

**Environmental Health Services
Division Director Staff Report
Board Meeting Date: January 22, 2025**

DATE: January 13, 2026

TO: District Board of Health

FROM: Robert Fyda, Director
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SUBJECT: **Environmental Health Services Program Activities for: Consumer Protection** (Food Safety Plan Review & Operations, Commercial Plan Review, Foodborne Illness, Special Events, Permitted Facilities); **Environmental Protection** (Land Development, Safe Drinking Water, Vector-borne Disease Surveillance, Waste Management / Underground Storage Tanks).

Environmental Health Program Activities:

Consumer Protection Programs

Food Safety Plan Review & Operations

Special Processes & Program Standards Team

- December 1st - 4th staff, Ryan Rennie and Olivia Alexander-Leeder, traveled to Bellingham, WA to mentor the Whatcom County food safety inspection team as part of the NACCHO Mentorship Program which supports interjurisdictional collaboration, strengthening food safety practices, and building a national food safety network.
- Staff hosted two AMC Program Courses, which were attended by representatives from 18 food establishments.

Food Safety Plan Review

- Office hours every Tuesday in December have been busy with stakeholders inquiring about how to build a restaurant and change of ownership.
- The team has been busy with food establishment change of ownerships in December and construction inspections for plan review to end the year out.

Temp Foods / Special Events / Mobile Foods

- In December, the team worked included 39 North Pole Village in Victorian Square in Downtown Sparks, The Holiday Lights Festival at City Plaza in Downtown Reno and Winter Wonderland at the Atlantis.

Foodborne Disease Program

Epidemiology	JAN 2025	FEB 2025	MAR 2025	APR 2025	MAY 2025	JUN 2025	JUL 2025	AUG 2025	SEP 2025	OCT 2025	NOV 2025	DEC 2025	YTD 2025	2024	2023	2022
Foodborne Disease Complaints	9	7	4	6	5	11	3	10	8	7	6	23	99	202	107	51
Foodborne Disease Interviews	6	4	3	3	5	3	3	7	5	5	5	16	65	115	102	47
Foodborne Disease Investigations	0	0	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	2	0	0	5	10	7	4
CD Referrals Reviewed	6	6	5	3	5	8	18	15	13	13	3	9	104	61	45	81
Product Recalls Reviewed	9	14	13	22	9	27	27	19	24	11	5	18	198	253	268	250

Food Operations Enforcement and Investigations:

Permit Suspensions

Ongoing enforcement activities related to continued non-permitted food operations throughout Reno, Sparks and unincorporated Washoe County. Staff continue to partner with other agencies regarding these complaints.

A. *L & L Hawaiian BBQ, H17-0111FOOD, 1495 E Prater Way # 125, Sparks, NV*

NNPH visited the facility to conduct a routine inspection; however, upon entrance NNPH inspector was made aware that the walk-in unit was down. Since the person in charge stated that they did not have enough food in the working equipment they would have to self-close until walk in unit was fixed.

B. *Sbarro, H18-0788FOOD, 5000 Meadowood Mall Cir, Reno, NV*

The health permit was suspended on 12/23/2025 for repeat consecutive critical violations for date marking, cold holding, and time as a public health control. The operator was required to write AMC policies and attend an office hearing prior to permit reinstatement to explain how critical risk factors will be kept in compliance. Operator was also required to bring photos or videos and invoices from a licensed plumber showing floor sink drain is cleared and functioning properly. On 12/24/2025, the office hearing was held and the AMC policies were deferred until the reinspection, and the permit was reinstated. The operator subsequently passed reinspection on 1/5/2026 with policies still outstanding (due by 1/7/2026).

C. *La Mint, H18-1091FOOD, 770 S Meadows Pkwy, Reno, NV*

The health permit was suspended for repeat critical violations for inappropriate date marking (4th finding) and improper cooling (3rd finding) has been observed since July 2023. The operator was required to attend an office hearing and submit an updated AMC policy for date marking and cooling. The office hearing was held on 12/4/2025, and the AMC policies were completed. The operator passed a subsequent facility reinspection on 12/17/2025.

