

**REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION
WASHOE COUNTY, NEVADA**

FRIDAY

9:07 A.M.

October 22, 2018

PRESENT:

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

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

NOT PRESENT:

Vaughn Hartung, Washoe County Commissioner

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:

Item 1 APPROVAL OF AGENDA

On motion of Vice Chair Lucey, seconded by Commissioner McKenzie, 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. Tammy Holt-Still, representing the Lemmon Valley/Swan Lake Recovery Committee, said that the committee had received information that a Washoe County Commissioner had been negotiating with a developer about elevation of Lemmon Drive because there is an ongoing issue with flooding. The discussion included conversation about approval of a development because the road would be completed sooner rather than later. Ms. Holt-Still said that the commissioner is on the RTC Board and would like to know how he has the authority to have that type of conversation when RTC staff says that there aren't even renderings for the conception of elevating the road planned until 2019. She wants to know if the RTC is going to allow the commissioner to do that. She and her committee have also filed for a judicial review on the development project.

Lastly, Ms. Holt-Still has concerns about where Lemmon Drive has been dramatically narrowed to accommodate drainage ditches for flooding as there are no sidewalks, bike lanes or any other means for pedestrians to get through that section of the road.

Chairman Smith asked RTC Engineering Director Brian Stewart to meet with Ms. Holt-Still outside of the meeting.

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

Items 3.1 thru 3.17 CONSENT ITEMS

Minutes

3.1 Approve the minutes of the September 21, 2018, meeting (*For Possible Action*)

Engineering

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

Public Transportation/Operations

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

Planning

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

Administration

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

3.6 Approve an Asset Management and Disposal Policy governing all RTC capital assets except real property (*For Possible Action*)

3.7 Approve an updated Fund Balance Reserve Policy (*For Possible Action*)

3.8 Authorize the RTC Executive Director to enter into agreements with the recommended senior (Wells Fargo) and co-managers (RBC & Citi) for December 2018 refunding of Series 2009 and 2013 fuel tax revenue bonds (*For Possible Action*)

3.9 Approve an agreement with Hobbs, Ong & Associates, Inc. and PFM Financial Advisors LLC in an estimated amount of \$90,000 plus hourly fees for financial advisor services; authorize the RTC Executive Director to execute the final agreement (*For Possible Action*)

Procurement and Contracts

3.10 Approve a 5-year contract with Canon Financial, USA in an amount not to exceed \$55,000; authorize the RTC Executive Director to execute the agreement (*For Possible Action*)

3.11 Approve Change Order No. 10 (CO 10) increasing the total contract amount of the agreement with Granite Construction, Inc. for Construction Work Phase 2 Southeast Connector, between Clean Water Way and South Meadows Parkway, by \$363,723 for a new total contract amount of \$156,260,520; authorize the Executive Director to execute CO 10 (*For Possible Action*)

- 3.12 **Award a Professional Services Agreement (PSA) to Eastern Sierra Engineering to provide design services and the option for engineering during construction services (EDC) for the Reno Consolidated 19-03 – Sierra Highlands Drive, Colbert Drive, Hammill Lane, Ralston Street and Ohm Place Project in an amount not to exceed \$327,355; authorize the RTC Executive Director to execute the agreement (*For Possible Action*)**
- 3.13 **Approve a contract in the amount of \$247,889 for a new ANGI Energy Systems LLC CNG compressor and updated control system; authorize the RTC executive director to execute the agreement (*For Possible Action*)**
- 3.14 **Approve a Professional Services Agreement (PSA) with Wood Rodgers, Inc. in an amount not to exceed \$100,000 for consulting services on the RTC Affordable Housing Study; authorize the RTC Executive Director to execute the agreement (*For Possible Action*)**
- 3.15 **Approve the Request for Proposal for the University Area Transportation Study (*For Possible Action*)**

Inter-Agency Agreements

- 3.16 **Approve an Interlocal Cooperative Agreement (ICA) in the amount of \$150,000 with the UNR Civil Engineering Department for the UNR Pavement/Materials Program; authorize the RTC Chair to execute the agreement (*For Possible Action*)**
- 3.17 **Approve a two-year Interlocal Cooperative Agreement (ICA) in the amount of \$150,000 with the Center for Advanced Transportation Education and Research (CATER), UNR Civil Engineering Department; authorize the RTC Chair to execute the agreement (*For Possible Action*)**

On motion of Commissioner Jardon, seconded by Commissioner McKenzie, which motion carried unanimously, Chairman Smith ordered that Consent Items 3.1 through 3.17 be approved.

