



**REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION**

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

Metropolitan Planning Organization of Washoe County, Nevada

November 20, 2020

**AGENDA ITEM 5.1**

**TO:** Regional Transportation Commission

**FROM:** Amy Cummings, AICP/LEED AP  
Director of Planning, Deputy  
Executive Director

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Bill Thomas, AICP  
Executive Director

**SUBJECT: 2050 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP)**

**RECOMMENDATION**

Receive a report on the 2050 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) and provide direction accordingly.

**SUMMARY**

The RTC issued a call for projects in an effort to seek agency and public input about projects to consider in the 2050 RTP. The RTC implemented an online survey to seek input from the public on potential new projects, which was open from June 22 through July 20, 2020. RTC is evaluating projects that were suggested for potential inclusion in the plan.

The framework described below is intended to assist in the prioritization process for roadway projects. It provides input and data for the RTC Board to consider during the evaluation and prioritization process. It is not anticipated that a mathematical formula will provide the final determination on project rankings and that professional judgement and community/agency staff input will be considered by the RTC staff and Board in making final recommendations and decisions. The preliminary project scoring will be presented to the public for additional input.

Separate evaluation frameworks are proposed for projects on existing roadways and construction of new roads. The framework for evaluating projects on existing roadways consists of the criteria and weighting, as shown as in the table below.

<b>Evaluation Criteria for Projects on Existing Roads</b>	<b>Weight</b>
Safety – crash frequency, rate, severity	35
Congestion – travel demand model existing/forecasted level of service (LOS)	20
Bike/Pedestrian Score – criteria in Bicycle & Pedestrian Master Plan	15
Equity	15

Regional Plan Land Use Priority – TMRPA tier system	15
Pavement Condition Index (PCI)/Bridge Rating	5
Flood Mitigation	5
Project Readiness	5
Private/Other Agency Funding	5
Public Input (after project alternatives outreach)	10
Agency Working Group Input (after project review)	10
<b>Total</b>	<b>140</b>

For analysis of new roads, additional methodology is needed because safety, congestion, pavement condition, and other data used to evaluate projects on existing roads would not be available for new construction. RTC will develop cost estimates for each proposed new road project, identify the projected average number of cars that would use the road on a daily basis (ADT), and develop an estimate for cost per ADT. The other criteria listed below will also be evaluated.

<b>Evaluation Criteria for New Road Construction</b>	<b>Weight</b>
Average Daily Traffic	45
Cost per Average Daily Traffic (ADT)	20
Regional Plan Land Use Priority – TMRPA tier system	15
Private/Other Agency Funding	5
Flood Mitigation	5
Emergency Response/Fire Evacuation	5
Public Input	15
Agency Working Group Input	15
<b>Total</b>	<b>125</b>

**FISCAL IMPACT**

2050 RTP development is included in the Unified Planning Work Program.

**PREVIOUS ACTIONS BY BOARD**

- |                   |  |
|-------------------|--|
| August 20, 2020   | Received a report on the 2050 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) Transportation call for projects and provided direction |
| June 19, 2020     | Board approved 2050 RTP Guiding Principles   |
| December 20, 2019 | Board received report on the 2050 RTP visioning exercise   |
| November 15, 2019 | Board received report regarding the 2050 RTP public and agency outreach process and schedule                             |
| August 17, 2018   | Amendment No. 1 to the 2040 RTP approved   |
| May 21, 2017      | 2040 RTP approved  |

## **ADDITIONAL BACKGROUND**

The RTP is the RTC's long-range transportation plan as required under Title 23, Part 450 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR). It contains major transportation projects and programs for Washoe County for all modes of travel. It functions as the major tool for implementing long-range transportation planning. The RTP captures the community's vision of the transportation system and identifies the projects, programs and services necessary to achieve that vision that will be implemented by RTC, member entities, and Nevada Department of Transportation (NDOT).

This plan will be based on a robust community engagement process and conducted in collaboration with partner agencies. The plan will address the safety, mobility, connectivity, and traffic operations issues that are resulting from strong population and employment growth in the region. Federal regulations require that the long range planning document be updated every four years. The current RTP approval extends through May 2021.