

CHAPTER 6:

PUBLIC SERVICES

6.0 Introduction

This section outlines the available public safety resources, educational services, parks and recreation, governmental agencies and solid waste plan for Storey County.

6.1 Public Safety

Fire Protection

As the population of Storey County grows, it puts additional pressure on existing fire protection agencies.

Responsibility for fire protection rests with the Nevada Department of Forestry on a contractual basis. Additional resources are provided through agreements with the United States Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management and neighboring fire protection districts.

The following elements should be considered when the planning commission reviews development projects:

New Development:

1. Fire protection analysis from a local fire agency.
2. If the nearest fire suppression facility is more than four miles away, consideration for the dedication of land for additional fire facilities should be given.
3. The formation of volunteer fire departments will be made a requirement in low density areas.
4. The establishment of a tax supported rural fire district in areas which are experiencing growth. This could also be made a condition prior to approval based on a residential vote.

Road Conditions:

1. The county will not accept the dedication of sub-standard streets and roads that could hamper emergency vehicle response time.
2. The planning commission is responsible for the approval of road designs to meet emergency vehicle standards.
3. For private development the planning commission will require guarantee of repair and maintenance on private roads.
4. For private buildings more than 150 feet from public access, sufficient emergency vehicle access must be provided.
5. Uniform Building Code and Uniform Fire Code design standards relating to emergency vehicle access will be considered before issuance of permits.

Emergency Response Planning:

1. Planning Commission will require a fire department approved emergency response plan for new development be included before permit approval.

2. An adequate water supply and delivery system, when square footage demands as per the Uniform Fire Code, for fire suppression must also be required. Approval must be obtained from the Fire Chief before a permit will be issued.

3. The commission will adopt land use hazard areas and categorize the degree of potential hazard, i.e. most critical, critical and least critical. Different minimum building and other fire prevention and suppression design standards could then be applied to each of these areas.

4. It is presently the duty of the fire chief to inspect or cause to be inspected all buildings, premises, vacant lots and public thoroughfares for the purpose of ascertaining and causing to be corrected any condition liable to cause fire.

Police Protection

County residents rely solely upon the Storey County Sheriff's Office for police protection. There are no municipal police departments in the county. In addition to the central Sheriff's Office in Virginia City, there are two Resident Deputies at the Lockwood/River district, one Resident Deputy in Virginia Highlands and one Resident Deputy in Mark Twain Estates. The paving of Six Mile Canyon would benefit the Sheriff's Department allowing for quicker access to the Mark Twain Estates.

6.2 Education

In the 1980's Storey County school enrollment increased by almost 50%. The annual growth rate was approximately 4%. During this time all Lockwood area elementary students attended Washoe County Schools. However in the 1991-92 school year these children attended the Storey County school district and had a significant impact on enrollment. These additional students combined with an expected growth of the River District result in an 8% projected growth rate in the 1990's.

The District's education facilities as of October, 1993 are:

<u>NAME</u>	<u>GRADE</u>	<u>STUDENTS</u>
Hugh Gallagher Elementary	K-5	175
Hillside Elementary School	K-6	50
Virginia City Middle School	6-8	98
Virginia City High School	9-12	132
<hr/>		
Total		455

The District owns the property on which the elementary, middle and high schools are located. Other property owned consists of the lot to the south of Saint Mary in the Mountains Catholic Church (SCAPN 01-144-01) and the lot between C & D Streets on which the gymnasium is located to the west of the middle school (SCAPN 01-074-01). An addition to Hugh Gallagher Elementary School was completed in September of 1992 providing four new classrooms.

Anticipated facilities needed during the next decade include:

<u>SITE</u>	<u>YEAR NEEDED</u>	<u>ITEM</u>
District	1993	Bus Maintenance Facility
VCHS	1994	Additional Classrooms
VCHS	1994	Performing Arts space
District	1995	Athletic/recreational site
VCHS	1996	Complete basement class
VCMS	1994	Renovation of basement
VCMS	1996	New Addition

Recommendations:

1. Create direct road from Virginia City to the Lockwood area:
 - Will unify that portion of the county with Virginia City.
 - Will allow school district to transport Lockwood students to Virginia City.
 - Will increase the possibility of students variance due to transportation to return to the schools.
 - Will address the problem of Washoe County School District no longer accepting Storey County secondary students.

2. Provide support to the District in obtaining the lands adjacent to the high school for athletic and recreation areas from the Bureau of Land Management:
 - Will allow the District to offer additional athletic opportunities and activities for all students
 - Will create potential for additional county parks and recreation activities.
 - Will provide a site for outdoor community activities in addition to those offered by Miners Park.

3. Deed property in Mark Twain for future school site:
 - Will provide a link to Virginia City via the educational program.
 - Will provide relief to the overcrowded classroom situation at Hugh Gallagher Elementary School.

