

## REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING AGENDA

#### Wednesday, June 3, 2020 at 9:00 am Regional Transportation Commission 1<sup>st</sup> Floor Conference Room 1105 Terminal Way, Reno NV 89502

Meeting via teleconference only pursuant to NRS 241.023 and Emergency Directive 006

#### PUBLIC NOTICE

I. Pursuant to Section 1 of Governor Steve Sisolak's Declaration of Emergency Directive 006 ("Directive 006"), the requirement contained in NRS 241.023(1)(b) that there be a physical location designated for meetings of public bodies where members of the public are permitted to attend and participate has been suspended. Pursuant to Section 3 of Directive 006, the requirements contained in NRS 241.020(4)(a) that public notice agendas be posted at physical locations within the State of Nevada has likewise been suspended. Pursuant to Section 5 of Directive 006, the requirement contained in NRS 241.020(3)(c) that physical locations be available for the public to receive supporting material for public meetings has been suspended. The meeting will be streamed live via the RTC YouTube channel and can be watched by following this link: <u>bit.ly/RTCWashoeYouTube</u>

II. The Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) has a standing item for accepting public input on topics relevant to the jurisdiction of the RTC. Because specific items may be taken out of order to accommodate the public and/or the TAC, public input on all items will be received under Item 2. Individuals providing public input will be limited to three minutes. Members of the public may provide public comment and also comment on Agenda Items without being physically present at the meeting by submitting their comments via online Public Comment Form (<u>https://www.rtcwashoe.com/about/contact/contact-form/</u>), or by emailing their comments to: <u>rtcpubliccomments@rtcwashoe.com</u>. Public commenters may also leave a voicemail at (775) 335-0018. Comments received prior to 4:00 p.m. on May 5, 2020, will be entered into the record.

III. The TAC may combine two or more agenda items for consideration and/or may remove an item from the agenda or delay discussion relating to an item on the agenda at any time.

IV. Requests for supporting documents and all other requests should be directed to RTC Metropolitan Planning at 775-348-0480. Supporting documents may also be found on the RTC website: <u>www.rtcwashoe.com</u>.

V. The RTC appreciates the public's patience and understanding during these difficult and challenging circumstances.

- **ITEM 1** Approval of Agenda (For Possible Action)
- **ITEM 2** Public Comment pursuant to paragraph II under Public Notice near the top of this page
- **ITEM 3** Approval of the May 6, 2020 Meeting Minutes (For Possible Action)
- **ITEM 4** Acknowledge Receipt of a Report on the Sun Valley Boulevard Multi-Modal Improvements Project Phase 1: 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue to Highland Ranch Parkway (*For Possible Action*)
- **ITEM 5** Provide Feedback and Acknowledge Receipt of a Report on the Proposed 2020 RTC RIDE Service Change (*For Possible Action*)
- **ITEM 6** Acknowledge Receipt of a Presentation on the University Area Multimodal Transportation Study *(For Possible Action)*

- **ITEM 7** Recommend Approval of the 2050 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) Guiding Principles (*For Possible Action*)
- **ITEM 8** Receive a Report on the Measures that the RTC is Implementing in Response to COVID-19 (For Possible Action)
- **ITEM 9** Development Updates (Informational Only)

#### ITEM 10 Member Items

- a) City of Reno b) Reno-Tahoe Airport Authority
- c) City of Sparks d) FHWA
- e) Washoe County f) Air Quality Management Div. (AQMD)
- g) NDOT h) TMRPA
- i) WCSD j) Reno-Sparks Indian Colony (RSIC)
- **ITEM 11** Agenda Items for Future TAC Meetings (For Possible Action)
- **ITEM 12** RTC Staff Items (Informational Only)
- ITEM 13 Public Comment pursuant to paragraph II under Public Notice near the top of this page
- **ITEM 14** Adjournment (For Possible Action)

The Committee may take action on any item noted for possible action

Posting locations: Pursuant to Section 3 of Directive 006, the requirements contained in NRS 241.020(4)(a) that public notice agendas be posted at physical locations within the State of Nevada has been suspended. Current postings locations are: RTC website: <a href="https://www.rtcwashoe.com">www.rtcwashoe.com</a>, State website: <a href="https://www.rtcwashoe.com">https://www.rtcwashoe.com</a>, State

#### REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE Meeting Minutes

## Wednesday, May 6, 2020

Meeting via teleconference only pursuant to NRS 241.023 and Emergency Directive 006

#### **TAC Members Present**

Yann Ling-Barnes

Chris Tolley Tara Smaltz Mitchell Fink Mike Boster Enos Han Lissa Butterfield Kurt Dietrich Chair, Amber Sosa Angela Fuss Scott Nebesky

Washoe County Health District-Air Quality Management
Division
Truckee Meadows Regional Planning Agency
Nevada of Department of Transportation
Washoe County Community Services
Washoe County School District
Federal Streets & Highway Administration
Reno-Tahoe Airport Authority
City of Reno Community Development
City of Sparks Engineering Services
City of Reno Community Development
Reno-Sparks Indian Colony
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#### **RTC Staff**

Dan Doenges Amy Cummings Stephanie Haddock Jacqueline Maldonado Jim Gee David Carr Jelena Williams

# **TAC Guest**

The Technical Advisory Committee meeting was conducted as a Virtual Meeting. The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by the Chair, Amber Sosa.

#### ITEM 1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The agenda was approved as submitted.

#### ITEM 2. PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no public comments.

#### ITEM 3. APPROVAL OF THE MARCH 4, 2020 MEETING MINUTES

The TAC March 4 2020, meeting minutes were approved as corrected.

#### ITEM 4. RECOMMEND APPROVAL OF THE PROPOSED AMENDMENT NO. 2 TO THE FFY 2020-2024 REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PLAN (RTIP)

Dan Doenges, RTC Planning Manager gave a brief update on the RTIP Amendment No. 2, which is required for existing projects on the programming of federal funds and the new projects include Congestion Mitigation Air Quality (CMAQ) improvement program funds. He stated the proposed FFY 2020-2024 RTIP amendment project listing is (attached) for review of the improvements throughout the region. The Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) funds will be used for the Arlington Avenue Replacement project and the CMAQ funds for the operating of the FlexRIDE transit service in Spanish Springs and the Verdi/Somersett areas and CMAQ funds for the Virginia Line Bus RAPID Transit (BRT) and intersection and traffic signal improvements projects. A public comment period notice through May 21, 2020 is in place for the amendment and no air quality analysis is required for the proposed amendment as the proposed new projects are not capacity-related. A presentation to the RTC Board and a public hearing will be held at their May 22, 2020, board meeting for approval of the proposed Amendment No. 2 to the FFY 2020-2024 RTIP.

Chris Tolley made a motion to recommend approval of the proposed Amendment No. 2 to the FFY 2020-2024 Regional Transportation Improvement Plan (RTIP).

Kurt Dietrich seconded.

The motion carried unanimously.

# ITEM 5. RECOMMEND APPROVAL OF THE DRAFT FY 2021 RTC TENTATIVE BUDGET

Jelena Williams, RTC Financial Manager, gave a presentation on the draft FY 2021 RTC Tentative Budget. The tentative budget consists of three major programs: the Street and Highway Program, the Public Transportation Program, and the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO)/Transportation Planning Program. A copy of the PowerPoint presentation is on file at the RTC Metropolitan Planning Department. She stated the final FY 2021 RTC Tentative Budget is scheduled for a public hearing and a presentation to the RTC Board for adoption on May 22, 2020.

Kurt Dietrich, City of Reno made a motion to recommend approval of the draft FY 2021 RTC Tentative Budget

Chris Tolley, TMRPA seconded.

The motion carried unanimously.

## ITEM 6. RECEIVE A REPORT ON THE EAGLE CANYON EXTENSION ALIGNMENT ALTERNATIVES AND PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENTAL LINKAGES (PEL) STUDY

Dan Doenges, RTC Planning Manager, gave a PowerPoint presentation on the Eagle Canyon Extension Alignment Alternatives and Planning and Environmental Linkages (PEL) Study. A copy of the PowerPoint presentation is on file at the RTC Metropolitan Planning Department.

