

REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY MEETING OF
January 7, 2009
VERBATIM TRANSCRIPT – CITIZENS PARTICIPATION

- 1 **Appearance List:**
- 2 OSCAR GOODMAN, Chairman
- 3 SHONDRA SUMMERS-ARMSTRONG, 1931 Fair Avenue
- 4 RICKI Y. BARLOW, Member
- 5 PASTOR-DR. S. S. ROGERS, Greater Mount Sinai Missionary Recruiting Ministries
- 6 MATTIE SNOWDEN WORMWORD, 2725 Revere Street
- 7 AGNES MARSHALL, 1666 D. Street
- 8 JAMES CHAPMAN, 3366 Fandanso Place
- 9 MITCHELL SAYLES, 1313 West Van Buren Avenue
- 10 COLIN JACOBS, 1201 Virginia City
- 11 BARBARA CROCKETT, 1204 I Street
- 12 LINDA YOUNG, School Trustee for District C, 3625 Bradley Road
- 13 ALEX X, 613 Leonard Avenue
- 14 LEON SMITH, Pastor, Pentecostal Temple
- 15 GENE COLLINS, 1101 Eleanor Avenue
- 16 ANDREW L. THOMAS, 6201 Don Gasper
- 17 PETER CHRIS CHRISTOFF
- 18 TEDDY RUSSELL, Las Vegas resident
- 19 PATRICIA MARTINELLI PRICE, 3212 Redrock Street
- 20 JAMES PARKER
- 21 STANLEY WASHINGTON, 4299 Lucas Avenue
- 22 ROGER COOK, 1106 I Street
- 23 BEATRICE TURNER, West Las Vegas
- 24 HARVEY MUNFORD, State Assemblyman, 809 Sunny Place
- 25 REVEREND FOUSTON JORDAN, Pastor, Rivers of Living Water Ministries
- 26 MATTHEW CALLISTER, Attorney, 823 Las Vegas Boulevard South

REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY MEETING OF
January 7, 2009
VERBATIM TRANSCRIPT – CITIZENS PARTICIPATION

- 27 I-CHE LAI, Attorney
- 28 KATHERINE DUNCAN, 1508 River Crest Court
- 29
- 30 1 hour, 6 minutes
- 31
- 32 Typed by: Lean Coleman
- 33 Proofed by: Gabriela Portillo-Brenner

REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY MEETING OF
January 7, 2009
VERBATIM TRANSCRIPT – CITIZENS PARTICIPATION

34 **CHAIRMAN GOODMAN**

35 All right. Item Number 5 is Citizens Participation. Public Comment during this portion of the
36 agenda must be limited to matters within the jurisdiction of the Redevelopment Agency. No
37 subject may be acted upon by the Redevelopment Agency, unless that subject is on the agenda
38 and is scheduled for action. So, if you wish to be heard, please come up to the podium, give us
39 your name, please. And, I'd like, by a show of hands, if you're able to tell me at this time, how
40 many people intend to speak today?

41

42 **SHONDRA SUMMERS ARMSTRONG**

43 We have ten people scheduled, Sir.

44

45 **CHAIRMAN GOODMAN**

46 Okay. Very good. Then we'll put a three-minute (sic) for each person.

47

48 **SHONDRA SUMMERS ARMSTRONG**

49 I'm sorry.

50

51 **CHAIRMAN GOODMAN**

52 Wait – we can't do it that way. If somebody has something to say, they have to come up to the
53 mike and they have to identify themselves.

54

55 **SHONDRA SUMMERS ARMSTRONG**

56 I have scheduled ten people, but if there are others, I can't preclude them. We have –

57

58 **CHAIRMAN GOODMAN**

59 Of course, and –

REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY MEETING OF
January 7, 2009
VERBATIM TRANSCRIPT – CITIZENS PARTICIPATION

60 **SHONDRA SUMMERS ARMSTRONG**

61 – a lot of people.

62

63 **CHAIRMAN GOODMAN**

64 – I'm not gonna preclude anybody either.

65

66 **SHONDRA SUMMERS ARMSTRONG**

67 Yes, Sir.

68

69 **CHAIRMAN GOODMAN**

70 But, so we'll start with a three-minute timer. Let me just make some opening remarks, if I may.

71 We're delighted that the citizens are present in our Council Chambers during this Redevelopment

72 Agency meeting. This is a great tribute to you taking your time early in the morning to come

73 here and express your interests and your concerns to the Agency, and I want to congratulate you

74 for that. We, as a Council (sic), cannot take any action, as I said, during the Citizens

75 Participation. We're here to listen to you, of course, and hear what you have to say.

76 We're also in a position that we've been advised that a lawsuit has been filed and, as a result of

77 that, we really can't comment or ask questions at this time on the advice of our City Attorney

78 because of the pending litigation. But does that not preclude you from making your position

79 known to us, and I welcome it today. And why don't you start off by identifying yourself for the

80 record with your name and your address, please, and then we'd be delighted to hear from you,

81 and I'd like the timer on.

82

83 **MEMBER BARLOW**

84 Mayor (sic) –, prior to Ms. Armstrong introducing herself. I had spoken to a couple of residents

85 on yesterday in regards to Item 32 being pulled forward. And, being that this is under the

86 Redevelopment Agency, I would just like to ask those residents to speak on the record under the

87 Redevelopment Agency versus the Item 32, which will possibly be more fitting.

REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY MEETING OF
January 7, 2009
VERBATIM TRANSCRIPT – CITIZENS PARTICIPATION

88 **CHAIRMAN GOODMAN**

89 That's right.

90

91 **MEMBER BARLOW**

92 – at this location.

93

94 **CHAIRMAN GOODMAN**

95 It is.

96

97 **MEMBER BARLOW**

98 Is that okay?

99

100 **CHAIRMAN GOODMAN**

101 Yeah, 'cause it was a stretch when we would pull 32 –

102

103 **MEMBER BARLOW**

104 And to keep them from having –

105

106 **CHAIRMAN GOODMAN**

107 – to have people speak.

108

109 **MEMBER BARLOW**

110 – to – sit here –

111

112 **CHAIRMAN GOODMAN**

113 Right. And I don't –

114

115 **MEMBER BARLOW**

116 – and wait.

REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY MEETING OF
January 7, 2009
VERBATIM TRANSCRIPT – CITIZENS PARTICIPATION

117 **CHAIRMAN GOODMAN**

118 – want people sitting around, unless they want to sit around –

119

120 **MEMBER BARLOW**

121 Right.

122

123 **CHAIRMAN GOODMAN**

124 – not because they need to sit here.

125

126 **MEMBER BARLOW**

127 So –, just for clarification. If you, for those individuals that I had an opportunity to speak to on
128 yesterday, please speak under Redevelopment Agency at this point.

129

130 **CHAIRMAN GOODMAN**

131 Thank you, Councilman (sic).

132

133 **MEMBER BARLOW**

134 Thank you, Mayor (sic).

135

136 **CHAIRMAN GOODMAN**

137 I appreciate it. Yes, Ma'am.

138

139 **SHONDRA SUMMERS ARMSTRONG**

140 Good morning, Mayor (sic) and City Council (sic). My name is Shondra Summers Armstrong. I
141 live at 1931 Fair Avenue, here in Las Vegas. I am working with Trish Joann and members of the
142 community on the Close the F Street Coalition issue. Open F Street is what we would like to
143 have done.

144 We have quite a few people who came this morning. We marched from F and Bonanza this
145 morning, in the cold, to be here, to show our consolidation and our coalition in opposition to the

REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY MEETING OF
January 7, 2009
VERBATIM TRANSCRIPT – CITIZENS PARTICIPATION

146 closing of that street. I'd like the people who I gave cards to and any others who'd like to speak
147 to please come forward now.

