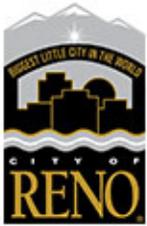


Council Chamber Visitor Screening



All visitors to City of Reno facilities are expected to follow the appropriate policies and procedures to ensure the safety and security of everyone working in and visiting our sites. All visitors to City Council/Redevelopment Agency Board meetings held in the Council Chamber must pass through a metal detector and all bags, backpacks, and purses will be inspected. To avoid delays, we encourage visitors to arrive early.

This security screening process is similar to those in place at many public venues where large crowds gather, such as sporting and entertainment events.

Metal Detectors

Metal detectors are safe for all individuals, including pregnant women, children, and people with pacemakers. They operate at a very low frequency of magnetic pulses, which are lower than levels in a cell phone or garage door opener. There is no exposure to radiation.

If an alarm sounds when a person walks through the metal detector, they will be subject to further screening. This may include the use of a hand-held wand or a visual inspection by a screening officer. People can decline screening, but refusal will result in denied entry.

- Visitors do not have to remove shoes, belts, or jackets to pass through the metal detector. They will be asked to empty pockets into available containers prior to passing through.
- Visitors in wheel chairs or strollers will undergo screening with a hand-held wand.

- Visitors should advise security staff if they have a medical implant that may set off the metal detector. If the alarm sounds, those visitors will require additional screening with a hand held wand.

Special Circumstances

- **Medical Needs:** People with medical conditions may enter with needles, oxygen tanks, or other medical instruments/equipment required for their safety.
- **Mobility Assistive Devices:** People who use a mobility device (i.e., wheelchair, crutches, cane) will be screened using visual and hand-held wand techniques. Those who are able to pass through a metal detector without their mobility device, or whose device will not impact the screening, will be offered the choice of screening technique.
- **Prosthetics, Casts, Splints, and Metal Implants:** Visitors should advise security staff if they have any of these items. Individuals shall pass through the metal detector, and if required screened using visual and hand-held wand techniques to identify detected metal objects.
- **Service Animals:** Individuals with service animals must walk through the metal detector with the animal. If the alarm sounds, security staff will be screened using visual and hand-held wand techniques.

Prohibited Items

Please note there are no storage facilities for any items. Visitors to Council Chamber with any prohibited items will be denied access until the items are properly removed from the area. Backpacks, bags, and large purses are subject to visual inspection.

The following items are prohibited inside Council Chamber (this list is not all-inclusive):

Firearms and Ammunition

- Ammunition
- BB guns
- Compressed air guns
- Firearms
- Flare guns
- Gun lighters
- Gun/firearm parts
- Replicas of guns or firearms
- Spear guns
- Stun guns/devices used to emit a shock

Explosives

- Ammunition
- Blasting caps
- Dynamite
- Fireworks
- Flares
- Gunpowder
- Hand grenades
- Plastic explosives

Flammable Substances

- Aerosol sprays
- Fuels, including cooking fuels and flammable liquid fuel
- Gasoline
- Gas torches, including micro-torches and torch lighters

Blades, Edged or Sharp Objects, and Striking Devices

- Axes and hatchets
- Brass knuckles
- Bows and arrows
- Crowbars
- Ice picks
- Knives, machetes, sabers, scissors, or other devices with blade length greater than 2 inches
- Night sticks/billy clubs
- Throwing stars

Disabling Chemicals and Other Dangerous Items

- Compressed gas cylinders, including fire extinguishers
- Mace
- Pepper spray
- Spillable batteries, except those in wheelchairs
- Spray paint
- Tear gas
- Noxious and poisonous substances

Miscellaneous Items

- Food and beverages
- Illegal drugs or substances
- Noisemakers

Frequently Asked Questions

Q. Why is the City making this change?

A. The City regularly reviews safety and security of City sites with a focus on preventing incidents by identifying opportunities and risks. The safety and security of all visitors, employees, and members of Council at City of Reno buildings and facilities is a top priority.

We believe this change poses minimal impact for citizens and provides an additional level of security screening.

Q. Do I have to take off my shoes, belt, or jacket?

A. No - you don't need to remove your jacket, belt, or shoes. As a general practice, visitors will be asked to empty their pockets prior to passing through the metal detector.

Q. Does this mean it is going to take a long time to get through the door before each meeting?

A. Screening should take approximately 10-15 seconds per visitor; however, the number of visitors to Council often varies, depending on Council's agenda. We encourage visitors to arrive early, and appreciate your patience.

Q. Is the City restricting bags?

A. The City will continue to allow bags, backpacks, and purses into Council Chamber - subject to screening.

Q. Can I still bring a stroller or wheelchair through the metal detector?

A. People with strollers or wheelchairs will be screened using hand-held wands.

Q. What if I don't want to pass through the metal detector?

A. If you do not want to go through the walk-through metal detector, you will be directed to a security officer to undergo screening with a hand-held wand.

Q. Are metal detectors safe?

A. Metal detectors are safe for all individuals, including pregnant women, children, and people with pacemakers. They operate at a very low frequency of magnetic pulses, which are lower than levels in a cell phone or garage door opener. There is no exposure to radiation. If you have a concern, speak with a security officer.

Q. Will it impact my pacemaker?

A. Please advise our security staff of your situation. All security metal detectors are manufactured in compliance with international technical and medical standards.

Q. I have a medical implant that sets off metal detectors. What is going to happen to me at the screening station?

A. Please advise our security staff of your situation. Our detector is set at levels that meet industry standards and, in some cases, certain conditions can be accounted for and eliminated as alarm triggers. If the alarm activates, you will need to undergo secondary screening with a hand-held wand.

Q. Do children have to go through the metal detector?

A. Parents may carry infants and toddlers through the walk-through metal detector. A child who is able to walk may be asked to walk through on his/her own. If the alarm activates, the child will need to undergo secondary screening with a hand-held wand.