Permitted Facilities

Commercial Plans / Development Reviews

- Commercial Plans increased 72% from the same time last year in December for this past month. Calendar year 2025 finished with 1,704 plan submittals compared to 1,729 plan submittals from 2024, which means the year finished with plans being 1% below 2024.
- EHS received 186 Commercial Plans to review and conducted 281 EHS specific environmental reviews on those plans during the month of December.
 - A total of 1,704 commercial plans were received and a total of 2,479 EHS specific reviews completed.
- 94% of all plans in December 2025 were reviewed within the regional goal of 14 days.
 - 12 plans of the 186 submitted in December did not meet the regional goal for review.

Commercial Plans & Development Reviews		JAN 2025	FEB 2025	MAR 2025	APR 2025	MAY 2025	JUN 2025	JUL 2025	AUG 2025	SEP 2025	OCT 2025	NOV 2025	DEC 2025	YTD 2025	2024	2023
Development Reviews		32	38	24	37	32	22	35	20	29	45	26	34	374	349	461
Commercial Plan Review Submittals		128	108	111	146	125	133	149	141	173	178	125	186	1,704	1,729	1,814
Total Reviews Conducted		217	168	160	236	183	191	180	200	246	244	173	281	2,479	2469	2,270
Revision Resubmittal Rate		59%	55%	36%	51%	50%	44%	43%	48%	53%	47%	58%	33%	48%	52%	
# Plan Reviews exceeding 14 calendar days		14	8	6	9	20	18	20	15	8	7	3	12	140	438	
% Plan Review meeting Regional Goal		89%	93%	95%	94%	84%	86%	87%	89%	95%	96%	98%	94%	92%	75%	
Review Type Breakdown	Engineering	104	74	83	122	98	108	122	107	133	131	87	154	1,323	1,270	1,568
	Food	25	34	28	23	27	25	25	30	38	43	38	33	369	452	400
	Pool/Spa	7	2	2	6	3	2	3	3	8	8	6	5	55	96	84
	Vector	74	53	41	80	51	49	26	47	50	49	31	76	627	583	278
	Hotel/Motel	0	3	1	2	1	5	2	7	7	6	5	5	44	25	19
	Environmental	2	2	4	2	2	0	0	6	10	6	5	5	44	41	78
	UST / WM	5	0	1	1	1	2	2	0	0	1	1	3	17	34	7

Commercial Plan Review Detail		JAN 2025	FEB 2025	MAR 2025	APR 2025	MAY 2025	JUN 2025	JUL 2025	AUG 2025	SEP 2025	OCT 2025	NOV 2025	DEC 2025	YTD 2025	2024
New Reviews Submitted (1st Review)		53	50	71	69	63	74	85	74	81	95	53	106	874	826
Reno		36	33	51	47	44	48	50	53	61	59	33	83	598	519
Sparks		9	6	9	14	9	18	20	10	10	22	7	10	144	171
Washoe		8	11	11	8	10	8	15	11	10	14	13	13	132	136
Average days in review (1st Reviews)		6	6	6	5	8	11	8	5	4	5	5	5	6	10
Revisions Submitted (2nd Review +)		75	59	40	75	62	59	64	67	92	83	72	62	810	903
Reno		53	39	27	57	46	39	46	41	61	54	51	46	560	619
Sparks		14	10	6	7	9	12	11	18	14	15	13	9	138	192
Washoe County		8	10	7	11	7	8	7	8	17	14	8	7	112	92
Average days in review (Revisions)		7	6	5	3	7	13	8	5	4	3	4	5	6	12

Program Highlights

- The program spent the last month completing reinspections and preparing for the next school year and inspections.
- Childcare regulations are pending completion of formatting. Once they have been formatted, the regulations will be reviewed and sent to the State for comment and public forums will be planned to discuss the future regulations with the operators.

Vector-Borne Disease Program

- Program staff continue to winterize mosquito abatement and surveillance equipment.
- The mosquito fish program has been continued into the winter, maintaining a warehouse population, to facilitate earlier mosquito fish request response in the spring.

