a takings claim. Accordingly, the Court must first  
23 determine whether the plaintiff possesses a valid interest in the property  
24 affected by the governmental action, that is, whether the plaintiff  
25 possessed a, quote, "stick in the bundle of property rights," before

1 proceeding to determine whether the governmental action at issue  
2 constituted a taking. The term, quote, "property," includes all rights  
3 inherent in ownership, including the right to possess, use, and enjoy the  
4 property.

5 That's your right.

6 MR. LEAVITT: Yes.

7 THE COURT: The county argues that the district court erred  
8 in finding he had a vested property interest in the airspace. And so  
9 they're beginning this whole discussion about how airspace is a  
10 recognized right.

11 So I'm looking to see if there's another place here where  
12 you're looking to see how they define it.

13 MR. LEAVITT: Yes. There is, Your Honor. Hold on, Your  
14 Honor. I got it, Your Honor.

15 THE COURT: And acquiring, possessing --

16 MR. LEAVITT: I got it right here.

17 THE COURT: -- and protecting the property are inalienable  
18 rights. The Nevadan's property rights are protected by our Constitution.  
19 These property rights include at least usable airspace of the adjacent  
20 land.

21 MR. LEAVITT: And then it goes on, Your Honor, to talk about  
22 -- and, right. The County -- and this was the real rub of that case. It's on  
23 footnote -- or it's at headnote 3. The county argues that the District Court  
24 erred in finding that Sisolak had a vested property interest in the  
25 airspace above his property. That vested property right was based upon



1 his zoning, which allowed him to build up to there. And so that's what  
2 the county's big rub was in that case and that's what the City's rub is  
3 here.

4 And the Nevada Supreme Court goes on to define that  
5 property right and uses the word vested two or three more times in that  
6 section. And if we go to where it says 1120, it talks about the inalienable  
7 right and those rights including, at least the usable airspace, and then  
8 got on to say that that airspace is vested in the lone owner, and that he  
9 has the right to own that usable airspace -- or he owns that usable  
10 airspace and may use it.

11 Now, obviously, it would have to be consistent with the  
12 zoning, and that's what the Court said previously under the section  
13 under property, under the facts section.

14 [Counsel confer]

15 MR. LEAVITT: And, Your Honor, I think footnote 26 also  
16 addresses the very issue that we're talking about. Footnote 26. And that  
17 was the county's argument at footnote -- because the county said, listen,  
18 you didn't apply yet, so you don't have a property right. And this is what  
19 the Court said.

20 THE COURT: Well, so I think that what we can say is that the  
21 motion is granted in part. The Court determines that what the  
22 landowner acquired was property zoned R-PD7, which had been  
23 previously used as a golf course.

24 MR. LEAVITT: And there would just be one thing, which is,  
25 and he can use the property consistent with the R-PD7 zone.

1 THE COURT: Well, which -- an R-PD7 zoning permits, blah,  
2 blah, blah.

3 MR. LEAVITT: Yeah. Yes.

4 THE COURT: Yeah.

5 MR. LEAVITT: And, Judge, that's what --

6 THE COURT: And, again, I'm not saying he can use it for  
7 that. I'm saying he has the right to seek approval to do blah, blah, blah.

8 MR. LEAVITT: Well, Your Honor, this is what --

9 THE COURT: So this is my challenges --

10 MR. LEAVITT: Yeah, and I --

11 THE COURT: -- this can't go as far as you want me to go.

12 MR. LEAVITT: And I see that where you want to add that you  
13 only have the right to apply, but that's not, because here's what the  
14 Court said in *Sisolak*.

15 THE COURT: Okay. Uh-huh.

16 MR. LEAVITT: They said, the property is zoned for  
17 development of a hotel, casino, or apartments.

18 THE COURT: Right.

19 MR. LEAVITT: We can just use that exact language out of  
20 *Sisolak*. We use that exact language. We can just say the property is  
21 zoned R-PD7 and that R-PD7 is zoned for development of residential  
22 units. That's all -- we can use the same --

23 THE COURT: Okay.

24 MR. LEAVITT: -- exact language that they have here.

25 THE COURT: All right. Thank you.

1 MR. LEAVITT: And --  
2 THE COURT: Oh, I'm sorry.  
3 MR. LEAVITT: No. And so, of course, obviously, the  
4 language you put in there is what's in the code, which is it's zoned for --  
5 or to be able to use the property consistent with that zoning, which is  
6 single family, multi-family residential, Your Honor. And then we can take  
7 out that legally permissible uses. We don't even have to add the second  
8 section, because we can read the code itself, which says what you can  
9 use it for. So you can say zoned for development of residential units.  
10 Exactly as *Sisolak* says, Your Honor.  
11 THE COURT: Okay. Thanks.  
12 MR. LEAVITT: All right. Thank you, Your Honor.  
13 THE COURT: In conclusion from the City. Just very briefly,  
14 and then I'll tell Mr. Leavitt what I think his order [indiscernible]. And I  
15 do mean brief.  
16 MR. SCHWARTZ: I'm sorry, Your Honor.  
17 THE COURT: And I do mean brief.  
18 MR. SCHWARTZ: Yes. The Court is absolutely right. Zoning  
19 does not confer rights period. There's no authority that zoning confers  
20 any rights. And the Court is absolutely right. The zoning allows you to  
21 apply for a use that's permitted by the zoning. In other words, you can't  
22 apply for an industrial use in a zone that only permits residential. That's  
23 it. That's this case. It doesn't give you a constitutional right to build  
24 anything, whether it's consistent with the zoning or not.  
25 THE COURT: And that's why I said we're not going to talk

1 about the zoning. My problem is with did you interfere with did you  
2 interfere with his ability to use his property? Did not letting him put up a  
3 fence, was that a problem? I don't know.

4 MR. SCHWARTZ: That's --

5 THE COURT: That's what needs to be explored.

6 MR. SCHWARTZ: That's what a taking case is.

7 THE COURT: Right. And that's --

8 MR. SCHWARTZ: This is a taking case and the test for a  
9 taking is wipeout or near wipeout --

10 THE COURT: Right. And that's what we have to --

11 MR. SCHWARTZ: -- interference --

12 THE COURT: And that's what you have to see --

13 MR. SCHWARTZ: -- or --

14 THE COURT: -- if that's here.

15 MR. SCHWARTZ: Right. Or --

16 THE COURT: That's why [indiscernible].

17 MR. SCHWARTZ: -- or a physical taking. *Sisolak* is a physical  
18 taking case.

19 THE COURT: Right. Yeah.

20 MR. SCHWARTZ: And this motion only concerns right to use  
21 the property. You know, for them to apply and approve. *Sisolak* has  
22 nothing to do with this case. *Hsu* has nothing to do with this case. We  
23 would be fine with an order that says I don't -- that says, the property --  
24 the 133 acre property has been zoned R-PD7 since 1991 or whenever it is.  
25 The R-PD7 zoning ordinance, UDC 19.10.0 --

1 THE COURT: I have it here.

2 MR. SCHWARTZ: -- speaks for itself, and that the property  
3 was used for a golf course at the time the developer bough it.

4 THE COURT: Well, again, that's probably --

5 MR. SCHWARTZ: And then the developer has the right to  
6 apply to use the property for a use permitted by the R-PD7 zoning  
7 ordinance.

8 THE COURT: Yeah. Again, way more than I was willing to  
9 do. So, again, the 133 acres is part of the larger parcel, whatever. It was  
10 previously used as a golf course and zoned R-PD7 or zoned R-PD7, uses  
11 the golf course when he acquired it. Whichever way makes more sense,  
12 like, grammatically. And that the zoning rights are what they are.  
13 Because, as I said, I don't think this is a zoning case. This about all that  
14 other stuff --

15 MR. SCHWARTZ: Okay.

16 THE COURT: -- that interferes with his quiet --

17 MR. SCHWARTZ: That's fine.

18 THE COURT: -- like *Sisolak* talks about, his quiet and  
19 peaceful use and enjoyment of his land.

20 MR. SCHWARTZ: I think what the Court's saying is that the  
21 property owner has a right to apply to use the property for a use that's  
22 permitted by the R-PD7 zoning ordinance. I think that's what the Court is  
23 saying. I think we can cut through this if we submit opposing orders,  
24 and I think the Court could then see --

25 THE COURT: You know, we don't really do that anymore

1 because we don't -- the methodology that we use now to process orders  
2 is very different, where we get digital orders, and we sign them. It's very  
3 difficult to do competing orders. I would certainly allow you an  
4 opportunity to review the order that Mr. Leavitt writes and to submit in  
5 correspondence, but you can't take a second order, because these orders  
6 -- when there's multiple orders on the same thing in our queue, it gets  
7 very messy, because we can't process them. They're just digital, and  
8 they're in there, and things get signed that shouldn't get signed, so it's a  
9 mess. So I don't -- I wouldn't take a competing order.

10 I will tell you, you can certainly submit something  
11 commenting on his order. I've got no problem with that.

12 MR. SCHWARTZ: Your Honor, Mr. Leavitt is going to submit  
13 an order that says that the --

14 THE COURT: And I've already told him I'm not going to --

15 MR. SCHWARTZ: -- developer --

16 THE COURT: I've already told him I'm not going to sign an  
17 order that looks like the one Judge Jones' signed.

18 MR. SCHWARTZ: Okay.

19 THE COURT: I won't do it.

20 MR. SCHWARTZ: He's going to submit an order that says the  
21 developer has a right to use the property for a use permitted by the R-  
22 PD7 zoning ordinance. That's -- that is -- they don't right. Zoning doesn't  
23 confer rights. That's the whole thing.

24 THE COURT: Okay.

25 MR. SCHWARTZ: All those cases they're relying on --

1 THE COURT: As I said many, many, many, many times, I will  
2 sign an order that says that in this particular -- the portion of this case  
3 that deals with the inverse condemnation that Mr. Lowie -- well, the  
4 Plaintiff acquired a parcel of land -- part of the larger parcel of land,  
5 consisting of this 133 acres at issue here, zoned at all times R-PD7, which  
6 had been used, for however many years, as a golf course.

