

|   |  |  |  |  |  |
|---|--|--|--|--|--|
| <b>5-1-2024 - Reno City Council Meeting - Item # J.1 Public Comment</b> |  |  |  |  |  |
|---|--|--|--|--|--|

[illegible]

## City Council Comment received from Rachel Gattuso

Mikki Huntsman <HuntsmanM@reno.gov>

Tue 4/30/2024 4:13 PM

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

**Contact Info:**

Name:

Rachel Gattuso

Commenting on behalf of:

Midtown Reno (as board member)

Ward #:

Ward 3

Email Address:

Rachel@gattusocoalition.com

Phone Number:

7753369453

Address:

720 Bates Ave

A new comment has been submitted for the Reno City Council Meeting held on: 2024-05-01.

**Section:**

D Items - Department Items

**Item:**

D1.

**Position:**

In opposition

**Are they speaking in person?**

No, I am submitting a written comment only.

**If no, enter comments below:**

Hello Madam Mayor and City Council Members, My name is Rachel Gattuso and I just recently started serving as a board member for the serve as MidTown Reno board. I'd like to share why I believe a proposed fee for displaying banners could be cost-prohibitive at best and stymie economic growth at worst. Like other Reno districts, MidTown operate on a tight budget. As a board we are working to improve our financial capabilities but this will take time. In MidTown, we are proud to fund and maintain vibrant street decorations such as our new welcoming across-the-street banner and the artistic pole banners that add color and life to our neighborhood, as well as the festive snowflakes that brighten our streets in winter. These festive, engaging and attractive installations are financially covered by MidTown. As the district currently works to improve existing deterrents for foot and vehicle like parking, high cost of living and inflation, elements like these are powerful in lending an inviting atmosphere and promoting a flow of business that benefits the businesses within said district. The proposed fee would mean MidTown Reno must discontinue these enhancements to the neighborhood at the detriment of our residents, business owners and visitors alike. While we recognize the City's

evaluation of a fee, we respectfully urge the council to consider how it will adversely impact our budgets at this time. We greatly appreciate the City's willingness to work alongside Reno MidTown in building up stronger neighborhoods and economies that continue to welcome locals and visitors alike and thank you in advance for your genuine consideration of how this element may inadvertently set some of the progress we have been making back. With the utmost respect, Rachel Gattuso, APR

**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

## City Council Comment received from Tres Benzley

Mikki Huntsman <HuntsmanM@reno.gov>

Tue 4/30/2024 4:06 PM

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

**Contact Info:**

Name:

Tres Benzley

Commenting on behalf of:

MidTown Reno

Ward #:

Ward 3

Email Address:

midtowndistrictreno@gmail.com

Phone Number:

775-722-8009

Address:

141 E Pueblo St

A new comment has been submitted for the Reno City Council Meeting held on: 2024-05-01.

**Section:**

D Items - Department Items

**Item:**

D1.

**Position:**

In opposition

**Are they speaking in person?**

No, I am submitting a written comment only.

**If no, enter comments below:**

Hello Madam Mayor and City Council Members, My name is Tres Benzley, I serve as the Midtown Reno Association Board President. I'm reaching out today to discuss the proposed budget, specifically the new fee for displaying banners that beautify our city. Many districts in Reno, including MidTown, operate on tight budgets and rely heavily on volunteer efforts to enhance our community's environment. In MidTown, we are proud to fund and maintain vibrant street decorations such as our new and welcoming across-the-street banners, the artistic pole banners, as well as the festive snowflakes that brighten our streets in winter, all that add color and life to our neighborhood. These initiatives are funded by MidTown—we cover the costs of the snowflakes, their installation and the production and installation of our banners. These elements are crucial in creating a welcoming and engaging atmosphere for the residents and visitors of Reno. Unfortunately, if the proposed fees are implemented, it will be financially unsustainable for us to continue these enhancements. The additional costs would force us to discontinue these beloved decorations. We kindly urge the City Council to consider the negative impact these fees would have on community efforts like ours and to

vote against this element of the new fee structure. Thank you for considering our perspective and for your ongoing support of Reno's districts.

**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.*

No