

**REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION  
WASHOE COUNTY, NEVADA**

**FRIDAY**

**9:00 A.M.**

**April 5, 2018**

**PRESENT:**

**Ron Smith, Sparks City Council Member, Chairman  
Bob Lucey, Washoe County Commissioner, Vice Chairman  
Vaughn Hartung, 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:**

**Paul McKenzie, Reno City Council Member  
Rudy Malfabon, Director of NDOT**

The regular monthly meeting, which was rescheduled from March 16, 2018, held in the Chambers of the Washoe County Commission, 1001 E. 9<sup>th</sup> 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 (led by Ryan Tatter and Anthony Walklaw), the Board conducted the following business:

***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.

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

***Item 2.2     ADVISORY COMMITTEES SUMMARY REPORT***

On motion of Commissioner Hartung, seconded by Vice Chair 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**

Chairman Smith opened the meeting to public input as he had a request to speak on item.3.5.

Mr. Phillip Cooney, local resident, addressed the commissioners to express his appreciation that staff is not planning to change route 2 from Rock St./York to 4<sup>th</sup> Street Station, as he is a frequent rider. He also asked if staff would consider leaving the 24-hour pass and 10-ride passes in tact as they are. Lastly, Mr. Cooney requested that the ACCESS service not be limited to the same schedule as the fixed route system.

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

#### ***Minutes***

**3.1 Approve the minutes of the February 16, 2018, 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*)**

#### ***Public Transportation/Operations***

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

**3.5 Acknowledge receipt of the RTC RIDE Fall 2018 service change concepts update (*For Possible Action*)**

**3.6 *Item Removed From April 5, 2018, Agenda***

#### ***Planning***

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

#### ***Administration***

**3.8 Acknowledge receipt of the monthly Procurement Activity Report (*For Possible Action*)**

#### ***Procurement and Contracts***

**3.9 Approve a Professional Services Agreement (PSA) with Traffic Works in an amount not to exceed \$160,000 for consulting services on the Bicycle & Pedestrian Counts and Analysis; authorize the RTC Executive Director to execute the agreement (*For Possible Action*)**

**3.10 Approve a Reimbursement Agreement with MCImetro Access Transmission Services, Inc. for relocation of facilities along 4th Street/Prater Way in an estimated amount of \$69,517; authorize the Executive Director to execute the agreement (*For Possible Action*)**

**3.11 Approve the Professional Service Agreement with Eastern Sierra Engineering for the design and engineering during construction services for the Clean Water Way**

**Rehabilitation Project in an amount not to exceed \$185,370; authorize the RTC Executive Director to execute the Agreement (*For Possible Action*)**

**3.12 *Item Removed From April 5, 2018, Agenda***

**3.13 Approve a legal Settlement in the total amount of \$145,000 to acquire one (1) public utility easement on APN 007-314-01 and one (1) public utility easement and one (1) temporary construction easement on APN 007-314-13 from Don & Michele Gibson, LLC, a Nevada limited liability company as to a 49% percent interest, and Ronald James Gibson LLC, a Nevada limited liability company as to a 51% percent interest (“Gibson”), necessary to construct the 4<sup>th</sup> Street & Prater Way Bus Rapid Transit Project (*For Possible Action*)**

**3.14 Approve the second of two (2), one-year Armored Car Service options with Loomis Armored US, LLC, for an amount not-to-exceed \$143,000 (*For Possible Action*)**

On motion of Vice Chair Lucey, seconded by Commissioner Hartung, which motion carried unanimously, Chairman Smith ordered that Consent Items 3.1 through 3.14 be approved.

