

4-12-2023 - Reno City Council Meeting - Item # D.4 Virginia Street Urban Placemaking Study

[illegible]



Public Comment <publiccomment@reno.gov>

NO on Item D.4 for 4/12/23 Reno City Council meeting

1 message

Alicia Barber <alicia@storiesinplace.com>

Tue, Apr 11, 2023 at
2:05 PM

To: Publiccomment@reno.gov

With respect to the final report of the Virginia Street Urban Placemaking Study being presented to City Council on April 12th, I would like to respectfully urge the Council NOT to adopt the implementation phases as presented at this time. Many of the recommendations, most prominently the suggestion of removing a turn lane, slowing traffic, and adding bike lanes to the central portion of Virginia Street, warrant far more analysis and community/business owner buy-in, particularly as a Reno Gazette-Journal article published just this morning includes many concerning revelations about the pausing of the Center Street Cycle Track and the push to install bike lanes on Virginia.

Please read these two articles if you haven't yet:

Virginia Street bike lanes pit small businesses against The ROW hotel-casinos

<https://www.rgj.com/story/news/local/2023/04/11/reno-row-hotel-casinos-at-odds-with-small-businesses-over-bike-lanes/70070219007/>

Poor morale, resignations hit RTC Washoe as projects get 'political'

<https://www.rgj.com/story/news/local/2023/04/11/rtc-washoe-projects-get-political-poor-morale-resignations-bill-thomas/70005683007/>

I hope you can agree that Council should feel no rush to implement Gehl's recommendations but should instead simply accept the report and perhaps direct staff to look into the feasibility of various potential actions. That would have been prudent even before publication of these articles, but I believe is even more critical with their publication. We have plenty of time and need to get this right.

Sincerely,
Alicia Barber, Ph.D.



Opposition to Item D4

1 message

Ky Plaskon <ky@nevada.unr.edu>

Tue, Apr 11, 2023 at 12:57 PM

To: publiccomment@reno.gov, TMBA Board <board@bikewashoe.org>, Sara Going <Sgoing@rtcwashoe.com>, Jennifer Kent <jenniferkent@unr.edu>, Cayman Levonian <cayman.p.levonian@gmail.com>

Ky Plaskon with the Truckee Meadows Bicycle Alliance. While the Truckee Meadows Bicycle Alliance applauds design elements of the Placemaking study as a game changer for Reno, there is one major flaw and we must regretfully oppose the report (item D4), not for what it includes, but for what it omits. The City of Reno Staff must follow through with a commitment not only to the Truckee Meadows Bicycle Alliance as a major stakeholder in this project but also to the community in the spirit of public safety.

In meetings with City Staff, the Truckee Meadows Bicycle Alliance was told that the Placemaking study would consider the Center Street Cycletrack. However, it is only mentioned once in the entire 143-page report. The placemaking study showed that the overwhelming majority of respondents want safety downtown now, however, the report does not make a recommendation on this downtown safety project that is already in the works.

The City of Reno Council should reject this report in its current form as city staff did not follow through on their commitment or the spirit of the report to improve downtown safety. Please ask city staff to come back with a report that includes a

recommendation on the Center Street cycle track and how it fits with safety and placemaking downtown.

It is time the City of Reno Staff lifts their opposition to this major downtown safety improvement project. A sense of place means safety now, not years down the road. If we are going to have a safe downtown and be a bike-friendly city, the city needs to finish what it started with the Center Street Cycle Track.

It's unsettling that a bike path safety project that was decades in the making and studied heavily is shut down by politics and free parking. We need to stand up against this antiquated way of thinking if we are going to make progress to be a safer and healthier city.

Our city leaders need to do what is right and follow what the public said it wants in this study: safer streets now. We need to stop putting our families, children, students, and workers in danger. We have been patient. Please complete the Center Street Cycletrack and at the very least include it in the Placemaking study as city Staff committed it would be. The studies show the Center Street Cycletrack is a sure bet and we can finish it now while you study and explore improving safety on Virginia St as well.

