**Washoe County Spanish Springs Citizens Advisory Board Meeting**

October 2, 2024 | 6 PM | Spanish Springs Library

**Important Things to Know About Planning & Development**

*Presenters: Abbe Yacoben, Michael Large, Dr. Jeremy Smith, Dr. Eric Young, Rob Pierce, & Trevor Lloyd*

**Abbe Yacoben - Washoe County Chief Financial Officer**

Abbe Yacoben holds a Masters Degree in Public Policy from the University of Chicago Harris School of Public Policy Studies with a concentration in finance, as well as a Certified Public Finance Officer certification. Before moving to Washoe County, Yacoben served as City of Las Vegas Deputy Finance Director, where she and her team oversaw the City’s $2 billion annual budget. She began her public service at Village of Forest Park, Illinois, in 2003, and has more than 20 years of municipal finance leadership experience.

Her team strives to ensure transparency in reporting Washoe County’s financial policy and impacts, and she welcomes public inquiry. Please feel free to contact her using the information listed above.

**Office: 775.325.8243 |** **ayacoben@washoecounty.gov**

**Michael Large - Washoe County Deputy District Attorney in the Civil Division**

Michael Large has served in the position for the past 8 years. Prior to that, Mr. Large served as an Assistant United States Attorney for the District of Nevada and as an associate with the law firm of Laxalt & Nomura Ltd.  Mr. Large is a former law clerk for the Honorable Procter R. Hug, Jr. with the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit.  He also served as a law clerk for the Honorable Howard D. McKibben and the Honorable David W. Hagen on the United States District Court for the District of Nevada.  Mr. Large is a graduate of the University of Oregon School of Law and Oregon State University.

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**Dr. Jeremy Smith - Truckee Meadows Regional Planning Agency, Director**

Jeremy Smith has been with TMRPA since 2011.  He holds a PhD in Geography from the University of Colorado (CU) and received his Master and Bachelor of Science degrees in Geography from the University of Nevada, Reno (UNR).  His research interests are wide ranging and include biogeography, GIScience, forest ecology, climate change and urban/regional planning. Prior to joining TMRPA, Jeremy worked in both academic and professional settings.

During his stint in Colorado, he was awarded for teaching efforts that spanned the department’s geographic information systems (GIS) curriculum. He also contributed GIS analysis and support for several studies funded by sources such as the United States Geological Survey, the National Science Foundation and the National Institutes of Health.

Before attending CU, Jeremy worked as project manager and as the operations manager for an office of over 25 GIS professionals creating geospatial data to support telecom engineering across California and Nevada.

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**Dr. Eric Young – Washoe County Community Services Division, Senior Planner**

Eric Young, a senior planner for Washoe County, came to the county's planning program from Florida in 2000. Eric began his planning career in Collier County, Florida in 1990 and later obtained a PhD in Economic Geography from the University of Florida in 1998, before ultimately settling down in Reno.

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**Rob Pierce – Washoe County Planning Commission Chair & Washoe County Board of Adjustment Chair**

Rob Pierce volunteers for numerous organizations. He serves as the current chairman of the Washoe County Planning Commission and the Board of Adjustment. He sits on two different RTC boards, is a member of the PMRC, and the ASAC-Airport Sustainability Advisory Committee. In addition, he is the president of the SKCO homeowners’ association. He is also a volunteer for WCSO in a couple different roles. He has served on other boards in the past with great honor.

Rob shared, “I don’t take my responsibilities lightly. I am very organized, easy to get along with, and I have a clear vision for success. I am considered a team player by many, and I always try to examine all the facts before making a decision. I am respectful to all, and I believe that in order to succeed we need to be engaged and get involved with the community by continuing to invest in our citizens therefore promoting success.”

Rob Pierce’s Top Priorities for the future include:

* Supporting First Responders
* Addressing Mental Health Challenges and finding a way to help those who need it
* Supporting law enforcement in their challenge to keep us safe
* Look into the newest housing challenges we have for the people who need it, which includes
* Everyone from veterans all the way through to the affordable housing needs.

He strongly believes, “**nobody cares how much you know, until they know how much you care**. I am one of the ones who cares for the people of Washoe County, and I want to make the difference!”

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**Trevor Lloyd - Washoe County Community Services Division, Planning Manager**

Trevor Lloyd has worked in Planning with Washoe County for 27 years, graduated from UNR in 1994 and is a 5th generation Nevadan.

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