

# **Right-of-Way (ROW) Vacation Application Review of Public Comments Received after Public Notification**

# Project Number: 2021-VACA-0000006

Location of Proposed Vacation Area: Various Locations outlined below:

1) N. Franklin St - located south of future National Western Dr., south of N. Race Ct.

2) 51st Ave at the southerly end of N. Franklin St

- 3) 48th Ave the easterly portion of the ROW lying east of the Platte River
- 4) 49th Ave the easterly portion of the ROW lying east of the Platte River

All located within the National Western Center

## Number of Respondents: 1

DOTI ROWS Engineering and Regulatory has reviewed comments received from the public notification period and the findings are as follows. Copies of comments received are attached for reference.

1. Respondent: Espino, Alfonso on behalf of GES Coalition

**Summarized Comment(s):** The objection to this proposed ROW Vacation states there would be a hindrance for the surrounding communities and public at large to gain efficient access to and from various destinations.

**ER Findings:** Applicant was requested to resolve respondent's comments and in doing so, respondent chose to withdraw their objection to the requested vacation. Therefore, with this resolution, there is no justification to deny submitting the proposed application to Council approval process.

City and County of Denver Department of Transportation & Infrastructure Right of Way Services 201 West Colfax Avenue, Dept 507 | Denver, C0 80202 www.denvergov.org/doti Phone: 720-865-3003

From:	Alfonso Espino
To:	DOTI Engineering Regulatory
Cc:	Robin Reichhardt; Nola Miguel; District 9
Subject:	[EXTERNAL] Protest for application of Right of Way at NWC
Date:	Tuesday, December 28, 2021 8:46:35 PM

Hello, this is a formal protest letter for the application of a vacation of ROW for the project number: 2021-VACA-0000006 National Western Street.

I am speaking on behalf of the GES Coalition organizing for health and Housing Justice. We are protesting the application for a vacation of right of way based on the City of Denver's own rules, which would mean this application should not pass because : "

• There must be limited or no impacts on the surrounding community or public at large. ROW in the City is generally part of a roadway network or "grid" that provides benefits to the public at large, including but not limited to, efficient access to various destinations. Removing a piece of that grid from public use could have various negative impacts for the community's access and services.

The NWC has demonstrated no reason, nor communicated with residents or community groups in the surrounding communities as to why the roads in the application should no longer be public. It would in fact be a hindrance for the surrounding communities and public at large to get efficient access to and from various destinations. The national Western campus is supposed to be open to the public and is funded largely by the public, therefore all infrastructure in and around the campus should remain in the public domain. This site is undergoing a redevelopment which still has many phases to go which are undefined, so vacating the ROW at this moment in time is grossly inappropriate.

Alfonso Espino *Community Organizer* GES Coalition Organizing for Health and Housing Justice <u>Decide the future with us:</u> DONATE <u>HERE</u> TO SUPPORT (lease select GES Coalition under "WP Donation is for" section)

https://www.gescoalition.com Office: 3455 Ringsby Ct., suite 110, Denver CO, 80216 Mail: PO Box 16132, Denver, CO, 80216 720-282-3186–office 720-829-2340 cell **Subject:** Fwd: [EXTERNAL] Re: NWC - Renaming Support Requested

Date: Friday, February 25, 2022 at 4:47:08 PM Mountain Standard Time

From: Loughran, Marcy - NWCO WW1111 Contingent Worker

To: Kevin Ritter, Bouchard, Michael G. - DOTI NWCO Program Director

Attachments: image001.png

FYI, see below. Thanks

Best, Marcy Loughran

Begin forwarded message:

From: Alfonso Espino <alfonso@gescoalition.com>
Date: February 25, 2022 at 2:16:44 PM PST
To: "Loughran, Marcy - NWCO WW1111 Contingent Worker" <Marcy.Loughran@denvergov.org>
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Re: NWC - Renaming Support Requested

Hello Marcy, thanks for the offer on the renaming, I am not personally interested in that at the moment. However, as far as my protest of the vacation of right of way goes, I will be withdrawing that after hearing the explanation on what is going on with this process. So please consider it withdrawn and let me know if there is anything else I have to do on my end to officially withdraw it.

On Mon, Feb 21, 2022 at 4:06 PM Loughran, Marcy - NWCO WW1111 Contingent Worker <<u>Marcy.Loughran@denvergov.org</u>> wrote:

Alfonso,

Just a quick hello and to see if you received my note below. We would love to hear your thoughts around the renaming. Please let me know your thoughts on a meeting to discuss. Thank you!

