

**REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION
WASHOE COUNTY, NEVADA**

FRIDAY

8:30 A.M.

October 24, 2019

PRESENT:

**Bob Lucey, Washoe County Commissioner, Chairman (arrived 9:55)
Neoma Jardon, Reno City Council Member, Vice Chair
Bonnie Weber, Reno City Council Member (alternate)
Vaughn Hartung, Washoe County Commissioner
Ron Smith, Sparks City Council Member**

**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 Vice Chair Jardon. Following the roll call and the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of our country, the Board conducted the following business:

**PRESENTATION OF THE NEVADA STRATEGIC SAFETY PLAN AWARDS IN
RECOGNITION OF THE VISION ZERO TRUCKEE MEADOWS INITIATIVE**

Amy Davy, Director of the Nevada Office of Traffic Safety and State Highway Safety Coordinator, spoke in recognition of the RTC and its partners for the Project of the Year – the Truckee Meadows Vision Zero Project. Additionally, Ms. Rebecca Kapuler, RTC Senior Technical Planner, was awarded with the Transportation Professional of the Year for her tireless work to ensure the success of the Vision Zero Truckee Meadows Task Force.

Ms. Kapuler thanked everyone on the task force and the local entities for their contributions to the project.

Vice Chair Jardon thanked everyone involved for their participation in making this project such a great success.

Item 1 APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Executive Director Lee Gibson requested that Item 2.2 be removed from the agenda as there were no advisory committee meetings to report on and it was inadvertently left on the agenda.

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

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.

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

Items 3 CONSENT ITEMS

Commissioner Hartung said he had a question on Item 3.16 but did not want the item pulled, so went ahead and asked his questions at this time. The question was whether the RTC has been successful in relocating the bookstore and other businesses yet.

Mr. Brian Stewart, RTC Director of Engineering, responded that the process is currently underway, but not yet complete.

Minutes

3.1 Approve the minutes of the September 20, 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*)

Administration

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

3.6 Authorize the RTC Executive Director to enter into agreements with the recommended senior and co-managers for December 2019 refunding of Series 2010B and 2010C fuel tax revenue bonds (*For Possible Action*)

3.7 Approve addition of new language to the RTC Personnel Rules to include: 1) Rest Periods 2) Meal Periods; 3) Responsibility for Time Reporting; 4) Standard Operating Hours; and 5) Flextime. Approve modification to Personnel Rule (11.2.3) Holidays – Fixed and Floating. Approve modification of RTC Management Policy P-22 Drug and Alcohol and change the name to Drug and Alcohol Free Workplace. Approve a new RTC Management Policy P-61 Social Media (*For Possible Action*)

Procurement and Contracts

3.8 Approve the award and agreement with Brasco International Inc., for the purchase of fifty (50) passenger shelters (ten (10) shelters per year for five (5) years); total contract value not to exceed \$518,440; authorize the RTC Executive Director to execute the agreement (*For Possible Action*)

- 3.9 Approve a Professional Services Agreement (PSA) with Kimley-Horn & Associates to provide design services for the Kuenzli Street Conversion Project in an amount not to exceed \$225,414, authorize the RTC Executive Director to execute the agreement (*For Possible Action*)
- 3.10 Authorize the procurement for the selection of Engineering Professional Services for the Design of the Sparks Boulevard Capacity Project (*For Possible Action*)
- 3.11 Approve a Professional Services Agreement (PSA) with Lumos and Associates for the 2020 Preventive Maintenance Program project for design services and construction management services in the amount of \$784,720; authorize the RTC Executive Director to execute the agreement (*For Possible Action*)
- 3.12 Approve a Professional Service Agreement with Nichols Consulting Engineers to provide data collection services, pavement condition data uploads into local agency microPaver databases and update of the Regional Transportation Commission's (RTC's) Pavement Management System in an amount not-to-exceed \$299,272; authorize the RTC Executive Director to execute the agreement (*For Possible Action*)
- 3.13 Approve the purchase of two (2) electric fixed-route buses and two (2) bus chargers utilizing the State of Georgia Fleet Vehicles procurement contract number 99999-001-SPD0000138 in the amount of \$1,969,648; authorize the RTC Executive Director to execute the agreement (*For Possible Action*)

