



Nevada Northern Railway Foundation

A Nevada 501 (c) 3 Non Profit Corporation

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Monthly Operations Report for September 2025

1. Locomotive Status – No change
 - a. Locomotives in service: 250, 109, 801, Wrecking Crane A & Rotary B.
 - b. Staff and volunteers are working on Locomotive 802 with the goal of bringing it back to service this summer.
 - b. On Locomotive 81 work is progressing on the pilot truck.
 - c. Locomotive 93 suffered a hub liner and crown brass failure on axle 4. We have dropped the axle and taken it to Salt Lake. Fortunately, the axle can be turned. The axle has been turned and the locomotive bearing bronze has been ordered.
 - d. During an inspection of the Doodlebug, we found a crack in the power truck frame. We are in the process of make a repair and returning the car to service.
 - e. Locomotive 105 is out of service for radiator leaks.
 - f. Locomotive 40 is out of service for her heavy repairs. We have started on her repairs; she will be out of service until 2027.
 - g. Locomotives out of service needing moderate repairs: #201
 - h. Locomotives waiting funding for restoration: Steptoe Valley Smelting and Mining #309 and Rotary Snowplow B (for boiler overhaul.)
 - i. Locomotives out of service needing heavy repairs #80 and the military locomotives.
2. Rolling Stock Status – No change
 - a. Passenger equipment in service: #05, #07, #08, #09, Flatcar #23, Baggage/RPO #20, Outfit Car #06 and Caboose 6.
 - b. Passenger Coach 5 is in service but it needs to be lettered in gold leaf.
 - c. Passenger equipment out of service: #10, #2 and #05 needing heavy repairs.
 - d. Caboosees in service: #3 #6 and #22 are operational.
 - e. Caboosees out service: #5
3. Track Status – No change
 - a. Keystone Branch is open.
 - b. Adverse Branch is open.
 - c. Museum Branch is open.
4. Ridership and Ticket Sales – Updated
 - a. In September we carried 1,598 passengers, this was essentially the same as compared to the previous year.

Award Winning Destination

Best Adrenaline Rush in Rural Nevada – 2020

Best Historic Railroad of the West – 2023, 2022

Best Museum in Rural Nevada – 2022, 2020, 2017, 2016, 2014, 2013, 2010, 2009, 2008

Trip Advisor Certificate of Excellence – 2024, 2023, 2022, 2021, 2020, 2019, 2018, 2017, 2016, 2015, 2014

Best Place to Take the Kids in Rural Nevada - 2020, 2019, 2018, 2015, 2014, 2013, 2012, 2011, 2010, 2009, 2008, 2007

- b. So far this year we have carried 10,598 passengers, this was an increase of 1% compared to the previous year.
 - c. Since operations began in 1987, we have carried 390,520 passengers.
- 5. Economic Impact – The average non-gaming & gaming daily expenditure per overnight visitor \$174.
Economic impact for September 2025 was $1,598 \times \$174 = \$279,650$.
Economic impact year to date was $10,598 \times \$174 = \$1,844,052$
These numbers only reflect the economic impact of our train passengers and does not include visitors who did not ride the train.
- 6. Social Media: Our reach on social media continues to expand:
 - a. Our Facebook views was 1,604,799
 - b. Our Facebook reach last month was 603,798
 - c. We have 137,500 page likes.
 - d. 236,137 people follow our page.
- 7. Santa's Reindeer Flyer – For years we did the Polar Express as our Christmas Train. To do that train we had to license it through Warner Brothers and we had to pay a hefty license fee. On top of the fee, we had to do follow their story line for the train. Every year, they added some new requirement until doing their program became unreasonable and costly.

The decision was made to create our own program, which we named Santa's Reindeer Flyer. The story line was that Santa's reindeer came down with the flu and the Nevada Northern Railway saves Christmas with the help of Santa and the Magic Switch.

Our goal has been to do a children's story book tell the story of Santa's Reindeer Flyer and I think we struck gold. It was the combined effort of Angie, our superintendent, Jennifer, one of our volunteers and Shannon, a graphic artist that has done work for the railroad for years. Frankly I believe this will become an award winning book.

We are publishing the book through Kindle Direct Publishing, a division of Amazon. The book will be available here at the railroad, and through locations in town and of course Amazon. Attached are some sample pages from the book.