Vector	JAN 2025	FEB 2025	MAR 2025	APR 2025	MAY 2025	JUN 2025	JUL 2025	AUG 2025	SEP 2025	OCT 2025	NOV 2025	DEC 2025	YTD 2025	2024	2023	2022
Total Service Requests	1	2	5	6	7	24	25	18	13	5	1	0	107	51	99	65
Mosquito Pools Tested	0	0	0	0	8	29	124	146	232	63	0	0	602	403	948	506
Mosquito Surveys and Treatments	0	0	0	0	5	4	315	311	11	4	0	0	650	151	242	791

Environmental Protection

Residential Septic & Well Plan Reviews

- Intake for residential well and septic plans continued to be elevated in December. A total of 73 plans came in, 30 of which were new submittals, compared to 34 in 2024 with 17 being new submittals.
- A project to recover septic and well records from the Washoe Regional Mapping System (WRMS) continued. Working with tech services, staff was able to obtain usable records from the WRMS

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system. Staff is in process of checking records and marrying them to the EHS stored property records. Once completed, this will result in all septic and well records being stored in one place for the first time. The project will then move towards making the records easily available to the public.

- Team leadership continued to work with Technology Services throughout December to refine and improve the well and septic record types in Accela. This has included automating the workflow steps for inspectors in the well record to minimize steps, and the development of an automated checklist for test trench inspections in the septic record.
- Team leadership have finalized a form for auditing inspectors while they conduct septic and well inspections and plan review. The form may change with time but has been shared with the inspectors, so they are aware of what they are being audited against. Audits will begin in 2026, and the goal will be to conduct three audits for each inspector each calendar year.
- The Business Impact statement for the proposed septic regulation update went to the Board of Health in December and was approved. Adoption of the regulations is scheduled for the January meeting. The regulations will then go to the State Board of Health for approval in March.

Land Development	JAN 2025	FEB 2025	MAR 2025	APR 2025	MAY 2025	JUN 2025	JUL 2025	AUG 2025	SEP 2025	OCT 2025	NOV 2025	DEC 2025	YTD 2025	2024	2023	2022
Plans Received (Residential/Septic)	58	48	65	77	65	75	71	64	69	72	59	61	784	885	828	999
Residential Septic/Well Inspections	79	53	86	90	75	86	67	56	70	68	67	87	884	1,001	1,004	1,436
Well Permits	8	14	9	8	4	3	4	1	7	4	12	12	86	115	90	141

Safe Drinking Water

- One sanitary survey was completed in the month of December. All required sanitary surveys for 2025 were completed and reports sent out.
- Team leadership has begun the process of learning the State's Planner process for water projects. While EHS no longer conducts water project reviews themselves, there are tasks to be completed as facility managers when water systems upgrade their infrastructure. It has long been a goal to handle those tasks consistently with the State utilizing their system. Once leadership is comfortable with the process, staff assigned to the program will be trained as well.

Safe Drinking Water	JAN 2025	FEB 2025	MAR 2025	APR 2025	MAY 2025	JUN 2025	JUL 2025	AUG 2025	SEP 2025	OCT 2025	NOV 2025	DEC 2025	YTD 2025	2024
Sanitary Survey	1	0	2	2	0	4	2	2	5	2	0	0	20	23
Level 1 Assessments	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	2	6
Level 2 Assessments	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	4	2
Water Projects Received	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	23

Waste Management / Underground Storage Tanks (USTs)

- All required inspections were completed for calendar year 2025.
- UST staff inspected 23 fuel sites, and 9 compliance document review re-inspections in December.
- Staff received 24 complaints for the month of December and conducted 40 on-site inspections.
- Solid Waste Management staff inspected 29 permitted waste management facilities / liquid waste trucks and conducted one (1) re-inspection. Two new liquid waste trucks were opened and one opening inspection on a waste management permit occurred during the month.
- Staff are continuing to work with the County Manager's Office on a pilot composting program that will require a variance. Staff conducted a site visit and are providing final feedback on the variance request.

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- A quarterly update meeting was held with KTMB. The primary topic of discussion was how to incorporate new legislation into practice to help remove junk cars from the desert. Even with the new legislation, there are some challenging hurdles that will be worked on over the next year.
- The senior EHS recruitment yielded 15 candidates, approximately 50%-50% internal and external. Interviews are scheduled for January 12-14.