4. Improve the Six Mile Canyon Road:
 - Will unify that portion of Storey County with Virginia City.
 - Will allow the District to more efficiently and safely transport Mark Twain students to Virginia City.
 - Will increase the possibility of students on variance due to transportation to return to Storey County schools.
5. Create a community recreational complex to include running track, softball/baseball fields, football/soccer with permanent seating and rest room facilities and picnic and play areas.

6.3 Parks and Recreation

Storey County provides public lands in the public interest for health, safety, and welfare. Certain areas should be designated for future neighborhood parks and facilities in Storey County. Currently there are four park districts:

Miners Park: Serves Virginia City and Gold Hill with a picnic area, lighted baseball field, swimming pool, tennis courts and BBQ area. The Storey County Senior Citizens' Center is located within the park.

Virginia Highlands Park: Picnic and recreational area. Future development is needed to provide rest rooms and fresh water.

Louise Peri Park: Located in the River District, this park provides a playground for Hillside Elementary School.

Mark Twain: This area is targeted for future park development.

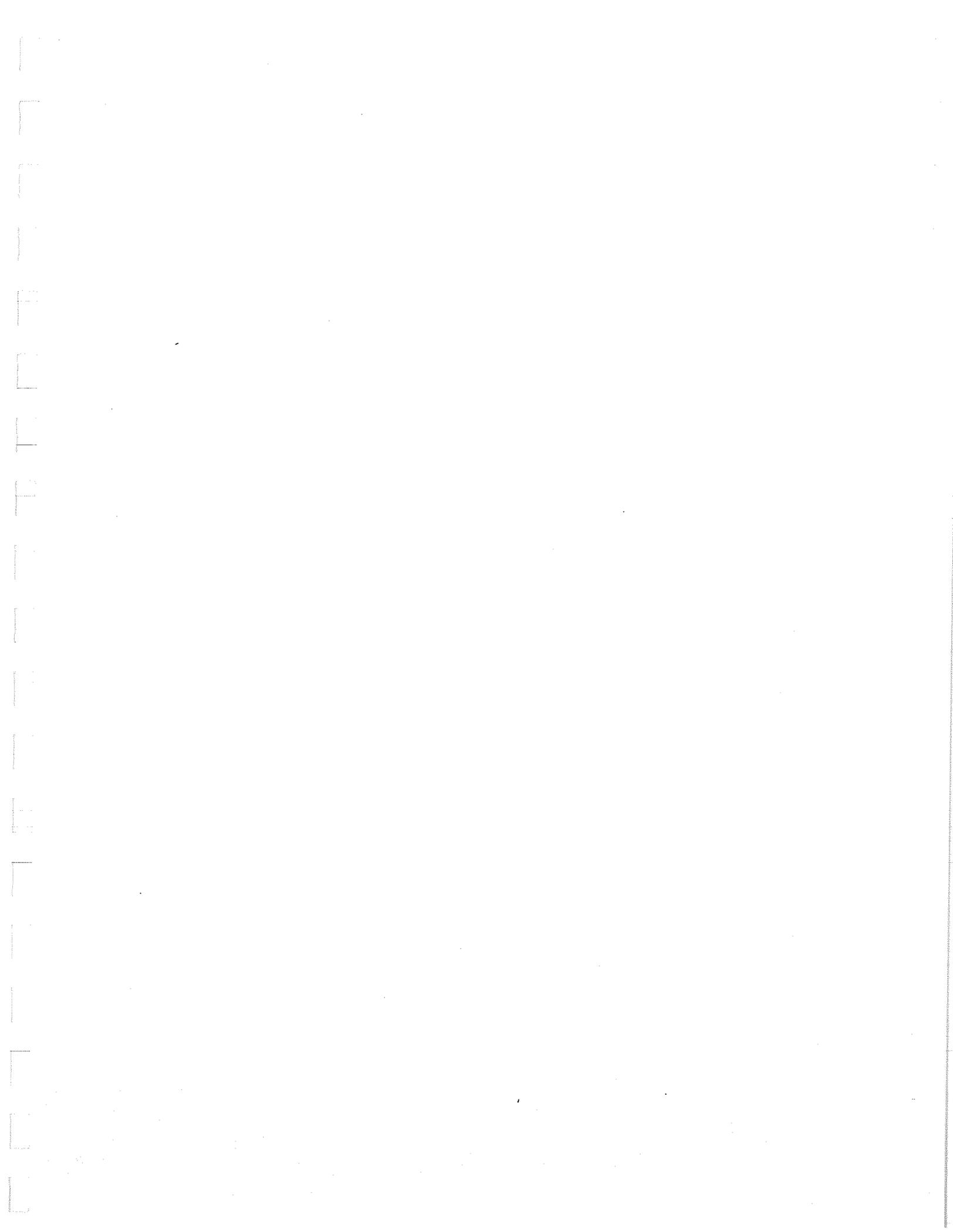
6.4 Governmental Agencies

Storey County provides public services to the community and residents as follows:

Sheriff and County Jail, Public Works and Roads, Building and Planning Department, Assessors and Department of Motor Vehicles, County Clerk and Treasury, County Commissions, District Attorney, Justice of the Peace, County Recorder, Senior Citizens' Center, Library, Comstock Historical District, and a Fire Department for each of the four districts.