148 This issue is very pertinent to us in the community. We believe that the closure of F Street is
149 detrimental to possible development in our community, and we're here because we want you to
150 know that we don't feel that we received appropriate notice. We think that this should have been
151 highly advertised, so that we could make a decision about what goes on in our community.
152 There's a lot going on here in the City of Las Vegas, especially in Union Park. And closing F
153 Street, from our perspective, help, makes us believe that we are being cut off from the potential
154 of our community being developed to the same level, if not just an equitable level, of what's
155 going on in the 61 acres. And we ask you to hear us. We know you cannot comment because of
156 the lawsuit, but we want you to hear us and understand where we're coming from. To us, a wall
157 is a division. It's a blockage. It's a stoppage, and any type of stoppage precludes us from
158 growth.

159 I just want to comment, finally, that I know there had been an article about it's only a thousand
160 feet to the next place to enter into downtown. And I'd like to say to you that a thousand feet to a
161 man who's, has no water in the desert is life or death. And a thousand feet to someone who's
162 walking in the snow, in – a whiteout, a thousand feet could be life or death. And, to us, our
163 community has struggled long enough and hard enough that a thousand feet means, to us,
164 whether or not we have opportunity to go forward and grow or whether we fail. And we believe
165 that it is your duty, to us, as our represented leaders to help us to succeed.

166 And we would like you to, please, take into consideration our concerns. Thank you very much.

167

168 **CHAIRMAN GOODMAN**

169 Thank you very much.

170

171 **PASTOR-DR. S. S. ROGERS**

172 I'm Pastor-Doctor S. S. Rogers of the Greater Mount Sinai Missionary Recruiting Ministries. To
173 the Mayor and the Council, I'm here today to get the rescinding of the votes that have been
174 already, been adheded (sic), that we could put this back on the agenda, that we, as a community,
175 would have an opportunity to voice our opinion as we are now.

REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY MEETING OF
January 7, 2009
VERBATIM TRANSCRIPT – CITIZENS PARTICIPATION

176 On yesterday, I – walked around that wall seven times and one of the – minister (sic), one of the
177 pastor (sic), I should say, to walk with me two laps, but I went seven. And, as I walked around
178 that wall to look at Las Vegas and West Las Vegas, it has been separated in some fashion, to see
179 how it was and the residents in that area. And last night, about 9:30, I went back last night while
180 it was dark, and I looked at Bonanza, towards F to West Las Vegas, and all I could see was a
181 wall, darkness overshadow that. Look like there was no community beyond that wall.

182 And, I, we're here today to have that vote rescinded and that wall be removed, that we will have
183 some light in our community. It's darkness over there. Property value is being devaluated. No
184 economics can go into that community at this state. You look from even H to D Street, or
185 beyond D Street, there's a closure.

186 I can remember I've been here 48 years in Clark County. And, when I arrived here in 1960, as I
187 crossed, topped the hill from Henderson down, I could see the lights within this city. But, when I
188 got up the next morning in West Las Vegas, I was in a different place, from the Strip back to
189 West Las Vegas. It'd been dark for quite awhile. We had all our entities over there. We had
190 grocery stores. We had markets. We had casinos, and even then, we didn't have the opportunity
191 to share on the Strip and downtown as others.

192 We ask now that our community would be as viable as Summerlin, wherever they are, that we'll
193 have the same opportunities, that we'll have the same vendor (sic), and – the ability to do what
194 we need to do in our community. Thank you very much.

195

196 **CHAIRMAN GOODMAN**

197 Thank you.

198

199 **MATTIE SNOWDEN WORMWOOD**

200 My name is Mattie Snowden Wormwood, and I live at 2725 Revere Street, North Las Vegas,
201 Nevada, and, of course, I'm here to support the opening of – the F Street. And I don't want to be
202 re, redundant, and I don't want to be repetitious, but earlier, we had a meeting. They said that if,
203 the ones that was coming down and was signing the pet, signing up to come and do this, there
204 was gone be retaluation, retaliation against people, and if you didn't want your business out there
205 and whatever. So, evidently, some things have been happening to some people about retaliation.

REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY MEETING OF
January 7, 2009
VERBATIM TRANSCRIPT – CITIZENS PARTICIPATION

206 And why – and how could you retaliate about somebody wanting to live and live a decent – way.
207 I’m not up here to stay long. I’m just gonna read what I got to say. I’ve said that, and then I’m
208 gonna sit down.

209 Okay, this is in 1963, In memory: The image of our late beloved President John Fitzgerald
210 Kennedy shall live forever in the hearts and minds of all who believed in the principles of
211 democracy. That image shall give everlasting courage to those who would destroy bigotry and
212 shall forever hunt all who would – propose bigotry. The spirit of John F. Kennedy shall forever
213 flow in the veins of men who would wish to see the practices of democracy match its utopian
214 principles. His spirit shall forever roam the halls and chambers of the United States Congress
215 and shall guide the legislative body along the path of real democracy.

216 John F. Kennedy and democracy shall forever be synonymous. The Las Vegas voice shall
217 rededicate its total facilities to carry on the works this (sic) great man, who gave his life so that
218 democracy might live. The American Negro and all other minority people have lost the most
219 sincere friend they have, they’ve ever had. We must take up the sword of this fallen leader and
220 carry on his work. His image will forever be present to inspire us and – his spirit shall flow
221 through the bloodstream to forever keep us equal to the task ahead with his spirit and his image
222 priding us. We shall wage his battles until total victory is won. We pledge ourselves and we
223 solicit your cooperation that President John F. Kennedy shall not have died in vain. Thank you.

224

225 **CHAIRMAN GOODMAN**

226 Thank you very much.

227

228 **AGNES MARSHALL**

229 Good morning.

230

231 **CHAIRMAN GOODMAN**

232 Good morning.

REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY MEETING OF
January 7, 2009
VERBATIM TRANSCRIPT – CITIZENS PARTICIPATION

233 **AGNES MARSHALL**

234 I'm Agnes Marshall. I live at 1666 D Street, and I've lived there for 53 years. I've been in Las
235 Vegas for 58 years, and a little piece they told me this, why do you believe the closing of F Street
236 would be detrimental (sic) to the West Las Vegas community? I think it would be because we
237 are taxpayers. We pay our bills. We pay taxes. I pay insurance, and as I've said, I've lived, all
238 my adult life, I've been right here in Las Vegas. I've lived nowhere but here, the 58 years I've
239 been in Las Vegas. And I love my home. I'm saying I keeps (sic) it up, and I just think that's a
240 slap in the face for them to close F Street because they have all of the business stuff that we have
241 to go and pay our taxes and stuff over there, and over on Grand Central there. And I think it's
242 just bad. It should be open for us to come and go as we wish 'cause we are taxpayers, and I'm
243 helping to raise my grandkid, great grand, so they'll be taxpayers too. So I just want you to know
244 that I've lived in this community all my life and I've been discriminated against, and I just thank
245 God for just being here.

246

247 **CHAIRMAN GOODMAN**

248 Thank you.

249

250 **JAMES CHAPMAN**

251 Good morning. James Chapman, 3366 Fandanso Place. Today, we are on a collision course
252 with our destiny, a destiny for economic redevelopment, which has been stopped by a wall which
253 represents a return to economic segregation, discrimination and oppression. It separates us from
254 our grand entry into a new and hope for a future. We are that diamond in the rough, just like this
255 very city, which grew from the dust and desert. Starting in 1939, we began investing millions of
256 dollars into our historic neighborhood, awaiting that great moment when F Street would cross
257 that invisible line into a brighter future. Now, at this very moment, that line is no longer visible
258 because of the very wall you have put up. And now we say to you, Mr. Mayor (sic), City
259 Commissioners, City Council members (sic), and, especially to the Nevada Department of
260 Transportation, the same – words which Ronald Reagan said to Premier (sic) Gorbachev, “tear
261 that wall down.”

REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY MEETING OF
January 7, 2009
VERBATIM TRANSCRIPT – CITIZENS PARTICIPATION

262 A final word. Is there a hidden agenda that citizens of West Las Vegas don't know about? Is
263 there a master plan to obliterate the West Las Vegas community and to scatter its people in a
264 diaspora in the 21st Century?

