



February 23, 2026

House Committee on Commerce and Community Protection

RE: Support for SB 1585A

Chair Sosa, Vice Chairs Chaichi and Osborne, Committee members:

On behalf of the City of Gold Hill, I am writing to express our strong support for SB 1585A, which proposes several important changes including reducing the required local match for grants awarded to cities with populations under 5,000.

This legislation is critically important for small communities like Gold Hill, which has a population of only 1,330 residents. Under current requirements, the match obligations for grants places a significant financial burden on our city. These requirements often limit our ability to pursue essential projects that improve infrastructure, economic development and quality of life for our residents.

When applying for grants, cities are often asked if projects are included in their master plans. Recently, Gold Hill received a grant to update our Parks Master Plan. While the grant was a tremendous opportunity, the required 20% match represented more than 40% of our entire parks revenue. This illustrates how current match requirements disproportionately impact small cities with limited budgets, making it difficult to plan and implement improvements even when funding is available.

Reducing the match requirement, along with the other provisions in SB 1585A, will allow Gold Hill and other small cities to leverage state resources more effectively, ensuring that rural communities are not left behind in accessing vital funding opportunities. This change will make a tangible difference in our ability to maintain and enhance services without overburdening our limited local tax base.

We respectfully urge your support for Senate Bill 1585A and appreciate your consideration of the unique challenges faced by small municipalities across the state.

Thank you for your leadership and commitment to equitable funding for all communities.

Sincerely,

Lily Morgan  
City Manager