Scott Nebesky, RSIC requested for RTC to coordinate with the council to participate in meetings with the community for the councils input to the study. He stated the tribal chairman has been working with the City of Reno for the proposed project. He stated the council will be available to coordinate with in the timeframe of the study for inclusion in the environmental analysis. Dan Doenges stated the arbitrary boarder or data can be used to coordinate with the colony on the current maps for the study.

Amber Sosa, City of Sparks asked about the traffic presentation slides on the Eagle Canyon corridor and the expected daily traffic at Pyramid Highway 395 connector and the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) as it reaches the McCarran Boulevard. Dan Doenges stated the TDM forecast volumes on the Average Daily Traffic (ADT) for a 4 lanes facility and with the upcoming updates to the travel demand model the forecast can impact the ADT for that area.

Scott Nebesky, RSIC made a motion to receive a report on the Eagle Canyon Extension Alignment Alternatives and Planning and Environmental Linkages (PEL) Study.

Kurt Dietrich, City of Reno seconded.

The motion carried unanimously.

## ITEM 7. DEVELOPMENT UPDATES

Lissa Butterfield, RTAA gave updates on the Covid-19 impacts to the RTAA. She stated a historical 95% down of passengers on their flights. She stated the RTAA government projects and planning studies are differed at this time. She stated major RTAA construction projects are underway, a Stead Airport development project with 25% of existing aircraft and completion of the project will be before the Air Races event. She stated the Reno-Tahoe Airport's primary run-way will be closed this summer for construction with the Covid-19 impacts.

Amber Sosa, City of Sparks gave City of Sparks upcoming development updates for the Wingfield Hills development, a five bridges development at the intersection of Highland and Pyramid 395 Highway, a development project at Stonebrook Apartments, and a Grand Opening for a Winco Grocery Store at Sonoma Highlands.

Mike Boster, WCSD gave development updates on four new WCSD schools under construction. He stated one construction site is on hold and with the COVID-19 impacts the Rio Wrangler Elementary School projections of completion will be sometime in 2022-2023. He stated the WCSD Board of Trustees are in the process for changes to the schools start time in the upcoming school year.

#### ITEM 8. MEMBER ITEMS

Kurt Dietrich, gave an update for the City of Reno complaints on the street speeding, he stated signage and defiencies along with maintenance and operations are being looked at for upcoming changes to the school zone areas.

Amber Sosa, gave updates on the City of Sparks upcoming projects for the WCSD zones, a project for signal timing and traffic volumes and a safe barricade project for large and special events.

Tara Smaltz, NDOT gave updates for NDOT. She stated a shift of 20%–60% volume in traffic. She stated the construction season is wrapping up for NDOT and construction detouring of traffic on June 13, 2020, will begin for the 395 Parr Boulevard Interchange.

#### ITEM 9. AGENDA ITEMS FOR FUTURE TAC MEETINGS

There were no items given.

#### ITEM 10. RTC STAFF ITEMS

Jim Gee, RTC Service Planning and Innovation Manager, updated the committee on the transit operations with the Covid-19 Virus. He stated transit ridership is down 60% and full service is still in operation for the essential bus riders. He stated for employee/passenger protection and social distancing, plastic barriers and other protectable equipment has been installed on the buses and at transit stations and has now opened the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) bus areas for space. He stated due to the overcrowding some transit station areas are closed and disinfectants are being used daily for precautions. He gave Virginia Street Project construction closure updates at the Midtown area. He gave updates on the set of upcoming transit service changes and the new FlexRIDE services in the North Valleys area, the Somersett area and the Spanish Springs area.

Doug Maloy, RTC Engineering Manager gave updates to the Virginia Street Project progress. He stated with the traffic volumes down the Midtown section will be completed sometime in July. He stated the ADA improvements at the north Virginia Street roundabout and events area are in

construction progress. He stated further upcoming projects—a 5 million dollar project for the City of Sparks, multi-modal projects at Sun Valley 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue to Highland Avenue and the Lemmon Drive Widening Project.

