



[illegible]



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**City Council Comment received from Chisato Jacobson**

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**From** Mikki Huntsman <HuntsmanM@reno.gov>

**Date** Fri 2/14/2025 11:10 PM

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

**Contact Info:**

Name:

Chisato Jacobson

Commenting on behalf of:

Ward #:

Ward 4

Email Address:

Cjacobson2018@gmail.com

Phone Number:

Address:

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

**Section:**

F Items - Ordinance Adoptions

**Item:**

ADU.

**Position:**

In Favor

**Are they speaking in person?**

No, I am submitting a written comment only.

**If no, enter comments below:**

I support the ordinance code adoption of ADUs. ADUs will provide more accessible, affordable, and increased housing in Reno, especially as finding housing is a top need in the greater community. As I also strongly believe that increasing housing units on the same land is the best way forward to make the best usage of already developed land, prevent urban sprawl, allow for greater ease of transportation, and provide ease of consumer access to more resources, ADUs also help with this. I believe the minimum size requirement is a major issue, however, as the 9000 square foot requirement is unrealistically too large to implement. The proposed square footage minimum is larger than some single-family homes and is unreasonable to require this as a minimum for an ADU. Furthermore, it is a

requirement that would hinder a meaningful increase in housing supply with the same developed land. Second, the requirement of one off-street parking per ADU is also a flaw. Instead of promoting singular vehicle usage and a need for more vehicle use, traffic, and space, the benefit of ADUs creating living spaces in close proximity to a greater housing area and city resources should encourage mass transit options such as public transportation, pedestrian and bike-friendly spaces, or rideshare.

**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



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**Fw: Virginia Street**

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**From** Janet Urbina-Tapia <UrbinaJ@reno.gov>

**Date** Fri 2/21/2025 9:08 AM

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

**Cc** Mikki Huntsman <HuntsmanM@reno.gov>

This comment has been transferred to Public Comment to be logged.

Regards,

**Janet Urbina Tapia**

([She/Her/Hers](#))

*Office Assistant II*

City Clerk's Office

City Clerk (775) 334-2030

Cashiering: (775) 334-2032

Parking Services: (775) 334-2293

Public Records: (775) 334-3932

[UrbinaJ@Reno.Gov](mailto:UrbinaJ@Reno.Gov)

1 E. First St., Reno, NV 89501

[Reno.Gov](https://reno.gov) | **Connect with us:**



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**From:** Michele Reynolds <dmrtrey@sbcglobal.net>

**Sent:** Thursday, February 20, 2025 4:32 PM

**To:** City Clerk <CityClerk@reno.gov>

**Subject:** Virginia Street

Virginia Street is closed between State and 4th. Pieces of art have been placed all along the closed route—they even light up after dark. What a great way to liven up a Virginia Street that has been long forgotten (or it appears that way). As a city council, one of your priorities should be to present a positive, vibrant downtown core to our residents and to our out of town visitors.

I have lived in Reno since 1958 and have seen downtown erode into an embarrassment. Closing Virginia Street and making it into a mall with art pieces like the ones that are currently being displayed and shops and dining dotting the Virginia Street Mall might just bring the downtown core back to life and push the homeless and vagrants out. Seize the opportunity and close Virginia Street and make it into a destination that all of us can be proud.

2/21/25, 1:45 PM

Mail - Public Comment - CC - Outlook

Don Reynolds  
7611 Autumn Ridge Cr



## Outlook

**City Council Comment received from Eileen Brownell**

**From** Mikki Huntsman <HuntsmanM@reno.gov>

**Date** Fri 2/14/2025 10:27 PM

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

### Contact Info:

Name:

Eileen Brownell

Commenting on behalf of:

# Reno Chamber Orchestra

Ward #:

Unsure/Other

Email Address:

[tickets@renochamberorchestra.org](mailto:tickets@renochamberorchestra.org)

Phone Number:

775-348-9413

Address:

925 Riverside Drive Suite 5

A new comment has been submitted for the Reno City Council Meeting held on: 2025-02-14.

