

**REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION
WASHOE COUNTY, NEVADA**

FRIDAY

9:02 A.M.

November 15, 2013

PRESENT:

**Bonnie Weber, Washoe County Commissioner, Chair
Dwight Dortch, Reno City Council Member, Vice Chair
Vaughn Hartung, Washoe County Commissioner (Alternate)
Ron Smith, Sparks City Council Member**

**Lee G. Gibson, Executive Director
Dale Ferguson, Legal Counsel
Rudy Malfabon, Director of NDOT**

NOT PRESENT:

**Sharon Zadra, Reno City Council Member
David Humke, Washoe County Commissioner**

The regular monthly meeting, held in the Board Room of the Jerry L. Hall Regional Transportation Center, 2050 Villanova Drive, Reno, Nevada, was called to order by Chair Weber. Following the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of our country, the Board conducted the following business:

RECOGNITION OF THE RTC BY THE APWA

Mr. Darren Schulz, APWA President, presented a plaque to Doug Maloy and spoke in recognition of the RTC and its staff for the success of the Moana Widening Project.

Chair Weber then named the other external project team members and thanked them all for their participation in this project.

RECOGNITION OF BOB HERBERT'S PROMOTION TO BRIGADIER GENERAL

E.D. Gibson reported that Bob Herbert had gone through a congressional senate approval to be promoted to Brigadier General. General Herbert is a 38 year career military officer and test pilot who is also a legislative expert on defense appropriations and authorizations and transportation appropriations and authorizations.

General Herbert was not in attendance but E.D. Gibson mentioned that there had been a ceremony held by the Governor in his honor.

Item 1 APPROVAL OF AGENDA

E.D. Gibson requested that Item 4.5 be pulled from the agenda.

On motion of Commissioner Humke, seconded by Commissioner Smith, which motion unanimously carried, Chair Weber ordered that the agenda for this meeting be approved and Item 4.5 would be pulled.

Item 2.1 PUBLIC INPUT

Chair Weber opened the meeting to public input and called on anyone wishing to speak on topics relevant to the Regional Transportation Commission (RTC) that are not included in the current agenda.

Mr. Scott Hall, local resident, announced that the NV Bicycle Coalition had a mobile app developed called Reno Trax which will help to identify where people are walking and riding in the community. This will, in turn, aid in the development and need for bicycle facilities in our community as well as in Carson City and Lake Tahoe.

Mr. Ken Krater, local resident, requested that the Mill Street Extension project shown on the RTC's Regional Transportation Plan be reviewed by RTC staff and considered for realignment so that it will curve into Clean Water Way as is shown on the UNR improvement plan.

Chair Weber said that she had asked Mr. Krater to attend this meeting and then asked for an agenda item for the December Board meeting to discuss the topic further.

There being no one else wishing to speak, the Chair closed public input.

Item 2.2 ADVISORY COMMITTEES SUMMARY REPORT

On motion of Vice Chair Dortch, seconded by Commissioner Smith, which motion unanimously carried, Chair Weber ordered that receipt of the monthly Summary Report for the Technical, Citizens, Bicycle/Pedestrian, and Regional Road Impact Fee Advisory Committees be acknowledged.

Item 3.1 thru 3.2 DIRECTOR REPORTS

Item 3.1 RTC Executive Director Report

E.D. Lee Gibson discussed a Washington D.C. report drafted by CHG and Associates, Porter-Gordon-Silver and Thompson-Coburn summarizing activities at the federal level. He added that this will be a regular item going forward.

E.D. Gibson also announced that a joint letter had been received from the FHA and FTA which gives unconditional approval of the RTC as the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the region.

Next he discussed the previous evening's 4th Street/Prater Way public meeting to review the historical resources in that area. It was a well-attended event.

Additionally, the RTC received a programmatic categorical exclusion for this project from NDOT. This allows the RTC to proceed with the planned corridor improvements previously approved by the RTC Board.

