

NEWS ADVISORY

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December 29, 2004

Winter storm leaves more than an inch of rainfall

Sustained rainfall over the past 24 hours has left many parts of Clark County with close to two inches of rainfall. The recent rain, and rain forecast over the next few days, can cause isolated street flooding and traffic problems.

The Regional Flood Control District reminds motorists to take extra precautions during this time. General Manager Gale Fraser advised motorists to limit driving if possible. "If you must drive during these storms, please remember to never drive around barricades, which close flooded roadways. They are there for your safety and the safety of your family. Take the extra time to find another route to your destination."

Regional Flood Control District (RFCD) rain gages recorded rainfall throughout Clark County. Virtually all of the District's 139 gages reported more than an inch of rain in the past 24 hours. Several detention basins helped to alleviate the effects of the storm capturing several feet of storm water runoff. Water levels in the north cell of the Tropicana Detention Basin rose to 24 feet; the Blue Diamond Detention Basin filled to 8 feet; the Upper Flamingo Detention Basin filled to almost 8 feet of floodwater, and Gowan South and Gowan North Detention Basins captured about 12 feet and 9 feet of water respectively.

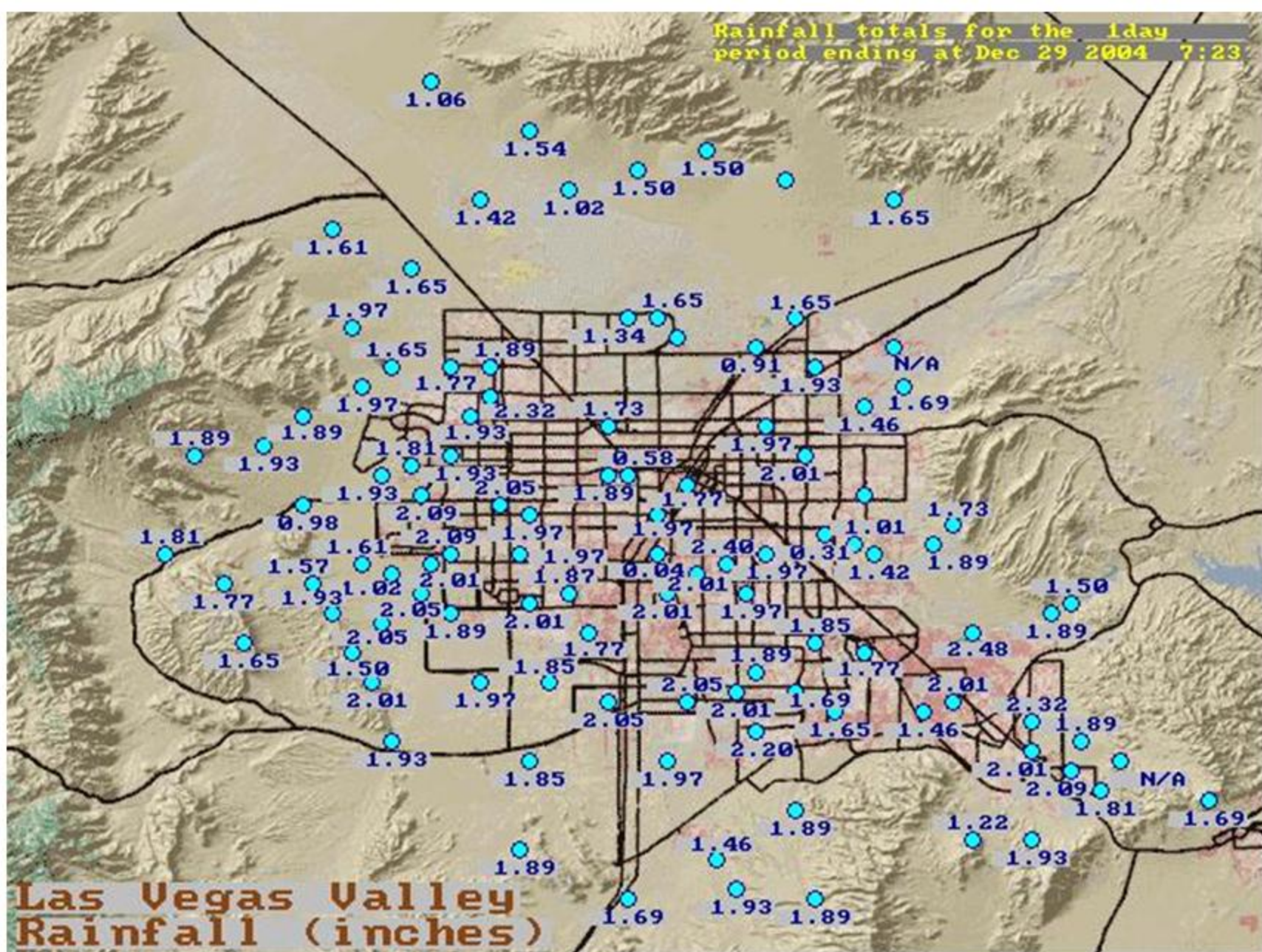
To put this storm in perspective, Fraser explained that in August 2003, approximately 3 inches of rain fell in 90 minutes. "That amount of rainfall exceeded the 100-year storm. The storm over the past day (approximately a 10-year rainfall event), while a lot of rain, doesn't produce the flash flooding we saw in the summer of 2003."