6.5 Solid Waste

For solid waste refer to Storey County's Solid Waste Management Plan, November, 1991, prepared by Kennedy/Jenks Consultants.





Enrollment, first month of school year.

STOREY COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Enrollment, 1981-1999

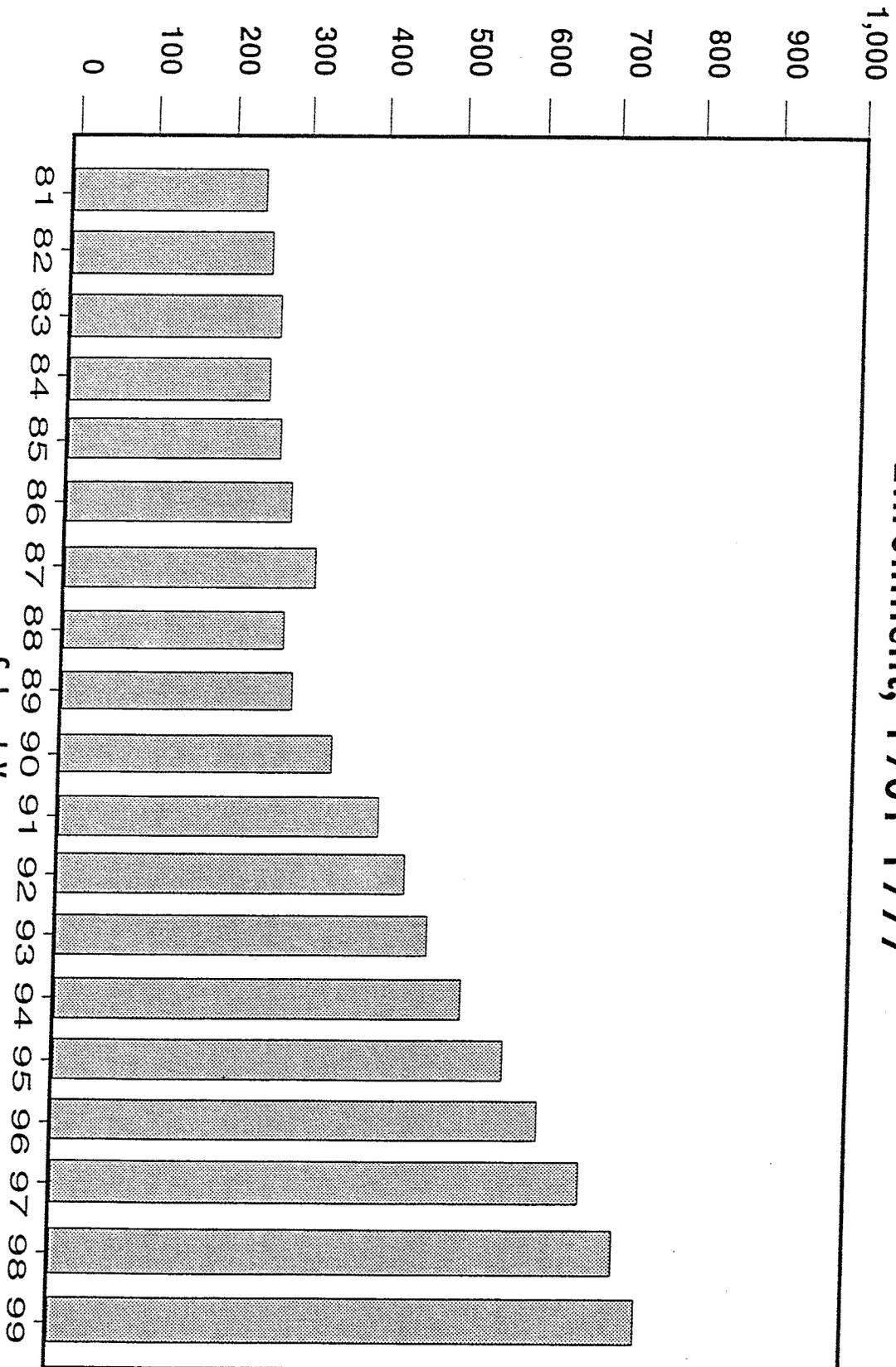


Table 6.1
School Year