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What Is Light Rail and How Can It Benefit Las Vegas?

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“What Is Light Rail and How Can It Benefit Las Vegas?”

AGENDA
January 15, 2016
Greenspun Hall Auditorium at UNLV

7:30 – 8:00 a.m.  Coffee and pastries

8:00 - 8:10 a.m.  Welcome and Introductions
William E. Brown Jr., UNLV Director, Brookings Mountain West

8:10 - 8:45 a.m.  Session I: “What Is Light Rail and What System Do We Need in the Las Vegas Valley?”
Robert Lang, Executive Director, Brookings Mountain West

A. Comparison of Rail Systems in the United States
   1. High-Speed Rail
   2. Long-Haul Inter-Metro Passenger Rail Long-Haul Commuter Rail
   3. Heavy-Rail Systems
   4. Light Rail Systems
   5. Street Car Systems
   6. Regions with multi-systems

B. The Best Choice for the Las Vegas Valley
   1. Definition of “The Las Vegas Valley”
   2. Rail System Requirements: placement of rail lines; location of stations/stops; and geographic reach of system?
   3. The Big Question: elevated rail, street level, below ground?

8:45 – 9:20 a.m.  Session II: “Why Build Light Rail in the Las Vegas Valley?”
Robert Lang, Executive Director, Brookings Mountain West

A. Relief of Traffic Congestion at the Las Vegas Strip, McCarran International Airport, and the Las Vegas Convention Center
   1. The Evidence for Multi-modal Traffic Solutions
   2. How Competing Metros Address This Challenge

B. Environmental Impact
   1. Air quality and energy use
   2. Land use and water conservation

C. Economic Impact
   1. Real estate development and tax yield along rail corridors
   2. Recruitment and Retention of Millennial Generation Workers
   3. Tourism and Conventions/Events/Tradeshows
   4. Economic Diversification: Attracting New Industries to the region
   5. Stimulus in Construction Industry

9:20 – 9:30 a.m.  Closing Remarks and Next Steps