

**REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION
WASHOE COUNTY, NEVADA**

FRIDAY

1:06 P.M.

May 18, 2017

PRESENT:

**Ron Smith, Sparks City Council Member, Chairman
Bob Lucey, Washoe County Commissioner, Vice Chairman
Paul McKenzie, Reno City Council Member
Marsha Berkbigler, Washoe County Commissioner
Neoma Jardon, Reno City Council Member**

**Lee G. Gibson, RTC Executive Director
Dale Ferguson, Legal Counsel
Bill Hoffman, Deputy Director of NDOT (*alternate*)**

NOT PRESENT:

Rudy Malfabon, Director of NDOT

The regular monthly meeting, held in the Chambers of the Washoe County Commission, 1001 E. 9th Street, Reno, Nevada, was called to order by Chairman Smith. Following the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of our country and the roll call, the Board conducted the following business:

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS, RECOGNITIONS, OTHER

- RECOGNITION OF THE ST. PATRICK'S DAY FREE RIDE SPONSORS - *Item pulled*
- REED HIGH SCHOOL and the WASHOE COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT RECOGNIZED RTC RIDE FOR THEIR EFFORT IN SUPPORTING TRANSPORTATION NEEDS

This was actually a surprise recognition of Mark Little from MV Transportation. Melissa Jensen from Reed High School spoke in recognition of Mr. Little for all the great work he does for the school district and especially for its special needs students. She then presented Mr. Little with a gift certificate and a plaque.

Item 1 APPROVAL OF AGENDA

On motion of Commissioner McKenzie, seconded by Vice Chairman Lucey, which motion unanimously carried, Chairman Smith ordered that the agenda for this meeting be approved.

Item 2.1 PUBLIC INPUT

Chairman Smith 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. Bill Thomas, City of Reno Assistant City Manager, addressed the Board to express his thoughts on the 2040 Regional Transportation Plan (Item 4.3 on the agenda). He stated that a copy of a letter from Mayor Schieve containing some of the preferences of the City had been sent to the RTC. (The commissioners all had a copy at their dais seats.) Mr. Thomas continued, saying that a survey of Reno residents had been done asking what the focus should be with regard to our roads in the next year. The results were maintenance of streets and traffic flow and congestion on the major streets. He added that the main concern with regard to growth is getting people in and out of the North Valleys.

Ms. Cathy Brandhorst addressed the Board to discuss matters of importance to herself.

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

Item 2.2 ADVISORY COMMITTEES SUMMARY REPORT

On motion of Commissioner Berkbigler, seconded by Vice Chairman Lucey, which motion unanimously carried, Chairman Smith ordered that receipt of the monthly Summary Report for the Technical, Citizens Multimodal and Regional Road Impact Fee Advisory Committees be acknowledged.

Item 3.1 thru 3.14 CONSENT ITEMS

Vice Chairman Lucey requested that Items 3.12 and 3.13 be pulled for discussion.

Minutes

- 3.1 Approve the minutes of the March 16, 2017, meeting (*For Possible Action*)**
- 3.2 Approve the minutes of the March 16, 2017, workshop (*For Possible Action*)**
- 3.3 Approve the minutes of the April 20, 2017, meeting (*For Possible Action*)**

Engineering

- 3.4 Acknowledge receipt of the monthly Engineering Activity Report (*For Possible Action*)**
- 3.5 Acknowledge receipt of the SouthEast Connector monthly progress report (*For Possible Action*)**

Public Transportation/Operations

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

Planning

- 3.7 Acknowledge receipt of the monthly Planning Activity Report (*For Possible Action*)**
- 3.8 Approve the FY 2018-2019 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) (*For Possible Action*)**

Administration

- 3.9 Approve the Investment Committee report for the quarter ended March 31, 2017; provide direction accordingly (*For Possible Action*)**

Procurement and Contracts

- 3.10 Approve the renewal of a 12-month service agreement with RFI Communications & Security Systems for maintenance and repair of RTC security systems, not to exceed \$125,000.00; authorize the RTC Executive Director to execute the service agreement renewal (*For Possible Action*)
- 3.11 Approve an amendment to the contract with Proterra Inc. to exercise the remaining contract options to purchase up to 15 electric Catalyst E2 buses and up to 10 additional shop chargers along with related design and civil works, electrical hardware, infrastructure and installation; authorize the RTC Executive Director to execute the amendment (*For Possible Action*)
- 3.14 Approve a Relocation Agreement with AT&T for an estimated amount of \$468,000 to temporarily relocate telephone facilities along Pembroke Drive; authorize the RTC Executive Director to execute the agreement (*For Possible Action*)

On motion of Commissioner Jardon, seconded by Commissioner Berkgigler, which motion carried unanimously, Chairman Smith ordered that Consent Items 3.1 through 3.11 and 3.14 be approved.

