

**REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION
WASHOE COUNTY, NEVADA**

THURSDAY

9:00 A.M.

November 17, 2022

PRESENT:

**Ed Lawson, Mayor of Sparks, Chair (Via Microsoft Teams)
Vaughn Hartung, Washoe County Commissioner, Vice Chair
Hillary Schieve, Mayor of Reno (Via Microsoft Teams)
Devon Reese, Reno City Council Member (Via Telephone)
Alexis Hill, Washoe County Commissioner**

**Bill Thomas, RTC Executive Director
Adam Spear, Legal Counsel
Darin Tedford, Deputy Director of NDOT**

The regular monthly meeting, held in the Chambers of the Washoe County Commission, 1001 E. 9th Street, Reno, Nevada, was called to order by Vice Chair Hartung. The Board conducted the following business:

Due to technical difficulties Recess was held from 9:06 a.m. to 9:19 a.m.

Item 1 CALL TO ORDER

- 1.1 Roll Call
- 1.2 Pledge of Allegiance
- 1.3 Special Recognitions
 - 1.3.1 Congratulations to Keolis Driver of the Month - Ms. Jessica Ruano
 - 1.3.2 Congratulations to MTM Employee of the Month – Ms. Maggie Underwood

Item 2 PUBLIC INPUT

Vice Chair Hartung 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.

Ms. Dora Martinez, local resident with the Nevada Reciprocal Action Coalition provided public comment on the RTC ACCESS Line and difficulties getting through to Customer Service to get status of her ACCESS rides, as she is blind. She would also like there to be a tactile version of the Arlington Avenue Bridges project available for the blind.

There being no one else wishing to speak, the Vice Chair Hartung closed public input.

Recess was taken at 9:20 a.m. for pictures with the Keolis and MTM Employees of the month. Recess was extended to 9:45 a.m. due to continued technical difficulties, which were finally resolved and the meeting proceeded with a full quorum.

Item 3 APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

Items 4.1 thru 4.5 CONSENT ITEMS

4.1 Minutes

4.1.1. Approve 10/21/22 Draft Meeting Minutes *(For Possible Action)*

4.2. Reports

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

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

4.2.3. Acknowledge receipt of the monthly Technical, Citizens Multimodal, and Regional Road Impact Fee Advisory Committees Report *(For Possible Action)*

4.2.4. Acknowledge receipt of the monthly Public Transportation and Operations Report *(For Possible Action)*

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

4.3. Engineering Department

4.3.1. Acknowledge receipt of a report regarding the Arlington Avenue Bridges Replacement project. *(For Possible Action)*

4.3.2. Approve a contract with JUB Engineers, Inc., to provide design services and engineering during construction for the 2023 Corrective Maintenance project in an amount not to exceed \$267,800. *(For Possible Action)*

4.3.3. Approve a contract with Farr West Engineering for design and engineering during construction for Selmi Drive Rehabilitation project in an amount not to exceed \$390,674. *(For Possible Action)*

4.3.4. Approve a contract with Lumos and Associates, Inc., to provide design services and optional engineering during construction for the Raleigh Heights Rehabilitation project in an amount not to exceed \$688,140. *(For Possible Action)*

4.3.5. Authorize a request for proposals for environmental services, permitting assistance, design, and engineering services for the Sierra Street Bridge Replacement project. *(For Possible Action)*

4.3.6. Approve a contract with Lumos and Associates, Inc., to provide design services and engineering during construction for the 2023 Preventive Maintenance project in an amount not to exceed \$927,490. *(For Possible Action)*

4.3.7. Approve Amendment No. 3 to the professional services agreement with Stantec Consulting Services, Inc., for final design and engineering during construction services on the Oddie/Wells Boulevard Project, in the amount of \$54,370, for a new total not-to-exceed amount of \$1,797,862. *(For Possible Action)*