## Section:

General Closing Session Comment (unassociated to an agenda item)

**Item:**

X.

**Position:**

No position stated - Concerned or Neutral

## Are they speaking in person?

No, I am submitting a written comment only.

**If no, enter comments below:**

The Reno Chamber Orchestra wishes to extend our gratitude to the City Council and the City of Reno Arts and Culture Commission for the 2024 grant that was so generously provided us, to support the full orchestra performance at the Feed The Camel event on August 28, 2024. The full Reno Chamber Orchestra under the direction of Maestro Kelly Kuo performed for an audience of 200 listeners. This grant allowed us to extend a full orchestra performance free of charge to audience members in a relaxed, enjoyable social context. In the past, we have only been able to support a string quartet performance at these events. Opportunities such as these allow us to share the best version of our organization's work with new audiences in an environment where they can talk with the musicians,

enjoy a meal, and take in the beauty of the river walk. Thank you, City Council members, for your continued support of Arts and Culture in Reno. We thank you also for continuing to fund this relationship in 2025, as well! We look forward to hosting more events and welcoming even more of the Hopes family to be a part of our classical music community in 2025.

**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





Outlook

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**City Council Comment received from George Tsz-Kwan Lam**

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**From** Mikki Huntsman <HuntsmanM@reno.gov>

**Date** Fri 2/14/2025 12:15 PM

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

**Contact Info:**Name:

George Tsz-Kwan Lam

Commenting on behalf of:

Nevada Humanities

Ward #:

Ward 5

Email Address:

glam@nevadahumanities.org

Phone Number:

775 784 6537

Address:

1670-200 North Virginia Street, P.O. Box 8029

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

**Section:**

General Closing Session Comment (unassociated to an agenda item)

**Item:**

N/A.

**Position:**

No position stated - Concerned or Neutral

**Are they speaking in person?**

No, I am submitting a written comment only.

**If no, enter comments below:**

On behalf of Nevada Humanities, Nevada's 501(c)(3) nonprofit state humanities council partner of the National Endowment for the Humanities, I would like to thank the City of Reno for supporting Nevada Humanities with an Arts & Culture Grant from the City of Reno Arts & Culture Commission in the amount of \$5,793.00 to support the 2024 Nevada Humanities Literary Crawl. (This grant award was originally designated for FY2023. However, due to personnel changes at Nevada Humanities, our organization communicated with the City of Reno Arts & Culture Commission to adjust the award scope, and successfully completed the proposed event in FY2024.) The 2024 Nevada Humanities Literary Crawl took place on Saturday, October 12, 2024 across eight venues in downtown Reno,

including Arts for All Nevada (250 Court Street), Great Basin Community Food Co-op (240 Court Street), Royce Burger Bar (115 Ridge Street), Nevada Museum of Art (160 West Liberty Street), Downtown Reno Library (301 South Center Street), 1864 Tavern (290 California Avenue), The Loving Cup (188 California Avenue), and RareTea/The Wheyfarer/Elixir Superfood and Juice (24 California Avenue). The 2024 Nevada Humanities Literary Crawl engaged a total of 74 participants including authors, performers, visual artists, community curators, and Nevada Humanities staff in 31 public events and workshops. We extend our gratitude for — and appreciation of — the important work of the City of Reno Arts & Culture Commission. Thank you. - George Tsz-Kwan Lam, Assistant Director, Nevada Humanities

**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

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Yes



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**City Council Comment received from jerry wager**

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**From** Mikki Huntsman <HuntsmanM@reno.gov>

**Date** Mon 2/24/2025 1:24 PM

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

**Contact Info:**

Name:

jerry wager

Commenting on behalf of:

Ward #:

Ward 2

Email Address:

jerrywager@yahoo.com

Phone Number:

201-279-8102

Address:

3363 Belford Rd, Reno, NV 89509

A new comment has been submitted for the Reno City Council Meeting held on: 2025-02-26.