265

266 **CHAIRMAN GOODMAN**

267 Sir, if you'd be kind enough to take the hat off. Thank you. Thanks.

268

269 **MITCHELL SAYLES**

270 Good morning, Mr. Mayor, Council, Members, my fellow citizens.

271

272 **CHAIRMAN GOODMAN**

273 Please state --

274

275 **MITCHELL SAYLES**

276 First -- of all, let me go back --

277

278 **CHAIRMAN GOODMAN**

279 Excuse me. Could you please state your name for the record.

280

281 **MITCHELL SAYLES**

282 Oh, my name is Mitchell Sayles. I live at 1313 West Van Buren.

283

284 **CHAIRMAN GOODMAN**

285 Very good. Thank you.

286

287 **MITCHELL SAYLES**

288 My family, my father came to this valley probably in the late 30s. I was raised here, along with
289 six other brothers and sisters. Let me go back just for a moment, if I may. I went in the military
290 right out of high school. I was 17 years old. It was in 1963. In 1963, a black person was not
291 allowed to venture on the Strips (sic) to gamble, to dine or to do any of those fine item things that

REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY MEETING OF
January 7, 2009
VERBATIM TRANSCRIPT – CITIZENS PARTICIPATION

292 we participate in today. But I was sent to Vietnam to fight a war, and in my own city, in my own
293 state, I was not allowed to venture and do things as ordinary citizens, as Caucasians and others
294 had opportunity to do.

295 Now, F Street has been here ever since I can remember. I was raised over there. I used to play
296 here, shoot marbles, ride a bicycle, rollerskate. Bonanza was always a thoroughfare for the rich
297 and the poor, going from west to east. Martin Luther King was always a thoroughfare for the rich
298 and the poor, going east and west. That's all we had here. As kids, we used to sit and watch all
299 the white celebrities come through our town, east and west, north and south. But, whenever there
300 was a venture to modernize, redevelop, we were always left out.

301 For some reason, we were always left out. I remember, as a kid, we couldn't come across
302 Bonanza. I swam and learned how to swim at Jefferson Center on D Street. That was our
303 neighborhood rec, that was the only place minorities could go. As a youngster, me and about
304 five or six other black youngsters, walked down Bonanza to what they called the City pool Dula.
305 And we entered, and we kept entering. We didn't know that we were starting a motion to stop
306 the segregation of this Valley, but we stopped it. We kept returning. To get in was only 35 cent
307 (sic). We came everyday, everyday, everyday for about two or three weeks. Finally, I guess they
308 got tired and said, let 'em in. The first time we jumped in the pool, they made everybody get out
309 because they thought the water was polluted. How long do we have to carry on with this
310 ideology? How long do we have to be set, second-class citizens in our own neighborhoods? Is
311 this the Berlin wall that you put up around us? We're not your enemy. We want to survive, get
312 along, raise our families, earn a nice living, just like you do.

313 Mr. Mayor, you know about the mob with your – museum. I know about the streets of Las Vegas
314 and how I was segregated against growing up as a child.

315

316 **CHAIRMAN GOODMAN**

317 I'm gonna – have to cut you short, though, not because I don't wanna hear from you, but I wanna
318 give the others an opportunity.

319

320 **MITCHELL SAYLES**

321 Well –

REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY MEETING OF
January 7, 2009
VERBATIM TRANSCRIPT – CITIZENS PARTICIPATION

322 **CHAIRMAN GOODMAN**

323 As I said, we've (inaudible) –

324

325 **MITCHELL SAYLES**

326 Just – one other thing. We're not the Middle East, and like I said, we're not your enemy. We're

327 not Israel. We're not Palestine. We're not Iraq. Okay?

328 No, (inaudible) didn't bring (inaudible). We're – not your enemies. All we wanna do is survive,

329 and I think F Street should be rescinded to open and be a thrufare (sic) for us to get back and

330 forth, for public transient, transportation to get back and forth, police, fire personnel, whatever.

331 Old people to get over to the mall. I thank you for your time.

332

333 **CHAIRMAN GOODMAN**

334 Thank you.

335

336 **COLIN JACOBS**

337 How ya'll doing today?

338

339 **CHAIRMAN GOODMAN**

340 We're doing great (inaudible) –

341

342 **COLIN JACOBS**

343 Mayor Goodman (sic), how are you?

344

345 **CHAIRMAN GOODMAN**

346 Try to keep your comments to –

347

348 **COLIN JACOBS**

349 No problem.

REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY MEETING OF
January 7, 2009
VERBATIM TRANSCRIPT – CITIZENS PARTICIPATION

350 **CHAIRMAN GOODMAN**

351 – three minutes, please.

352

353 **COLIN JACOBS**

354 Colin Jacobs. I'm at 1201 Virginia City. Proud neighbor of a lot of these people here today.

355 And, when I came to my first meeting for F Street, I was actually amazed to hear what little has

356 been discussed, and we've had some neighborhood meetings along the way. I'm a real estate

357 agent and, also a community organizer, and worked tirelessly to try to make sure that this

358 neighborhood is kept up to its optimal condition. But, being that F Street is the main corridor for

359 the west side, I would like to see it open just from a redevelopment standpoint. If we could unite,

360 as city and neighborhood, to bring redevelopment funds to that area so that we can be uplifted, I

361 think a lot of the people here would support me in that motion.

362 I don't know how long it's gonna take, but, you know, we're, we've been, I guess, patient for the

363 years. A lot of people have been here much longer than me. I'm – a new resident, but a

364 progressive thinker and I'm, like to think I'm fairly creative as far as trying to experiment with

365 new things that can really increase property values and – support the City as well. So, I

366 appreciate your time. Thank you.

367

368 **CHAIRMAN GOODMAN**

369 Thank you very much.

370

371 **BARBARA CROCKETT**

372 Good morning.

373

374 **CHAIRMAN GOODMAN**

375 Good morning.

REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY MEETING OF
January 7, 2009
VERBATIM TRANSCRIPT – CITIZENS PARTICIPATION

376 **BARBARA CROCKETT**

377 I'm Barbara Crockett. I live at 1204 I Street, and I've lived there for 50 years. And I wanna tell
378 the Mayor (sic) and Ricki Barlow and Louise Tartanian (sic) and Reese and all of you that we
379 love you. We love you. We voted for you. We solidly, on that side of town, voted for you.
380 That's why you're sitting in those seats. Okay? And, we always love you.
381 Now, for – us, we're developing the Christian Ambassadors Redevelopment, and we would like
382 to see as many churches on that west side as possible. You have stopped a few people from
383 opening up churches over there. But, we don't get enough churches because that's our
384 entertainment. We're wild in church and we enjoy it, and we want to have as much church. We
385 would like to be the capitol of the country, as far as churches per square, in, and so we'd like to
386 do that on that side of town. Now, we're gonna redevelop West Las Vegas. We said "no" in
387 some cases, 'cause we were saying we don't want outside developers. We wanna develop it so it
388 have (sic) its own uniqueness. It would have our uniqueness. We love everything over there.
389 We love each other. We love everything over there. We love the good, the bad and the ugly.
390 Now, F Street has been a street there for 50 years, and the Lord said, "Tear down not your
391 landmarks that your fathers have put up." We have seen you close and make all the streets on
392 Fremont Street a zigzag puzzle. You have broken these people downtown, closing down streets.
393 We're not supposed to close streets; that's how we make our money, and we're not gonna accept
394 your closing F Street where there's \$7 billion across the street and nothing can flow down F
395 Street. Because we're designing F Street, so we can receive some benefits from that money.
396 And that redevelopment money is supposed to be some of "our" money, but we want to develop
397 it. And we're working on it; we just haven't finished the planning. So I'm – asking you, in the
398 name of Jesus Christ, to re-open F Street. And not really re-open it; just do what it was normally
399 there. Put the overpass there like it was, and tear down that wall, so we can go through. And
400 we're gonna beautify that street with neon signs and different things, and we're gonna change it.
401 And the reason we couldn't change, the real reason, everybody say, well, what's wrong with you
402 guys? How come ya'll don't change? Look at you. Right? Well, the reason we can't change,

REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY MEETING OF
January 7, 2009
VERBATIM TRANSCRIPT – CITIZENS PARTICIPATION

403 until now, is because God wouldn't let us change, but now there is change. And we are going to
404 change, and you're gonna be well pleased and well happy with the way we make West Las Vegas
405 look.