E.D. Gibson then reminded the Board that the following Friday, November 22nd, an RTC Paratransit Workshop would be held at 9:00 a.m. at the Airport Plaza Hotel.

Lastly, E.D. Gibson stated that there was a Statewide Transportation meeting held earlier in the month and all who attended agreed that it would be a good idea to begin developing a more unified statewide planning process.

Chair Weber requested that the community Senior Advisory Boards for the local entities be invited to the workshop planned for Nov. 22nd.

Michael Moreno, RTC Public Information Officer (PIO), addressed the Board and stated that invitations had gone out to all the local jurisdictions and groups who advocate on behalf of seniors and people with disabilities.

Item 3.2 NDOT Director Report

Director Rudy Malfabon said that Tom Skanke had been appointed to the Transportation Board and the appointment will take effect January 1st.

He then mentioned that NDOT's Annual Work Program and Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) had been approved by the State Transportation Board and now goes to the Federal Highway Administration (FHA), the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) and US EPA for final approval. Revisions are expected to occur along the way as is the norm.

Director Malfabon said that the project manager for the I-11 project would most likely be brought to the RTC to give a presentation update on the project study.

He also discussed in detail NDOT's DBE goal, the process it has to go through, and that it is currently going through legal analysis before it goes to the State Transportation Board for approval in December.

Chair Weber said she had heard there may be an issue about the possibility of I-11 going through the western part of Nevada because there was an issue with it going through Oregon due to the terrain not being appropriate.

E.D. Gibson said that he knew of at least one City Council member from Boise, ID who was interested in having a dialog with Nevada regarding I-11 and/or some sort of better high-capacity access between Reno/Sparks and Boise.

Mr. Malfabon then said that the study would continue to hold those types of stakeholder workshops through May of 2014. The outcome hope is to come up with some preferred alternatives to look at.

Item 4.1 thru 4.14 CONSENT ITEMS

Lee Gibson requested that Item 4.3 be pulled for discussion and explained that on Item 4.7 the action requested positions the project to receive Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) funds as well as Small Start funds to pay for the RAPID style stations in this corridor. He also noted a dollar amount correction on Item 4.14 to \$89,397.75.

Minutes

4.1 Approve the minutes of the October 18, 2013, meeting (*For Possible Action*)

Engineering

4.2 Acknowledge receipt of the monthly Engineering Activity Report (*For Possible Action*)

Public Transportation/Operations

4.4 Acknowledge receipt of the monthly Public Transportation/Operations Report (*For Possible Action*)

Administration

4.5 Approve the deletion of 3.6 (6) (7) (7a) (7b) and 4.10 (1-3) “Underfilling;” 6.1 “Catastrophic Sick Leave;” and the “Personnel Rules Index” (*For Possible Action*)

Item 4.5 pulled from agenda per Item 1

4.6 Acknowledge receipt of the Investment Committee report for the quarter ended September 30, 2013 and provide direction as appropriate (*For Possible Action*)

Planning

4.7 Approve the 4th Street Prater Way Locally Preferred Alternative (LPA) for Multimodal Improvements including: pedestrian, transit and roadway improvements; authorize staff to seek discretionary U.S. DOT funds for implementation (*For Possible Action*)

Procurement and Contracts

4.8 Approve the annual maintenance and support agreement with Deltek, Inc. in the amount of \$64,081.39 for continued support of the Costpoint financial software system; authorize the RTC Executive Director to execute the agreement (*For Possible Action*)

4.9 Approve a Professional Services Agreement (PSA) with Eastern Sierra Engineering, P. C. for design and engineering during construction services for the Mayberry Drive Pavement Preservation Project in an amount not to exceed \$210,000; authorize the RTC Executive Director to execute the agreement (*For Possible Action*)

4.10 Approve a Professional Services Agreement (PSA) with Stantec Consulting, Inc. for design and engineering during construction services for the Gentry Way and Second Street Pavement Preservation Project in an amount not to exceed \$265,760; authorize the RTC Executive Director to execute the agreement (*For Possible Action*)

