

**REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION
WASHOE COUNTY, NEVADA**

FRIDAY

9:00 A.M.

January 19, 2018

PRESENT:

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

**Lee G. Gibson, RTC Executive Director
Dale Ferguson, Legal Counsel
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 roll call and the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of our country, the Board conducted the following business:

Chairman Smith welcomed returning Washoe County Commissioner Vaughn Hartung to the RTC Board. He had previously served as an RTC Board Commissioner for the year of 2015.

RECOGNITION OF THE 2017 NEW YEAR'S EVE FREE SAFE RIDE SPONSORS

In honor of the 33rd anniversary of the RTC Safe RIDE event, Michael Moreno, RTC Public Affairs Manager, thanked Washoe County, the Cities of Reno and Sparks, RTC sponsors, and others for promoting the New Year's Eve Safe RIDE program. On December 31st there were 6,781 rides taken between 6:00 p.m. and 2:00 a.m. January 1st.

Mr. Moreno thanked the following sponsors and presented certificates to those present:

Renown Health
Club Cal Neva
Wood Rodgers
Lamar Advertising
Morrey Distributing
Reno-Sparks Convention and Visitor's Authority (RSCVA)
REMSA
Reno Firefighters Local 731
KOLO 8 News Now
Cumulus Radio, including News Talk 780 KOH, 95.5 The Vibe, Wild 102.9, and K-Bull 98.1.

On behalf of Dr. Tony Slonim, President and CEO of Renown Health, and all the employees of both Renown and Hometown Health, Suzanne Hendery, VP and Chief Marketing Officer, thanked the commission for everything the RTC does for our community on a daily basis.

Item 1 APPROVAL OF AGENDA

On motion of Vice Chair Lucey, seconded by Commissioner Hartung, 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.

Ms. Dora Uchel and Mr. Juan Martinez, both local residents, spoke together to report concerns about a transit stop that is blocked by foliage and a crosswalk at W. 7th Street and N. McCarran that needs to be repainted. Ms. Uchel then introduced her Seeing Eye Puppy (in training) and stressed that when the crosswalk is extremely faded, the puppy gets disoriented and is not sure of where to go, especially when it's such a busy intersection. It could potentially be a life threatening situation. Ms. Uchel also commended RTC's customer service staff but said that when taxis are sent by RTC ACCESS, they seem to always smell like cigarette smoke even though she requests non-smoking taxis. Lastly, she requested that the rates for ACCESS not be raised.

Chairman Smith said that staff from the RTC would follow up on these issues as soon as possible.

Mr. Ray Lake, representing the North Valleys communities, expressed concern about the proposed development at the area around Red Rock and the additional traffic it will bring. Mr. Lake and the residents of the North Valleys are opposed to any development in that area because there is no infrastructure to support the development.

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

Items 3.1 thru 3.10 CONSENT ITEMS

Chairman Smith requested to have Item 3.3 pulled for discussion.

Minutes

3.1 Approve the minutes of the December 15, 2017, meeting (For Possible Action)

Engineering

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

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

Public Transportation/Operations

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

Planning

3.5 Acknowledge receipt of the monthly Planning Activity Report (For Possible Action)

Administration

- 3.6 Acknowledge receipt of the monthly Procurement Activity Report (*For Possible Action*)**
- 3.7 Acknowledge receipt of the Asset Donation Log for the third and fourth quarters of calendar year 2017(*For Possible Action*)**
- 3.8 Acknowledge receipt of the Administrative Services Activity Report (*For Possible Action*)**

Request for Proposals

- 3.9 Approve the Request for Proposals (RFP) for the selection of professional services for the Regional Transportation Commission (RTC) Affordable Housing Study (*For Possible Action*)**
- 3.10 Approve the Request for Proposals (RFP) for the selection of Engineering Professional Services for the NEPA and Preliminary Design of the Sun Valley Boulevard Corridor Project (*For Possible Action*)**

On motion of Commissioner McKenzie, seconded by Vice Chair Lucey, which motion carried unanimously, Chairman Smith ordered that Consent Items 3.1 through 3.10 be approved with the exception of Item 3.3, which was pulled for discussion.