7 MR. SCHWARTZ: Okay.

8 THE COURT: R-PD7 zoning is whatever it is period, end of  
9 story.

10 MR. SCHWARTZ: Very good. Thank you, Your Honor.

11 THE COURT: He has rights on that land, absolutely. And  
12 whatever that is, it is what it is. I'm just -- I'm not going to say what I  
13 think either of you wants me to say. They want to make it more narrow;  
14 you want it much more broad, and I think I've told you where I diverge  
15 from both of you is that you get something when you acquire land by  
16 virtue of the zoning, but you don't get the absolute right to the zoning.

17 MR. SCHWARTZ: Understood.

18 THE COURT: You get the right to seek approval of how you  
19 want to use your land. Because in this case, it's not about the zoning, it's  
20 about all the other stuff that was going on. That's what I think this part  
21 of this condemnation case is about.

22 MR. LEAVITT: I think I know my marching orders, Your  
23 Honor.

24 THE COURT: Thank you, Mr. Leavitt. I appreciate it. And, as  
25 I said, send them an order so they can write a letter. Like I said, I don't

1 want a competing order. That's messy. But I would -- if you want to  
2 submit an order saying why you think it's wrong, you can submit an  
3 order saying why you think it's -- a letter saying why you think it's  
4 wrong. I just can't take competing orders. There's just -- we don't have  
5 any way to process them. It's a mess. We usually just throw them away.  
6 It's hard to do.

7 MR. OGILVIE: Thanks. I'll remember that the next time I  
8 spent an hour on a competing order.

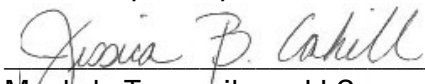
9 THE COURT: Yeah. It's gotten to be a real mess with this  
10 virtual system. So it's granted in part. I believe, Mr. Leavitt is going to  
11 prepare the order. Thank you very much.

12 MR. LEAVITT: Your Honor, thank you for all your time.

13 THE COURT: Thank you. It's been interesting and  
14 educational. A walk down memory lane.

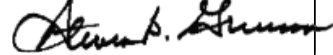
15 [Proceedings concluded at 3:54 p.m.]  
16  
17  
18  
19

20 ATTEST: I do hereby certify that I have truly and correctly transcribed the  
21 audio-visual recording of the proceeding in the above entitled case to the  
22 best of my ability.

23   
24 Maukele Transcribers, LLC  
25 Jessica B. Cahill, Transcriber, CER/CET-708



# **EXHIBIT “AAAAA”**



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**DISTRICT COURT**

**CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA**

180 LAND COMPANY, LLC, a Nevada  
limited liability company, FORE STARS, Ltd.,  
SEVENTY ACRES, LLC, a Nevada Limited  
Liability Company,, DOE INDIVIDUALS I  
through X, DOE CORPORATIONS I through  
X, and DOE LIMITED LIABILITY  
COMPANIES I through X,

Petitioners,

vs.

CITY OF LAS VEGAS, political subdivision  
of the State of Nevada, ROE government  
entities I through X, ROE CORPORATIONS I  
through X, ROE INDIVIDUALS I through X,  
ROE LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANIES I  
through X, ROE quasi-governmental entities I  
through X,

Respondent.

Case No.: A-18-775804-J

Dept No.: XXVI

**PLAINTIFF LANDOWNERS'  
OPPOSITION TO CITY OF LAS VEGAS'  
MOTION TO REMAND 133-ACRE  
APPLICATIONS TO THE LAS VEGAS  
CITY COUNCIL**

**Hearing Date: September 10, 2021**

**Hearing Time: 9:00 a.m.**

Plaintiffs 180 Land Co LLC, Fore Stars, LTD., and Seventy Acres, LLC (collectively  
“Landowners”) hereby oppose Defendant City of Las Vegas’ (“City”) Motion to Remand 133-  
Acre Applications to the Las Vegas City Council (the “City’s Motion”). This Opposition is made

1 and based on the following Memorandum of Points and Authorities, the papers and pleadings on  
2 file herein, the Appendix of Exhibits In Support of Plaintiff Landowners' Motion to Determine  
3 Property Interest filed on July 21, 2021 and supplements thereto, and any oral argument the Court  
4 may entertain on the matter.

5 **A. THE CITY'S REQUEST FOR REMAND IS IMPROPER**

6 **1. There is Nothing for the City to Remand as the Landowners' PJR was**  
7 **Dismissed.**

8 Procedurally, the City is unable to remand the Landowners' Petition for Judicial Review  
9 (PJR) as it was *dismissed* and only the Plaintiff can revive a dismissed claim. The City asked for,  
10 and received, a dismissal of the Landowners' Petition for Judicial Review ("PJR"). In an Order  
11 signed by this Court on October 2, 2019 (but not provided to the Landowners until July of 2021)  
12 this Court held that:

13 "1. The City's Motion to Dismiss is **GRANTED IN PART** as to the Petition for  
14 Judicial Review on the grounds of issue preclusion. 2. The Petition for Judicial  
Review is **DENIED** without prejudice should Judge Crocket's Order be overturned  
on appeal." Order filed July 30, 2021.<sup>1</sup>

15 Once a cause of action is dismissed, even without prejudice (the denial was without prejudice, not  
16 the dismissal), the claim is dead, unless Plaintiff files a new cause of action or the matter is  
17 overturned on appeal. Dismissed without prejudice means "removed from the court's docket in  
18 such a way that the plaintiff may refile the same suit on the same claim." Black's Law Dictionary  
19 482 (Bryan A. Garner ed., 8<sup>th</sup> ed., West 1999). There is simply no procedural tool for *the City* to  
20 revive the Landowners' PJR, which is what the City would have to do in order to have the  
21

22  
23 <sup>1</sup> This order drafted and improperly held for nearly two years by the City includes "findings" on  
24 items that were never before the Court. The record from City has not even been transmitted for  
this Court's consideration. This is the third time the City has placed false "findings" in Court  
orders causing Judge Williams to issue an order *nunc pro tunc* and striking other portions of orders.

Landowners' PJR remanded to the City Council for the City to consider reversing its past actions to deny all use of the Landowners' Property.

**2. The City's Remand Argument is Based on an Incorrect "Ripeness" Standard.**

Additionally, the City's entire remand argument is based on an incorrect legal analysis of the exhaustion of administrative remedies / "ripeness" doctrine. The City argues that "a taking claim is unripe unless the owner has filed at least two applications for development of the specific property at issue and the agency has denied both on the merits" and "[b]ecause the City Council has not acted on the merits of the 133 Acre-Applications, the City cannot as a matter of law have taken [the Landowners'] property." City Mot. 4:9-12. First, the Nevada Supreme Court has never required "at least two applications for development" to ripen any inverse condemnation claim as asserted by the City. It is an entirely made-up rule. Second, Nevada's ripeness doctrine only applies to one of the Landowners' four inverse condemnation claims. The City's exhaustion of administrative remedies ripeness standard comes from the 1978 Penn Central Transportation Co. v. New York City, 438 U.S. 104 (1978), that applies to only a Penn Central regulatory type inverse condemnation claim. The Landowners have filed three other claims – a per se categorical taking, per se regulatory taking, and non-regulatory / de facto taking and a ripeness standard does not apply to these three claims.

In regard to the two "per se" claims, the Nevada Supreme Court held in Sisolak, that "per se" taking claims - "per se regulatory" and "per se categorical" claims - are entirely exempt from an exhaustion of remedies / ripeness analysis. Sisolak, supra ("Sisolak was not required to exhaust administrative remedies by applying for a variance before bringing his inverse condemnation action based on a regulatory **per se** taking of his private property." Id., at 664). Justice Maupin made the Court's holding clear in his dissent in Sisolak – that all "per se" inverse condemnation claims were exempt from a "ripeness" analysis - "While I disagree with the majority that a

1 regulatory per se taking has occurred in this instance, **I do agree that *Loretto* [per se regulatory]**  
2 **and *Lucas* [per se categorical] takings, like per se physical takings, do not require exhaustion**  
3 **of administrative remedies.”** Sisolak at 684, emphasis added. And, the Court reaffirmed this rule  
4 again in Hsu v. County of Clark, 123 Nev. 625, 173 P.3d 724, 732 (2007), holding “[d]ue to the  
5 “per se” nature of this taking, we further conclude that the landowners were not required to apply  
6 for a variance or otherwise exhaust their administrative remedies prior to bringing suit.” The  
7 reason for this rule is that *Per se* means “of, in, or by itself; standing alone, without reference to  
8 additional facts.” Black’s Law Dictionary 1162 (Bryan A. Garner ed., 7<sup>th</sup> ed., West 1999).  
9 Accordingly, in a “per se” taking, the government actions, in and of themselves, amount to a taking  
10 requiring the payment of just compensation and there is no defense to this taking. ***There is no***  
11 ***prerequisite, such as filing an application to ripen the claim.***

12 The ripeness doctrine also does not apply to the Landowners’ nonregulatory/de facto taking  
13 claim. As set forth above, the standard for a nonregulatory/de facto taking is whether the City’s  
14 actions “substantially impaired” or substantially interfered with the use and enjoyment of the  
15 Landowners’ 133 Acre Property and, if so, there is a taking. The Nevada Supreme Court made it  
16 clear in the State v. Eighth Judicial District Court, 131 Nev. 411 (2015) and Sloat v. Turner, 93  
17 Nev. 263 (1977) cases that the ripeness doctrine does not apply to this claim as ripeness is not  
18 listed in either case as an element to the claim.

19 Finally, even if the City’s “two applications” analysis was the rule, as explained above (and  
20 in more detail below), the Landowners filed, and the City already denied, **four applications** to use  
21 the 133 Acre Property – as explained below.