Santa's
REINDEER
Flyer



Story by Written by Illustration & Design by
Mark Bassett & Angela Stevens Jennifer Fowler Shannon Potratz



Here is a story gone mostly untold,
when **Christmas** was saved
by the Ghost Train of old . . .



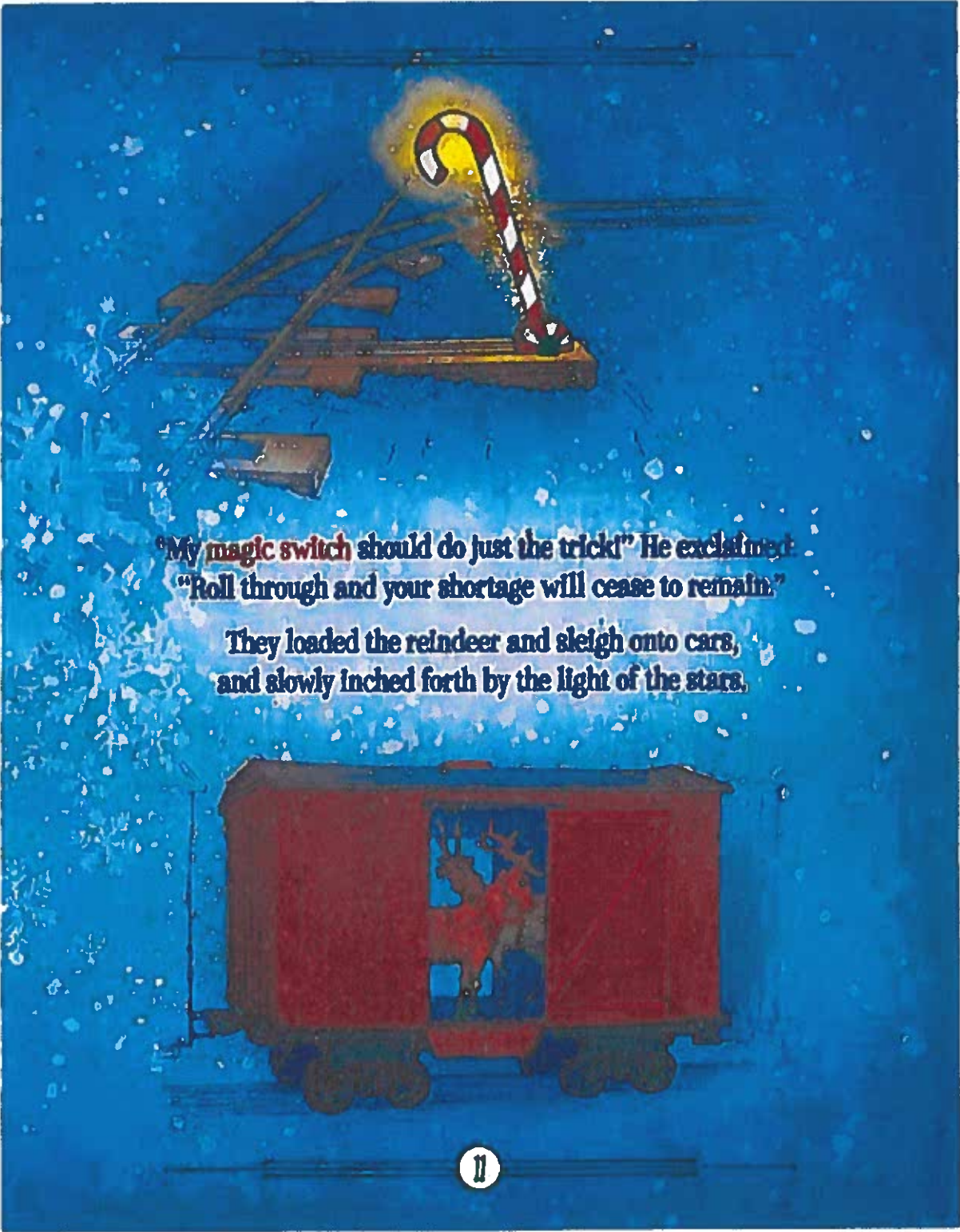
On a bitter cold **Christmas Eve** long-long ago,
In the small town of Ely where sagebrush will grow.

The towns folk were settling in for the night,
safe in their homes decked in **colorful** lights.



