



WASHOE COUNTY

Regional Street Naming Committee

DRAFT Meeting Minutes

Thursday, August 12, 2021
10:00 am

Washoe County Administrative Complex
Slide Mountain Conference Room
1001 East 9th Street (Building A, 2nd Floor)
Reno, NV 89512

ZOOM via: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88050333612>

Members Present

Jessica Damole, City of Reno
Wayne Handrock, Washoe County Community Services Department
Julie Orvald, Washoe County, Coordinator
Rebecca Reid, NV Energy
Jon Walker, City of Sparks
Jennifer Felter, Washoe County Public Safety
Amanda Duncan, Truckee Meadows Water Authority

Members Absent

Sean Chambers, City of Sparks Police Department
Robert Johnson, City of Reno
Teresa Parkhurst, City of Sparks
Randy Baxley, Washoe County School District
Elaina Hooper, City of Reno

Alternate Members Present

Dixie Rudebusch, Washoe County GIS

Alternate Members Absent

Heather Edmunson, Truckee Meadows Water Authority
Doug Campbell, City of Sparks Police Department
Patty Shinault, NDOT Roadway Systems
Patricia Silvestre, City of Reno

Legal Counsel

Chaz Lehman, Washoe County District Attorney's Office
Wade Carner, Washoe County District Attorney's Office

Non-Members Present

Lacey Kerfoot, Office Support Specialist, Washoe County Community Services Department
Laura Rose, Administrative Assistant, Washoe County Community Services Department

Guests/Other parties present

Brian Sandoval, President, University of Nevada Reno
Troy Miller, Director of Real Estate, University of Nevada Reno

1. Call to Order/Determination of Quorum

Meeting was called to order by Chair Wayne Handrock at 10:05 a.m. A quorum of the Committee was established.

2. Public Comment

Chair Handrock called for public comment. There was no response to the call for public comment.

Recording Secretary Kerfoot stated for the record that she did receive one e-mailed public comment which was posted online and emailed to the committee members prior to the meeting.

3. Approval of the Agenda for the August 12, 2021 meeting of the Regional Street Naming Committee

Upon motion by Amanda Duncan, second by Rebecca Reid, the agenda for the July 15, 2021 meeting of the Regional Street Naming Committee was approved as written. Motion carried.

4. Approval of Minutes from the July 15, 2021 meeting of the Regional Street Naming Committee

Upon motion by Amanda Duncan, second by Jon Walker, the minutes from the July 15, 2021 meeting of the Regional Street Naming Committee was approved as written. Motion carried.

5. New Business

- A. [University Way](#) [For possible action] – Discussion and possible action on a request to rename N Center Street, a .9 mile street that runs north-south between the Truckee River in downtown Reno and the UNR entrance on E Ninth Street, crossing Interstate 80 West, from:

N Center Street to University Way

Julie Orvald provided background on the project. This request was originally heard at the July 15, 2021 RSNC meeting. The item was tabled to allow the Committee time to reach out to the emergency services community for comment. The Committee received three formal email responses from USPS, REMSA and City of Reno Dispatch.

Ms. Orvald pointed out a correction in the table for the revised meeting memo. The number of addresses in the table for N Center St should be 236, not 137.

Chair Handrock asked for confirmation that the three letters the Committee received from requested agencies were recommendations for denial. Ms. Orvald confirmed. Chair Handrock opened the floor for Committee comments and discussion.

Jennifer Felter with Washoe County [Public Safety] Communications stated that when there are too many street names with the same name, it makes it hard for call takers and 911 operators to get the help to the right place; especially if the addresses are the same or start the same. It's difficult to allow that. Ms. Felter stated that she understands what the University is trying to do, however, she does not believe it is beneficial to the community and members of the community that live on those other streets.

Chair Handrock states that the public safety issue trumps the connectivity issue. He

pointed out that there are several vacant lots, which increases the probability that someone calling 911 may state “I’m on University,” without providing an address number. Having two other streets with the root name “University” in the vicinity, Mr. Handrock thinks the name duplication could cause problems and result in extra time for emergency services to respond.

Chair Handrock clarified, as a point of order, that the Committee is making a recommendation to the City of Reno. If the Committee does not recommend approval of the applicant’s request, the applicant can appeal to the City of Reno for the final determination.

