

**REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION
WASHOE COUNTY, NEVADA**

FRIDAY

9:00 A.M.

December 18, 2020

PRESENT:

**Neoma Jardon, Reno City Council Member, Vice Chair
Ed Lawson, Mayor of Sparks
Vaughn Hartung, Washoe County Commissioner
Oscar Delgado, Reno City Council Member**

**Bill Thomas, RTC Executive Director
Adam Spear, Legal Counsel
Kristina Swallow, Director of NDOT**

NOT PRESENT:

Bob Lucey, Washoe County Commissioner, Chairman

The regular monthly meeting, held via Zoom, was called to order by Vice Chair Jardon. Following the roll call and the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of our country, the Board conducted the following business:

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS, RECOGNITIONS, OTHER

LEGISLATIVE PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION – Mike Hillerby

Mr. Hillerby provided a brief update on activities occurring in preparation for the upcoming state legislative session.

Item 1 APPROVAL OF AGENDA

On motion of Commissioner Hartung, seconded by Commissioner Lawson, which motion unanimously carried, Vice Chair Jardon ordered that the agenda for this meeting be approved.

Item 2.1 PUBLIC INPUT

Vice Chair Jardon 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. Comments received prior to 4:00 p.m. December 17^h are included in this record of the meeting.

Written comment was submitted 12/16/20 @ 8:22 p.m., by Mr. John Locke, Keolis coach operator, which states that in his opinion, Keolis is not doing enough to protect the drivers or customers from the COVID-19 virus or allowing them to enforce the Governor's mask mandate.

Written comment was submitted 12/17/20 @ 3:57 p.m., by Mr. Andrew Barbano, author of BARBWIRE, to say that coach operators are not allowed to enforce the Governor's mask mandate and that two dozen drivers and support staff had been infected (no source provided).

There being no additional comments submitted, the Vice Chair closed public input.

Item 3.1 thru 3.10 CONSENT ITEMS

Minutes

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

Engineering

3.2 Acknowledge receipt of the monthly Engineering Activity Report (*For Possible Action*)

Public Transportation/Operations

3.3 Acknowledge receipt of the monthly Public Transportation/Operations Report (*For Possible Action*)

Planning

3.4 Acknowledge receipt of the monthly Planning Activity Report (*For Possible Action*)

3.5 Accept the monthly Summary Report for the Technical, Citizens Multimodal and Regional Road Impact Fee Advisory Committees (*For Possible Action*)

3.6 Authorize a request to FTA to use cost savings from the Virginia Street RAPID Extension Project for other capital improvements on South Virginia Street and at 4TH STREET STATION (*For Possible Action*)

General Administration

3.7 Acknowledge receipt of the monthly Procurement Activity Report (*For Possible Action*)

3.8 Approve modification to RTC Management Policies: Public Involvement for Modifications to Transit Service or Fares (P-18); Transit Passenger and Visitor Standard of Conduct (P-31); RTC RIDE and RTC ACCESS Emergency and Special Events Transportation Requests (P-32); RTC Fixed Route ADA Compliance (P-34); Real Property Acquisition (P-55) and Interlocal Agreements (P-56). Approve deletion to RTC Management Policies: Private Enterprise Participation in the Urban Mass Transportation Program (P-15); Nevada Contractor's License (P-17); Interagency Communication Procedures (P-20); and Soundwalls (P-30). Approve the elimination of Board approval for RTC Management Policies: Drug and Alcohol Free Workplace (P-22); Tuition Reimbursement (P-24); Information Technology Acceptable Use (P-40); Employee Remote Work (P-41); Leave of Absence (Non-FMLA) (P-44); Family and Medical Leave (FMLA) (P-44A); Layoff and Recall (P-51); Exempt Employee Pay (P-52) and Sustainability (P-53) (*For Possible Action*)

3.9 Approve letter from the Executive Director to the Agency Review Team of the U.S Department of Transportation identifying federal priorities of the RTC (*For Possible Action*)

Procurement and Contracts

- 3.10 Approve a Professional Services Agreement (PSA) with Nichols Consulting Engineers to provide design services and engineering during construction for the Peckham Lane Project in an amount not to exceed \$392,325, authorize the RTC Executive Director to execute the agreement (*For Possible Action*)**

On motion of Commissioner Hartung, seconded by Commissioner Lawson, which motion carried unanimously, Vice Chair Jardon ordered that Consent Items 3.1 through 3.10 be approved.

