

12-11-2024 - Reno City Council Meeting - Item # D.6 Presentation of Lear Theater									
----------------------------------------------------------------------------------	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

[illegible]



---

**City Council Comment received from Monica Houghton**

---

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

**Date** Tue 12/10/2024 9:49 AM

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

**Contact Info:**

Name:

Monica Houghton

Commenting on behalf of:

Ward #:

Ward 2

Email Address:

Phone Number:

Address:

A new comment has been submitted for the Reno City Council Meeting held on: 2024-12-11.

**Section:**

D Items - Department Items

**Item:**

D.6.

**Position:**

In Favor

**Are they speaking in person?**

No, I am submitting a written comment only.

**If no, enter comments below:**

To the Members of the Reno City Council : I grew up in Reno and attended Sunday School at the First Church of Christ Scientist in the building that has since become The Lear Theater. It was my mother, Edda Houghton Morrison, who first suggested to Moya Lear that the building would make a wonderful theater. That it remains where it is, just waiting for someone with a vision to give it new life, in the heart of our good city, is a miracle. There are so many organizations and individuals in the local arts community and beyond who can and will benefit from the restoration and rehabilitation of this distinctive and unique edifice. Please, we must not squander yet another opportunity to realize my mother's dream. As a current resident of Reno's mid-town, and an active participant in the local arts

community both as a patron and as a creator, I am urging the City Council to approve the funds as proposed in Agenda Item D.6 of this week's meeting. Thank you for your consideration, Monica (Niki) Houghton Composer

**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

*Do you wish to sign-up for Reno Connect e-newsletters?*

*Reno Connect is the best way to stay informed about the latest news and updates from the City of Reno. We'll never share your email address with third-party persons, companies or organizations. Visit [www.Reno.Gov/RenoConnect](http://www.Reno.Gov/RenoConnect) to view all newsletter topic lists.*

Yes

---

**12/11/24 Reno City Council Meeting Item D.6 - Lear Theater**

---

**From** Alicia Barber <aliciambarber@gmail.com>

**Date** Tue 12/10/2024 3:57 PM

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

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

With respect to Item D.6 on this meeting's agenda, which allows you to give staff direction for next steps for the property at 501 Riverside Drive, I would like to respectfully request and advise you NOT to issue a Request for Proposals at this time. The public process is proceeding in a positive direction, with the receipt of an informative Historic Structures Report that presented two possible alternatives for public use as a theater or cultural center. Yes, the price tag is daunting, but other projects in the city have found such funding when they presented a clear vision that gained community support. What is needed next is not a "Feasibility Study" per se--that's actually much more involved than what is required to evaluate community interest in either of those options, specifically trying to determine how much use either might get (and keep in mind that the cultural center idea would have a flat floor making the space flexible for use as a wedding or other events venue, pop-up museum, etc). Listening sessions could even be conducted by staff and/or the Historical Resources Commission and/or community partners like the Historic Reno Preservation Society and Our Story, Inc. This building has enormous community support, so please give the public process a chance. Thank you so much.

Alicia Barber, PhD  
Resident, Reno Ward 2