



**REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION**

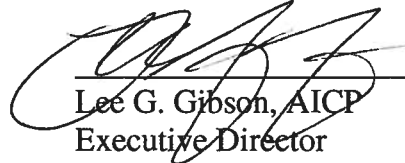
*Public Transportation • Streets and Highways • Planning*

February 17, 2012

**AGENDA ITEM 5.1**

**TO:** Regional Transportation Commission

**FROM:** Garth Oksol, P.E.  
Project Manager



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Lee G. Gibson, AICP  
Executive Director

**SUBJECT: SouthEast Connector Monthly Progress Report**

**RECOMMENDATION**

Acknowledge receipt of the SouthEast Connector monthly progress report and provide direction for Right-of-Way Activities.

**SUMMARY**

The appraisal for the UNR property is complete. Staff seeks direction for negotiations with UNR regarding the appraisal and future actions. One of the issues is the current description of the parcels affected by the project. The parcels state Steamboat Creek as a boundary definition. Steamboat Creek will be relocated as part of the Mitigation Plan. Staff is working with the Washoe County surveyor to establish baseline conditions. A Boundary Map may need to be created.

The outstanding 404 Permit submittals including the responses to public comments, biological opinion, noise analysis, soils report, vegetation plan, mitigation plan and the alternatives analysis were submitted to the US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) on December 28, 2011. Kristine Hansen with the USACE is in attendance today to answer questions from the Board. Formal consultations with the Native American Tribes will begin. Staff anticipates an overall permit status update in March or April 2012.

One of the permit issues involves the long term maintenance of the restored Steamboat Creek and wetlands. A sponsor of long term maintenance responsibilities has yet to be found. In the interim, staff is proposing that a maintenance fund be developed that would provide annual payments required to support the stream and wetland maintenance activities. Discussion with the local entities indicates that if the work were funded, they may be willing to take over the management of the fund and maintenance responsibilities beyond the ten year permit horizon.

Staff has run an analysis to show that investing \$1,000,000 today and allowing the money to earn interest for 14 years at a rate of 3.17% on average will allow the maintenance of the wetlands and stream restoration to be funded in perpetuity. An annual draw down of \$50,000 at year 14 and beyond will be designated for wetlands and stream restoration maintenance. The \$50,000 per year and 3.17% average interest rate is consistent with other endowment funds that have been used in the Sacramento District of the US Army Corps of Engineers. The early financial and labor investment in maintenance will be part of the conditions attached to the permit that the RTC anticipates receiving. A long term maintenance funding mechanism will most likely also be a condition of permit approval. Staff will bring an item back to the Board in March for possible approval of this investment.

RTC Staff is in discussions with the two owners of the Broadcast Towers currently located on UNR property. The Broadcast Towers will need to be relocated as part of the project alignment. Preliminary discussions have involved appropriate locations and engineering costs for design studies. Staff seeks direction to move forward with the tower owners and establish a timeline, costs, and design parameters.

### **FISCAL IMPACT**

Design, construction, and right-of-way for Phase I are included in the FY 2012 Regional Road Impact Fee Program of Projects and funds are included in the FY 2012 RTC approved budget.

### **PREVIOUS ACTIONS BY BOARD**

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|--------------------|---|
| February 3, 2012   | Approved a \$7,500,000 negotiated settlement with Reno for the Rosewood Lakes Golf Course.  |
| December 16, 2011  | Accepted a staff update and approved the short list for CMAR preconstruction services.  |
| October 21, 2011   | Accepted a staff update and selected Alternatives 1 & 2 for the Truckee River Bridge. Voted to amend the September 16, 2011 approval of \$6,000,000 to be applied to a negotiated settlement with Reno. Voted to rescind the \$6,000,000 offer. |
| September 16, 2011 | Accepted a staff update and approved \$6,000,000 to be applied to a negotiated settlement with Reno for the Rosewood Lakes Golf Course.   |
| August 19, 2011    | Accepted a staff update on the overall project with a presentation given on the Mitigation Plan.  |
| July 22, 2011      | Accepted a staff update.  |

June 16, 2011	Accepted a staff update.
May 20, 2011	Accepted a staff update and authorized the Executive Director to sign a Professional Services Agreement with T.Y. Lin for design services on Phase 1 of the SEC, the Truckee River Bridge.
April 15, 2011	Accepted a staff update and selected T.Y. Lin as the consultant for design services for the Truckee River Bridge. Staff was directed to begin contract negotiations with T.Y. Lin.
March 18, 2011	Accepted a staff update and gave direction to begin appraisals for the entire project. Funds were also approved as part of an Impact Fee Program of Projects Amendment to cover the costs of appraisals and acquiring property on the north side of the river.
February 18, 2011	Accepted a staff update.
January 21, 2011	Accepted a staff update and approved a Request for Qualifications for 100% Design Services for a bridge over the Truckee River.
December 17, 2010	Accepted a staff update.
November 19, 2010	Accepted a staff update and clarified the right-of-way acquisition efforts previously approved on October 15, 2010.
October 15, 2010	Authorized staff to start right-of-way acquisition efforts for the alignment of the Southeast Connector.
April 16, 2010	Authorized staff to begin preliminary design, permitting, continued public outreach, and compile documents for possible design-build delivery of the project.
November 20, 2009	RTC staff requested to begin preliminary design, permitting, continued public outreach, and compile documents for possible Design-Build delivery of the project. RTC Board elected to wait until after the upcoming RTC Budget Retreat.
November 21, 2008	Selected an alignment for the SEC.

### **ADDITIONAL BACKGROUND**

#### **Flood Project Activities**

Staffs from the RTC and the Truckee River Flood Management Agency are meeting monthly to continue partnering as the two projects move forward. The Flood Model incorporating the

Truckee River Flood Project (117-year design), the SEC, and the proposed mitigation was submitted to the Truckee River Flood Management Agency on October 11, 2011. Staff is awaiting a response regarding the flood volume mitigation plan from the Flood Management Agency.

#### Truckee River Bridge

T.Y. Lin International is under contract for 100% Design Services and Construction Management at Risk procurement for the Southeast Connector Phase 1. The final Bridge Type Selection Report is complete. Thirty percent (30%) design plans are complete. Work is progressing on developing the sixty-five (65%) design plans.

#### Right-of-Way Activities

Acquisition activities have begun with the completion of appraisals for the parcels at the intersection of Greg Street and Sparks Boulevard. Offer letters have been sent out for three of the four owners at this location.

#### Geotechnical Activities

Deep soil explorations of the pier locations are underway. This work will guide the final design efforts of the bridge.

#### Weed Mitigation and Vegetative Establishment

The RTC Finance Department has developed a long term funding plan to ensure success of the weed mitigation and vegetative establishment for the stream restoration and wetlands areas. Staff will present on the findings and seek direction.

#### Stakeholders Team

The group has developed a working list of items to potentially be incorporated into the project. The list will include wildlife protection features, lighting elements, aesthetics, wildlife enhancement features, and landscaping elements among other items. The list is being reviewed and will be brought back to the Board in March for consideration and direction.

This group has representation from the following organizations: Adjacent home owners associations, City of Reno (Rosewood Lakes Golf Course), Truckee River Flood Management Agency, Washoe County Parks, Scenic Nevada, Sierra Club and the Hidden Valley Wild Horses Protection Fund.

### **ADVISORY COMMITTEE(S) RECOMMENDATION**

There are no advisory committee recommendations pertaining to this agenda item.