

**REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION (RTC)  
TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE (TAC)  
MEETING MINUTES  
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2025**

**TAC MEMBERS PRESENT**

Khalil Wilson	City of Reno
Scott Carey	City of Sparks
Andrew Jayankura	City of Sparks
Murph Glover	Nevada Department of Transportation
Craig Petersen	Northern Nevada Public Health – Air Quality Management Division
Candace Stowell	Reno-Sparks Indian Colony
Lissa Butterfield	Reno Tahoe Airport Authority
Chris Tolley	Truckee Meadows Regional Planning Agency
Mariam Ahmad	Washoe County Community Services
Julee Olander	Washoe County Community Services

**RTC STAFF**

Amber Bowsmith	Paul Nelson
Bryan Byrne	Michele Payne
Amanda Callegari	Trisha Starkey
Graham Dollarhide	Bill Thomas
Ashlie Encinas	Thomas Tsunemoto
Dale Keller	Xuan Wang
Vanessa Lacer	Marquis Williams

**TAC GUESTS**

Brendan Schniedar	Northern Nevada Public Health – Air Quality Management Division (NNPH-AQMD)
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**ITEM 1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL**

The TAC meeting was conducted as a Zoom meeting. Chair Scott Carey called the meeting to order at 9:01 a.m.

**ITEM 2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

The agenda was approved as submitted.

**ITEM 3. VERBAL INSTRUCTIONS REQUIRED BY ASSEMBLY BILL 219 (2023)**

RTC staff read the instructions required for participating via Zoom and participating via telephone.

#### **ITEM 4. PUBLIC COMMENT**

There were no public comments given.

#### **ITEM 5. APPROVAL OF THE NOVEMBER 6, 2025, MEETING MINUTES**

The TAC November 6, 2025, meeting minutes were approved as submitted.

#### **ITEM 6. RECEIVE A PRESENTATION FROM BRYAN BYRNE, RTC PROJECT MANAGER, P.E. FOR THE NORTHEAST CONNECTOR FEASIBILITY STUDY**

Bryan Byrne, RTC Project Manager, P.E., gave a PowerPoint presentation on the Northeast Connector Feasibility Study. The study evaluated two potential corridors, La Posada Drive and Vista Boulevard, for connecting to the Tri-Center region. After analyzing factors such as traffic volume, environmental impact, and cost, the Vista Boulevard alignment was recommended for further evaluation.

Khalil Wilson requested clarification, on whether projects in the 2050 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP), such as the connection in North Valley's/Spanish Springs area extending from Lemmon Drive to La Posada Drive, are included in the study. Bryan Byrne and Dale Keller, RTC Deputy Executive Director and Engineering Director, confirmed that RTP projects for the 2050-time frame were included in the analysis.

Craig Peterson expressed concern that corridors like this can encourage development and increase vehicle miles traveled (VMT), which in turn contributes to higher levels of air pollution. He noted that the location of the connector's starting point affects the residential area. He further emphasized that emissions from heavy-duty vehicles using the corridor could negatively impact local air quality and pose potential health risks to the surrounding community. Amanda Callegari, RTC Engineering Manager, requested clarification regarding the northern limit relative to HA87. Brendan Schnieder provided technical clarification regarding applicable air quality conformity zones, noting that the Vista Boulevard alignment would primarily be located within HA85 and 83, avoiding HA87. Byrne and Dale Keller confirmed that air quality impacts would be formally evaluated through the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process, contingent upon RTC Board approval to initiate NEPA.

Candace Stowell commented that the existing Area of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC) designation reflects the Pah Rah and the area's significant cultural resources. She also noted that the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) has proposed an ACEC expansion as part of the 2012 Regional Management Plan (RMP) update. RSIC raised two key concerns: (1) cultural resource information outside the current ACEC boundary has not been adequately considered, and (2) RSIC has an agreement with the City of Sparks allowing a corridor through the southern half of the proposed National Conservation Area for the Pah Rah through the Truckee Meadows Public Lands Management Act. She indicated that RSIC only learned about the study and process a few weeks ago and feel it is very late in the process. Candace Stowell emphasized the importance of enhanced communication and analysis, noting that the consulting firm Wood Rogers was unaware of certain cultural resources considerations. She stated that the Vista Boulevard corridor was extremely sensitive and would have impact on cultural resources. She also noted, based on the presentation, that the TAC had not been informed about the project previously and sought clarification. Dale Keller

clarified that this was the first TAC meeting in which the Northeast Connector Feasibility Study had been introduced and that the presentation was intended to the project-specific TAC.