**Section:**

General Opening Session Comment (unassociated to an agenda item)

**Item:**

A.

**Position:**

No position stated - Concerned or Neutral

**Are they speaking in person?**

No, I am submitting a written comment only.

**If no, enter comments below:**

As a member of Reno's Parks & Recreation Commission I see how we have ignored the recreational needs of children from the city's low income families. We don't build new playing spaces, and we don't provide programming that might compensate for the inability to fund play to play. Mayor Schieve, in your remarks at the opening of the new Moana Aquatics Center, you called for providing free swimming lessons. I agree. Thus, I suggest you help initiate this program using your discretionary funds. Beginning the program this coming summer would help compensate families for the loss of aquatic recreation on the river due to the construction of the Arlington Street bridge. A second project, on the same issue, is an effort to create new playing space at schools for use by the schools,

after school programs, and offer rental income in the evenings and weekends. I'm talking about building low cost soccer mini-pitches on old unused tennis courts: a program sponsored by the US Soccer Foundation to install low cost pre fab courts, coupled with mentorship and coaching in soccer, wellness and nutrition. We have identified a suitable site at Clayton Middle School. Again, an excellent application of Council member's discretionary funding. I have offered \$10k from my retirement income. Unfortunately, this hasn't moved the needle. An addition of \$15k would allow us to set up a fund at the Community Foundations to attract foundation and corporate support for the project. It's a tragedy that we no longer feel a responsibility to provide recreational opportunity for children of low income families. Let's start to fix that.

**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

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No



Outlook

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**City Council Comment received from Joe Attack**

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**From** Mikki Huntsman <HuntsmanM@reno.gov>

**Date** Thu 2/13/2025 11:19 PM

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

**Contact Info:**

Name:

Joe Attack

Commenting on behalf of:

Lake Tahoe Shakespeare Festival

Ward #:

Ward 1

Email Address:

joe@tahoebard.com

Phone Number:

7758321616

Address:

948 Incline Way, Incline Village, NV 89451

A new comment has been submitted for the Reno City Council Meeting held on: 2025-02-26.

**Section:**

General Opening Session Comment (unassociated to an agenda item)

**Item:**

General.

**Position:**

In Favor

**Are they speaking in person?**

No, I am submitting a written comment only.

**If no, enter comments below:**

Lake Tahoe Shakespeare Festival would like to place on record our gratitude to the City of Reno Arts and Culture Commission for supporting our education program, InterACT and its visits to schools in Reno to teach students about the world and works of William Shakespeare, to support their learning in ELA and theater arts. Thanks to support from the City of Reno the Festival was able to send two teaching artists to Peavine Elementary School for one week, O'Brien Middle School for one week, Caughlin Ranch Elementary School for one week, JWood Raw Elementary for one week, Grace Warner Elementary for one week, McQueen High School for two weeks, and Wooster High School for a total of six weeks - for a total of 13 weeks of workshops, almost 1040 hours in classrooms! We know that the

City Council values the arts and arts education and we hope you continue to support the great work that the Arts and Culture Commission undertakes, and all the great arts organizations serving people in the City of Reno.

**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

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No

**Joshua J. Hicks, Partner**  
**jhicks@mcdonaldcarano.com**

**Reply to Reno**

February 19, 2025

**Via Email and Mail**

Reno City Council  
c/o Reno City Clerk  
1 E. First Street  
Second Floor  
Reno, Nevada 89505  
Cityclerk@reno.gov

**Re: Catalyst Project Application for Tax Increment Financing by Power Sports Development, LLC for the Grand Sierra Resort Arena Development Project**

Dear Councilmembers:

This letter is submitted on behalf of Caesars Entertainment, Peppermill Resort Spa Casino, Golden Road Motor Inn, Inc., BCH Gaming Reno, LLC, Nugget Sparks LLC and the Bonanza Casino LLC (collectively, the “Coalition”) to express concerns regarding Power Sports Development, LLC’s Catalyst Project Application (the “Application”) for tax increment financing (“TIF”) for the Grand Sierra Resort Arena Development Project (the “Project”). While the Coalition does not generally oppose the Project, the Coalition opposes the use of TIF for the Project, which does not appear to be a lawful use of TIF.