He looked at the tender, empty and bare.
"I have just the thing, some coal I can share!"
Out of his **bag** he pulled one lump of **coal**.
Not quite enough for the engine to roll...



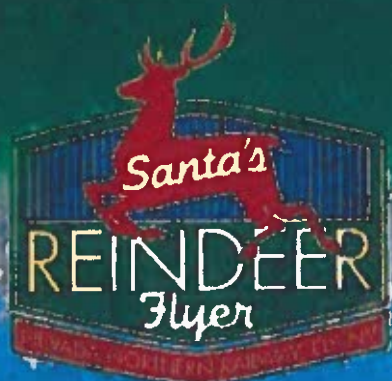


"My **magic switch** should do just the trick!" He exclaimed.
"Roll through and your shortage will cease to remain."

They loaded the reindeer and sleigh onto cars,
and slowly inched forth by the light of the stars.



Once through the switch, the train looked brand new.
Now full of coal, decked in green and red too!
The train had emerged as the Reindeer Flyer
and mightily chugged with a boiler of fire.



Santa's Reindeer Flyer is a heartwarming holiday tale that unveils a little-known chapter in Christmas lore. When Santa's reindeer come down with the flu, the unthinkable may happen — Christmas might be lost. But hope arrives in the form of an unexpected friend: the Nevada Northern Railway and its legendary Ghost Train.

In this magical adventure, the railway crew springs into action to save Christmas. With steam billowing and a dash of Santa's magic in the air, the train takes on the mission of delivering presents across the globe and becomes a symbol of the enduring spirit of the season.

Full of nostalgia, festive cheer, and the spirit of giving, *Santa's Reindeer Flyer* is a touching tale of how a train, and its crew, found magic in an unexpected place and delivered Christmas cheer, despite the odds.