- 3.3 Acknowledge receipt of the SouthEast Connector monthly progress report (*For Possible Action*)**

Garth Oksol, RTC Project Manager, addressed the Board to provide a verbal update on the status of the project. He stressed that if Mother Nature cooperates, the project should be completed by summer 2018.

Chairman Smith then recognized Mr. Oksol for his many years of service to the RTC and for being the face of the SouthEast Connector while managing the project. After working 15 years for the RTC, Mr. Oksol is moving on to another career opportunity and this was his last RTC Board meeting as an employee.

The commissioners and the executive director also wished Mr. Oksol all the best in his new career path.

On motion of Chairman Smith, seconded by Commissioner McKenzie, which motion carried unanimously, Chairman Smith ordered that Consent Item 3.3 be approved.

Items 4.1 thru 4.3 DIRECTOR REPORTS

Item 4.1 RTC Executive Director Report

E.D. Gibson addressed the Board to discuss the following:

1. At the December Board meeting, staff provided the Board with information regarding the labor shortage of bus drivers. Staff has since developed a service adjustment which may be implemented on January 27th to help ensure schedule and service reliability on RAPID, Routes 6, 9 and 14.

Customers will be informed of the service adjustment beginning the weekend of January 20th. Additionally, staff reached out to the Washoe County School District and Wooster High School so they can communicate the information to the student body and their families.

2. The previous Friday, the Sheep Dip organization awarded the Shaft Award to RTC at their annual Sheep Dip Show for the Pyramid McCarran Intersection Improvement Project.

The award was given to recognize the RTC for a job well done in improving the intersection, making it safer, beautifying the neighborhood, and for the extensive community outreach done. They also acknowledged the project being completed six months ahead of schedule.

3. Briefing and presentation on a letter responding to the EDawn email that had been sent (with a presentation).

E.D. Gibson said that there was an email previously sent by Mike Kazmierski which stated that there is no plan in the RTC's Long-Range Plan to either think about a second road to the Tahoe Reno Industrial Center (TRI Center) or to improve the interstate system out toward the TRI Center.

He continued, stating that the RTC operates a performance based planning process which means that the recommended projects in the plan are grounded in facts and community input. There are just over a billion dollars of freeway investments included in the Long-Range Plan and the priorities address the greatest regional safety and congestion issues first.

The email sent by Mr. Kazmierski implied that there are a growing number of accidents going east on I-80 to the TRI Center. However, the North Valleys area has had a very high crash rate over the past few years; in fact, two and a half times the crash rate of I-80 eastbound toward the TRI Center. Because of this, the RTC is targeting, in cooperation with NDOT, putting improvements to where the crashes are very severe and at a very high rate. According to data gathered, the Spaghetti Bowl also takes priority over just about everything else.

Commissioner Hartung asked if Mr. Kazmierski had been reminded that TRI is not conditioned in any way, shape or form to make improvements on I-80, nor do they participate in the Regional Road Impact Fee (RRIF) program.

E.D. Gibson said he had only addressed what he believed to be Mr. Kazmierski's factual inaccuracies in the email. He then continued with his presentation showing traffic levels, crash data, etc.

Commissioner Jardon added that all of the accidents under discussion also involve the time and expense of our first responders, and reiterated that the Spaghetti Bowl is NDOT's priority as well as Governor Sandoval's.

E.D. Gibson said that over a three year period, data shows that there is a 52% increase in the accident rate for I-80 eastbound but there is an 84% increase in the accident rate for the North Valleys. The Spaghetti Bowl is approximately four times the amount of accidents going east or north. He then showed travel time data collected from cell phones in 2017 and mentioned that the current and projected increases in employees in the North Valleys also outweighs the current and projected increases going east.

Lastly, there is more traffic coming into the metropolitan area in the morning and then going back out in the afternoon.

There are a lot of questions about a second road to the TRI Center and at this point, it is in the feasibility stage. A road like that would be placed predominantly on federal lands which requires going through the Department of the Interior, the Bureau of Land Management, NEPA, and potentially an act of Congress, just to secure the right-of-way. That road is in the Long-Range Plan but its way out in the future to allow for proper planning.

