



# Community Development Department

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Carson City, Nevada 89701  
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## Staff Report To: Redevelopment Authority Citizens Committee

**Meeting Date:** August 6, 2018

**Staff Contact:** Lee Plemel, Director ([lplemel@carson.org](mailto:lplemel@carson.org)); 283-7075

**Agenda Title:** For Possible Action: To make a recommendation to the Board of Supervisors regarding funding for the “Blue Line” replacement through the Historic District.

**Staff Summary:** The Redevelopment Authority allocated \$26,000 in FY 2017 to remove and replace the blue paint on the sidewalks along the “Blue Line” Historic District tour, and to explore long-term alternatives to the painted line to reduce long-term maintenance costs. Over the last year, the Public Works Department has been working with the Culture and Tourism Authority to develop an alternative historic property tour identification system that includes a smartphone-based app and individual property markers. The purpose of this item is to provide an update to the RACC on the progress of the project and, if applicable, make a recommendation to the Redevelopment Authority regarding the Redevelopment funding for the project.

**Proposed Motion:** [No action is necessary or recommended. Allow the project to be completed under current funding.]

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## DISCUSSION:

The Carson City Culture and Tourism Authority (“CTA”) have been working to create a new marker system for the “Blue Line” historic tour. The plan includes the removal of the blue painted line, which will be replaced with plaques for each historic structure, a new map, and a smartphone app to guide people through the tour.

*Proposed identification plaque sample*



The CTA has re-branded the west-side historical tour as the "Kit Carson Trail". The Kit Carson Trail map is the center spread in the CTA's Visitors Guide (see attached map). In the smartphone app you will find an additional audio component detailing the historical significance of each location through the tour.

*Visit Carson City smartphone app*

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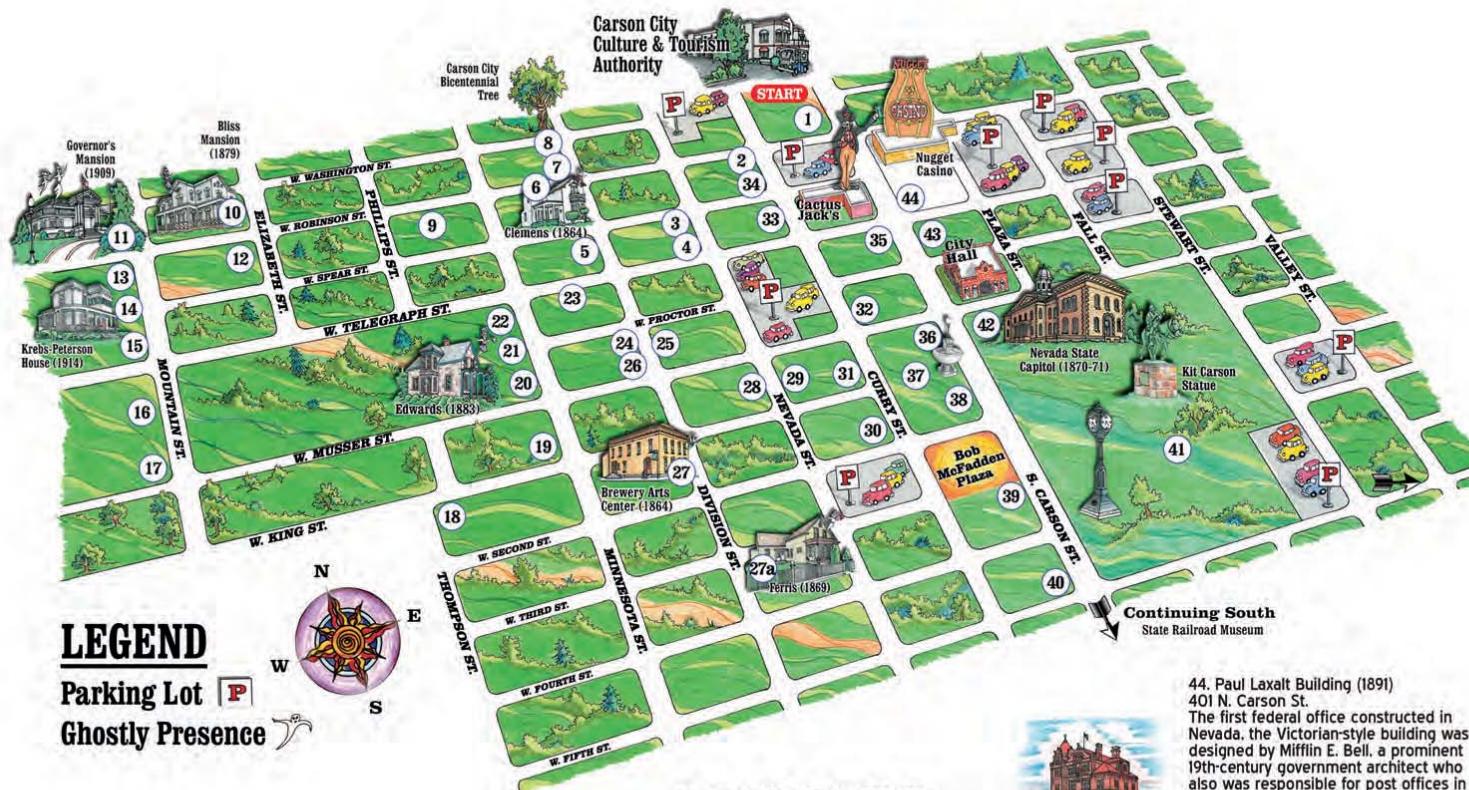
This free app gives you the inside scoop on great events, local restaurants and attractions. The app will guide you through all that the Carson-Tahoe-Virginia City region has to offer assuring you get the most out of your stay.