406 And we love you and God bless you.

407

408 **CHAIRMAN GOODMAN**

409 Thank you.

410

411 **LINDA YOUNG**

412 Good morning.

413

414 **CHAIRMAN GOODMAN**

415 Good morning.

416

417 **LINDA YOUNG**

418 My name is Linda Young, and I am, just recently elected the School Trustee for District C for the
419 Clark County School District.

420

421 **CHAIRMAN GOODMAN**

422 And congratulations, Ms. Young.

423

424 **LINDA YOUNG**

425 Thank you. Thank you very much. I just want you all to know how pleased I am with the
426 development in our – city, Las Vegas, and how we can now join together. I know many of you,
427 did I give my address yet?

428

429 **CHAIRMAN GOODMAN**

430 No, you didn't.

REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY MEETING OF
January 7, 2009
VERBATIM TRANSCRIPT – CITIZENS PARTICIPATION

431 **LINDA YOUNG**

432 Okay. Linda Young, 3625 Bradley Road, Las Vegas, Nevada 89130.

433

434 **CHAIRMAN GOODMAN**

435 Thank you.

436

437 **LINDA YOUNG**

438 I've been in this city for 32 and a half years, and I have seen this city grow. And I'm very

439 pleased to be a part of Las Vegas. And I'm very pleased to be a part of the whole F Street issue.

440 Let me tell you why. And I know many of you, and I know your hearts are in the right place, but

441 I think there is a grave miscommunication here. And I think that's why your website, speaking to

442 your vision statement and your mission statement and your goals, include (sic) all of us. But

443 what is happening with the F Street? There are several things. There's a symbol here that has

444 not been recognized, and I think you want to – address this.

445 The bible says, where there's no vision, the people perish. We have a vision here, and you have a

446 vision, but when you cut off the vision, you're literally snuffing off the vision of a group of

447 people of your City. And you don't want to do that. And what does this communicate to the

448 students? It's saying something to the students in the Clark County School District several

449 things. It's saying that, number one, there is a fairness issue, an equity issue, that's not being

450 addressed. That's what you're communicating to the students that I represent in the Clark

451 County School District. You're saying that there was a formal process that many of us said that

452 was not adhered to. There was not the communication. We said there's a frequency of –, what

453 we call, F Street use that is getting ready to be stopped. And I'm gonna, I know, quickly go

454 through this.

455

456 **CHAIRMAN GOODMAN**

457 You're doing fine.

REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY MEETING OF
January 7, 2009
VERBATIM TRANSCRIPT – CITIZENS PARTICIPATION

458 **LINDA YOUNG**

459 There's a format that, in terms of the mapping, that when you set that up there, you're saying to
460 students in the school district you're not a part of the format. And I don't think you mean that.

461 And you're also saying to students, who are gonna be your future constituents, who are going to
462 be taxpayers, that the funding issues that they are part of is (sic) not being considered, in terms of

463 funding for these projects and taxpayer, and the federal dollars that are being used. And, as you
464 know, a part of the federal dollars say that community participation has to be a part to receive

465 those funding. Okay? And we're saying that did not happen. And you're communicating to the
466 students, I represent, that there is a whole F Street contingency that's not being considered.

467 Let me say one thing, and then I'm finished. I'm representing the constituents and their students,
468 and you want this pars, process to be fair. And let me finalize and say that the wall, "w", the w-

469 a-l means that when you put up a wall, the "w" means that you're withdrawing people. That's a
470 withdrawal. The "a" means that wall is standing for anger. That wall represent (sic) an angry

471 process. The "l" means that you are leaving a group of people out. And the "l" means that we
472 are left out of the whole process.

473 So, please, the African proverb says, all of us together, sticks in a bundle, are unbreakable. And,
474 together, we will be an unbreakable team. Thank you. Thank you. Thank you. We appreciate

475 you.

476

477 **ALEX X**

478 Good morning. City officials. My name is Alex X. I own property at 613 Leonard Avenue. I've
479 lived in Las Vegas since 1956. I spent four years in the Air Force. I want to say to the City

480 officials today, was it not the founding father of this country that said taxation without
481 representation was tyranny? You taxed us equal with the rich. We are not represented. If we

482 were represented, we would not be here today. We have never been represented.

483 Why is it every so often we have to come back here and do the same thing over and over again?

484 We must remember, the name (sic) and faces have changed, but the game is still the same. That
485 wall is a wall of mass destruction.

486 Official, dismantle your mass destruction. Thank you.

REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY MEETING OF
January 7, 2009
VERBATIM TRANSCRIPT – CITIZENS PARTICIPATION

487 **CHAIRMAN GOODMAN**

488 Thank you.

489

490 **LEON SMITH**

491 Mayor (sic) Goodman, to all of the Council (sic) members, my name is Leon Smith. I'm the
492 Pastor of Pentecostal Temple on F Street, only three to four blocks from where the wall has been
493 placed. I consider this as a real wrong. This is a second attempt to appeal for a wall of that
494 nature to be removed. I was one of the community workers at the time Mrs. Pearson and others
495 made an appeal in the same manner to remove the blockage of that wall. We operate not only a
496 church, but a child care facility on F Street, and to allow this to stand is an injustice. It brings
497 about an inability for assessment (sic) to our community, whereas we have had a thoroughfare, an
498 even flow of traffic, now we have been cut off and there has to be a detour situation in order to
499 get to areas where we reside. We are in this community seven days a week, available to parents,
500 available to children and available to the community.

501 I make my appeal today to those of you that are in authority, as well as the community. There is
502 no real democracy without a voice of the people. So I ask this day for that wall to be removed.

503

504 **CHAIRMAN GOODMAN**

505 Thank you.

506

507 **GENE COLLINS**

508 Good morning to each and every one of you, Mayor (sic) and the City Council (sic). My name is
509 Gene Collins, and I reside at 1101 Eleanor Avenue. I rise to speak about a couple of things, but
510 before I do this, Mayor (sic), you know, there's some history here between you and I. Mrs.
511 Tarkanian, Brother Ross, Councilman (sic) Reese, I remember when you first came to town.
512 And I remember when – Mrs. Tarkanian and Tony – Ayala and – the other assistants, coaches
513 that when "Tark" first came here, I had the privilege of meeting you all when you first came here.
514 Councilman (sic) Ross, we, union brothers. I remember, Councilman (sic) Reese, when you ran
515 against Stupak, and we was (sic) at your side supporting you when those things did occur.

REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY MEETING OF
January 7, 2009
VERBATIM TRANSCRIPT – CITIZENS PARTICIPATION

516 Now, I, like Pastor Smith have (sic) said, that he was a part of the new generation, some 30
517 something years ago, when we was (sic) fighting the same issues when they closed us all in. And
518 Highland, which is MLK today, and Washington was the only thoroughfare that we had to get in
519 and out of our community. And, now, here we are 30 years later fighting the same fight.

520 See, and I'm here, I was, I'm reminded, and I'm not a biblical scholar, nor am I a minister, but
521 I'm reminded about the – chapter of Ezekiel, from the valley of the – dry bones. I'm – reminded
522 of, you know, the story about the dry bones. They were scattered everywhere and they were shut
523 off from each other. So, the question was asked, shall these bones live again? See, shall these
524 bones live again?

525 And I'm saying to this Council (sic), yes, we can open up F Street again. See, that's – what we
526 can do. We can open up F Street, because it is the right thing to do. And – I'm saying to this
527 Body and, my Councilman, Brother Barlow, you must tell them, and I'm – here to – say to
528 Pharaoh, Pharaoh let my peoples (sic) go. And I'm here to tell this Body, this Council (sic), open
529 up F Street, so that those individuals who has (sic) labored in the vineyard as long as I have, or
530 longer, have easy access to and from our local government. And thank you.