Inter-Agency Agreements

- 3.14 Approve an Interlocal Cooperative Agreement (ICA) between RTC and the University of Nevada, Reno (UNR) Civil Engineering Department for research using Light Detection and Ranging (LiDAR) technology for the LiDAR Living Lab project in the amount of \$450,000; authorize the Executive Director to execute the agreement (*For Possible Action*)
- 3.15 Approve an Interlocal Cooperative Agreement (ICA) between the RTC and the City of Reno for additional utility conduits on Virginia Street during the construction of the Virginia Street Bus RAPID Transit (BRT) Extension Project in an amount not to exceed \$65,997, paid by the City of Reno; authorize the RTC Executive Director to execute the agreement (*For Possible Action*)

Resolutions of Condemnation

- 3.16 Approve the attached Resolution of Condemnation authorizing RTC's legal counsel to commence condemnation proceedings to acquire the full fee acquisition of the parcel known as APN 007-183-19 from Hotshots, Inc., a Nevada corporation, necessary to construct the Virginia Street Bus Rapid Transit Extension Project (*For Possible Action*)

On motion of Commissioner Hartung, seconded by Weber, which motion carried unanimously by those present, Vice Chair Jardon ordered that Consent Items 3.1 through 3.16 be approved.

Items 4 *DIRECTOR REPORTS*

4.1 *RTC Executive Director Report*

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

1. Stuff A Bus for Foster Children was held from 10 am to 6 pm on Oct. 24th at the Sam's Club on Kietzke Lane.

This event is in collaboration with the Washoe County Human Services Agency and Sam's Club to support foster children to collect new and unused winter items, including winter coats, jackets, boots, shoes, socks, and blankets. With more than 700 children in foster care in our community at any given time, these items will help keep children warm throughout the winter. Cash and gift card donations are also appreciated.

2. Later in the day, the RTC is hosting a community meeting to present the draft RTC ADA Transition Plan.

The meeting will be held at The Innevation Center at 450 Sinclair Street in Reno from 5 pm to 7 pm, with a presentation at 5:30 p.m. The presentation will be livestreamed on our Facebook page.

3. In September, the 2019 Metropolitan Planning Organization Certification Review was conducted by representatives from the Federal Highway Administration and the Federal Transit Administration. This certification is conducted every four years by reviewing our processes to implement our projects, programs and services as part of the federal mandates we are required to do.

A portion of the review included a tour of our projects and a briefing from our community partners involved with the 4th Street/Prater Way project and the Virginia Street BRT Extension Project. (photos were shown on the screen)

E.D. Gibson was proud to say the RTC has been certified through 2023 and received commendations for quality of the 2040 Regional Transportation Plan, implementation of the UPWP studies, incorporation of complete streets initiatives within projects, and an outstanding public involvement process as evidenced by the strong connection within the community.

4. On Tuesday, November 5th, we are having a community meeting for the South Meadows Multimodal Transportation Study at the Zeppelin located at 1445 South Meadows Parkway in Reno from 5 to 7 pm.

From the first meeting, there were 1,069 participants in the survey and we received nearly 3,000 comments from them. At this meeting, we will provide an update about the analysis we did for the comments received.

A presentation will be given at 5:30 pm and will also be livestreamed on our Facebook page. For information about the study visit rtcwashoe.com.

5. The Nevada Veterans Memorial Plaza 5th Annual Benefit Dinner will be held on November 7th at the Atlantis Paradise Ballroom at 6 pm. To purchase tickets go to NVMP.INFO.
6. On November 11th, Veterans Day, we are offering free rides on RTC transit services to everyone. We are proud to honor our veterans and their families for their service and sacrifices they have given.
7. The American Planning Association Nevada Chapter awarded Congressman Amodei with their distinguished leadership award, recognizing his contributions to the projects we have delivered such as the SouthEast Connector, 4th & Prater and the Virginia Street project which is now underway.