The Redevelopment Authority allocated \$26,000 to this project in FY 2017 to remove the existing striping and use any remaining funds to support additional markers for the tour. Public Works staff is prepared to remove the stripe once the signs are ordered.

Joel Dunn, representing the project for the CTA, will be available at the RACC meeting to give an update on the project and answer questions. If you have any questions regarding this item prior to the meeting, please contact Lee Plemel at 283-7075 or [lplemel@carson.org](mailto:lplemel@carson.org).

Attachments:

- A. New Kit Carson Trail pamphlet



## LEGEND

Parking Lot 

Ghostly Presence 

40. Jacks Bar (1899) 408 S. Carson St. The proximity of Jack's Bar to the offices of state government has resulted in its playing a very particular role in political affairs. The bar has served as the site of informal meetings and caucuses that have had an effect on the political history of the state.



42. Nevada State Capitol (1870-1871) 101 N. Carson St. When the ambitious founders of Carson City laid out the town in 1858, they had dreams of a new territory and then a new state to follow. Ten acres, known as the Plaza, was set aside in the belief that Carson City would be chosen as the capital of a new government in western Utah Territory — Nevada became a state in 1864. The architect's fee was \$250 and the stone was free from the Nevada State Prison quarry.



### 44. Paul Laxalt Building (1891) 401 N. Carson St.

The first federal office constructed in Nevada, the Victorian-style building was designed by Mifflin E. Bell, a prominent 19th-century government architect who also was responsible for post offices in Pittsburgh and Brooklyn. Bell included an unusual three-faced clock in a 106-foot tower on the Carson City building's northwest corner.



716 N. Carson St  
Carson City NV 89701  
[www.visitcarsoncity.com](http://www.visitcarsoncity.com)



# Carson City's KIT CARSON TRAIL



Explorer Kit Carson's legacy is alive along the 2.5-mile path bearing his name. This path has landmarks running through Carson City's residential district. Take this map and explore the Kit Carson Trail. Listen along to the audio tour by downloading the Visit Carson City app on any smart device.



**VisitCarsonCity.com**  
**775-687-7410**

1. Nevada State Museum – Old Mint (1869)  
600 N. Carson St.  
The Carson City Mint was created in 1863, but not put into operation until 1870 at the peak of the silver boom. More than \$49 million worth of silver and gold coins bearing the famous CC mark was coined here until the mint was shut down in 1893. It became the Nevada State Museum in 1939.

2. Small House (1862) 512 N. Curry St.  
A typical home of the mid-19th century with detailed trim, the lot was purchased by James Small for \$250 and sold a month later to John McAvoy for \$600.

3. Chartz House (1876) 412 N. Nevada St.  
Alfred Chartz, as a young news reporter, shot a man who impugned his editor's honor. He was later pardoned and became an outstanding lawyer.

4. Curry House (1871) 406 N. Nevada St.  
Abe Curry, a founding father of Carson City, held prominent titles such as: Warden and contractor for the Nevada Territorial Prison, territorial assemblyman, territorial senator, Ormsby County surveyor and superintendent of the U.S. Mint.

5. Norcross House (1906) 412 N. Division St.  
Frank Norcross served 12 years in the Nevada Supreme Court and was one of three in the first graduating class from the University of Nevada.

6. Orion Clemens House (1864)  
502 N. Division St.  
Orion Clemens was Nevada's first and only territorial secretary. His younger brother, Samuel, came along from Tennessee and began working at the Territorial Enterprise, where he took the pen name Mark Twain.

7. Yerington House (1863) 512 N. Division St.  
Named for second owner Henry Marvin Yerington (1869), a key figure in the V&T Railroad.