The Project falls within Redevelopment Area 2 (“RDA 2”), which was established in 2005. Unlike Redevelopment Area 1 (“RDA 1”), which primarily encompasses downtown Reno, RDA 2 includes a broader area, spanning from downtown Reno through the heart of the city and includes a portion of western Reno. Due to the size of RDA 2, the City has divided the area into smaller districts to “better assess the benefits of proposed projects within those areas.”<sup>1</sup> The smaller sized districts allow the Redevelopment Agency to “more effectively allocate funding, promoting more efficient spending of Agency funds and therefore creating more value for the City and its

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<sup>1</sup> City of Reno Redevelopment Agency Status Report, August 2024, at pg. 22, available at <https://www.reno.gov/home/showpublisheddocument/93347/638671729097200000>.

residents.”<sup>2</sup> One of these districts within RDA 2 includes the Grand Sierra District, where the Project is located.

In conjunction with the guiding principles established by the City, NRS Chapter 279 further establishes Nevada’s policies for redevelopment. The purpose of NRS Chapter 279 is to provide an avenue for redevelopment of “blighted areas which constitute either social or economic liabilities, or both” in the “interest of the health, safety and general welfare of the people of those communities and of the State.”<sup>3</sup> A blighted area must include at least four characteristics as defined in NRS 279.388, such as buildings or structures which are unfit or unsafe, economic deterioration, depreciated values, or a growing or total lack of proper utilization of some parts of the area. Thus, at its core, the purpose of redevelopment and the use of tax increment funding is to revitalize and eliminate areas within the City which are in disrepair and otherwise would not be developed.

When establishing RDA 2, the City established several goals for the area, including to ensure the “mitigation of blight and the prevention and spread of blight and deterioration” and the “conservation, rehabilitation, and redevelopment” in the area were consistent with the Master Plan, the Redevelopment Plan, and local codes and ordinances.<sup>4</sup> Further, the City sought to prioritize “replanning, redesigning and redevelopment of areas” in RDA 2 which are “currently stagnant or improperly used.”<sup>5</sup> Importantly, a goal of RDA 2 is to replan, redesign, and redevelop areas “which could not be accomplished by private investment alone, without public participation and assistance.”<sup>6</sup>

Evaluating the underlying policies and goals guiding redevelopment in RDA 2, it is clear the Project falls far outside the purpose of TIF and does not meet the legal requirements. The Grand Sierra District has benefited from significant recent economic development, including the completed \$55 million renovations to the Grand Sierra Resort Tower, thus falling outside the realm of a blighted area which is in need of redevelopment to improve the “health, safety, and general welfare” of the area.<sup>7</sup> Indeed, as the City itself has recently acknowledged, “[t]he Grand Sierra District consists mostly of the Grand Sierra Resort and the supplemental properties supporting the resort. As many of these parcels are well-kept and only serve the resort and guests, *there is little need for redevelopment in this area and thus little need for redevelopment funding support.*”<sup>8</sup> While the Grand Sierra District may fall within the current boundaries of RDA 2, the district has not updated the Plan since 2019—despite the significant changes to the area in the past five years.<sup>9</sup>

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<sup>2</sup> *Id.*

<sup>3</sup> NRS 279.416.

<sup>4</sup> RDA 2 Goal A from 2005 Plan.

<sup>5</sup> *Id.*, Goal F.

<sup>6</sup> *Id.*, Goal H.

<sup>7</sup> NRS 279.416.

<sup>8</sup> See City of Reno Redevelopment Agency Status Report, at pg. 37 (emphasis added).

