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Reno City Council 3/12/25 Item E.1 - opposition

From Alicia Barber <aliciambarber@gmail.com>

Date Wed 3/12/2025 8:04 AM

To Public Comment - CC <PublicComment@reno.gov>

Dear Mayor Schieve and members of the Reno City Council,

I am writing to respectfully discourage the adoption of an ordinance to delete the expiration date for sewer connection fee credits, as proposed under Item E.1. While, as the Staff Report indicates, the current economic climate may be delaying the onset of new construction, that is no reason to permanently alter the development code to discourage timely construction on newly cleared sites.

The Staff Report's encouragement of clearing blight in combination with eliminating this deadline could have unintended consequences, promoting the premature demolition of structures that could harbor great potential for adaptive reuse should circumstances or ownership change. The definition of "blight" is far too subjective.

At the same time, eliminating the credit expiration date altogether, combined with the high cost of new construction, could leave sites vacant indefinitely, which is not something the City of Reno should be facilitating.

Please reject this proposed ordinance and seek out new, less extreme ways to encourage construction on key parcels, with the recognition that the City's own Master Plan and Downtown Action Plan encourage preservation and adaptive reuse, and that the economics of construction will not always be characterized by the current situation.

Thank you so much.

Alicia Barber, PhD
Resident, Reno Ward 2



City Council Comment received from Amika Starr

From Mikki Huntsman <HuntsmanM@reno.gov>

Date Wed 3/12/2025 2:25 PM

To Public Comment - CC <PublicComment@reno.gov>

Contact Info:

Name:

Amika Starr

Commenting on behalf of:

Ward #:

Sparks

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A new comment has been submitted for the Reno City Council Meeting held on: 2025-03-12.

Section:

I Items - Public Hearing Items

Item:

I.1.

Position:

In opposition

Are they speaking in person?

No, I am submitting a written comment only.

If no, enter comments below:

I am writing IN OPPOSITION of the appeal for the Oppidan Data Center's Conditional Use Permit, agenda item I.1. I believe that data centers will not benefit our local economy and environment, but will likely cause harm. Economically, it is critical that we prevent out-of-state companies from building and housing data centers in Reno and, instead, encourage local businesses to build centers here. Local companies are more likely to hire Reno workers full-time and as contractors and are more likely to care about the environmental impact of the centers where they live. Additionally, the Council should consider amending property tax laws that allow data centers a 75% tax abatement if they hire 10 Reno natives over the first 5 years of operations. Hiring only 10 Reno locals is not enough to justify losing

75% of tax revenue and allowing data centers only to pay 25% of taxes owed. As for environmental considerations, we must ensure that data centers are regulated to be as sustainable as possible. Firstly, we cannot allow data centers to rely on fossil fuels but instead encourage the use of renewable solar energy or geothermal energy, which are both good fits for our area and natural resources. We should also call on data centers to install their own energy sources instead of pulling electricity from the existing grid, which will increase costs for Reno locals. Data centers should also avoid water-cooling methods (which are banned in Las Vegas), as Reno is a water-scarce environment, and these methods will only strain water conservation and negatively impact local plants, animals, and people. Lastly, we should ensure noise abatement procedures are put in place to mitigate noise pollution and also implement very strict cradle-to-grave requirements for data centers to handle and recycle their e-waste.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:

By checking the "Yes" below, you agree that all the information above is true and accurate. For additional information, please refer to the agenda for today's meeting.

Yes

By checking the "Yes" below, you understand, acknowledge, and expressly agree that: (1) all information submitted by you will be entered into the public record, made available for public inspection, and freely disseminated without restriction; and, (2) any contact, personal, financial, or medical information intentionally or inadvertently submitted by you will not be maintained in a confidential manner, or subsequently exempted from public inspection.

Yes

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No

City Council Comment received from Rebecca Flannery

From Mikki Huntsman <HuntsmanM@reno.gov>

Date Wed 3/12/2025 5:51 PM

To Public Comment - CC <PublicComment@reno.gov>

Contact Info:

Name:

Rebecca Flannery

Commenting on behalf of:

Ward #:

Unsure/Other

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A new comment has been submitted for the Reno City Council Meeting held on: 2025-03-12.

Section:

I Items - Public Hearing Items

Item:

Data centers.

Position:

In opposition

Are they speaking in person?

No, I am submitting a written comment only.

If no, enter comments below:

Good evening council members. There is too many unknown items regarding data centers. What is known is that they use a lot of resources such as water and electricity. In the north valleys residents already contend with frequent power outages. There needs to be more discussions regarding these centers and the what repercussions this will have on residents in the north valleys. We do not need these data centers out here. They do not bring jobs to the local community and use too many resources to be of any value to the north valleys residents. I request that you deny this data center and any future data centers to our community. Thank you

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:

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Yes

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Yes

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Yes