4.4. Public transportation/Operations Department

- 4.4.1. Approve the purchase of the CrewOpt Module for RTC's HASTUS transit planning and scheduling application for an amount not to exceed \$122,455. *(For Possible Action)*
- 4.4.2. Approve the following contracts with Air Products and Chemicals, Inc., to implement the Hydrogen Fuel Cell Electric Bus and Infrastructure Deployment project: (1) Sale of Equipment Contract to build the hydrogen fueling station to refuel hydrogen fuel cell buses at RTC's 1301 East 6th Street facility in an amount not to exceed \$4,945,000; (2) Maintenance Service Agreement to provide routine maintenance services at no cost with respect to the equipment; and (3) Hydrogen Supply Agreement to purchase gaseous hydrogen for RTC activities with respect to hydrogen fueling at 1301 East Sixth Street for 60 months at a rate of \$4,500 per month not to exceed \$270,000. *(For Possible Action)*

4.5. Executive, Administrative and Finance Department

- 4.5.1. Approve contract with Trifox, LLC for Certified Payroll, Prevailing Wage, Apprenticeship Utilization Act, and Davis Bacon Compliance January 1, 2023 through December 31, 2026. *(For Possible Action)*

Commissioner Hill commented on Item 4.3.1, with regard to the public commenter, we need to be sure we do provide a tactile version for this item for the public.

Mayor Schieve added that the sound prompts at the lights also need to be louder.

E.D. Thomas will provide under Director's Announcements or directly to the Board members, on exactly how our system works and if there is some action needed on a future Agenda, we will make sure that is done.

On motion of Commissioner Hill, seconded by Commissioner Reese, which motion carried unanimously, Vice Chair Hartung ordered that Consent Items 4.1 through 4.5 be approved.

Item 5.1 DISCUSSION ITEMS AND PRESENTATIONS

5.1. Acknowledge receipt of a report regarding the Critical Urban Freight Corridor (CUFC) designation in Washoe County. *(For Possible Action)*

Dan Doenges, Director of Planning made a presentation to the Board to provide information and receive feedback on the FHWA, as part of the National Highway Freight Network, called Critical Urban Freight Corridors. What this includes is public roads and urbanized areas which provide access and connection to the primary highway freight system and the Interstate.

To summarize, these are roadways in urbanized areas that serve as connectors to the National Highway Network to move freight and goods. We as the MPO, and NDOT are working together to coordinate and identify roadways in the urbanized areas that we want to assign this designation.

Vice Chair Hartung asked if Pyramid Highway was on the list, as there is a good amount of industrial and commercial out on that highway?

Dan Doenges said Pyramid Highway is included from Sparks Boulevard down to McCarran Boulevard.

Vice Chair Hartung noted that Pyramid's designation needs to be extended north to the end of the Valley where there are two active aggregate pits, a very large industrial park and two other new industrial parks slated for the east and west sides of the Highway.

Dan Doenges will make a note of that, and stated this is really why we are bringing it to you, to hear your input. Also, the data that was collected was specific to 16 wheelers, so basically the heavy freight truck traffic. We will take all of this into consideration and add these parks to the list.

Commissioner Hill noted she did not see roads included on I-80 West in Verdi area. She will get Mr. Doenges a list of specific roads in the area that are impacted.

As this is a motion of receipt and there is no public comment, we will take action on this item.

On motion of Commissioner Hill to include the comments made by the Board, seconded by Chair Lawson, which motion carried unanimously, Vice Chair Hartung ordered that receipt of the report be acknowledged.

Items 6.1 thru 6.3 REPORTS

6.1 RTC Executive Director Report

I want to start my comments by apologizing to the Board and to the Public. This was certainly not the way we expected this meeting to go, but we understand that we need to work to improve these technologies, and be in a better place for the inevitable situations where we have to pivot, so I apologize to everyone.