Commissioner McKenzie agreed with Commissioner Hartung's sentiments and added that NDOT has already spent a significant amount of money to build a road out to Highway 50 for the TRI Center and it's not really being used. EDAWN should not be pressuring the transportation planners in Washoe County to change their priorities for another county. Storey County needs to start participating financially as well.

Item 4.2 RTC Federal Report

E.D. Gibson discussed some of the matters included in the written update, which was provided in the backup materials for this month's agenda packet.

He specifically mentioned that the major disappointment in the Tax Bill recently passed is that Advance Refunding was not included. It would have saved the RTC approximately \$2 million if it had been included.

He then briefly talked about the potential of the indexing of federal gas taxes and bringing earmarks back into the government.

Item 4.3 NDOT Director Report

Director Rudy Malfabon addressed the Board to say that the FHWA offices here in Nevada would remain open even if the federal government shut down. However, when the short-term continuing resolutions keep occurring, all the funding available is not released. It then has an impact on getting into the financial system and programing projects.

Dir. Malfabon thanked the RTC for sponsoring the New Year Free RIDE program. He said annual fatality numbers were down by 7% (24 less) as compared to the previous year.

He said there will be a final public meeting and adoption of digital billboard regulations on February 12th at the Transportation Board Meeting.

Dir. Malfabon confirmed earlier comments by E.D. Gibson that the North Valleys and the Spaghetti Bowl are priorities for NDOT. They will work with the RTC to continue looking at other options for the Sparks eastern corridor heading out to the TRI Center, but the Spaghetti Bowl and North Valleys must come first.

Commissioner Hartung thanked Director Malfabon and the RTC Board for the decel lane from Pyramid Lane onto Calle de la Plata heading north. He's hoping that NDOT will also work on getting a dedicated acceleration lane from the haul road to Calle de la Plata heading south.

Items 5.1 thru 5.3 PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION AND OPERATIONS

**5.1 Acknowledge receipt of an update report on bus stop accessibility and improvements
(For Possible Action)**

David Jickling, RTC Director of Public Transportation and Operations, addressed the Board to provide a status update on RTC's bus stop program. There are well over 1,000 bus stops in our community and the maintenance fund for those stops is relatively small, so it is a slow process to make all of the updates needed. There are times when local businesses or NDOT will partner with the RTC to make improvements as well.

There is approximately \$2.3 million budgeted for ADA bicycle and pedestrian improvements which could potentially be used for some of the updates needed in the future should the Board request it.

Mr. Jickling said that almost 60% of the RTC stops have a bench and 13% have a shelter. A comparison with the MARTA system in Atlanta showed that approximately 85% of their stops do not have a bench or a shelter, which is more of the norm in our country. He continued with a description of pad size requirements and accessible pathways.

He said that the RTC has been focusing on ADA improvements using interns from UNR to help with assessing all of the bus stops to identify the stops currently needing ADA improvements. Stops scheduled for improvement have been prioritized based off of this information as well. He then reviewed a couple of specific stops Commissioner Jardon has concerns about and explained the things that go into the improvements, such as right-of-way and wheelchair ramps, and the related costs.

Commissioner Hartung said he would like to see more use of "micro transit" in place of the routes that have minimal ridership.

Mr. Jickling said that particular topic is actually in the next agenda item.

Commissioner McKenzie said that he would like to see more of an assurance that when new developments are built on a bus line, a bus stop must also be installed by the developer.

Vice Chair Lucey asked who is responsible for maintaining bushes or trees that are encroaching on the bus stops, making them difficult to get to.

Mr. Jickling responded that it is the cities or county, depending on where the stop is located.

The Vice Chair Lucey would like to see a policy put into place to make sure the cities and county know this is a requirement when a stop is located in their jurisdiction.

Mr. Jickling said that many times, a new road is put in place by the cities or county with a sidewalk on only one side which makes it difficult to run transit with good stops.

