



REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

Metropolitan Planning • Public Transportation & Operations • Engineering & Construction

Metropolitan Planning Organization of Washoe County, Nevada

MEETING DATE: July 16, 2021

AGENDA ITEM 5.1

From: Mark Maloney, Director of Public Transportation

RECOMMENDED ACTION

Conduct a public hearing on proposed service changes to RTC RIDE, including expansion of late night service on the RAPID – Virginia Line beginning on or after August 1, 2021, and a September 11, 2021, change to bus bay locations at RTC 4th STREET STATION and RTC CENTENNIAL PLAZA STATION; approve the service changes.

BACKGROUND AND DISCUSSION

RTC RIDE continually looks to provide the best service by improving on-time performance, shortening passenger's travel times, and offering innovative services. The next service changes are scheduled for August 7, 2021, and September 11, 2021, which will include following items:

August 7, 2021 Service Change – Expansion of Span of Service on RAPID – Virginia Line

RTC will be expanding the span of service on the RAPID – Virginia Line service between the University of Nevada, Reno (UNR) and Meadowood Mall for every day of the week. Service will be expanded, as follows:

- Weekdays – adding service from 9:30 PM to 1:00 AM, half-hour service until 10:00 PM and hourly service until 1:00 AM with trips ending about 1:30 AM.
- Saturday – adding service from 8:30 PM to 1:00 AM, half-hour service until 10:00 PM, then hourly service until 1:00 AM with trips ending at about 1:30 AM.
- Sunday – adding service from 8:30 PM to 11:00 PM, half-hour service until at 9:00 PM, then hourly service until 11:00 PM with trips ending at about 11:30 PM.

September 11, 2021 Service Change – Adjustments to Routes 4, 6, 19, and 26

RTC will adjust Routes 4, 6, 19, and 26 to better utilize equipment, recently installed electric bus chargers at RTC CENTENNIAL PLAZA station, and improve service operations. This change will not impact the scheduled times of each route. This change affects how and which buses are used on each route and how each route connects to the next route (interlining). This adjustment will cause a change in bus bay locations for Routes 4 and 6 at RTC 4th STREET STATION, and Routes 2, 11, and 26 at RTC CENTENNIAL PLAZA STATION.

Routine Schedule Time Adjustments

As part of RTC's on-going effort to provide reliable and on-time service, staff monitors bus travel times and speeds, as well as other statistics. As traffic patterns change, passenger habits change and street networks change which affects the reliability and on-time performance of each route. Therefore, each service change contains small adjustments to the timetables to maintain their relevance to what the bus can actually perform, thereby improving reliability and on-time performance, as well as customer service. This service change will contain these small adjustments to a small number of routes.

Title VI Analysis

FTA Circular 4702.1B requires that recipients of federal transit funds prepare service equity analyses for proposed major service changes or any fare change. RTC policy identifies a major service change as:

- A reduction or increase of 10% or more of system-wide service hours
- The elimination or expansion of any existing service that affects:
 - 25% or more of the service hours of a route
 - 25% or more of the route's ridership (defined as activity at impacted bus stops).

After review of the proposed changes, RTC staff recommends the approval of these changes as they do not meet the threshold for a full Title VI analysis.

FISCAL IMPACT

Funding for these items are included in the approved FY 2022 budget, and there is no additional cost in connection with this agenda item.

PREVIOUS BOARD ACTION

There has been no previous Board action or direction on this matter.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE(S) RECOMMENDATION

The proposed service change concepts discussed above were presented to the Citizens Multimodal Advisory Committee on July 7, 2021, and the Technical Advisory Committee on July 1, 2021.