



e-News Brief
An update of current RTC issues

RTC e-News Brief for June 26, 2009. This e-newsletter was created to keep you informed about key activities and issues pertaining to your RTC. I encourage you to share this information with your board members, citizen advisory groups, colleagues, employees and others who may find this information useful. If you would like additional information about a topic in this update, or another topic of interest, please let me know.

Use this link to access *Archived Editions* of RTC's [e-News Brief](#). Click on these links to view upcoming [RTC Board, Advisory Committee meetings and events](#), and the current ["The Road Ahead"](#) newsletter.

RTC staff is also available to present any RTC transportation related topic(s) to your organization, company employees, and business and citizen groups. Contact Michael Moreno, RTC Speakers Bureau @ mmoreno@rtcwashoe.com to schedule a presentation.

Derek Morse, P.E. RTC Interim Executive Director
Regional Transportation Commission
P.O. Box 30002, Reno, NV 89520
PH: 775.348.0400 FAX: 775.324-3503
Email: dmorse@rtcwashoe.com
www.rtcwashoe.com

In this issue:

Washoe County Highway Revenue (Motor Vehicle Fuel Tax) Bonds Series 2009 Update

RTC's Pyramid Corridor Endeavors Updated on rtcwashoe.com

RTC Hosts Preview of Vista Boulevard Widening Road Project

Revised Regional Transportation Plan Public Comment Period Begins

Changes to Washoe Senior Ride Program to Be Implemented

RTC ACCESS Maintenance Department Receives Outstanding Audit

RTC Outreach Report, May 2009

RTC Media Report, May 2009

"The Road Ahead with RTC" on KOLO-TV

Washoe County Highway Revenue (Motor Vehicle Fuel Tax) Bonds Series 2009 Update

A successful, public sale of Washoe County Highway Revenue (Motor Vehicle Fuel Tax) Bonds for future revenues from SB 201 proceeds was held on Wednesday, June 17, 2009. Six bidders submitted bids for the revenue bonds. The motor vehicle fuel tax bonds will bear an interest rate of 5.19%. These bonds will be

issued by Washoe County, Nevada, at the request of the Regional Transportation Commission as authorized by Nevada State Law. Information pertaining to the offering of the bonds is available in the Preliminary Official Statement (POS) available at www.rtcwashoe.com, click on HOT TOPICS/RTC-5: Nevada Senate Bill 201.

Please contact me or the Financial Advisors listed below for additional information and copies of the POS.

Hobbs, Ong & Associates, Inc.
3900 Paradise Road, Suite 152
Las Vegas, NV 89169
Telephone: (702) 733-7223

Public Financial Management, Inc.
719 Second Avenue, Suite 801
Seattle, WA 98104
Telephone: (206) 264-8900

RTC's Pyramid Corridor Endeavors Updated on rtcwashoe.com

In an effort to differentiate the undertakings the RTC is conducting in the [Pyramid Corridor](#), the web pages on rtcwashoe.com have been updated for (a) the Pyramid Way/McCarran Boulevard Intersection Environmental Impact Statement Study (EIS), (b) the Pyramid Highway/US 395 Connection EIS, and (c) the Pyramid/McCarran Southbound Right Turn Lane Project (SBRTL). These updates were made to provide the general public a better understanding of the scope of work and studies that are underway to improve mobility in the corridor as outlined in the 2030 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP), and the updated version of the RTP, currently pending conformity determination. These studies and project will serve to benefit motorists who use the roadway every day and improve their travel times in the future.

The EIS for both the Pyramid/McCarran Intersection Improvement and the Pyramid Highway/US 395 Connection are federally mandated under the National Environmental Protection Act (NEPA) which requires the RTC to develop and conduct an alternatives analysis of various road facility options and study the environmental impacts of such alternatives. This process takes a long period of time to conduct, and includes public participation during the course of the study, up through the development of the Draft and Final Environmental Impact Statement which is the outcome of the NEPA process. A Record of Decision will follow the Final EIS and will identify the recommended alternative(s) for design and future construction, should funding be available. These studies are independent of each other, yet project managers are working together to ensure design efficiencies are met, where possible, between the analyzed alternatives and subsequent improvements within the corridor.

The Pyramid/McCarran SBRTL Project is a short-term operational improvement to relieve congestion at this intersection which the RTC Board directed staff to design and expedite in February 2008. Design for this project is underway and funding has been approved. This project could be built in 2009.

