

**REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION
COMMISSION TECHNICAL ADVISORY
COMMITTEE
Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, July 1, 2020**

Meeting via teleconference only pursuant to NRS 241.023 and Emergency Directive 006

TAC Members Present

Chris Tolley	Truckee Meadows Regional Planning Agency
Tara Smaltz	Nevada Department of Transportation
Kevin Verre	Nevada Department of Transportation
Mitchell Fink	Washoe County Community Services
Mike Boster	Washoe County School District
Lissa Butterfield	Reno-Tahoe Airport Authority
Dan Inouye	Washoe County Health District Air Quality
Enos Han	Federal Highway Administration Nevada
Kurt Dietrich	City of Reno Community Development, Public Works Department
Jeff Borchardt	City of Reno Community Development
Armando Ornelas	City of Sparks Community Development
Amber Sosa	City of Sparks Engineering Services

RTC Staff

Bill Thomas	Amy Cummings
Mark Maloney	Amber Bowsmith
Dan Doenges	Rebecca Kapuler
Michael Moreno	David Carr

TAC Guests

John Flansberg, City of Reno
Mike Mischel, City of Reno

The Technical Advisory Committee meeting was conducted as a Virtual Meeting. The meeting was called to order at approximately 9:00 a.m. by the Chair, Amber Sosa.

ITEM 1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The agenda was approved as submitted.

ITEM 2. PUBLIC COMMENT

Dan Doenges read into the record the following public comment sent via email from Andrew Samuelsen of Truckee Meadows Bicycle Alliance:

“As part of the RTP2050, please include projects that would complete a network of cycletracks in central Reno. The cycletracks should interconnect, be physically separated from cars, and be safe for riders from 8-80 years old to use. An example network may include: Oddie/Wells, Center St., North Sierra St. (9th to North McCarran), Sutor/Locust/Kirman (North McCarran to Plumb), Mary Street (Virginia to Plumas), Plumas Street (Mary to Moana), Vassar Street (Virginia to Terminal), and 7th Street (West McCarran to UNR). This network would have a very small effect on car capacity and parking, but would provide very large capacity for bikers of all ages. This network could be built quickly and cheaply. RTP2050 survey results show a desire for bicycle infrastructure, over any other projects including traffic congestion projects.
Andrew Samuelsen - Truckee Meadows Bicycle Alliance”

There was no other public comment.

ITEM 3. ELECTION OF OFFICERS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2021

The Policies Governing the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) state that the Chair shall be elected from the three local governments on a rotating basis. The term of office for Chair and Vice Chair shall be one year, effective after elections occur. The Vice Chair Jeff Borchardt, City of Reno shall become the Chair, and the representative from the Washoe County Julee Olander, as the Vice Chair.

On a motion by Armando Ornelas and seconded by Tara Smaltz, the committee approved the appointment of Jeff Brochardt as the Chair and Julee Olander as the Vice Chair for the committee for fiscal year 2021. The motion carried unanimously.

As the new Chair, Jeff Borchardt then proceeded with the meeting.

ITEM 4. RECOMMEND APPROVAL OF THE PROPOSED REVISIONS TO THE RTC TAC STATEMENT OF PURPOSE, OBJECTIVES, AND PROCEDURES

Dan Doenges, RTC Planning Manager, gave an overview of the update that was due to City of Reno staff having conflicts with Reno City Council and the RTC TAC meeting day. A request was made to move the TAC meeting from the first Wednesday of the month to the first Thursday of the month. The policy change in the Procedures section reflects this meeting day change.

Dan stated that RTC staff decided to review and update the policies overall and made some additional changes which are reflected in this agenda item. Armando Ornelas voiced concern regarding Objective 4 in Section 2. Discussion followed.

On a motion by Armando Ornelas and seconded by Chris Tolley, the committee approves adopting the proposed changes to this document of the RTC TAC Statement of Purpose, Objectives, and Procedures leaving alone Objective 4 in Section 2 until RTC can review this section and bring it back to a subsequent TAC meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

ITEM 5. RECEIVE DIRECTION ON THE 2050 REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLAN (RTP) CALL FOR PROJECTS

Dan Doenges, RTC Planning Manager, gave a presentation on the 2050 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) and discussed the online public survey and other elements of the Call for Projects. He also added that public and community members can also reach out directly to RTC staff regarding projects.