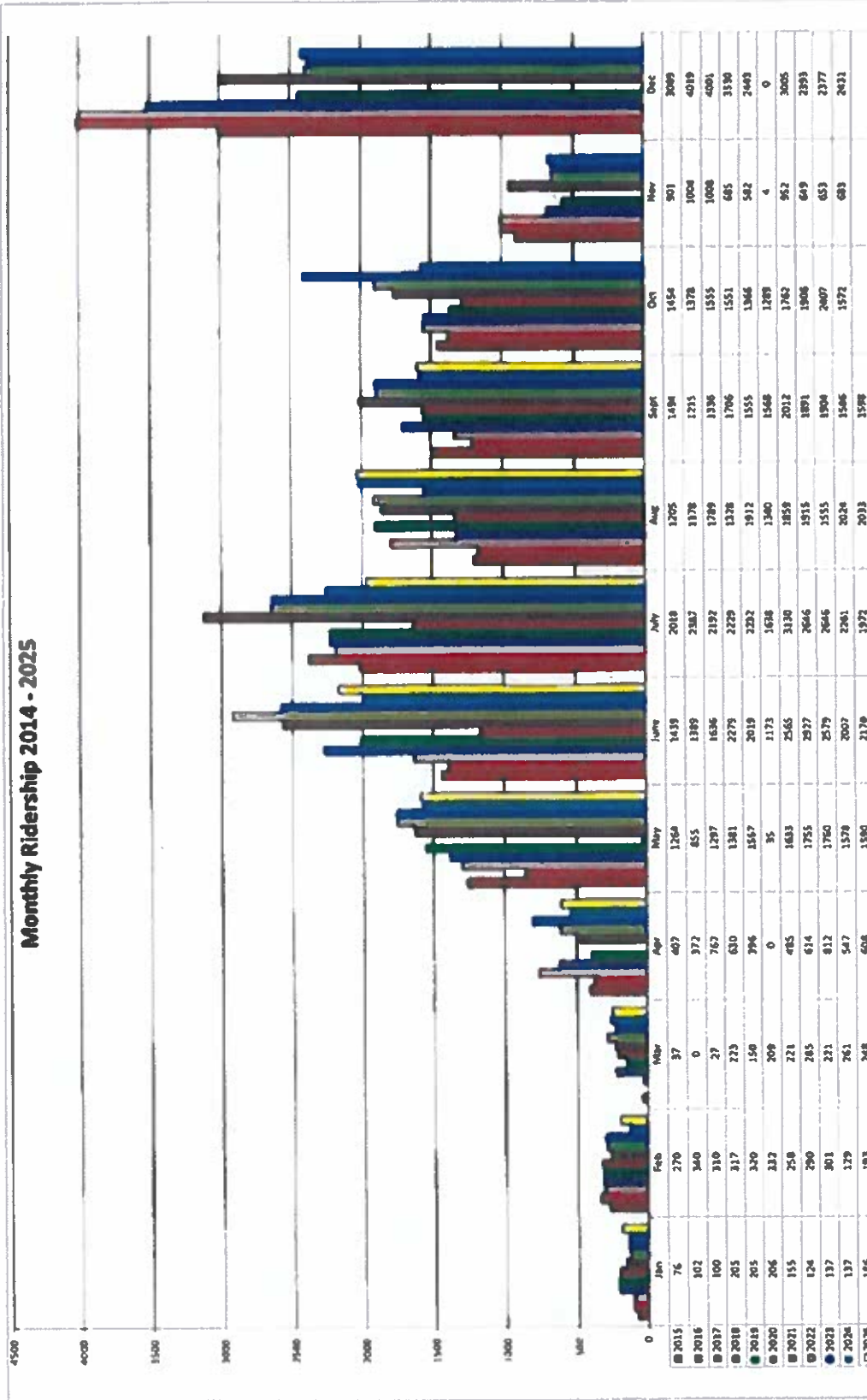


SANTA'S REINDEER FLYER
For more information, visit www.nrry.com



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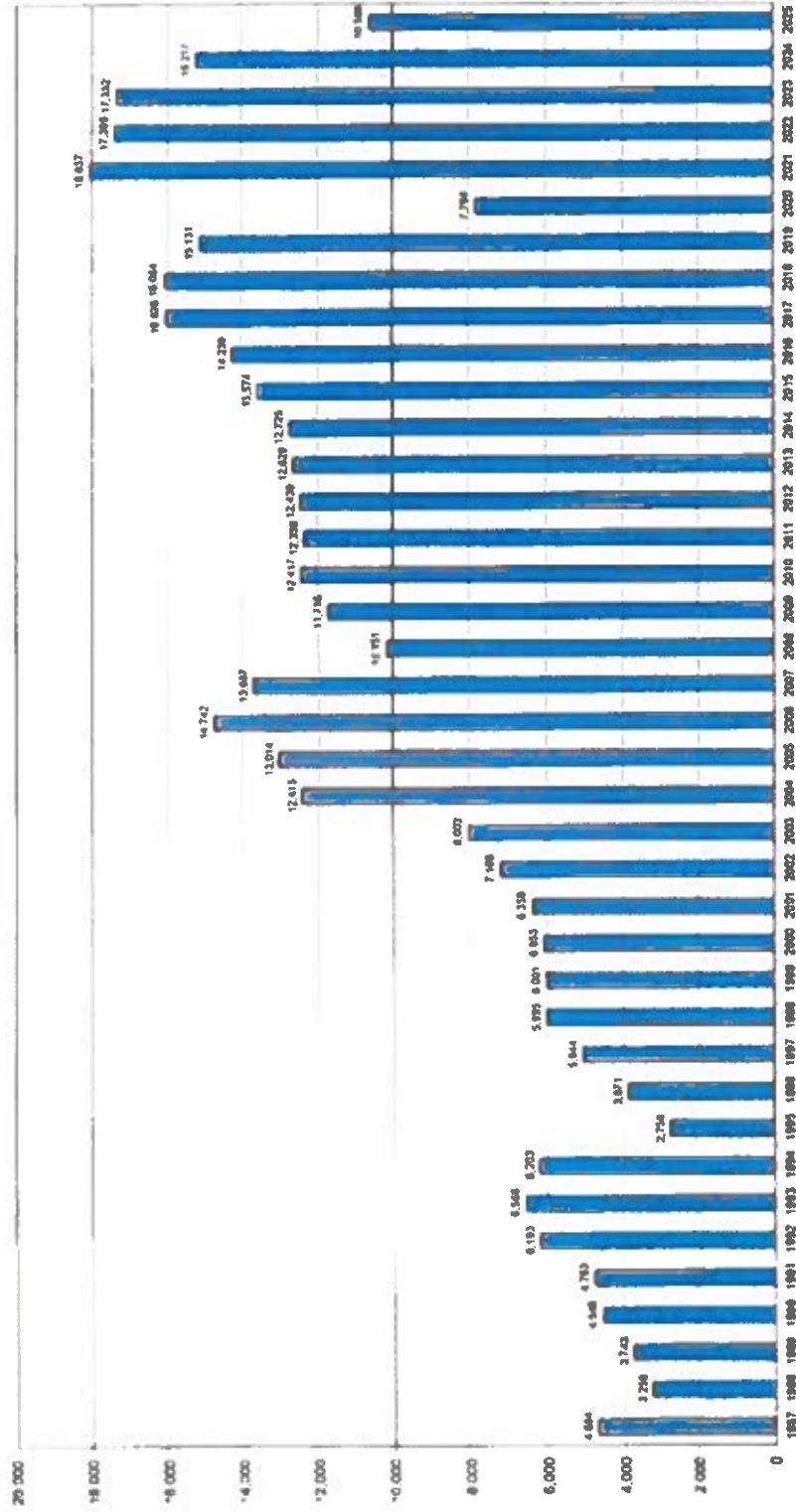
Monthly Ridership 2014 - 2025