22 **3. The City’s Remand Argument Relies Heavily on the Herndon Order that is**  
23 **Self-Limiting and has Been Set Aside.**

24 The City heavily cites an order signed by Judge Herndon in the 65 Acre Case when he was  
sitting in Department 3. City Mot. at 8-9. This order is of no effect as **it was set aside** and a new

trial was granted by Judge Trujillo, who conducted a three-day evidentiary hearing and will issue a new order next month in the 65 Acre Case. Furthermore, Judge Herndon specifically limited his set aside order and held it should not be used in the three other cases:

“there are three companion cases still pending with similar issues and any ruling by this court on the remaining issues could be construed as having preclusive effect in the other pending court actions, must like the then controlling Crockett Order was previously perceived to have had in both the 35 -Acre Property case and the 133-Acre Property case.” (*LO Appx., Ex. 32 Herndon Order, 35:5-14.*)<sup>2</sup>.

Therefore, pages 8-9 of the City’s motion should be disregarded as they cite to this self-limiting, set-aside order.

#### **4. The Landowners Do Not Oppose Approval.**

To be clear, the Landowners do not oppose approval of development on their residentially zoned property as they have made valiant efforts to develop – only to be denied by the City. As explained in detail below, after the Landowners acquired the 250 Acre Property (that includes the 133 Acre Property), the City took the unusual step to dictate to the Landowners the only way it would allow development and then denied this only way to development. The City dictated that it would only accept a Master Development Agreement (MDA) application to develop the entire 250 Acre Property as one unit; the City itself drafted the MDA and dictated how each part of the 250 Acre Property would be developed, including the 133 Acre Property, and it took the City 2.5 years to complete the MDA (with the Landowners input). The City MDA was presented to the City Council for approval and the City Council denied the MDA in its entirety.

Also explained below, after the denial of the MDA, the Landowners then submitted applications to develop the 133 Acre Property as a stand-alone parcel (apart from the rest of the 250 acres), the City forced the Landowners to submit a GPA application at that time, and when

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<sup>2</sup> All “*LO Appx. Ex.*” referenced herein are from the Appendix of Exhibits in Support of Plaintiff Landowners’ Motion to Determine Property Interest filed on July 21, 2021 and supplements to.

1 the Landowners submitted the applications, including the GPA application to the City Council, the  
2 City Council said the GPA application (which the City forced the Landowners to submit) was  
3 improper and used that as a reason to strike the 133 acre applications altogether. Also explained  
4 below, the City then denied another application to access the 133 Acre Property and another  
5 application to fence the 133 Acre Property. Also explained below, the City thereafter, then adopted  
6 two City Bills that: 1) targeted only the Landowners' 250 Acre Property; 2) made it impossible to  
7 develop the property; and 3) forced the Landowners to allow the adjoining property owners  
8 "ongoing public access" to their property. Therefore, the City already denied four applications  
9 to use the 133 Acre Property and adopted two City Bills to preclude development so the "adjoining  
10 property" owners could use the property. Despite this treatment by the City for the past 5 years,  
11 the Landowners want to develop the 133 Acre Property.

12 **B. ANY ARGUMENT TO DELAY THESE PROCEEDINGS PENDING A REMAND**  
13 **OR TO CONSIDER A DISMISSAL FOLLOWING REMAND WOULD BE**  
14 **IMPROPER**

14 Any argument by the City to use the requested remand as a reason to delay moving forward  
15 with the inverse condemnation claims is without merit.

16 **1. Delay or Dismissal is Improper as the Taking Already Occurred and Neither**  
17 **Remand Nor any Other City Actions Can Erase that Taking.**

18 The United States Supreme recently held in three cases that dismissal of an inverse  
19 condemnation action based on subsequent government actions (such as a "remand") is improper.  
20 In Arkansas Game & Fish Comm'n v. United States, 568 U.S. 23, 33 (2012), the United States  
21 Supreme Court held that once government actions have worked a taking of property, "no  
22 subsequent action by the government can relieve it of the duty to provide compensation for the  
23 period during which the taking was effective." In Knick v. Township of Scott, Pennsylvania, 139  
24 S.Ct. 2162, 2170, 2172 (2019), the Court held that, "a property owner acquires an irrevocable right  
to just compensation immediately upon a taking" and then reasoned, "A bank robber might give

1 the loot back, but he still robbed the bank.” In Cedar Point Nursery v. Hassid, 141 S. Ct. 2063,  
2 2074-2075 (2021), the Court held “[t]he duration of an appropriation – just like the size of an  
3 appropriation [internal citation omitted] bears only on the amount of compensation. [internal  
4 citation omitted]. For example, after finding a taking by physical invasion, the Court in *Causby*  
5 remanded the case to the lower court to determine ‘whether the easement taken was temporary or  
6 permanent,’ in order to fix the compensation due...*Nollan* clarified that appropriation of a right to  
7 physically invade property may constitute a taking ‘even though no particular individual is  
8 permitted to station himself permanently upon the premises.’”

9 Therefore, even if this Court grants the City’s request to remand and the City Council NOW  
10 approves development, this has no impact on whether a taking has already occurred. A remand  
11 and approval could only impact the amount of damages the City must pay. Therefore, delay or  
12 dismissal is never proper under these circumstances and, accordingly, the Landowners’ inverse  
13 condemnation claims should proceed forward despite any decision on the City’s remand motion.

14 **2. Delay or Dismissal is Improper as This Court Already Denied Dismissal.**

15 Moreover, on August 27, 2018, the City filed a motion to dismiss the Landowners’ inverse  
16 condemnation claims, arguing that the Landowners’ taking allegations (more fully set forth below)  
17 could not amount to a taking. *LO Appx. Ex. 19*. On February 15, 2019, this Court issued a minute  
18 order denying the City’s motion to dismiss the inverse condemnation claims. *LO Appx. Ex. 20*.  
19 Therefore, the Landowners should be permitted to proceed with their claims that a taking already  
20 occurred, even if there is a remand.

21 **C. THE TAKING FACTS SHOW THAT THIS COURT CORRECTLY DENIED**  
22 **DISMISSAL AND THAT A TAKING ALREADY OCCURRED AND ANY DELAY**  
**/ DISMISSAL ARGUMENT IS MISPLACED**

23 This Court has ordered that “the Court will not entertain arguments at the September 10,  
24 2021, hearing on whether the Landowners’ property interest has been taken by inverse



1 condemnation,” but will first decide the Landowners’ Motion to Determine Property Interest.  
2 *Status Check Order, filed August 18, 2021, p. 3:15-22.* The following facts, however, are provided  
3 for the Court to show that the Landowners have alleged facts sufficient to show a taking already  
4 occurred, making the right to payment of just compensation “irrevocable” and any subsequent  
5 actions by the City cannot erase this taking. Knick, *supra* (“a property owner acquires an  
6 irrevocable right to just compensation immediately upon a taking.” *Id.*, at 2172).

7 **1. All City Actions in the Aggregate Must Be Considered**

8 The City’s argument in its pleadings that this Court’s review of the City’s taking actions is  
9 limited to a review of only “official actions” of the City Council has been rejected by the Courts.

10 Judge Williams did an analysis of this very issue and concluded, in denying the City’s  
11 motion to dismiss the 35 Acre Case, that an inverse condemnation case “is of constitutional  
12 magnitude and requires **all government actions** against the property at issue be considered.” *LO*  
13 *Appx., Ex. 8, pp. 000172-173, specifically 000173:1-2.* The law supports Judge Williams decision  
14 as the Courts hold, “the form, intensity, and the deliberateness of the **government actions** toward  
15 the property must be examined ... **All actions by the [government], in the aggregate,** must be  
16 analyzed.” Merkur v. City of Detroit, 680 N.W.2d 485, 496 (Mich.Ct.App. 2004). Emphasis  
17 added. *See also State v. Eighth Jud. Dist. Ct.*, 351 P.3d 736 (Nev. 2015) (*citing Arkansas Game*  
18 *& Fish Comm’s v. United States*, 568 U.S. --- (2012)) (there is no “magic formula” in every case  
19 for determining whether particular government interference constitutes a taking under the U.S.  
20 Constitution; there are “nearly infinite variety of ways in which **government actions** or regulations  
21 can effect property interests.” *Id.*, at 741); Lehigh-Northampton Airport Auth. v. WBF Assoc.,  
22 L.P., 728 A.2d 981 (Comm. Ct. Penn. 1999) (“There is no bright line test to determine when  
23 **government action** shall be deemed a de facto taking; instead, each case must be examined and  
24

1 decided on its own facts.” *Id.*, at 985-86). Emphasis added. *See also Cedar Point Nursery*, *supra*  
2 (government action “by whatever means” can result in a taking. *Id.*, at 2072).

3 Even valid “government actions” can amount to a taking as the Takings Clause “is designed  
4 not to limit governmental interference with property rights *per se*, but rather to secure  
5 compensation in the event of otherwise proper interference amounting to a taking.”<sup>3</sup> Accordingly,  
6 all of the City’s actions in the aggregate, “by whatever means,” must be considered when deciding  
7 whether the City’s actions have amounted to a taking of the Landowners’ Property.

8 **2. The Relevant City Actions Began When the City Agreed to Take the**  
9 **Landowners’ Property for the Surrounding Neighbors.**

10 The Landowners’ own a total of 250 acres of residentially zoned land (“250 Acre  
11 Residential Zoned Land” and/or “250 Acres” and/or “Land”) - the 133 Acres Property, the 65 Acre  
12 Property, the 17 Acre Property and the 35 Acre Property.

13 Immediately after acquiring the 250 Acres, the Landowners moved to develop, but a small  
14 group of surrounding neighbors in the Queensridge Community opposed the development, even  
15 though all of the disclosure documents to the Queensridge Community provided actual notice that  
16 the 250 Acre Property was developable. On or about December 29, 2015, one of the neighbors  
17 met with the Landowners, bragged that his Queensridge Community is “politically connected,”  
18 that they could stop all development, and that they wanted 180 acres of the 250 Acre Residential  
19 Zoned Land, including water rights, handed over for free. *LO Appx. Ex. 94, Decl. DeHart, at*  
20 *002836 ¶2*. The Landowners refused and reported this extortion attempt to the F.B.I. *Id.* The  
21 surrounding neighbors vowed to continue to file lawsuits until they got their way. *LO Appx. Ex.*  
22 *149 LVRJ* article (“This is the first lawsuit to bring an end to that process, I don’t know whether it  
23 will be the last one.”). In an email to a Queensridge homeowner that supported development, one

24 <sup>3</sup> First English Evangelical Lutheran Church v. County of Los Angeles, 482 U.S. 304, 315 (1987).

