



**REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION**

*Metropolitan Planning • Public Transportation & Operations • Engineering & Construction*

Metropolitan Planning Organization of Washoe County, Nevada

January 18, 2019

**AGENDA ITEM 5.1**

**TO:** Regional Transportation Commission

**FROM:** Jeff Wilbrecht, P.E.  
Engineer II



Lee G. Gibson AICP  
Executive Director

**SUBJECT: Virginia Street Bus Rapid Transit Extension Monthly Progress Update -  
Plumb to Liberty & Maple to 15th**

**RECOMMENDATION**

Acknowledge receipt of the Virginia Street Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) Extension monthly progress report.

**SUMMARY**

**Roadway Design:**

Design team is working towards 100 percent reconstruction plans for the roadway and BRT elements of the project throughout both Midtown and UNR. It is anticipated that 100 percent design will be complete in early 2019.

The construction manager at risk and independent cost estimator have been working to develop opinion of probable construction cost for the 90 percent design plans. This process has included workshops to discuss constructability issues and construction schedules. The last workshop was held in mid-December discussing probable construction costs.

**Early Work Utility Project:**

Construction activities associated with the utility project are progressing well. The contractor is just past 50 percent complete with construction activities. Now that the joint trench and service laterals are complete, utility companies are preparing to run wire in anticipation of tie-overs to the new facilities. Crews are also continuing to work on storm drain facilities and TMWA water facilities.

This utility work has progressed successfully with the one-way traffic configuration with northbound traffic detoured to Wells Avenue, Holcomb Avenue, and Center Street. With this detour, intermittent and short term side street closures have occurred.

Outreach Activities:

Since the last project update, the project team held an outreach meeting on December 7, 2018, to discuss progress of the Utility Project as well as schedule and phasing of the roadway project.

The project team continues to meet with stakeholders throughout the Midtown corridor. The majority of the meetings over the past month have been smaller one-on-one meetings with individual business owners and small groups.

As part of the Virginia Street project outreach plan, the project team is partnering with participating Midtown businesses who enroll in the Business Patronage Program that will help promote, advertise, and market to customers during construction. This includes special events specifically created to encourage the public to visit Midtown. To date, there are 238 businesses enrolled in the program.

In November, the project team coordinated and supported two events in the Midtown District. On November 8-10, 2018, the project team supported the Off Beat Music Festival by supporting those businesses that also participated as venues. Also, the project is supporting a Midtown bus that will tour the corridor during Black Friday shopping.

December focused on one event – 12 Merry Days of Midtown. This event started December 6 and occurred during week days through December 21, 2018. A midtown New Year's Eve event was also supported by purchasing food from local businesses and helping market and advertise for the event.

Supporting the project team's goal of strong and extensive outreach and community awareness, there have been a number of media stories published and broadcast about the project that illustrate the accessibility to Midtown during construction. Much of the coverage has been positive underscoring construction is not as bad as was expected by many of the businesses, and in some cases business has increased or remained steady. Additionally, the added temporary parking within construction areas and the Lyft discount has helped ease the impacts associated with construction.

Project information continues to be communicated weekly through the Project Stakeholder Update, which is electronically distributed to subscribers.

**FISCAL IMPACT**

Funding for work tasks associated with the utility phase of the project have been approved with the FY 2019 Program of Projects and is included in the current approved RTC budget. There is no additional cost in connection with this agenda item.

**PREVIOUS ACTIONS BY BOARD**

- July 20, 2018                      Approved a Professional Services Agreement with Atkins North America for the Construction Management Services for the utility construction phase. Approved an Agreement with Sierra Nevada Construction Inc. for the construction of the early work utility construction phase. Authorized the finalization and execution of five utility relocation and reimbursement agreements into the agreement for early construction work.
- June 15, 2018                      Approved an Amendment to the Construction Manager At Risk (CMAR) Pre-Construction Agreement between the RTC and Sierra Nevada Construction Inc. for the Virginia Street Bus RAPID Extension Project
- May 21, 2018                      Approved a Request for Proposals (RFP) for Construction Services for the Virginia Street Bus RAPID Transit Extension Project.
- June 17, 2016                      Approved the Final Rankings of the Proposers and Selection of a Contractor for Construction Manager at Risk (CMAR) for Pre-Construction Services and authorized the Executive Director to execute a Pre-Construction Services Agreement with SNC for the Virginia Street RAPID Extension Project.
- March 18, 2016                      Approved the RFP for the Construction Manager at Risk method of project delivery for the Virginia Street Bus RAPID Transit Extension Project.
- March 18, 2016                      Approved Amendment No. 1 to the Professional Services Agreement with NCE for Final Design for the Virginia Street Bus RAPID Transit Extension Project.
- October 16, 2015                      Acknowledged receipt of an update on the Virginia Street Bus RAPID Transit Extension Project and approve the local preferred alternative.
- August 21, 2015                      Acknowledged receipt of an update and provided direction on the alternative selection for the Virginia Street Bus RAPID Transit Extension Project.
- July 17, 2015                      Acknowledged receipt of a report on the Virginia Street Bus RAPID Transit Extension Project.

- April 17, 2015                      Acknowledged receipt of a report on the development of the Virginia Street Bus RAPID Transit Extension Project.
- October 17, 2014                      Approved the selection of NCE for Preliminary Engineering and Environmental services for the Virginia Street Bus RAPID Transit Extension Project.
- July 25, 2014                      Approved the RFP for Preliminary Engineering and Environmental services for the Virginia Street Bus RAPID Transit Extension Project.

**ADVISORY COMMITTEE(S) RECOMMENDATION**

There are no advisory committee recommendations pertaining to this agenda item.