- 3.12 Approve Amendment No. 1, in the amount of \$286,454, to the existing Professional Services Agreement (PSA) between the RTC and Lumos & Associates (Lumos) for the Annual Pavement Preservation Project for Construction Year 2017, formerly named the Annual Pavement Maintenance Project; authorize the RTC Executive Director to execute the Amendment (*For Possible Action*) *Pulled for discussion.*

Vice Chair Lucey asked if RTC staff is directing Lumos & Associates on which roads to look at or are they assessing all the roads.

Mr. Garth Oksol, RTC Engineering Manager, said that through RTC's pavement management software, in collaboration with the three entities and their pavement experts, a list of projects is developed for preventative, corrective and reconstruction. Lumos then verifies that data and the entities and RTC then determine which roads are in the worst shape and should be put at the beginning of the work list. This action adds money to the Lumos contract which allows them to go out and do the "emergency" repairs right away.

On motion of Vice Chairman Lucey, seconded by Commissioner McKenzie, which motion carried unanimously, Chairman Smith ordered that Consent Item 3.12 be approved.

- 3.13 Approve Change Order No. 1, in the amount of \$206,180, to the existing Construction Contract between the RTC and Titan Electrical Contracting (Titan) for the TE Spot 5 Intersection Project; authorize the RTC Executive Director to execute the Change Order (*For Possible Action*) *Pulled for discussion.*

Vice Chair Lucey thanked staff for the projects being added to this construction contract. Specifically, the additional lanes being added to the Damonte Ranch Pkwy and South Meadows on-ramps to north I-580 as they are desperately needed. He then asked if there will be some advanced lane guidance further east on the Damonte Ranch part of the project - such as near the Home Depot area - as it will really help the back-ups during the rush hours.

The Vice Chair added that his next concern is the South Virginia Street exit from northbound I-580, just north of South Meadows. He is concerned because that off-ramp ends at a T in the road with a single stop sign and no signalization, so it gets backed up almost a mile on the freeway during the rush hours. He would like to see some kind of improvement made in place of the stop sign if traffic going on to I-580 northbound will now be doubled.

Mr. Bill Hoffman, NDOT Deputy Director, said that both RTC and his agency saw the need for these improvements and jumped on them quickly, but there is nothing planned for the S. Virginia Street exit at the moment so they will look at that problem and do some analysis.

On motion of Vice Chairman Lucey, seconded by Commissioner McKenzie, which motion carried unanimously, Chairman Smith ordered that Consent Item 3.13 be approved.

Items 4.1 thru 4.3 PUBLIC HEARINGS

4.1 Public hearing - no earlier than 1:05 p.m. Time Certain:

Discussion and recommendation to approve the September 2017 RTC RIDE service change recommendations

1. Staff presentation
2. Public input
3. Recommendation to approve the September 2017 RTC RIDE service change recommendations *(For Possible Action)*

Mr. David Jickling, RTC Director of Public Transportation and Operations, addressed the Board and gave a presentation showing specific routes suggested for changes and explained the purpose and benefit behind each of those changes. Specific changes are as follow:

Route 2s - Reallocate a.m. and p.m. peak service to mid-day to provide better service to the Senior Center during that time of day.

Route 7/9/12 Interline - Interline Route 1 and 7 to benefit Route 7 with extra schedule time. Routes 9 and 12 would remain interlined. Together, this should improve schedule adherence on Routes 7, 9 and 12.

Route 18x - Eliminate and reallocate hours to Route 13. This moves the less productive service hours of Route 18x to a route with more productive service potential.

Route 14 - Reduce peak headways from 15 minutes to 30 minutes and reallocate the hours to Route 13. Current productivity on Route 14 does not justify the current level of service.