Respectfully,
Ky Plaskon
President of the Truckee Meadows Bicycle Alliance

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*More people will ride if we make micro-modal paths **DAPPER**
Direct, Accessible, Protected, Presentable, Equitable, and Responsible*

Founder: [Bike Life Radio](#) on [KWNK 97.7 FM Reno](#)

President: [Truckee Meadows Bicycle Alliance](#)

Author: [Silent Heroes of the Cold War](#)



Public Comment <publiccomment@reno.gov>

Why I Left Reno and Moved Back to California

1 message

rob williams <mlbcrob@gmail.com>

Tue, Apr 11, 2023 at 1:52 PM

To: "publiccomment@reno.gov" <publiccomment@reno.gov>

Hi,

My first teaching job was with the Washoe County Schools teaching at Jesse Beck Elementary in 1980-83. I returned to California because Northern Nevada was stuck in the past! I can see nothing has changed! Think about making downtown bike and walking friendly by completing the Center Street Cycle Track.

“A sense of place means safety now, not years down the road. If we are going to have a safe downtown and be a bike-friendly city, the city needs to finish what it started with the Center Street Cycle Track. The placemaking study is done now and the public wants more safety downtown now. City staff should lift their opposition to the Center Street Cycletrack public safety project immediately and put public safety first over politics.”

Rob Williams

Founder of the Motherlode Bicycle Coalition

Vice Chairperson of Caltrans D10 Bike Pedestrian Advisory Committee

209-273-8009

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Rob Williams

Motherlode Bicycle Coalition

Inline image

209-273-8009

Inline image

Rbwilliams72@gmail.com

Inline image

<https://motherlodebicyclecoalition.home.blog/>

Inline image



Public Comment <publiccomment@reno.gov>

Voice Message From: Cisco Unity Connection Messaging System (917752870302)

1 message

publiccomment@reno.gov <publiccomment@reno.gov>

Tue, Apr 11, 2023 at
12:49 PM

Reply-To: DonomaUnity@reno.gov

To: publiccomment@reno.gov

Voice Message delivered by Donoma Unify

From: 917752870302

Click to Call 917752870302

Hello, it's Chi place down with the Truckee Meadows bicycle Alliance. And while we applied design elements of the place making study, has a game changer for Reno, there is one major flood. We must regretfully oppose the report item fee for, for what it does, and what not for what it includes, but for what it home in, the City of Reno staff must follow through with a commitment. Not only to the Truckee Meadows bicycle, answer the major stakeholder in this project but also to the community in the spirit of Public Safety and meetings with the city, the Truckee Meadows bicycle Alliance was told that the place making study would consider this Center Street cycle track. However, it is only mentioned once in the entire 143 page report, the project itself is not mention only the street, the place making study showed that the overwhelming majority of respondent Stacy downtown now, however the report does not make a recommendation on is downtown. Safety project that is already in the works, the City of Reno Ohh Council, should reject this report, and it's current form as a city staff, did not follow through on their commitment, or the spirit of the report to improve downtown safety, please. Ask City staff to come back with a report that includes a recommendation on the Center Street cycle track and how it fits with Stacey and place making downtown. It is time, the City of Reno staff with their opposition to this major downtown safety Improvement project expensive, place mean safety. Now 9 Years down the road. It

we're going to have a safe downtown and a bike friendly city. The city needs to finish what it started with the Center Street cycle track project. It is ridiculous that a bike path Safety project. That was decades in the making and heavily study does shut down by politics and free parking. We need to stand up against the Antiquated way of thinking. If we're going to make progress to be a safer and healthier City, our city leaders need to do what is right and follow through with what the public said. It one in this place making study safer streets. Now we need to stop putting our families children, students and workers in danger. We have been patient, please complete the Center Street cycle track, and at the very least included in the place, making study. As City staff committed, it would be the study show that the Center Street cycle track, he's unsure back. When you still went, well, you study and explore improving safety on Virginia Street as well. So get it done. Thank. Q.
(Transcription with high confidence)

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