

**REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION
WASHOE COUNTY, NEVADA**

FRIDAY

9:04 A.M.

Date September 18, 2020

PRESENT:

**Bob Lucey, Washoe County Commissioner, Chairman
Neoma Jardon, Reno City Council Member, Vice Chair
Vaughn Hartung, Washoe County Commissioner
Oscar Delgado, Reno City Council Member
Charlene Bybee, Sparks City Council Member (Alternate)**

**Bill Thomas, RTC Executive Director
Dale Ferguson, Legal Counsel
Kristina Swallow, Director of NDOT**

NOT PRESENT:

Kristopher Dahir, Sparks City Council Member

The regular monthly meeting, held via Zoom, was called to order by Chairman Lucey. 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 Commissioner Hartung, seconded by Vice Chair Jardon, which motion unanimously carried, Chairman Lucey ordered that the agenda for this meeting be approved.

Item 2.1 PUBLIC INPUT

Chairman Lucey 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 Commissioner Bybee, which motion unanimously carried, Chairman Lucey 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 3.17 CONSENT ITEMS

Minutes

- 3.1 Approve the minutes of the August 20, 2020, meeting (*For Possible Action*)**

On motion of Vice Chair Jardon, seconded by Commissioner Hartung, which motion carried 4-1 with Commissioner Bybee abstaining, Chairman Lucey ordered that Consent Item 3.1 be approved.

Engineering

- 3.2 Acknowledge receipt of the monthly Engineering Activity Report (*For Possible Action*)**
- 3.3 Acknowledge receipt of the Virginia Street Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) Extension monthly progress report (*For Possible Action*)**
- 3.4 Acknowledge receipt of the Lemmon Valley project monthly progress report (*For Possible Action*)**

Public Transportation/Operations

- 3.5 Acknowledge receipt of the monthly Public Transportation/Operations Report (*For Possible Action*)**
- 3.6 Approve the establishment of transit performance standards for RTC's microtransit (FlexRIDE) services (*For Possible Action*)**

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*)**
- 3.9 Approve addition of new language to RTC Personnel Rules: Open Communication; Solicitation Prohibited; Employee Bulletin Board; Use of Tobacco or Smoking Products; Outside Employment; Discipline; Computer Purchase Program and Anonymous Reporting System. Approve modification to Personnel Rules 3.9 Corrective Procedure and 3.10 Appeals. Approve the deletion of RTC Management Policies: Employee Open Door (P-8); Complaints and Commendations (P-9); No Solicitation (P-10); No Smoking (P-19); Disciplinary Action (P-23); Computer Purchase Program (P-39) and Anonymous Reporting (P-47). Approve modification to RTC Management Policy Employee Telecommuting (P-41) (*For Possible Action*)**

Procurement and Contracts

- 3.10 Approve a Professional Services Agreement (PSA) with HDR Engineering Inc. in an amount not to exceed \$82,498.00 for consulting services on the Electric and Alternative Fuel Vehicle Infrastructure and Advanced Mobility Plan; authorize the RTC Executive Director to execute the agreement (*For Possible Action*)**

- 3.11 Approve the agreement with Spare Labs Inc. in an amount not-to-exceed \$99,000 to provide microtransit software services; authorize the RTC Executive Director to execute the agreement (*For Possible Action*)
- 3.12 Approve Amendment No. 1 to the existing Professional Services Agreement (PSA) between the RTC and Headway Transportation, LLC (Headway) for the design of the Center Street Cycle Track Project in the amount of \$2,937,450 for a new not to exceed amount of \$3,033,400; authorize the RTC Executive Director to execute the amendment (*For Possible Action*)
- 3.13 Approve Change Order (CO) No. 18 in the amount of \$10,707 for changes to the project scope associated with removing minor paving scope, adjusting loading zone related signage, changes to the irrigation system at the North Virginia Street roundabout, and clarification to the risk register on the Virginia Street Bus RAPID Transit (BRT) Extension Project; authorize the RTC Executive Director to execute CO No. 18 (*For Possible Action*)