8. Cavell House (1907) 402 W. Robinson St.  
The design was considered advanced for the times, with low ceilings, gas and electric fixtures, and hot water heater.

9. Stewart House (1887) 503 W. Robinson St.  
U.S. Sen. William Stewart purchased this house in 1886. He took the lead in the passage of a national mining law in 1866, wrote the 15th Amendment, which protects voting rights regardless of race, and supported reclamation legislation.

10. Bliss Mansion (1879) 608 Elizabeth St.  
Duane L. Bliss built this house in 1879. It has 15 rooms, 9 marble fireplaces and is built of clear sugar pine and cedar from his Lake Tahoe mill.

11. Governor's Mansion (1909)  
606 N. Mountain St.  
The land was sold to the state for \$10 by Mrs. T.B. Rickey, who lived to the south. George A. Ferris, a Reno architect, designed the mansion with Classical Revival features and Georgian and Jeffersonian motifs, and a construction bid was awarded for \$22,700.

12. Bender House (1870) 707 W. Robinson St.  
Named for 1874 owner David Bender, an agent for the V&T Railroad.

13. Rickey House (1870) 512 N. Mountain St.  
T.B. Rickey founded the State Bank and Trust Co. Mrs. Rickey waited until her husband was out of town before offering the property to the north for a Governor's Mansion for a token \$10. The support from the community made it impossible for Mr. Rickey to renege on the deal.

14. Krebs-Peterson House (1914)  
500 N. Mountain St.  
The Krebs-Peterson home was the location for the boarding-house scenes in the 1976 film "The Shootist," in which John Wayne portrays the last days of a dying gunfighter. Dr. Ernst Krebs Sr. achieved fame for halting an influenza outbreak using sacred herbs of a Native America tribe.

15. Robinson House (1874) 406 N. Mountain St.  
This house was built in 1873 by Marshall Robinson, one of the founders of the Carson Daily Appeal.

16. Sadler House (1878) 310 N. Mountain St.  
Built by Edward Niles, a printer and publisher, the house was later owned by Reinhold Sadler, Nevada's ninth governor, and was the unofficial Governor's Mansion during his term from 1896 to 1902.

17. Crowell House (1860s) 206 N. Mountain St.  
This home was built in the 1860s by Professor Hayward H. Howe, superintendent of Carson City schools. In 1919, Lucy Crowell, daughter of Carson City newspaper editor Sam Davis, purchased the house for \$1,500. She worked as a secretary for the Nevada Supreme Court for 50 years.

18. St. Teresa of Avila Catholic Church (1871)  
511 W. King St.  
The church was originally much smaller and constructed out of wood, but it was expanded and faced with brick around 1949. It now houses the Brewery Arts Center Performance Hall.

19. Stewart-Nye Residence (1860)  
108 N. Minnesota St.  
One of Carson City's oldest homes, it was built prior to 1862 of native sandstone for William M. Stewart, elected to the U.S. Senate in 1864 and a leading politician of frontier Nevada.

20. Edwards House (1883) 204 N. Minnesota St.  
Thomas J. Edwards built this house in 1883 after moving from the mining town of Ophir. He was sheriff, county clerk and, for 51 years, clerk of the federal court.

21. Springmeyer House (1908)  
302 N. Minnesota St.  
Herman H. Springmeyer, born in Westphalia, Germany, in 1844, is credited as the first Nevada rancher to sell alfalfa hay commercially from his Carson Valley ranch. In 1908, he retired to this home, where he pursued his hobby of cultivating beautiful flowers, especially roses.

22. Lee House (1906) 340 N. Minnesota St.  
Named for Dr. Simeon L. Lee, the house is on the site of the former Central School and was built with lumber from the razed school building. One story told of Dr. Lee, who fought in the Civil War under General Grant, was that he walked to Lake Tahoe on snowshoes during a winter blizzard to tend to a woman in labor. Despite warnings, he crossed the lake in a boat and saved the mother and baby.

23. St. Peters (1862) 302 N. Division St.  
Built in 1862 of locally made bricks, the structure was the residence of several merchants before it was sold to the church in 1891. It served as the home for the pastor of the adjoining church until fall of 1984.

24. Schultz House (1874) 212 N. Division St.  
Otto Schultz, a native of Westerheim, Germany, came to United States as a boy of 14. In 1879, he moved with his family to Carson City, where he was the owner of the Stone Market. The house would remain in the Schultz family for 100 years.

25. Cohn House (1909-1910) 333 W. Proctor St.  
The home of Abe and Amy Cohn, leading merchants of Native American art, was built by Herbert Maxson acting as superintendent of construction. The couple's business was long associated with the basket artistry of Dat So La Lee.