# ITEM 11. PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no public comments given.

# ITEM 12. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 9:59 a.m.



AGENDA ITEM 4

**TO:** Technical Advisory Committee

- FROM: Maria Paz Fernandez, PE Project Manager
- SUBJECT: Sun Valley Boulevard Multi-Modal Improvements Project Phase 1: 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue to Highland Ranch Parkway

## **RECOMMENDATION**

Acknowledge receipt of a report on the Sun Valley Boulevard Multi-Modal Improvements Project Phase 1: 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue to Highland Ranch Parkway.

## **SUMMARY**

The RTC has completed the design process and is excited to present the community with plans for bus stops, ADA improvements, pedestrian ramps, bicycle facilities, and safer traffic operations to increase mobility and connectivity in the Sun Valley areaTruckee Meadows.

The Phase 1 will revitalize a 1.2-mile stretch of this corridor by creating a safer, more attractive, and better-integrated corridor on Sun Valley Blvd., beginning at its intersection with 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue and extending to its northern limit at Highland Ranch Parkway in Washoe County.

RTC has held two (2) public meetings for this project, the most recent one was virtually held on April 8<sup>th</sup>, and it is still available at the project website SunValleyBlvd.org.

RTC is planning to have another virtual meeting in lieu of the customary open house meeting before the start of construction.

The project website displays related information as well as renderings and past presentation materials, along with updates for the upcoming construction.



## AGENDA ITEM 5

TO:	Technical Advisory Committee
FROM:	Jim Gee Manager of Service Planning and Innovation

#### SUBJECT: September 2020 Service Change Summary

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

Provide feedback and acknowledge receipt of a report on the proposed 2020 RTC RIDE service change.

## **SUMMARY**

RTC RIDE continually looks to provide the best service by improving on-time performance, shortening passenger's travel times, and offering innovative services. RTC RIDE is committed to performing two service changes per year to ensure the latest innovations and services are available to the passengers and the public. The next service change is scheduled for September 13, 2020 and is proposed to contain the following items:

#### Route 5

Route 5 is the Sutro / Sun Valley route and it current ends at the intersection of Sun Valley Boulevard and 8th Avenue. The proposed change would extend this route north to Desert Skies Middle School with no changes in the existing portions of the route. The span and frequency of the service would remain the same. This service may begin earlier than September 13 to coincide with the beginning of the school year.

#### <u>Route 18</u>

Route 18 is the Glendale/Greg route which operates generally once an hour every day of the week. On evenings and Sundays, there is a gap in this hourly service. The proposed change is to add three trips on weekday evenings and four trips on Sundays to close these gaps. There are no proposed changes in routing.

#### Route 25 / 26

Route 25 is an existing route which operates primarily on Prater Way between the Centennial Plaza Transit Center and Howard Drive. The proposal for this route is to eliminate the current turnaround of Howard Dr., Lincoln Way, and McCarren Blvd. and instead, restore route and service to the Northern Nevada Medical Center. The route would be renamed as Route 26 and service would continue to be every 30 minutes. This area is also served by the Sparks FlexRIDE.

#### **FlexRIDE**

RTC RIDE is planning to implement FlexRIDE service in the Somersett and Spanish Springs area. Both zones would operate seven days per week. For the Somersett FlexRIDE, coverage would be provided for most of the Somersett area with a connection point to the RTC Ride service at the Walmart on North McCarran Boulevard, Northwest Library, and the bus stop at Avenida de Landa and Sharlands. For the Spanish Springs area, two proposals are being considered for providing service. One proposal is the formation of a new stand-alone zone between the Disc Drive retail area stretching northward to the Spanish Springs Library. The second proposal is to merge this area with the existing Sparks FlexRIDE area to broaden the coverage area and provide seamless service between Spanish Springs and the Centennial Plaza Transit Center.

#### Limited Specific Segment Run-Time Adjustments

In an on-going effort to ensure each route is operating in a most efficient manner, the run-times between time-points need to be adjusted to stay relevant to the times. The effects of these adjustments is the passenger has accurate time-table data to rely on, the operators are given the time necessary to operate the service in a safe and courteous manner, and creates a reliable service. Therefore, staff will be making limited specific segment run-time adjustments that will change the time-tables for certain routes slightly.