He extended thanks and appreciation to Congressman Amodei for his support and partnership for the work we do.

8. We are launching a new transit service on November 2nd. RTC FlexRIDE is a curb-to-curb MicroTransit service which will operate in some areas of Sparks.

The Board approved this 6-month pilot project and we are excited to bring this service to the community.

To help the community learn about this new service, we are holding pop-up events within the pilot service area to teach people how to use the app and schedule their ride. Dates and times for the pop-up events can be found on our website, social media channels, and RTC Customer Service at our transit stations.

Also on November 2nd, we will implement a transit service change to improve efficiency and on-time performance for all of our transit routes. A new Bus Book has been placed at your stations.

Mark Maloney will share highlights of the service change during his transit agenda item.

9. For your information, we have initiated a dialogue with community partners for our Human Trafficking Initiative. These partners include the Reno Tahoe Airport Authority, The Chamber, TSA and Homeland Security, Reno Police Department, Mayor Schieve and Assemblywoman Jill Tolles.

We are developing a campaign to bring awareness to this issue in our community and will also implement training for our coach and paratransit operators.

We will bring an update to you at a future board meeting.

10. October 25th is the observance of Nevada Day. RTC administrative offices will be closed. All RTC transit services will operate on the regular schedule and Customer Service will be open during regular business hours.

E.D. Gibson then announced his upcoming retirement. He has been with the RTC for 10-years and will be attending just one more Board meeting.

Commissioner Hartung asked where the RTC is at in the Lemmon Drive process.

Mr. Brian Stewart, RTC Director of Engineering, responded that a contract has been awarded to Jacobs Engineering for design of the project.

Per Dale Keller, RTC Project Manager, design of the project should be complete by next summer (2020). Additionally, the RTC is working closely with the City of Reno and Washoe County to determine what the overall mitigation strategy is for Swan Lake for the active recovery.

Commissioner Hartung then asked where Red Rock is in the Transportation Plan.

Ms. Amy Cummings, RTC Director of Planning and Deputy Executive Director, said the widening design is to begin in the next five years.

Lastly, Commissioner Hartung asked if there is any plan to extend Silver Knolls Blvd. so it will possibly connect with Red Rock in the Long Range Plan.

Ms. Cummings responded that it is not in the current RTP but is on the radar for the 2050 Plan.

Commissioner Weber asked if something can be put together to address the numerous traffic issues in the North Valleys.

Staff said that they would meet with the Commissioner outside of this meeting to discuss ideas and suggestions for improvement.

Vice Chair Jardon, Commissioner Hartung and Commissioner Weber all thanked E.D. Gibson for his service to the community and the great things he has accomplished during his tenure with the RTC.

4.2 RTC Federal Report

A written update is available in the staff report materials for this item and E.D. Gibson mentioned that there is a federal funding opportunity for \$19.19 million for FFY 2019, so staff is working with partner entities about the possibility of putting something together for submission. The FTA is very pleased with the progress on the Virginia Street construction and how smoothly everything went with the 4th/Prater project, so there may be a good chance of success.

4.3 NDOT Director Report

NDOT Director Kristina Swallow said that as a state, the pedestrian fatalities have gone down by 69 as compared to the previous year. Unfortunately, in Washoe County the fatalities have gone up. She added that there are 16 meetings for the joining forces campaigns which numerous entities participate, including the RTC.

Dir. Swallow described the manner in which avalanches will be handled in our area, including the Mt. Rose Highway. There is a back-up plan being put together if, for some reason, the system in place does not work. There are also some new snow plows and blowers being added to Mount Rose.

Next, Dir. Swallow explained the federal requirement for renumbering of the exit numbers and that the updates to the signs is underway.

She then reported back on some of the items asked about at the prior month's meeting.