Mr. Jickling then offered to answer any questions. *(A full copy of this presentation may be obtained by contacting Denise Thompson - dthompson@rtcwashoe.com)*

This item being a public hearing, Chair Smith opened the meeting to public input and called on anyone wishing to speak.

Ms. Cathy Brandhorst addressed the Board to discuss matters of importance to herself.

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

On motion of Commissioner McKenzie, seconded by Vice Chair Lucey, which motion carried unanimously, Chairman Smith ordered that the September 2017 RTC RIDE service change recommendations be approved.

4.2 Public hearing - no earlier than 1:10 p.m. Time Certain:

Discussion and recommendation to approve the RTC Final FY 2018 Final Budget

1. Staff presentation
2. Public input
3. Recommendation to approve the RTC Final FY 2018 Final Budget (*For Possible Action*)

Ms. Stephanie Haddock, RTC Finance Director and CFO, addressed the Board and gave a presentation on the RTC's Final FY 2018 budget. She first stated that the RTC has a balanced budget for FY 2018.

Ms. Haddock gave an overview of the numbers for each of the RTC program's revenues and expenses, ending fund balances, spending restrictions, reserves, projections, etc., and then offered to answer any questions. (*A full copy of this presentation may be obtained by contacting Denise Thompson - dthompson@rtcwashoe.com*)

Commissioner McKenzie asked if the funds for the Pyramid/US 395 Connector project is for continued environmental studies. Ms. Haddock Confirmed.

Chairman Smith asked how the RTC is doing on funding its reserves.

Ms. Haddock responded that the agency is back to having stable reserves and have actually exceeded the sales tax reserves for the peak year of 2008 by \$3 million.

This item being a public hearing, Chair Smith opened the meeting to public input and called on anyone wishing to speak.

Ms. Cathy Brandhorst addressed the Board to discuss matters of importance to herself.

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

On motion of Commissioner Berkbigler, seconded by Commissioner McKenzie, which motion carried unanimously, Chairman Smith ordered that the RTC Final FY 2018 Final Budget be approved.

4.3 Public hearing - no earlier than 1:10 p.m. Time Certain:

Discussion and recommendation to approve the resolution adopting the 2040 Regional Transportation Plan

1. Staff presentation
2. Public input
3. Recommendation to approve the resolution adopting the 2040 Regional Transportation Plan (*For Possible Action*)

Ms. Amy Cummings, RTC Planning Director, addressed the Board and said that after 18 months of staff work, board input, public comment, and monthly updates to the Board, she was ready to give a presentation of the *final* draft of the 2040 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP). Final additions to the plan based on public comment received during the 30-day period included adding the Truckee River bridge replacements for Sierra, Arlington and Lake Streets; adding an intersection improvement at Evans and Record Streets, and moving forward to the 2022-2026 timeframe the replacement of the Keystone Bridge and multimodal improvements in that corridor. There was also a major reordering of some of the capacity projects as compared to the last RTP. They included prioritizing the Spaghetti Bowl first, fixing the US 395 North corridor, and working on the Pyramid/395 corridor. She added that there is a section of that project in the 10-year CIP which is a widening of Pyramid Hwy just north of the current McCarran intersection project.

She said staff is also moving forward with transit elements and looking for innovative approaches to expand service through the Taxi Bucks, Washoe Senior Ride and partnerships with non-profit organizations who can provide those niche transit services for medical needs or other specialized services.

Ms. Cummings then reviewed the unfunded portion of the RTP to show projects being looked at when funding does become available.

Commissioner Jardon asked about the expanded downtown circulator route in the unfunded projects.

Ms. Cummings explained that it is referring to an expansion of the Sierra Spirit route and would be in addition to the Virginia Street extension project.

Commissioner Jardon would like to see a route go straight up Virginia Street rather than bypassing it to go to 4th STREET STATION.

E.D. Gibson said that staff is considering an A route and a B route once the Virginia Street project gets up toward UNR. The A route could go straight up Virginia Street to UNR and the B route could go to 4th STREET STATION where riders could make their transfers to other routes. Funding for two routes has not been looked at yet but it is too early to rule the idea of A and B routes out of the project.

