

Hi, my name is Aaron Conners. I live in West Asheville. And first I want to thank you for the updates to the city's procurement Surplus purchasing and contract policy. But reflect a commitment to equity in the handling of City contracts. I urge the council, however, not to stop here. These updates are a great step, but they fall short of addressing historical inequities that mean white-owned businesses will be better positioned to compete for contracts. I hope to see additional support for the office of business inclusion to increase Outreach efforts for soliciting and supporting bids from black-owned companies. Thank you for your consideration and for service to the city, bye-bye.

This is Marsha Fretwell and I'm in Asheville North Carolina. And it seems to me that the most important thing that the city the new city council can do is create a space of trust the most important way you can create that space of trust between the citizens and the elected officials wage is in fact expanding capacity of the community to make comments about what is anticipated on the agenda by limiting access for comments. You are explicitly saying that you are not respectful of the input of the community in the governance of the city of Asheville office building trust is what it should be about right now. Thank you very much for any other work.

Hey there, my name is Jay Miller North Asheville. I am calling in regards to sort of the office of business inclusion. Sort of project that y'all have going on. I'm loving it. It looks awesome and great and great work on all of that. I am after seeing that a black owned business was sort of out-competed outbid for the city cleanup contract. I'm wondering if there is a sort of way to move forward to make sure that the office of inclusion has the resources that it needs to sort of make sure that it is an equitable process. I'd be really curious to see where y'all go with this and yeah, I would love love love to see a business like the black owned business that applied for the city contract actually get the city contract that would be so amazing package and I'm sure that WNC Landscapes or Landscaping is a great company. However, it is sort of the perfect cliché of like the white-owned business is obviously has more resources and has been around longer and has more assets Equity all types of things to bring to the table whenever it comes to be running a business probably has more people working for it cetera et cetera. And this is like one of those moments where we could turn our attention to the black own business and say hey, you're a little guy. Why don't we give you a shot? So I'm so curious to see where that goes, Um, yeah and great job on all of the work that you are doing. I'm super excited about all of the new

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leadership especially Kim Roland. Yes, keep up the great work everybody. I'm sure you are all getting acquainted and can't wait to see what y'all do. All right. Thank you all so much.

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Yes, I was just wanting to make sure that I did the right things in order to be able to speak tomorrow at your meeting. My name is Melanie Jones. My phone number 318 area code 828-318-7543. Thank you, ma'am. Yeah got kind of confused about because the county commissioner moved their date to today. Not sure what that's about. But anyway, I do have some information I'd like to pass on. Thank you.

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I hope you got my message and everything that I was talking to you, man, and I'm just going to hang up now, and I hope you can maybe think about making it a historic Monument Lane markers there and see if you could just say the bass tone and didn't take away the rest of the monument, and it would probably would turn off traction. Anyway, goodbye.

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And if you want to remain anonymous about this, but I'm calling about the move or repurposing the advanced Monument. I have talking to someone gave me this number. I think it's okay with me if they want to, you know, take the money down or move it or whatever else that things are paying for it. I know I can keep up the complaint bit forever. But I remember back in five years ago or more the Asheville citizen-times paper reprinted in all I'd say for about a shootout between the sheriff at the time and two escaped convicts and they talked about how the place a piece of the bass Rock. I think it was it was knocked out a chip of The Rock and you know, I'm willing to something that I had had wage. And none that and the sheriff at the time it's been many many years ago with shooting at escaped on the except for the monument. And so my opinion would be that you could take away the monument accept all not The Rock has a chip knocked out of me to say and then put up a historical a historical marker, you know the Metro bar or something like that telling about the the food out in in Denton you remember there was a shootout in the okay Corral, I think it was in Tombstone, Arizona. I saw an article on TV about that and they turned that okay Corral shootout thing out there into a Jewish attract and you know, everybody goes out and looked at the place and I think it's probably set up to look like it did when they had these guns. Yep. And people, you know, some famous ones going to have to

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have a big shootout and kill some of the bad guys or something like that and I just figured if we could find a way to keep the rock. There's a chip knock out and read the article in the home. I will see you sometime. That's what I saw that article many many years ago. And I just remember when they were talking about doing something Advanced put up a metal bronze wage workers and somehow Mark the stone that has the chip knocked out of it from the rich. Okay, and that would really, you know, people would be drawn to that page and reading about that in downtown Nashville, and they wouldn't even think about man through the Confederacy or anything else like that if they could just be

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Yes, my name is Kirk D Lyons. I live in Black Mountain, North Carolina. I'm calling to comment about the Vance Monument removing. The Vance Monument by Fiat of the couch or city is an act of tyranny. The Vance Monument is the people's art the art of all the people of Asheville and Buncombe County and not the Bobble of trans trans took elected bodies to remove or alter. The people's art without their express permission violates your oath of office and the North Carolina Monument protection act. My understanding is that the question of ownership of them is still an open question and in 2015 when the Vance Monument was restored and rededicated the mountain Express opines. It's a bench Monument was a monument to tolerance. Governor Vance was a friend to the Jewish community in North Carolina when Jews in America did not enjoy the tolerance many take for granted today. So tell me wage or changed in the last five years. Please leave the monument alone and let the people decide The Monuments fate if necessary by an advisory referendum wage and if your aim is to erase monuments to white supremacy and Asheville you you would need to build those every pre-1964 building in Downtown including City Hall antifa, and black lives matter may want Asheville to look like the future Urban landscape of a Terminator movie, but the rest of us don't it is silly to judge historical figures by so-called wage lightened modern standards. The vast Monument is an iconic and beautiful example of the people's art and should remain. Thank you.

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My name is Kathy Johnson. I'm calling about the monument. I'd like to make a suggestion. I'd love it's in there. So long over a hundred years that we not tear it down, but leave bacon. With Ally the top Asheboro has been a beacon for Western North Carolina long time. So largest city, it has a lot of history to share. So I'd like to be recognized it's sort of the beacon with light at the top and it the base either park bench or some statues walking a lot of college campuses and public parks have famous figure sitting on benches or whatever and I'd love for us to put Billy Graham. Thomas Wolfe George Vanderbilt Sequoia the Cherokee Indian who invented the Cherokee alphabet and and any others, I don't know, but there's those four, especially I think would be appropriate to be honored by the city. Hope you'll consider the suggestion. I really hate to see the towers came down when when we could it make a great Beacon for the city. Thank you. Bye.

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My name is Tom Vernon. I am a 30-year member of the Sons of Confederate Veterans and presently hold the office of Brigade combat of the Southern Highlands Brigade of the North Carolina division Sons of Confederate Veterans, and I would like to speak briefly about the Finance Management. And by the way, I do live in Buncombe County. There's been a lot of talk recently about Unity. Is this a reachable goal? Want a sizable portion of the public is ignored. I must cast doubt as to whether Unity is possible many of our citizens have waited on our elected officials to make sure that Law and Order is maintained those of us who continue to hold dear the memory of our Confederate ancestors weight-for-age beliefs to be given respect Southerners have always considered our ancestors as much a part of our families as mother and father and brothers and sisters grandparents cousins and aunts and uncles This is why the members of the Sons of Confederate Veterans are interested in preserving our memorials and statues such as the Vance Monument off there for on behalf of the Zebulon Baird Advanced Camp fifteen Sons of Confederate Veterans here in Nashville. We respectfully asked the Vance Monument replaced in our care. We are not demanding ownership. We only wish to number one save the local governments often trouble of expense of storing these historic monuments and number two keeping them safe. Thank you for your consideration.