To learn more about these endeavors, visit HOT TOPICS at www.rtcwashoe.com, click on [Pyramid Corridor](#) and the info box for the EIS/Project you are interested in. Or contact RTC Project Managers Bill Vann at e-mail bvann@rtcwashoe.com or by phone at (775) 335-1877 or Scott Gibson at e-mail sgibson@rtcwashoe.com or by phone at (775) 335-1874 for the Pyramid/McCarran SBRTL Project and the

Pyramid/McCarran Intersection Improvement EIS. For the Pyramid Highway/US 395 Connection EIS contact RTC Project Manager Doug Maloy at e-mail dmaloy@rtcwashoe.com or by phone at (775) 335-1865.

RTC Hosts Preview of Vista Boulevard Widening Road Project

The RTC will host a public information meeting to preview the scope of work for the Vista Boulevard Widening road project. The construction limits are Vista Boulevard from North Los Altos Parkway to Wingfield Parkway. The meeting will be held on Wednesday, July 8, at the Edward Van Gorder Elementary School multi-purpose room located at 7650 Campello Drive in Sparks, between 6:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m. Local businesses, residents, and property owners will have the opportunity at this meeting to preview the project and provide comments regarding construction and traffic control issues.

The project will include constructing two additional travel lanes, as well as turn lanes, bike lanes, a pedestrian path, curb/gutter and drainage improvements, raised medians and landscaping. Plans also include reconstruction of the existing travel lanes and capacity improvements at both the Vista Boulevard/Wingfield Parkway and Vista Boulevard/Wingfield Hills Drive intersections. Construction is scheduled to begin in September 2009 and will be completed in fall 2010. The location map for this project is included in this update.

For more information about the project, contact RTC Project Manager Doug Maloy at e-mail dmaloy@rtcwashoe.com or by phone at (775) 335-1865.

Revised 2040 Regional Transportation Plan Public Comment Period Begins

The Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) is the single-most important planning document the RTC prepares, serving as a blueprint to preserve our quality-of-life as our community prospers and expands. While the vision of the plan through 2040 remains intact, the failure to obtain additional transit funding with RTC-2 made it necessary to revise the plan to update federal air quality and financial conformity for the minimum 20 year period (2030) required by federal regulations.

Beginning on June 29, 2009, through July 14, 2009, a 15-day public comment period is available to citizens to offer comments on this revised draft document. Citizens may send comments during this public comment review period to the RTC by mail, telephone or electronically to the following:

- RTC Planning Department, 600 Sutro Street, Reno, NV 89512
- (775) 348-0480
- RTC Senior Planner Debra Goodwin at e-mail dgoodwin@rtcwashoe.com

To review and download the RTP documents, click on this link at www.rtcwashoe.com.

Changes to Washoe Senior Ride Program to Be Implemented

Effective July 1, 2009, there will be two changes to the Washoe Senior Ride (WSR) Taxi Bucks program. The changes will affect the price of a book of taxi bucks, currently at \$10, increasing to \$15; and the minimum age for Washoe County

residents to participate in the WSR program will increase to 65 years of age from 60 years of age.

The Washoe Senior Ride program is a service of the RTC for subsidized taxicab transportation and is funded by the Washoe County sales tax allocated for public transportation. The program provides residents eligible to participate in the program discount vouchers ("Taxi Bucks") that can be used to pay part of taxi fares and tips. These changes have become necessary as a result of declining sales tax revenues and the significant budget shortfall of our community's public transportation program. Like RTC RIDE and RTC ACCESS service, this program is also being impacted by the sales tax funding shortfall. A book of "Taxi Bucks" is valued at \$20 and the purchase price is \$15. The remaining \$5 portion of the purchase is paid for by sales tax funds through the RTC. These changes were incorporated in the approved Fiscal Year 2010 RTC budget.

WSR attributes not changing are:

- Maximum purchase is still two books per person, per month
- RTC ACCESS clients are eligible at any age
- Maximum Annual Household Income for all registered program participants is under \$40,000 per year
- Current participants do not have to re-apply

To learn more about the WSR program, click on this link at www.rtcwashoe.com or call RTC ACCESS Customer Service at (775) 348-0477.

RTC ACCESS Maintenance Department Receives Outstanding Audit

The RTC ACCESS Maintenance Department recently underwent a thorough internal audit performed by MV Transportation Area Maintenance Director, Rick Hittinger. The maintenance audit was performed over a two day period in June with outstanding results in all areas. RTC ACCESS maintenance staff were commended for a clean audit, outstanding record keeping, clean and well maintained vehicles and the cleanest shop in the Director's Pacific Northwest region.

