

**REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION  
TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**Meeting Minutes  
Wednesday, December 2, 2009**

**Attendees**

Sienna Reid	Truckee Meadows Regional Planning Agency
Pete Etchart	City of Sparks Public Works
Clara Lawson	Washoe County Public Works
Anita Lyday	Nevada Department of Transportation—District II
Don Morehouse	Washoe County Community Development
Kyle West	City of Reno Community Development
Coy Peacock	Nevada Department of Transportation—Program Dev.
Dean Schultz	Reno-Tahoe Airport Authority
Neil Krutz	City of Sparks Community Development
Steve Bunnell	City of Reno Public Works

**Guests**

Bryan Gant, Jacobs Engineering	David Dodson, CH2MHILL
Rick Squires, Sparks Resident	Mary Squires, Sparks Resident
Gwen Linde, Sparks Resident	Fred Barrie, Village Green Resident

**RTC Staff**

Debra Goodwin	Garth Oksol
Doug Maloy	Carol Perry

The Committee met in the RTC Planning Conference Room, 600 Sutro Street, Reno. The meeting was called to order at 9:02 am by Chair Clara Lawson.

**ITEM 1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

The agenda was approved as amended moving Item 6 before Items 4 and 5.

**ITEM 2. PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was no response to the call for public comment.

**ITEM 3. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FOR THE SEPTEMBER 2, 2009, MEETING**

The minutes for the September 2, 2009, meeting were approved as submitted.

## **ITEM 6. PRESENTATION ON THE SOUTHEAST CONNECTOR PROJECT**

Garth Oksol, RTC Engineering Project Manager, gave a presentation on the status of the Southeast Connector project. He stated that at the November 20, 2009 RTC Board meeting any action on moving this project forward was delayed until after the Board's January retreat.

Gwen Linde, Sparks resident, asked if this project would address the McCarran Blvd/Longley Blvd intersection that was identified at the November RTC Board meeting as the second most dangerous in the area. Garth Oksol explained that the Southeast Connector is proposed for future traffic and the effect it would have on that particular intersection if the connector was built today is difficult to predict, but if the project is not built, there will be negative effect throughout the system—there is no north-south connector to move traffic through the region.

Mary Squires, Sparks resident, asked what the effect this project would have on the McCarran Blvd/Pyramid Highway intersection. Garth Oksol pointed out that the Southeast Connector addresses the east and south side of the valley and that the McCarran/Pyramid intersection serves a different traffic population.

Neil Krutz asked that the Southeast Connector project be placed on the January TAC agenda in order for the committee to make a recommendation to the RTC Board to consider at their January retreat on how vital this project is. Coy Peacock asked for further information regarding the project to be presented at the January meeting. Neil Krutz pointed out that the action he is seeking from the TAC is not to recommend this project over any other project, but to state to the Board how important this project is in the overall plan.

## **ITEM 4. PRESENTATION ON THE PYRAMID HIGHWAY/US 395 CONNECTION STUDY**

Doug Maloy, RTC Engineering Project Manager, and Bryan Gant, Jacobs Engineering, gave a presentation on the Pyramid Highway/US 395 Connection study.

Gwen Linde, Sparks resident, asked if the cost for this project had been determined as yet. She stated that at the November RTC Board meeting during discussion of the McCarran/Pyramid intersection an estimate of \$800 million was given. Doug Maloy indicated that the process of determining a cost has not yet begun. Gwen Linde asked that the RTC Board be informed of that. Doug Maloy indicated that he would be giving a presentation to the Board early next year. Discussion followed on the traffic studies and modeling analyses that will be occurring with the further development of this project, including the no-build scenario.

Mary Squires, Sparks resident, pointed out that the current economy should be factored into the analysis of this project. Bryan Gant stated that a sensitivity analysis is being included in the traffic methodology for this project, which will test the effects of growth not being what it is anticipated to be by certain horizon years.

Coy Peacock asked if the Southeast Connector was included in the different alternatives for this project. Bryan Gant indicated that it was.

Mary Squires, asked about the assumptions in the traffic model with particular regard to the travel options drivers would have. Bryan Grant gave a brief overview of the modeling process.

Coy Peacock asked when this project was anticipated to come on line and what the status of the Pyramid/McCarran project was. Doug Maloy indicated that the project would begin in 2018 and would take many more years before it is open and completely functional and that the intersection at Pyramid/McCarran currently fails.

**ITEM 5. PRESENTATION ON THE RTC FEDERAL FISCAL YEAR 2009 TRIP REDUCTION PROGRAM REPORT**

Carol Perry, RTC Public Transportation Trip Reduction Specialist, gave a presentation of the RTC federal fiscal year 2009 trip reduction program report.

Clara Lawson indicated that she had visited the RTC's website (carpooling) and found it detailed and useful.

**ITEM 7. MEMBER ITEMS**

Coy Peacock noted that the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) should be approved and out this week.

Kyle West indicated that a working committee has been established for the Virginia Street Corridor projects including streetcar, streetscape standards, Virginia Street bridge replacement, queue jump and BRT. The committee made up of City of Reno and RTC representatives will be meeting every other week to ensure coordination of all the projects.

**ITEM 8. AGENDA ITEMS FOR THE JANUARY 6, 2010, TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE (TAC) MEETING**

Amendment No. 5 to the Regional Transportation Improvement Program and the Southeast Connector project will be on the agenda for the January 6, 2010, meeting.

**ITEM 9. RTC STAFF ITEMS**

No items were presented by staff.

**ITEM 10. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:40 am.