Approximately 139 gages located throughout Clark County transmit current rainfall amounts to computers in the District's offices. Some of these gages also report water level data. Information about rainfall and water depths in basins and channels can be accessed via the District's website at www.ccrfcd.org. From the District's homepage, click on the "Rainfall and Weather" link. From there, click the "Flood Threat Recognition System" link. The next step is to click "Rain Maps" or "Water Level Maps." From there, information for various timeframes and sections of Clark County is available. For up-to-the minute calculations, click the "Refresh" button periodically for immediate updates from the District's rain gage display.

The Regional Flood Control District has been constructing flood control facilities since 1987 and anticipates another 30 years of construction before the entire Master Plan is completed. Currently there are **66 detention basins** and more than **416 miles of channels** helping to protect Clark County residents from flooding. A similar amount of flood control improvements remain to be constructed.

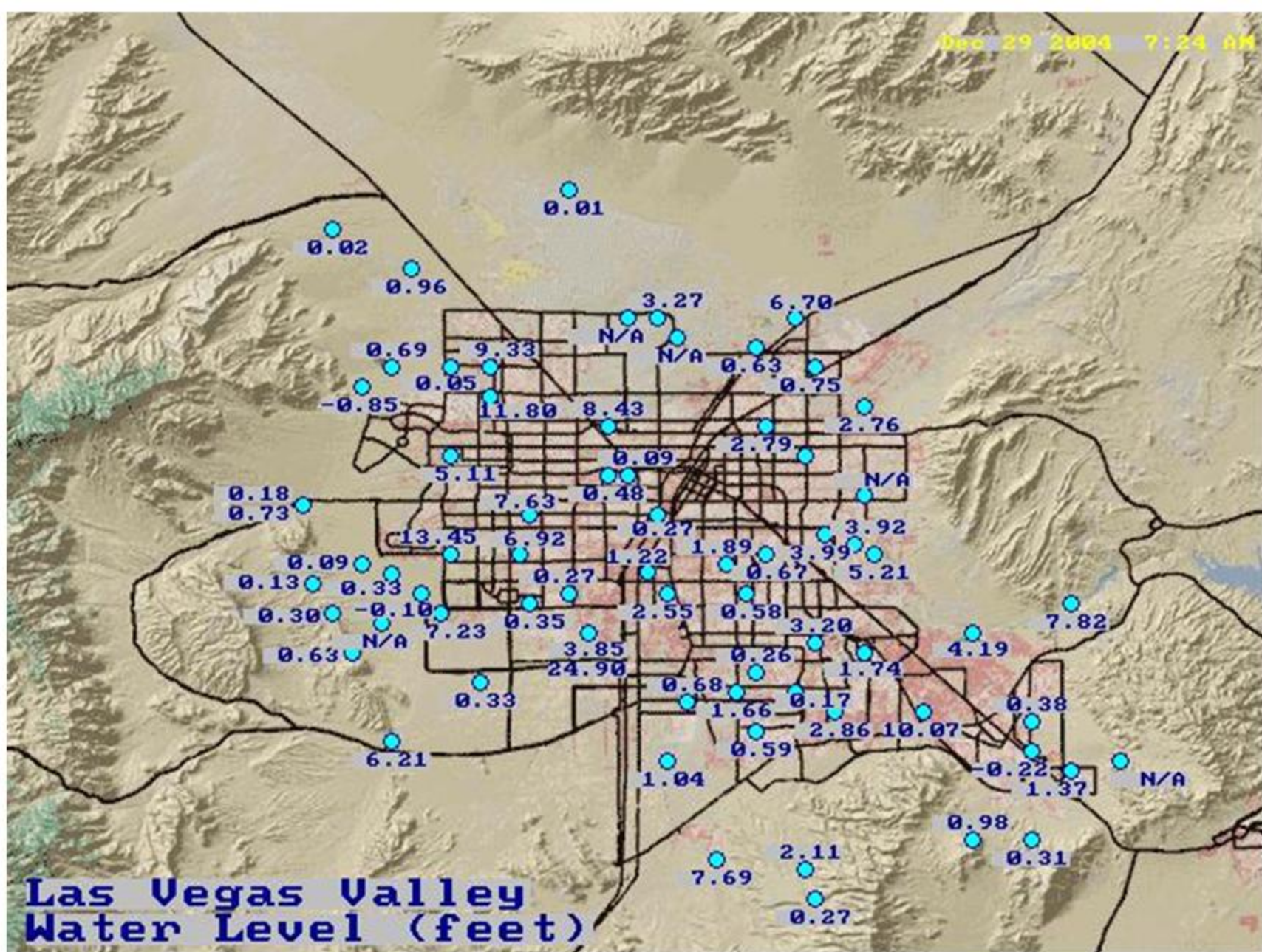
Approximately **\$1 billion** has been spent for flood control improvements countywide with another \$1.7 billion more to be funded over the next 30 years.

Rainfall totals for the 1day
period ending at Dec 29 2004 7:23



Las Vegas Valley 24 Hour Rain Totals (inches) as of 7:23 AM 12/29/04

Dec 29 2004 7:24 AM



Las Vegas Valley Water Depths (feet) as of 7:24 AM 12/29/04