MV's internal audits are conducted on a regular basis to ensure company policy adherence, operational safety and client satisfaction. Sections of the audit include Location Overview, Documentation, Maintenance Area, Environmental, Shop Inspection, Accounting, Preventive Maintenance Evaluation, Vehicle Inspections and a Task Action Plan. The internal audits are also used as a tool to better the maintenance department company-wide by introducing campaigns that are utilized and have proven efficient at other locations.

MV Transportation is the operating company that manages the RTC's paratransit service, RTC ACCESS.

RTC Outreach Report, May 2009

Included in this update is the May 2009 RTC Outreach Report.

RTC Media Report, May 2009

Included in this update is the May 2009 RTC Outreach Report.

“The Road Ahead with RTC” on KOLO-TV

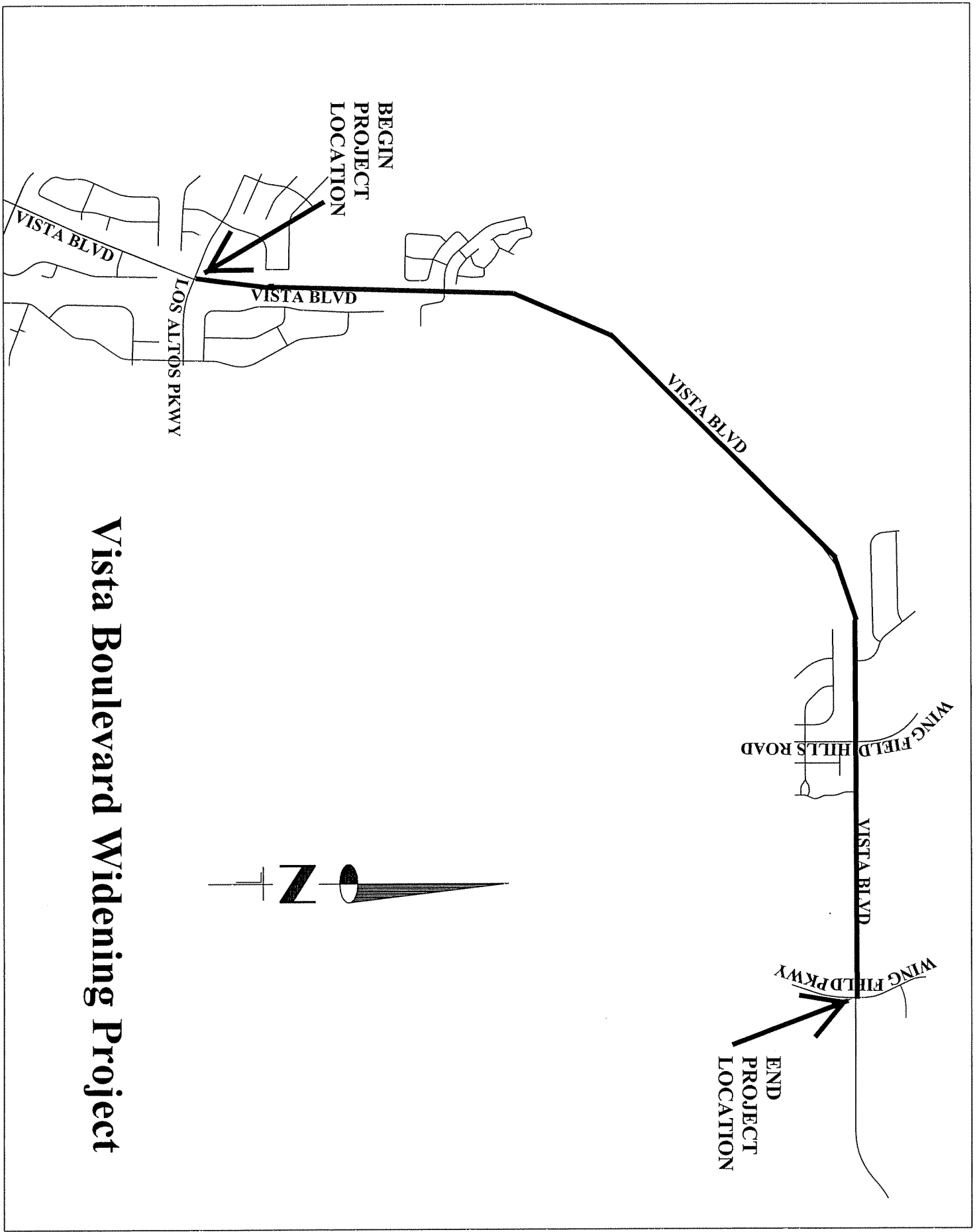
“The Road Ahead with RTC” airs on Tuesdays at 6:20 a.m. during “Daybreak.” This weekly news segment features experts discussing a wide range of transportation issues. Following each broadcast, webcasts of each interview will be available on [kolotv.com](http://www.kolotv.com/rtc) for at least one month. To view interviews, click on this link: <http://www.kolotv.com/rtc>.