Marcy Loughran

From: Marcy Loughran <<u>Marcy.Loughran@denvergov.org</u>>
Date: Tuesday, February 15, 2022 at 2:38 PM
To: Alfonso Espino <<u>alfonso@gescoalition.com</u>>
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Re: NWC - Renaming Support Requested

Alfonso,

No worries on timing, appreciate the response! I did not know the GES Coalition was not an RNO, thank you for the correction. Based on that information, we do not need the GES Coalition to sign the renaming petition. However, we would very much welcome your thoughts on the street renaming. I think it would

be beneficial to schedule a meeting with the NWC Authority and the NWCO team to hear your thoughts and have a live discussion. Please let me know your thoughts. Happy to set up a zoom call at when convenient. Thanks again for the response. Take care!

 DENVER
 Marcy Loughran | Chief Communications Officer

 THE MILE HIGH CITY
 Mayor's Office of the National Western Center | Program Team

p: (720) 865-2932 |c: (303) 912-0881 marcy.loughran@denvergov.org

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From: Alfonso Espino <<u>alfonso@gescoalition.com</u>>
Date: Monday, February 14, 2022 at 11:44 AM
To: Marcy Loughran <<u>Marcy.Loughran@denvergov.org</u>>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Re: NWC - Renaming Support Requested

Hi marcy, my apologies for a late reply. Thank you for the detailed notes on what is happening exactly. As far as renaming support, I would like to point out that the GES coalition is not an RNO, we are a fiscally sponsored non-profit. I would still like to give our two cents about street renaming but wanted to make sure you know we are not an RNO, i don't know if this impacts your request for support. Thanks again for reaching out!

On Wed, Feb 9, 2022 at 8:41 PM Loughran, Marcy - NWCO WW1111 Contingent Worker <<u>Marcy.Loughran@denvergov.org</u>> wrote:

Dear Alfonso,

I hope this email finds you well! I understand you have been in contact with Liz Adams at the NWC Authority regarding the ROW Vacations and any misunderstanding with the process has been cleared up. I am pleased to hear you will support the ROW vacation request and may do so by retracting your protest. Please reply to this email with a brief statement and we will forward the note to the DOTI-ER case manager to close the matter.

In addition to the ROW vacation process, we have another request of the GES Coalition related to the

technical process of Street Renaming that supports the planned campus improvements. As part of the initial phases of the redevelopment we have shifted the alignment of the roadway, removed and relocated the bisecting rail lines, removed two above ground wastewater pipes, created water quality ponds and stormwater retention systems as well as new supporting infrastructure such as water, sewer and gas lines, electrical conduit, fiber for cable and internet. In addition, we have designated open space and new public facilities for year-round use.

We respectfully request your support with the item below.

#### **Street Renaming**

There are two sections of the existing roadways with conflicting naming conventions. We are proposing the renaming a small portion of Packing House Rd. and a small section of Franklin St., both to National Western Drive. Consistent naming will support the community and campus mobility to achieve optimal wayfinding, map and GIS organization (Google maps, Waze, etc), U.S. mail delivery as well as critical emergency services such as fire, police and ambulance. The proposed renaming is only for the small segments of National Western Drive between Race Ct on the north and 46<sup>th</sup> Ave on the south, which are all contained within the National Western Center Campus.

Diagram Description automatically generated

The city's process requires us to obtain petition signatures from all parties adjacent to the streets to be renamed or impacted by the name change, as well as all associated Registered Neighborhood Organizations (RNOs). To date we have received letters of support from the businesses impacted. We respectfully request your support as well.

I know this is a lot of information and we are happy to host a virtual meeting to explain in more detail and answer any questions. If you do not have any questions, please sign and return the petition to me. We would like to receive all letters by Wednesday, February 16, 2022. Thank you!

Attachment: Petition document for signature

Sincerel	y,
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Marcy Loughran

### CLICK HERE TO REQUEST A MEETING

Marcy Loughran | Chief Communications Officer

Mayor's Office of the National Western Center | Program Team

p: (720) 865-2932 |c: (303) 912-0881 marcy.loughran@denvergov.org

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### Alfonso Espino

Community Organizer

GES Coalition Organizing for Health and Housing Justice

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