



**REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION**

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

Metropolitan Planning Organization of Washoe County, Nevada

November 20, 2020

**AGENDA ITEM 3.3**

**TO:** Regional Transportation Commission

**FROM:** Brian Stewart, P.E.  
Engineering Director

Bill Thomas, AICP  
Executive Director

**SUBJECT: RTC Engineering Activity Report**

**RECOMMENDATION**

Acknowledge receipt of the monthly Engineering Activity Report.

**BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN IMPROVEMENTS**

Bus Stop Improvement and Connectivity Program

The program is a multi-year effort to upgrade existing bus stops to comply with state and federal requirements, including the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). The first phase of bus stop improvements located within public right-of-way (13 bus stops) is complete. The process of obtaining necessary easements for other locations is ongoing. The design consultant, CA Group, submitted easement packages for the second phase (37 bus stops) in July and acquisition work continues.

Comments from the sixty percent (60%) design submittal are being addressed for Phase 3 (45 bus stops) and Phase 4 (90 bus stops) packages. Another group of bus stop improvements will be advertised for construction bids early next year.

Center Street Multimodal Improvements Project

RTC started the design phase on September 21, 2020. The project includes sidewalk improvements and pavement rehabilitation along with a two-way cycle track from Moran Street to Ninth Street in Reno. Traffic signals along the corridor will be replaced/ upgraded. A southbound bike lane and northbound sharrow are proposed to be placed on Center Street from Virginia Street to Moran Street. Bike lanes connecting to the existing bike facilities on Holcomb Avenue are being proposed on Moran Street. The final design is expected by the end of winter 2022 with construction anticipated to begin in the summer of 2023.

Mill Street (Terminal Way to McCarran Boulevard)

The scope of this project is to design and construct various complete street improvements along Mill Street from Terminal Way to McCarran Boulevard, as identified in the RTC Complete Streets Masterplan completed in July 2016, and the Mill/Terminal corridor study completed in March 2013. The emphasis of this project is to assess and identify improvements for pedestrians,

bicyclists, and transit riders, as well as motorists. Deficiencies in pedestrian access related to Charter Schools and AACT High School in the area as well as a number of ADA deficient bus stops will be addressed.

Preliminary design is complete and 90% plan review comments have been received from the agencies. An amendment to the design contract has been approved that will split the project into two phases and provide for construction management services. Phase 1 will be from Rock Boulevard to McCarran Boulevard and Phase 2 will be on Mill Street from Terminal Way to Rock Boulevard. The right-of-way acquisition process for both phases is underway and going so well that we are considering accelerating the project.

### **CAPACITY/CONGESTION RELIEF PROJECTS**

#### **ITS Pilot Project, Design of Phase 2 ITS Connectivity**

The pilot project connected traffic signal systems of the City of Reno, the City of Sparks, Washoe County, and NDOT through fiber optic communication lines. This project also includes design of Phase 2A and 2B, which will expand communication to outlying signal systems and install ITS devices to monitor and remotely adjust traffic signals to respond to special events, changing traffic conditions, provide information to drivers and traffic incidents. Construction of the Pilot Project is complete. The ITS Phase 2A Project is complete. Phase 2B is currently under construction with a tentative completion in the fall of 2020.

#### **ITS Phase 3**

The project includes conduit and fiber optic cable at the following locations:

- Lake Street from 1st Street to 2nd Street
- Lemmon Drive from North Virginia Street to US 395
- Rock Boulevard from Greg Street to Prater Way

Also included in ITS Phase 3 is a Road Weather Information Sensors (RWIS) at Sharlands Avenue at Robb Drive. The project will install 20 Gridsmart Performance Packages. These are upgrades to existing Gridsmart detection systems and can detect/count pedestrian and bicycles. Currently, the project is at the 90% design phase.

#### **North Valleys Package 3B**

Package 3B includes adding capacity to the right turn lane at North Virginia Street/Business Rte. 395. This project also includes improvements to two bus stop pads located within the project area, and associated access and drainage improvements. Redesign is underway for a part of the storm drain system due to NDOT permitting requirements. The project is scheduled for construction in spring 2021.

#### **Sparks Boulevard Project**

The project seeks to increase safety, maintain roadway capacity, and improve bicycle and pedestrian facilities by widening Sparks Boulevard to six (6) lanes between Greg Street and Baring Boulevard. Professional engineering services are underway with Atkins North America, Inc. to begin environmental studies and preliminary design.

The RTC, in cooperation with the City of Sparks, Nevada Department of Transportation (NDOT) and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) is initiating an Environmental Assessment (EA) to evaluate and document the proposed Project's potential impacts.