Item 4 METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION (MPO)

- 4.1 Receive a report on the 2050 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) and provide direction accordingly (*No Action Required*)**

Ms. Amy Cummings, RTC Deputy Executive Director and Director of Planning, addressed the Board to provide a presentation update and answer questions pertaining to the 2050 RTP, as set forth in the briefing materials for this agenda item.

Vice Chair Jardon requested that the commissioners be allowed plenty of time to evaluate the information they are receiving.

Commissioner Hartung asked what the Pyramid/US 395 Connector project is trying to achieve.

Commissioner Hartung asked why Eagle Canyon is not on the project list when there are two new schools going in. He would like the RTC to coordinate better with the Washoe County School District.

Commissioner Hartung asked why the Mt. Rose Highway is not on the project list when it has such high volumes.

A copy of the full presentation is available by contacting Denise Thompson (dthompson@rtcwashoe.com)

Item 5 FINANCE

- 5.1 Receive a report on the FY 2020 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) for the Regional Transportation Commission of Washoe County (RTC) and authorize staff to submit the document to the Nevada Department of Taxation (*For Possible Action*)**

Ms. Stephanie Haddock, RTC CFO and Director of Finance, addressed the Board to provide the annual report presentation and to answer questions on the FY 2020 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) for the Regional Transportation Commission of Washoe County (RTC), as set forth in the briefing materials for this agenda item.

On motion of Commissioner Hartung, seconded by Commissioner Delgado, which motion carried unanimously, Vice Chair Jardon ordered that staff is authorized to submit the FY 2020

Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) for the Regional Transportation Commission of Washoe County (RTC) to the Nevada Department of Taxation.

A copy of the full presentation is available by contacting Denise Thompson (dthompson@rtcwashoe.com)

**Commissioner Lawson departed the meeting at 9:54 a.m.

Item 6 PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION AND OPERATIONS

6.1 Approve the Regional Transportation Commission's 2020 Coordinated Human Services Public Transportation Plan (CTP) update (*For Possible Action*)

Mr. Jim Gee, RTC Service Planning/Innovation Manager, addressed the Board to give a presentation on the 2020 Coordinated Human Services Transportation Plan, and to answer any questions, as set forth in the briefing materials for this agenda item.

On motion of Commissioner Hartung, seconded by Commissioner Delgado, which motion carried unanimously, Vice Chair Jardon ordered that the Regional Transportation Commission's 2020 Coordinated Human Services Public Transportation Plan (CTP) update be approved.

A copy of the full presentation is available by contacting Denise Thompson (dthompson@rtcwashoe.com)

Item 7.1 thru 7.3 DIRECTOR REPORTS

Item 7.1 RTC Executive Director Report

RTC Executive Director Bill Thomas spoke on the following topics:

1. He announced the upcoming service milestone anniversary for:
 - Susi Trinidad, Paratransit Analyst – 15 years of service on January 9, 2021

Then thanked Susi for her public service to the RTC and our community and her steadfast commitment to serve our ACCESS customers.

2. After nearly 21 years of service, Warren Call, Engineer II will retire on January 8, 2021. Warren began his RTC career on May 22, 2000.

During his tenure, he completed at minimum 35 construction projects, which include Victorian Avenue, Parr Blvd., US 395 (I-580) McCarran Interchange, 4th Street/Prater Way BRT, and his final project, the Plumb Lane RAPID Station, among many others.

Warren has demonstrated a strong commitment and excellence in his work, not only recognized by all of us at RTC, but also among his peers, having been named 2019 Engineer of the Year by the American Society of Civil Engineers, Truckee Meadows Branch.

He thanked Warren for all of his contributions and expressed how much he will be missed.