531

532 **CHAIRMAN GOODMAN**

533 Thank you.

534

535 **ANDREW L. THOMAS**

536 Good morning. My name is Andrew L. Thomas and as of December 30th, I resided at 6201 Don
537 Gasper. I'm not sure if that's in fifth ward or the ward where the construction – is going on. But
538 I am here, not so much for myself. First, let me say, thank, I want to thank the City Council (sic)
539 persons and the Honorable Mayor (sic) Goodman for this opportunity. I do not speak for myself
540 alone. I think I, I'm not a social activist, but I think I'm speaking in behalf of all the indigent
541 people in that area where the construction is going on.

542 I had personal experience in the last couple months there. I am a client of Clark County Social
543 Services, and I've been issued a health card. And there is a clinic there at D Street, downtown
544 clinic at D Street and Wils, Wilson and D Street, Wilson Avenue and D Street, or I have a two-
545 hour walk from Don Gasper, near Lake Mead, Jones and Lake Mead area. I walk, I transcend

REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY MEETING OF
January 7, 2009
VERBATIM TRANSCRIPT – CITIZENS PARTICIPATION

546 that neighborhood, as a pedestrian, and it's two hours and something, from where I start out to
547 Wilson Avenue, D Street clinic. I haven't, I have health problems, as we all do, speaking from a
548 perspective of indigent people and those indigent individuals, homeless individuals in that area.
549 I can share a personal experience, having – to walk and be at the clinic and – to get other
550 necessities from Las Vegas Rescue Mission, who I'm very thankful for, and I'm sure the other
551 indigent people in that area are.

552 What I wanted to say is that the blockage of pass-way streets that leads (sic) to the rescue area
553 and – the area where we need help does affect us on a daily basis in a very personal way. I've
554 had, been delayed or missed out, resorted in having to maybe spend the night on the streets
555 because of the blockage. This (sic) not gonna affect me so much, as an individual, but those
556 other pers, people who have, who need medical treatment and – seek food and clothes and shelter
557 there in that area, in those things that the City provide (sic) for – the poor, will be affected.

558 And, like I say, I'm not just speaking for myself. I'm more concerned for other homeless people
559 or people in the predicament that I'm in, the – homeless community. And, I think, this will have
560 a serious affect, if those avenues are blocked off and delay (sic), make a hardship 'cause you
561 have detours. You may have a detour of three or four blocks. Some people seeking help or –
562 necessities, just physically not able to – walk or go, or they can't afford public transit 'cause
563 public – transit prices are increasing –

564

565 **CHAIRMAN GOODMAN**

566 Well, thank you, Sir.

567

568 **ANDREW L. THOMAS**

569 – so we're on foot.

570

571 **CHAIRMAN GOODMAN**

572 I'm going to have to limit you –

573

574 **ANDREW L. THOMAS**

575 Thank you.

REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY MEETING OF
January 7, 2009
VERBATIM TRANSCRIPT – CITIZENS PARTICIPATION

576 **CHAIRMAN GOODMAN**

577 Thank you very much.

578

579 **ANDREW L. THOMAS**

580 I appreciate the opportunity.

581

582 **CHAIRMAN GOODMAN**

583 Appreciate it.

584

585 **PETER CHRIS CHRISTOFF**

586 Good morning, Your Honor –

587

588 **CHAIRMAN GOODMAN**

589 Good morning.

590

591 **PETER CHRIS CHRISTOFF**

592 – and City Council (sic) and City Manager. I look at Mr. Shelby (sic) because he knew about
593 this, eight months ago, as well as Lawrence Weekly knew about it, because I get the same
594 documents from the Transportation Department in Carson City. I'm on their mailing list for the
595 past three and a half years.

596

597 **CHAIRMAN GOODMAN**

598 Will you identify yourself for the record, please?

599

600 **PETER CHRIS CHRISTOFF**

601 My name is Christoff, first name is Peter, Chris Christoff. I live within, I have property within
602 the City, and I live within the County.

603

604 **CHAIRMAN GOODMAN**

605 Thank you.

REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY MEETING OF
January 7, 2009
VERBATIM TRANSCRIPT – CITIZENS PARTICIPATION

606 **PETER CHRIS CHRISTOFF**

607 We have to understand one thing, with Paul Revere. If we don't get the message across to the
608 people, then we don't know what's coming down. I believe the City Manager works with the
609 City Council, reps of their people. When the RTC that I, in turn, go to many times on issues of
610 importance, not because I want to, is because we leave out information that's vital to our
611 community. If we know six months in advance, nine months in advance, we can do things.

612 Your Honor, you made these approaches seven years ago when you was (sic) on Third Street, and
613 you said, I want to be elected to represent the little people.

614 The important meaning – was you, you're doing that, but, in (sic) the same time, the people who
615 sit on the Council with you, some of them are not here now, have to understand that if they're not
616 gonna protect their ward and be out there to make sure that they understand what the RTC or
617 NDOT'S doing, then we have what we have right now, an outpour of anger and disappointment.

618 You have made what we are looking at the greatest thing over by the Furniture Mart, the other
619 outlets and stuff, but we have to understand that we cannot build closures. We have to have open
620 areas of avenues so that people can come in, doesn't matter if they're from Ward 5, Ward 3,
621 Ward 1. You don't put a multi-million dollar trolley car down the middle from North Las Vegas,
622 just for the fun of it. You put it because you want people to come in and you want a (sic) exit. I
623 only come here for one reason, common sense.

624 We're leaders, and if we don't have conscientious people to bring these things to you, we don't
625 have leaders who are representing their people, acknowledge this from the City Manager's
626 Office. I'm not blaming Mr. Shelby (sic), but let's understand one thing. If I get something in
627 April and I'm reading it, I read everything, as you might, I don't take it for granted. But the RTC
628 failed to work with the City and outline these, this enclosure, how – it would affect. If this was
629 in Watts, Los Angeles, I hate to say what would happen.

630

631 **CHAIRMAN GOODMAN**

632 All right. Thank you, Mr. Christoff.

REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY MEETING OF
January 7, 2009
VERBATIM TRANSCRIPT – CITIZENS PARTICIPATION

633 **PETER CHRIS CHRISTOFF**

634 But I just wanna let you know, one thing you mentioned to me, and I think you should re – enter
635 that in your mind, F Street, D Street, H Street should be named after well known people within
636 their entertainment. It shouldn't be F Street; it should be, maybe Sammy, or Louis Armstrong, or
637 something like that. We're not giving these people the opportunity to express themself (sic) and
638 be there to help them. And that's what I come down here for, that understanding.

639

640 **CHAIRMAN GOODMAN**

641 Thank you.

642

643 **PETER CHRIS CHRISTOFF**

644 So, if somebody said, we didn't know about it, from the Ward 5 Council, I'd like to show them
645 the documents and the newspaper. At the same time, they could stand with me, they were
646 notified. Thank you.

647

648 **CHAIRMAN GOODMAN**

649 Thank you very much.

650

651 **TEDDY RUSSELL**

652 Good morning, Mr. Mayor (sic) –

653

654 **CHAIRMAN GOODMAN**

655 Good morning.

656

657 **TEDDY RUSSELL**

658 – City Council (sic). My name is Teddy Russell, a resident of Las Vegas. I love you all, even
659 Mr. Jerbic. I could speak on redevelopment for, I just came back from, I'm at somewhat a
660 disadvantage. I've had two hours of sleep in three days. Redevelopment, we're going
661 fantastically when the economies are going to hell in a hen basket. I had a great experience. I
662 spent my first 11 months in the elegant and grand Las Vegas Rescue Mission. We had our first

REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY MEETING OF
January 7, 2009
VERBATIM TRANSCRIPT – CITIZENS PARTICIPATION

663 Helldorado. The only meeting I got to was the one where we discussed people of color. I have a
664 love affair with the West Side. There has never been an unkind word, and God as my witness, I
665 remember being on my knees and crying and praying for Edmond Town Center to be built. And
666 then we have Buy Low; it is fantastic. These people have been so good to me. I cannot tell you,
667 I have, oh, I'm tempted to say, pardon me, I am tempted to say that when – Kenny Guinn was
668 Governor –

669

670 **CHAIRMAN GOODMAN**

671 Did that – come from on high?

672

673 **TEDDY RUSSELL**

674 Yes, it did, as a matter of fact. This is Teddy Russell's Sprint MCS PC (sic) magic phone.
675 Where was I? Who am I, and what am I doing here? Okay.