Items 4.1 thru 4.3 DIRECTOR REPORTS

4.1 RTC Executive Director Report

E.D. Lee Gibson addressed the Board to provide information on the following topics:

- On Thursday, October 25th, the RTC hosted the Transforming Virginia Street event, Tastes and Treats at the South Virginia Plaza from 5:30 to 7:30 pm. This free event celebrated continuing construction progress on Virginia Street and encouraged continued community patronage of Midtown businesses during construction.
- In partnership with the Washoe County Registrar of Voters, free rides would be provided on all RTC transit services to everyone on Election Day, Tuesday, November 6th.
- The 4th Annual Nevada Veterans Memorial Plaza Benefit Dinner will be held on Thursday, November 8th at the Nugget Casino Resort. Individual and table ticket sales can be purchased on line at NVMP.INFO.
- He then provided an update on the status of RTC's transit service. There are still issues with hiring, training and retaining drivers as it is a very tight labor market in our area.

4.2 RTC Federal Report

A written report was provided in the supporting documents for this item and E.D. Gibson added that the Transportation Appropriations Committee had been given a continuing resolution until Dec. 7th. There was a Senate hearing on emerging technologies where Senator Cortez-Masto highlighted the RTC's work with UNR on autonomous bus technology. Lastly, staff continues to work with the FTA on the capital investment grant requirements for the Virginia Street BRT Extension project. There is a risk assessment scheduled for Nov. 14th and 15th.

4.3 NDOT Director Report

NDOT Director Rudy Malfabon gave a very brief update to allow time for upcoming presentations, saying that NDOT had completed all of the consent decree requirements with the US EPA, which has now been terminated by the courts as of September - this is good news. He also mentioned that NDOT staff is proceeding with the acquisition of a consultant engineering company for the North Valleys project.

Commissioner Jardon thanked Director Malfabon and his staff for their continued work to keep the freeway and underpasses clear of trash and safer near the downtown Reno exits.

Vice Chair Lucey thanked Director Malfabon and his staff for the time and effort that has been put in for the Mt. Rose traffic study, adding that there will be a joint community forum between Washoe County and NDOT to address the safety concerns in that corridor.

Item 5 PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION AND OPERATIONS

5.1 Acknowledge receipt of a bus stop improvement program update report (*For Possible Action*)

Mr. Ed Park, RTC Transit Planner, addressed the Board to provide an update on bus stop improvements, both upcoming and completed. The RTC must comply, to the best of its ability, with the ADA standards for transportation facilities which requires a firm, stable surface measuring five feet along the curb and eight feet deep. All of the RTC bus stops were studied by a UNR intern which showed that 61% of all RTC stops do not meet that standard.

An RFP is planned for Board approval in November for the bus stop connectivity and improvement program. The project is anticipated to last for two years with construction beginning next year. Staff has identified approximately 100 stops that currently have adequate public right-of-way (ROW) and sufficient ridership to qualify for immediate consideration for improvements. He then named a couple of those stops. The improvement costs per stop are anticipated to be \$10,000 - \$20,000, depending on sidewalk needs, landscaping, etc.

Three stops were improved in FY 2018 along with one transit station that was relocated. The station was previously located on private property and the owner did not want the station on their property any longer.

Although a UNR intern was utilized for the initial study, Kimley-Horn will review accessibility of all RTC facilities and 360 stops to inventory for ADA accessibility.

Mr. Park then offered to answer any questions.

Commissioner Jardon asked if private property owners will be approached if needed for ADA improvements and those stops will not instead be pushed to the bottom of the list.

Mr. Park confirmed that if ADA improvements are definitely needed, staff will absolutely make every effort to work with property owners. However, the stops located on public property will be listed for immediate improvements. A pad will be installed and depending on ridership, amenities will be added such as a bench, trash container, shelter, etc.

Commissioner Jardon asked Mr. Park to address Valley Rd. and Denslowe Dr. which she understands has high ridership and a bench but no shelter.

Vice Chair Lucey asked how many physical stops are identified in the 61% previously mentioned.

Mr. Park responded that there are approximately 600 stops that are not currently in compliance.

The Vice Chair asked how many stops are planned for completion in this specific project period.

Mr. Park said there will be up to 100 stops improved. During the improvements the stops are temporarily relocated.

Commissioner McKenzie noticed that in the numerous developments he's seen recently, no bus stop has been installed, adding that the RTC should require it if the development is along a bus route.