The mid-block crossings on Pyramid: the NDOT team is currently developing a pedestrian crossing matrix to guide decisions on pedestrian crossings overall and to make sure there is more consistency in when and how they are installed. The matrix should be completed by the end of the year and then individual areas of concern will be looked at.

Pyramid and Calle de la Plata: the advance warding flashers have been reviewed and there are three different types of flash that can be applied. In September, the recommended guidelines were sent out to the local entities for comments and feedback. The study should be completed by the end of October and if the outcome is that all three versions will be used as appropriate for the conditions around the traffic signal, NDOT staff will communicate with the pertinent agency(s) before any changes are actually made.

I-580, Exit 61 near In & Out: a warrant study is underway and should be completed in the first quarter of next year. Depending on the outcome, they will work with the City of Reno and the RTC should a signal be warranted, and provide a timeline.

Round-about at Veterans and 341: there is a project in NDOT's "out years" to address the capacity issues and their staff will work with the City of Reno, Washoe County and the RTC when that comes up.

Commissioner Hartung asked again to make all the flashers the same on Pyramid.

Dir. Swallow said she will bring a presentation which explains the purpose for the three different flasher types.

Commissioner Hartung asked about what the plan and timeline is for widening US 395 North.

Dir. Swallow replied that construction of the portion from McCarran to Golden Valley will immediately follow the Spaghetti Bowl, Phase I. The Parr Bridge should begin sooner.

Commissioner Hartung would like to see the project go all the way to Stead.

Dir. Swallow said that it can't right away due to funding restrictions, but it will be in the second phase of the US 395 North project.

Vice Chair Jardon asked when the study on North McCarran would be completed.

Dir. Swallow responded that she would have to bring that information to the Vice Chair at a later date.

Commissioner Weber is concerned about what will happen to traffic when the bridge at Parr is taken down for rebuilding and suggested possibly doing it during a break in the school calendars.

Dir. Swallow answered that the plan is to do it during summer when school is on break. They will also try to avoid peak traffic times.

Commissioner Hartung also requested that NDOT look into widening the section of Pyramid between Egyptian to just pass Alamosa. He also complimented the Director on the expansion of the lane coming off of the haul road and said it is much safer now. He also pointed out that there is (or was) a No Engine Braking Allowed sign on the Pyramid Highway that is misspelled and needs to be corrected.

The Director said all of the local priorities will be looked at during the One Nevada Plan.

E.D. Gibson then said he had forgotten to mention in his report that a “summit” of traffic engineers in the area was convened to discuss the speed limit on the SouthEast Connector (SEC) and agreed to bump the speed limit to 50 mph.

Mr. Brian Stewart, RTC Director of Engineering, confirmed that the consensus was to increase the speed limit to 50 mph. He went on to explain that the turn pockets in the road are designed to a certain speed for deceleration before making a turn. If the speed limit is too high, the vehicle may not be able to slow down far enough in advance and accidents could potentially occur.

E.D. Gibson said an item will be brought to a future meeting which explains everything in more detail.

Vice Chair Jardon said the public will not be happy that the speed limit will only be increased by 5 mph.

Mayor Smith said he had been told that the speed limits are up to the individual entities and the RTC does not get involved in that. Why is the RTC now involved.

Mr. Stewart responded that the RTC only convened the meeting so everyone could talk about it together and look at the SEC as a whole.

Mayor Smith said he is on board with 55 mph and he had sent letters to “everybody” and they all agree with him. Commissioner Hartung backed up this statement.

E.D. Gibson said the number one goal is safety and it is important to listen to the traffic engineers’ and operation experts’ advice, so an item should be brought back.

Vice Chair Jardon said that its usually the determined by the 85th percentile of the average speed that makes the determination of a speed limit.