Recent/upcoming interviews:

- June 23: RTC-5 Bonding and Progress
- June 30: Sparks Hometowne Farmer’s Market
- July 7: RTC CENTENNIAL PLAZA Commemorative Paver Program

This is your RTC.

Vista Boulevard Widening Project



RTC OUTREACH SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS MAY 2009

<u>DATE</u>	<u>TOPIC</u>	<u>ORGANIZATION</u>	<u>RTC STAFF</u>
5/4/2009	RTC ACCESS In Service to Patient Case Managers	Renown Rehab Hospital	Sue Sherman
5/4/2009	RTC CENTENNIAL PLAZA LEED Tour	Truckee Meadows Community College Class	Chris Tschirhart
5/7/2009	RTC VANPOOL (carpooling, guaranteed ride home and commuter benefits)	Truckee North Tahoe Transportation Mgt. Assoc.	Carol Perry
5/9/2009	NDOT/RTC VMT User Fee Program Workshop	University of Nevada, Reno	Alauddin Khan
5/11/2009	RTC RIDESHARE and RTC VANPOOL	Reno Tahoe Airport Authority	Carol Perry
5/12/2009	Transit Field Trip to RTC CITICENTER and Facility Operations	Brown Elementary School 3rd Grade Students	Curtis Braswell Tim Goble
5/12/2009	St. Patrick's Day Safe Ride Home Program	Northern Nevada DUI Task Force Board of Directors	Michael Moreno
5/14/2009	RTC RIDE Careers, Operations and Bus Tour	Jesse Hall Elementary School 6th Grade Students	Lavina Talanoa Bob Turley
5/14/2009	RTC RIDE Careers, Operations and Bus Tour	Veterans Elementary School Career Day Kindergarten - 3rd Grade Students	Patricia Topps
5/19/2009	Reno Senior Center RTC RIDE Outreach	Washoe County Senior Center	Sue Sherman
5/20/2009	RTC RIDE Senior Outreach	Residents of Atria Summit Ridge	Sue Sherman
5/20/2009	RTC 4TH STREET STATION Public Art Challenge Grant	Joint Meeting of Reno Arts & Culture Commission and Public Art Committee	Chris Tschirhart Michael Moreno
5/21/2009	Pedestrian Issues	State Bicycle Pedestrian Conference (Panelist on panel discussion)	Carol Perry
5/26/2009	RTC, The Agency and It's Transit Services	Marketer's Exchange at Atria Summit Ridge	Sue Sherman Chris Campbell
5/27/2009	"How to Take the Bus" Field Trip to Reno Aces Ball Game Route 16	Hunter Lake Elementary School 4th & 5th Graders	Michael Moreno
5/28/2009	Senior Adventures Transit Fair and Wheelchair Workshop	Public Event @ RTC CENTENNIAL PLAZA	Chris Campbell Sue Sherman Tina Wu

5/28/2009 "How to Take the Bus" Field Trip to Reno Aces Ball Game
Route 19
5/31/2009 RTC SMART TRIPS Trip Reduction Bike to Work Day
Celebration Highlighting Bicycle-related Services

Roger Corbett Elementary School
4th & 5th Graders
State Bicycle Pedestrian Safety Program

Christina Leach
No. NV Center for Ind.
Michael Moreno

Tina Wu
Linda Eller

RTC Media Report for May 2009

Press Releases

- 5/21 "RTC station uses stimulus money"
- 5/22 "RTC Fair Focuses on Fun, Seniors, Transit"
- 5/25 "Bike to Work riders celebrated"
- 5/27 "Public Invited To Free May 31 Celebration of 2009 Bike to Work Day Success"

