

# City of Reno Board or Commission Membership Application

PLEASE BE ADVISED THAT ALL INFORMATION COLLECTED IN THIS APPLICATION IS PART OF THE CITY OF RENO'S PUBLIC RECORD AND IS, UPON REQUEST, AVAILABLE FOR PUBLIC REVIEW.

These positions are limited, in most cases, to residents of the City of Reno. The City Council endeavors to appoint persons who represent all of the various communities within the City of Reno. Please be advised that certain boards and commissions may have professional qualification requirements or require filing of financial statements with the Secretary of State. Contact the City Clerk's office at 775-334-2030 with any questions.

Contact Information				
First Name (Required)*		Middle Name/Initial	Last Name (Required)*	
SOPHIE			JANTZ	
Nick Name/Preferred Name		Email Address (Required)*	Phone Number (Required)*	
		SOPHIE.JANTZ@GMAIL.COM	6164608338	
Home Address (No PO Box) (Required)*			City	Zip Code
3912 Sarah Ct			(Required)*	(Required)*
			Reno	89509
Business Address			City	Zip Code
				Ward
				WARD 2

I agree to inform the Reno City Clerk's Office of any contact or address changes.

☒ I Agree (Required)\*

Is this a new application, an application for reappointment, or an amendment to an existing application? (Required)	
*	
<input checked="" type="radio"/> New Application	
<input type="radio"/> Reappointment	
<input type="radio"/> Amendment	

Name of Board or Commission for which you would like to apply: (Required)

\*  
Reno City Planning Commission

Explain briefly why you would like to be appointed to this board or commission.

I am a public policy and urban planning professional with degrees in economics and transportation planning. With several years of experience in transportation policy, I have worked with both the U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT) and private industry developers. My career has been dedicated to advancing emerging technologies and innovation in the mobility space, with expertise spanning active transportation (e.g., micromobility), smart infrastructure, aviation, and autonomous vehicles.

My portfolio includes commissioned research studies for the Brookings Institution, as well as planning guidance, stakeholder engagement strategies, and safety case development. I bring a comprehensive understanding of workforce and economic development issues, paired with a steadfast commitment to equity and sustainable development.

Relevant Education or Training

BA in Economics from University of Michigan, Ann Arbor  
Masters in Urban and Regional Planning from the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor

Are you currently registered to vote in the City of Reno?

☒ Yes  
☐ No

Are you 18 or over?

☒ Yes  
☐ No

# Demographic Information

Please select the gender with which you most identify

Please select your age group

Please select the sexual orientation with which you most identify

Military Status

Please select the statement with which you most identify

Please select the categories with which you most identify (check all that apply)

- ☐ American Indian or Alaska Native
- ☐ Asian
- ☐ Black or African American
- ☐ Hispanic or Latino/a/x/e
- ☐ Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander
- ☐ North African
- ☐ Middle Eastern
- ☐ White
- ☐ My race or ethnicity is not listed (please tell us more if that feels right for you)\*
- ☐ Prefer not to disclose

I certify that, to the best of my knowledge, the information I provided in the application is true. If the information provided is false or incomplete, it shall be sufficient cause for disqualification or removal. If appointed, I agree to attend a board or commission orientation session, if applicable, within six months of my appointment. I understand that failure to comply with this requirement will result in automatic removal from the board or commission.

☒ I Agree \*

**WAIVER OF NOTICE REQUIRED UNDER NRS 241.033(1) TO ALLOW CITY COUNCIL TO CONSIDER CHARACTER, MISCONDUCT, OR COMPETENCE OF PERSON TO BE APPOINTED TO A BOARD, COMMISSION, OR OTHER PUBLIC BODY FOR THE CITY OF RENO**

The City Council for the City of Reno will be considering on a future posted agenda your appointment to a board, commission or other public body for the City of Reno. Pursuant to NRS 241.033(1), in order to consider the professional competence of an applicant, notice need be provided to that person of the time and place of the meeting in compliance with such statutory provisions. By signing below, it is confirmed that I have been provided notice of the meeting at which my appointment will be considered by City Council. Further, I knowingly and voluntarily am waiving my rights to all written notice requirements under NRS 241.033(1) pertaining to my qualifications, competence, and character to hold this appointment and consent to the evaluation of my character and competence by the Reno City Council in a public meeting. Further, the undersigned acknowledges that he may at any time withdraw both this waiver and related application for appointment.

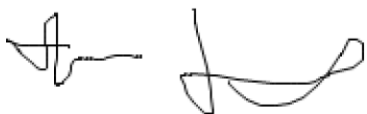
**Printed Name of Applicant: \***

Sophie Jantz

**Today's Date \***

12/05/2024

**Signature of Applicant: \***



**Attach Resume (1)**

**Document Name**

JANTZ, SOPHIE APPLICATION FOR RENO CITY PLANNING COMMISSION (WARD 2) - 12/5/2024

**Attachment Type**

RESUME

# Sophie Anne Jantz

[sophie.jantz@gmail.com](mailto:sophie.jantz@gmail.com) | [LinkedIn](#)

Public policy specialist and urbanist with experience in highly regulated and emerging industries.

## **EXPERIENCE**

### **Merlin | Senior Policy Analyst (2023 – Present)**

- Spearheaded the Human Factors Working Group, a partnership with Flight Safety Foundation and NASA Ames to discuss human-machine teaming and autonomous flight
- Developed and manage Merlin's research strategy, focusing on human factors and AI
- Analyze legislation, regulations, and policy relevant to advanced air mobility
- Author white papers, blog posts, [articles](#), RFI responses, and other thought leadership
- Represent Merlin externally at industry events, on panels, and with trade associations

### **TAE Technologies | Policy & Global Affairs Consultant (2023)**

- Supported policy and business case development for fusion and energy storage tech
- Authored writing instructions for landmark [CA AB1172](#) and [NC SB678](#), enacted 2023, which define fusion energy and recognize its environmental benefits
- Authored testimonials, congressional hearing speeches, and formal letters
- Managed multiple state-level lobbyists

### **Nuro | Public Policy Analyst (2021 – [2022](#))**

- Delivered authoritative analysis on fast-changing autonomous vehicle policies
- Developed [Nuro's Law Enforcement Interaction Plan](#)
- Spearheaded internal strategy for equitable deployment in underserved communities
- Supported development of [Autonomous Urbanism](#), a partnership with NYC Rudin
- Presented AV safety case and teleoperation safety recommendations to [AVSC](#)
- Secured partnership with the Brookings Institution to research [upskilling](#) and the impact of [AI on the economic mobility of women](#)

### **Volpe Center, USDOT | Technology Policy Analyst (2016 – 2020)**

- Identified trends across transportation policy issues at the local, state, and Federal levels
- Facilitated and formed [policy recommendations](#) from stakeholder discussions on autonomous vehicle deployment nationwide
- Coordinated end-to-end solicitation cycles for USDOT grant opportunities and programs
- Spearheaded the [DOT SBIR](#) Technology Maturity Assessment Program and FHWA Automation Research Roadmap

## **EDUCATION**

- **Master of Urban & Regional Planning** | University of Michigan, Ann Arbor
- **Bachelor of Arts in Economics** | University of Michigan, Ann Arbor
- Certificate: **MIT Media Lab Beyond Smart Cities: Emerging Design and Technology**

## **AWARDS**

- Outstanding Recent Graduate – University of Michigan (Sep 2022)
- U.S. DOT Secretary's Transportation Safety Award – Hon. Elaine Chao (Oct 2020)
- U.S. DOT Secretary's Partnering for Excellence Award – Hon. Elaine Chao (Oct 2019)