Items 5 PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION AND OPERATIONS

5.1 Acknowledge receipt of the report on RTC RIDE Service Expansion Discussions; direct Staff accordingly (*For Possible Action*)

Mr. Mark Maloney, RTC Director of Public Transportation and Operations, addressed the Board to give a video presentation on the options for expansion of the fixed route ride system, as set forth in the briefing materials for this agenda item. In looking at productivity, passengers per vehicle hour which is the standard measuring tool, is looked at for each route. A great transit investment is generally any route that has over 30 passengers per vehicle hour. He then showed the average passengers per vehicle hour for each of the RTC's existing routes. There are numerous factors that drive a higher potential ridership, such as population, poverty, zero vehicle households, age, and population density.

Mr. Maloney continued, saying that the RTC receives constant requests for new service due to the population growth and suburban sprawl/land use. The Sun Valley/Stead area will be the second phase of the MicroTransit demonstration, hopefully in the spring. The biggest restraint to new service is funding. After looking at the funds available and the options available, staff came back with a mostly cost neutral program and any additional dollars were put into the Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) program.

He then listed the projects started or under way since the approval of the SRTP, such as the implementation of the Lincoln Line, the North Virginia Street BRT, weekday, Saturday and Sunday service has been interlined to improve efficiency and adjusted the running times, and will be implementing the FlexRide (MicroTransit) demonstration project. Additionally, route 9 is being modified to avoid duplication of service and provide more service to the medical facilities near the round-a-bout on the south end of Kietzke Lane. The Sierra Spirit was pulled out of the 4th Street corridor in order to create the UNR, downtown and midtown direct service. He added that ridership in the first month is doing better than the Sierra Spirit did over approximately 15 years.

E.D. Gibson interjected to add that since the procured contract with Keolis, the RTC used a pool of funds that was invested into the wages and benefits of drivers, mechanics, road supervisors, etc. because it was found the RTC was not competing effectively in the area.

Mr. Maloney said that there has been a lot of growth and urban sprawl in our area without bringing any additional funds to expand service. Then he explained the financial benefit to MicroTransit vs fixed route, and the ability to provide service in the areas that are project to have a lower passenger per vehicle hour rating.

Vice Chair Jardon asked why it is justified to buy two additional electric buses, as were approved in the Consent agenda, if MicroTransit is more cost effective.

E.D. Gibson responded that they were purchased with federal dollars for use on the Virginia Street RAPID extension project once complete. Additionally, the 60' articulated buses are coming to the end of their useful life, and for a number of maintenance and operational reasons, the RTC is transitioning to the electric 40' bus instead.

Mayor Smith said it is time to put transit service out to the Spanish Springs area.

Mr. Maloney suggested that MicroTransit would be a better fit for that area because the ridership would not be high enough for a full fixed route. 97% of residents in that area own a car and most likely do not want to give up the use of their vehicles; therefore, smaller vehicles with door-to-door service would be more efficient and cost effective.

Vice Chair Jardon said that she believes MicroTransit would be best for her ward as well.

Mr. Maloney went on to say that the RTC of Washoe County was just rated number eight out of 100 US cities compared, using 17 relevant metrics. Las Vegas came in at 51st, North Las Vegas at 69th and Henderson at 80th.

**** Chairman Lucey arrived at 9:55 a.m.****

E.D. Gibson added that if the Board wants to progress forward with new routes, additional buses will need to be ordered and it takes time and is funded via FTA Formula Capital Grants. It is simply not possible to begin a new route in the next month. He also believes the MicroTransit demonstration that's coming up will be crucial to making decisions on future transit and routes.

Commissioner Hartung believes that if it is built, they will come. Or . . . if routes are added, they will be used.

Chairman Lucey asked if our ridership is increasing or declining and what is happening overall.

Mr. Maloney responded that there has been a three to five percent decline.

Chairman Lucey made comments on the multi-family homes in the Spanish Springs area and said that just because they have a car, it doesn't necessarily mean everyone in the household has a car and may need transit. He added that economic development is solely dependent on transit.

The Chairman added that development is all going north and we do not provide fixed route services to those multi-family development areas, especially in Sparks. He then directed Mr. Maloney to "find a way" to make it happen and do not bring future reports providing options; just get it done. MicroTransit is acceptable for a temporary solution but asked how long it would take to get a full fixed route service in place.