Kevin Verre asked what level of information the RTC is looking for and what type of paperwork is required. Kevin also asked if there is a particular type of project RTC wants to have in the RTP, and inquired whether a form is available to use and what kind of project information is required.

Dan responded stated that the RTP is more of a regional document, and there is not currently a form or format used for this purpose. Dan also provided the survey link and encouraged TAC members to take the survey before the end of July.

Bill Thomas, RTC Executive Director, stated that the purpose of a form is to ascertain facts around the reason for the request. He also stated that there will be some vetting, prioritization and decision making and the more information that is provided regarding project needs, the better for the vetting process and potential outcome. He added that if someone has a project they would like to have considered, RTC would ask for justification and why that project would help in the future through the 2050 RTP.

A copy of the presentation is on file at the RTC Metropolitan Planning Department.

On a motion by Chris Tolley and seconded by Kurt Dietrich, the committee acknowledged receipt of the report. The motion carried unanimously.

ITEM 6. DEVELOPMENT UPDATES

Jeff Borchardt, City of Reno, stated there were three abandonments over the last year around the University area – two alleys and one on a portion of Lake Street that Reno City Council recently approved. The Council also approved the residential Meridian 120 South Development and noted there will likely be some impacts on regional roads near the Garson Road interchange.

There were no additional Developmental Updates.

ITEM 7. MEMBER ITEMS

Kurt Dietrich, City of Reno Public Works, said that Traffic Engineering and Public Works has been working on the traffic signals and putting them back into rotation now that Nevada’s Phase 2 of COVID-19 is in place, and everything is working well. He also stated that there have been a lot of service requests regarding speeding, and it has been confirmed this is taking place. Additionally, motorcycle crashes are on the rise. RPD is working on that aspect. Traffic Engineering is also working on school zones for the reopening of schools.

Amber Sosa, City of Sparks, stated they are working on traffic signals timing and school zones as well.

Mitchell Fink, Washoe County, stated that a new traffic signal at Arrowcreek/Thomas Creek will be turned on in the next week. This signal was installed in conjunction with the new middle school in the area. Another signal has become operational at El Rancho and Maynard.

Daniel Inouye, Washoe County Air Quality, highlighted an announcement from Governor Sisolak at the end of June regarding the Clean Cars Nevada Initiative. The initiative will give residents more choices for low to zero emission vehicles and the timeline id for it to begin in 2024. He stated that Health District is very supportive of this initiative.

Tara Smaltz, NDOT, reported that a project on I80 corridor from Vista Blvd. to USA Parkway is underway. If TAC members are interested in being part of this project, she asked that they please reach out to her.

Kevin Verre, NDOT, stated the 21-24 STIP work program will be out for public comment starting July 2, 2020, and will be open for 30 days. Additional information is on the NDOT website or anyone can reach out to Kevin for more details.

Chris Tolley, TMRPA, announced they are recruiting for a Director of Regional Planning position that closes on July 8th. The Truckee Meadows Annual Report will be going out to the Regional Planning Commission in August and then to the Regional Planning Governing Board in October. The decision by the Regional Planning Commission on Daybreak was upheld by the Governing Board at their previous meeting.

Mike Boster, Washoe County School District, noted that the WCSD Board will be voting soon on how the schools will be run in the next school year due to COVID-19. He added this will most likely affect how kids will be in the classroom or online from home, and the decision may have a varying impact on the road network during this next school year.

There were no additional Member Updates.

ITEM 7. AGENDA ITEMS FOR FUTURE TAC MEETINGS

There were no items given.

ITEM 8. RTC STAFF ITEMS

Amy Cummings, RTC Planning Director, announced that RTC Engineering Project Manager Julie Masterpool is retiring on July 10th in case anyone wants to reach out to her before she leaves.

Mark Maloney, RTC Transportation Director, stated that transit ridership had been down as much as 62% during COVID-19. Data from the end of June shows ridership was down only 32%.

ITEM 9. PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no public comments.

ITEM 10. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 9:48 a.m.