## AGENDA ITEM 6

**TO:** Technical Advisory Committee

FROM: Xuan Wang RTC Project Manager

## SUBJECT: University Area Multimodal Transportation Study

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

Acknowledge receipt of a presentation on the University Area Multimodal Transportation Study

## **SUMMARY**

Staff will provide the Committee with an overview and status on the University Area Multimodal Transportation Study.

The University Area Multimodal Transportation Study started in April 2019. This study takes into account the current and future development plans slated to occur on or near the university campus in the coming years and will identify needed connectivity, safety, and access improvements for vehicle and alternative transportation modes on regional roads. In addition, it includes an in-depth analysis of land use and roadway network scenarios in the UNR Gateway District.

The project team met with staff from the University of Nevada, Reno and City of Reno to discuss project details. The project team conducted walking audits in the study area to evaluate the pedestrian walking environment and connectivity in May 2019. A community meeting was held in June 2019 and pop-up meetings were held in front of the Joe Crowley Student Union at the University and at Food Truck Friday in Reno to engage students, faculty and local residents to provide their comments and concerns. In tandem with the public meeting, an on-line survey was launched to collect public input. Following data collection efforts and extensive public outreach, a project Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) workshop was held in September 2019 to discuss future roadway network alternatives. Scenarios were reviewed at a subsequent TAC meeting. The project team analyzed model run results and conducting analysis on future conditions. These analysis results from various network scenarios were reviewed at the most recent project TAC meeting on March 31, 2020 to receive feedback and comments. The project team has developed a preliminary draft report to document the analysis results, and is currently working on collecting and addressing comments.



## AGENDA ITEM 7

**TO:** Technical Advisory Committee

**FROM:** Daniel Doenges, PTP, RSP Planning Manager

## SUBJECT: 2050 Regional Transportation Plan Guiding Principles

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

Recommend approval of the 2050 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) Guiding Principles.

## **SUMMARY**

The RTC is underway on the development of the 2050 Regional Transportation Plan. The purpose of the plan is to identify the long-term guiding principles and goals for the regional transportation system and to identify the projects, programs, and services that will be implemented through 2050. This plan will be based on a robust community engagement process and conducted in collaboration with partner agencies. The plan will address the safety, mobility, connectivity, and traffic operations issues that are resulting from strong population and employment growth in the region. Federal regulations require that the long range planning document be updated every four years. The current RTP approval extends through May 2021.

The development of the 2050 RTP initially kicked off with an outreach effort to gather public input on the vision for the future of the transportation system in the Truckee Meadows. The RTC held a series of Agency Working Group meetings and public outreach events, including an online visioning survey which received responses from 381 participants. General feedback was that the Guiding Principles from the existing 2040 RTP be carried forward to the 2050 RTP, perhaps with some minor modification. Staff is proposing to make the following changes to the 2040 Guiding Principles for the 2050 RTP as follows:

- Safe and Healthy Communities
- Economic Development and Diversification Vitality and Innovation
- Sustainability
- Increased Travel Choices



## AGENDA ITEM 8

**TO:** Technical Advisory Committee

**FROM:** Daniel Doenges, PTP, RSP Planning Manager

#### SUBJECT: RTC COVID-19 Response

## **RECOMMENDATION**

Receive a report on the measures that the RTC is implementing in response to COVID-19.

## **SUMMARY**

Safety for all employees, our customers and the general public is our top priority. The RTC and our transit contractors, Keolis and MTM, share a commitment to safety during these uncertain times. Since the onset of this crisis, the RTC has remained focused on how to safely continue providing essential transit services to our community.

Some of these safety measures were in place in early March, and others were added as more information became available. In all cases, we have met or exceeded County, State, Federal and CDC guidelines.