<sup>9</sup> RDA No. 1 and 2 Aerial and Map, available at <https://www.reno.gov/home/showpublisheddocument/83585/637177219320100000>.



Moreover, the Project does not align with the City's goal of redeveloping areas that cannot be redeveloped "*by private investment alone*, without public participation and assistance."<sup>10</sup> As demonstrated by the Application and public statements from representatives and supporters of the Project, the Project does not require public participation and assistance. Indeed, Alex Meruelo stated at a September 27, 2024 press conference that the Project is the "largest private investment in the City of Reno."<sup>11</sup> University of Nevada Reno's president Brian Sandoval, speaking in support of the Project, stated at that same press conference that "[t]here will be no public dollars invested in the construction of this facility."<sup>12</sup> Further, at the October 23, 2024 Redevelopment Agency Meeting, Meruelo Gaming chief strategy officer Andrew Diss stated that the Project was not seeking bonds from the City, demonstrating the Project's viability without public participation and assistance.<sup>13</sup> Thus, the Project seeks to utilize public money for the benefit of its owners despite their public admissions that the Project could and would be funded solely through private investment.

Ultimately, while the Grand Sierra District may benefit from the Project, this benefit is better funded through private investment, not public funding support, as the parcels and the Project serve the resort and guests. The Grand Sierra Resort has and will continue to develop without TIF assistance. At the same time, at the City Council meeting on October 23, 2024, the Council was informed that the City's general fund is projected to be in a deficit by fiscal year 2028, with significant increases to the deficit in subsequent years.<sup>14</sup> At the City Council meeting on January 22, 2025, Council was informed by staff that increased expenditures and decreased revenues have resulted in the use of one-time funds to bridge budget gaps, and that relying on one-time funds for future budget gaps may not be an option, meaning the City's budget deficit is imminent.<sup>15</sup> The optics of providing TIF for a project that can be built without it are not good, particularly when at the same time the City engages in bridge funding for the current budget and prepares to enact

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<sup>10</sup> RDA 2 Goal H from 2005 Plan (emphasis added).

<sup>11</sup> September 27, 2024 Press Conference at 15:05, *available at* <https://mynews4.com/news/local/renos-grand-sierra-resort-announces-plans-for-1-billion-entertainment-district>.

<sup>12</sup> *Id.* at 28:30.

<sup>13</sup> October 23, 2024 Reno City Council Meeting at 7:10:57-7:11:42, *available at* [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=D2cPa6ntCNE&list=PLgN8R2mAccnasTHcBxdr\\_Lx1Lh2ITXEMG&index=8](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=D2cPa6ntCNE&list=PLgN8R2mAccnasTHcBxdr_Lx1Lh2ITXEMG&index=8) ("I want to stay perfectly clear. Page 2 of our Application is where you check the box if you want to apply for bonds. We're not applying for bonds. I'm going to say that again—we're not applying for bonds. We have no intention of doing that.").

<sup>14</sup> October 23, 2024 Staff Report by Vicki Van Buren, Director of Finance at pg. 60, *available at* <https://reno.primegov.com/Portal/Meeting?meetingTemplateId=6496>. At that same meeting, the City's financial office noted that the looming deficit is due to "[s]low revenue growth and increasing labor costs" that will "create challenges to get back to balanced budget in the future."

<sup>15</sup> January 22, 2025 Staff Report by Vicki Van Buren, Director of Finance at pg. 2, *available at* <https://reno.primegov.com/Portal/viewer?id=0&type=7&uid=3a9c92cf-36d2-4098-b32e-8c9347ad675e>.

austerity measures to avoid a deficit in future years. A better use of RDA funds would be for the redevelopment of truly blighted areas, prioritizing community needs such as affordable housing.<sup>16</sup>

We respectfully request that the City Council take these comments under consideration before supporting RDA funds for the Project.