Inter-Agency Agreements

- 3.14 Approve the subrecipient agreement with the Board of Regents, Nevada System of Higher Education, on behalf of the University of Nevada, Reno for management of the Automatic Road Feature Extraction from State-Owned Mobile LiDAR Data for Traffic Safety Analysis and Evaluation project; authorize the RTC Executive Director to execute the agreement (*For Possible Action*)
- 3.15 Approve the Property Acceptance Agreement between the RTC and University of Nevada, Reno which provides terms to the completion of monument located within the center of the roundabout constructed as part of the Virginia Street Bus RAPID Transit Extension Project that will ultimately be owned and maintained by the University; authorize the RTC Executive Director to execute the agreement (*For Possible Action*)
- 3.16 Approve a Cooperative Agreement in the amount of \$150,000 with the UNR Civil Engineering Department for the UNR Pavement/Materials Program; authorize the RTC Executive Director to execute the agreement (*For Possible Action*)

Right-of-Way

- 3.17 Approve the attached Resolution of Condemnation authorizing RTC's legal counsel to commence condemnation proceedings to acquire a permanent easement on the parcel known as APN 012-341-28 from James Paul Nuss and Kristine H. Nuss, Trustees of The Nuss Family Trust dated 04.21.2017 as to an undivided 25% interest, and Kristine H. Nuss, a married woman as her sole and separate property as to an undivided 75% interest., necessary to construct the TE Spot 9, Package 2 Project (*For Possible Action*)

On motion of Vice Chair Jardon, seconded by Commissioner Bybee, which motion carried unanimously, Chairman Lucey ordered that Consent Items 3.2 through 3.17 be approved.

Item 4 PUBLIC HEARING - no earlier than 9:05 a.m. Time Certain:

4.1 Recommendation to approve the January 2021 RTC RIDE Service Adjustment, currently scheduled for January 2, 2021, including extension of the RTC RAPID-Virginia Line to the University of Nevada, Reno (UNR), elimination of the UNR-Midtown Direct temporary route, and miscellaneous time adjustments (For Possible Action)

Mr. Jim Gee, RTC Service Planning/Innovation Manager, addressed the Board to provide a presentation on the planned RIDE service adjustments as set forth in the briefing materials for this agenda item.

Vice Chair Jardon commented that the public is not really aware of the FlexRIDE service from what she's observed.

Commissioner Hartung asked when FlexRIDE service to Spanish Springs will be implemented.

Mr. Gee responded that the software for the additional service should be ready to go in October.

Benefits to the FlexRIDE service is that added service or modifications to service can be made almost right away vs. fixed route service which can take months.

On motion of Commissioner Hartung seconded by Vice Chair Jardon, which motion carried unanimously, Chairman Lucey ordered that the January 2021 RTC RIDE Service Adjustment, currently scheduled for January 2, 2021, including extension of the RTC RAPID - Virginia Line to the University of Nevada, Reno (UNR), elimination of the UNR – Midtown Direct temporary route, and miscellaneous time adjustments be approved.

Item 5 METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION (MPO)

5.1 Receive a report and provide direction on the Eagle Canyon Extension Alignment Alternatives and Planning and Environmental Linkages (PEL) Study (For Possible Action)

Mr. Daniel Doenges, RTC Planning Manager, addressed the Board to provide a presentation update on the Eagle Canyon Extension Alignment Alternatives and Planning and Environmental Linkages (PEL) Study as set forth in the briefing materials for this agenda item.

Commissioner Hartung asked for traffic counts to be done for Eagle Canyon.

Vice Chair Jardon asked what the purpose or objective is to this project. She believes it will just get traffic over to US 395 faster, only to be stuck in the backed up traffic there. After some discussion on the topic, none of the Commissioners really favor a US 395 connector.

On motion of Commissioner Hartung seconded by Vice Chair Jardon, which motion carried unanimously, Chairman Lucey ordered that receipt of the report be acknowledged and no direction was given.