Chairman Sparks would like all of the stops fixed and does not want to see any additional stops installed without, at a minimum, a bench.

Commissioner Jardon offered to use some of her discretionary funds to pay for a pad and a bench at the Sharlands stop if needed.

Chairman Smith would like staff to meet with E.D. Gibson and Stephanie Haddock to see what can be done financially. Additionally, he would like to see standards set for a stop. No more installing a pole in the dirt; so if a business wants a new bus stop, they should be required to pay for at least a bench and pad.

A full copy of the presentation may be obtained by contacting Denise Thompson at dthompson@rtcwashoe.com

On motion of Vice Chair Lucey, seconded by Commissioner Jardon, which motion carried unanimously, Chairman Smith ordered that receipt of the report be acknowledged with direction for RTC staff to work with the three entities in the region to create an enforcement policy or process in regards to accessibility improvements of our bus stops. Additionally, staff is to create a new standard for the type of stops to be installed.

5.2 Acknowledge receipt of the preliminary service change and fare concepts for RTC RIDE and RTC ACCESS planned for 2018 (For Possible Action)

David Jickling, RTC Director of Public Transportation and Operations, addressed the Board to provide some of the service change concepts for implementation this September and potential fare changes to make the fare policy a little more equitable.

Mr. Jickling went over the planning process for a service change and discussed fixed-route transit, paratransit and transit fares. He reviewed the lesser performing fixed routes and ways to better utilize those particular services on other routes. Additionally, he mentioned the possibility of discontinuing ACCESS service outside of the ADA mandated area completely and running that service for the same hours as fixed-route.

The RTC has a taxi service for seniors in place which could supplement the areas scaled back for non-ADA service. Another option is to use UBER and LYFT for supplemented service. UBER does not seem very interested but LYFT is kicking off a similar program in February, so they may be the better option.

The no-show policy needs to be improved per the FTA as it is not currently appropriate and penalizes riders who do not ride very often. That will be brought back to the Board at a future meeting.

He said discussions are also occurring with UNR to potentially implement a U-Pass program.

Another benefit being considered to retain coach operators is to allow all transit employees to not only ride transit for free themselves, but to extend that benefit to immediate family members as well.

The RTC is hoping to make the transit system as cash free as possible using electronic technology.

Commissioner McKenzie said he hears people say they don't use transit because there is no stop close to their home, they have to wait too long for a bus and the bus can't get them where they need to be by the time they need to be there. To address those issues means to increase our level of service which he knows is very difficult with the lack of funding we currently have and asked if a micro-service would be provided by the same vendor(s) as the big coaches if implemented.

Mr. Jickling said there could be an opportunity for that but it would more than likely be the ACCESS provider instead of the fixed-route provider. If the RTC goes that route, it will be wrapped into the next RFP going out in the next six months.

Commissioner Jardon supports the use of UBER or LYFT to supplement the ACCESS service and she was curious as to why UBER was not interested.

Mr. Jickling also talked about the potential benefits of lowering the senior rate qualifying age back to 60 from 65.

Commissioner Jardon said there is a stigma when it comes to mass transit with the younger population, especially along the Virginia Street/Midtown Corridor, which needs to be overcome to increase ridership.

Commissioner Hartung made suggestions on flexing specific routes, using larger coaches where they may be more needed during low ridership hours.

Mr. Jickling responded that this is exactly the type of thing that micro-transit is being looked into for.

Commissioner Hartung requested the operating costs per passenger in the subsidy that RTC has for 2018 and would prefer to have it emailed to him rather than wait for the next meeting.

A full copy of the presentation may be obtained by contacting Denise Thompson at dthompson@rtcwashoe.com

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

5.3 Acknowledge receipt and discussion on fixed-route (RTC RIDE) RFP development; provide direction to staff accordingly (*For Possible Action*)

David Jickling, RTC Director of Public Transportation and Operations, addressed the Board and explained that the current fixed route contract with MV Transportation expires June 30, 2019. A great deal has changed regarding transit that staff wants to have considered in the RFP for the next contract. One of the bigger emerging challenges in the industry is wages, which play a part in the quality and reliability of service. It is anticipated that status quo operating costs will increase and approximately a 5% per year increase was built into the current contract for that. However, there may be more of a first-year increase in the new contract to make up for the additional cost increases that are occurring in the industry.