Sincerely,



Joshua J. Hicks

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<sup>16</sup> See NRS 279.425(1) (stating that the “provision of housing is a fundamental purpose” of Chapter 279); *see also* NRS 279.685 and NRS 279.676.

[RenoPlanningCommission@reno.gov](mailto:RenoPlanningCommission@reno.gov) CC: Kathleen Taylor [taylork@reno.gov](mailto:taylork@reno.gov), Devon Reese [reeseed@reno.gov](mailto:reeseed@reno.gov)

To the Reno City Planning Commission: **David Giacomini** ([giacomind@reno.gov](mailto:giacomind@reno.gov)), **Kerry Rohrmeier** ([RohrmeierK@reno.gov](mailto:RohrmeierK@reno.gov)), **Manny Becerra** ([BecerraM@reno.gov](mailto:BecerraM@reno.gov)), **Alex Velto** ([VeltoA@reno.gov](mailto:VeltoA@reno.gov)), **Christina Del Villar** ([delvillarc@reno.gov](mailto:delvillarc@reno.gov)), **J.D. Drakulich** ([DrakulichJ@reno.gov](mailto:DrakulichJ@reno.gov)), **Silvia Villanueva** ([VillanuevaS@reno.gov](mailto:VillanuevaS@reno.gov))  
**Michelle Fournier** Staff Liaison ([FournierM@reno.gov](mailto:FournierM@reno.gov))

Re: item 5.3 on the February 19, 2025 agenda, the **Jacobs Festival Grounds Use Permit (CUP)**  
**February 19, 2025**

I am Leah Sanders, Reno resident. I commend you all for serving our Reno community for the best outcomes under the guidance of the Master Plan. As you know, the goal of that plan is to make Reno a vibrant place to live for everyone. Thank you for this time to express my citizen point of view.

Item 5.3 regarding the Jacobs Festival Area Amendment does not align with components of a functional neighborhood. Many residents of downtown will talk about the music sound system and noise, light pollution and the traffic emanating from the 4+-acre open space used at certain times of the year. I live near Saint Mary's and occasionally hear loud sounds like fireworks from the city and see moving light from the side of the J. I fear that the day into night use of the proposed festival grounds with its sound system will resonate through wider Reno, beyond what is reasonable. Additionally, research about cities in heat areas tells me that it will be a huge "heat Island."

*"Heat islands" occur when cities replace natural land cover with dense concentrations of pavement, buildings, and other surfaces that absorb and retain heat. The heat island effect increases [energy costs](#) (e.g., for air conditioning), air pollution levels, and heat-related illness and mortality. By adding natural surfaces like vegetation back into communities, green infrastructure can mitigate the heat island effect and provide cooling." <https://www.epa.gov/green-infrastructure/reduce-heat-islands> is an excellent summary of the need for vegetation.*

Trees along the perimeters and in parking lots are not enough to mitigate the heat emanating from 4 acres of open land. Won't attendees need to look elsewhere for respite from the heat?

The quality of walking downtown near the river continues to develop. The desirability of pedestrian traffic within the city is not part of the large festival plan. It is more like the continuous parking lots along 4<sup>th</sup> Street that highlight the J resort building and create "heat islands". The combination of music, money, liquor, and traffic does not provide a safe environment nor public benefit for our city. I ask you to think about the need in Reno for a green mitigating environment as you consider this CUP.

Reno deserves the best of urban and landscape design for all citizens as well as tourists and visitors. Please do the right thing for our citizens. Do not support what will be fenced space for a few and misery for many. Perhaps Jacobs Entertainment can take the initiative to explore and develop the underutilized enclosed venues to bring music to Reno. Why not plan with others and take some time to examine possibilities that will improve the life of all people in Reno?

