

**CARSON CITY REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION**

**Minutes of the March 11, 2009 Meeting**

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A regular meeting of the Carson City Regional Transportation Commission was scheduled to begin following adjournment of the Carson Area Metropolitan Planning Organization meeting on Wednesday, March 11, 2009 in the Community Center Sierra Room, 851 East William Street, Carson City, Nevada.

**PRESENT:** Chairperson Shelly Aldean  
Vice Chairperson Russell Carpenter  
Commissioner Robert Crowell  
Commissioner Charles DesJardins  
Commissioner James Mallery

**STAFF:** Joel Benton, Senior Deputy District Attorney  
Dan Doenges, Transportation Planner  
Kathleen King, Recording Secretary  
Patrick Pittenger, Transportation Manager  
Darren Schultz, Deputy Public Works Department Director

**NOTE:** A recording of these proceedings, the commission's agenda materials, and any written comments or documentation provided to the recording secretary during the meeting are public record. These materials are available for review, in the Clerk-Recorder's Office, during regular business hours.

**A. CALL TO ORDER AND DETERMINATION OF QUORUM (6:58:11)** - Chairperson Aldean called the meeting to order at 6:58 p.m. Roll was called; a quorum was present.

**B. ACTION ON APPROVAL OF MINUTES - February 11, 2009 (6:58:41)** - Commissioner Crowell moved to approve the minutes. The motion was seconded and carried 5-0.

**C. MODIFICATION OF AGENDA (6:59:07)** - None.

**D. PUBLIC COMMENT (6:59:18)** - None.

**E. DISCLOSURES (6:59:40)** - None.

**F. CONSENT AGENDA (6:59:48)** - Chairperson Aldean entertained requests to hear items separate from the consent agenda. When none were forthcoming, she entertained a motion. **Vice Chairperson Carpenter moved to approve items F-1, F-2, F-3, and F-4, as presented. Commissioner Crowell seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.**

**F-1. ACTION TO APPROVE AND AUTHORIZE THE CHAIR TO SIGN AN AGREEMENT, BY AND BETWEEN SARA M. DONNAN, AS TRUSTEE, OR THE SUCCESSOR TRUSTEE OF THE SARA M. DONNAN TRUST, CREATED UNDER THE JOHN W. DONNAN AND SARA M. DONNAN TRUST AGREEMENT, DATED JUNE 10, 1987, AND CARSON CITY, WHEREBY SARA M. DONNAN, AS TRUSTEE, OR THE SUCCESSOR TRUSTEE OF THE SARA M. DONNAN TRUST, CREATED UNDER THE JOHN W. DONNAN AND SARA M. DONNAN TRUST AGREEMENT, DATED JUNE 10, 1987, AGREES TO: (1) SELL AND CONVEY A PORTION OF CERTAIN REAL PROPERTY, DESCRIBED AS ASSESSOR'S PARCEL NUMBER 009-111-03, FOR THE PURPOSE OF ROADWAY CONSTRUCTION RELATED TO THE WIDENING OF SOUTH CURRY STREET**

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**F-2. ACTION TO APPROVE AND AUTHORIZE THE CHAIR TO SIGN AN AGREEMENT, BY AND BETWEEN TIMOTHY P. MORSANI AND LINDA L. MORSANI, HUSBAND AND WIFE AS JOINT TENANTS AS TO AN UNDIVIDED ONE-HALF INTEREST, AND RICHARD N. CAMPAGNI AND MARY J. CAMPAGNI, TRUSTEES OF THE RICHARD AND MARY CAMPAGNI FAMILY TRUST, DATED JULY 23, 1993, AS TO AN UNDIVIDED ONE-HALF INTEREST, AND CARSON CITY, WHEREBY TIMOTHY P. MORSANI AND LINDA L. MORSANI, HUSBAND AND WIFE AS JOINT TENANTS AS TO AN UNDIVIDED ONE-HALF INTEREST, AND RICHARD N. CAMPAGNI AND MARY J. CAMPAGNI, TRUSTEES OF THE RICHARD AND MARY CAMPAGNI FAMILY TRUST, DATED JULY 23, 1993, AS TO AN UNDIVIDED ONE-HALF INTEREST, AGREE TO: (1) SELL AND CONVEY A PORTION OF CERTAIN REAL PROPERTY, DESCRIBED AS ASSESSOR'S PARCEL NUMBER 009-151-43, FOR THE PURPOSE OF ROADWAY CONSTRUCTION RELATED TO THE WIDENING OF SOUTH CURRY STREET**

