

**REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION
WASHOE COUNTY, NEVADA**

FRIDAY

9:01 A.M.

August 16, 2019

PRESENT:

**Bob Lucey, Washoe County Commissioner, Chairman
Neoma Jardon, Reno City Council Member, Vice Chair
Vaughn Hartung, Washoe County Commissioner
Bonnie Weber, Reno City Council Member (Alternate, arrived 9:04)
Ron Smith, Sparks City Council Member (departed 10:13)**

**Lee G. Gibson, RTC Executive Director
Dale Ferguson, Legal Counsel
Kristina Swallow, Director of NDOT**

NOT PRESENT:

Oscar Delgado, Reno City Council Member

The regular monthly meeting, held in the Chambers of the Washoe County Commission, 1001 E. 9th Street, Reno, Nevada, was called to order by Chairman Lucey. 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

RECOGNITION OF THE RTC BY THE HOT AUGUST NIGHTS (HAN) ORGANIZATION FOR SUPPORT AND PARTNERSHIP TO PROVIDE THE COMMUNITY TRANSIT SERVICE TO THE HAN EVENTS - *Item pulled*

RECOGNITION OF THE RTC BY RENO FOOD SYSTEMS FOR SUPPORT AND PARTNERSHIP TO PROVIDE THE COMMUNITY TRANSIT SERVICE TO THE RENO GARLIC FEST

Mr. Michael Moreno, RTC Public Affairs Manager, introduced Rebekah Stetson who represents the organization.

Ms. Stetson said this was the 3rd year for the Reno Garlic Festival and there were 4,000 participants this year. In order to hold the event in Pat Baker Park, it was vital to use an RTC park and ride program.

She then said it is always amazing to work with the RTC and Michael Moreno and things always flow very easily.

Item 1 APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

Item 2.1 PUBLIC INPUT

Chairman Lucey 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. Amy Dewitt-Smith, representing Neighbor Network of Northern Nevada (N4), addressed the Board to discuss an inclusive transportation planning project funded by the Administration for Community Living. This project engages people with disabilities, older adults and their care partners and other stakeholders. Their purpose is to discuss ways to fill transportation gaps in the community. They would like to start a Statewide Transportation Association as Nevada is one of the few states who do not already have one. They would also like to provide an “information highway” to provide information on what transportation services and programs are available. She would like to talk to business leaders about a Ride with Me Day program.

Ms. Jocelyn Seemann, representing Neighbor Network of Northern Nevada (N4) and Ms. Twyla Lemay, local resident, addressed the Board and further explained the Ride with Me program as a program pairing a public official with an older adult or a person with a disability to use public transportation together in the manner the older adult or person with a disability normally does. The hope is to foster communication between their members and officials to improve the accessibility of existing systems. Ms. Lemay fully supports a Ride with Me Day program.

Mr. Ryan Kinney, local resident, addressed the Board to request some type of signal at Pyramid and Holman Way. He also mentioned that the ACCESS drivers are usually 15 – 20 minutes late so the purchase of additional paratransit vehicles on the agenda for this day is a great idea. Lastly, he would like RTC staff to personally speak with visually impaired people about how exactly place the new markers on bus stops.

Mr. Juan Martinez and his fiancé, Ms. Dora Uchel, addressed the Board to mention they had a scheduled trip with ACCESS, so as they were told to do, waited for the phone call letting them know when the driver was there. They never received a call and when they followed up with ACCESS, they were told the driver said he/she was knocking at their door but no one actually knocked at the door.

Dora would also like the RTC to try to enforce the use of leashes or carriers to restrain aggressive dogs. She also said the agenda packet was not available for ADA readers online.

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

Item 2.2 *ADVISORY COMMITTEES SUMMARY REPORT*

On motion of Mayor Smith, seconded by Commissioner Hartung, which motion unanimously carried, Chairman Lucey ordered that receipt of the monthly Summary Report for the Technical, Citizens Multimodal and Regional Road Impact Fee Advisory Committees be acknowledged.

Item 3.1 thru 3.17 *CONSENT ITEMS*

Vice Chair Jardon made a motion to pull Item 3.5 for discussion and approve the remainder of the items. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hartung and upon a vote, passed unanimously.