Mr. Maloney responded that it would take approximately 18 months and E.D. Gibson explained why it would take so long.

E.D. Gibson also agreed that due to the population increase, the RTC needs to look at ways to provide more transit service where it's needed. The biggest issue is always funding, so staff will need to find creative ways to fund new transit. He added that he attended a meeting with Kristina Swallow where she gave a presentation on the parallels between highway needs vs funding and transit vs funding, and both have had an increase in need due to the recent population growth.

Vice Chair Jardon said she is looking forward to the November presentation showing best practices, demographics, etc.

Commissioner Weber spoke on behalf of the North Valleys, saying that they have no amenities up that way, so anyone wanting to go for a nice dinner or shopping must head to another area and not everyone has a car. She agrees with the Chairman that the RTC needs to find a way.

Commissioner Hartung asked if a route will be added now that the new school has gone up in Sun Valley and a Food Bank distribution center is also right there.

Mr. Maloney said that to take a bus from Route 5 to use for aforementioned area, Route 5 service would need to be pushed from every 30-minutes to every 45-minutes, which would degrade that service.

Commissioner Hartung then asked what happens during midday, between commuter hours and is it possible to reroute Route 5 to the other neighborhoods. Then Route 5 would stay at every 30 minutes except during the detour time.

Mr. Maloney responded that to help with school service, the morning session occurs during peak commuter service and the midday productivity on Route 5 is actually very productive.

Chairman Lucey mentioned several other topics he would like to see during the presentation in November.

Vice Chair Jardon asked if fuel tax can be used for transit. The answer was no, per legislative restrictions.

The Vice Chair said she had public comment on this topic so opened the meeting to public input and called on anyone wishing to speak.

Ms. Sherry Jamason, representing the Food Bank of Northern Nevada, addressed the Board to speak in support of a new stop at Desert Skies Middle School.

Ms. D'Lisa Crain, representing the Washoe County School District, addressed the Board to speak in support of a new stop at Desert Skies Middle School.

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

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

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

5.2 Receive a report on the Regional Transportation Commission's plan to demonstrate a double decker bus (*No Action Required*)

E.D. Gibson said the RTC has been in three-way discussions with Keolis and Alexander Dennis to see if a double-deck bus would fit into our operating profile. An agreement was reached to provide a demonstration during November for three-weeks on loan to do testing on bus height, weight capacity of our roads, etc. There will be no farebox installed so it will be a free ride during this demonstration. It will be serving a few different routes to gather information, such as the Lincoln Line, which will mimic service on Virginia Street. Passenger capacity is enough to possibly be a replacement consideration for the 60 ft. buses that were discussed in the previous item. The double-decker will also be tested out on the intercity route between Carson and Reno, along with Routes 5, 7 and 12.

Ridership data will be some of the data collected and how well it works in our area. As always, the RTC must look at efficiency and fiscal responsibility.

Vice Chair Jardon would like to make sure UNR knows about the demonstration so the students can try it out, along with the RSCVA, the Chamber, and the Downtown Reno Partnership.

E.D. Gibson said that the double-deck buses in Las Vegas make a lot of money on the wraps, so that could be a possible revenue source increase for us.

Chairman Lucey, said that a large delegation of national educators will be in town in November which could be a perfect time to gather information from passengers outside of our region. He would also like staff to find out what the event calendar is for our region to determine where to put the routes and when, such as if there is a concert at the amphitheater in Sparks.

Commissioner Hartung asked if these are open-air and E.D. Gibson said they are not because there are simply too many risks involved with the type of passengers we carry vs the tourism passengers in London.

No action was taken on this item.

Item 6 ENGINEERING

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

Mr. Jeff Wilbrecht provided a quick PowerPoint update on the project, stressing the progress recently made and that southernmost third of the project road will be open to two-way traffic in mid-November. He added that the project is ahead of schedule in many areas and on schedule in others.

Mr. Michael Moreno, RTC Public Affairs Manager, then provided statistics on recent outreach success.