Ms. Cummings continued with her review, looking ahead to unfunded capacity projects. She then offered to answer any additional questions of the Board. (*A full copy of this presentation may be obtained by contacting Denise Thompson - dthompson@rtcwashoe.com*)

This item being a public hearing, Chair Smith opened the meeting to public input and called on anyone wishing to speak.

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

On motion of Vice Chair Lucey, seconded by Commissioner McKenzie, which motion carried unanimously, Chairman Smith ordered that the resolution adopting the 2040 Regional Transportation Plan be approved.

Item 5.1 thru 5.3 DIRECTOR REPORTS

5.1 RTC Executive Director Report

E.D. Lee Gibson updated the commissioners on the following topics:

The RTC held a very successful APTA Bus and Paratransit conference the previous week with over 1,100 industry leaders attending and the largest ever bus rodeo conducted. The rodeo is an event where mechanics and coach operators compete against one another nationally to test, evaluate and put themselves out there to see who the best in the nation is. He then introduced Mr. Rex Schrock, a coach operator with M/V, came in 14th place nationally.

Stuff-a-Bus was planned for Tuesday, May 30th. This is the senior giving donation drive and there were six locations to donate.

Commissioner Jardon thanked everyone for their participation in Stuff-a-Bus and explained how difficult it can be for seniors when they may have to make a choice between buying food or buying their medicine, so this event provides much needed products to help them out a little.

E.D. Gibson continued, saying that Thursday, June 15th is Dump the Pump Day so rides will be free on all RTC transit services to encourage alternative means of travel.

The RTC is launching their brand new website in early June.

The RTC is recruiting members for our Citizens Multimodal Advisory Committee until 5 pm on Friday, May 26th and the Regional Road Impact Fee Advisory Committee until 5 pm on Friday, June 23rd. Applications are available on our website on the HOT TOPICS page.

The RTC hosted the FTA Executive Director during the APTA conference (he is not the Administrator) and gave him a tour of our projects. They will be releasing a report soon rating our projects.

He clarified with regard to RTC projects listed, the two garages built where the old RTC board room was located are now open for business

5.2 RTC Federal Report

A written update was provided in the agenda packet for this month and E.D. Gibson added comment on the following:

The President sent up a “skinny” budget which called for a “haircut” of 13% on the entire Department of Transportation and eliminated several funding categories including the capital investment grant program. That is a program the RTC has competed for and has been granted in the past. However, Congress put in place an appropriation of \$19.5 billion which essentially restored the “haircut” and provided the full funding under the FAST ACT along with an extra \$1 billion to the capital investment grant program and it was signed by the President. He continued, explaining the workings of congressional funding and how they will or will not work.

There is also a tax reform proposal out there which should go to an infrastructure bank. Nevada is currently putting together an infrastructure bank for the state.

5.3 NDOT Director Report

Mr. Bill Hoffman, NDOT Deputy Director, addressed the Board to provide an update on the following:

The Spaghetti Bowl project continues with public outreach and environmental studies and there should be specific updates available at the August meeting. NDOT staff is currently meeting with staffs from the three entities, the GSR, Renown, the Airport Authority, the Nugget, etc.

The SR 28 Bike Path project is under construction and should be substantially completed this summer.

The North Valleys ITS project is underway and extends from the Spaghetti Bowl to Stateline. This is supported with fiber-optic cable, ramp meters and cameras with the hope that these temporary improvements will make a difference in commute times. He provided information on other North Valley projects as well.

The Damonte Ranch and South Meadows projects are moving forward as discussed previously.

Lastly, NDOT would like to contribute funding to the City of Reno's downtown improvement district project. He has already spoken to John Flansberg about this.

Commissioner Jardon thanked Mr. Hoffman and NDOT for their contribution.

Commissioner McKenzie also expressed his gratitude then asked why NDOT allowed the new Maverick Gas Station at McCarran and Sutro to encroach on the roadway with their sidewalk.

Mr. Hoffman said he did not have an answer at the moment but would look into it. However, Thor Dyson was in the audience and was asked to respond.

Mr. Dyson said there are approximately three new Maverick facilities constructed recently so he would also have to get more specific detail and get back with Commissioner McKenzie.

Commissioner Berkgigler commented that the SR 28 bike path project is going to be wonderful and will be much safer for bicyclists, pedestrians, tourists, etc.

Mr. Hoffman offered to have a presentation on the SR 28 bike path project brought to a future meeting.