Minutes

3.1 Approve the minutes of the July 19, 2019, 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 Approve the following projects for the Federal Fiscal Year 2019 Transportation Alternatives (TA) Set-Aside Program as recommended by the Technical Advisory Committee and Citizens Multimodal Advisory Committee (CMAC):

- **Regional Traffic Calming: \$34,000 each for Washoe County, City of Sparks and City of Reno (\$102,000 total)**
- **Bus Stop ADA Signage & Markers for Visually Impaired Customers: \$34,000 for RTC Transit**

*****Item pulled for discussion*****

Ms. Amy Cummings, RTC Deputy Executive Director and Director of Planning, addressed the Board to explain that the funding discussed in Item 3.5 is left over from a project that was not able to move forward, so there was an additional call for projects for this funding. Two applications were received as noted in the recommendation; however, she believes the earlier public comments by Mr. Kinney were pertaining to the ADA signage and markers. This project came out of the ADA Transition Plan because some of the fonts on the current bus stop signs are too small for the height at which they are posted, so the concept is to have a smaller placard midway down the pole with larger fonts which will further distinguish a bus stop pole from another type of pole. Ed Park is the RTC Project Manager.

Vice Chair Jardon asked if any particular group was consulted with pertaining to the signage improvements.

Ms. Cumming said it was discussed at the RTC Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) meeting. This item is only to identify the funding, so as staff moves forward they will do additional outreach with customers and in particular, the customers in attendance today.

On motion of Vice Chair Jardon, seconded by Commissioner Weber, which motion carried unanimously, Chairman Lucey ordered that Consent Items 3.5 be approved.

Administration

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

Procurement and Contracts

3.7 Approve the purchase of fifteen (15) CNG paratransit vehicles utilizing the State of Nevada Fleet Vehicles procurement contract number 99SWC-S490 in the amount of \$2,165,937 (*For Possible Action*)

3.8 Approve a Professional Services Agreement (PSA) with Stantec Consulting Services, Inc. in an amount not to exceed \$199,984 for consulting services on the Eagle Canyon Extension Alignment Alternatives and Planning and Environmental Linkages (PEL) Study; authorize the RTC Executive Director to execute the agreement (*For Possible Action*)

3.9 Approve the revised Section 5310 grant agreement with Neighbor Network of Northern Nevada (N4) in the amount of \$221,403; authorize RTC Executive Director to execute the agreement (*For Possible Action*)

3.10 Approve Amendment No. 1 to the existing Professional Services Agreement (PSA) between the RTC and Wood Rodgers, Inc. for engineering services during construction related to the Reno Consolidated 19-02 - North Hills Boulevard, and Hunter Lake Drive Intersection Project in the amount of \$54,445 for a new not to exceed amount of \$538,550; authorize the RTC Executive Director to execute the amendment (*For Possible Action*)

3.11 Approve Amendment No. 1 to the existing Professional Services Agreement (PSA) between the RTC and CFA, Inc. for additional final design and construction services related to utility work on 15th and C Street and increased grind/overlay quantities on El Rancho for the Sparks Consolidated 19-01 - 15th Street, Franklin Way, Hulda Court, and El Rancho Drive Project, in the amount of \$27,962 for a new not to exceed amount of \$420,943; authorize the RTC Executive Director to execute the Amendment (*For Possible Action*)

3.12 Approve a Professional Services Agreement (PSA) with Lumos & Associates, Inc. ("Lumos") to provide design services and optional engineering during construction for the Golden Valley Road Rehab – Yorkshire Drive to North Virginia Street Project in an amount not to exceed \$266,685; authorize the RTC Executive Director to execute the agreement (*For Possible Action*)

3.13 Approve a Professional Services Agreement (PSA) with Eastern Sierra Engineering, P.C. to provide design services and optional engineering during construction for the Lakeside Drive Rehab Project in an amount not to exceed \$561,260; authorize the RTC Executive Director to execute the agreement (*For Possible Action*)

3.14 Approve an Administrative Settlement of \$125,000 above the just compensation of \$1,375,000 representing a total settlement offer of \$1,500,000 for the full fee simple

acquisition of the parcel known as APN 007-183-11 with Bajwa Properties, LLC – Co-Ed Lodge Series, necessary to construct the Virginia Street Bus RAPID Transit (BRT) Extension Project *(For Possible Action)*