1. I would like to welcome Devon Reese and Alexis Hill as full-time RTC board members. We had a chance to give both of them a tour of centennial plaza and some of our road projects. They also met with our directors who gave them a briefing about how our organization operates. We hope this information will help them hit the ground running in this new role.
2. Please join me in formally welcoming Michelle Kraus as our new clerk of the board. Michelle is the finance and legal administrative coordinator. Michelle takes over for Denise Thompson. Denise has served as clerk to the board for nearly 15 years. She has been very dedicated to her job and we wish her the best in her new position as procurement and contracts analyst.
3. Congratulations to Ruby Barrientos and Mark Schlador! Ruby was promoted to paratransit eligibility and mobility specialist. She will work in our mobility center at centennial plaza, starting Monday. Mark was promoted to facilities and fleet maintenance manager. Along with many of his current duties, some of his new responsibilities include vehicle

purchasing, audits, inspections, monitoring contracted maintenance programs and repairs, and fueling stations.

4. The RTC is helping people in need, this holiday season. Once again, we are going to stuff a bus with food items. On December 8th, we will park a bus at Sam's club on Kietzke lane. That's where we will collect non-perishable food items. The RTC will deliver the food to the food bank of northern Nevada at the 2 news share your Christmas food drive.
5. Discussions are underway about the possibility of expanding passenger rail service from the bay area and Sacramento to Reno-Tahoe area. The placer county transportation planning agency and Caltrans are conducting a survey – to see how interested the community is. The short survey is on the RTC Facebook page and in our Enews report. Participants will enter into a drawing for a weekend stay, here in the Reno-Tahoe area.
6. The McCarran study draft recommendations are ready for community review and input. This is a great opportunity for the community to give us their thoughts. You can see the results on our website. Feel free to send comments to mccarranstudy@rtcwashoe.com
7. The RTC provided free transit to everyone on election day and veterans day. These two days provided a great opportunity to provide transportation to the public – and introduce this valuable service to many others.
8. Finally, I would like to take a moment to remember former Sparks City Councilman John Mayer. John passed away this week, but he had a huge impact on Sparks and our Region. He served on the RTC Board and had a direct influence on how our community advanced as far as the roadway network. Our thoughts and prayers are with his family and friends during this difficult time and we wanted to acknowledge and appreciate what he did for us at RTC.

Vice Chair Hartung said he knew Mr. Mayer very well and he wanted to thank E.D. Thomas for acknowledging him. At this time, I would like to pause us for a moment of silence for John Mayer. Our heartfelt condolences go out to his family and friends for this loss.

6.2 RTC Federal Report

A written report is included in the agenda packet for this meeting.

Mr. Paul Nelson, RTC Government Affairs Manager, addressed the Board and noted that the RTC was submitting its Smart Grant application today. We are asking for more than \$1.1 billion that will go towards construction and implementation funding. This money will improve technology along the Sparks Intelligent Corridors project. It is expected to reduce travel times and delays, improve construction work safety and reduce crashes by 44% and congestion by 14-20%. Congress has until December 16th to agree on a spending bill for the Fiscal Year and avoid a government shutdown.

Vice Chair Hartung asked if there were any questions for Mr. Nelson. Also, if there were any questions for E.D. Thomas, as he did not ask earlier. There were no questions.

6.3 NDOT Director Report

NDOT Deputy Director Darin Tedford gave a presentation and spoke on the following topics:

Traffic Safety – which included:

- Washoe County Traffic Safety
- Unrestrained Drivers and Passengers
- Winter Weather Conditions and Safety
- Closed circuit cameras for detection that have pan and tilt/zoom capabilities
- Combatting Wrong-Way Driver Crashes

He then provided updates on US 50 East Shore Corridor Study, NDOT Data Driven Approach Implementing WWD Countermeasures, and the SBX Project.

Upon conclusion of Mr. Tedford's report, Vice Chair Hartung asked if the Commissioners had any questions.

Mayor Schieve asked how many Wrong Way Driver Systems are you going to put in place up here? She also asked how they choose or decide where they go? Is it based upon incidents or how busy the routes are, how do you decide? Also, how long has this infrastructure and technology been around? Do you have any statistics on how effective these systems are? Where does the money come from?