1 of the neighbors boasted [w]e have done a pretty good job of prolonging the developer's agony  
2 from Sept 2015 to now." *LO Appx Ex. 143, email regarding prolonging developer's agony.*

3 During this time, another surrounding neighbor enlisted his longtime friend Las Vegas City  
4 Council Member Bob Coffin to stop the Landowners' development of the 250 Acres. *LO Appx.*  
5 *Ex. 147, LO Appx. Ex 122 at 004230*, ("do they know I am voting against the whole thing?"); *LO*  
6 *Appx., Ex 126 at 004244* ("**a majority [of the City Council] is standing in his [Landowners] path**  
7 **[to development]**"). Within months of the Landowners' acquisition of the 250 Acres, Councilman  
8 Coffin told Mr. Lowie, a Landowner representative, that he could build "anything he wanted" on  
9 70 acres of the land, but the Landowners needed to hand over the demanded 180 acres to the  
10 neighbors along with the water rights. *LO Appx. Ex 35 Decl. Lowie (2) at 000741 ¶5* This was  
11 again repeated several months later, in April 2016, when Councilman Coffin told the Landowners  
12 that to allow any development at all on the 70 acres, the Landowners would have to "hand over"  
13 the 180 acres, and associated water rights, in perpetuity. *Id at ¶ 6.*

14 The Landowners refused to "hand over" the 180 acres and the Councilman intensified his  
15 position calling the Landowners' representative a "sonofab[...]," "A[...]-hole," "scum,"  
16 "motherf[...]-er," "greedy developer," "dirtball," "clown," and Narciss[ist]" with a "mental  
17 disorder," and sought "intel" against the Landowners through a private investigator as "dirt may  
18 be handy" in case he needs to "get rough" with the Landowners. *LO Appx. Exs. 121, 127, and 130.*

19 Likewise, another surrounding neighbor "suggested" to then-Councilman Bob Beers, who  
20 held the seat for Ward 2, which included Queensridge and the 250 Acre Residentially Zoned Land,  
21 it would do his political career well to hold up development of the 250 Acres.

22 Q. You also indicated that the homeowners were suing to slow it down so that there  
23 wouldn't be any development in their lifetime? A. Yes, sir.

24 Q. And where did you get that understanding? A. Mr. Binion told me that.

1 Q. He [Binion] was asking you to break the law? A. He was asking to have the  
City get in the way of the of the landowner's rights, yes.

2 Q. And that's what he was asking you to do was to cause delay as you say?

3 A. Yes. . . . A. I attempted to kindly reject his offer. . . .

4 A. I think he was discussing the potential for –for a political campaign against  
me.”

5 *LO Appx., Ex. 142, Deposition of Councilman Bob Beers pages 31-36.*

6 When councilman Beers rejected the offer, the surrounding neighbors campaigned against  
7 him and, on July, 2017, successfully replaced him with Steve Seroka, who had vowed, during his  
8 campaign, to stop all development and then followed the direction of these individuals to delay  
9 hearings on applications, instructed staff to legislate against development, and denied and struck  
10 applications for development. *See LO Appx., Ex. 146, Schreck -Seroka email (directing Seroka on*  
11 *an upcoming City Council hearing, and Seroka informing Schreck 133 Acre coming up for hearing*  
12 *and suggesting “may be delayed . . .”); Ex. 148, Transcr. Sept. 6, 2016 City Council Meeting; Ex.*  
13 *54, Denial of MDA, Ex. 114, Transcr. of 5.16.18 City Council Meeting (Bill 2018-5).* As is more  
14 fully discussed below, the City followed the direction of the surrounding neighbors and denied all  
15 use of the 250 acre property, intent on giving it so the surrounding neighbors.

16 The City did not even try to hide its unconstitutional actions. Seroka, as a Councilman, at  
17 a public meeting on June 21, 2018, told all of the Landowners' neighbors that the Landowners'  
18 Property belonged to the neighbors and the neighbors had the right to use the Landowners'  
19 Property as recreation and open space.

20 “So when they built over there off of Hualapai and Sierra –Sahara –this land [250  
21 Acres] is the open space. Every time that was built along Hualapai and Sahara, this  
22 [250 Acres] is the open space. Every community that was built around here, that  
23 [250 Acres] is the open space. The development across the street, across Rampart,  
that [250 Acres] is the open space....it is also documented as part recreation, open  
space...That is part recreation and open space...” *LO Appx., Ex. 136, 17:23-18:15,*  
HOA meeting page

24 “Now that we have the documentation clear, ***that is open space for this part of our***  
***community. It is the recreation space for this part of it.*** It is not me, it is what the

1 law says. *It is what the contracts say between the city and the community, and*  
2 *that is what you all are living on right now.*” *LO Appx., Ex. 136, 20:23-21:3, HOA*  
meeting (emphasis added).

3 And, in accordance with Councilman Seroka’s direction, *the neighbors are using the*  
4 *Landowners’ Property.* See *LO Appx., Ex. 150, Affidavit of Donald Richards and pictures attached*  
5 *thereto wherein Mr. Richards attests that the neighbors are using the Landowners property and*  
6 *that they have told him “it is our open space.” Id. at §6 & 7.* The neighbors are using the  
7 Landowners’ Property pursuant to a City Ordinance (referenced below) that forces the Landowners  
8 to let the public use their property. *LO Appx., Ex. 136, 137, 48, 89, 92, 108, 150.*

9 **3. Specific City Actions to Prohibit ALL Use of the 133 Acre Property to**  
10 **Preserve it for the Surrounding Property Owners.**

11 Immediately after purchasing the 250 Acres in early 2015, the Landowners and their land  
12 use attorney, Christopher Kaempfer (“Attorney Kaempfer”), met with the City of Las Vegas  
13 Planning Department to begin development of the individual 17, 35, 65, and 133 Acre parcels as  
14 the residential real estate market was increasing in early 2015 and the carrying costs for this vacant  
15 property are significant.<sup>4</sup> The Landowners wanted to quickly develop the properties and  
16 development of the parcels one at a time as this was the most financially feasible development.  
17 While the Landowners had a vision of how to develop the Land, the City directed the type of  
18 applications necessary for approval of development. *LO Appx., Ex. 34, Decl. Lowie (1), para. 11.*

19 The City adamantly insisted that the only application it would accept to develop any part  
20 of the Land was a Master Development Agreement (MDA) to develop the entire 250 Acre  
21 Residential Zoned Land under one development plan; the City repeatedly refused to accept

22 \_\_\_\_\_  
23 <sup>4</sup> For example, the Clark County Tax Assessor valued the entire 250 Acre Residential Zoned Land  
24 at about \$88 million and, based on this residential land value, the Landowners were paying (and  
continue to pay) about \$1 million per year in real estate taxes alone without deriving any residential  
income from the property. *LO Appx., 49, 50, 51, 52, 151, 152, Tax Assessors’ valuations and*  
*taxes.*

1 individual applications to develop each parcel. *LO Appx., Ex. 34, Decl. Lowie (1); Ex. 48 Decl.*  
2 *Kaempfer*. “Mayor Goodman informed [the Landowners during a December 16, 2015, meeting]  
3 that due to neighbors’ concerns the City would not allow ‘piecemeal development’ of the Land  
4 and that one application for the entirety of the 250 Acre Residential Zoned Land was necessary by  
5 way of a Master Development Agreement (“MDA”)” and that during the MDA process, “the City  
6 continued to make it clear to [the Landowners] that it would not allow development of individual  
7 parcels, but demanded that development only occur by way of the MDA.” *LO Appx. Ex. 34, Decl.*  
8 *Lowie*, at 00538, para. 19, at 00539, para. 24:25-27. Attorney Kaempfer states: 1) that he had  
9 “no less than seventeen (17) meetings with the [City] Planning Department” regarding the  
10 “creation of a Development Agreement” which were necessitated by “public and private  
11 comments made to me by both elected and non-elected officials that they wanted to see a plan –  
12 via a Development Agreement – for the development of the entire Badlands and not just portions  
13 of it;” and, 2) the City advised him that “[the Landowners] either get an approved Development  
14 Agreement for the entirety of the Badlands *or we get nothing*.” *LO Appx., Ex 48, Decl. Kaempfer,*  
15 *paras 11-13.* Emphasis Added.