On motion of Commissioner Hartung, seconded by Commissioner Weber, which motion carried unanimously by those in attendance, Vice Chair Jardon ordered that receipt of the progress report be acknowledged.

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

Item 7 METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION (MPO)

7.1 Acknowledge receipt of the NDOT Spaghetti Bowl Project monthly progress report and provide input accordingly (For Possible Action)

Ms. Jenica Keller, NDOT Project Manager, addressed the Board to provide a PowerPoint update on the Spaghetti Bowl Express project. She said that design is continuing for both phases of the project and currently, there is a technical team looking at the intermediate set of plans for Phase 1a and will be conducting a geometric review for Phase 1b later in the day.

Ms. Keller also said that pertinent staff has been quite busy reviewing the unsolicited proposal that had been received. She then went over the process required for the unsolicited proposal and concluded, offering to answer any questions.

Commissioner Hartung asked what the current delivery schedule is.

Ms. Keller said Phase 1a will construct neighborhood walls around the RSIC and relocate utilities. That should be under construction in about six months. Phase 1b, the freeway and safety improvement project, will follow Phase 1a by about a year, so 2021.

Vice Chair Jardon asked what the timeline is for the unsolicited proposal.

Ms. Keller responded that it is being presented to the Transportation Board of Directors on November 18th.

On motion of Mayor Smith, seconded by Commissioner Weber, which motion carried unanimously by those present, Vice Chair Jardon ordered that receipt of the progress report be acknowledged.

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

Item 8 GENERAL ADMINISTRATION (For Possible Action)

8.1 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.

Mr. Ferguson provided a note of clarification about Item 3.16, saying that Commissioner Hartung asked if (unintelligible) were the owners of the parcel noted but the correct owners are Hotshots, Inc.

Mr. Ferguson then mentioned that the RTC had received a very favorable verdict in the RTC vs Bella Vista Ranch to use eminent domain to acquire water rights for the SouthEast Connector. He then thanked the RTC staff for all of their participation in this lawsuit.

Commissioner Hartung asked for confirmation that there would be an attorney/client closed session immediately following this meeting.

Mr. Ferguson confirmed.

Item 9 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.

Mr. Andrew Samuelsen, representing the Truckee Meadows Bicycle Alliance, addressed the Board to request a buffered bike lane on Kuenzli Street. He realizes that parking or a two-way turn lane may need to be removed, but believes it is worth it. He even offered to give up the parking in front of his properties.

Additionally, Mr. Samuelsen owns properties on Kuenzli and believes the design of Kuenzli and 2nd street are holding back development.

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

Item 11 MEMBER ITEMS

Mayor Smith requested an item at the next board meeting to elect RTC's Deputy Executive Director Amy Cummings as our CEO Elect once E.D. Gibson leaves, so there is a smooth transition.

Commissioner Hartung asked for striping and a “Do Not Block Intersection” sign at the right hand turn queue at Pyramid and Emerson southbound. It backs up and blocks Emerson from exiting onto Pyramid.

Vice Chair Jardon augmented what Mayor Smith said, adding that she thinks we do need to appoint Ms. Cummings as interim and, at that same time, have a discussion about what the search criteria will be so that we have a very transparent, open and robust discussion about it. She wants to make sure that when staff brings something back that it’s agendized in a manner that the commissioners can talk about all those things.

Commissioner Weber asked if a transit workshop can be held now that there has been so much growth in the area.

E.D. Gibson invited commissioners to meet with him individually and said there have been issues getting a workshop scheduled. He then asked the board clerk to schedule a workshop for December or January. The commissioner preference was January.

Vice Chair Jardon asked if waiting for data to come in and having a workshop after the six month demonstration project for MicroTransit is over would be too long to wait. The consensus was yes, too long to wait.

Chairman Lucey asked staff to include a discussion pertaining to a potential requirement for developers to include the building of ADA approved bus stops when they are building new homes.

Item 12 ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 11:06 a.m.



NEOMA JARDON, Vice Chair
Regional Transportation Commission