One issue is that there are currently no additional revenues to cover these increases at this point in time but staff is looking into potential options for that as well. He also talked about other incentive ideas, such as a bonus for great customer service, etc.

Commissioner McKenzie agrees that it is a great idea to offer incentives such as this, but believes there also need to be repercussions for bad service. He thinks that separate companies provide our services would not be a good idea because if one of them does not want to provide the service we need, staff has to go out with another RFP to replace them and that costs the RTC even more money.

Chair Smith asked what happened to the fuel savings incurred during the recession and the fuel and maintenance savings from using electric buses.

Mr. Jickling responded that during the recession, the RTC completely drew down the two to three month operating reserve, so that has been built back up. Also, when looking at the five-year analysis and budget process, staff may find that there is a little room to do something, but that is not known yet. He added that the electric buses do not use fuel but they do use electricity which is still a cost, although a little less than diesel.

On motion of Commissioner McKenzie, seconded by Vice Chair Lucey, which motion carried unanimously, Chairman Smith ordered that receipt of the report be acknowledged.

Items 6.1 thru 6.2 ENGINEERING

6.1 Acknowledge receipt of a letter from Jacobs Entertainment, Inc. (Jacobs Entertainment) and provide direction to staff concerning a possible public-private partnership between Jacobs Entertainment and RTC to develop roundabouts and related improvements on West Fourth Street (*For Possible Action*)

E.D. Gibson explained that Jacobs Entertainment had approached the RTC to discuss ways of moving forward with a number of improvements along West Fourth St. that would be consistent with a corridor plan developed by RTC several years prior. The idea of round-a-bouts was introduced as a way to improve traffic flow, lower operating costs and provide more of an urban ambience to the area. Jacobs would like to redevelop the area into what they are calling the Fountain District.

A letter was received from Lewis and Roca explaining their intent under NRS 338.161, which allows the RTC to accept proposals from private entities to do public infrastructure projects.

E.D. Gibson said he was asking for guidance from the Board and explained that plans must be submitted by Jacobs for review that are consistent with city policy and master plans which will allow the RTC to move forward on some of those corridor improvements that are included in the Regional Transportation Plan, but not for several years out. He recommends that staff be directed to move forward.

Commissioner McKenzie said that the federal government is pushing for P3 partnerships and this proposal allows the RTC to make improvements in a manner that would not be done otherwise. It

would be beneficial to the community without the need to find funding in our budget. He would like to move forward.

Commissioner Jardon asked what the timeline would be for this project.

Mr. Andy Durling from Wood Rodgers, representing Jacobs Entertainment, addressed the Board and explained that his company had been authorized by the Reno City Council to make interim improvements for pedestrian safety at 4th Street and Washington which were completed in December. The City's motion also allowed two years to work through the details of the roundabouts and they are motivated to move quickly. A letter is forthcoming proposing more details.

Vice Chair Lucey said he believes that Jacobs Entertainment has been as transparent and open as possible through the process and their intent to bring forth the Fountain District will be a great benefit to the downtown Reno area. He supports the project.

Chairman Smith also supports the project.

On motion of Commissioner Jardon, seconded by Commissioner McKenzie, which motion carried unanimously, Chairman Smith ordered that receipt of the letter be acknowledged and RTC staff is to move forward with the planning of the improvements discussed.

6.2 Acknowledge receipt of a 4th Street/Prater Way monthly progress report (*For Possible Action*)

Mr. Jeffrey Wilbrecht addressed the Board to give a brief update on the 4th Street/Prater Way project. He said that there was one weather day on December 20th along with the Christmas and New Year holidays that impacted the normal 5-day work week. He added that there have been no change orders to the budget and approximately \$18.8 million had been billed as of December 2017.