#### ***Item 4.1 thru 5.3 DIRECTOR REPORTS***

##### **Item 4.1 RTC Executive Director Report**

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

- April 20, 2018, is the scheduled date for the annual RTC Board Workshop.
- Free rides will be provided on all RTC transit services on Sunday, April 22<sup>nd</sup>, in celebration of Earth Day. All RTC transit services will be free the entire day, providing an opportunity for the public to try transit and Go Green with Transit! Additionally there will be park and ride locations for the public to park their cars and ride transit to the festivities at Idlewild Park. The Earth Day event at the park will run from 11 am to 6 pm.
- RTC has taken delivery of four (4) new Proterra Electric Buses recently. This is a partial delivery of the 17 new buses we will be receiving this year representing a \$16.1 million dollar capital investment in our public transportation program with new electric buses and battery charging systems. We will bring a new bus for you to see at the April 20<sup>th</sup> board meeting.
- Scott Gibson received the 2018 Engineer of the Year Award from the American Society of Civil Engineers, Truckee Meadows Branch. Scott has more than 40 years of transportation engineering experience and is a specialist in pavement engineering and pavement management. Scott is a RTC project manager for ten years and is responsible for managing the pavement preservation program for the region and recently oversaw the construction of the Pyramid McCarran Intersection Improvement Project. Randy Rice, ASCE President-Elect, then presented the award and Mr. Gibson thanked everyone for the opportunities he’s had.
- Congratulations to Vice Chair Lucey on the birth of his daughter Olivia Grace.

#### **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 focused on a summary document of the priorities approved by the Board at their previous meeting. E.D. Gibson and Chairman Smith had met with the Congressional Delegation to move forward the priorities previously mentioned. These include the Virginia Street RAPID Transit Extension Project funding and the Spaghetti Bowl improvements, amongst others.

Commissioner Hartung said that the representatives for the V&T Railroad had been discussing ways to get federal funding for their railroad, so he suggested that they instead, fund some sort of rail system between the TRI Center and Washoe County. He would like staff to have a conversation with Storey County on this.

E.D. Gibson responded that discussions have been underway about having some sort of commuter transit but it won't take place for at least two to three years because the businesses out there would like some sort of multi-modal center built as well.

#### **Item 4.3 NDOT Director Report**

NDOT Deputy Director Bill Hoffman discussed some of the potential federal funding that may be available in the Omnibus Federal Appropriations Package.

He then mentioned that April 11<sup>th</sup> is National Work Zone Safety Awareness week.

He went on, providing brief updates on multiple regional and state plans and projects, then offered to answer any questions.

Vice Chair Lucey thanked NDOT for the work on current projects and how nicely they are turning out. He also expressed continuing concern about Exit 61 off of I-580 N because it is backing up onto the freeway which causes a hard stop in traffic and that's very dangerous. That is not the only area where hard stops occur so he would like to know what, if any, plan is in place to address these matters because they will only get worse with continued growth in the region.

Deputy Director Hoffman agreed with Vice Chair Lucey, saying that many of the on and off ramps were designed in the 50s and 60s and do not work with today's traffic. He assured the Vice Chair that they are definitely on the radar of NDOT. In the meantime, he recommends working with the City of Reno to adjust the signals so they better clear the traffic, create a free right off of Exit 61, etc.

Commissioner Hartung asked if any cost analysis has been done on the idea of widening I-80 out to the TRI Center vs. light rail or Amtrak to help the commuters.

E.D. Gibson said there are two sets of tracks going out that way and a high level study was done which showed that it would be a billion dollar rail project, not including any right-of-way acquisition.

Commissioner Hartung suggested using existing tracks and would like to see some fiscal analysis on that option vs. widening I-80.

E.D. Gibson said a ridership analysis was done which showed that ridership levels would about 1,000 trips from Reno - Sparks - TRI Center. Union Pacific said no to the use of their tracks. However, Amtrak has an agreement with Union Pacific already so discussions would need to take place with Amtrak to provide a service for us. The big questions would be who is going to purchase the equipment, where would it be stored, where would it be repaired, etc.

Commissioner Hartung would still like to see an analysis done and bring the TRI Center to the table because they never participate in any of these discussions.

Deputy Director Hoffman said a feasibility study is going to be done on all options so he's sure rail will be part of that study.

Vice Chair Lucey absolutely agrees that these are state issues because tax breaks and benefits were given to the big TRI Center businesses by the Governor.

#### ***Item 5.1 thru 5.2 ENGINEERING***

##### **5.1 Acknowledge receipt of a 4<sup>th</sup> Street/Prater Way monthly progress report (*For Possible Action*)**

Mr. Jeff Andrews, RTC Project Manager, addressed the Board to provide the March update on the project, as set forth in the briefing materials for this agenda item.

Vice Chair Lucey expressed concern about the traffic congestion that will be caused by some of the planned construction closures.