- 3.15 Approve an Administrative Settlement of \$105,000 above the just compensation of \$1,215,000 representing a total settlement offer of \$1,320,000 for the full fee simple acquisition of the parcel known as APN 007-183-12 with Ross Rentals, LTD., necessary to construct the Virginia Street Bus RAPID Transit (BRT) Extension Project *(For Possible Action)*
- 3.16 Approve Amendment #2 to the service agreement with Trane US Inc. to provide heating, ventilation and air conditioning (HVAC) preventive maintenance services in an amount not to exceed \$16,549; authorize the RTC Executive Director to execute the amendment *(For Possible Action)*

Inter-Agency Agreements

- 3.17 Approve an Interlocal Cooperative Agreement (ICA) between the RTC and the City of Reno for the inclusion of requested enhancements to Virginia Street during the construction of the Virginia Street Bus RAPID Transit (BRT) Extension Project. Funding for the enhancements to be provided by the City of Reno in an amount not to exceed \$222,600; authorize the RTC Executive Director to execute the agreement *(For Possible Action)*

Motion precedes Item 3.1

Item 4.1 thru 4.3 DIRECTOR REPORTS

Item 4.1 RTC Executive Director Report

Executive Director (E.D.) Lee Gibson spoke briefly on the following topics, some of which were upcoming at the time of this meeting:

1. Keolis Performance Update:
 - July 2019 Keolis' first month of operation had a 2.5% overall increase in RIDE ridership, system wide, versus July 2018. This is the first increase in ridership in 13 months.
 - On-Time performance for July 2019 was 92.6% versus 90.0% for July 2018
 - Keolis had 23 valid complaints for the month versus 39 for July 2018, which represents a 41% decrease in valid complaints.
 - Keolis delivered more than 99.99% of scheduled service for the month.
 - Keolis had 65 missed trips for the month versus 431 missed trips for July 2018, representing an 85% decrease in missed trips.
2. The RTC continues to build partnerships with local organizations to support regional events to provide transit service to special events.

In continuing efforts to increase transit ridership, transit service will be offered on Route 7 to the Reno Air Races Community Take-Off Celebration on September 7th and to the Air Races which start the following week.

RTC will partner again with The Nugget to provide bus shuttle service for the Best in The West Rib Cook-off and will, again, offer transit service on the new “UNR to Midtown Direct” line to the UNR Wolf Pack home football games.

Details and route schedules will be announced in this month’s eNews Board Update; also at www.RTCWashoe.com and on RTC’s social media channels.

3. The start of the new UNR to Midtown Direct route which will begin August 25th was announced. The new route replaces the Sierra Spirit service and will be temporary until the RAPID Virginia Line extension to UNR begins and when the Virginia Street project is completed.

Free rides will be offered on the UNR to Midtown Direct from August 25th through September 8th. On September 9th, regular RIDE fares will become effective. For more information visit RTC’s website and follow us on social media.

4. Last week, the California Keystone improvements, which began on June 10th, were completed. The project improves safety and access for drivers, bicyclists and pedestrians, with wider sidewalks, the addition of new pedestrian ramps at the intersection, and access for everyone in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act.

These neighborhood enhancements have been well received by the community and represent a \$2.8 million investment in our community. Thank you to SNC.

5. On September 12th, the RTC will host a community open house and meeting for the RTC Affordable Housing Study at the McKinley Arts & Culture Center at 4 pm, with a presentation at 5 pm.

The public is invited to attend the meeting to give input to identify opportunities for affordable housing near transit routes. Please join us for a discussion on this critical need in our community. The 5 pm presentation will be livestreamed on RTC’s Facebook page.

6. A 21-Day Public Comment Participation Period begins on August 30, 2019, and ends on September 19, 2019, for the Federal Fiscal Year 2020 through 2024 Regional Transportation Improvement Program (the RTIP), which was developed in accordance with the Fixing America’s Surface Transportation (FAST) Act.

A copy of the RTIP is available for viewing and comment during regular business hours at the RTC Planning Office at 1105 Terminal Way, Suite 211, in Reno. The document is also available at www.RTCWashoe.com. Comments can also be mailed to: RTC Planning Offices, 1105 Terminal Way, Suite 211, Reno, NV 89502. Additional ways to provide comment are available on our website.