676

677 **CHAIRMAN GOODMAN**

678 I have no idea where you are.

679

680 **TEDDY RUSSELL**

681 Please, I don't want the egg timer. I'll get it all back immediately. Oh, yes, I really, truly, was on
682 my knees. Buy Low is fantastic. There, I'm tempted to say that when Kenny Guinn was
683 Governor, I renewed my food stamps in a heart beat, but we have a new Governor. It took me
684 three days. I will not use any expletives. Delete it. I'm a, this is a family program, isn't it? I
685 think so. Whatever it takes, I don't know as much as I'm attributed to know. Whatever it takes,
686 it must be re-opened. It is simply the right thing to do. There are two kinds of love that are very
687 important to me, Phileos and Agape. This is, you are family. This love is unconditional. It is,
688 there are four parts to it; unconditional, self sacrificing –

689

690 **CHAIRMAN GOODMAN**

691 You don't have to use all your time.

REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY MEETING OF
January 7, 2009
VERBATIM TRANSCRIPT – CITIZENS PARTICIPATION

692 **TEDDY RUSSELL**

693 Thank you so much, Mr. Mayor (sic). You have a great day, right here, in Las Vegas.

694

695 **PATRICIA MARTINELLI PRICE**

696 Good morning to the City Council (sic) and, of course, our wonderful Mayor (sic), to the
697 audience participation that is here, that walked because of this cause that we all believe that
698 needs to be addressed, to the citizens that are –

699

700 **CHAIRMAN GOODMAN**

701 Please identify –

702

703 **PATRICIA MARTINELLI PRICE**

704 – watching this –

705

706 **CHAIRMAN GOODMAN**

707 Please identify yourself.

708

709 **PATRICIA MARTINELLI PRICE**

710 Oh, my name is Patricia Martinelli Price, 3212 Red Rock Street.

711

712 **CHAIRMAN GOODMAN**

713 Thank you.

714

715 **PATRICIA MARTINELLI PRICE**

716 The interesting thing is Las Vegas has left one group of the human race out of the economic
717 development, and that is very sad. I was born in Las Vegas, raised in Santa Fe, New Mexico, in
718 the summers, and I can tell you, I would go to the town tavern, to the Moulin Rouge to eat food
719 there, and it is still exactly the same that it was when I was a child. I think it is very, very
720 disrespectful. When you are elected as an official, it is for the human race and not disclude (sic)
721 anyone. It is not good.

REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY MEETING OF
January 7, 2009
VERBATIM TRANSCRIPT – CITIZENS PARTICIPATION

722 We have had Abraham Lincoln, also Martin Luther King and John F. Kennedy, and several other
723 elected officials on the national level that have believed that we are the human race, and we need
724 to take care of all our citizens. We have billions of dollars that is being spent in Union Park, but
725 yet, the only thing that is on the west side is a McDonald's. In respect to Andre Agassi, he's
726 done several things there, but the rest of it looks exactly like it did 35 to 40 years ago.

727 So the right thing to do, I feel, is to take down that wall. It should have never been put up. The
728 people were not even asked to participate. That is our government. We vote for you, and we
729 expect that. So, if you wanna do the right thing, you should tear it down because there's (sic)
730 major groups that wanna do a national – march, which would actually not be good for the casinos
731 in Las Vegas and this community, especially since we have a new President coming in that is
732 African-American.

733 So, thank you. God bless. To you, Mayor (sic), and the City Council (sic), and to the people of
734 the state of Nevada, our Assembly and Senators, you are elected to do the right thing for the
735 human race and not disclose, not take one group out because they are African-American and they
736 happen to be middle class or the working poor. Thank you.

737

738 **CHAIRMAN GOODMAN**

739 Thank you.

740

741 **JAMES PARKER**

742 My name is James Parker, and I reside at 6617, and I'm here to defer my three minutes to Mr.
743 Washington. Thank you.

744

745 **CHAIRMAN GOODMAN**

746 It doesn't work that way, Sir.

747

748 **STANLEY WASHINGTON**

749 Thank you, Mr. Parker. Well, Your Honor –

REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY MEETING OF
January 7, 2009
VERBATIM TRANSCRIPT – CITIZENS PARTICIPATION

750 **CHAIRMAN GOODMAN**

751 No, it doesn't work that way. You have three minutes –

752

753 **STANLEY WASHINGTON**

754 It's – been that way since the time that I've been coming here –

755

756 **CHAIRMAN GOODMAN**

757 Nope. Not – when I'm the Mayor. Three minutes, please.

758

759 **STANLEY WASHINGTON**

760 I've been coming – to this Council (sic) –

761

762 **CHAIRMAN GOODMAN**

763 Three minutes.

764

765 **STANLEY WASHINGTON**

766 – long before everybody up here.

767

768 **CHAIRMAN GOODMAN**

769 Three minutes, please.

770

771 **STANLEY WASHINGTON**

772 Well, I've noticed a few people talk longer than three minutes, Your Honor. I have sit (sic) and

773 watched–

774

775 **CHAIRMAN GOODMAN**

776 Well, you're using your time up, Mr. Washington.

777

778 **STANLEY WASHINGTON**

779 Okay, well, first of all, Happy New Year.

REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY MEETING OF
January 7, 2009
VERBATIM TRANSCRIPT – CITIZENS PARTICIPATION

780 **CHAIRMAN GOODMAN**

781 Happy New Year to you.

782

783 **STANLEY WASHINGTON**

784 Okay.

785

786 **CHAIRMAN GOODMAN**

787 Please identify yourself for the record.

788

789 **STANLEY WASHINGTON**

790 Stanley Washington, 4299 Lucas Avenue. This is an extremely rewarding time for me, and I'm
791 sure Councilman (sic) Barlow should be, feel the same way. He has his constituency here. He's
792 always wanting 'em to go ahead and come here. This is truly democracy in action, something
793 here we can always appreciate.

794 As you, as everyone knows, we have a (sic) African-American, who's President of the United
795 States, and he campaigned on change. And I'm talking about, not change just in Washington,
796 D.C., change coming all the way down to Las Vegas, all the way down to West Las Vegas. And
797 as one who's been an advocate supporter of that, I continue to go ahead and move forward on
798 that mantra.

799 Couple of things I want to go ahead and touch basis on. The whole F Street closing, while that's
800 not a primary, has not been my primary lead there, that certainly ties into what has been my
801 primary lead when I come before this Council (sic), which is economics, economics, economics;
802 the lifeblood of this town and the whole reason why people are so interested in getting on those
803 seats and the County Commission seats and everything we talk about.

804 The pattern here is that, going back to 2001, there seems to be a pattern of lack of knowledge. I
805 was just informed this morning that former Councilman Weekly, now Commissioner Weekly,
806 indicated that he had no knowledge about the F Street closing when it basically came about from
807 NDOT. Well, that's the same words he said about the employment plan when it was brought up
808 in 2001, when I brought it to Mr. Jerbic's attention and the Council, and Weekly had no
809 knowledge of the employment plan. He had no idear (sic) that he was supposed to be advocating

REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY MEETING OF
January 7, 2009
VERBATIM TRANSCRIPT – CITIZENS PARTICIPATION

810 for his people over in West Las Vegas and not Walker Furniture down there on the other side,
811 which there was (sic) no laws in the books to do that. Okay? So, once again, here we are now.
812 His response is that, oh, well, he didn't know about the F Street closing.
813 Well, I think that that's probably where we are having some problems here in terms of the
814 leadership coming out of Ward 5, in terms of that. We – have leaders in Ward 5 who don't seem
815 to be abreast of what really is going on in their community. So, that being the case, Mr. Shelby
816 (sic) here, I'm still, after putting in all my hard work and efforts in bringing to this Council's (sic)
817 attention about the employment plan and dealing with the Chelsea Mall and dealing with them
818 coming out of – Maryland, associated with the employ, with the job fair that was supposed to
819 take place, that still to this day has not been answered by this Council (sic). I'm waiting for Mr.
820 Shelby (sic) to come forth and explain how that job fair took place in Ward 1, which is now Ms.
821 Tarkanian's ward and not in Ward 5, which was Councilman Weekly's ward at that time, when
822 the whole ball game was centered around that. To this day, silence from everybody up there.
823 And I have engaged the Councilman (sic) now here. We've had discussions on this before.
824 We're gonna have some more discussions. I need an answer. We need an answer on how a job
825 fair, with the law of the State of Nevada and the City said it was supposed to take place in Ward
826 5 with these residents, took place in Ward 1; they weren't even told about it. I'm just
827 flabbergasted as to how that is and what the motive is. We still need to go ahead and know.

