



Reno City Charter Committee Hybrid Meeting

DRAFT MINUTES

Monday, June 27, 2022, 5:30 p.m.
Reno City Hall, 7th Floor Caucus Conference Room
One E. First Street
Reno, NV 89501

Members

John Marshall, Chair (Ward 1)
Dennis Green, Vice Chair (At-Large)
Lindsay Anderson (Ward 3)
Austin Brown (Ward 5)
Ronda Clifton (Senate Minority)
Edward Coleman (Assembly Majority)
Miranda Hoover (Assembly Minority)

Nancyann Leeder (Ward 2)
Tess Opferman (Senate Majority)
Greg Peek (Ward 4)
Nnedi Stephens (Senate Majority)
Darren Swinney (Assembly Majority)
Mathew Work (Mayor)
Staff Liaison: Calli Wilsey

Mikki Huntsman, City Clerk, City of Reno, called the meeting to order at 5:32 pm

A. Introductory Items

A.1 Call To Order/Roll Call

Present: Green, Anderson, Brown, Clifton, Hoover, Leeder, Opferman, Stephens, Swinney, Work

Absent at Roll Call: Marshall, Coleman, Peek,

A.2 Public Comment – This item is for either public comment on any action item or for any general public comment and is limited to no more than three (3) minutes for each commentator.

None

A.3 Approval of the Agenda (For Possible Action) – June 27, 2022

Moved by Member Work; Seconded by Member Clifton to approve the June 27, 2022, meeting agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

A.4 Approval of Minutes (For Possible Action)

(a) June 13, 2022

Moved by Member Work; Seconded by Member Leeder to approve the June 13th, 2022, meeting

minutes. Motion carried. Members Clifton, Swinney, and Opferman abstained.

A.4 Staff Liaison Report – Item for general announcements and informational items only. No action may be taken on this item.

July 25th meeting information

B. Business Items

B.1 Discussion and potential direction to staff to include in the Committee's final report an amendment to the Reno City Charter to add green infrastructure projects to combat the urban heat island to the list of possible projects authorized under Section 6.010 Local Improvement Law – (For Possible Action)

Member Leeder explained the importance of this amendment due to the potential health risk for people who live within an urban heat island.

Calli asked why the amendment is needed and what projects are not possible without the amendment. This is so staff knows the context when asked about the amendment at legislative sessions.

Member Clifton asked if Member Leeder could give an example of the projects that fall under this amendment.

Member Leeder said that planting trees and greenery would help. As well as a community garden and more parks. Member Leeder specifically said that in Northeast Reno there is vacant land that could have trees planted on it.

Member Anderson asked what this would require the city to do when making decisions about development.

Member Leeder said that it would not necessarily be a requirement, but it would help the City Counsel think about the Heat Island Effect when making decisions regarding development.

Member Clifton asked if there were any legal issues with this amendment.

Jonathan Shipman, Deputy City Attorney, said there are no legal issues per se. Jonathan said that it is difficult to understand what the amendment would look like because there are already environmental projects set in the Council's master plan for parks and infrastructure. Jonathan said that there is already a lot of projects the city can do to address this issue without the amendment.

Member Clifton asked Member Leeder if this is to expand what the city is already doing?

Member Leeder said that there are a lot of issues that can be solved here. Member Leeder said it is not just improving infrastructure but is focused on the health of the community.

Member Opferman asked if there are any projects that could not be done without adding this language?

Member Clifton asked if there was a specific project that would need this language passed in the Charter.

Member Leeder said there is no specific project, but the language helps with bringing awareness to the importance of this issue.

Calli asked Jonathan if this amendment would allow a neighborhood to build green infrastructure to combat the Heat Island Effect, and Jonathan clarified that would be a use for it.

Member Clifton asked if the amendment would add any additional taxes or fees? Jonathan said it could because of additional assessments to projects in areas that are more impacted.

Member Clifton asked if there is a negative to proposing the language. Jonathan said no negatives necessarily, but the board needs to find a way to explain why the amendment is necessary.

Member Hoover asked what is currently stopping the city from enabling this language right now?

Calli said that the Council is currently working on a Tree Protection Ordinance, as well as some other sustainability work that could improve the Heat Island Effect. This could allow for other entities such as neighborhood representatives to come forward and collect funding for green infrastructure under this section in the Charter, but there is already code around this infrastructure or in the process that could be affected by this amendment being passed.

It was moved by Member Leeder; Seconded by Member Clifton, to direct staff to include in the Committee's final report an amendment to the Reno City Charter to add green infrastructure projects to combat the urban heat island to the list of possible projects authorized under Section 6.010 Local Improvement Law. Motion carried unanimously.

B.2 Discussion and approval of the Reno City Charter Committee 2022 Final Report and Recommendations, which includes the following proposed amendments to the Reno City Charter: (a) Amendment 2022-001: Elimination of gendered language; (b) Amendment 2022-002: Repeal of changes scheduled to take effect January 1, 2024 related to the number of wards in the City of Reno, makeup of elected offices, and other related provisions; and (c) Amendment 2022-003: Addition of a new section requiring an inclusive community engagement process and the appointment of a Chief Equity Officer – (For Possible Action)

Calli said that B.2 would also include the amendment from B.1 of this agenda since the language also got approved by the committee.

Member Anderson asked if the Council would decide on each recommendation individually on what will be approved for the legislation.

Calli said Council will discuss each recommendation with the committee in July so the committee can answer any questions the Council may have. Then the Council will decide on each item at their August meeting. Calli said they can choose to sponsor any recommendations they decide to, and they can also revise those recommendations if they choose to. If Council does not sponsor a recommendation, the committee can find another sponsor who will bring the legislation forward to

the legislator.

Moved by Member Anderson; seconded by member Hoover, to approve the final report and recommendations with the addition of the amendment passed by the committee in B.1 of the June 27th agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

C. Board/Commission/Committee Member Reports and Announcements - Limited to items that do not appear elsewhere on the agenda. No action may be taken on this item.

None

D. Future Agenda Items - Identification of items for future agendas. No action may be taken on this item.

None

E. Public Comment - This item is for either public comment on any action item or for any general public comment and is limited to no more than three (3) minutes for each commentator.

No public comment registered or received.

F. Adjournment (For Possible Action)

Member Anderson moved; Member Hoover seconded, to adjourn the meeting at 6:44 pm. Motion carried unanimously.