7. Shared Federal Framework update. The RTC had strong participation from local entities and agencies from across the region and there was a wide ranging discussion on federal policy issues. This will be a future agenda item.
8. The October Board meeting date will be change and if there is a transit workshop, it will take place in October as well.

Commissioner Hartung requested an update on Lemmon Valley Drive and E.D. Gibson responded that an agreement with Jacobs Engineering for preliminary engineering, NEPA and design/build procurement services would be brought to the Board for approval in September.

Commissioner Hartung then asked what the status is for the stoplight requested at Egyptian, Sunset and Pyramid.

Mr. Brian Stewart, RTC Director of Engineering, addressed the Board and said staff is still working with NDOT and Washoe County to get the infrastructure installed for the light.

Item 4.2 RTC Federal Report

A written update is available in the staff report materials for this item and E.D. Gibson introduced Ms. Anja Graves, President of Cardinal Infrastructure, and Congressman Jon Porter, President of Porter Group, LLC, both federal lobbyists on behalf of the RTC of Washoe County's interests.

Ms. Graves addressed the Board and provided her update, saying that the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee unanimously passed a highway portion of a Surface Transportation and Reauthorization bill which increases highway spending approximately 27%; unfortunately, no funding has been identified to pay for it.

She went on to say that the RTC successfully advocated to expand the Safe Routes to Schools Program which adds funding for the increased safety of high school students.

Ms. Graves continued, providing information on a potential gas tax increase, continuing resolutions, etc. She added that a budget deal was passed prior to the fall recess so now the house and the senate will need to work on a mutually agreed upon spending plan.

Mr. Porter then addressed the Board and said the government affairs team meets every week for a minimum of an hour, via conference call, to discuss everything going on with the RTC and government happenings which may have an effect on us. He continued with information on what's occurring in the current political environment. He said that republicans and democrats actually work very well together, despite what's shown or heard in the news. He added that the Shared Federal Framework meeting the previous day was very successful in their discussions of community and region-wide issues that need to be addressed.

Lastly, Mr. Porter expressed how spoiled Nevadans were before Senator Reid had retired because he accomplished so many great things for our state. Then Mr. Porter spoke of the great qualities our current delegation has and that they are working very hard for their constituents, even in this difficult environment.

Item 4.3 NDOT Director Report

NDOT Director Kristina Swallow provided a brief update on the I-80 pavement reconstruction project, saying final striping should be completed by the end of September.

She also discussed the Kietzke and 2nd Street projects, which focus mainly on bike lanes and mobility improvements. The Kietzke project is complete and 2nd Street should be complete in two or three weeks.

Mayor Smith asked if there is any possibility to add a flasher at the sidewalk near Pyramid and Tyler Way as it is a very dangerous traffic area. Ms. Swallow said she would check into that for the Mayor.

Commissioner Hartung mentioned again that the warning lights for upcoming signals are all flashing except for the newest lights which do not flash. They should be consistent.

Commissioner Hartung also brought up the difficulties that someone towing a very large trailer has turning south on Pyramid from Egyptian.

Chairman Lucey asked what the status is on the Mt. Rose Highway safety improvements and would like an update brought to a future meeting. He would also like to discuss what the state priorities are for NDOT and the Governor.

Ms. Swallow said the implementation of the One Nevada Plan is on their next agenda for approval.

Item 5.1 thru 5.2 METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

5.1 Receive a report on the NDOT Spaghetti Bowl Project and provide input accordingly – no action required

Ms. Jenica Keller, NDOT Project Manager, addressed the Board to provide a presentation update on the Spaghetti Bowl and Spaghetti Bowl Express projects. She said a phasing plan has been developed to complete this project over the next 20 years. She then went over the timing of each phase as follows:

Phase 1 (Spaghetti Bowl Xpress):

- Phase 1A (2020-2020)
- Phase 1B (2021-2023)

Phase 2 (2024-2028)

Phase 3 (2028-2034)

Phase 4 (2035-2037)

Phase 5 (2037-2039)

Ms. Keller also provided information on what will occur during each phase. She made it very clear that even though there is a delay in the start of the project no resources are being reallocated.