He then explained some of the bigger utility work that has been done recently, adding that there is a great deal of dry utility work coming up on the Reno end of the project. One reason for all of the utility work is to move utilities underground. He also discussed curb and gutter work to be done and said the steel for a mock-up BRT station would start going up very soon. He then offered to answer any questions.

Commissioner McKenzie again expressed concerns over the additional days that have been added to the contract.

Mr. Wilbrecht explained that the weather day in December is not counted as a work day against the contract, and August 6-13 is Hot August Nights and the contractor is not allowed to work during that period.

Chairman Smith said the completed portion of the project looks very nice.

A full copy of the presentation may be obtained by contacting Denise Thompson at dthompson@rtcwashoe.com

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

Items 7.1 thru 7.3 METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION (MPO)

7.1 Acknowledge receipt of a report on bike share and provide direction regarding the TA Set Aside grant application for bike share and RTC support to the jurisdictions for a regional dockless bike share pilot program (For Possible Action)

Amy Cummings, RTC Director of Planning, addressed the Board to provide an update on the bike share program. She said that all three jurisdictions in the region had agreed to move forward with a dockless bike share pilot program. RTC staff is continuing to meet with entity staffs, code enforcement and legal teams to get things moving along.

The City of Reno is pushing to get the pilot program going, so have taken the lead to identify what permit and franchise agreement requirements would be needed so there is consistency for each jurisdiction. The jurisdictions have made it clear that they do not want the RTC to issue permits or draft any ordinances.

The City of Reno has requested funding from the RTC to assist with hiring a consultant to help identify the requirements to operate for the vendor and to ensure consistency.

RTC staff is continuing work on the Transportation Set Aside Grant which is due in February. Staff agrees that it would be good to apply for grant funding for education, a bike helmet program and signage for bike parking. Another option being looked into is electric dockless bikes.

Chairman Smith said he does not mind contributing the \$19,500 for the consultant but he does not want to see the RTC to pay for the program itself at all.

Ms. Cummings explained that there is no upfront capital costs for the dockless program; however, should the jurisdictions move forward with a station based program in parallel, there would be about an \$800,000 capital cost and another \$800,000 operating cost per year, and private sponsors would be needed for that as RTC does not have the funding.

Chairman Smith asked how much private funding could potentially be raised.

Ms. Cummings said that it is very likely that full sponsorship might be obtained but if you have competing bike share programs (dockless vs. station based) it could be more difficult.

Again, the chairman stressed that he does not want the RTC picking up any of the capital or operating costs for a bike share program.

Commissioner Hartung said he leans toward private funding or a private/public partnership for any station based programs. He believes there are many areas in our region that will not benefit from this program at all such as Incline Village, Spanish Springs, etc.

Commissioner McKenzie said he is not sure where the request to RTC for funding or ordinance drafting came from and he does not recall the City Council approving any request. He is fine with the RTC assisting in getting a grant for a station based system, just not paying for it out of RTC funds.

Commissioner Jardon said she doesn't recall the request either and asked what the consultant will be doing.

Ms. Cummings said that the consultant will provide input on what has and hasn't worked in other regions to avoid conflicts they may have encountered. She then introduced Lynne Barker from the City of Reno.

Ms. Barker said the Reno staff had asked both Sparks and County staffs whether they would have funding to contribute toward the continuation of work with the consultant, who has been helping the RTC for the purposes described by Ms. Cummings.

Commissioner Jardon believes the \$19,500 from the RTC would be money well spent but she agrees that the RTC should not end up funding the whole thing down the road.

NDOT Director Malfabon reminded the Board that there is a 20% match for the TAP Grants and that there is a misunderstanding that some of the costs incurred before the grant could be applied to that 20%, but those costs are not eligible. He wanted to be sure that the partners in the bike share program are aware of the limitations.

A full copy of the presentation may be obtained by contacting Denise Thompson at dthompson@rtcwashoe.com

On motion of Commissioner Jardon, seconded by Vice Chair Lucey, which motion carried unanimously, Chairman Smith ordered that receipt of the report be acknowledged and a contribution of \$19,500 from the RTC to the City of Reno is approved.

