

**REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION
CITIZENS MULTIMODAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, April 6, 2022**

Members Present

Mark Miranda
Dora Martinez
Vince Harris
Jeff Bonano, Chair
Larry Skelton

Mathew Boog
David Giacomini
Paul Hewen
Lindsey Costello
Benjamin Miller, Vice Chair

CMAC Members Absent

Mayuko Majima
Ann Silver

Paul Malikowski

RTC Staff

Dan Doenges
Lolita Davis
Stephanie Haddock
Christian

Rebecca Kapuler
Adam Spear
Jim Gee

Schonlau

CMAC Guest

Jessica Rutherford

The Citizens Multimodal Advisory Committee (CMAC) was conducted as a Zoom Webinar.

ITEM 1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order at 5:32 p.m. by the Chair, Jeff Bonano.

ITEM 2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The agenda was approved as submitted.

ITEM 3. PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no public comments given.

ITEM 4. APPROVAL OF THE MARCH 2, 2022 MEETING MINUTES

The CMAC March 2, 2022 meeting minutes were approved as submitted.

ITEM 5. REPORT FROM THE RTC STAFF REGARDING THE FISCAL YEAR 2023 INCREASE IN THE INDEXED FUEL TAXES IN WASHOE COUNTY THAT WILL BECOME EFFECTIVE ON JULY 1, 2022.

Adam Spear, RTC General Counsel, briefed the committee on the Indexed Fuel Tax (gas) which was approved by the voters of Washoe County and went into effect January 2010. It is intended to increase every year in order to keep up with inflation costs for RTC Regional Road Projects. The Indexed Fuel Tax is automatic and cannot be stopped or changed but increases yearly pursuant to statute and Washoe County code. The tax was imposed by ordinance and pledged toward outstanding bonds.

Stephanie Haddock, RTC Finance Director, stated the Indexed Fuel Tax is a rolling ten-year average of the Producers Price Index, currently nine point seven, and only one factor in the overall calculated two point four percent increase which will increase gas cost by one point eight nine cents effective July 1, 2022. The current Indexed Gas Tax for RTC is forty-one cents and will go up to forty-three cents (rounded).

Paul Hewen asked if the Federal Government dropped the Federal tax, will it affect our price at the gas pumps. Stephanie Haddock, RTC Finance Director, responded the Federal Government has not approved this and Congress is not supporting the idea.

Dora Martinez asked if the Indexed Fuel Tax apply to road projects only. Adam Spear, RTC General Counsel, responded there are constitutional and statutory limitations that require the funds only be used for RTC Street, Highway, Regional Road Projects and incidentals related to those projects. An agenda item with further explanation as to how the Indexed Fuel Tax is calculated will be presented at the May RTC Board meeting.

ITEM 6. RECOMMEND APPROVAL OF THE PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PLAN UPDATE.

Rebecca Kapuler, RTC Senior Technical Planner, discussed additions to the Public Participation Plan, an executive summary and review of federal regulations which has a new federal transportation legislation, the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA), and is compliant with federal laws. It includes outreach tools such as virtual meetings/reports, and recorded messages for social media that will explore and expand engagement to increase the amount and value of public participation. There has been more participation through virtual outreach rather than in-person. The Public Participation Plan is currently out for public comment and will be updated as comments come in. The Plan will go before the RTC Board May 20, 2022.

Ben Miller made a motion to Recommend Approval of the Public Participation Plan Update.

Larry Skelton seconded.

Motion carried unanimously.

ITEM 7. MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS/AGENDA ITEMS FOR FUTURE CMAC MEETINGS.

Dora Martinez stated some passengers who are developmentally disabled (and/or their caretakers) are not comfortable taking an Uber and would like Paratransit to explain why Uber is being utilized for certified Paratransit passengers. There are safety concerns such as drivers not being thoroughly background checked and absence of cameras during trips.

ITEM 8. RTC/RIDE/ACCESS STAFF ITEMS.

Jim Gee, RTC Service Planning and Innovative Manager, announced the TOPS project, which is a look at public transit in regards to service and technology improvements over the next five years, results will be released to the public next week. There will be a survey for passengers/non-passengers to take, a YouTube video on the RTC website, in-person meetings and virtual options for feedback.

Also, this past January RTC service was reduced to a Sunday/Holiday schedule due to driver and staffing shortages. Since then, service was incrementally added every two to three weeks and beginning May 7, 2022, seven-day service schedules will return.

Dan Doenges, RTC Planning Director, announced the McCarran Boulevard Corridor Study is underway and currently a virtual outreach event is being held. The website has introductory videos, accessible virtual poster boards, an online survey and an interactive map to provide comments. The website is open another week for participation.

<https://engageparametrix.com/mccarran/>

Dora Martinez asked the status of shocks and audio announcements on the buses. Jim Gee, RTC Service Planning and Innovative Manager, responded new ACCESS vehicles are being purchased next year. Regular announcements were trimmed for the addition of COVID required announcements but plans are to resume regular audio announcements in April if regulations allow.

ITEM 9. PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no public comments given.

ITEM 10. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 5:59 p.m.