





Outlook

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**1/8/25 Reno City Council meeting Item C.1 - opposed**

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**From** Alicia Barber <aliciambarber@gmail.com>**Date** Tue 1/7/2025 2:42 PM**To** Public Comment - CC <PublicComment@reno.gov>

Dear Mayor Schieve and Councilmembers Anderson, Duerr, Ebert, Martinez, Reese, and Taylor,

I am writing to respectfully express my opposition to the request for the City of Reno to abandon Stevenson Street between West First and West Second Streets, as I do not believe it would be in the public interest to grant it.

This abandonment would not facilitate development, as abandonments of the public right-of-way are generally intended to do. The east side of the street has already been developed, and there is no stated plan to develop anything on the west side of the street, much less any indication that this action would facilitate the eventual development of anything there.

I have tried to understand the proposed parking plan and am concerned at the statement that all 68 spaces would be available to the public because while perhaps technically true at the outset, the conditions only specify that 22 spaces would remain available to the public in perpetuity. Added to that, an unknown number of spaces on the west side of the street could be removed, with administrator approval, if that side of the street is developed. If it becomes driveways, loading zones, and the like, that number could decrease significantly or even be reduced to zero. We have no idea what will be developed there.

Please also consider the lack of availability and accessibility that would be the result of making all 68 (at the outset) spaces reservable via smart phone app, a system I have used in parking garages in large cities but do not find suitable for this location.

Since all 68 spaces would be reservable via a smartphone app, the tenants of neighboring properties could conceivably reserve enough spaces so anyone spontaneously showing up to the street would find all spots reserved, even if no one were in them. And how many potential visitors to this area/the river would find a smart phone app payment system difficult or impossible to use (for instance, if they didn't have a phone or a credit card?). Additionally, what is to stop the owners of the adjacent properties from reserving a whole slew of spots, and offering the certainty of a spot as an amenity to their tenants?

While it is true that the City could not install this specific parking plan itself without using some of the land owned by the owner of the west side of the street, the City could certainly create more spaces on the existing street for what one would imagine is not a great cost. There is also no rush. I recall Bryan McArdle stating that the City was working on an overall parking study for downtown, which makes me think it would be prudent not to make any decisions of this permanent nature until more information is available.

This area is in such flux, with all of Jacobs Entertainment's ever-changing plans, the Lear Theater, Wingfield Park, the Arlington Street bridges, and more, I believe that prudence dictates incorporating plans for Stevenson Street into a plan that can more accurately integrate concrete plans for the entire surrounding environment. Thank you so much.

Alicia Barber, PhD  
Resident, Ward One



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**City Council Comment received from cindi chandler**

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

**Date** Tue 1/7/2025 7:45 AM

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

**Contact Info:**Name:

cindi chandler

Commenting on behalf of:Ward #:

Ward 2

Email Address:

Cindicha@msn.com

Phone Number:Address:

6184 Carriage House Way

A new comment has been submitted for the Reno City Council Meeting held on: 2025-01-08.

**Section:**

C Items - Public Hearing Items

**Item:**

c1.

**Position:**

In opposition

**Are they speaking in person?**

No, I am submitting a written comment only.

**If no, enter comments below:**

I oppose the abandonment of Stevenson Street and disagree with the Staff's report. I believe all options should be explored and believe additional parking can be developed without giving up more city property. Abandoning the street to the private sector may remedy present issues but long term impact needs to also be considered.

**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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Yes



Outlook

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**January 8 Stevenson St abandonment Agenda ITEM C.1**

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**From** John White <john@whitelawchartered.com>**Date** Tue 1/7/2025 1:47 PM**To** Public Comment - CC <PublicComment@reno.gov>**Cc** thebarberbrief@substack.com <thebarberbrief@substack.com>

Dear Mayor and Council:

I own the Twentieth Century Building at 335 W 1st St., Reno. I spoke against the abandonment at last month's council hearing on the developer' Stevenson St abandonment proposal and I stand by those comments as the developer's plan to be heard tomorrow is essentially the same. I will now supplement those comments by agreeing to have the Twentieth Century building on the City of Reno's Register of Historic Places which, I understand, would require me to agree to a facade easement.

The Twentieth Century Building was built a hundred years ago. We are planning to have an event celebrating this fact later this year. Parking issues were not all that important a hundred years ago as there was ample parking on nearby streets. However today the building needs at least 6 parking places so those who work in the building have a place to park. The Twentieth Century Building is on the state and federal historic building sites for many years.

As the building cannot survive without parking, I agree to a facade easement in exchange for getting 6 nearby parking spaces. Then the building would be eligible for inclusion in the City of Reno's historic buildings site.

Day before yesterday i was discharged from Renown (slipped disk) and am on home care. So I won't be able to personally attend tomorrow's council meeting. However I will try to watch the hearing.

John White, Esq.  
Twentieth Century Building  
335 W 1st St  
Reno, NV 89503



Outlook

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**City Council Comment received from Leah Sanders**

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**From** Mikki Huntsman <HuntsmanM@reno.gov>**Date** Tue 1/7/2025 3:25 PM**To** Public Comment - CC <PublicComment@reno.gov>**Contact Info:**Name:

Leah Sanders

Commenting on behalf of:Ward #:

Ward 5

Email Address:

leah.sanders14@gmail.com

Phone Number:

7757507047

Address:

1880 Coleman Dr.

A new comment has been submitted for the Reno City Council Meeting held on: 2025-01-08.