7.2 Acknowledge receipt of a report on the Washoe County Economic Development and Conservation Act (*For Possible Action*)

Amy Cummings, RTC Director of Planning, addressed the Board and introduced Mr. Dave Solaro from Washoe County for a report on the status of the plans in the Lands Bill.

Mr. Solaro explained that there are federal lands within the urban core that may be developed in a sustainable way, so this Act is a way to free up some of those lands for development. He said there are currently nine wilderness study areas that have nothing happening that could be better utilized as part of Washoe County. Mr. Solaro explained in further detail the various parts of the Act and who is involved, then offered to answer any questions.

Commissioner McKenzie is opposed to this bill because there is an implication that public funds should be used to build access into these lands for economic development. However, public funds are not used for that purpose, so if a developer needs an access to their property, they build the access, not the local government entities.

Vice Chair Lucey responded that that is not the intent of the Lands Bill in any way. It only provides greater access to lands for the community because we are becoming very landlocked by BLM land. It brings the access of power back to the county and the entities and takes it away from the federal government.

Commissioner Hartung concurred with Vice Chair Lucey.

Commissioner Jardon mentioned a section of the Bill stating that if in a certain amount of time the lands are not used for the purpose intended, they revert back to the federal government. She then asked what that timeframe is.

Mr. Solaro said there isn't an actual timeframe in the way it sounds and explained the details.

Chairman Smith said that a road going out to those lands could have multiple purposes other than just benefitting businesses or developers.

E.D. Gibson expressed a concern that when proceeds are allocated from the sale of those lands, a portion must also be allocated to the RTC. That did not happen in Las Vegas under a similar situation.

A full copy of the presentation may be obtained by contacting Denise Thompson at dthompson@rtcwashoe.com

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

7.3 Approve the proposed targets for the Safety Performance Management program (*For Possible Action*)

Amy Cummings, RTC Director of Planning, addressed the Board and said the performance standards for safety are required by the USDOT. NDOT has already adopted the performance standards for safety from the other state MPOs and the RTC has used their methodology to develop targets for our region.

She clarified that the RTC is still a member of the Vision Zero Coalition, but the USDOT discourages regions from adopting zero as their initial target as it is not realistic; however, it is an essential tool for reducing pedestrian incidents. She then reviewed the RTC's targets for improvement and offered to answer any questions.

Commissioner Jardon asked what the status is on the campaign to make pedestrians more aware of safety, distracted walking, distracted driving, etc.

Ms. Cummings said the RFP is being worked on now and the campaign and communication is occurring with the other entities for the possibility of additional advertising funding. The campaign should hopefully be ready by this spring.

A full copy of the presentation may be obtained by contacting Denise Thompson at dthompson@rtcwashoe.com

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

Items 8.1 thru 8.2 GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

8.1 Acknowledge receipt of a report of the status of Executive Director Lee Gibson's Fiscal Year (FY) 2018 performance goals and provide direction accordingly (For Possible Action) - *Continued*

A motion was made by Commissioner McKenzie to continue this item to the next meeting. The motion was seconded by Vice Chair Lucey and passed unanimously.

8.2 Legal Issues - Report, discussion and possible action and/or direction to legal counsel and staff following receipt of information on legal issues. The RTC may, consistent with Chapter 241 of NRS, decide to interrupt the public meeting at any time to conduct a closed session to confer with legal counsel and possibly deliberate on legal issues. Any action on pending legal matters will be made when the public meeting is reconvened.

RTC Legal Counsel Dale Ferguson reminded the commissioners that he would like to hold an attorney/client privileged meeting at approximately 8:15 before the start of February's meeting.

Item 9 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.

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

Item 10 MEMBER ITEMS


Commissioner McKenzie mentioned the development on N. Virginia Street and would like a discussion on coordination with developers regarding improvements for that area.

Commissioner Jardon would like an update on the Girl Scouts' flag program.

It was reported that the troop had contacted the RTC and Denise Thompson and Michael Moreno would be working on an implementation plan with them in the upcoming months.

Item 11 ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 12:14 p.m.



RON SMITH, Chairman
Regional Transportation Commission