25a. Dat So La Lee Home (1914)  
331 W. Proctor St.  
The one-story cottage built around 1914 to the east of Abe and Amy Cohn's house was the home of Louisa Keyser, a Washoe weaver, famed for her basket work as Dat So La Lee, her Washoe name.

26. United Methodist Church (1865)  
200 N. Division St.  
In 1958, the Methodist Episcopal Society bought lots on Division Street for \$25 and a pair of boots. Rev. Nims labored almost single-handedly for three years to haul sandstone blocks from the State Prison, where prisoners quarried and squared the stone, to lay them at the site of the church, which he dedicated in 1866.

27. Carson Brewing Company (1865)  
449 W. King St.  
Home of "Tahoe Beer" for over a century, it is now the Brewery Arts Center. Nevada's first brewery was established in Carson City by John Wagner & Co. in 1860 during the rush to Virginia City. The Carson Brewery specialized in steam beer, a bottom-fermenting brew produced without the constant cold temperatures that true lager requires.

27a. Ferris House (1869) 311 Third St.  
The house was built for George Washington Gale Ferris, Sr., a farmer and arborist who planted the state's now-official Christmas tree on the Capitol lawn in 1876. But it is better known as the boyhood home of Ferris Jr., who came up with the idea for the Ferris Wheel from his memories of watching a big water wheel turning near the Mexican mill on the Carson River.

28. First Presbyterian Church (1864)  
100 N. Nevada St.  
The First Presbyterian Church was finished in 1864, after fund-raising efforts helped by Orion Clemens, a founding member. The brick edifice is considered to be the oldest Presbyterian Church in service in Nevada.

29. Olcovich Meyers House (1874-1875)  
214 W. King St.  
The house was built by Joseph Olcovich in 1874-1875. The four Olcovich brothers were prominent members of the Jewish community and owned extensive commercial property in Carson City.

30. E.D. Sweeney Building (1860)  
102 S. Curry St.  
One of the earliest commercial buildings in Carson City and one of few brick buildings remaining from the city's earliest years, it was built in approximately 1859-1860 by Peter Cavanaugh, who also constructed the Nevada State Capitol in 1870. It housed shops on the first floor and apartments on the second.

31. Rinckel Mansion (1876) 102 N. Curry St.  
Built for merchant Mathias Rinckel, the mansion was designed by San Francisco architect Charles H. Jones in the Italianate style and furnished partly from the 1876 Centennial Exposition in Philadelphia. A 1941 film, "The Remarkable Andrew" starring William Holden, used the Rinckel mansion as its setting.

32. Warren Engine Company (1863)  
201 N. Curry St.  
The structure was built in 1863 of locally quarried sandstone. Warren Engine Company No. 1 was first organized on June 17, 1863. Charter members eager to give Carson City a real fire department met enthusiastic support from their fellow townspersons and collected \$2,000.

33. Hyman Olcovich (1876) 412 N. Curry St.  
This house was built by Hyman Olcovich in approximately 1876-1877. The four Olcovich brothers came to this country from Prussia and operated a dry goods store at the corner of Fourth and Carson streets.

34. Brougher Bath Mansion (1903-1904)  
204 W. Spear St.  
Wilson Brougher struck his riches in the Tonopah boom in 1901 and came to Carson City, where he purchased the Arlington Hotel on North Carson Street. He built his home in 1903-1904 behind the hotel.

35. Old Justice Building (1930) 320 N. Carson St.  
Designed by Frederic DeLongchamps, Nevada's state architect until the position was abolished in 1926, it was built originally as the Bell Telephone Co. office and later housed Carson City Justice Court.

36. Ormsby County Courthouse (1920s)  
100 N. Carson St.  
Designed as part of the State Capitol complex, the Ormsby County Courthouse housed the Carson City (formerly Ormsby County) courts until 1999. It is currently the Nevada Attorney General's Office. In front is a granite fountain presented to Carson City in 1909 by the National Humane Alliance to provide water for passing horses and pets.

37. Former Nevada Supreme Court (1936)  
198 N. Carson St.  
Designed by architect Frederic DeLongchamps after the Nevada Supreme Court had outgrown its single-room quarters in the Capitol, the building carries a more modern style that also complements the twin courthouses on either side.

38. Heroes Memorial Building (1921)  
198 S. Carson St.  
A twin of the Ormsby County Courthouse, the Heroes Memorial Building was designed as a fitting memorial to Nevada soldiers who gave their lives in the service of the United States in World War I.

39. St. Charles-Muller Hotel (1862)  
302 S. Carson St.  
Constructed in 1862, one of the first hotels in Carson City was also one of the state's most elegant and became the main stage stop in Carson City. It consists of two utilitarian buildings, a two-story one on the south and a three-story one on the north, each with Italianate details. It was one of the most elegant hotels of the day.