828

829 **CHAIRMAN GOODMAN**

830 All right. I'm gonna have –

831

832 **STANLEY WASHINGTON**

833 We will be (inaudible) –

834

835 **CHAIRMAN GOODMAN**

836 – to cut you short, Mr. Washington –

837

838 **STANLEY WASHINGTON**

839 Thank you. Everyone, have a good day.

REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY MEETING OF
January 7, 2009
VERBATIM TRANSCRIPT – CITIZENS PARTICIPATION

840 **CHAIRMAN GOODMAN**

841 Thank you very much. Yes, Sir.

842

843 **ROGER COOK**

844 Good afternoon, Mr. Mayor (sic) and City Councilmen (sic). My name is Roger Cook, and I live
845 at 1106 I Street; I've been there for 32 years. And, I just would like to applaud you guys for
846 doing the tremendous job that you're doing. We appreciate everything that you're doing, and we
847 understand that you have a big job in front of you. When you're in there, you have so many
848 different things facing you, and some things can get by you, and I understand that. And I – really
849 understand that, because, you know, if you have tons of paper in front of you, sometimes things
850 get by. But, the F Street closure is something that we, the citizens of West Las Vegas, find
851 important to us.

852 And I gotta say that, you know, in my early days and when I was young and good looking, I was
853 with the Clark, with the Community Development – Block Grant Program; in fact, I was the
854 Chairman with that. I helped to get streetlights and sidewalks in West Las Vegas. And, you
855 know, I look at, things have changed but they still stay the same. And it's time for us to work
856 together. I'm not pointing fingers at anyone and saying that you guys are not doing your job. I'm
857 just saying that it's wrong. There's a wrong that's been done that needs to be right. Dr. King
858 said it better, if you see an unjust law, then it's incumbent upon us to change it. And, we have
859 been unjustly done a wrong.

860 So, we're asking that you guys look at this and consider. You know, I'm self-employed. I live in
861 West Las Vegas. I use F Street to go do my banking over at Bank of Nevada. It, it's a challenge.
862 It's not a major challenge, and some of you guys may say, hey, what's the big deal, a street. It's a
863 big deal to me, and to other people. So, we wish you would consider the implications that it have
864 (sic) on a lot of people in that area, and deal with it. You know, we're not here just because we
865 feel like getting up early in the morning and walking. We're here for a cause, not just because.
866 So, we would wish that you would take in consideration that we're here to right a wrong. Thank
867 you so much.

REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY MEETING OF
January 7, 2009
VERBATIM TRANSCRIPT – CITIZENS PARTICIPATION

868 **CHAIRMAN GOODMAN**

869 Thank you very much.

870

871 **BEATRICE TURNER**

872 You know, he ain't jumping up like somebody want him. Don't nobody want him.

873

874 **HARVEY MUNFORD**

875 (Inaudible) I wanted to say something (inaudible).

876

877 **BEATRICE TURNER**

878 Oh, I'll let you go first.

879

880 **HARVEY MUNFORD**

881 I think we were – a little confused about who was gonna go last. I usually, I was gonna reserve it
882 to Beatrice. You all know her.

883

884 **CHAIRMAN GOODMAN**

885 We – know you, too, Assemblyman. Is that, would you identify yourself for the record, please?

886

887 **HARVEY MUNFORD**

888 I'm Harvey Munford, State Assemblyman Harvey Munford, and I live at 809 Sunny Place, and
889 I've resided there for upwards of 38 years. And, I really – wasn't going to speak or say anything
890 today, and I was just gonna leave it up to my constituents to speak. But I was just listening to
891 them, and I was so moved and so touched. And, I mean, it was just something I just couldn't
892 believe because what was coming from their hearts and from their feelings, and these are proud –
893 residents and citizens. And, to me, it is really an honor and a privilege to represent them. And I
894 feel so, I, you know, feel so special that they thought to, you know, to – support me and – vote
895 for me. And all they're asking and all they've been saying, everything, everyone that's come up
896 here. These, yes, all they want is a quality of life. These are very humble people, very spiritual

REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY MEETING OF
January 7, 2009
VERBATIM TRANSCRIPT – CITIZENS PARTICIPATION

897 people. You saw the ministers come up. These are special ministers, good men, good men. And
898 they have – helped to inspire their community, and that’s why people are here today.
899 I can’t say anything further about the F – Street closing, because I’d just be redundant. ‘Cause
900 they’ve all got their point and, I mean, they’ve made their point and they got it across to you.
901 And you know the, how critical this is and how much of a problem it is. All I ask you is just to
902 do your job and do what you were elected to do, and I’m sure this will, it will take care of itself.
903 And, so, and where you’re sitting now, in about three weeks, I’ll be sitting listening to people’s
904 testimonies. And, so, you know, I know what you’re going through. So, I just hope you
905 understand what you have to do. So, thank you.

906

907 **CHAIRMAN GOODMAN**

908 Thank you very much.

909

910 **BEATRICE TURNER**

911 Beatrice Turner, West Las Vegas. This day, am I proud of my community? I am proud of my
912 community. When I laid in that hospital, didn’t know if I was gone live or die, I, my prayer was,
913 Lord, you know what, I just want to see my – community rise up and say enough is enough.
914 And, today, they said enough is enough. Not all of ‘em came ‘cause some had to work, but they
915 did come.

916 You, Oscar, when we came here, and I sit here, you said that you didn’t know nothing about the
917 closure of F street. You was (sic) gonna get some information. You was (sic) gonna get back to
918 us. To this day, we ain’t (sic) heard from you yet. Not one word. When that, when – Mr.
919 Barlow here throwed that little sham of a meeting over there in Doolittle, you was (sic) not there.
920 You haven’t been not in, not a, the meeting in – Bonanza Village, no where. We never heard no
921 more from you since that day when you sit (sic) there and said you would get back to my
922 community. That never happened, never happened.

923 But you know what, I’m – not, you know, and you got plenty ministers here and half of ‘em
924 won’t even let me come to they (sic) church, but that’s all right. I go to bedside Baptist. But you
925 know what, Oscar, the bible say, thou shall not oppress the poor because He is the defender of
926 the poor. And everything you touch will crumble until you do right by my community that I live

REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY MEETING OF
January 7, 2009
VERBATIM TRANSCRIPT – CITIZENS PARTICIPATION

927 in. I look at how I took a leave of absence from my job to what, to help you run for Mayor, and I
928 had Billy McCurdy tell me, I wouldn't have a friend at City Hall 'cause you didn't have a
929 snowball chance in hell on winning. I said, I'll take my chance on that. You won, and you
930 promised that you would do right by the community that I lived in. You have not did (sic) that.
931 You have not.

932 But like I said, in that historical cemetery you ain't (sic) did nothing with, but that's all right.
933 When the good Lord call me on, might be tonight, 'cause I'm sure proud of my – community
934 tonight. But, coming here today, when they scatter – my ashes in your front yard, that's
935 (inaudible), that foundation that your house sit (sic) on will shake, rattle and roll.

936 And the last thing I got to say, Mr. Jerbic, I want you to know, I told you, when you deal with me,
937 you (sic) going into a lion's cage with pork chop draws (sic) on, and I meant that. But I want you
938 to understand this, no weapon formed against me shall prosper. So that little City (inaudible),
939 City Attorney you got to walk to get, tell me 45 days in jail. You see how it look (sic) today?
940 That's how it'll look in the courtroom, so you take that back to him.