(A full copy of this presentation may be obtained by contacting Denise Thompson - dthompson@rtcwashoe.com)

Chairman Lucey stated that he had received public comment requests on this topic, so opened the meeting to public input and called on the following:

Mr. Craig Madole, representing AGC, thanked the RTC for their ongoing commitment to this project and suggested that the money which was being provided to NDOT toward this project be allocated to another project which would put more people to work in the current building season.

Mr. Andrew Diss, representing the Grand Sierra Resort (GSR), expressed the GSR's concern about this first delay and that it may lead to additional delays on this project. The other gaming properties in the region also have concerns.

He reminded staff that the area around the Spaghetti Bowl is one of the most dangerous in the state. Mr. Diss also brought up the continued growth in the area and how the Spaghetti Bowl affects not only Reno/Sparks, but also businesses in Storey County and other areas in the region.

Mr. Paul McKenzie, representing the building trades, expressed his frustration over these delays, adding that NDOT had promised a schedule for this project and while he sat on the Reno City Council, the Council members made decisions about development requests that were based upon that schedule. There is now one developer that can't build for approximately another five years based upon this change to the schedule and there will be an economic impact as well. This project was the number one priority in the state and now it's on the back burner which will only increase expenses on the project.

Mr. Scott Fullerton, representing Operating Engineers Local #3, expressed the union's concern over these delays because construction will slow down in the region and their members are depending on this project for continued, stable employment.

There being no one else wishing to speak, public input was closed.

Vice Chair Jardon said the Spaghetti Bowl became a topic of discussion approximately seven years prior (she then asked for this to be a standing monthly item going forward) and the RTC made it a regional priority because the gridlock and lack of safety are only going to grow. She added that she understands that the bids came in higher than expected, but construction costs are growing at about 5% annualized – so \$16 million over a two year delay. Additionally, per volume, the Spaghetti Bowl is the highest crash location in the entire state. First responders are also spending an inordinate amount of time and money in this one location.

Commissioner Hartung agreed with the Vice Chair and truly believes (guarantees) that if this project were in Las Vegas, it would not be on a 20-year time phase. This project is imperative for our community.

Ms. Keller responded that this project is still the highest priority and utility relocations will begin in 2021 to get that work out of the way to make for a smoother Phase 1B.

Commissioner Weber, thanked everyone, staff and the public speakers, for standing their ground on this project and believes this is an emergency project that must be completed now.

Chairman Lucey said that this project should have taken place 10 years ago instead of waiting until after the problems and accidents have occurred. This project needs to be completed sooner than the timeline states.

Both Chairman Lucey and Commissioner Hartung believe that the state funds flow freely to Clark County as compared to Washoe County.

Commissioner Weber wants to know what everyone can do now to get this project moving.

Vice Chair Jardon said it feels like seven years of forward movement has all been for nothing and every delay is costing more and more tax payer money.

NDOT Director Swallow said the entire team is also frustrated with the situation but they must also be good stewards of the tax payer money. She also said that if award had gone through, design would still need to be done. However, it is being designed now and is on track.

Commissioner Weber said she thinks there should be a specific plan and considers this an emergency for the region. We cannot continue to put this off.

Commissioner Hartung said that promises were made and they, in-turn, made promises to their constituents. Now those promises must be revised and asks that NDOT not go back on those promises.

5.2 Receive a presentation on the NDOT US 395 North Valleys Improvement Project – no action required

Mr. Nick Johnson, NDOT Project Manager, addressed the Board to provide a presentation update, saying that this project is still moving forward. The goal for the first phase is to get as far north as the budget will allow and it's looking like it will be somewhere between Golden Valley and Lemmon Drive, but it may be a Phase 2 or a stand-alone project. He then quickly went over the entire project scope, saying that final design is progressing. Because the SBX project was moved out a year, this project is also being moved out a year. He then offered to answer any questions. *(A full copy of this presentation may be obtained by contacting Denise Thompson - dthompson@rtcwashoe.com)*

Commissioner Hartung asked for confirmation that both the bid and construction will begin in 2023. Mr. Johnson confirmed. Commissioner Hartung then expressed his frustration with all the delays on these very important projects.

Commissioner Weber said she feels like everyone has been lied to and she was quite emotional about the whole thing.

Vice Chair Jardon asked if this presentation is different than what was presented at a Neighborhood Advisory Board (NAB) meeting a couple of weeks ago. Mr. Johnson confirmed it has changed and there have been several adjustments in the past year. Everything has been pushed out about a year because of the SBX delays and the reason is that they don't want both projects to occur at the same time because there would be significant lane closures, cones and possibly overlapping contracts.