David Jickling, RTC Director of Public Transportation and Operations, responded that for every development project built that is on a bus route there has been a request to install an ADA pad. The RTC cannot enforce it though, only request it.

Chairman Smith said that \$1.2 million had been allocated for this project at a previous meeting and staff has been directed to "get it done." If additional funds are needed, staff should request it from the Board.

Mr. Jickling said that this item will be brought back for updates and hopefully, an RFP in November. He added that funding isn't necessarily the delay, it is more the shortage of labor at this time.

Commissioner Jardon said she's had a complaint about trash blowing around from the bus stops.

Mr. Jickling said that when trash cans are installed, they tend to be filled by people other than the passengers, so the possibility of using a trash truck to keep up with the demand is being considered.

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

Items 6.1 thru 6.3 ENGINEERING

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

Mr. Warren Call, RTC Project Manager, addressed the Board to provide a brief PowerPoint presentation update on the 4th Street/Prater Way project. He said roadway work is substantially complete and the BRT scope is still under construction at this time. The contract is at approximately \$38.5 million out of \$42.3 million. Punch list work is continuing as are traffic signals and fiber optic connections. (Full presentation is available by contacting dthompson@rtcwashoe.com)

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

6.2 Acknowledge receipt of the Virginia Street Bus RAPID Transit (BRT) Extension monthly progress report (*For Possible Action*)

Mr. Jeff Wilbrecht, RTC Project Manager, addressed the Board to provide a brief PowerPoint presentation update on the Virginia Street Bus RAPID Transit (BRT) Extension project. He said completion is anticipated for the end of February 2019. Comments for design were taken to the design engineer and a CMAR cost estimate comes next, which should be in early November.

Mr. Wilbrecht then showed some photos and an outreach video for the project, which mostly shows the trench work so that the public can see what is being done.

Work continues up toward Liberty Street and fiber optic connections are currently being done for AT&T and MCI. Northbound continues to be redirected and southbound remains open. Next, he mentioned a couple of events coming up that E.D. Gibson had also mentioned in his report.

Lastly, Mr. Wilbrecht provided an update on the security matters that have been discussed in the past. The contractor will provide security to protect their assets, such as fencing, and construction staff is also there at least ten hours per day. The RTC nor the contractor can police for the community, only for the project itself.

Upon conclusion, Mr. Wilbrecht offered to answer any questions. (Full presentation is available by contacting dthompson@rtcwashoe.com)

Commissioner Jardon said that the congestion going south slows people down, but it's good because they are noticing businesses they were not previously aware of; she would like to augment the information on how to get into the northbound business though. She is still hearing that it's not as bad as the community and business owners thought it would be.

Mr. Wilbrecht said that he would work with the contractor to make it easier for drivers to understand.

Commissioner McKenzie said that the process has been done much better on this project than on the 4th/Prater project which pleases him. He added that it is confusing at Plumb Lane going north because it looks like the road is simply shut down, so people avoid it altogether.

Commissioner Jardon said that when the burglaries started occurring, RPD immediately got involved to do some undercover work and arrested the thieves quickly, so she wanted to give them a shout out.

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

6.3 Acknowledge receipt of the Regional Intersection Improvement Program Report (*For Possible Action*)

Mr. Blaine Peterson, RTC Project Manager, provided an update on traffic signals, ITS operations and intersection improvements currently included in the 2040 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP). There are over 400 traffic signals in the region which are grouped into specific timelines for review. These reviews are done on a three-year cycle which is when they optimize the signal timing. Approximately \$1.7 million has been spent to date on the signal timing program.

Mr. Peterson continued, explaining that the ITS program includes a communications structure such as fiber optic and radios, along with LiDAR, video cameras, radar or other detection methods. Approximately \$3.4 million has been spent on ITS.

Traffic Engineering Spot Projects (TE Spot) which require a traffic signal are reviewed for warrants, project priorities are established, as is funding, and then design begins. TE Spot projects could include traffic signals, additional turn lanes and battery back-up systems.

Mr. Peterson concluded by reviewing some of the TE Spot projects recently completed or currently under construction, then said future TE Spot funding that staff is hoping for is approximately \$3 million and for ITS projects \$1.5 million, which includes additional research with UNR for LiDAR, lastly, \$500,000 for signal timing projects. He then listed intersection projects being installed by other entities or that are coming up for review and offered to answer any questions. (Full presentation is available by contacting dthompson@rtcwashoe.com)

Commissioner Jardon asked how long design takes for a new signal, specifically the one at Sharlands and Mae Anne.

Mr. Peterson said that one is currently being evaluated to meet the warrants and if it does, construction will most likely be next year.