Item 6.1 METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

6.1 Acknowledge receipt of the RTC 2016 Annual report (*For Possible Action*)

Ms. Amy Cummings, RTC Planning Director, addressed the Board and gave a presentation discussing the highlights of the RTC 2016 Annual Report, as set forth in the briefing materials for this agenda item. The report reviews active and completed projects and accomplishments, media interviews, public input meetings, public presentations, awards granted to the RTC, etc. (*A copy of the presentation may be obtained by contacting Denise Thompson at dthompson@rtcwashoe.com.*)

Commissioner Berkbigler congratulated staff on doing 120 media interviews.

On motion of Commissioners McKenzie and Berkbigler, seconded by Vice Chair Lucey, which motion carried unanimously, Chairman Smith ordered that receipt of the RTC 2016 Annual report be acknowledged.

Items 7.1 thru 7.2 GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

7.1 Rate the Regional Transportation Commission (RTC/Agency) performance for fiscal year (FY) 2016-2017 (*For Possible Action*)

E.D. Gibson explained the process and formula for the rating of the agency by the commissioners. The performance score ranges from .6% to 1.5% and affects 1/3 of the pay for performance pool for the agency to award to employees. There are currently no merit increases or COLA increases used at the RTC. Previous scores were 1.5 in 2016, 1.4 in 2015 and 1.3 in 2014.

Vice Chair Lucey complimented the E.D. and RTC staff on their accomplishments for the year and the response to numerous issues that have come up this year. Additionally, the praise of the RTC by the Washington DC delegation was fantastic. He believes the RTC performance this past year was stellar and recommended a 1.5 score.

Commissioner McKenzie agreed with the Vice Chair but also pointed out a “major hiccup” that occurred earlier in the year and although it was handled swiftly and effectively, there should have been controls in place to begin with. Therefore, he recommended a score of 1.2 or 1.3.

Commissioner Jardon agreed that staff has worked their tails off over the year and have dealt with the public really well when they are not understanding the time issues with regard to road construction projects. She also has concerns with the scam that happened to the RTC and realizes that controls were tightened and appropriate actions were taken, but is still concerned that it happened at all. She recommended a 1.3 or 1.4 score range.

Commissioner Berkbigler said she feels blessed to sit on some heavy duty committees with a lot of responsibilities and believes the RTC ranks right up there as one of those. She also has concerns about what happened but applauds senior staff for handling the issue quickly. She agrees with Commissioner Jardon on a score of 1.3 or 1.4.

Chairman Smith said he is so proud of everything the organization does with road projects, public transportation or just managing public funds. There was a problem but they do occur. E.D. Gibson stepped in and took care of it immediately and unfortunately, there are some people who are no longer with the agency because of it, but it was handled. He then said there is currently a recommended range between 1.3 and 1.5 so asked if the commissioners would be willing to split the difference with a 1.4% score.

The motion was made for a score of 1.4% by Commissioner McKenzie and seconded by Commissioner Berkbigler. On vote the motion passed unanimously.

On discussion, Vice Chair Lucey said that mistakes were made but not one person amongst them can say they've never made a mistake. He wished to highlight that the RTC was the one agency to stand up for the community and offer free transit during unforeseen events this year, such as flooding. This type of support for the community had a lot to do with his recommendation of 1.5% but he understands the concerns of the other commissioners.

Chairman Smith complimented Michael Moreno, RTC Public Affairs Manager, for all he does to make everything transparent to the community.

7.2 Legal Report

Legal Counsel Dale Ferguson said he had no items for discussion.

Item 8 PUBLIC INPUT

Chairman Smith 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.

Ms. Cathy Brandhorst addressed the Board to discuss matters of importance to herself.

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

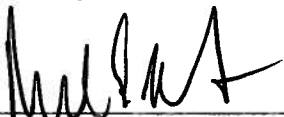
Item 9 MEMBER ITEMS

Commissioner Lucey requested an update on the stoplight at the intersection of South Meadows and Double Diamond at the next meeting.

Mr. Garth Oksol, RTC Engineering Manager, said the project will most likely be completed by the next meeting but if it isn't, an update will be provided.

Item 10 ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 2:56 p.m.



RON SMITH, Chairman
Regional Transportation Commission