

CARSON CITY REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

Minutes of the December 14, 2005, Meeting

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A regularly scheduled meeting of the Carson City Regional Transportation Commission was held on Wednesday, December 14, 2005, at the Community Center Sierra Room, 851 East William Street, Carson City, Nevada, immediately following the regularly schedule meeting of the Carson Area Metropolitan Planning Organization that began at 5:30 p.m.

PRESENT: Chairperson Richard S. Staub, Vice Chairperson Charles Des Jardins, and Commissioners Shelly Aldean, Larry Hastings, and Michael Zola

STAFF PRESENT: City Engineer Larry Werner, RTC Engineer Harvey Brotzman, Transportation/Transit Planner Michael Dulude, and Recording Secretary Katherine McLaughlin (RTC 12/14/05 5:39:40)

NOTE: Unless otherwise indicated, each item was introduced by staff's reading/outlining/clarifying the Request for Action Report and/or supporting documentation. Staff members making the presentation are listed after the Item's heading. Any other individuals who spoke are listed immediately following the staff listing. A tape recording of these proceedings is on file in the Clerk-Recorder's office. This tape is available for review and inspection during normal business hours.

I. ROLL CALL AND DETERMINATION OF A QUORUM - Chairperson Staub convened the meeting at 5:40 p.m. Roll call was taken. The entire Commission was present, constituting a quorum.

J. APPROVAL OF MINUTES - 11/9/05 (5:40:10) - Commissioner Des Jardins moved that the Minutes of the November 9, 2005, Carson City Regional Transportation Commission meeting be approved. Commissioner Aldean seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

K. MODIFICATION OF AGENDA (5:40:40) - None.

L. PUBLIC COMMENT (5:40:57) - Quail Run Property Owners Association President Ralph Buscher indicated that the residents of the development were concerned about safety and sounds. A copy of his statement had purportedly been given to the Commission. (A copy was not given to the Clerk.) He asked that his document be made a part of the record for referral purposes at a future date. His/their awareness of the proposal to widen Fairview was described. Widening Fairview will allegedly remove the stacking lane into their development. Removal of the stacking lane poses a safety concern for the residents. The residents are also concerned about the noise that will be created with the increased traffic flow. He alleged that a preliminary sound study had been done indicating the noise level is at the threshold now. Freeway construction of and termination of the freeway at Fairview will increase both the traffic volume and noise level resulting in two to four years or more of discomfort. He asked that the Commission favorably consider their concerns. Chairperson Staub explained that an extended discussion of his remarks could not occur under this agenda heading. He referred the matter to staff and indicated that when additional information is available the item will be agenzized for discussion. Mr. Buscher asked that they be notified when this discussion is to occur. City Engineer Werner indicated that staff will address each of his comments and meet with Mr. Buscher/the Association and then agenzize the item for Commission discussion/action. No formal action was taken.

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M. DISCLOSURES (5:44:16) - Commissioner Zola explained that he had been contacted by individuals who asked that additional signage be provided regarding North Roop Street and its left turn stacking lane at Beverly. Discussion ensued between Commissioner Zola and City Engineer Werner regarding the timeline for installation of additional lighting at Hot Springs Road and Roop. Mr. Werner advised that the "Wal-mart" signal may not be installed until June or July due to design and shipping delays. Discussion between Commissioner Aldean and RTC Engineer Brotzman indicated that the signal for Northridge and Roop may be installed in May or June. The City will pre-order the poles as soon as the size is determined. The contractor will provide the controller. Commissioner Des Jardins advised that he had been contacted by several seniors who ride the "JAC" system. They would love to have pedestrian shelters to protect them from the elements when waiting for the buses. No formal action was taken on any of these items.

N. PUBLIC MEETING ITEMS - STAFF UPDATE ON JAC AND JAC ASSISTANCE TRANSIT SYSTEM (5:47:33) - Transportation/Transit Planner Michael Dulude indicated that staff is working on the pedestrian shelters. Commissioner Aldean's suggestion that the Western Nevada Community College be contacted regarding the possibility of constructing the shelters if the City provides the material is being pursued. Discussion indicated that at this time the fare box revenue is low which may be a result of the low ridership. It may take nine months to reach the projected ridership and revenue streams. Inclement weather and the holidays may impact the ridership and revenue figures. Mr. Dulude felt that the ridership may peak in March and again during the summer time. City Engineer Larry Werner indicated that the next report will provide a better breakdown on the ridership and the estimated growth. Commission comments expressed a belief that they are running below the estimates. Chairperson Staub asked that the percentage of ridership and the predicted levels be included in the report. Discussion then explained that the "flimsy" bus stop signs that have been posted are temporary. Mr. Dulude felt that the permanent signs should be installed within 30 to 60 days. Commissioner Aldean suggested that interior advertising on the buses be used as a revenue source. Mr. Dulude indicated that interior advertising is planned and will occur in the future. Mr. Werner explained the shift in some of Mr. Dulude's work load and the delay in obtaining reimbursement from NDOT. Once these issues are addressed staff will be able to provide a better status report to the Commission. Additional comments/questions were solicited. None were given. No formal action was required or taken.

O. INTERNAL COMMUNICATIONS AND ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS INCLUDING FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS (NON-ACTION ITEMS) (5:53:12) - Discussion indicated that staff will be bringing the Bowers Lane and Sunrise Drive closure issues back to the Commission in February. They will then be sent to the Board of Supervisors. Traffic studies are being conducted on Northridge, Ridgecrest, and Bowers.

Mr. Brotzman explained his contact with the property owner at the corner of Ridgecrest and Northridge and the plan to reconstruct the fence/wall in accordance with his desires. A counter has been placed at this intersection. The drivers who have hit the fence have not had insurance, are allegedly driving in an intoxicated state, etc. Other residents living in the vicinity believe that these individuals were driving too fast for the conditions and have requested a stop sign be installed at the intersection. Mr. Brotzman indicated that the counters do track the vehicle's speed and that the contractor who installed the original fence had not considered sight distance issues in the fence's design. Redesigning the fence will improve the sight distance for the intersection. Mr. Werner pointed out that improved signage may remind the normal drivers but intoxicated drivers may not be helped. Stop signs will impede the honest drivers but will have little impact

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on the “problem” drivers. He did not believe that these drivers will see the intersection before they hit the fence. The fence may need a guard rail. The fence/wall will be a permanent fixture. They are attempting to address the property damage and sight distance issues. Once they are addressed, they will work on the control issues.

Chairperson Staub felt that the first phase of the freeway may open before April. He suggested that consideration/discussions be held on how to get the trucks off Carson Street and onto the freeway. They could be routed onto Graves/Edmonds and Fairview. Mr. Werner concurred and reminded the Commission of the need to be cognizant of the Fairview widening project when considering the routing. He also advised the Commission of the need to discuss its role. He suggested that this discussion occur in January.

Commissioner Aldean explained a resolution which prohibited trucks on Carson Street in the downtown area. Discussion ensued on the reasons staff had not enforced this prohibition and why trucks are allowed to use the left hand lane. It was felt that a resolution revising the original resolution may not have been considered when this decision was made. Commissioner Zola reminded staff that NDOT has the ultimate decision in where the truck route is and needs to be involved in these discussions. No formal action was taken on any of these items.

P. ADJOURNMENT - RTC (6:02:34) - Commissioner Aldean moved to adjourn. Commissioner Des Jardins seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0. Chairperson Staub adjourned the meeting at 6:03 p.m.

The Minutes of the December 14, 2005, Carson City Regional Transportation Commission meeting

ARE SO APPROVED ON January 11, 2006.

/s/

Richard S. Staub, Chairperson