**Section:**

C Items - Public Hearing Items

**Item:**

c.1.

**Position:**

In opposition

**Are they speaking in person?**

No, I am submitting a written comment only.

**If no, enter comments below:**

To: Reno City Council Re: Stevenson Street Item C.1 January 8 city council agenda Case No. ABN24-00003 (Stevenson Street Abandonment) This is our city, and it's our responsibility to speak up for it, and for ourselves. I cannot attend the meeting in person because of prior commitments, so hope that my comments will contribute to thoughtful consideration by the City Council. I was heartened last fall when the idea of abandoning Stevenson Streets to private interests had considerable resistance from multiple councilmembers (primarily the Mayor, Naomi Duerr, and Jenny Brekhus) I recall they voiced that idea of abandoning the street (called a "city asset") to create parking would not benefit the public. Today, I am writing to oppose the abandonment of the street to what will be private parking. No need! And it still is a city asset. I have seen what vague promises and what cheap selling off city land can do: delay and denial of community values that place accessibility and beauty over expediency. What about re-designing more public-parking spaces? It's a public right of way. Look at all the parking around the J. It's all private and inaccessible to the public: white walls and iron fences say NO PUBLIC ALLOWED. Visitors need the parking spaces on Stevenson as they visit the river and its parks. That's all they have since the large parking on Second Street became private, fenced off and is proposed to be an event venue that does NOT benefit the majority of Reno Citizens and visitors. I support the eloquent and well-crafted comments by Father Durante. We own it, so don't sell it without examining "what the cost would actually be to make adjustments to allow more parking available to everyone—including those newly built apartments that come late to the neighborhood—without limiting access to surrounding entities or the many visitors who come to the river." Let me be clear. No more public property to private interests should be considered. Now The price to the public has outweighed any perceived immediate benefits. There are unintended consequences. Thank you for your consideration.

**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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**Item C1 on Jan. 8, 2025 Reno City Council Meeting Agenda**

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**From** Maureen Fitzgerald <maureen7778@att.net>

**Date** Tue 1/7/2025 6:59 AM

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

**Cc** Maureen Anne FitzGerald <maureen7778@att.net>

Please deny the request for abandonment of the right of way contained in ABN24-00003 (Stevenson Street Abandonment).

Father Chuck Durante has submitted public comments that support denial of this request. His reasons for requesting denial are my reasons. I can't add anything to his eloquent and thoughtful comments.

Thank you,

**Maureen A. FitzGerald**

100 N Arlington Ave.

Unit 12J

Reno, NV 89501



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**City Council Comment received from Phillip Kaiser**

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

**Date** Tue 1/7/2025 11:21 AM

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

**Contact Info:**Name:

Phillip Kaiser

Commenting on behalf of:Ward #:

Ward 5

Email Address:

phillipjkaiser@gmail.com

Phone Number:

(775)848-1743

Address:

810 Vine Street, Reno, NV, 89503

A new comment has been submitted for the Reno City Council Meeting held on: 2025-01-08.

**Section:**

C Items - Public Hearing Items

**Item:**

C.1.

**Position:**

In opposition

**Are they speaking in person?**

No, I am submitting a written comment only.

**If no, enter comments below:**

I am opposed to giving up city streets for the use of commercial interests. Developers, including J Resorts, has already bought and demolished businesses to make parking. They currently have a dirt lot on 5th Street that could be used for parking. Abandoning streets and street parking to provide more parking for businesses that should be required to have their own parking, is not a good precedent. It leads other developers to ask for exceptions to parking and other requirements.

**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 Susan Kaiser**

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From Mikki Huntsman <HuntsmanM@reno.gov>

Date Tue 1/7/2025 10:56 AM

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

**Contact Info:**Name:

Susan Kaiser

Commenting on behalf of:Ward #:

Ward 5

Email Address:

Kaiserkasa@gmail.com

Phone Number:

775-233-6157

Address:

810 Vine St

A new comment has been submitted for the Reno City Council Meeting held on: 2025-01-08.

**Section:**

C Items - Public Hearing Items

**Item:**

C.1 Stevenson St abandonment .

**Position:**

In opposition

**Are they speaking in person?**

No, I am submitting a written comment only.

**If no, enter comments below:**

I have written to the city council previously in opposition to this item. I remain steadfast in my thinking. As a resident of NW Reno living only 6 blocks from this location I frequent the area regularly. I am opposed to relinquishing city streets (including Washington St) to the use of adjacent property owners for their specific use. The shortage of convenient public parking for the nearby church and river corridor is a problem and should be a priority to protect. Developers should be mandated to plan for their parking needs in their initial applications and not be allowed or encouraged to come back after the fact and ask the city to make a special exception. After all, this is the purpose of a master planning process. Recently the council contracted DIG to envision a future Reno river corridor revitalization. I attended their public meeting and was inspired by their vision of what we could have in our community. However, abandoning city control in areas adjacent to the river will only create yet another barrier to positive improvements in the area. I strongly encourage you to oppose the abandonment of Stevenson St and hold developers accountable for planning for their parking needs in the permitting process.

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:**

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Yes

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Yes

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1/7/25, 11:33 AM

Mail - Public Comment - CC - Outlook

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No