Brian Sandoval, President of University Nevada Reno, greeted the Committee and asked to yield the floor to Troy Miller, Director of Real Estate for University of Nevada, to share his outreach efforts.

Mr. Miller stated that he has been in contact with the RSNC Chair via email, as well as other members of the Committee. He was not made aware of the three positions opposing the request. Mr. Miller stated that he requested information from various people three different times. Mr. Miller stated that the Real Estate group had done its own research and only found three addresses that were conflicting with any of the University streets. The three properties with overlapping addresses are the County Parking Garage, the Reno Events Center, and the Reno Ballroom; they conflict with three residential addresses on University Terrace. Five of the streets with “University” in it that didn’t have the same range of address numbers. The address range for the portion of N Center St that the applicant is requesting to change runs from 1 to 895. Five of those streets start at 900 or above. The only conflicts were on the one street with three residential properties. Mr. Miller understands the importance of emergency services responding but pointed out that anyone calling in from the County Parking Garage, Reno Events Center or Reno Ballroom is unlikely to know what the addresses are. Mr. Miller stated that the applicant has letters of recommendation from the City of Reno Mayor, Hillary Schieve, and the Reno Downtown Management Project. Mr. Miller offered that a number address change could be discussed. He pointed out that when discussing the matter from a relatively high level of conversation, people had some problems, but the specifics his team found were different.

Chair Handrock asked for Committee questions; there were none. Chair Handrock asked for public comment. Recording Secretary Kerfoot indicated that there was no public comment but provided instruction for accessing the County website to review the agency comments that were received.

Brian Sandoval stated that he would like to have a meaningful chance to review what was in the communications that the Committee received. Mr. Sandoval stated that he has not had a meaningful opportunity to understand and respond. Jon Walker, City of Sparks, stated that he did not know the comments were received. Ms. Kerfoot stated that the comments were emailed to all Committee members on the day prior to the meeting. Ms. Kerfoot shared her screen and pulled up the agency comments for the Committee to review. Chair Handrock asked Ms. Kerfoot to read the emails into the record.

Ms. Kerfoot read the three comments received from City of Reno Dispatch, REMSA and USPS. **These emails are included at the end of the meeting minutes.**

Chair Handrock asked if the Committee had comments on the letters that were read. The Committee members had no questions. Chair Handrock asked if the applicant had any comments. Mr. Sandoval asked for the opportunity to review the documents and asked

for a continuance of the item. Mr. Sandoval also asked for the inbound emails that prompted the agency comments. Chair Handrock asked for a motion.

Amanda Duncan asked for confirmation that Mr. Miller and Mr. Sandoval understand the process – that if the Committee denies the item, it can be taken to Reno City Council for hearing. Mr. Sandoval acknowledged that they understand the procedure. He continued that they (the applicant) had less than 24 hours to review the agency comments and that without the opportunity to review the inbound emails, did not have an opportunity to see the full picture.

Amanda Duncan motioned to continue the item to the next Regional Street Naming Committee meeting. Recording Secretary Kerfoot asked for clarification on whether Ms. Duncan was moving to continue the item to the next regularly scheduled RSNC meeting on Thursday, October 21, 2021.

Jon Walker, City of Sparks, said the Committee should not push the meeting off for two months. Mr. Walker believes that the University should be given sufficient time to review the documents and stated that he will do more. Mr. Walker brought up that duplication of names between University Ridge and University Terrace. If those streets were able to be duplicated, he believes more research should be done. Mr. Walker recommended that the Committee hold another special meeting in September.

Ms. Kerfoot asked that the motion include a time frame no earlier than Monday, September 13, 2021.

Amanda Duncan amended her motion to stay the item to a special meeting to be held in September, no earlier than September 13, 2021. The motion, seconded by Jon Walker, carried unanimously.

6. Miscellaneous / Announcements

None.

7. Public Comment

Brian Sandoval thanked the Chair and the members of the Committee for their willingness to hear the item again.

There was no response to the call for public comment.

8. Adjournment

Chair Handrock adjourned the meeting at 10:36 a.m.

Re: Testimony regarding duplicate street names in same jurisdiction




skrochs

To Orvald, Julie M



Wed 7/28

 Follow up. Start by Wednesday, July 28, 2021. Due by Wednesday, July 28, 2021.