16 The Landowners opposed the City mandated MDA, because it is not required by law or  
17 code and more importantly, it would significantly increase the time and cost to develop. *LO Appx.,*  
18 *Ex 34, Decl. Lowie (1), para. 20.* Nevertheless, the City left the Landowners no choice, so they  
19 moved forward with the City’s proposed MDA concept, that included development of the 133  
20 Acre Property, along with the 17, 35, and 65 Acre properties. *Id.*

21 The MDA process started in or about Spring of 2015 and through this process the City  
22 dictated to the Landowners exactly how the City wanted the Land developed, including the 133  
23 Acres, and the precise information and documents the City wanted as part of the MDA application.  
24 *LO Appx., Ex 34, Decl. Lowie (1), paras. 20-21.* The City’s demands were oppressive,

1 unreasonable, and overburdensome, with the City Planning Department and City Attorney's Office  
2 drafting the MDA almost entirely.<sup>5</sup> The Mayor indicated that City Staff had dedicated "an excess  
3 of hundreds of hours beyond the full day" working on the MDA. *LO Appx., Ex. 54, lines 697-701.*

4         These City demands, as part of the MDA, ***cost the Landowners more than \$1 million over***  
5 ***and above the normal costs for a development application*** of this type, further demonstrating the  
6 City's oppressive demands. *LO Appx. Ex. 34, Decl. Lowie (1), para. 21:4-6.* In an effort to  
7 comply, so that development could occur, the Landowners agreed to every single City demand and  
8 paid over \$1 million in *extra* application costs. *LO Appx. Ex. 34, Decl. Lowie (1), para. 20:26-27.*  
9 *See also e.g. LO Appx. Ex. 55, City required MDA concessions signed by Landowners and Ex. 56,*  
10 *MDA memos and emails regarding MDA changes.* The Mayor even stated, "you did bend so  
11 much. And I know you are a developer, and developers are not in it to donate property. And you  
12 have been donating and putting back... And it's costing you money every single day it delays."  
13 *LO Appx., Ex. 53 lines 2462-2465.* Councilwoman Tarkanian commented, "I've never seen that  
14 much given before." *LO Appx., Ex. 53 lines 2785-2787; 2810-2811.*

15         The City demands, prior to the MDA being submitted for approval included, without  
16 limitation, detailed architectural drawings including 3D digital models for topography, elevations,  
17 etc., regional traffic studies, complete civil engineering packages, master detailed sewer studies,  
18 drainage studies, school district studies. *LO Appx. Ex. 34, Decl. Lowie (1), p. 6, para. 21.* Mr.  
19 Lowie's stated, "[i]n all my years of development and experience such costly and timely  
20 requirements **are never required prior to the application approval** because no developer would  
21 make such an extraordinary investment prior to entitlements, ie. approval of the application by the  
22 City." *LO Appx. Ex. 34, Decl. Lowie (1), p. 6, para. 21:6-10.* Emphasis added.

23 \_\_\_\_\_  
24 <sup>5</sup> *LO Appx., Ex. 53, June 21, 2017 Transcr. City Council Meeting, LO 00000367 lines 333-335;*  
*446 lines 2471-2472; 447 lines 2479-2480; 465 lines 2964-2965; Ex. 54, August 2, 2017 Transcr.*  
*City Council Meeting, p. 26 lines 691-692.*

1 The City also demanded onerous concessions as part of the MDA.<sup>6</sup> Non-exhaustive City  
2 demands / concessions made of the Landowners, as part of the MDA, included: 1) donation of  
3 approximately 100 acres as landscape, park equestrian facility, and recreation areas; 2) building  
4 brand new driveways and security gates and gate houses for Queensridge; 3) building two new  
5 parks, one with a vineyard; and, 4) reducing the number of units, increasing the minimum acreage  
6 lot size, and reducing the number and height of the towers.<sup>7</sup> The City required at least 700 changes  
7 and 16 new and revised versions of the MDA.<sup>8</sup>

8 After a year and a half of demands, 16 re-drafts, and no end in sight, it became clear the  
9 City was intent on engaging in a never-ending process that was imposing unreasonable burdens on  
10 the Landowners over and above the normal application process. The Landowners communicated  
11 their frustration, stating the unreasonable changes to the MDA were always at the request of the  
12 City: “[w]e have done that through many iterations, and those changes were not changes that were  
13 requested by the developer. They were changes requested by the City and/or through homeowners  
14 [surrounding neighbors] to the City.”<sup>9</sup> The City Attorney also recognized the “frustration” of the  
15 Landowners due to the length of time negotiating the MDA.<sup>10</sup>

16  
17 <sup>6</sup> As just one example of this, see *LO Appx., Ex. 57, LO 00001838-1845*. Another example of the  
18 significant changes requested and made over time can be seen in a redline comparison of just two  
19 of the MDAs – the MDA dated July 12, 2016 and the MDA dated May 22, 2017. *LO Appx., Ex. 58*.  
20 During just this eight-month period there were 544 total changes to the MDA. *Id.* These  
21 changes can also be seen in a redline comparison of the “Design Guidelines” that were part of the  
22 MDA. *LO Appx., Ex. 59*. Another 157 changes were made to these Design Guidelines in just over  
23 one year from the April 20, 2016, to May 22, 2017, version. *Id.*

24 <sup>7</sup> *LO Appx., Ex. 60, LO 00001836; Ex. 54, lines 599-601; Ex. 60, LO 00001837; LO Appx., Ex. 53, lines 2060-2070; Ex. 60 and Exhibit 55.*

<sup>8</sup> *LO Appx., Exs. 58 and 59*, final page of exhibits which show the over 700 changes. *LO Appx., Ex. 61* consists of 16 versions of the MDA generated from January, 2016 to July, 2017. *LO Appx. Ex 61, LO 00001188 - LO 00001835*. Importantly, the Landowners expressed their concern that the MDA process may cause them to lose the property. *LO Appx. Ex. 53, LO 00000447-450*.

<sup>9</sup> *LO Appx., Ex. 54, Transcr. August 2, 2017 City Council Meeting, lines 378-380.*

<sup>10</sup> *LO Appx., Ex. 53, Transcr. June 21, 2017 City Council Meeting, lines 2990-2993.*



1           Seeing no end in sight to the City-mandated MDA process, the Landowners approached  
2 the City Planning Department to develop the 35 Acre Property as a stand-alone development,  
3 rather than as part of the MDA, and asked the Planning Department to set forth all requirements  
4 to develop the 35 Acre Property by itself. *LO Appx. Ex. 34, Decl. Lowie, p. 6, para 23.* The City  
5 Planning Department helped prepare the residential development applications for the 35 Acre  
6 Property. *LO Appx. Ex. 34, Decl. Lowie, p. 6, para. 24.* The applications were completed. *Id.;*  
7 *LO Appx, Exs. 62-72, 35 Acre Applications.* The City Planning Department issued Staff Reports  
8 stating that the jointly prepared applications were consistent with the R-PD7 hard zoning, met all  
9 requirements in the N.R.S. and the City’s Unified Development Code, and recommended approval  
10 to allow development of the 35 Acre Property. *LO Appx., Ex. 73, City Planning Department Staff*  
11 *Report to Planning Commission; Ex. 74, City Planning Department Staff Report to City Council;*  
12 *Ex. 75, Transcript, February 14, 2017, Planning Commission, 35 Acre Applications.*

13           The 35 Acre Property applications were presented to the City Council for approval on June  
14 21, 2017. Tom Perrigo, the City’s Planning Director, stated at the hearing that the proposed  
15 development met all City requirements and should be approved. *LO Appx., Ex. 53, Transcr. June*  
16 *21, 2017 City Council meeting, 35 Acre Applications, pp. 22-23, lines 566-587.* One City Council  
17 member said the 35 Acre Property applications met all City requirements; that the proposed  
18 development was “so far inside the existing lines [the Las Vegas Code requirements].” *LO Appx.,*  
19 *Ex. 53, Transcr. June 21, 2017 City Council meeting, 35 Acre Applications, p. 97, lines 2588-*  
20 *2590.* The City Council, however, re-stated its firm position against individual development  
21 applications and insisted on the MDA for the entire 250 Acre Residential Zoned Land: 1) “I have  
22 to oppose this, because it’s piecemeal approach (Councilman Coffin);” 2) “I don’t like this  
23 piecemeal stuff. I don’t think it works (Councilwoman Tarkanian); and, 3) “I made a commitment  
24 that I didn’t want piecemeal,” there is a need to move forward, “but not on a piecemeal level. I

1 said that from the onset,” “Out of total respect, I did say that I did not want to move forward  
2 piecemeal.” (Mayor Goodman). *LO Appx., Ex. 53, Transcr. June 21, 2017 City Council meeting,*  
3 *35 Acre Applications, p. 98:2618; 104:2781-2782; 118:3161; 49:1304-1305; 92:2460-2461.*

4 The City Council, contrary to its own Planning Department, Planning Commission, the  
5 City Code, and the Nevada Revised Statutes, denied the 35 Acre Property applications. *LO Appx.*  
6 *Ex. 93, 35 Acre Application Denial Letter; see also Ex. 53, Transcr. June 21, 2017, City Council*  
7 *meeting, 35 Acre Applications, p. 109:2906-2911; Ex. 76, 35 Acre Applications City Council*  
8 *Minutes.* The City’s official position at the hearing was: 1) the applications were consistent with  
9 zoning and met all requirements in the Nevada Revised Statutes and City Unified Development  
10 Code (Title 19); and, 2) the sole reason for denial was the City wanted one MDA for the entire 250  
11 Acres, not “piecemeal” development. “The City continued to make it clear to [the Landowners]  
12 that it would not allow development of individual parcels but demanded that development only  
13 occur by way of the MDA.” *LO Appx. Ex. 34, Decl. Lowie, p. 6, para. 24:25-27.*

14 Intent on developing the 250 Acres, the Landowners turned back to the oppressive MDA.  
15 In total, the Landowners worked with the City for 2 ½ years on the MDA (between Spring, 2015,  
16 and August 2, 2017) and accepted all 700 changes and at least 16 different City re-drafts. The  
17 property sat idle during this City delay, with the Landowners paying all carrying costs (including  
18 over \$1 million per year in real property taxes).