Chair Scott Carey asked about outreach to other agencies and tribes, including the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe and Washoe Tribe of Nevada, California. Chair Scott Carey stated that it was concerning to the City of Sparks that these Tribes had not been consulted with or had an opportunity to review this study before it was released. Dale Keller responded, confirming that those tribes had been contacted and believed meetings had been scheduled with those tribes. Dale Keller also noted that through the NEPA process more cultural resources could be identified and would impact any future decisions.

Khalil Wilson received confirmation that the conceptual roadway design would consist of a two-lane state highway road with a posted speed limit of 45 miles per hour.

Chris Tolley inquired about next steps following completion of the feasibility study, and how it would be incorporated into the next (RTP). Bryan Byrne and Dale Keller explained that the study would be presented to the RTC Board for approval; if approved, it would proceed to the NEPA process and be prioritized in the RTP.

Chair Scott Carey stated that the City of Sparks has concerns with the Vista Boulevard alternative proposed in the corridor study. From the perspective of the city's Comprehensive Plan, this proposed route going through the middle of Golden Eagle Regional Park and diverting traffic onto Vista Boulevard is not consistent with the goals and policies or the land use element of the plan. Chair Scott Carey stated that the City of Sparks entered a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the RSIC that supports enhanced protections of the existing ACEC and pursuing a right of way for a new road east of this area. He stated that the proposed Vista Boulevard alternative in the corridor study runs counter to the MOU and would negatively impact cultural resources that are also important to the City of Sparks. Chair Scott Carey stated his preference for the La Posada Drive Corridor alternative due to its better land-use compatibility and reduced impacts on cultural resources.

Chris Tolley requested clarification regarding anticipated utility infrastructures associated with the project. Bryan Byrne stated that those issues have not been investigated yet, but it will be if the project moves forward in the process. Chris Tolley followed up by asking whether this project is finalized or still an idea that's becoming more defined, Dale Keller responded that this project is one of many solutions that the RTC board is considering.

Chair Scott Carey followed up with a question regarding future TAC involvement in the project. Dale Keller responded by listing all the stakeholders involved in the process to date. He recommended reaching out to the tribal partners, including the Summit Lake Paiute Tribe, to determine whether they had an interest in providing feedback. He also requested greater TAC engagement going forward.

## **ITEM 7. MEMBER ITEMS – DEVELOPMENT UPDATES AND OTHER UPDATES**

Candace Stowell reported on RSIC's upcoming Justice Center project and the Giroux Street abandonment recording.

Chris Tolley provided an update on the Stonegate Project, which was declared of regional significance following the approval of the City of Reno Master Plan Amendment.

Craig Petersen mentioned the construction of a new air monitoring station at Verdi Elementary School, which is expected to be operational by early 2026.

Lissa Butterfield announced Reno Tahoe Airport Authority was conducting a master plan study with a milestone in March 2026 and analyzing additional parking needs.

Chair Scott Carey reported on the Andelin Ranch Plan Development approval and a grant application for expanding their tree planting program.

Khalil Wilson expressed gratitude for recent RTC projects, including the Veterans Roundabout Modifications, Arrowcreek/Wedge Rehabilitation, and Arlington Avenue Bridge, and highlighted the upcoming Truckee Meadows Safety Action Plan

**ITEM 8. AGENDA ITEMS FOR FUTURE TAC MEETINGS**

Khalil Wilson requested a presentation on the Truckee Meadow Safety Action Plan.

**ITEM 9. RTC STAFF ITEMS**

Marquis Williams, RTC Senior Transportation Planner, provided an update on the Neighborhood Network Plans, with Plans 1 and 2 completed and Plans 3 and 4, covering Sun Valley and Panther Valley, and Meadowood, and Hidden Valley, currently in the public outreach process.

**ITEM 10. PUBLIC COMMENT**

There were no public comments given.

**ITEM 11. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:58 a.m.