Total Ridership

1987 - 2025

390,520 Passengers
Through September 30, 2025



NON-EXCLUSIVE ROAD EASEMENT

For consideration of ONE DOLLAR, with receipt thereof hereby acknowledged, and other considerations, if any, as provided herein,

CITY OF ELY, NEVADA, a Nevada Municipal Corporation,

(hereinafter "GRANTOR"), does hereby grant to the UNITED STATES OF AMERICA (hereinafter "GRANTEE"), and its assigns, as authorized by the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 as amended (43 U.S.C. 1715), a nonexclusive easement, in perpetuity, to use an existing road over and across the following described real property, of which GRANTOR is the owner, situated in the County of White Pine, State of Nevada, to wit:

A 40-foot wide road easement, the described easement being a strip of land 20-foot wide each side of the described centerline, located within the SW $\frac{1}{4}$ of the SW $\frac{1}{4}$ of the SE $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 34 of Township 17 North, Range 63 East, M.D.B.&M., more particularly described as follows:

Commencing at the Northwest corner of said Section 34, thence S30°36'24"E a distance of 5,288.64 feet to the point of beginning; said point being on the West line of the Southwest $\frac{1}{4}$ of the Southwest $\frac{1}{4}$ of the Southeast $\frac{1}{4}$; thence S65°44'12"E a distance of 371.66 feet, thence along a radial curve to the right, having a radius of 500.00 feet, an arc length of 242.78 feet, and a delta angle of 27°49'13" to the point of termination; said point being on the West Right-of-Way of White Pine County Road 52 containing 0.56 acres more or less. The sidelines of the herein described centerline to be lengthened or shortened so as to intersect with the aforementioned West line of the Southwest $\frac{1}{4}$ of the Southwest $\frac{1}{4}$ of the Southeast $\frac{1}{4}$ and the northwesterly Right-of-Way White Pine County Road 52.

The parcel of land to which the above description applies contains approximately 0.56 acres.

The acquiring agency is the UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT, Nevada State Office, 1340 Financial Blvd., Reno, NV 89502 [or Ely District Office, 702 North Industrial Way, Ely, NV 89301].

The easement herein granted is for the full use of the above-described property, for the purpose specified, by the GRANTEE, its licensees and permittees, including the right of access for the people of the United States generally to lands owned, administered, or controlled by the GRANTEE for all lawful and proper purposes subject to the reasonable rules and regulation of the Secretary of the Interior.

GRANTOR reserves the right of ingress and egress over and across the parcel for all lawful purposes, *provided* that such use shall not unreasonably interfere with the easement granted herein, and, *provided further*, that the use of the parcel containing the easement by GRANTOR for any commercial or ancillary use thereto shall be subject to Title V of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (90 Stat. 2743-2794) and regulations issued thereunder.

The grant of easement herein made is subject to the effect of reservations and leases, if any, of oil, gas, and minerals in and under said land.

The easement herein granted shall be appurtenant to and for the benefit of the above-described property and shall inure to the benefit of, and be binding upon, the parties hereto, and their respective assigns, successors, and representatives, forever.

TO HAVE AND TO HOLD said easement to the GRANTEE and its assigns forever.