19 On August 2, 2017, (approximately 40 days after the City denied the applications to  
20 develop the 35 Acre Property as a stand-alone project on the sole basis it wanted the MDA) the  
21 MDA application (that would allow development of the entire 250 acre property, including the  
22 133 Acre Property),<sup>11</sup> was presented to the City Council for approval - a day that will live in infamy  
23

24 <sup>11</sup> *LO Appx., Ex. 79, MDA Application; Ex. 80, MDA Application, Bill No. 2017-17; LO Appx.,*  
*Ex., 81, Master Development Agreement; Ex. 82, MDA Addendum; Ex. 83, MDA Design*

1 forever for the Landowners. The City Planning Department issued a Staff Report, stating the MDA  
2 met all requirements in N.R.S. and the City's Unified Development Code and that the MDA should  
3 be approved. *LO Appx., Ex. 77, MDA City Staff Report to City Council.* Despite offering the  
4 MDA as the only application the City would accept to develop any part of the 250 Acres (including  
5 the 133 Acre Property); repeated assurances from the City that it would approve the MDA after  
6 denying the 35 Acre Property stand-alone applications; the fact that the City itself drafted the  
7 MDA; and the City's own Planning Department recommending approval, **the City denied the**  
8 **MDA** altogether on August 2, 2017. *LO Appx. Ex. 78, MDA- Denial Minutes; Ex 54, Transcr.*  
9 *August 2, 2017, City Council meeting (MDA), pp. 149:4154-4156; 153:4273-4275.*

10 The City did not ask the Landowners to make more concessions, it simply denied the MDA,  
11 which denied development of the entire 250 Acre Property, including the 133 Acre Property. *LO*  
12 *Appx. Ex. 34, Decl. Lowie, p. 7, para. 26. LO Appx. Ex. 78, MDA- Denial Minutes; Ex. 54,*  
13 *Transcript, August 2, 2017, City Council (MDA), pp. 149:4154-4156; 153:4273-4275.*

14 **4. The City Also Struck Applications to Develop the 133 Acre Property.**

15 The City also denied the Landowners' request to develop the 133 Acre Property by striking  
16 the applications from being heard. But that is not all that occurred in relation to these applications.  
17 The actions taken by the City in regard to these applications are perhaps the most egregious and  
18 telling of the City's real intent to take the land from the Landowners without paying for it.

19 As part of the numerous development applications filed by the Landowners between 2015  
20 and 2018 to develop all or portions of the 250 Acres, in October and November 2017, after the  
21 MDA denial, the Landowners filed detailed applications to develop the 133 Acre Property with  
22 residential units, consistent with the R-PD7 hard zoning. *LO Appx., Ex. 97, 133 Acre Applications,*

23  
24 *Guidelines; Ex. 84, MDA Justification Letter; Ex. 85, MDA Location and Aerial Maps; Ex. 86,*  
*MDA Supporting Documents (1); Ex. 87, MDA Supporting Documents (2).*

1 *Combined; Ex. 98, 133 Acre Applications, Justification Letter.* The City Planning Staff provided  
2 a detailed analysis recommending approval, because the proposed residential development was  
3 consistent with the R-PD7 hard zoning and it met all requirements in N.R.S. and the Unified  
4 Development Code. *LO Appx., Ex. 99, Ex. 100, Ex. 101, Ex. 102 and Ex. 103, City Planning Staff*  
5 *Reports for all 133 Acre Applications.* The Planning Commission held hearings and likewise  
6 recommended approval. None of this mattered to the City as certain councilmembers had a  
7 different agenda - “that over my dead body” would development be allowed.

8 In accordance with this agenda, the City Council **first unnecessarily delayed the**  
9 **matter for months**<sup>12</sup> and then in a surprise move to all, refused to grant or deny the applications,  
10 and instead **struck the applications** at the hearing.<sup>13</sup> *LO Appx., Ex. 105, 133 Acre Application,*  
11 *May 17, 2018, Notice Letters Striking Applications; LO Appx., Ex. 106, Transcr. May 5, 2018 City*  
12 *Council meeting (133 Acre Strike Applications), 004480:2082-84.*

13 An important fact that the City left out of its motion to remand is that during the delay by  
14 the City, the Councilmembers publicly considered whether the development applications should  
15

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16 <sup>12</sup> *LO Appx., Ex. 104, Transcr. February 21, 2018, City Council meeting (133 Acre App.*  
17 *Abeyance), pp. 13-14.* Public records obtained by the Landowners show that at least one of the  
18 councilmembers (Steve Seroka) was working with the Queensridge opponents to intentionally  
delay the matter. *LO Appx., Ex. 146.*

19 <sup>13</sup> For these applications, the City forced the Landowner to file a GPA or else it would not “consider  
the applications.” *LO Appx., Ex. 129, letter to City Planning Department.* The Landowners  
20 complied but filed under protest. *LO Appx., Ex. 129.* Remarkably, the City struck the applications  
on the basis that the GPA, the very application the City forced the Landowners to file, *was untimely*  
21 *pursuant to the City Code.* The City thus, required the Landowner to file the application for a GPA  
that it would later use as a reason for denial claiming it “violated the code we have in place for a  
22 12-month cooling off period” [application for a general plan amendment [GPA]. 2018 – May 16,  
227-232. Again, implementing a catch-22 barrier to development of this Land. The City Planning  
Department objected and testified that this application was filed at their “request” and not required  
23 when there is no change in zoning. *LO Appx. Ex. 135 City Council Transcript, May 16, 2018,*  
004443:1029-1035, 004446:1114-1115. Yet the City struck all of the applications and refused to  
24 consider development of the 133 Acre Property. *Id., at 004471:1851-004472:1860, 004480:2083-*  
84.

1 require a “major modification” or a general plan amendment (sometimes referred to as “GPA”).<sup>14</sup>  
2 The City Planning Department specifically found that “no application for a General Plan  
3 Amendment or Major Modification are required” and further found the appeal to be “specious.”  
4 *LO Appx. Ex. 196, Staff Recommendations, January 3, 2018, pp. 3-4.* Accordingly, on January 3,  
5 2021, the City denied the appeal rejecting the idea that a major modification was required.<sup>15</sup> Thus,  
6 the City cannot honestly claim in these proceedings that it had no choice but to strike the  
7 applications due to Judge Crockett’s decision. *See City Mot 2:3-5.* This is nothing more than a  
8 thinly veiled attempt to avoid liability for those actions.

9 Moreover, it was by the City’s own actions that the applications were not heard on the  
10 merits. The City’s refusal to hear the applications on the merits and 3 years later claim that the  
11 case is unripe because the City didn’t “get to” hear the applications on the merits is absurd and  
12 another catch 22 created by the City to steal the Land from the Landowners. The City cannot  
13 benefit by its outrageous actions and move the Court for a remand and dismissal due to those very  
14 actions.

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16 <sup>14</sup> In an attempt to delay the matter and prevent development, the leader of the Queensridge  
17 Community protesting development, was working behind the scenes with the City and filed an  
18 “appeal” to the Landowners applications to develop the 133 acre property claiming that a major  
19 modification applications was required. Although there is no mechanism to consider an appeal of  
20 an application by a third party, the City did indeed consider this issue twice, rejecting the notion  
21 that a major modification or GPA were required. Moreover, during the hearing related to appealing  
22 Judge Crockett’s Order, the CITY ATTORNEY informed the Council of its options that did not  
23 include “striking” the applications “to end the argument completely, you could make a decision to  
24 change your code or just make a policy call . . .” *LO Appx. Ex. 135, May 16, 2018 City Council Transcript, 004428:618-623.*

<sup>15</sup> The following day in a move to force a different outcome, Councilman Coffin (an opponent to  
development that attempted to get intel on the applicant to prevent development presumably  
through some form of coercion) rescinded his vote, claiming he made a mistake and the matter  
was once again considered a week later on January 17, 2018, and denied reconsideration. *LO Appx. Ex. 197, City Council Transcript, January 17, 2018, ad passim, p. 18:487-489.* At that time,  
the Judge Crockett decision was already rendered. *LO Appx. Ex. 106, City Council Transcript, 003140:616-17.*

1           **5. The City Adopted Two Bills to Preserve the Landowners' Property for**  
2           **the Surrounding Neighbors Use.**

3           After denial of the MDA, the City also raced to adopt two City Bills that solely target the  
4           250 Acre Residential Zoned Land, prevent all use of the Land, and force the Landowners to allow  
5           the surrounding property owners to use the Land - Bill No. 2018-5 and Bill No. 2018-24.<sup>16</sup> *LO*  
6           *Appx., Ex. 107, Bill No. 2018-5; LO Appx., Ex. 108, Bill No. 2018-24; Ex. 109, Transcr. November*  
7           *7, 2018 City Council meeting (Adopt Bill No. 2018-24), p. 146.* The sole and undisputed analysis  
8           performed to determine the properties impacted by these two Bills concluded the Bills targeted  
9           only the Landowners' 250 Acres.<sup>17</sup> The City's own councilperson acknowledged as much, stating  
10          **"I call it the Yohan Lowie [a principle with the Landowners] Bill."**<sup>18</sup> And, the uncontested  
11          evidence verifies that these Bills authorize the public, including the surrounding property owners,  
12          to physically enter the Landowners' Property – a text book per se regulatory taking - by requiring  
13          the Landowners to provide for **"ongoing public access ....[and to] ensure that such access is**  
14          **maintained."** *LO Appx., Ex. 108, Bill No. 2018-24, p. 11, section G.2.d.*

15          In addition, the uncontested evidence shows these two Bills impose impossible barriers to  
16          develop the 250 Acre Residential Zoned Land. For example, on August 13, 2018, the City advised  
17          the Landowners' engineering company that "zoning/planning approval of the entitlements on a

18          

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<sup>16</sup> It is no coincidence that the 133 Acre Property applications were delayed until the day of the  
19          hearing on the adoption of these Bills. Notably, the Bills were adopted and less than 2 hours later  
20          133 Acre applications were stricken from the agenda forcing the Landowner to "start over". See  
*LO Appx., Ex. 135, Transcript 5/15/18 Agenda items 71 & 74-83, page 26 line 740.*

21          <sup>17</sup> *LO Appx., Ex. 10, Transcript, October 15, 2018, Recommending Committee (Bill No. 2018-24),*  
22          *p. 7:169-191; Ex. 111, Bill No. 2018-24, Kaempfer Opposition, October 15, 2018, Part 1; Ex. 112,*  
23          *Bill No. 2018-24, Kaempfer Opposition, October 15, 2018, Part 2. See also Ex. 113, Bill No.*  
24          *2018-24, Hutchison Opposition Letter, July 17, 2018.*

<sup>18</sup> *LO Appx., Ex. 114, Transcript, May 16, 2018, City Council (Bill No. 2018-5), p. 17:487 and p.*  
*1:57-58. See also LO Appx., Ex. 115, Bill No. 2018-5, Fiore Opening Statement, p. 1; LO Appx.,*  
*Ex. 116, Transcript, May 14, 2018 Recommending Committee (Bill No. 2018-5), p. 6:149-50.*

1 property are required to be approved prior to conditional approval being given on a TDS [technical  
2 drainage study].” *LO Appx., Ex. 117, GCW Meeting Minutes, highlighted.* Yet, Bill No. 2018-24,  
3 that was signed by the City attorney on June 27, 2018, and adopted on November 7, 2018, states  
4 as a requirement to submit an application to develop, approval of a “conceptual master drainage  
5 study.” *LO Appx., Ex. 108, Bill No. 2018-24, section (e)(1).* Thus, a development application  
6 could not be submitted without a drainage study and a drainage study could not be conducted  
7 without approval of a development application. This is the proverbial catch-22.

