

## **Reno's growth problem may be growth itself**

**“God made the mountains, God made the sky,  
God made the people, God knows why.**

**He fixed up the planet as best as He could!**

**Then in come the people and gum it up good.”**

**—Ben Rumson in “Paint Your Wagon”**

The amazing revelation from a Las Vegas “expert” (someone who carries a briefcase who lives at least 50 miles away) is that Reno's growth problem is not enough high-density mid-range housing tenements (“Missing middle’ tied to Reno's housing crisis,” March 13).

Perhaps the problem is growth itself. Obviously, economic development that requires massive population growth is great for business, real estate developers, lobbyists and politician campaign coffers, but is it really serving the current citizens who with every population surge get more disenfranchised?

Do the majority really aspire to make Reno “The Biggest Little San Francisco”? The city fathers have long catered to business interests over citizens rationalizing it with the notion that more and more growth is always better. We need a new economic model.

*James Chase, Reno*