Inspections:

EHS Inspections	JAN 2025	FEB 2025	MAR 2025	APR 2025	MAY 2025	JUN 2025	JUL 2025	AUG 2025	SEP 2025	OCT 2025	NOV 2025	DEC 2025	YTD 2025	2024	2023
Child Care	16	14	12	5	5	7	11	9	35	10	7	2	133	119	133
Food/Exempt Food	286	322	349	351	351	300	380	466	466	466	341	350	4,434	3,803	3,576
Schools/Institutions	25	45	25	45	12	0	0	8	51	37	38	14	301	276	300
Tattoo/Permanent Make-Up	15	7	7	8	4	5	5	20	5	10	12	30	128	285	110
Temporary IBD Events	0	0	1	0	117	3	0	0	1	0	0	0	122	147	36
Liquid Waste Trucks	24	18	5	3	6	3	5	16	8	50	19	13	170	161	113
Mobile Home/RV Parks	16	2	12	2	4	1	3	11	15	25	10	2	103	97	108
Public Accommodations	7	6	7	4	1	2	5	6	5	14	16	15	88	126	68
Aquatic Facilities/Pools/Spas	3	49	60	105	246	145	92	56	9	41	28	2	836	847	739
RV Dump Station	2	0	5	0	1	0	4	8	1	2	0	0	23	2	14
Underground Storage Tanks	19	18	17	17	18	10	21	19	15	28	20	32	234	210	202
Waste Management	15	31	18	13	8	16	22	17	16	10	6	20	194	139	166
Temporary Foods/Special Events	23	24	29	119	147	265	179	304	114	139	64	45	1,452	1,342	1,358
Complaints	41	59	53	69	78	68	134	78	89	107	55	62	895	654	760
TOTAL	492	595	600	741	998	825	861	1,018	830	939	616	587	9,113	8,208	7,683
EHS Public Record Requests	165	180	221	209	128	156	239	127	205	289	137	130	2,186	3,361	4,962

Complaints:

Complaint Breakdown	JAN 2025	FEB 2025	MAR 2025	APR 2025	MAY 2025	JUN 2025	JUL 2025	AUG 2025	SEP 2025	OCT 2025	NOV 2025	DEC 2025	YTD 2025	2024	2023
EHS - Invasive Body Decoration	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	1	1	1	0	0	5	4	1
EHS - Food	22	26	32	35	32	30	48	27	41	53	29	31	408	276	248
EHS - General	1	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	1	6	4	4
EHS - Hotels/Motels	1	3	1	2	2	2	2	1	3	5	2	4	28	23	20
EHS - Liquid Waste	5	5	1	10	6	6	8	4	5	11	9	4	74	64	62
EHS - Mobile Home/RV Park	0	1	0	0	0	3	1	0	0	1	1	0	7	6	9
EHS - Pools/Spas	1	0	0	1	0	4	10	4	3	0	0	2	25	16	3
EHS - Schools	1	1	1	2	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	8	33	3
EHS - Solid Waste	10	14	17	12	27	14	25	26	17	28	10	20	220	157	177
EHS - Vector	0	6	1	5	8	5	37	13	16	6	3	0	100	59	98
EHS - Waste Mgt	0	1	0	2	0	0	3	1	2	1	1	0	11	12	3
EHS - Wells	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	3	4	0

New Permits/Change of Ownership Inspections:

New Openings*	JAN 2025	FEB 2025	MAR 2025	APR 2025	MAY 2025	JUN 2025	JUL 2025	AUG 2025	SEP 2025	OCT 2025	NOV 2025	DEC 2025	YTD 2025	2024	2023	2022
Child Care	1	0	1	0	4	0	2	1	4	1	1	0	15	10	8	8
Food/Exempt Food	34	39	31	43	26	33	41	22	35	28	26	22	380	428	524	486
Schools/Institutions	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	2	1	0	0	0	4	3	3	6
Tattoo/Permanent Make-Up (IBD)	3	1	4	5	4	2	2	8	3	3	2	2	39	32	38	32
Liquid Waste Trucks	3	1	4	1	5	2	1	2	1	2	0	2	24	41	21	17
Mobile Home/RV Parks	2	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	0	6	6	42	8
Public Accommodations	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	3	4	19	9
Aquatic Facilities/Pools/Spas	0	0	0	6	30	15	8	5	0	2	3	2	71	26	48	28
RV Dump Station	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	4	0	0	3
Waste Management	1	3	0	1	2	1	0	2	0	1	1	1	13	9	13	8
TOTAL	45	44	41	58	71	54	55	43	45	40	34	29	559	559	716	605

*This table identifies new business opening inspections but does not include re-inspections during the opening process.