



Exhibit E

January 9, 2023

Board of Washoe County Commissioners
1001 E. 9th St, Building A
Reno, NV 89512

Re: Opposition to granting of access easement and development of access road through property used by Regional Public Safety Training Center and Regional Emergency Operations Center to ensure continued and uninterrupted critical training of first responders and emergency response.

Dear Chairman Hartung, Vice Chairman Hill, Commissioner Clark, Commissioner Garcia, Commissioner Herman,

The Executive Committee for the Regional Public Safety Training Center (RPSTC) strongly opposes the Southwestern Properties' proposal for the development of an access road and easement through the training center. Our opposition is based on interference with the mission of the critical training of first responders, future expansion of the training facility, and safety concerns about the proposal.

The mission of the RPSTC is to ensure our community's first responders receive the critical training needed to respond to any emergency. The RPSTC provides fire, law enforcement, and emergency management personnel with training resources and supreme educational programs in a state-of-the-art local facility. This region's first responders receive vital training in a cost-effective manner through the RPSTC because of the significant and long-term commitment and cooperation of Washoe County and the cities of Sparks and Reno dating back to 2005. The RPSTC has five live firearm ranges, a seven-story firefighter training tower, a vehicle operations course, a four-wheel drive terrain course, a functional rubble pile and confined space training for tactical fire and search and rescue exercises.

Additionally, Washoe County, Reno, and Sparks joined together to create the Regional Emergency Operations Center (REOC) so that our regional community would have a single, secure, and safe location for the participating agencies to work together to make critical decisions during emergency and disaster situations. Our community's Homeland Security Program, which safeguards members of our community against both natural and human-caused threats, is housed within the REOC. The Emergency Management Program, which assists local agencies and communities in preparing for and responding to emergencies, is also housed within the REOC. Our region proudly includes Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe, Reno Sparks Indian Colony, the City of Reno, the City of Sparks, the Washoe County School District, and the Washoe County Health District. Lastly, this area also houses our Regional Dispatch Center which provides the critical mission of intake of 911 calls and dispatch first responders throughout our region.


Southwestern Properties presented their plans before the Executive Board of the RPSTC. The Executive Board chaired by the Washoe County Sheriff has concerns that creation of an emergency access roadway through the site does not align with the use of the training center. The access road may encumber vital training operations for our first responders. Additionally, the access road will use land that has already been identified for continued and planned growth of our training facilities and would impede the expansion plans for Regional K-9 Operations as well as a Regional Mounted Horse Unit training facility. There are also concerns about how future development of the surrounding area could put further restrictions on our firing ranges and other training facilities.

In addition, the access road will create a weakened point within our exterior perimeter fencing, noting the continuous training and now exposure to additional liabilities that may occur by allowing a possible access point for the public to gain entry onto our facility.

Our community relies on its RPSTC and Regional Emergency Operations Center to protect the health, safety, and welfare of Washoe County and its residents. The public safety needs of our community continue to both grow and evolve. These Centers and surrounding areas need to be maintained and protected to provide them the ability meet the continuously changing public safety needs of our community.



We respectfully request that the Board reject the private developer's proposal.

BY: 
Darin Balaam, Sheriff
Washoe County Sheriff's Office

Date: 2/1/23

BY:  D.C. O. MILLER #8875
Kathryn Nance, Chief
Reno Police Department

Date: 1/11/23

BY: 
Chris Crawford, Chief
Sparks Police Department

Date: 1/18/23

BY: 
Dave Cochran, Chief
Reno Fire Department

Date: 1/26/23

BY: 
Kevin Jakubos, Interim Chief
Sparks Fire Department

Date: 1/19/23