



REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

Metropolitan Planning • Public Transportation & Operations • Engineering & Construction

Metropolitan Planning Organization of Washoe County, Nevada

MEETING DATE: May 21, 2021

AGENDA ITEM 4.3

From: Amy Cummings, AICP/LEED AP, Director of Planning and Deputy Executive Director

RECOMMENDED ACTION

Acknowledge receipt of the monthly Planning Activity Report

PLANNING STUDIES

Eagle Canyon Extension Alignment Alternatives and Planning and Environmental Linkages (PEL) Study

The purpose of the study is to enhance mobility and connectivity between the growing communities of Spanish Springs and Lemmon Valley and to facilitate safe and equitable access to economic and recreational opportunities while preserving the character and heritage of the area. The project team is continuing development of a draft report.

Electric and Alternative Fuel Vehicle Infrastructure and Advanced Mobility Plan

The purpose of this plan is to address existing electric and alternative fuel vehicle infrastructure needs in the area as well as to best prepare for continued advances in mobility technology, including the following:

- Systems planning for autonomous and connected transportation infrastructure;
- Systems planning and engineering services for autonomous transit infrastructure;
- Traffic analysis for micromobility systems and projects;
- Systems planning for electric and hydrogen fuel cell charging infrastructure; and
- Traffic analysis relating to safety of these proposed systems.

The next stakeholder meeting is scheduled for May 5, 2021.

Automatic Road Feature Extraction from State-Owned Mobile LiDAR Data for Traffic Safety Analysis and Evaluation

The RTC, in partnership with the University of Nevada, Reno (UNR), has received a grant from the US Department of Transportation (DOT) to develop a tool—Automatic Road Feature Extraction from LiDAR (ARFEL)—that automatically extracts highly accurate road geometric features from mobile light-detection-and-ranging (LiDAR) data collected on roads, which will further be used to:

- Analyze relationships between crashes and road factors;
- Identify locations and characteristics of crashes using network screening;
- Select appropriate countermeasures and strategies; and
- Evaluate safety improvement projects.

The creation of the tool has begun along with all required auxiliary documentation to meet deadlines previously set by the agreement.

Bicycle and Pedestrian Planning

The RTC is collaborating with other partner agencies on several initiatives to improve bicycle and pedestrian safety & facilities:

- The RTC has confirmed the count locations for the Bicycle, Pedestrian, and Wheelchair Count Program. The counts are expected to occur during May.
- RTC staff has a draft of the regional bike map. Once it's vetted it will be translated into Spanish and then sent out for printing.
- The Truckee Meadows Bicycle Alliance meets weekly to plan for Bike Month and Bike Month Community Activities. Staff attends the meetings and supports their efforts. RTC has signed up for the Commuter Challenge for Bike Month.
- The SRTS Program has 15 schools participating in Bike Month. This is the highest number of schools participating in this event to date.
- RTC, City of Reno, City of Sparks, Washoe County, University of Nevada, Reno, and Reno Sparks Indian Colony have regrouped to initiate conversations about bike share and e-scooters. The collaboration is in the process of compiling a "lessons learned" list.

Vision Zero Truckee Meadows (VZTM)

- Agendas are posted on www.visionzerotruckeemeadows.com. The next meeting is scheduled for June 10, 2021, at 3:00pm. However, Vision Zero is considering changing the date/time so this may potentially change.
- Between January 1, 2021, and April 30, 2021, 4 pedestrians and zero bicyclists were killed in Washoe County. During this same time in 2020, there were 6 pedestrian and no bicycle fatalities. The data states that there was a 33.33% decrease in pedestrian fatalities in Washoe County during this same timeframe in 2021 compared to 2020 data. It is noteworthy that motorcycle fatalities have decreased by 50% during this same time period. In 2020 there were 4 motorcycle fatalities between January and April compared to 2 in 2021.
- Staff has been working on the bus tail and bus interior campaign which is funded by a mini grant from NDOT. The notice to proceed has not been completed yet but NDOT expects it to occur in mid-May. Staff is working on messaging to be prepared to move forward as soon as the award is secured.