Chairman Lucey asked if the funding has been an issue.

Mr. Johnson said because costs are going up, staff will need to make potential adjustments where needed due to the project delay.

Chairman Lucey wants to make sure conversations occur with local government to ensure funding will be available for the project when it is time to proceed.

Director Swallow reiterated NDOT's commitment to both this and the Spaghetti Bowl project. She will bring the approved financial split amounts to the September meeting to share with the Commission, adding that all of this is part of the One Nevada Plan.

Commissioner Hartung suggested that instead of waiting for the SBX project to begin, they should just build the North Valleys portion first. Just get it done.

Commissioner Weber agrees with Commissioner Hartung that the North Valleys project should come first.

Mayor Smith departed the meeting

Item 6.1 thru 6.2 ENGINEERING

6.1 Acknowledge receipt of the Virginia Street Bus RAPID Transit (BRT) Extension monthly progress report (*For Possible Action*)

Mr. Brian Stewart, RTC Director of Engineering, addressed the Board to give a presentation update on the project, as set forth in the briefing materials for this agenda item. He said we are about two months into the construction of the project and there is something new to see, literally every day. He then provided a bit of detail on portions of the project that have been completed or will begin shortly. The execution of the Small Starts Grant, which was already awarded, is anticipated in September.

There was a tour given of the Cheney Street businesses for the public and there are still significant business support plans occurring and weekly updates are ongoing. The office trailer that was at the project was not used as anticipated, so it will no longer be manned as of September; however, there will still be boards there to provide information to the public. He then offered to answer any questions. (*A full copy of this presentation may be obtained by contacting Denise Thompson - dthompson@rtcwashoe.com*)

Vice Chair Jardon said she has not been getting complaints and concerns coming to her, so the project seems to be going great! She then asked for the status of the informational videos which were discussed at the previous Board meeting.

Mr. Michael Moreno, RTC Public Affairs Manager, said staff is still working on that production and our project is being balanced with many other projects that Mr. Evans has. There is now a 30-second spot airing on KOLO TV, along with social media. The message continues to be in support of Midtown businesses and how to get around the construction occurring. It looks like there will be a block party on St. Lawrence Avenue and the RTC is supporting that event as well. He then thanked involved parties for their continued participation and support.

Commissioner Hartung said that the business owners on Cheney would love to see Cheney either closed off or be turned into a one-way road. He added that business was “hopping” for a Thursday night!

Chairman Lucey asked when construction of the round-a-bout at Mary Street will begin and Mr. Stewart responded that it will start just after winter, into the spring.

Chairman Lucey said this project will be iconic.

On motion of Commissioner Hartung, seconded by Vice Chair Jardon, which motion carried unanimously, Chairman Lucey ordered receipt of the report be acknowledged.

6.2 Acknowledge receipt of the Bus Stop Improvement and Connectivity Program (Bus Stop ICP) progress report (*For Possible Action*)

Ms. Judy Tortelli, RTC Project Manager, addressed the Board to provide a presentation update on the Bus Stop Improvement and Connectivity Program, as set forth in the briefing materials for this item. She first said that over 100 of RTC’s initial bus stops have been field reviewed and of those 100 bus stops, 60% design has been completed for over 60 of them. Some of the stops require permitting so will be put toward the end of the project so they don’t delay the rest. The biggest issues have been right-of-way and schedule. The right-of-way need for these original 100 bus stops is greater than anticipated and right-of-way will take 6-9 months to complete. She then reviewed some specific stops, showing a few of the items that must be completed for improvement and ADA accessibility. She then offered to answer any questions. (*A full copy of this presentation may be obtained by contacting Denise Thompson - dthompson@rtcwashoe.com*)

Vice Chair Jardon asked what does it “mean” to the rider that there will be a bus stop improvement.

Ms. Tortelli said that to the rider it means the pad will be improved to be ADA accessible, so 5x8 at a minimum, and will also maintain connectivity to the nearest intersection, which means an ADA compliant path to the closest intersection. There will be a separate transit project for adding amenities, such as benches.

Chairman Lucey asked if any of the stops that are planned for potential removal for microtransit replacement are being improved.