**F-3. ACTION TO APPROVE AND AUTHORIZE THE CHAIR TO SIGN AN AGREEMENT, BY AND BETWEEN CAPITOL CITY LAND COMPANY, A NEVADA PARTNERSHIP, AND CARSON CITY, WHEREBY CAPITOL CITY LAND COMPANY, A NEVADA PARTNERSHIP, AGREES TO: (1) SELL AND CONVEY A PORTION OF CERTAIN REAL PROPERTY, DESCRIBED AS ASSESSOR'S PARCEL NUMBER 009-111-05, FOR THE PURPOSE OF ROADWAY CONSTRUCTION RELATED TO THE WIDENING OF SOUTH CURRY STREET**

**F-4. ACTION TO ACCEPT THE WORK AS COMPLETED, TO ACCEPT THE CONTRACT SUMMARY AS PRESENTED, AND TO APPROVE THE RELEASE OF FINAL PAYMENT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$57,338.03 FOR CONTRACT NO. 0708-133, HOT SPRINGS ROAD RECONSTRUCTION TO A&K EARTHMOVERS, INC.**

**G. PUBLIC MEETING ITEMS:**

**G-1. POSSIBLE ACTION TO AUTHORIZE THE PROPOSED CAPITAL EXPENDITURES OF CARSON CITY'S SHARE OF THE FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION'S AMERICAN RECOVERY AND REINVESTMENT ACT ("ARRA") FUNDS (7:00:49)** - Chairperson Aldean introduced this item. Mr. Pittenger reviewed the agenda report, the attached expenditure proposal, and the low-floor bus informational materials. In response to a question, he advised that wheelchair operations are available on every JAC transit route. He explained the efficiency of the ramp mechanism on the low-floor bus as opposed to the lift mechanism on the other buses. In response to a further question, he advised that the low-floor bus would be assigned to route 3. He discussed the ultimate goal to acquire larger vehicles to assign to the routes with capacity issues. He acknowledged the low-floor buses have rear-wheel drive with no air brakes. He acknowledged that training costs are included in the figure represented for the routing software listed in the proposed expenditures table. He discussed recent demonstrations of two software packages. He further acknowledged that the low-floor bus has advertising space; that the routing software is GPS compatible, and that the GPS component connects to the existing dispatch software, which operation he described.

Mr. Pittenger discussed the proposed transit center design expenditure, as listed on the table included in the agenda materials. He responded to questions of clarification regarding time frames associated with the ARRA funding, and the proposed transit center design. He acknowledged that this commission and other City departments would be involved in the process from the beginning, and that public input would be

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solicited. Chairperson Aldean encouraged Mr. Pittenger to develop a time line. Commissioner Mallery noted the significant correlation between the transit center site and its design, and agreed with the need for due consideration early in the process. Mr. Schultz assured the commissioners that RTC staff will be certain “within a few months” whether or not the transit center can be developed in 365 days. Even if the transit center cannot be constructed, the necessary planning will have been accomplished in anticipation of future funding. Mr. Pittenger clarified that the transit center does not have to be constructed in 365 days; but the funds must be obligated to an awarded contract.

Chairperson Aldean called for additional commissioner comments or questions, and for public comments. When none were forthcoming, she entertained a motion. **Vice Chairperson Carpenter moved to approve the action to authorize the proposed capital expenditures of Carson City’s share of the Federal Transit Administration’s American Recovery and Reinvestment Act funds; fiscal impact \$950,278 of transit capital, 100 percent funded from the Federal Transit Administration American Recovery and Reinvestment Act funds. Commissioner Crowell seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.**

**G-2. INFORMATION REGARDING THE STATUS OF ANTICIPATED FUNDING FOR CARSON CITY ROADWAY PROJECTS THROUGH THE AMERICAN RECOVERY AND REINVESTMENT ACT OF 2009 (“ARRA”)** (7:28:01) - Chairperson Aldean introduced this item, and Mr. Pittenger advised that the CAMPO had not received a direct allocation. He reviewed the table of projects attached to the staff report, and advised that copies had been provided to such entities as the Nevada Department of Transportation, the Nevada Association of Counties, and the Federal Highways Administration. He further advised of a Nevada State Transportation Board meeting scheduled for Thursday, March 12<sup>th</sup> “with an agenda that is focused entirely upon the stimulus funds.” He and Mr. Schultz will attend the meeting.