During the 30-day duration of the public scoping meeting, which included both the live event and virtual meeting, 42 public comments were received. One comment was submitted via email; 29 were submitted through the Q&A room from the live event; three were submitted by voicemail; and nine were submitted through the website comment form. Major topics included speed, noise, pedestrian safety, landscaping, drainage, the multi-use path, and the O'Callaghan/Springland Drive and Sparks Boulevard intersection.

The Project team continues to evaluate alternatives to meet the purpose and need of the Project.

#### Traffic Signal Timing 6 Project

Following a three year cycle schedule, the project includes review and timing optimization of approximately one-third (1/3) of the signals in the region per year. For 2020, this begins a new cycle where signals that were retimed in 2016 will be reevaluated and retimed to address the changes to traffic demand. For 2020, approximately ninety-five (95) intersections will have revised timing implemented. Timing plans are developed in coordination with the local entities and the University of Nevada, Reno. In the process, re-evaluation of the other settings such as vehicle passage times are calculated at each intersection to make sure they are up to current standards.

#### Progress through September 2020:

- Sparks Boulevard (12 Signals) – Greg Street to North Los Altos Parkway – New timing under fine-tuning
- Wells Avenue (9 Signals) – Ryland Avenue to Sadlier Way – New timing implemented
- South Virginia Street (11 Signals) – Vassar Street to Peckham Lane – New timing under fine-tuning.

#### Traffic Engineering (TE) Spot 9 – Package 1 Project

The project includes:

- Traffic signal improvements at the intersection of Sharlands Avenue and Mae Anne Avenue;
- Installation of battery backup systems for signalized intersections on Sun Valley Drive from Scottsdale Road to 7<sup>th</sup> Street;
- Minor striping improvements to improve traffic flow at Pyramid Way at York Way; and
- Completion of a traffic study to determine potential improvements to the southbound right turn lane at the intersection of Vista Boulevard and Baring Boulevard. This component of the project will not move forward due following a cost benefit analysis.

Titan Electrical Contractors was awarded the construction contract in July and construction will begin at the end of 2020 when traffic signal equipment arrives.

### Traffic Engineering (TE) Spot 9 – Package 2 Project

The project includes various traffic updates throughout the Reno/Incline area:

- Traffic signal cabinet and camera upgrades at various intersections in the Reno area;
- New traffic signal at the intersection of Rock Boulevard/Edison Way; and a
- 4<sup>th</sup> Street/Mesa/Woodland intersection study for future improvements.

Titan Electrical Contractors was awarded the contract earlier this year and construction is anticipated to begin in late November 2020.

### Traffic Engineering (TE) Spot 10 – Fuel Tax Project

The project is currently in the preliminary design phase and includes:

- Traffic signal at the intersection of Veterans Parkway and Long Meadow Drive;
- Update traffic signal equipment at the intersection of Victorian Avenue and 16<sup>th</sup> Street; and
- Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacon (RRFB) installation at various locations within Reno, Washoe County and Sparks.

### Traffic Engineering (TE) Spot 10 - South Project

The project is currently in the preliminary design phase and includes:

- A new roundabout at the intersection of 4<sup>th</sup> Street and Woodland Avenue;
- Geometric improvements at the nearby intersection of 4<sup>th</sup> Street and Mesa Park Road; and a
- Left turn bay extension for the southbound left turn lane at South Virginia and Kietzke Lane.

## **CORRIDOR IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS**

### Arlington Avenue Bridges

The Arlington Avenue Bridges Project is a feasibility study to analyze possible replacement bridge types and aesthetic themes, document design and environmental criteria, improve safety and multi-modal access in the Wingfield Park area, and review flood-capacity requirements. The crossing of the Truckee River at Arlington Avenue has served the community of Reno and provided access to Wingfield Park for nearly a century. The bridges were built in the 1930's and while structurally safe to drive over they are showing signs of wear resulting from the variety of modifications over the years, their age, and the repeated exposure to flood events.

The team has developed material for the second Stakeholder Working Group meeting that will be held virtually in November. The meeting anticipates a focus on bridge types and roadway elements. The goal is to gain concurrence from the group on the three alternatives recommended by the technical advisory committees.

The feasibility study is scheduled to be completed next year. Once the feasibility study is complete, a Request for Proposals will be advertised for the NEPA/Design phase of the project. Construction of the bridges is anticipated to begin in 2026.

