

shooting range, wildlife habitat protection, trails, road connectors and a school site.

“It’s a way to wrap this up in one place ... and has been used successfully in a number of counties,” Netherton added, also citing a need to preserve wilderness areas especially as growth continues at a rapid rate in Washoe County.

Both ranchers and wilderness advocates said such growth represents “death by a thousand cuts” for their interests.

Top of mind for urbanites is housing affordability and the availability of residences. Goals outlined by local governments for the lands bill emphasize these issues, as well as encouraging infill development and preserving open spaces.

A number of federal parcels around the Reno area have already been identified for these purposes.

WHAT’S NEXT

Any federal lands transferred for potential development will need to undergo federal review. It’s not a simple matter of giving a city acreage and watching a development pop-up.

“That land piece gets nominated by the local jurisdiction,” Solaro explained. “[Then] that land then goes to the Bureau of Land Management, and they do a full review of whether that land has characteristics they’re comfortable with being sold. Stakeholders can then say, ‘this makes sense’ or ‘it doesn’t make sense.’ If it doesn’t make sense, then that piece dies. It does not get sold.”

Solaro said the lands bill may never see the light of day. The three local governments have already passed resolutions in support of the process, and Solaro stressed that there will be full-blown public meetings for people to provide input before a bill gets to Congress.

Getting everybody to agree on what it should look like is unlikely, though.

“We are going to get to a point where, hopefully, we have enough consensus that the federal delegation says, ‘OK, if the local entities bring something to us, we’ll push it across the finish line,’” Solaro said. “We are certainly not going to be able to please everybody.” □

Learn more at landsbill.org

“As you can imagine, there are a lot of people that have interest in how these lands are designated at the federal level.”

Dave Solaro, Assistant Washoe County Manager

Goin’ up



One of the University of Nevada, Reno’s newest dorms has begun to take shape on Virginia Street, next to the Little Waldorf Saloon. The new structure is the brainchild of New York-based developer Park7 Group, and will be called “Park Place Reno.” Early planning by the group states that the new dorm will house over 700 students.

PHOTO/MATT BIEKER



**SUNDAY, FEB. 2, 2020
TUSCANY BALLROOM**

**THIS IS ONE PARTY YOU
DON’T WANT TO MISS!**

**ENJOY ALL-YOU-CAN-EAT STADIUM FOOD,
BUD & BUD LIGHT AT EVERY TABLE,
EXCITING DOOR PRIZES EVERY QUARTER
AND A COMMEMORATIVE GIFT!**



**VISIT PEPPERMILLRENO.COM
TO PURCHASE TICKETS TODAY**

**EXCLUSIVE SEATING TICKET FEES
ARE FOR FOOD AND BEVERAGE ONLY.**

**PEPPERMILL
RENO**