(7:29:45) NDOT Assistant Director of Engineering Kent Cooper advised of having submitted a “draft list” outlining stimulus package funding requests to the Joint Budget Committees and the Joint Transportation Committees of the Nevada State Legislature on Tuesday, March 10<sup>th</sup>. He discussed a “placeholder in that list” for the Nevada Association of Counties and the Nevada League of Cities. He reviewed stimulus funding project criteria. He advised of having conveyed to NDOT Director Susan Martinovich Chairperson Aldean’s concerns that “not all entities are members of NACo or the League of Cities.” He assured the commissioners that Director Martinovich will not use “their criteria as the final basis” for allocating the funding. Mr. Cooper reviewed time tables associated with ARRA funding, other counties’ project requests, and anticipated allocations. In response to a question, both Mr. Pittenger and Mr. Schultz indicated having had no contact from any representative of the Nevada Association of Counties. Chairperson Aldean advised that Carson City is no longer a member of the League of Cities. She expressed understanding for the intent to be as inclusive as possible, and reiterated concerns with regard to NDOT representatives giving objective consideration to the projects to ensure compliance with ARRA funding criteria. Mr. Cooper thanked Chairperson Aldean for her comments, and reiterated that he had conveyed her concerns to NDOT Director Susan Martinovich.

Chairperson Aldean opened this item to public comment (7:41:46) Dave Onyx inquired as to the route of Phase 2B of the freeway. Chairperson Aldean informed him the route is from Fairview Drive to the base of Spooner Summit, Highway 50 West. She acknowledged that the project is being considered as a priority for the stimulus package discretionary funding. Mr. Cooper provided a status report on the design and construction time tables associated with freeway phases 2A and 2B.

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At Commissioner Crowell's request, Mr. Cooper provided additional information regarding the ARRA funding mechanism. He explained that the bill provided for nationwide allocation of \$1.5 billion at the discretion of the U.S. Department of Transportation. The Office of the Transportation Secretary was directed to develop criteria for the applications 90 days from enactment of the ARRA, on February 17, 2009. Following the 90-day period, the states will be provided 90 days to submit the applications. NDOT is in the process of preparing applications "for the four projects ... identified." Mr. Cooper acknowledged that the Carson City freeway phase 2B is on the list. He reviewed project criteria based on "informal" information from the U.S. Department of Transportation. In response to a question, he advised that the U.S. DOT will make the final decision to fund projects. Chairperson Aldean called for additional commissioner comments and for public comments; however, none were forthcoming. She thanked Mr. Cooper for his attendance and participation.

**G-3. REPORT ON THE STATUS OF NEGOTIATIONS WITH NDOT REGARDING PHASE 2B OF THE CARSON CITY FREEWAY (7:50:12)** - Chairperson Aldean introduced this item, and Mr. Pittenger reviewed the pertinent agenda materials. Chairperson Aldean noted that, although the date for completion of the freeway to Highway 50 West "has not come and gone, NDOT is going to be in default under the terms of the agreement with Carson City." She suggested that "everything ... needs to be suspended at this point and no dates are certain." She noted the importance of proceeding in good faith, and the significance of the long-term maintenance costs of the roads over which Carson City will be asked to assume responsibility. In response to a question, Mr. Pittenger advised that NDOT has provided an estimate of payments for road maintenance over the next three-year period. He noted that the maintenance costs are subject to discussion in light of the fact that the City will own and maintain the roads "for much longer than three years." Chairperson Aldean requested staff to provide the cost estimates to the commissioners.

Mr. Pittenger advised of having been formally informed by NDOT of the significant delay associated with construction of freeway phase 2B at the time the Fairview Drive widening project was in the bidding process. This required City staff to participate with NDOT staff in forecasting the traffic model associated with a delay of longer than two years. The traffic model indicated a significant failure risk to building Fairview Drive as originally planned. As a result, Carson City incurred additional costs of approximately \$1.6 million to expand the project to include pavement replacement on Fairview Drive from Roop Street to California Street. In addition, the intersection of Fairview Drive and Carson Street was improved to accommodate additional capacity on a state-owned road. Mr. Pittenger noted this as an additional expense incurred by the City "due to the state's delay on phase 2B which is also a consideration in this discussion."