3. He then thanked two of RTC's federal partners on their retirement. FTA Region 9 Deputy Regional Administrator Ed Carranza is retiring after 22 years of federal public service, and Greg Novak, FHWA Deputy Division Administrator, Nevada Division Office, is retiring after 42 years of federal public service.
4. The new Plumb Lane RAPID Station was completed the prior week and opened to passengers on Dec. 14th. On the 15th, media was invited to talk about the new station and the benefit it will bring to the neighborhood.

All major television outlets attended. Participating in the media event were Commissioner Delgado, Mark Maloney, director of public transportation, Joel Grace from the Reno Experience District (RED), and Rick Casazza and Nettie Oliverio from Reno Public Market.

Everyone shared their enthusiasm and excitement about the new Plumb Lane RAPID station and the future extension of the RAPID Virginia Line in early 2021. RED and Reno Public Market representatives highlighted how beneficial our transit service will be to their developments, supporting their residents and visitors, and everyone along the corridor from the University area, to downtown Reno, Midtown, and around the Meadowood Mall area. These improvements will be a significant boost to our local economy and future regional prosperity.

Our thanks to RTC project manager Warren Call, design consultant Stantec and Q&D Construction.

5. E.D. Thomas proudly announced the RTC had received another FTA grant award. The FTA announced the grant award on November 30th in the amount of \$131,661 for the Real-Time Transit Infrastructure Monitoring. The grant will help to fund a monitoring system on a portion of Virginia Street using 3 D imaging, cameras, and LiDAR to assist us in maintaining our transit system in a State of Good Repair, in collaboration with the University of Nevada, Reno and the City of Reno.

Our sincere thanks to the U.S. Department of Transportation, the Federal Transit Administration, and our Nevada Congressional leaders, 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.

6. The current situation with the COVID-19 pandemic in Washoe County has prompted us to cancel this year's New Year's Eve FREE Safe RIDE.

This was a difficult decision for us to make. But we want to encourage everyone to celebrate safely at home, with members of their immediate household to support and comply with Governor Sisolak's statewide 'pause' and the recommendation of the Washoe County Health District to stay home. These guidelines will help to protect Nevadans to avoid transmission of and contracting of COVID-19.

Even though the New Year's Eve free service will be canceled, transit will run on a normal schedule on New Year's Eve for essential trips.

On New Year's Day, transit will operate on a Sunday-level holiday schedule. Go to RTC Washoe DOT Com for route and schedule information.

A reminder masks are required when taking transit and transit passengers are reminded to practice social distancing while onboard and at transit stops and stations.

We greatly appreciate and owe a debt of gratitude to the frontline transit workers who have maintained essential transit service during the past ten months and through the holidays and into 2021.

7. Congratulations to Amy Cummings who has been elected Vice President on the Association of Metropolitan Planning Organizations' Board of Directors, beginning in January. Amy has served on the board since 2018.

The AMPO organization advocates for metropolitan regions and helps shape policy at the national and federal level that benefits all MPOs in order to craft a metropolitan vision for the future.

Item 7.2 RTC Federal Report

A written report is provided, as set forth in the briefing materials for this agenda item.

Item 7.3 NDOT Director Report

Ms. Kristina Swallow, Director of NDOT, provided a monthly presentation report containing updates on current Nevada safety statistics, the Spaghetti Bowl SBX project, warning flasher signs, and statewide CMAQ fund distributions.

Both Vice Chair Jardon and Commissioner Hartung requested road safety audits.

Item 8 PUBLIC INPUT

Vice Chair Jardon opened the meeting to public input pertaining to topics relevant to the Regional Transportation Commission (RTC) that are not included in the current agenda.

There being no additional comment submitted prior to the deadline of Nov. 17 at 4:00 pm, the Vice Chair closed public input.

Item 9 MEMBER ITEMS

Commissioner Hartung asked staff to come up with a concept for a pool of money that all three municipalities can access for work on side streets.

Vice Chair Jardon asked if the LiDAR study is inclusive of how to deploy the technology. The response was yes, it is.

Item 10 ADJOURNMENT (For Possible Action)

On motion of Commissioner Hartung, seconded by Commissioner Delgado, which motion carried unanimously, Vice Chair Jardon ordered that the meeting be adjourned.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 10:59 a.m.



NEOMA JARDON, Vice Chair
Regional Transportation Commission