8 Just some of the additional (impossible to meet) barriers included in the Bills which must  
9 be satisfied ***before*** a development application can even be submitted are the following: a **master**  
10 **plan** (showing areas proposed to remain open space, recreational amenities, wildlife habitat, areas  
11 proposed for residential use, including acreage, density, unit numbers and type, areas proposed for  
12 commercial, including acreage, density and type, a density or intensity), a **development**  
13 **agreement (which the City had already denied with the MDA)**, an **environmental assessment**,  
14 a phase I environmental assessment report, a master drainage study, a master traffic study, a master  
15 sanitary sewer study, a **3D model of the project with accurate topography, CC&Rs for the**  
16 **development area, a closure maintenance plan showing how the property will continue to be**  
17 ***maintained as it has in the past*** (providing security and monitoring), , and ***anything else*** “the [City  
18 Planning] Department may determine are necessary.” *LO Appx., Ex. 107, Bill No. 2018-5 and Ex.*  
19 *108, Bill No. 2018-24, ad passim.* No developer would engage in these outrageous costs ***before***  
20 submitting an application. The City knew this, which is why it imposed the same solely on the  
21 Landowners’ Property.

22 Bill 2018-24 also makes it a misdemeanor subject to a \$1,000 a day fine or “imprisonment  
23 for a term of not more than six months” if the Landowners do not comply with the Bill’s outrageous  
24 requirements, including maintaining the golf course, even if it is losing money and forcing ongoing

1 public access. *LO Appx., Ex. 108, Bill No. 2018-24, p. 12.* The City Staff confirmed that the  
2 Closure Maintenance Plan part of the Bill (which is where the authorization for public access is  
3 found) **would be applied retroactively**. *LO Appx., Ex. 118, Transcr. November 7, 2018 at 03487-*  
4 *03488, 03607, 03616-03617, City Council minutes for Bill 2018-24; LO Appx., Ex. 119, Transcr.*  
5 *September 4, 2018 at 3710 lines 255-261.* In other words, the City adopted a Bill that forces the  
6 Landowners to acquiesce to a physical occupation of their Property by forcing the Landowners to  
7 allow “**ongoing public access**” onto their Property or be subjected to criminal charges.<sup>19</sup>

8 The City’s own councilwoman Fiore stated these City Bills were “the latest shot in a salvo  
9 against one developer.” *LO Appx. Ex. 114, 003848-3849.*

#### 10 **6. The City Denied the Landowners Access and Fencing.**

11 The City would not even grant access or fencing rights to the Landowners. In August 2017,  
12 after the MDA denial, the Landowners filed a routine over the counter request with the City for  
13 three access points to streets the 250 Acre Residential Zoned Land abuts – one on Rampart Blvd.  
14 and two on Hualapai Way. *LO Appx., Ex. 88, Access Application; LO Appx., Ex. 90 at 002818,*  
15 *LVMC 19.16.100(f)(2)(a) and 19.16.100(f)(2)(a)(iii).* The Nevada Supreme Court has held that a  
16 landowner cannot be denied access to abutting roadways, because all property that abuts the  
17 roadway has a special right of easement for access purposes and this is a recognized property right  
18 in Nevada. Schwartz v. State, 111 Nev. 998 (1995). The Court held that this right exists “despite  
19 the fact that the Landowner had not yet developed access.” *Id.*, at 1003. Ignoring the law, the City  
20 denied the access application citing as the sole basis for the denial, the potential impact to  
21 “**surrounding properties**.” *LO Appx., Ex 89, Access Denial Letter, LO 00002365.* Emphasis  
22 added. In violation of its own City Code, the City required that the matter be presented to the City

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23  
24 <sup>19</sup> The City’s counsel must have finally convinced the City that these Bills subjected the City to  
inverse condemnation liability and, on January 15, 202, the City repealed the Bills. But, as  
explained above, subsequent actions cannot erase a taking that has already occurred.



1 Council through a “Major Review” process (LVMC 19.16.100(G)(1)(b)), which is substantial. *LO*  
2 *Appx., Ex. 90, LVMC 19.16.100.* It requires a pre-application conference, plan submittal,  
3 circulation to interested City departments for comments, recommendation, requirements, and  
4 publicly noticed Planning Commission and City Council hearings. The City placed this  
5 extraordinary barrier to access, because the City is preserving the property for the use of the owners  
6 of the “*surrounding properties.*”

7 Also in August, 2017, after the MDA denial, the Landowners filed a routine over the  
8 counter request to install chain link fencing with the City to enclose two water features/ponds that  
9 are located on the 250 Acres. *LO Appx., Ex. 91, Fence Application; LO Appx., Ex. 90, LVMC*  
10 *19.16.100(f)(2)(a) and 19.16.100(f)(2)(a)(iii).* The City denied the application, again stating its  
11 consideration for the “*surrounding properties.*” *LO Appx., Ex 92, Fence Denial.* Emphasis added.

#### 12 7. Evidence of the City’s Intent.

13 The City did not even try to hide its intent to preserve the Landowners’ property for the  
14 “surrounding residents.” As explained in the preceding section, the City’s access and fence denial  
15 letters referenced consideration for “surrounding properties.” The City denial letters for the 35  
16 Acre Property stated the denials were, in part, due to “concerns over the impact to proposed  
17 development on *surrounding residents.*” *LO Appx., Ex 93, 35 Acre Application, Denial Letters.*  
18 And, Attorney Kaempfer testified that, “despite our best efforts, and despite the merits of our  
19 application(s)” no development was going to be allowed unless the Queensridge Community  
20 agreed and the leader of that group firmly stated they would not agree - “I would rather see the  
21 golf course [250 Acres] a desert than a single home built on it.” *LO Appx., Ex. 48, Declaration*  
22 *of Attorney Chris Kaempfer, p. 2, para. 12.* This was also confirmed by documents obtained as  
23 part of a FOIA request, which show the City wanted the 250 Acres “turned over to the City” for  
24 \$15 Million to be preserve for the surrounding neighbors. *LO Appx., Ex 144, City Memorandum*

1 – *Thoughts on EP Opioid Lawsuit*, p. 3. And, the City Council meetings are replete with the  
2 neighbors demanding the City preserve the Landowners’ Property for their own use.

3 **8. The City Tax Assessor.**

4 In their attempts to develop, the Landowners even presented to the City Council, the Notice  
5 of Decision<sup>20</sup> by the City’s own tax assessor<sup>21</sup> that the lawful use of the 133 Acre Property is  
6 “residential” based on a “Zoning Designation: R-PD7,”<sup>22</sup> that the tax assessor valued the 250 Acres  
7 at approximately \$88 million<sup>23</sup> based on this “residential” use, and that the City was collecting real  
8 estate taxes from the Landowners that amounted to **over \$1 million per year** (\$527,521.25 on the  
9 133 Acre Property, alone<sup>24</sup>) based on this lawful residential use and this lawful use should be  
10 permitted. None of this mattered to the City as it was preserving the Property for the surrounding  
11 owners. And, the City’s scheme to “Purchase Badlands and operate” for “\$15 Million,” (which  
12 equates to less than 6% of the tax assessed value (\$88 million)<sup>25</sup> **shocks the conscience**.

13  
14  
15 <sup>20</sup> *LO Appx., Ex. 120, Tax Assessor Notice of Decision, submitted with 133 Acre Applications.*

16 <sup>21</sup> *See City Charter, Sec. 3.120 (1) (“The County Assessor of the County is, ex officio, the City Assessor of the City.”)*

17 <sup>22</sup> NRS 361.227(1) mandates that the Tax Assessor determine the taxable value of real property  
18 based on the “lawful” use to which property may be put and the Tax Assessor determined the  
19 “lawful” use of all parts of the 250 Acres to be “residential.” *LO Appx., Ex. 120, Tax Assessor*  
20 *Notice of Decision, submitted with the 133 Acre Applications; Ex. 49, Tax Assessor Values, \$88*  
21 *Million; Ex. 51, Tax Assessor Valuation for 35 Acre Property; Ex. 151, Tax Assessor Valuation of*  
22 *the 65 Acre Property; Ex. 152, Tax Assessors Valuation, including the 65 Acre Property; Ex. 153*  
23 *Taxes currently assessed on the 65 Acre Property.*

24 <sup>23</sup> *LO Appx., Ex. 49, Tax Assessor Values, \$88 million (the \$88 million is the composite value by*  
25 *the Assessor of all parts of the 250 Acre Land).*

<sup>24</sup> *LO Appx., Ex. 152, 004843-4848; Ex. 49, 001164, 001166, 001168.*

<sup>25</sup> The Tax Assessor value of \$88 million is recognized as low, because “[a]lthough the assessor  
is required to appraise the value of the property, it is an open secret that the assessment rarely  
approaches the true market value.” *Nichols on Eminent Domain*, at § 22.1, 22-6. This shows an  
incentive to deny all use of the property so the City can purchase the property for pennies on the  
dollar, which is an unconstitutional act in itself.

