



Las Vegas: Evolving Toward a Bright Future

Las Vegas continues to reinvent itself. Thirty years ago visitors came here primarily for gambling and the occasional big prize fight. We went through a phase of offering kid-friendly options, and then discovered that big-name chefs and luxury shopping opportunities were very popular with tourists. Now Las Vegas is famous for so many things besides gambling: gourmet restaurants, world-class entertainment, high-end retail stores, and much more. More than 42 million people come through McCarran Airport each year, and millions more arrive by car.

The latest re-invention is the arrival of major-league sports teams to southern Nevada. The Las Vegas Golden Knights have been playing to sellout crowds. The Las Vegas Aces of the WNBA will play 17 home games this summer at the Mandalay Bay Events Center, and the new Las Vegas Lights professional soccer team is playing its home games at Cashman Field.

The big news for football fans is the Oakland Raiders coming to Las Vegas and the construction of the 65,000-seat domed stadium. Between Raiders games, concerts and other events, it's estimated the stadium will bring 450,000 additional visitors to southern Nevada each year, creating an annual economic impact of \$620 million.

In the [2018 Nevada State Bank Small Business Survey](#), we asked southern Nevada business owners and decision-makers about the impact the new stadium would have on their company. Nearly 52 percent of them said it would have a positive impact on their business, and more than 56 percent said professional sports in Las Vegas would have a positive effect on their business.*

Thanks to the efforts of the resort community and the leadership of the Las Vegas Convention & Visitors Authority, our city continues to build on past successes, incorporating professional sports into what we already do well. As I reflect on the continuing evolution of this great city, it's hard not to get excited about the introduction of sports franchises, which will not only benefit the 2 million residents of Clark County, but also the millions of people who visit us each year. I applaud the many great leaders who have the foresight to encourage this evolution. The future is bright!

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dallas Haun". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Dallas Haun
Chairman
Nevada State Bank

*For more survey results, please visit NevadaSmallBusiness.com/survey