**Thank you,** Leah Sanders, 1880 Coleman Dr. 89503

# Reduce Heat Islands



*Heat waves are occurring more often in major cities across the United States as the climate changes (Source: [Climate Indicators in the United States](#)).*

"Heat islands" occur when cities replace natural land cover with dense concentrations of pavement, buildings, and other surfaces that absorb and retain heat. The heat island effect increases [energy costs](#) (e.g., for air conditioning), air pollution levels, and heat-related illness and mortality. Extreme heat events often affect [certain populations](#) first, with factors like age, race, income, and location playing a role in who is most at risk from extreme heat. By adding natural surfaces like vegetation back into communities, green infrastructure can mitigate the heat island effect and provide cooling.

Rising temperatures are expected to lead to more frequent, more intense, and longer waves during summer months. As heat waves and rising temperatures occur, green infrastructure can be a crucial tool for communities to improve health, safety, and comfort.

Explore the sections below to learn how green infrastructure can provide cooling benefits and mitigate the effects of heat islands.

On this page:

- [Using Green Infrastructure to Reduce Heat Islands](#)
- [Resources](#)

## Using Green Infrastructure to Reduce Heat Islands

Trees, green roofs, and vegetation can help reduce heat island effects by shading building surfaces, deflecting radiation from the sun, and releasing moisture into the atmosphere. Visit EPA's [Using Trees and Vegetation to Reduce Heat Islands webpage](#) to learn more.

### Improve Vegetation Cover

Planting trees and other vegetation leads to a cooling effect. Space in areas might be limited, but communities can integrate small green infrastructure into grassy or barren areas, vacant lots, and street rights-of-way.

Communities can make traditional water quality practices serve double duty by adding trees in or around roadside planters and other green infiltration-based practices to boost roadside cooling and shading. Examples include native, drought-tolerant shade trees and smaller plants such as shrubs, grasses, and groundcover. However, trees should be added in coordination with the green infrastructure designer or with the overall design of the approach in mind. If not integrated into the approach properly, tree roots can impair the approach's structure or functionality.

### Case Study: Evaluating Tree Canopy in Louisville, Kentucky

In 2014, city officials in Louisville, Kentucky, [awarded a \\$115,700 contract](#) for a tree canopy assessment to help the city use trees to address urban heat, stormwater management, and other concerns. "Knowing where we lack canopy, down to the street and address level, will help our efforts exponentially," remarked then-Mayor Greg Fischer. [The study](#) found that Louisville trees provide over \$389 million in annual benefits through stormwater interception, temperature moderation, energy savings, increases in property values, air quality improvements, and carbon mitigation.

### Build Green Roofs

Green roofs are [an effective heat island reduction strategy](#), providing both direct and ambient cooling effects. They also improve air quality by [lowering temperatures, absorbing pollutants, and preventing additional air pollution \(pdf\)](#). Many communities offer tax credits for installing green roofs. Communities can check their local government's website for opportunities. Examples of current programs include the [RiverSmart Rooftops Green Roof Rebate Program](#) by the District of Columbia and the [Green Roof Tax Credit Program](#) by the city of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

### Prioritize Green Infrastructure in Regular Upgrades

Building green infrastructure improvements into regular street upgrades and capital improvement projects can help ensure continued investment in heat-reducing practices throughout your community.

See [five strategies](#) that can be used to reduce heat islands within ongoing and planned updates, and explore [EPA's Community Actions Database](#) for implementation examples. Communities should also consider local concerns.

## Resources

### Guides and Fact Sheets:

- [EPA Green Infrastructure in Parks: A Guide to Collaboration, Funding, and Community Engagement \(pdf\)](#) — A guide for encouraging partnerships between park agencies and stormwater agencies to promote using green infrastructure on park lands.
- [EPA Region 5 Resource: Stormwater Trees \(pdf\)](#) — A how-to technical memorandum for improving success of urban tree programs.
- [EPA Heat Island Program](#) — Clearinghouse for resources, tools, and educational materials on heat island effects.

### Reports and Studies:

- [Reducing Urban Heat Islands: Compendium of Strategies, Chapter Three: Green Roofs](#) — This EPA publication describes the causes and impacts of summertime urban heat islands and promotes strategies for lowering temperatures in U.S. communities.