- 4.11 Approve the Professional Service Agreement (PSA) with Lumos and Associates in an amount not to exceed \$727,340 for design services and construction management; authorize the RTC Executive Director to execute the agreement (*For Possible Action*)
- 4.12 Approve the Professional Service Agreement (PSA) with Nichols Consulting Engineers for the design and engineering during construction services for the Prater Way and El Rancho Drive Pavement Resurface (2014) Project in an amount not to exceed \$400,911; authorize the RTC Executive Director to execute the Agreement (*For Possible Action*)
- 4.13 Authorize the Executive Director to extend the agreement with Transit Resource Center (TRC) for bus inspection services for the Proterra Bus procurement (*For Possible Action*)
- 4.14 Approve an agreement with NextBus, Inc. in an amount not to exceed \$86,995.88 for NextBus equipment and software maintenance; authorize the RTC Executive Director to execute the agreement (*For Possible Action*) Amount corrected to \$\$89,397.75.

On motion of Vice Chair Dortch, seconded by Commissioner Hartung, which motion carried unanimously, Chair Weber ordered that Consent Items 4.1 through 4.14, excluding Item 4.3, be approved, and the correction of the Item 4.14 not to exceed dollar amount noted.

- 4.3 Acknowledge receipt of the SouthEast Connector monthly progress report (*For Possible Action*) *Pulled for discussion*

E.D. Gibson introduced Jeff Hale, RTC Engineering Director, who announced that the Reno Planning Commission had approved the Special Use Permit being requested for the SouthEast Connector project. He added that this was a very long meeting and gave credit to project manager Garth Oksol and environmental manager Mat Setty for the success. They were also supported by the CH2MHill design team in answering all of the questions posed to them.

Mr. Hale also mentioned that an appeal had been submitted so staff will be addressing the Reno City Council on December 4th to go through the appeal process.

Commissioner Smith thanked Mr. Hale and all of his staff for their work on this project.

On motion of Vice Chair Dortch, seconded by Commissioner Smith, which motion carried unanimously, Chair Weber ordered that Consent Item 4.3 be approved.

Items 5.1 thru 5.4 PLANNING

- 5.1 Acknowledge receipt of the I-80 Corridor System Master Plan update (*For Possible Action*)

Mr. Mike Lawson of Atkins North America addressed the Board on behalf of Coy Peacock from NDOT who could not attend. Mr. Lawson gave a brief update on the project and offered to answer questions regarding this project, as set forth in the briefing materials for this agenda item.

Chair Weber asked when the expansion of the US 395 corridor up to Parr Blvd. will take place.

Mr. Lawson responded that it is anticipated to occur immediately upon completion of the study.

On motion of Commissioner Hartung, seconded by Vice Chair Dortch, which motion carried unanimously, Chair Weber ordered that receipt of the report be acknowledged.

5.2 Acknowledge receipt of the Regional Bicycle and Pedestrian Data Collection Program report (*For Possible Action*)

Amy Cummings, RTC Planning Director, addressed the Board and explained the details of the data collected in this report then offered to answer questions regarding this project, as set forth in the briefing materials for this agenda item.

On motion of Commissioner Smith, seconded by Commissioner Hartung, which motion carried unanimously, Chair Weber ordered that receipt of the report be acknowledged.

5.3 Acknowledge receipt of the design options for the Virginia Street Corridor Plan and provide direction accordingly (*For Possible Action*)

Amy Cummings, RTC Planning Director, addressed the Board to present some of the design options for the Virginia Street Corridor and their individual purposes as set forth in the briefing materials for this agenda item. Once the design options were presented, Ms. Cummings offered to answer any questions.

Commissioner Smith asked if the bus stops near UNR and Lawler Event Center could include a pullout so the bus would not impede traffic when stopped.

Ms. Cummings said that staff is waiting to look at the University's master plan before impacting their property too much in these designs.

Commissioner Hartung asked if any analysis had been done to consider making the midtown section of the corridor a one-way street.

