



e-News Board Update

RTC Commissioners,

Your Oct. 22, 2010 RTC update includes news on RTC RAPID vehicles, the celebration for RTC 4TH STREET STATION and efforts to get the word out. An update on RTC-5 job creation and Veterans Parkway are also included. Please call me with any questions you may have.

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RTC RAPID DEBUTS VEHICLES WITH NEW LOOK AND FEEL



RTC's brand new 60-foot accordion-style vehicles may be the coolest wheels in town. The new RTC RAPID articulated buses are here and ready to roll on Virginia Street beginning Oct. 31, 2010. The coaches are diesel-electric hybrids that are sleek and comfortable. They represent a new breed of bus in town--fast, clean accordion-style rapid transit vehicles on the corridor between Meadowood Mall transfer station and downtown Reno's new RTC 4TH STREET STATION.

The new RTC RAPID vehicles are designed to make boarding easy, from a level platform when all the stations come online in spring. They hold as many as 100 people, about 50 percent more than a standard bus. With increased capacity and efficiency, the new vehicles are money-savers, an important feature that will help keep operating costs down during tough economic times.

RTC RAPID transit service debuted in Reno in 2009 running every 10 to 12 minutes and became an instant hit. RTC RAPID is evolving to include level-boarding stations that complement the articulated buses with more amenities. Next, the service will get technology that allows the buses to communicate with the traffic signals to extend the green time a little bit for the bus. Later, design improvements will help vehicles move around other traffic. Once all the features are in place, RTC RAPID vehicles will travel up and down Virginia Street significantly faster than regular transit buses.

RTC 4TH STREET STATION CELEBRATION OCT. 28

The transit community will gather at 10 a.m. Thursday, Oct. 28 to formally celebrate the opening of RTC's brand new, \$13 million RTC 4TH STREET STATION transit center. Tours will be available. Designed by Parsons Brinckerhoff Inc., and constructed by West Coast Contractors at 4th and Lake streets in Reno, it employed 457 construction workers and included \$4 million in federal American Recovery and Reinvestment Act stimulus money. Construction began in April 2009. With 23 bus bays, it will serve the community for decades to come. RTC 4TH STREET STATION is a comfortable, attractive and welcome addition to the region's core and the best way to get to the heart of the city. Buses roll Oct. 31.

WEBSITE SUPPLEMENTS TRANSIT OUTREACH FOR NEW STATION



Now that we're moving out of RTC CITICENTER and into RTC 4TH STREET STATION, an RTC advertising campaign announces the new transit station to users, neighbors and businesses. Chairman Dave Aiuzzi and familiar Reno faces appear in television commercials on local stations inviting people to try transit. Radio ads continue the campaign that centers on Ride On RTC. Complete information about the new center, its features and benefits appear at RIDEONRTC.com. Chairman Aiuzzi will also appear on KOLO-TV Ch 8 on The Road Ahead with RTC at 6:15 a.m. Tuesday, Oct. 26 to invite people to ride free all day on Oct. 31 and Trick or Treat for Transit from 1-3 p.m. at the new station.

RTC-5 CONTINUES TO PUT WORKERS ON THE HIGHWAYS

Work continues on regional street and highway projects that now total more than \$172 million since RTC-5 was approved by voters in 2008. Approximately 2,000 people have been put back to work on RTC jobs that include capacity improvements like Vista Boulevard and U.S. 395 projects at Meadowood and near Mill Street. Pavement preservation on a host of local streets is repairing our roads and involving many contractors. RTC expects another \$80 million or more to be ready to go for the 2011 construction season.

PROGRESS ON THE SOUTHEAST CONNECTOR

The RTC and University of Nevada, Reno, recently signed an agreement to allow the RTC, Stantec Consultants and various sub-consultants to enter UNR's agricultural station property at McCarran Boulevard and the Truckee River. The agreement allows the Southeast Connector project team to gather data relating to wetlands, topography and soil conditions. A bridge that will cross the Truckee River in the area requires extensive and deep soil analysis. Collecting and examining all of this information is critical as the project progresses through preliminary design and permit application from the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers.

VETERANS PARKWAY ROUNDABOUT TAKING SHAPE



The \$5.5 million project will extend Veterans Parkway to connect to Geiger Grade Road and construct a roundabout at the intersection. It will also widen Veterans Parkway from two to four lanes from Geiger Grade Road north to Rio Wrangler Parkway. Work is expected to finish in 2011.