Ms. Tortelli said those have been put on the back burner for now, pending the success of the microtransit program.

Chairman Lucey asked if this is just the first round or will this be it.

Ms. Tortelli responded that this is the first round as there were over 600 stops that do not currently have an ADA compliant pad. The first 100 were chosen based on ridership.

Commissioner Lucey would like to see the RTC being more proactive rather than reactive.

On motion of Vice Chair Jardon, seconded by Commissioner Hartung, which motion carried unanimously, Chairman Lucey ordered receipt of the report be acknowledged.

Item 7.1 thru 7.2 GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

7.1 Set Executive Director Lee Gibson's goals for fiscal year 2020 (*For Possible Action*)

Ms. Angela Reich, RTC Administrative Services Director, addressed the Board to say this item was carried over from the previous meeting. A list of goals was provided in the support materials for this item (attached).

Additional goals were added to the attached list as follow:

E.D. Gibson :

1. Continue working with the Business Improvement District (BID)
2. Work on the Marketing/Service/Pricing effort to increase ridership

Vice Chair Jardon:

1. Purchase a double-decker vehicle for use on Virginia Street
2. Evaluation of a pedestrian bridge with all RTC partners for Lake Street over I-80 to the UNR campus
3. Evaluate with all partners the improvements to the esthetics of the Virginia Street overpass
4. Create a comprehensive plan for the roll-out of Microtransit if successful

Commissioner Hartung:

1. Continual reviewing and revamping of the transit system (can routes be flexed mid-day?)
2. Review of roadway/safety improvements needed in the outlying areas

Chairman Lucey:

1. Revamp the Shared Work Program with TRMPA and potentially become the Regional MPO while utilizing TMRPA in a different manner
2. Develop a Shared Regional Framework with NDOT, Carson City and surrounding counties

E.D. Gibson said that he and Denise Thompson will edit the goals document and go from there.

On motion of Commissioner Hartung, seconded by Vice Chair Jardon, which motion carried unanimously, Chairman Lucey ordered that the amended goals be approved.

7.2 **Legal Issues** - Report, discussion and **possible action** and/or direction to legal counsel and staff following receipt of information on legal issues. The RTC may, consistent with Chapter 241 of NRS, decide to interrupt the public meeting at any time to conduct a closed session to confer with legal counsel and possibly deliberate on legal issues. Any action on pending legal matters will be made when the public meeting is reconvened.

Legal Counsel Dale Ferguson said he had items he wished to communicate with the Board in a non-meeting prior to the start of the September 20, 2019, meeting.

Item 8 PUBLIC INPUT

Chairman Lucey 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 Chair closed public input.

Item 9 MEMBER ITEMS

Vice Chair Jardon asked what the policy is pertaining to animals on the bus per the public comment earlier in the meeting.


Mr. Mark Maloney, RTC Director of Public Transportation and Operations, responded that the RTC is governed by the ADA which states that service animals are allowed and the onus belongs to the owner of the animal to keep it under control; it does not specify a leash is required. If the owner fails to control their service animal, the driver will try to address the matter. All other animals, such as cats or dogs, must be caged while on the bus.

Commissioner Weber announced Ward 4's Take-off Celebration and Biggest Little Parade and Fly Over Saturday, September 7th from 1 – 5 pm at the Reno/Stead Airport. This is for the Ward 4 community and the entire city. RTC is providing transit service for the event as well as for the Air Races.

Commissioner Hartung suggested the RTC have a “true” definition of what a service animal is.

Item 10 ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 11:26 a.m.


BOB LUCEY, Chairman
Regional Transportation Commission

Original goals as presented during the meeting

LEE GIBSON FY 2020 GOALS	
1	Complete affordable housing study and prepare for joint development/master developer RFP to procure a public private partnership.
2	Initiate property disposal procedures pursuant to AB 270
3	Implementation of Shared Work Program with TMRPA
4	Spaghetti Bowl Funding Plan Update
5	Initiate 2050 RTP Process
6	Provide comments regarding reauthorization to US DOT and the Nevada Delegation
7	Bus operations test for the Double decker vehicle
8	Continue construction program- Virginia Street, Pavement preservation
9	Succession planning-continue
10	Federal priorities, including Reauthorization, and Shared Federal Framework