GRANTOR covenants and warrants that it is lawfully seized and possessed of the land aforesaid and has the full right, power, and authority to execute this conveyance and said land is free and clear of liens, claims, or encumbrances, except as shown of record. GRANTOR further covenants and warrants that it will defend the title to the easement conveyed herein and quiet enjoyment thereof against the lawful claims and demands of all persons and entities.

DATED this _____ day of _____, 2025

NATHAN ROBERTSON, Mayor, City of Ely, Nevada

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

STATE OF NEVADA)
) ss:
COUNTY OF WHITE PINE)

This instrument was acknowledged before me on the _____ day of _____, 2025 by NATHAN ROBERTSON, in his capacity as the Mayor of, and on the behalf of, the City of Ely, Nevada.

Notary Public

NON-EXCLUSIVE ROAD EASEMENT

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A 40-foot wide road easement, the described easement being a strip of land 20-foot wide each side of the described centerline, located within the S $\frac{1}{2}$ of the NW $\frac{1}{4}$ of the NW $\frac{1}{4}$ of the NW $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 34 of Township 17 North, Range 63 East, M.D.B.&M., more particularly described as follows:

Commencing at the Northwest corner of said Section 34, thence S51°51'48"E a distance of 533.37 feet to the point of beginning; said point being on the North line of the South $\frac{1}{2}$ of the Northwest $\frac{1}{4}$ of the Northwest $\frac{1}{4}$ of the Northwest $\frac{1}{4}$; thence S54°51'20"E a distance of 326.22 feet to the point of termination; said point being on the East line of the South $\frac{1}{2}$ of the Northwest $\frac{1}{4}$ of the Northwest $\frac{1}{4}$ of the Northwest $\frac{1}{4}$ containing 0.30 acres more or less. The side lines of the herein described centerline to be lengthened or shortened so as to intersect with the aforementioned North and East lines of the South $\frac{1}{2}$ of the Northwest $\frac{1}{4}$ of the Northwest $\frac{1}{4}$ of the Northwest $\frac{1}{4}$.

The parcel of land to which the above description applies contains approximately 0.30 acres.

The acquiring agency is the UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT, Nevada State Office, 1340 Financial Blvd., Reno, NV 89502 [or Ely District Office, 702 North Industrial Way, Ely, NV 89301].

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The grant of easement herein made is subject to the effect of reservations and leases, if any, of oil, gas, and minerals in and under said land.

The easement herein granted shall be appurtenant to and for the benefit of the above-described property and shall inure to the benefit of, and be binding upon, the parties hereto, and their respective assigns, successors, and representatives, forever.

TO HAVE AND TO HOLD said easement to the GRANTEE and its assigns, forever.

GRANTOR covenants and warrants that it is lawfully seized and possessed of the land aforesaid and has the full right, power, and authority to execute this conveyance and said land is free and clear of liens, claims, or encumbrances, except as shown of record. GRANTOR further covenants and warrants that it will defend the title to the easement conveyed herein and quiet enjoyment thereof against the lawful claims and demands of all persons and entities.

DATED this _____ day of _____, 2025

NATHAN ROBERTSON, Mayor, City of Ely, Nevada

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

STATE OF NEVADA)
) ss:
COUNTY OF WHITE PINE)

This instrument was acknowledged before me on the _____ day of _____, 2025 by NATHAN ROBERTSON, in his capacity as the Mayor of, and on the behalf of, the City of Ely, Nevada.

Notary Public

City of Ely

10.23.2025 City Council Meeting

Subject: Approval of the City of Ely Employee Benefit Plans for 2025-26 Plan Year

Overview

City of Ely's employee medical policy is renewing December 1, 2025. City of Ely's dental policy is in a rate guarantee through November 30, 2026 and the vision and life policies are in a rate guarantee through November 30, 2027. The below contains the applicable background information and management's recommendations.

Summary

Heading into the renewal, the City of Ely's medical loss ratio (MLR) is a 93%. Employee utilization is high and the rising costs of healthcare are providing less favorable claims experience.

Even with that experience, Sierra Health and Life (SHL) released the renewal at a 2.7% increase. LP presented a similar plan option with lower rates but would require increasing the deductibles and out-of-pocket maximums for employees.

Recommendation

Staff recommends that the City Council approve the medical renewal for the 2025-26 plan year as outlined above.