



**REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION**

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

Metropolitan Planning Organization of Washoe County, Nevada

April 19, 2019

**AGENDA ITEM 6.2**

**TO:** Regional Transportation Commission

**FROM:** Maria Paz Fernandez, P.E.  
Engineer II

  
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Lee G. Gibson, AICP  
Executive Director

**SUBJECT: Oddie/Wells Multi-modal Improvements Project Update -  
Ninth Street in Reno to Pyramid Way in Sparks**

**RECOMMENDATION**

Acknowledge receipt of the Oddie/Wells Multi-modal Improvements Project update report.

**SUMMARY**

Project Purpose

The Oddie/Wells Multi-modal Improvements Project will improve transportation safety as well as access for walking and biking from Wells Avenue at 9<sup>th</sup> Street to Oddie Boulevard at Pyramid Highway, approximately 3.2 miles. The project includes the construction of sidewalks, improved bicycle facilities, intersection improvements, landscaping, hardscape, and lighting.

Roadway Design:

The proposed roadway design generally maintains the same number of travel lanes that are in place today and adds sidewalks on both sides of the street. This project is currently at the 30 percent design phase. Three design options for bicycle facilities have been presented to staff at the City of Reno and City of Sparks for consideration and input:

- Raised cycle track from Sutro Street to Rock Boulevard and a buffered bicycle lane on Wells Avenue from 9<sup>th</sup> Street to Sutro Street in Reno and on Oddie Boulevard from Rock Boulevard to Pyramid Way in Sparks. This is the configuration identified in the 2013 corridor study.
- Raised cycle track for the full length of the corridor from 9<sup>th</sup> Street to Pyramid Way.
- Buffered bicycle lane for the full length of the corridor from 9<sup>th</sup> Street to Pyramid Way.

Many public comments on the project to date support the raised cycle track option for the full length of the corridor. The RTC staff is working closely with the Reno Sparks Convention Center (RSCVA) and Reno Rodeo Association to minimize potential impacts on Rodeo and other special event operations. We are actively working with the Cities to address the maintenance concerns they have regarding the proposed bicycle facilities.

Upon receiving a recommendation on the roadway configuration from the City of Reno and City of Sparks, this item will be brought back to the RTC Board for an action regarding the preferred alternative in the June/July timeframe.

Landscaping, Lighting and Finishes:

Landscaping, lighting, and finishes will be further addressed during the 60 percent design phase of the project during the late summer/fall timeframe. RTC will develop a framework to facilitate community input and seek recommendations from the Cities regarding street trees, hardscapes, street lighting, and privacy walls/fences behind houses that are adjacent to the corridor. While public art is not an eligible use of RTC fuel or sales tax, RTC will seek input from Reno and Sparks regarding locations where future public art may be planned so that adequate sidewalk infrastructure may be anticipated. Benches and bike racks are not currently included in the project scope.

Upon receiving input from the community and a recommendation on the landscaping, lighting and finishes from the City of Reno and City of Sparks, this item will be brought back to the RTC Board for action in the fall of 2019.

Outreach Activities:

A website with project information and an area for public comments has been established at [OddieWellsProject.com](http://OddieWellsProject.com). The intent is to have this website live through the duration of the project (Design and Construction) and populate it with the latest information.

A “re-introductory” public meeting was held on November 29, 2018, to review the design concept that was adopted through the corridor study. Many questions and suggestions were received. These questions were addressed at the subsequent public meeting held on March 28, 2019, and in the 30% design submission. A comment regarding noise along the corridor was received, specifically as it may impact residences that are adjacent the corridor. The RTC is conducting a noise analysis and the results will be shared with the project team and the community.

The RTC also received a letter from the City of Sparks requesting that initial construction phasing include the segment between Silverada Boulevard and Sullivan Lane. This will be addressed as options for construction phasing are developed later in the design process.

RTC staff met with RSCVA/Reno Rodeo Association on March 20, 2019, to share preliminary plans and discuss the project elements.

Six hundred postcard invitations were mailed to parcel owners and tenants announcing the March 28, 2019, Public Meeting. In addition, 200 postcards were hand delivered to the businesses located between Sullivan Lane and Silverada Boulevard. Two “Road Ahead” segments were prepared and aired to promote the public meeting. Social media announcements were published through RTC, City of Reno and City of Sparks social media channels.

Other upcoming outreach activities will include informal meetings at restaurants or grocery stores along the corridor for the community to talk to the project manager or team to talk about the project.

**FISCAL IMPACT**

Appropriations were included in the FY 18 Budget and FY 18 Program of Projects and are included in the current approved RTC budget. There is no additional cost in connection with this agenda item.

**PREVIOUS ACTIONS BY BOARD**

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| April 20, 2018  | Approved the selection of Stantec Consulting Services, Inc. and a Professional Services Agreement (PSA) for the Preliminary Engineering Design of the Oddie/Wells Corridor Project |
| August 17, 2017 | Approved the Request For Proposals (RFP) for the Preliminary Design of the Oddie/Wells Corridor Project  |

**ADVISORY COMMITTEE(S) RECOMMENDATION**

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