### Tools:

- [Adapting to Urban Heat: A Toolkit for Local Governments](#) — This toolkit is designed to help local governments reduce the effects of increased heat on their communities and citizens. It provides an analytic tool for policymakers to consider a combination of four built environment changes (cool roofs, green roofs, cool pavements, and urban forestry), providing clear criteria for selecting among these approaches.
- [iTree](#) — A U.S. Forest Service analysis tool for urban forest managers. It uses tree inventory data to quantify the dollar value of annual environmental benefits (e.g., energy conservation, air quality improvement, carbon dioxide reduction, stormwater control, and property value increase).

**Last updated on February 14, 2025**



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**Fw: Opposition to Senate Bill 100**

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**From** Mikki Huntsman <HuntsmanM@reno.gov>

**Date** Tue 2/18/2025 9:24 AM

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

Please log as A.3

Take care,



**Mikki Huntsman**

([She/Her/Hers](#))

*City Clerk*

City Clerk's Office

775-334-2030 (o) or 775-399-4741 (c)

[HuntsmanM@Reno.Gov](mailto:HuntsmanM@Reno.Gov)

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**From:** Oscar Williams <oscard@oscardewilliams.com>

**Sent:** Monday, February 17, 2025 10:27 AM

**To:** City Clerk <CityClerk@reno.gov>

**Subject:** Opposition to Senate Bill 100

Mikki, please share my message with the Manager and City Council members. Thanks, Oscar

Dear Washoe County, Reno, Sparks, and Incline Village,

I wish to ask that you voice your opinions against SB100 to your state representatives and Senate Legislative Operations and Elections Committee members. A review of this bill is occurring on Tuesday, February 18, 2025 in Carson City in the Senate LOE Committee meeting at 3:30 pm:

<https://www.leg.state.nv.us/App/NELIS/REL/83rd2025/Meeting/14260?p=1014260>

Here's a hyperlink to this bill for your convenience:

SB100 -

<https://www.leg.state.nv.us/App/NELIS/REL/83rd2025/Bill/11990/Overview>



There's a button on the upper right for your Opinions.

Here's my concerns:

1. Workplace intimidation. The Secretary of State has proven to be litigious. He's threatening to sue any public official who dares to not act in a mandatory, non-discretionary manner regarding elections. SB100 puts such intimidation on steroids;
2. Overly broad: "other person who represents or is employed by a county or city or agency thereof," is wide open as to staff, volunteers, temporary hires, contractors, and vendors, and also short-term poll workers, runners, ballot counters, etc.
3. Creation of Special Master to supplant city/county authority: "any registered voter may file an action with the district court for the county for the appointment of a special master to oversee the performance of these duties,"
4. Local legislation. An incremental encroachment on city and county enumerated rights to conduct and regulate county and township elections and related employment per Nev. Const. art. 4, § 20 and NRS 244.164 and Washoe County Code 5.451;
5. Local legislation. Deprives county rights to choose election equipment per NRS 293B.105 to 120, inclusive.
6. More of the Secretary's bias toward Top-Down Election Management tyranny;
7. Washoe County has a hard enough time finding and holding a Registrar of Voters without scaring them away as SB100 will ultimately do.

The Secretary wants to be the governor. The Secretary has taken Soros family cash for his 2020 campaign for Secretary of State. The Secretary immersed his people into the 2024 general election in Washoe County.

The Secretary now seeks to solidify his power by being the policeman in matters of local concern, including but not limited to special elections, thereby undercutting the city/county's duty and authority to police their own elections, conduct business, and account to their voters and taxpayers. And he intends to usurp city/county choices as to methods of voting and the equipment used, too.

The rights of cities and counties are under assault with the introduction of SB100.

I urge you to oppose SB100.



Thank you for your interest and cooperation.

Sincerely,

Oscar D. Williams  
1540 Whisper Rock Way  
Reno, NV 89523  
C: 775-240-3456