Vice Chair Lucey asked what the rough cost is for a traffic signal. Mr. Peterson responded that it is about \$550,000 each.

The Vice Chair then asked if evaluations are done on current traffic levels or are future considerations taken into account.

Mr. Peterson said that evaluations are generally required to meet current traffic studies, but there are exceptions such as at Pyramid and Calle de la Plata where warrants were not completely met, but development will be occurring in the very near future.

Vice Chair Lucey believes that future growth should be given more weight with consideration to intersection improvements.

Commissioner McKenzie asked if the manner in which people travel through the intersections are considered when deciding if an intersection meets warrants, such as constant speeding, ignoring stop signs or ignoring crosswalks.

Mr. Peterson said that it is difficult to quantify how people are driving so staff usually has to fall back on federal guidelines.

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

Item 7 METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION (MPO)

7.1 Receive a presentation from the Nevada Department of Transportation on major transportation studies and projects, including the One Nevada Plan, I-11 Northern Nevada Alternatives Analysis, Spaghetti Bowl Project, and US 395 North improvements - *No action required*

Ms. Sondra Rosenberg, NDOT Assistant Director of Planning, and Mr. Nick Johnson, NDOT Chief of Project Management, both addressed the Board to provide updates on the One Nevada Plan, I-11, and major Northern Nevada projects.

Ms. Rosenberg spoke first to explain that the One Nevada Plan is the statewide long range transportation plan that is required. This is a 20+ year plan done in conjunction with other states. Historically, it has been a policy document but this one focuses more on performance. She then listed the goals of the Plan which align with the RTC's goals. This Plan is the foundation on how NDOT works with MPOs and other statewide organizations.

Key areas moving forward are:

- Greater use of technology
- Emphasis on multimodal considerations
- Shift to performance- and outcome-based decision-making process for prioritizing projects
- Develop criteria and data to better evaluate needs
- Investigate new and innovative funding sources
- Continue robust statewide participation to unify information sharing and decision-making

Ms. Rosenberg next talked about the I-11 project. The goals are to advance the project, document issues, formulate a plan and prepare Nevada with the identified corridors should a federal lands bill advance.

Ms. Rosenberg then showed a map of the corridors that were initially being considered and the evaluation criteria used. Numerous public meetings were held with high attendance where corridor alternative concerns were heard as well as “What happens in my town?” and “What happens north of I-80?”

Next steps are to finish the public comment period for the Alternatives Analysis Report, bring the information to the State Transportation Board and FHA for approval and continue work with the communities. She then offered to answer any questions on these topics.

Mr. Johnson then approached the Board to provide an update on the NDOT projects for Northern Nevada. First, the NEPA for Spaghetti Bowl project will hopefully be completed within 2.5 years which is half a year shy of their three year goal. After NEPA is complete, the first draft of the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) will be published and then a final public hearing will be held in December. Once complete, the final EIS will be published and a Record of Decision provided next summer. He then showed the alternatives with Alternative 2 being recommended.

Mr. Johnson explained the details and timeline for Phase 1 of the project, also known as Spaghetti Bowl Xpress. If all goes as planned, construction is should begin in spring of 2020.

He then moved on to the North Valleys projects on US 395 which include projects from the Spaghetti Bowl to McCarran Blvd./Clear Acre Lane, the Clear Acre Lane On-Ramp, and on US 395 from Clear Acre Lane to Lemmon Drive. Additionally, a corridor study is planned for I-80 East to evaluate long and short term solutions for the congestion, and a new interchange signal with auxiliary lanes is planned for USA Parkway at I-80. He then offered to answer any questions. (Full presentations are available by contacting dthompson@rtcwashoe.com)

Commissioner McKenzie said he thought the Xpress project could be completed without the EIS.

Mr. Johnson said that it could be done without it, but it could also create some issues with the EIS itself, so they kept it together to avoid that. Also, it only delays award of the Xpress project by a couple of months.

Commissioner McKenzie then asked how long it will be before the rest of the Spaghetti Bowl project continues following the Xpress project.

Mr. Johnson responded that there will be bits and pieces done in different phases, so it won't all occur at the same time.

Commissioner Jardon asked if NDOT has the current crash data for the Spaghetti Bowl interchange. Mr. Johnson said staff will get that information for her.

No Board action was taken on this item.

Item 8 GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

8.1 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 no items for discussion.

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

There were no member items.

Item 11 ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 10:22 a.m.



RON SMITH, Chairman
Regional Transportation Commission