

## City of Reno Board & Commission

### Application Form

#### Notice of Public Record

Please be advised that all information contained in this application is part of the City of Reno's public record and is available for public review. These positions are limited, in most cases, to residents of the City of Reno. The City Council makes a conscientious effort to appoint persons who represent all of the various communities within the City of Reno. Please be advised that certain boards and commissions require filing of financial statements with the Secretary of State or have special requirements. Contact the City Clerk's office at 334-2030 with any questions.

### Profile

Will	Howard	Durham
First	Middle	Last

willdurhamnv@gmail.com

Email Address

816 Wheeler Ave.

Home Address

Reno	NV	89502
City	State	Zip

What ward do you live in? \*

Ward 3

Mobile - 775-762-3260

Primary Phone

Alternate Phone

How long have you been a resident of the City of Reno?

39 Year(s)

Are you over 18 years of age?

Yes

Are you currently registered to vote in the City of Reno? \*

Yes

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Employer

Job Title

Which Boards would you like to apply for?

Historical Resource Commission

Have you ever been convicted of a felony or misdemeanor other than minor traffic violations?

No

If yes, please list conviction dates and nature:

## Interests & Experiences

Education or training relevant to the board or commission to which you are applying:

The history of Reno is of paramount importance to me. For the last 25 plus years, I have been preserving the iconic neon signs that personified Reno for the last century. In the 90s, Reno was losing some of the most historic properties and I thought that it was important to preserve the signs even if the buildings were destined to be demolished. History is often the collateral damage in our attempts to reinvent the City that we all love. I thought the signs were a significant part of our collective history and they should be saved. We have shared the signs at venues like Nevada Museum of Art and UNR. The collection includes signs from: Harolds Club, Nevada Club, Riverside, Mapes, The Holiday, Virginian, Parkers Western Wear, Harrah's, Merry Wink Motel and dozens more. In 2008 I was given the Distinguished Service recognition for historic preservation by the City of Reno. Ten years later, I was recognized in the Advocate category. Although the effort was not ultimately successful, I was active in the effort to save the Mapes from being demolished. In 2016 I worked with the City to preserve the signs from the Golden West Motor Lodge. I was one of the founding members of the West of Wells neighborhood group. We worked hard to revitalize the neighborhood and recognize the important historical elements. Through our efforts, in 2013 the neighborhood was officially recognized as a conservation district. In 2017, there was an effort to modernize the Reno Arch. One of the aspects of the proposal was to replace the neon with LEDs. The arch is a community treasure as well as a piece of art. The signs has been photographed

millions of times and the neon is a vital element of the sign. I worked with my Nevada Neon Project followers to vote for what they felt best represented our city's heritage. Thankfully, the vote was to preserve the neon elements of the sign. In 2019, I worked with Northern Nevada elementary school children to propose AB182, to recognize neon as one of our official state symbols. The bill passed both houses unanimously and was signed into law by Governor Sisolak. I truly love Reno history and believe it is vital to the strength of our city. I do not have formal historic preservation education or training, my knowledge has come from over 25 years of jumping in and doing the hard work to make sure that our history endures.

Explain briefly why you would like to be appointed to this board or commission.

The City of Reno is in a phase of great change. It is vital for the success of our city to protect it's historic resources. The majority of my preservation work has been on the micro level, once decisions have been made to demolish properties. I look forward to working with a passionate and effective group of individuals with diverse backgrounds to collaborate on a macro level to develop plans and initiatives to protect our cultural heritage. Being a Reno native with experience in historic preservation, I feel like I can contribute a specific perspective that will be helpful in discussions about prior preservation efforts. I look forward to learning from other Historic Resources Commission members, and City representative Megan Berner, about Commission successes and challenges. I hope to be a part of this commission to help ensure that historic resources are an integral part of Reno's path forward.

Ethnicity	Gender	Sexual Orientation

#### Open Meeting Law Waiver

WAIVER OF NOTICE REQUIRED UNDER NRS 241.033(1) TO ALLOW CITY COUNCIL TO CONSIDER CHARACTER, MISCONDUCT, OR COMPETENCE OF PERSON TO BE APPOINTED TO A BOARD, COMMISSION, OR OTHER PUBLIC BODY FOR THE CITY OF RENO

The City Council for the City of Reno will be considering on a future posted agenda your appointment to a board, commission or other public body for the City of Reno. Pursuant to NRS 241.033(1), in order to consider the professional competence of an applicant, notice need be provided to that person of the time and place of the meeting in compliance with such statutory provisions. By agreeing below, it is confirmed that I have been provided notice of the meeting at which my appointment will be considered by City Council. Further, I knowingly and voluntarily am waiving my rights to all written notice requirements under NRS 241.033(1) pertaining to my qualifications, competence, and character to hold this appointment and consent to the evaluation of my character and competence by the Reno City Council in a public meeting. Further, the I acknowledge that I may at any time withdraw both this waiver and related application for appointment.

☒ I Agree

#### Acknowledgement

Please Agree with the Following Statement

I certify that, to the best of my knowledge, the information I provided in the application is true. If the information provided is false or incomplete, it shall be sufficient cause for disqualification or removal. If appointed, I agree to attend a board or commission orientation session, if applicable, within six months of my appointment. I understand that failure to comply with this requirement will results in automatic removal from the board or commission.

☒ I Agree