Development Review

RTC staff routinely review development proposals from the local jurisdictions of Washoe County and the Cities of Reno and Sparks. Staff from Planning, Engineering and Public Transportation have reviewed and commented on the following number of development proposals from each of the jurisdictions since the last Board meeting:

- Washoe County – 3
- City of Reno – 9
- City of Sparks – 1

This does not include proposals that were reviewed on which staff did not have any comments.

Staff has met with the planning staff from each jurisdiction to discuss the development review process. This occurs every few years in order to communicate and confirm that the information provided to each jurisdiction is valuable. Staff from planning, public transit, and engineering participated in the collaboration meetings. Staff from TMRPA also attended the meetings.

COMMUNITY AND MEDIA OUTREACH ACTIVITIES

RTC staff conducted the following outreach activities from April 16 – May 21:

April 19	Regional Information Center Meeting - Covid-19 Response and Outreach
April 26	Regional Information Center Meeting - Covid-19 Response and Outreach
May 1	RTC Participation in Truckee Meadows Bicycle Alliance Bike Month
May 1	Virtual FlexRIDE Ride Along Video for Older Americans Month
May 5	RTC Technical Advisory Committee Meeting
May 6	RTC Citizens Multimodal Advisory Committee Meeting
May 10	Regional Information Center Meeting - Covid-19 Response and Outreach
May 17	Regional Information Center Meeting - Covid-19 Response and Outreach
May 21	Stuff A Bus for Seniors at Sam's Club

Media Relations & Social Media

The RTC issued three news releases and participated in four media interviews on various topics, including the new traffic signal activation at Sharlands Avenue and Mae Anne Avenue, crosswalks on Virginia Street, pedestrian safety and Vision Zero, RTC seeking members for the Citizens Multimodal Advisory Committee, RTC's partnership with Uber for free rides to Covid-19 vaccination appointments, upcoming RTC transportation projects and more.

Social media was used to promote the monthly RTC Board Meeting, the new traffic signal activation at Sharlands Avenue and Mae Anne Avenue, RTC seeking members for the Citizens Multimodal Advisory Committee, RTC's partnership with Uber for free rides to Covid-19 vaccination appointments, NDOT Spaghetti Bowl information, a new partnership with the Lahontan Audubon Society, and more.

Social media metrics for the month of April: 85,710 impressions on Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, and Instagram.

Informational Materials and Video Production

Four topics were broadcast on KOLO-TV for The Road Ahead with RTC. Segments included information about upcoming construction projects, the Sparks Boulevard project, Stuff A Bus for Seniors, and new FlexRIDE Incline Village/Sand Harbor service.

COORDINATION WITH PARTNER AGENCIES

Truckee Meadows Regional Planning Agency (TMRPA)

The RTC continues to have coordination meetings with staff from the TMRPA as the agencies progress with the Shared Work Program. Areas for collaboration include population and employment forecasts, and analysis of demographic and socioeconomic issues.

Nevada Department of Transportation (NDOT)

The RTC continues to have coordination meetings with staff from NDOT. Areas for collaboration include development of local public agency agreements between NDOT and RTC, maintenance of the regional travel demand model, bicycle and pedestrian improvements, transportation alternatives projects, coordination regarding funding and the State Transportation Improvement Program, One Nevada statewide plan, the I-80 and US 395 widening and improvements to the Spaghetti Bowl, and other ongoing transportation studies.

Statewide Transportation Planning

RTC meets monthly with staff from NDOT, the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), RTC of Southern Nevada, Tahoe Regional Planning Agency, Tahoe Transportation District and the Carson Area Metropolitan Planning Organization to discuss statewide transportation planning issues. Other topics addressed include statewide data for performance measures analysis, comments on proposed rulemaking, and reauthorization of federal transportation legislation.