In reference to previously-listed roadways over which NDOT has requested Carson City to assume maintenance responsibility, Vice Chairperson Carpenter expressed serious concerns. He noted the importance of further negotiations including a commission representative. Chairperson Aldean advised of a frequent question by constituents with regard to whether Carson City is "being treated as equitably as Washoe County and Clark [County]." She expressed understanding for NDOT's budget constraints, and requested a list of streets relinquished by NDOT in other jurisdictions, specifically Washoe and Clark Counties. (8:06:50) Mr. Cooper advised that once I-580 is opened, Washoe County "is supposed to take over old U.S. 395, basically from Mt. Rose Highway all the way through ... Bowers Mansion ..." He clarified "those agreements have not been finalized." He discussed the regional road impact fee implemented by Washoe and Clark Counties. He advised that roadway transfers "have not been anywhere near where our board wanted them to go ..." He listed various roadway transfers in Las Vegas, and further advised that "some of these transfers have been dictated more by their desire to own and maintain those roads than the financial aspect." He expressed the belief that NDOT Director Susan Martinovich would

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be willing to discuss Carson City assuming maintenance responsibility for certain roadways in exchange for relief from “some of that debt.” He advised that a Carson Street overlay has been cost estimated, but that NDOT has “held off” in light of the City’s redevelopment plans. He further advised of the anticipated redesignation of U.S. Highway 50 East along the new freeway alignment to U.S. Highway 50 West.

Mr. Cooper acknowledged NDOT has no authority to abandon roadways. Chairperson Aldean expressed concurrence with Washoe County maintaining that portion of U.S. Highway 395 which will become an arterial once I-580 is completed. In response to a question, Mr. Cooper was uncertain as to how NDOT would compel Washoe County to assume maintenance responsibility for the aforementioned roadway. He advised of having been “fairly unsuccessful ... in the past,” in spite of many discussions with Washoe County representatives as well as the residents of Pleasant Valley. He clarified that the Cities of Reno and Sparks have taken over maintenance responsibilities for “some of the roadways in similar type of agreements” discussed as part of this agenda item. He advised that NDOT has “basically been maintaining, for the last three years, the interstate routes and some U.S. routes. We have not been putting any maintenance dollars into state routes” such as Stewart Street, Fifth Street, King Street, Winnie Lane. Discussion took place regarding the difference in climate between Carson City and Clark County relative to roadway maintenance.

Commissioner Crowell inquired as to the possibility of prohibiting trucks from using Carson Street once the Fairview interchange is completed. Mr. Cooper advised that the “trucking issue ... is guided more by federal law ...” which provides that, unless a comparative or improved route is opened, no demand can be made for trucks to use a different route. He suggested that, because of the Fairview interchange configuration, trucks could be directed to use that route. He discussed the issue of enforcement, however. Chairperson Aldean noted that the improvements to the Fairview Drive / Carson Street intersection were designed to accommodate turning radii. She suggested the best way to discourage trucks from using Carson Street is to narrow it pursuant to the downtown redevelopment plan.

Commissioner Mallery requested, from Mr. Cooper, the snow removal and maintenance figures for the previously-listed roadways. He suggested considering the maintenance costs versus cash payment. Mr. Cooper requested the commissioners to consider the desired data, and discussed what can be made available. Commissioner Mallery expressed an interest in the “break-even year.” He advised of having participated, as an NDOT staff person, in discussions with Washoe County regarding relinquishment of state roadways. [Commissioner DesJardins left the meeting at 8:22 p.m. A quorum of the commission was still present.] Mr. Cooper provided an overview of NDOT negotiations with the Cities of Reno and Las Vegas regarding exchanges of roadway responsibilities. He noted NDOT’s goal to assume responsibility for major thoroughfares in exchange for local jurisdictions assuming responsibility for local roadways. Chairperson Aldean requested a list of all recently-approved relinquishments across the state. Mr. Pittenger agreed to provide a formal request to NDOT. In response to a question, Mr. Cooper suggested requesting the list to cover the last ten years. Commissioner Crowell requested Mr. Pittenger to request the statewide per capita participation of each county. Chairperson Aldean thanked Mr. Cooper, and opened this item to additional questions or comments of the commissioners and the public.