### Kuenzli Street Conversion Project

The project includes the conversion of Kuenzli Street from its current one-way configuration to a two-way street from Giroux Street to Kirman Avenue. The scope of the project consists primarily of surface treatment and restriping to accommodate the conversion of Kuenzli from one-way to two-way traffic from Kirman Avenue to Giroux Street. Associated ADA and traffic signal modifications are included on both Kuenzli Street and Giroux Street.

The project is substantially complete.

### Lemmon Drive Project

The project includes widening Lemmon Drive from US 395 to Military Road from four lanes to six lanes and reconstructing the US 395/Lemmon Drive interchange (Segment 1) and widening Lemmon Drive from Fleetwood Drive to Chickadee Drive from two lanes to four lanes (Segment 2).

The final design of Segment 1 is underway. An Interlocal Agreement with NDOT is under consideration for the RTC Board for incorporating the interchange improvements into the project. The anticipated construction start date is spring 2021.

The project team continues the Level 2 screening process for the top three (3) alternatives. The Top 3 Alternatives were presented to the RTC Board at the August 20, 2020, meeting. The Level 2 screening process includes a qualitative evaluation where the top alternatives are screen on the criteria developed and agreed upon the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC).

### Oddie Boulevard/Wells Avenue Improvement Project

Ninety percent (90%) Design comments are being received from NDOT, the City of Reno and the City of Sparks. A Virtual Public Meeting is available on the website, and public comments are being received until December 14, 2020. Additional information can be viewed at: <http://oddiewellsproject.com/>.

### Pyramid Highway and US 395 Connection

NDOT continues to work on the design of Phase 1 that consists of increased roadway capacity and multimodal improvements on Pyramid from Queen Way to Golden View Drive. Design of this phase is anticipated to be complete in 2022. The RTC will work with the Federal Highway Administration to complete the BUILD grant process over the next 6 to 8 months. With the receipt of the \$23 million grant, construction of Phase 1 is anticipated to begin in 2023. The estimated overall Phase 1 cost is \$54 million.

### Sun Valley Boulevard Corridor Improvement Project

Construction activities are completed from Staci Way to Highland Ranch Parkway. Traffic is open both ways with no restrictions. The completion of the intersection of Sun Valley Boulevard and 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue will be put on hold due to colder temperatures until next year when temperatures are high enough for optimal paving work. Additional information can be viewed at: <http://SunValleyBlvd.org>

### Truckee River Shared Use Path Project

The proposed pathway will start at John Champion Memorial Park and continue along the south side of the Truckee River.

RTC is working to acquire easements necessary for the pathway. The application for the required United States Army Corp of Engineers (USACE) 408 permit has been approved by Carson Truckee Water Conservancy District contingent on approval by the USACE. The Truckee River Shared Use Path Project has submitted an application to USACE for a Section 408 Permit since portions of the pathway encroach the 14,000 cubic feet per second water surface elevation along the Truckee River. Coordination with USACE continues regarding the processing of the application.

This project was included in the fiscal year (FY) 2017 Program of Projects. The design portion of this project is funded through federal funds and includes oversight by NDOT through a Local Public Agency (LPA) agreement. The project will be constructed by NDOT through the agreement approved for the Spaghetti Bowl Xpress (SBX).

### Virginia Street RAPID Extension

South Virginia Street has been open to two-way traffic since mid-August. The contractor has continued work during the month of October to finish ancillary items of work along this segment of the corridor.

Roadway reconstruction was completed along North Virginia Street segment of the project this month. Several of the bus rapid transit stations within this segment of the corridor progressed as well. Outstanding landscaping work and remaining work on the BRT stations will continue into November.

During the month of October, the outreach effort continued with stakeholder updates and notifying the public of traffic control changes and updating on progress of construction activities. In addition, the project team began working on a “look book” that will showcase completed elements of the project.

Additional information can be viewed at: <http://virginiastreetproject.com/>

## **PAVEMENT PRESERVATION PROJECTS**

### 2020 Preventive Maintenance (Various Locations)

The 2020 Preventive Maintenance project consists of patching, crack sealing and slurry seal activities on approximately 200 lane miles of roadway. The contract was awarded to Sierra Nevada Construction (SNC). The project is substantially complete.

### Golden Valley Road Rehab Project

The project includes rehabilitation/reconstruction of Golden Valley Road from Yorkshire Drive to North Virginia Street. Lumos & Associates, Inc. is the consultant for Design and Engineering During Construction services. The RTC and Union Pacific Railroad (UPRR) are entering into an agreement for railroad crossing improvements. Construction is anticipated to begin in the spring of 2021 and be complete by the end of summer of 2021.

