Devon Reese
Reno City Councilor, Nevada
First elected 2020

What are your most significant or important accomplishments as an elected leader?
I am focusing my efforts as an elected leader on creating broad coalitions of folks to address issues affecting our community such as housing affordability, equity, and climate change.

What has been the biggest challenge?
Like many communities, we have our challenges. Our challenge is to work within our budgetary limits to find solutions for the issues that we face. We also struggle with the limits of our lack of "home rule," which negatively impacts the tools we have to address things like housing affordability. Our community is working through small and large changes to address housing affordability. I am proud of the work we have done to create and fund a community land trust, to create affordable housing through various incentives, and the creation of a shared equity homeownership project. We have simplified our building code, added density bumps for affordable housing, and reduced parking requirements to help add units. We still have much work to do.

What advice would you give someone considering running for office for the first time?
Just do it! Don't wait for the "perfect" time. Don't "wait your turn." There is never a perfect time, and there will always be reasons not to run. If you have a heart to serve, you will be fine.
Is there a conservation-related rule, policy or idea you'd like to see implemented at the local, state or national level?
I would like to see our local, state and national governments advance the 30x30 initiative to protect 30 percent of U.S. lands and ocean territories by 2030. I would also like us to greatly increase our tree canopy in Reno. Finally, I would like to see changes to our oil and mineral leasing policies in Nevada and elsewhere.