(8:25:00) Dave Onyx expressed agreement with Vice Chairperson Carpenter’s earlier concerns regarding the additional burden to the City of taking over roadway maintenance responsibility. He inquired as to the possibility of the City having to assume maintenance over fewer roadways if ARRA funding is allocated to the freeway phase 2B. In light of an earlier comment by Mr. Cooper, Chairperson Aldean suggested the possibility of the City sharing in the some of the gas tax revenues to compensate for assuming roadway maintenance responsibility. Mr. Cooper expressed the assumption that NDOT representatives would be

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willing to discuss the matter. Chairperson Aldean entertained additional public comment and, when none was forthcoming, thanked Mr. Cooper and Dennis Taylor for their attendance and participation.

**G-4. INFORMATION REGARDING A RECENT TRANSIT SURVEY CONDUCTED ON THE JUMP AROUND CARSON (“JAC”) BUS SERVICE (8:26:45)** - Chairperson Aldean introduced this item. Mr. Pittenger thanked Alternative Sentencing Office Manager Claudia Saavedra for arranging “all the free labor.” He provided an overview of the method by which the transit survey was conducted and the results timely compiled, and reviewed the pertinent agenda materials. In response to a question, he reviewed recent ridership statistics. Chairperson Aldean opened this item to public comment; however, none was forthcoming.

## **H. INTERNAL COMMUNICATIONS AND ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS**

**H-1. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (“CDBG”) APPLICATION (8:35:56)** - Chairperson Aldean introduced this item, and Mr. Pittenger reviewed the memo included in the agenda materials. Chairperson Aldean entertained commissioner or public comments; however, none were forthcoming.

**H-2. NEW JAC ROUTE MAPS AND RTC INTERCITY SCHEDULES (8:37:48)** - Chairperson Aldean introduced this item, and Mr. Pittenger reviewed the pertinent agenda materials. In response to a question, he explained the reason DART transit service information was not available to be included in the new route maps. In response to a further question, he advised that DART and Washoe RTC proposed service changes have been posted along JAC routes. He acknowledged that notices are posted in the shelters and on the vehicles. He discussed improved route performance relative to Route 21X over Spooner Summit, and advised of the Kingsbury Express, Route 20X. South Tahoe Area Transit Authority BlueGO Transit Administrator John Andoh is entertaining a proposal to interline Routes 20X and 21X “to give people the opportunity to travel ... from Costco either over Spooner or the south end of Douglas County.” Chairperson Aldean opened this item to questions or comments; however, none were forthcoming.

**H-3. PROJECT STATUS REPORT (8:42:09)** - Chairperson Aldean referred to the report included in the agenda materials, and Mr. Schultz provided an overview of the Appion Way, Stewart Street realignment, and Curry Street projects. Chairperson Aldean advised of having heard concerns over constant closure of Roventini Way despite “no work going on.” Mr. Schultz advised of having received a similar complaint earlier in the day, and that the issue is being addressed by City staff. Chairperson Aldean entertained questions or comments; however, none were forthcoming.

**H-4. STREET OPERATIONS REPORT (8:43:37)** - Chairperson Aldean referred to the report included in the agenda materials, and opened this item to questions or comments. None were forthcoming.

**H-5. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS (8:43:59)** - In response to a question, Mr. Pittenger advised that survey work is being done at the intersection of Baker and Colorado Streets. Two drain inlets, on each side of the road, are being considered to “keep the water out ...” and to provide improved pedestrian access. Commissioner Crowell inquired as to a time line associated with sidewalk improvements on Fourth Street. Mr. Pittenger discussed needed improvements to sewer laterals and the removal of trees prior to sidewalk improvements being done. Vice Chairperson Carpenter requested Mr. Pittenger to agendize discussion to designate a commissioner representative to participate in NDOT road transfer negotiations. A brief discussion followed, and Mr. Pittenger reviewed the tentative April commission agenda.

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**I. ACTION ON ADJOURNMENT (8:53:23)** - Commissioner Crowell moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:53 p.m. Commissioner Mallery seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

The Minutes of the March 11, 2009 Carson City Regional Transportation Commission meeting are so approved this 8<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2009.

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SHELLY ALDEAN, Chair