Item 6.1 thru 6.3 DIRECTOR REPORTS

Item 6.1 RTC Executive Director Report

Executive Director Bill Thomas addressed the Board to discuss the following topics:

Service anniversary for: Heinz Schoner, Facilities Maintenance Specialist – celebrates 25 years of service on October 5, 2020

1. On Wednesday, Transportation Secretary Elaine Chao announced the Better Utilizing Investment to Leverage Development (BUILD) grant awards from the U.S. Department of Transportation. The RTC will receive \$23 Million for the Pyramid Highway Project.

The project will improve safety and mobility and widen approximately 2.4 miles of Pyramid Highway, approximately 1.6 miles from Queen Way to Los Altos Parkway from four-lanes to six-lanes and reconstructing approximately 0.75 miles of existing four-lane roadway from Los Altos Parkway to Golden View Drive.

It also includes installation of smart traffic signals, widening the median, shoulders, bike lanes, and sidewalks, and installation of enhanced drainage and storm water infrastructure.

The project will be developed in cooperation with NDOT and the Federal Highway Administration, in collaboration with Washoe County, the City of Sparks, the Reno-Sparks Indian Colony, the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe, and other regional stakeholders.

This award, which was highly competitive at the national level, reflects our staff's years of hard work that have gone into the planning, environmental analysis, community engagement, and design of this critically important project.

Our sincere thanks to Transportation Secretary Elaine Chao, the U.S. Department of Transportation, and our Congressional delegation: Senator Cortez Masto, Senator Rosen, and Congressman Amodei for their support and leadership investing in our local infrastructure to improve our region's transportation systems.

Construction on the project is anticipated to begin within the 2022-2024 time frame.

2. The NEPA scoping for the Sparks Blvd. Project has begun and a virtual live meeting was held to introduce the project to the community. Meeting information was announced through social media, news stories, newspaper advertisements, and postcards mailed to more than 15,700 households.

A public comment period remained open until October 16 and project information presented at the live meeting can be viewed at SparksBlvdProject.com.

3. The U.S Census Bureau is in its final push to help people respond to the 2020 Census by September 30th. Census representatives are now going door-to-door to households that have not responded to the census.

Additionally, field operations include visiting high foot traffic areas throughout the Truckee Meadows to help people respond to the census, through September 30th. This includes our transit centers in downtown Reno and Victorian Square in Sparks. Washoe County currently has a 68.8% response rate.

Census data is essential to the work we do at RTC for transportation planning and infrastructure. The census helps to determine how \$1.5 Trillion dollars in federal funding is distributed to states over the next 10 years, and congressional representation through the apportionment process.

Washoe County residents and University students were strongly urged to respond to the 2020 Census by September 30.

Item 6.2 RTC Federal Report

Executive Director Bill Thomas addressed the Board to say that a copy of the federal report was include in the agenda materials for this meeting.

Item 6.3 NDOT Director Report

NDOT Director Kristina Swallow addressed the Board to provide updates on current Nevada safety statistics, Parr Blvd. bridge replacement project, Spaghetti Bowl Express (SBX) project, the McCarran repaving project, and more. She also gave an update on the advanced warning flashers and the purpose of the different types of flash.

Lastly, Dir. Swallow also said that the I-580 bridge near Pleasant Valley had won for Best Infrastructure nationwide.

Chairman Lucey reminded Director Swallow that he would like to see more street lighting added to Mt. Rose Highway.

Commissioner Hartung requested a traffic study in the area of Pyramid Highway and Calle de la Plata.

Item 7 GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

7.1 Legal Matters - 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 Adam Spear said he had no items for discussion.

Item 10 *PUBLIC INPUT*

Chairman Lucey 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 Bybee asked for staff to keep her in mind so she could send our project information to the National League of Cities.

Vice Chair Jardon requested an item be brought to a future meeting on a traffic study for the Verdi area.

Vice Chair Jardon asked staff to bring back information on how the RTC can provide continued communications to the public once a project is completed.

Item 12 **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 11:11 a.m.

BOB LUCEY, Chairman
Regional Transportation Commission