Media Interviews/Contacts

- 5/1 Capital Public Radio, Service cuts
- 5/3 KTVN, Service cuts
- 5/5 RGJ, SB201
- 5/15 Sparks Tribune, Bike to Work Day
- 5/15 KTVN, SB201
- 5/15 RGJ, SB201
- 5/15 KRNV, RTC RAPID
- 5/15 KRVN, SB201
- 5/21 KTVN, RTC Budget
- 5/21 RGJ, SB201
- 5/21 KOLO, Senior Transit Fair
- 5/22 KRNV, SB201 veto
- 5/27 KNPB, Street and Highway program
- 5/27 Sparks Tribune, Senior Transit Fair
- 5/27 KTVN, Senior Transit Fair
- 5/27 RGJ, web link to maps
- 5/27 KNPB, web link to maps
- 5/27 KOLO, Meadowood Interchange
- 5/27 KTVN, Street and Highway program
- 5/27 KOLO, Road Projects Media Lunch
- 5/27 KRNV, Road Projects Media Lunch
- 5/27 RGJ, Road Projects Media Lunch
- 5/27 Sparks Tribune, Road Projects Media Lunch
- 5/27 KVVV, Road Projects Media Lunch
- 5/27 Sparks Tribune, Road Projects Media Lunch
- 5/28 KRNV, Senior Transit Fair
- 5/28 KVVV, Senior Transit Fair
- 5/28 Senior Spectrum, Senior Transit Fair
- 5/28 Sparks Tribune, Senior Transit Fair
- 5/28 Sparks Tribune, photographs

Media Articles: Web/Print

- 5/1 KRNV, "RTC transit cuts implemented"
- 5/1 Victorian Avenue road project information meeting
- 5/1 KTVN, "RTC to Reconstruct Part of Victorian Avenue in Sparks"
- 5/2 Sparks Tribune, "How to be a bus boy"
- 5/6 KRNV, "Proposed Washoe gas tax passes"

5/7 RGJ, "Washoe gas tax passes Senate"

5/3 RGJ, "Editorial: Planning for a rapid transit system should begin now"

5/4 KTVN, "RTC Cuts Bus Routes, Raises 'ACCESS' Fares"

5/12 RGJ, "Washoe fuel tax bill moves to Assembly floor"

5/14 RGJ, "Gibbons to veto Washoe motor fuel tax bill"

5/15 RGJ, "Washoe gas tax approved, veto looms"

5/16 RGJ.com "Nevada diesel tax increase slips into bill"

5/17 RGJ, "Diesel tax increase slips into bill"

5/17 RGJ, "Sparks gears up for road, utility construction"

5/17 RGJ, "Editorial: Governor's veto threat is an insult to voters"

5/22 Nevada Appeal, "Nevada Gov. Jim Gibbons issues four vetoes"

5/21 Stan's Reno / Tahoe Blog, "Bike to Work Day" (By [Standley White](#), About.com Guide)

5/21 KRNV, The Dunbar Report, "SB201"

5/27 KTVN, "Get Ready for More Summer Road Projects"

5/27 KTVN, "RTC to Hold Senior Transit Fair in Sparks"

5/27 KRNV, "Transit officials plan senior fair in Sparks"

5/27 RGJ, "Sierra Spirit bus service to continue"

5/27 Sparks Tribune, "RTC hopes to get construction on the road again"

5/27 KRNV, "Transportation projects hinge on Governor veto override."

5/28 RGJ, "RTC unveils ambitious roads spending plan"

5/28 KOLO, "RTC Hopes for SB 201 Road Funding"

5/28 KOLO, "Lawmakers May Increase Taxes for Roads"

5/29 KRNV, "RTC Senior Transit Fair"

5/29 Sparks Tribune, "RTC gives riders the chair"

5/29 RGJ "Bike to Work Party"

5/31 RGJ, "Senate overrides Gibbons' veto of Washoe fuel tax"

"The Road Ahead" Interviews on KOLO-TV

- *May 5: RTC RIDE Service Change*
Roger Hanson, RTC senior transit planner talked about significant changes to RTC RIDE service effective Sunday, May 3.
- *May 12: Bike to Work Day is Coming*
Erin Dixon, chronic disease prevention program coordinator for Washoe County discussed Bike to Work Day – May 15.
- *May 19: Public Transportation Advisory Committee Recruitment*
David Jickling details the role RTC advisory committees fill and invites interested citizens to apply to help direct local transportation plans and services.
- *May 26: Senior Adventures Transit Fair on May 28*
Public Transportation can provide freedom and independence for area seniors. Chris Campbell, RTC marketing administrator highlights the activities scheduled during the free Transit Fair to be held at RTC CENTENNIAL PLAZA.