Mr. Tedford said he will get the Board a count of where we have them right now and what the plans are for the future. If prior incidents have happened, that is a signal that something needs to be done. By volume, the percentages increase if there are more cars, the likelihood that this could happen is higher. We brought this technology to the State as a pilot project in 2016 and special permission from the FHWA was required. We track all of the crash data, we don't track citation data, where if the State Police have given a citation for a wrong way driver, but since we have the cameras and tracking the number I have is turning around 147 of 189 wrong way drivers, a 78% correction. Typically, we have money that comes from the Feds that is required to be spent on safety. When we talk about our federal obligation or the amount of money we can get from the Feds for spending on our roads, that is specific money we would spend, but we also have additional money that we can spend on it that is part of our prioritization project and our One Nevada Plan has safety as are first and important goal. We have multiple funding sources.

Vice Chair Hartung asked about day light savings time and if we see more incidents when day light savings is instituted both in the spring and the fall? Are the Wrong Way Devices expensive?

Mr. Tedford stated we don't have the specific data for crashes during the couple of weeks after either of the time changes, we just have the timing of whether it is dusk or dawn throughout the year for reduced visibility. I put a system in as a stand-alone project, it's about \$2,000,000 for an interchange and that would be a good estimate going forward.

Vice Chair Hartung asked if there is a less expensive solution that is operated with solar, that doesn't necessarily have cameras, but does record when the system goes off.

Mr. Tedford said we are looking at solar for all kinds of our lighting, but the least expensive solution is putting signs in that say Wrong Way, but don't flash or trigger, which we have several of those in place now.

Vice Chair Hartung commended Mr. Tedford on the Highway 50 Tahoe East Shore Corridor Study and would love to see the exact same study done on Pyramid Highway.

Item 7 COMMISSIONER ANNOUNCEMENTS AND UPDATES

Mayor Lawson thanked everyone for the accommodations today and thanked Vice Chair Hartung for running the meeting.

Mayor Schieve would like to look at dates that we can do some visionary planning of what we want to see in the future, since there are three new members on our Board. Also, in looking at technology for our Bus App, making it more communication friendly.

Commissioner Devon Reese agreed that technology was very important for improving communication. I am excited and looking forward to working with each of you on complete streets, hypermobility, and all of our projects.

Commissioner Hill would like to get an update on the Incline Village Connection from Reno to Tahoe that we ran two seasons ago. I'd like to get an understanding of where we are with that program and what we're looking to do in the future. I wanted to say thank you to the RTC Staff who came to the Incline Village Crystal Bay Transportation Summit last night. They brought up a van for the Ride Share for employees. The Hyatt is going to be doing four vans and that connection was made with your incredible staff. I want to thank Paul Nelson, James Gee and Scott Miklos for coming up and spending their time in Incline. I'm really excited about this collaboration.

Vice Chair Hartung, this is up to the Chair, but I think it would be good to put a strategic workshop on the Agenda for some time in January. I also agree that whatever we decide to do, if we need to make some kind of a purchase or make an accommodation for these kinds of meetings, so the technology is easy to deal with, let's do it. It is imperative that we can all call in and access these meetings and participate easily and legally.

Vice Chair Hartung asked E.D. Thomas if we could look into landscaping two roundabouts at Eagles Landing Shopping Center and the southwest corner of Eagle Canyon and Pyramid. I'm happy to put my funds into landscaping that area, but it has to be done, as they have made numerous requests over the years, citizens, businesses, etc. Let's have a conversation off line what the strategy might be or if there are any possibilities at all.

Mayor Schieve had one more question, how do you prefer that we recommend agenda items?

E.D. Thomas has had conversations with the Chair about the running of our meetings, what is the priority and how do we become most effective, but responsive and transparent. We have tentatively planned a time in early February for the Board to meet for a workshop and discuss visioning and these types of questions.

Chair Lawson stated that we are going to look at the way we run our meetings and figure out how we can be more efficient and still get the work done and be as transparent as possible. So, if you have a suggestion, please feel free to share.

Item 8 PUBLIC INPUT

Vice Chair Hartung 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.

There being no one wishing to speak, the Vice Chair closed public input.

Item 11 ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 10:43 a.m.



ED LAWSON, Chair
Regional Transportation Commission

****Copies of all presentations are available by contacting Michelle Kraus at mkraus@rtcwashoe.com.**