[NOTICE: This message originated outside of Washoe County -- DO NOT CLICK on links or open attachments unless you are sure the content is safe.]

Good afternoon,

I am happy to share my expertise: the more duplicate street names that we have in the Reno/Washoe County area, the higher likelihood that first responders will be sent to the incorrect location. Because there are several crucial points that locations can be given/recorded incorrectly, the increase in human error is exponential. For example, when a citizen calls 9-1-1, they are asked the location of the emergency. If the citizen is not aware that there are duplicate streets, they may not be able to clarify to the emergency dispatcher which location they are actually at (this is the first crucial point where human error may intervene). Secondly, the dispatcher then has to choose the correct street out of a list of possible duplicates (another opportunity for human error to intervene). Third, the emergency responders (EMS, Fire, Police) have to drive to the correct street. With duplicate streets, even if points one and two are correctly completed, responders then may have to take the time to look up which street they need to drive to, or inadvertently drive to the incorrect street out of habit; both scenarios could cause a potential life altering delay in response. It is my expert recommendation that you please reject this request to rename a major street.

Thank you!

Sara Skroch
Dispatch Supervisor
City of Reno - Public Safety Dispatch
PO Box 1900
Reno, NV 89505
Office: (775)326-6615
Duty Phone: (775)334-2399
skrochs@reno.gov

From: [Aaron Abbott](#)
To: [Program, EMS](#)
Cc: [Adam Heinz](#); [Nomura, Zebulon](#); [Kammann, Joseph R](#); [Sullivan, Jeffrey](#); [noland](#); [Way, Dale](#); [Lawson, Jacqueline](#); [Esp, Andrea](#); [Orvald, Julie M](#)
Subject: Re: FW: Testimony regarding duplicate street names in same jurisdiction
Date: Wednesday, August 4, 2021 1:55:56 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

[**NOTICE:** This message originated outside of Washoe County -- **DO NOT CLICK** on **links** or open **attachments** unless you are sure the content is safe.]

Hello Julie,

I remember a while back (15 years?) when the Southbound 395 off ramp Del Monte was just north of the Da Monte and 395 Southbound exit. It caused major confusion with 911 callers not knowing what off-ramp they were on when dialing 911. Also, the verbiage over the radio often was often misheard and caused routing issues during emergency responses. It was a major help when the Del Monte exit name was changed to Neil. I would advise against any street names that sound too similar in the same area/proximity, regardless of actual jurisdictional boundaries.

-Aaron

From: [Burt, Camille R - Las Vegas, NV](#)
To: [Orvald, Julie M](#)
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] RE: Testimony regarding duplicate street names in same jurisdiction
Date: Monday, August 9, 2021 1:48:48 PM

[NOTICE: This message originated outside of Washoe County -- DO NOT CLICK on links or open attachments unless you are sure the content is safe.]

Good Afternoon Julie,

Sorry I didn't get back with you sooner.

We at the United States Postal Service would like to object to the name change. When you have the same name of a street with different suffix's, not only does the machines sometime have trouble with it, but corresponds lots of the time will put wrong suffix's on customers mail. And then the mail is delayed. And then what makes it worse in this case is that it is our understanding that both of the streets would be in the same hundred block range. This makes it that much worse. Also what can make it bad is if it is also in the same zip code. I don't know if this is the case or not.

It is also our understanding that with only the suffix change it can sometimes cause confusion in a 911 emergency if the customer mixes up the suffix.

VIII. Addressing Guidelines DM-940-89-03

A. City-Style Addressing

1. The logical/grammatical order of address elements is: street number, pre-directional, primary street name, suffix, post-directional, and secondary number, if any

(e.g., 100 W MAIN ST SE APT 201).

2. Official street numbers should proceed from a logical point of origin and should be in proper numerical sequence in relation to other lots with frontage on the same street.

3. Assign odd numbers to properties on one side of the street and even numbers to properties on the other side of the street.

Numbers should provide sufficient flexibility to accommodate the maximum density permitted by zoning regulations.

4. Each street should have one correct name. Avoid the use of directionals or suffixes to distinguish separate, noncontinuous streets

(e.g., PALM CT, PALM AVE, PALM ST, N PALM CT).

Let me know if you need any additional information.
Thank you for reaching out to us about our concerns.

Camille Burt

AMS Tech Nevada Utah District