



e-News Board Update

RTC Commissioners,

Your July 22, 2011 RTC update includes news of Rider Appreciation Day, partnerships with NDOT, South McCarran Boulevard progress and goodbyes to a leading transit advocate. Please call me with any questions you may have.

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\$1-2 MILLION PER YEAR IN SAVINGS TO THE PUBLIC, A NEW PRIVATE OPERATOR AND EXPANDED SERVICE MARK A NEW CHAPTER FOR TRANSIT OPERATIONS



RTC Chair and Sparks City Councilman Ron Smith talks with KTVN's John Potter about transit savings.

RTC officials attended passenger appreciation day at RTC FOURTH STREET STATION celebrating a new chapter in transit for the region. The event also marked Transit Rider Appreciation Day for the agency and featured free rides all day on RTC RIDE, CONNECT, RAPID, INTERCITY and SIERRA SPIRIT. The public was welcome and encouraged to try transit to the event.

and Carson City. The new trip departs Reno at 6:17 a.m.

The RTC also announced the addition of a new RTC INTERCITY trip to accommodate high demand on the service between Reno

MV Transportation took over operations of RTC RIDE, INTERCITY, SIERRA SPIRIT, CONNECT and RAPID transit service on July 1. As the successful contractor following an extensive review process, MV Transportation employs all drivers, mechanics, dispatchers and supervisors needed to operate the service.

MV's contract is expected to save \$1-2 million per year during the next four years. The savings allow RTC to continue providing the same level of service to the community and may be enough to avoid projected service reductions in the future. MV's Regional Vice President of Operations Denis Jackson said the company is honored that the RTC selected his firm. Jackson said he

looks forward to a strong business partnership and emphasized that the transition during the July 1 weekend went well.

PARTNERSHIP LEADS TO PROGRESS—RTC AND NDOT MOVE HIGHWAYS FORWARD

The RTC and NDOT have collaborated on several projects that advance transportation and mobility in the region. Three major projects are well underway as construction crews build, shape and form the new facilities. Among the projects are the widening of Interstate 80, launched as the regions' first design-build highway project, along with widening of I-580/U.S. 395 from Moana Lane to the Spaghetti Bowl, and reconstruction and widening of South McCarran Boulevard.



Each of the construction projects will improve connectivity and add capacity to the region's transportation system.

The RTC invested \$16 million into the NDOT administered contract for rehabilitation of I-80 from Robb Drive to Vista Boulevard to help NDOT move the project up in schedule. NDOT's contribution to the South McCarran Boulevard project is \$12 million. The RTC included in its construction contract NDOT improvements adjacent to the RTC administered project. Because NDOT and RTC both had projects planned for different areas on South McCarran Boulevard it made sense for the two projects to be combined under one contract to save money and resources. The RTC programmed another \$20 million for the I-580 widening being built under NDOT contract.

SOUTH MCCARRAN BOULEVARD— YOU CAN STILL GET THERE FROM HERE



The RTC is doing a reconstruction project on the pavement on South McCarran Boulevard from Virginia Street east. Pavement conditions had deteriorated and the road needed to be replaced from Virginia Street to Airway Drive. For now, crews are digging up pavement near Neil Road. Motorists can still get to destinations near the construction with a little known nearby route that is a great alternate and saves time. Drivers can take Airway Drive, which becomes Moana

Lane to the north, and then head straight over to Virginia Street. Airway Drive also makes a good way into Meadowood Mall on the east side.

The RTC looks at traffic control in every project. It is very important to the RTC that construction projects minimize impacts to businesses. The RTC encourages people to continue to patronize these businesses during construction.

It takes about 20 minutes to drive the whole project during the peak times. Drivers should allow some extra time and plan ahead. Crews have one lane open in each direction at all times and they will make a big improvement by Aug. 2 when we expect to have newly paved right-turn lanes open to make it much easier for traffic to get through. Crews will not work during Hot August Nights. RTC Project Manager Brenda Lee can be reached at 335-1863.

RTC SAYS GOODBYE TO LEA ROGERS AFTER DECADES OF SERVICE



RTC Paratransit Administrator Lea Rogers said goodbye after 24 years with the RTC helping people with disabilities who need transit for independence. In retirement, Rogers said, she plans to volunteer to help teach adults to read. Above, Rogers is shown with her fellow “Rogers” at her going away reception. From left: Roger Garza, MV Transportation; Lea Rogers; Roger Hanson, RTC Public Transportation and Operations; and Roger Vogel, a long-time transit advocate and volunteer on RTC advisory committees.