### Kings Row Rehab Project – Phase 1

The project includes rehabilitation/reconstruction of Kings Row from Keystone Avenue to Wyoming Avenue. Lumos and Associates, Inc. is the consultant for Design and Engineering During Construction Services. The 60% plans are complete and 90% plans are on track for completion in mid-November. Identification of needed easements for ADA compliance have been prepared and the project team is working to begin acquiring those rights. This project is on track for construction in 2021.

### Newport Lane Rehab Project

The project includes rehabilitation/reconstruction of Newport Lane from Link Lane to McDaniel Street. CA Group is the consultant for Design and Engineering During Construction Services. CA Group has received 50% design comments from the RTC, City of Reno, and the utility companies. Design will be complete late 2020/early 2021. The construction start date will be determined in early 2021.

### Prater Way Rehab Project

The project includes rehabilitation/reconstruction of Prater Way from Howard Drive to Sparks Boulevard. The project was complete and open to traffic on October 22, 2020. It was a huge success and completed on time! Spanish Springs Construction's partnering approach included public outreach efforts and coordination with City of Sparks, NDOT, TMWA, NVE, AT&T, and Well Quest Development. The list below highlights some of the project's accomplishments:

- Placed over 10,000 tons of new asphalt
- Constructed 5,800 feet of curb and gutter, 4,500 feet of median curb, 30,000 square feet of sidewalk, and 25 pedestrian ramps
- Replaced 2,000 feet of sewer
- Installed new street lighting and improved the crossing at Willow Creek Park
- Placed 10 new trees within the landscape median
- Placed over 1 mile of new conduit for Sparks PD communications and traffic signal coordination

This project began on April 20, 2020, and represents an estimated \$5.6 million investment in our community.

### Reno Consolidated 20-01 – Mayberry Drive, California Avenue, and First Street

The project includes rehabilitation/reconstruction of the following street segments: Mayberry Drive from Memory Lane to California Avenue, California Avenue from Hunter Lake Drive to Booth Street, and First Street from Sierra Center to Virginia Street. Nichols Consulting Engineers (NCE) is working on incorporating agency/public comments, design and grading of improvements. Utility coordination meetings and property acquisition are ongoing. Ninety percent (90%) Design submittal is scheduled for November. Construction is scheduled to begin in the summer of 2021.

### Reno Consolidated 21-01 – Lund Lane, Armstrong Lane, and Yuma Lane

The project includes rehabilitation/reconstruction of the following street segments: Lund Lane from Wedekind Road to Northtowne Lane; Armstrong Lane from Susileen Drive to Yuma Lane; and Yuma Lane from Armstrong Lane to Hunter Lake Drive. Eastern Sierra Engineering (ESE) is the consultant providing Design and Engineering During Construction Services. The project team is currently incorporating agency design review comments and received public comments in September. Design will be complete later this year and construction is anticipated to begin in the spring of 2021.

Project is currently moving towards 100% design and plans to be advertised for bid in January 2021.

### Sky Vista Parkway Widening and Rehabilitation Project

The project includes rehabilitation/widening of Sky Vista Parkway from just east of Vista Knolls Parkway to Silver Lake Road. Atkins Engineering, SNA-Lavalin (Atkins) is the consultant for Design and Engineering During Construction Services. Final design is anticipated to be complete in early 2021. The construction schedule has yet to be determined pending final design, right-of-way acquisition and coordination with other projects near this project.

### Sparks Consolidated 21-01 – Packer Way and Wild Island Court Project

The project includes rehabilitation/reconstruction of Packer Way from Glendale Avenue to the Cul de Sac and Wild Island Court from Lincoln Way to the Cul de Sac in the City of Sparks. Wood Rodgers Inc. is the consultant for Design and Engineering During Construction Services. Construction is scheduled for the summer of 2021. Fifty percent (50%) plans have been completed and distributed for review.

## **OTHER PROJECTS**

### Park Lane RAPID Station Project

The Park Lane RAPID Station is located just south of Plumb Lane on the east side of Virginia Street. Stantec Consulting Services, Inc. is the consultant for architectural and engineering services. The Professional Services Agreement was effective March 18, 2019. Q&D Construction was awarded the contract and began construction in July. The project is anticipated to be substantially complete in November 2020, pending NV Energy's work to install power.

## **REPORT ON NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT AGREEMENTS FOR THE ACQUISITION OF PROPERTY**

There were none

## **CONTRACTS UP TO \$50,000**

Overland, Pacific & Cutler, LLC (OPC), in the not-to-exceed amount of \$32,000 for the acquisition of parcels for Lemmon Drive Widening Project.