Ms. Cummings said that had not looked into but the RTC can get together with the Reno City staff to discuss it.

Vice Chair Dortch said there may be significant challenges to that idea and it would need to be thought through thoroughly.

Commissioner Hartung also suggested that secure bicycle parking should be considered for this corridor.

Commissioner Smith said he prefers Option A as presented with a turning lane in the center of the road but defers to Reno.

Vice Chair Dortch also likes Option A but added that it's important to have bicycle lane access along with pedestrian access in the corridor.

Director Malfabon said that larger vehicles such as delivery trucks should be taken into consideration with regard to the bulb-outs shown on some of the sidewalk corners as it could cause them to encroach on the other lane when turning.

On motion of Commissioner Smith, seconded by Commissioner Hartung, which motion carried unanimously, Chair Weber ordered that receipt of the report be acknowledged.

**5.4 Acknowledge receipt of the Transit Summit update; provide direction accordingly
(For Possible Action)**

Michael Moreno, RTC PIO, gave a brief update on the transportation event planned for December 6, 2013. Mr. Moreno said that Senator Reid will be giving the keynote speech at the event and a visioning exercise will take place with Todd Litman from Victoria, Canada.

On motion of Vice Chair Dortch, seconded by Commissioner Hartung, which motion carried unanimously, Chair Weber ordered that receipt of the report be acknowledged. Commissioner Smith was not present for this vote.

Item 6.1 ENGINEERING

6.1 Accept the status report on transportation research topics in conjunction with the Center for Advanced Transportation Education and Research (CATER), UNR Civil Engineering Department (For Possible Action)

Jeff Hale, RTC Engineering Director, introduced Jim Poston, RTC Engineer, and Dr. Tian, UNR Professor, who discussed what has been accomplished to date on the transportation research project and what is planned for the future.

Dr. Tian addressed the Board and gave a brief presentation pertaining to the research project, as set forth in the briefing materials for this agenda item. Dr. Tian also mentioned a transportation camp held every year which is fully funded by the grant funds for this joint research project.

Jim Poston, RTC Project Manager, then addressed the Board and went into some detail on the signal timing research and vehicle, motorcycle and bicycle detection options being looked at. He then offered to answer any questions.

Commissioner Hartung asked if a mobile app has considered so that traffic flow information can be pushed out to the public in real-time.

Mr. Poston said that the website is the most common way to get the information out but they are looking into a method of pushing the information in some format where a driver does not need to be reading anything, such as a phone, while they are driving.

Director Malfabon said he is very interested in hearing more about the study of pedestrian flow and installation of flashing lights at the crosswalks and their overall effect on traffic and pedestrian accidents.

Chair Weber asked which advisory committees give the recommendations of which projects to study.

Mr. Poston responded that the particular studies discussed today were generated from the Traffic Operations and Management Subcommittee, comprised of staff members from each agency and the university.

Chair Weber then commented that she did not see on the map provided where there were any studies planned for the unincorporated areas or in the City of Sparks.

Mr. Poston replied that most of the studies are general research that can be applied to the entire region.

On motion of Vice Chair Dortch, seconded by Commissioner Smith, which motion carried unanimously, Chair Weber ordered that receipt of the report be acknowledged. Commissioner Hartung was not present for this vote.

Item 7.1 LEGAL REPORT

Legal Counsel Dale Ferguson said he had no legal matters for discussion.

Item 10 PUBLIC INPUT

Chair Weber opened the meeting to public input and called on anyone wishing to speak on topics relevant to the Regional Transportation Commission (RTC) that are not included in the current agenda.

There being no one wishing to speak, the Chair closed public input.

Item 11 MEMBER ITEMS

Chair Weber requested that an item be included on the December 2013 agenda pertaining to Lemon Drive to discuss crosswalks, lighting, easements, etc., because of the deaths on that road in the past couple of years; one pedestrian and one bicyclist.

Item 12 ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 10:25 a.m.



BONNIE WEBER, Chair
Regional Transportation Commission