

From: Retired Renocop@
Sent: Tuesday, July 28, 2020 10:05 AM
To: Tina Padovano <tpadovano@tax.state.nv.us>
Cc: Tax Revolt <renotaxrevolt@>
Subject: Re: Nevada Tax Commission Meeting PUBLIC COMMENT

Public Comment for Tax Commission, July 31 from Jeff Church, www.RenoTaxRevolt.com:
Subj: Reno "Business Improvement District" (BID)

From the Nevada Department of Taxation after consultation with Deputy A.G.:

"At a minimum, the Reno BID/DMO is subject to the jurisdiction of the Department pursuant to the Local Government Budget and Finance Act, pursuant to NRS 354.474(1). For instance, the creation of a special assessment/local improvement district pursuant to NRS 271 would appear to trigger budget reporting responsibilities for contracts associated with the expenditure of the special assessment levies pursuant to NRS 354.5965."

NRS 354.474 Applicability to local governments; "local government" defined.

1. Except as otherwise provided in subsections 2 and 3, the provisions of NRS 354.470 to 354.626, inclusive, apply to all local governments. For the purpose of NRS 354.470 to 354.626, inclusive:

(a) "Local government" means every political subdivision or other entity which has the right to levy or receive money from ad valorem or other taxes or any mandatory assessments, and includes, without limitation, counties, cities, towns, boards, school districts and other districts organized pursuant to chapters 244A, 318, 318A and 379 of NRS, NRS 450.550 to 450.750, inclusive, and chapters 474, 541, 543 and 555 of NRS, and any agency or department of a county or city which prepares a budget separate from that of the parent political subdivision.

From City of Reno: "The City of Reno Business Improvement District (BID) is managed and operated by the Downtown Reno Partnership, a private, non-profit Downtown Management Organization (DMO)."

Comments from Jeff Church, www.RenoTaxRevolt.com:

The unelected BID/DMO board (not the City) determines any increase in assessments. The assessments apply to all private properties including non-business condo owners, vacant land, churches (that are otherwise tax exempt) and most government properties in the BID area.

Thus, taxpayers countywide pay taxes that support the BID. The BID pays for Reno Police Officers but those services are subsidized by taxpayers citywide. The DMO is a 501c6 (advocacy) alleged non-profit but has "no members" (see bylaws) it is not a 501c3.

Whereas the Department of Taxation has determined that the BID/DMO is a local government per NRS 354, I urge the Tax Commission to agendize and take a close look at BID/DMO. Please look at the question of how can a local government be a 501c6, how can the DMO that should

be self-sustaining be subsidized by other taxpayers, how can private retiree condo owners be assessed for a "business" district where they have no common business interest? Review the Bylaws for compliance with NRS laws governing non-profits. Clearly a local government is subject to Nevada Open Meeting Law and the DMO refuses to so comply.

This is Nevada's first and precedent setting Business Improvement District and whereas Taxation determined it is a local government, the Commission needs to take a close look at this based on the above and many more related issues.