- Keolis has created work stations where bus drivers can pick up daily personal protective equipment (PPE) items such as face masks, gloves and sanitizing wipes. Keolis is also providing their employees with information about how to stay safe by delivering more frequent safety messaging via technology, in place of physical meetings.
- The RTC and Keolis are working together to help maintain social distancing on RTC RIDE buses. Some bus seats are marked with an X to identify no-seating areas. This helps to ensure passengers are riding six feet away from each other. Passengers are advised to monitor their seating locations to ensure social distancing guidelines are followed for their safety and the safety of their fellow passengers.
- On RTC RIDE buses, the ADA section near the front of the bus is closed to passengers, with the exception of passengers in wheelchairs, giving bus operators 14 feet of space from passengers.
- Transit passengers are also asked to remain behind the yellow or white line on the bus to keep six feet away from transit operators.
- Keolis has installed a plastic shield curtain between the coach operator and the fare box to enhance social distancing between the driver and riders.

- We are advising our passengers that for their safety and the safety of fellow passengers, we recommend the use of face coverings during essential outings. Furthermore, they are advised that this is an additional protective measure, and not a substitute to relax social distancing measures that are key to containment efforts, along with other health and safety precautions that are in place.
- Transit passengers can continue to expect the increased frequency of our sanitation and disinfection practices using a strong disinfectant approved for use against COVID-19 on our transit vehicles and at RTC transit centers.
- Ridership is down more than 60 percent, but we have not cut or reduced service with the commitment of providing essential transit service for critical trips for individuals who depend on transit. The reduction in ridership has also allowed for social distancing at our transit centers and on RTC RIDE buses.
- At this time, only six percent of our trips have 15 or more passengers. We are monitoring trips and adding booster buses to prevent crowding.
- The RTC recommends touch-less methods to purchase transit passes. Ninety percent of passengers use pre-paid passes. The best way to buy tickets is by using the Token Transit their smartphone mobile app on or device. or going online to https://www.rtcwashoe.com/public-transportation/buy-passes/. can Passes also be purchased at Pass Vending Machines located at RTC 4TH STREET STATION and RTC CENTENNIAL PLAZA transit centers.
- RTC ACCESS paratransit service is only transporting one passenger at a time. Drivers also have the option to use PPE during their shifts.
- There is Covid-19 and social distancing safety signage & messaging at RTC bus stations and on transit vehicles.

## Construction Update:

Governor Sisolak's Emergency Directive 003 designated construction operations on critical infrastructure as essential. At the RTC, contracted construction crews fill a critical role in building and improving regional roadways and transit facilities.

The RTC is working with its contracted construction crews to ensure the health and safety of their employees and the community. Continuing and accelerating construction operations safely is critical to advance important infrastructure projects, especially while many businesses have modified operations.

Crews are taking health and safety seriously during the pandemic by following the Nevada Occupational Safety and Health Administration's (OSHA) COVID-19 guidance for construction operations, including:

- Construction workers practice social distancing by being six feet away from each other.
- Face coverings are recommended and being used by construction crew members.
- Construction management has scaled down crew sizes and requires social distancing at safety meetings.

- Workers eat meals separately in their vehicles or in areas that allow at least six feet of separation.
- Crews avoid carpooling.
- Crews avoid common-use water coolers.
- Workers are asked to wash their hands frequently with soap and water.
- Construction crews are provided portable bathroom units with wash basins and soap for thorough hand cleaning.
- Crews are provided bottles of disinfectant and wipes for tools and vehicles.
- Crews are provided hand sanitizer.
- Workers must stay home if they exhibit any symptoms consistent with a cold, flu or COVID-19.

# RTC Administrative Offices:

The RTC remains open for business, but administrative and transit customer service offices are closed to the public to minimize potential exposure to and transmission of COVID-19. The public is asked to reach out to RTC's departments by phone or electronically using email. Calls and emails will be answered during normal business hours, Monday through Friday.

The RTC will continue to monitor the situation and implement safe health protocols and recommendations as directed by the Washoe County Health District, the CDC, and local and state leaders to ensure our community's safety and wellbeing.

The RTC is participating in COVID-19 support as a member of the Governor's Statewide Joint Information Center, the Regional Response Information Center, and the Emergency Operations Center teams.

This situation is fluid and is subject to change, as needed.