941

942 **REVEREND FOUSTON JORDAN**

943 Good morning.

944

945 **CHAIRMAN GOODMAN**

946 Good morning.

947

948 **REVEREND FOUSTON JORDAN**

949 My name is Reverend Fouston Jordan. I'm Pastor of Rivers of Living Water Ministries, here in
950 Las Vegas. I was involved in an accident on Friday by a hit-and-run drive, tumbled three times
951 and, thank God, I'm here today. But been before you before, and I know that you have a tough
952 job. God called Moses because he was the most meek man on the face of the earth and because
953 he had a heart toward the people. God told Moses He would destroy the people and raise up a
954 people unto Himself that would obey Him. Moses said, if you do that, take my name out of the
955 Book of Life. God honored Moses. He honor (sic) you. You're in a very strategic position, and
956 I pray that you would do it in a way that would please God. And that, remember this, Jeremiah

REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY MEETING OF
January 7, 2009
VERBATIM TRANSCRIPT – CITIZENS PARTICIPATION

957 was told to go throughout the streets of Jerusalem to see if he could find any righteous, and he
958 obeyed God. And he went up and down the streets of Jerusalem and did not find a one. Don't let
959 that happen to you. You're in a very unique position to bless God and to be a blessing unto His
960 people. I pray that you would vote to open, re-open F Street. God bless you all.

961

962 **CHAIRMAN GOODMAN**

963 Thank you.

964

965 **MATTHEW CALLISTER**

966 Good morning, Your Honor, members of Council (sic). Matthew Callister, 823 Las Vegas
967 Boulevard South. With me is I-Che Lai, who's the smarter, younger, better-looking attorney who
968 wrote most of the arguments that are in the brief. We'll address those today, obviously.

969 Thank you so much for your patience. I know you've heard a lot of pent-up frustration and you
970 had to sit through that. I've been through that myself. I know all of this Council (sic).
971 Personally, I know them to be good, honorable men and women. I trust that – this matter can be
972 resolved without, hopefully, any further litigation. We've tried to trace back, thank you so much,
973 how this issue occurred, as best we can in the last few weeks, since we were asked to take a look
974 at it. And it appears to me, as has been – referenced earlier, the City Councilman for the area did
975 not know that it was buried in an '06 I-15 widening project that is attached to the, kind of a –, it
976 was kind of a financing vehicle, if you will, and, buried in there, was a very oblique reference to
977 the closure of F Street.

978 But, the, in fact, the history goes back far, far greater than that, and it's the history of it that's
979 really a fascination to me. I know, Mr. Mayor (sic), that you've read this book, written by Trish
980 (inaudible), and one of those who asked me to participate in this, and, indeed, in your very
981 eloquent comments, it says, African-American residents should be recognized for the travails
982 they endured while developing our great city. From the men who worked on the big construction
983 projects to the entertainers who suffered the indignities of entering the back doors of casinos, etc.
984 With those comments, you summarized far better than I could exactly what this is all about,
985 access, accommodation. Should, in this day and age, African-Americans still be denied access?

REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY MEETING OF
January 7, 2009
VERBATIM TRANSCRIPT – CITIZENS PARTICIPATION

986 I don't, for one moment, believe any member of this City Council (sic) or your staff intended that
987 to happen. I wanna state that publicly and openly. Indeed, I think, my – knowledge of all of you
988 suggests that you would never consider doing such a thing for whatever reason. So, I apologize
989 for the necessity of the lawsuit –

990

991 **CHAIRMAN GOODMAN**

992 Well, and I'm gonna interrupt you. I can't – accept what you just represented, Mr. Callister –

993

994 **MATTHEW CALLISTER**

995 Okay.

996

997 **CHAIRMAN GOODMAN**

998 Because the lawsuit, in my opinion, charges this Council with racism, under your 1983 Count,
999 and I found that very offensive. I've been instructed not to say anything. I can't – help but
1000 comment on that. When you concede that we're good people and we try to do things the right
1001 way, –

1002

1003 **MATTHEW CALLISTER**

1004 Correct.

1005

1006 **CHAIRMAN GOODMAN**

1007 – that's inconsistent with racism, and that allegation, under any circumstance, I would ask to be
1008 stricken.

1009

1010 **MATTHEW CALLISTER**

1011 I – appreciate that. I guess, what I meant to say is that the closure of F Street does create a racial
1012 injustice.

1013

1014 **CHAIRMAN GOODMAN**

1015 All right. That's not the way I read it.

REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY MEETING OF
January 7, 2009
VERBATIM TRANSCRIPT – CITIZENS PARTICIPATION

1016 **MATTHEW CALLISTER**

1017 And, I didn't mean any offense. This Council, including the Mayor, has always been responsive
1018 to all my clients, to myself, and I appreciate that. But, I think, the existence of that closure,
1019 historically, dating back to 1939, has been an issue.

1020 I'd like to distribute a document that I found in Trish's book. I just read briefly from it. This is a
1021 letter written in 1939 –

1022

1023 **CHAIRMAN GOODMAN**

1024 Part of the record, please –

1025

1026 **MATTHEW CALLISTER**

1027 – by a – gentleman by the name of McCants who gives his address simply as 412 Clark Avenue,
1028 West Side, as though he were not even a resident of Las Vegas. And in that letter, he petitions,
1029 in 1939, the City Council as follows: We, the undersigned citizens, registered voters, taxpayers,
1030 the then NAACP also signed off on the letter. We respectfully request this Honorable Counselor
1031 (sic) to provide a law that all citizens or persons within the City of Las Vegas shall have full and
1032 equal enjoyment of accommodation, advantages, privileges of all City property, including, this
1033 will mean pools, the public amusements, all of the facilities of the City and the County.

1034 Of course, that's what lies at the hay, heart of this case today, access, ease of access. And since
1035 1939, this battle has been waged time and time again. Many of these members, of – this
1036 Honorable Council (sic) remember in the 70's and 80's when 95 was first built, there were efforts
1037 made by much earlier City Council and RTC members, I presume, to close all access, including
1038 at MLK, and that was stopped –

1039

1040 **CHAIRMAN GOODMAN**

1041 I'm gonna have to –

1042

1043 **MATTHEW CALLISTER**

1044 – and reversed.

REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY MEETING OF
January 7, 2009
VERBATIM TRANSCRIPT – CITIZENS PARTICIPATION

1045 **CHAIRMAN GOODMAN**

1046 We'll hear from your associate –

1047

1048 **MATTHEW CALLISTER**

1049 We appreciate the time to be here. We urge the Council to take a look at this issue, based on the
1050 comments of Mr. Weekly, in fact, if that's the case. Hopefully, we can drop the City from the
1051 lawsuit and go after NDOT, who is responsible for, what we think, is a real injustice. Thank you
1052 for your time.

1053

1054 **CHAIRMAN GOODMAN**

1055 Thank you for coming down.

1056

1057 **I-CHE LAI**

1058 Nothing further to add.

1059

1060 **CHAIRMAN GOODMAN**

1061 Okay. Thank God. Would anyone else like to be heard? Would anyone else like to be heard
1062 during Citizens Participation?

1063

1064 **KATHERINE DUNCAN**

1065 Good morning. I would just like to make an announcement.

1066

1067 **CHAIRMAN GOODMAN**

1068 Please – identify yourself.

1069

1070 **KATHERINE DUNCAN**

1071 My name is Katherine Duncan, 1508 River Crest Court. January 20th marks a historic moment in
1072 not only Las Vegas history but American history. We celebrate the inauguration of Barack
1073 Obama. And, the Las Vegas Black Historical Society is gonna be presenting a (sic) Obama Ball
1074 at the Plaza Hotel, uptown Las Vegas, and we hope that you all (sic) be in attendance. We're

REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY MEETING OF
January 7, 2009
VERBATIM TRANSCRIPT – CITIZENS PARTICIPATION

1075 going to Barack and roll, January 20th, the Las Vegas Black Historical Society, give us a call at
1076 646-2551. Thank you.

1077

1078 **CHAIRMAN GOODMAN**

1079 Thank you. Anybody else? All right. Seeing none, the morning, the Redevelopment Agency is
1080 adjourned.

1081 **(END OF DISCUSSION)**

1082 /lc:gpb