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

*A full copy of the presentation may be obtained by contacting Denise Thompson at [dthompson@rtcwashoe.com](mailto:dthompson@rtcwashoe.com)*

##### **5.2 Approve the Indexing of the Regional Road Impact Fees as allowed by NRS 278B.225 (*For Possible Action*)**

Ms. Julie Masterpool, RTC Engineering Manager, addressed the Board and explained that this is the annual update for the automatic inflationary adjustment to the Impact Fee Program and there are no changes outside of that indexing. This year it is a 1.86% increase which is about a \$5 VMT

increase in the fees. This translates to approximately an \$80 increase for a single family home. This increase would go into effect July 1, 2018. She then offered to answer any questions.

Commissioner Hartung asked if anyone has checked our rating in terms of VMT and revisit them.

Ms. Masterpool responded that they are being looked at as part of the 6<sup>th</sup> Edition Update.

On motion of Commissioner Hartung, seconded by Vice Chair Lucey, which motion carried unanimously, Chairman Smith ordered that indexing of the Regional Road Impact Fees as allowed by NRS 278B.225 be approved.

#### ***Item 6 METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION***

##### **6.1 Acknowledge receipt of the presentation of the 2015-2016 Washoe County Regional Travel Characteristics Study (*For Possible Action*)**

Ms. Amy Cummings, RTC Director of Planning, addressed the Board and explained that this study is being used to update the travel demand model so that it will have more current information on things like VMT and average trip length. She stressed that this is a high level overview, so if there are things that the commissioners would like to have further analyzed for future meetings, they can definitely be brought back. She added that this information is being shared with TMRPA, NDOT and RSCVA. It may also be shared with other agencies who are interested.

She then introduced Ms. Xuan Wang, RTC Sr. Technical Planner, who gave her presentation on the 2015 to 2016 Washoe County Travel Characteristics Study. The study is an attempt to collect information on how people travel in relation to their social and economic demographic background.

*(A full copy of the presentation may be obtained by contacting Denise Thompson at [dthompson@rtcwashoe.com](mailto:dthompson@rtcwashoe.com))*

Vice Chair Lucey thanked Ms. Wang for the amazing data presented then asked if visitors polled were asked why they are not using RTC transit during their visit. Six percent said they would rather walk than to use transit, so he asked if there is any data behind that information.

Ms. Xuan said there was no data for that.

Vice Chair Lucey suggested that the question be asked in the future and Ms. Cummings agreed that it would be great information to have.

Chairman Smith suggested that it may be because visitors are usually on a schedule, so unfamiliarity with how long a bus might take could be a factor.

Commissioner Hartung said he had recently taken rail in Washington DC and it ended up taking much longer than anticipated. He also said he was very impressed with how thorough this report was.

E.D. Gibson said he believes the data will be further drilled down and the results may be presented at later dates. There is an enormous amount of data to look at.

Chairman Smith also thanked Ms. Wang for the great report.

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

## ***Item 7 GENERAL ADMINISTRATION***

### ***7.1 Item Removed From April 5, 2018, Agenda***

### **7.2 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.**

Legal Counsel Dale Ferguson said he had items he wished to communicate with the Board in a non-meeting legal briefing prior to the May meeting.

## **Item 10 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 11 MEMBER ITEMS**

Commissioner Hartung asked for an item to be brought to a future meeting pertaining to Veterans riding transit. He also asked if some of the ACCESS service can be transferred over to an UBER type of service.

Mr. David Jickling, RTC Public Transportation and Operations Director, said that information on the Veterans riding transit would be provided at the April Workshop, adding that free service would be a substantial financial hit to the RTC. He also said that both UBER and LYFT had been contacted on paratransit services and UBER is not interested at this time, but LYFT is definitely a possibility. Discussions are continuing but there are other federal requirements such as drug testing, insurance verification, etc., which need to be looked at. It is not a profitable business model for those companies at this time.

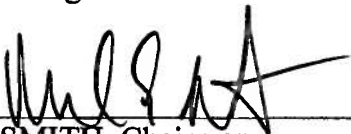
Commissioner Hartung thanked Mr. Walklaw and Mr. Tatter for being guests at the podium for the meeting.

Chairman Smith thanked staff for providing free transit to the UNR Wolfpack basketball playoff game.

Vice Chairman Lucey thanked staff for expediting the ACCESS approval process.

**Item 12      ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 10:33 a.m.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ron Smith', written over a horizontal line.

RON SMITH, Chairman  
Regional Transportation Commission