1 **D. THE ABOVE CITY ACTIONS ARE A TAKING AND NOTHING THE CITY**  
2 **DOES ON REMAND CAN ERASE THIS TAKING**

3 **1. Third Claim for Relief – Per Se Categorical Taking.**

4 The Nevada Supreme Court holds that a per se categorical taking (the Landowners' Third  
5 Claim for Relief) occurs where government action "completely deprives an owner of all  
6 economical beneficial use of her property," and, in these circumstances, just compensation is  
7 automatically warranted, meaning there is no defense to the taking. Sisolak, supra, at 662.

8 Nevada's per se categorical taking standard is met here. As detailed above, the City denied/  
9 struck **four applications** to use the 133 Acre Property (**100%** the Landowners attempts) – the City  
10 denied the MDA application (that included the 133 Acre Property development), struck the 133  
11 Acre stand-alone application, denied the access application, and denied the fence application. The  
12 City also denied the 35 Acre stand-alone applications. The City then adopted two Bills that solely  
13 target the Landowners' Property, make it impossible to develop, and force the Landowners to  
14 allow the public to use their property – all for the benefit of the surrounding neighbors. *LO Appx.*,  
15 *Ex. 107, 108, 48, 136, 150*. As a result, the property lies vacant and useless,<sup>26</sup> all while the  
16 Landowners are paying \$527,521.25 per year in real estate taxes and significant other carrying  
17  
18

19 <sup>26</sup> In addition to the golf course operations being a financial loss, the golf course was not a legal  
20 or economic use. A golf course use is one "that is not allowed," in any residential zoned land,  
21 such as the 250 Acre Residential Zoned Land. *See LVMC 19.12.010 (showing a golf course use*  
22 *prohibited on any residential zoned land)*. The City Assessor issued a "Notice of Decision" that  
23 as of December 1, 2016, prior to the filing of this case, the golf course was not the "lawful" use of  
24 the property. *LO Appx.*, *Ex. 120, Tax Assessor Notice of Decision, submitted with 133 Acre*  
*Applications*. While only an interim use, the golf course was shuttered over four years ago,  
because it was a financial failure, even when the Landowners leased the land for **free** to the  
operator. *LO Appx.*, *Ex. 45, Golf Course Closure, September, 2015 & May, 2016, Par 4 Letter to*  
*Fore Star; Ex. 46, Golf Course Closure, December 1, 2016, Elite Golf Letter to Yohan Lowie; Ex.*  
*47, Golf Course Closure, Keith Flatt Depo, Fore Stars v. Nel.*

1 costs. Not only has the City's actions "completely deprive[d] [the Landowners] of all economical  
2 beneficial use of [their] property," the actions have caused a negative value.

3 **2. Fifth Claim for Relief - Per Se Regulatory Taking.**

4 The Nevada Supreme Court holds that a per se regulatory taking (the Landowners' Fifth  
5 Claim for Relief) occurs where government action "authorizes" the public to use private property  
6 or "preserves" private property for public use. Sisolak, supra, at 1124-25 and Hsu, supra, at 634-  
7 635. When this occurs, just compensation is automatically warranted, meaning there is no defense  
8 to the taking. Sisolak, supra, at 662. For example, in the Sisolak and Hsu cases there was a taking,  
9 because the County of Clark adopted Ordinance 1221 that preserved Mr. Sisolak and Mr. Hsu's  
10 airspace for aircraft to use. In Knick v. Township of Scott, Pennsylvania, 139 S.Ct. 2162 (2019),  
11 there was a taking, because the Township of Scott adopted an ordinance requiring that "[a]ll  
12 cemeteries ... be kept open and accessible to the general public during daylight hours." Therefore,  
13 even if the public is not physically using property, if the government engages in action that  
14 "authorize" the public to use private property or "preserves" private property for public use, this  
15 is a per se regulatory taking.

16 Nevada's per se regulatory taking standard is met here. As detailed above, the City  
17 openly admitted its actions authorized the public to use the 133 Acre Property. The City adopted  
18 Bills 2018-5 and 2018-24 which target only the 250 Acres to prevent development and expressly  
19 states the Landowners **must** allow "ongoing public access" and "plans to ensure that such  
20 [public] access is maintained." *LO Appx., Ex. 108, Bill 2018-24- see Section G(2)(d)*. The City  
21 openly admitted that it was denying all use of the 133 Acre Property for the "surrounding  
22 properties" which allowed the surrounding properties to use the 250 Acres for a viewshed and  
23 for recreation. *LO Appx., Ex. 89, 92, 136, 150*. This was confirmed by Attorney Kaempfer who  
24 testified that, "despite our best efforts, and despite the merits of our application(s)" the

1 surrounding property owners wanted to use the property for their viewshed and the City would  
2 not allow development unless “virtually all” of them agreed to allow the development and the  
3 leader of that group firmly stated they would not agree - “I would rather see the golf course [250  
4 Acre Land] a desert than a single home built on it.” *LO Appx., Ex. 48, Declaration of Attorney*  
5 *Chris Kaempfer, p. 2, para. 12; see also LO Appx., Ex. 94, Declaration of Vickie DeHart.*  
6 Finally, as explained above, one Councilman, at a public meeting on June 21, 2018, told all of  
7 the Landowners’ neighbors that the Landowners’ Property belonged to the neighbors and the  
8 neighbors had the right to use the Landowners’ Property as recreation and open space and they  
9 are using the property. *LO Appx., Exs 136 and 150.* As a result of the City’s actions, the 133  
10 Acre Property has been preserved for public use and the public is authorized to use the Property.

11 **3. Sixth Claim for Relief - Non-regulatory De Facto Taking.**

12 The Nevada Supreme Court holds that a non-regulatory / de facto taking (The Landowners’  
13 Sixth Claim for Relief) occurs where, there is ***no physical invasion***, but the government has “taken  
14 steps that directly and substantially interfere [ ] with [an] owner’s property rights to the extent of  
15 rendering the property unusable or valueless to the owner.” State v. Eighth Judicial District Court,  
16 131 Nev. 411, 421 (2015). The Court relied on Richmond Elks Hall Assoc. v. Richmond Red.  
17 Agency, 561 F.2d 1327, 1330 (9<sup>th</sup> Cir. 1977), where the Ninth Circuit held that “[t]o constitute a  
18 taking under the Fifth Amendment it is not necessary that property be absolutely ‘taken’ in the  
19 narrow sense of that word to come within the protection of this constitutional provision; it is  
20 sufficient if the action by the government involves a **direct interference with or disturbance of**  
21 **property rights.**” Emphasis added. Nevada is not alone in adopting this de facto taking law as  
22 the great majority of other jurisdictions have adopted a similar rule.<sup>27</sup> Nichols on Eminent Domain

23  
24 <sup>27</sup> See e.g. McCracken v. City of Philadelphia, 451 A.2d 1046 (Pa.Cmwlt. 1982) (holding that a  
court should focus on the “cumulative effect” of government action and “[a] de facto taking occurs  
when an entity clothed with eminent domain power **substantially deprives** an owner of the use

1 summarily describes this non-regulatory / de facto taking claim as follows: “[c]ontrary to prevalent  
2 earlier views, it is now clear that **a de facto taking does not require a physical invasion or**  
3 **appropriation of property.** Rather, a **substantial deprivation of a property owner’s use and**  
4 **enjoyment of his property** may, in appropriate circumstances, be found to constitute a ‘taking’  
5 of that property or of a compensable interest in the property...” 3A Nichols on Eminent Domain  
6 §6.05[2], 6-65 (3<sup>rd</sup> rev. ed. 2002). Therefore, a Nevada non-regulatory / de facto taking occurs  
7 where government action renders property unusable or valueless to the owner, substantially  
8 impairs or extinguishes some right directly connected to the property, or damages the property.

9 Here, it is clear, based on the above facts, that the City has substantially interfered with the  
10 use and enjoyment of the Landowners’ Property, meeting the standard for this taking claim.

#### 11 **E. CONCLUSION**

12 For the foregoing reasons, the City’s request for a remand is a red herring. And, even if  
13 there is a remand and approval of the 133 Acre applications, no subsequent action by the City can  
14 relieve the City of liability for the taking of the Landowners’ Property that has already occurred.

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20 and enjoyment of his property” or where there is an ‘adverse interim consequence’ which deprives  
21 an owner of the use and enjoyment of the property.” Id., at 1050. Emphasis added.); Robinson v.  
22 City of Ashdown, 783 S.W.2d 53 (Ark. 1990) (when government “**substantially diminishes** the  
23 value of a landowner’s land” just compensation is required. Id., at 56. Emphasis added.). Mentzel  
24 v. City of Oshkosh, 146 Wis.2d 804, 812-813, 432 N.W.2d 609, 613 (1988) (taking occurred when  
the City of Oshkosh denied the landowner’s established liquor license because the City of Oshkosh  
desired to acquire the landowner’s property and it sought to reduce the value of its acquisition.);  
City of Houston v. Kolb, 982 S.W.2d 949 (1999) (taking found where the City of Houston denied  
a subdivision plat submitted by the Kolbs for the sole purpose of keeping the right-of-way for a  
planned highway clear to reduce the cost for the State in acquiring the properties for the highway.).  
*See also LO Appx., Ex. 96, Summary of Other Jurisdiction’s De Facto Taking Law.*

1 Accordingly, the City's pending motion is designed for delay purposes and should be  
2 denied.

3 DATED this 24<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2021.

4 **LAW OFFICES OF KERMIT L. WATERS**

5 By: /s/ James J. Leavitt  
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10 *Attorneys for Plaintiff Landowners*

11 **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

12 I HEREBY CERTIFY that I am an employee of the Law Offices of Kermit L. Waters, and  
13 that on the 24<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2021, pursuant to NRCP (5)(b) a true and correct copy of the  
14 foregoing **OPPOSITION TO CITY OF LAS VEGAS' MOTION TO REMAND 133-ACRE**  
15 **APPLICATIONS TO THE LAS VEGAS CITY COUNCIL** was made by electronic means, to  
16 be electronically served through the Eighth Judicial District Court's filing system, with the date and  
17 time of the electronic service substituted for the date and place of deposit in the mail and addressed  
18 to each of the following:

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