

**From:** NWA Labor Council <nwa.working.families@gmail.com>  
**To:** Lioneld Jordan <Ljordan@ci.fayetteville.ar.us>  
**CC:** <steveclark@bigplanet.com>, <gdgearh@uark.edu>, <svarady@uark.edu>, Matt...  
**Date:** 12/7/2010 2:40 PM  
**Subject:** Litigation to enjoin WAC Board

Dear Mayor Jordan:

Recent newspaper reports indicate that City Attorney Kit Williams is urging you and the City Council to authorize him file legal action against the Walton Arts Center Board for its decision to support expansion of the Walton Arts Center by constructing a 600-seat theater in Fayetteville and a 2,200-seat theater in Bentonville.

We urge you to oppose this course of action. Not only would litigation be very expensive, but it would also delay the proposed construction of both theaters and adjacent parking facilities indefinitely. These projects would expand the cultural opportunities available in Northwest Arkansas and would create hundreds of jobs for our members and other workers in the building trades. Litigation would be counterproductive to both of these goals shared by our membership.

We would also like to commend you and the City Council for choosing paid parking to provide a revenue stream for the construction of additional parking in a deck in the Dickson Street area and to expand the low cost access to exhibits and performances by children in the local public schools. This means of supporting public education and financing improvements through parking fees by those using the spaces is a much more fair approach to financing construction than by imposition of a regressive sales tax that falls most heavily on working families and low-income senior citizens. We also appreciate and support the current plan of providing a 90 per cent discount for workers at Dickson Street businesses. Thank you for considering our views on these issues. We stand ready to provide additional comments before the City Council should the proposal for litigation be added to the agenda.

Sincerely,

Stephen Smith  
President  
Northwest Arkansas Labor Council

--

Stephen Smith  
President  
Northwest Arkansas Labor Council  
P.O. Box 3597  
Fayetteville, AR 72702-3597

NWA Labor News <<http://nwa-working-families.blogspot.com/>>  
<http://nwa-working-families.blogspot.com/>

Facebook Page<<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Northwest-Arkansas-Labor-Council/103535453016698>>