

CARSON CITY REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

Minutes of the December 18, 1996 Meeting

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A regular meeting of the Carson City Regional Transportation Commission was held on Wednesday, December 18, 1996 in the Administrative Complex Conference Room #59, 2621 Northgate Lane, Carson City, NV at 8:30 a.m.

PRESENT: Chairperson Greg Smith
Kay Bennett
Marie Wolf

STAFF: Jay Aldean, Public Works Director
Tim Homann, Deputy Public Works Director
Harvey Brotzman, Regional Transportation Engineer
Fran Smith, Recording Secretary
(RTC 12/18/96 1-0000.5)

NOTE - Unless otherwise indicated each item was introduced by Chairperson Smith. Individuals speaking are identified following the heading of each item. 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.

A. CALL TO ORDER - Chairperson Smith called the meeting to order at 8:31 a.m. A roll call was taken and a quorum was present.

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES - Commissioner Wolfe moved to approve the Minutes of the November 20, 1996, October 18, 1996, and special July 29, 1996 meetings. Commissioner Bennett seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT - None.

3. STATUS REPORT ON TRANSIT SERVICES - (1-031.5) Mr. Brotzman reported that Community Transportation Project Manager Tim Bailey was ill and would not return until January 1. A copy of the monthly report had been provided in the packet which Mr. Brotzman reviewed for the Commission. Included were ridership about which they had done a projection and he expressed his belief that they would run out of money sometime in April and it would be approximately a \$2,000 shortage that would be in effect until the end of the fiscal year. Mr. Aldean said he would like to give the Commission the opportunity now to either squeeze out the rides or start limiting them on a monthly basis. Mr. Brotzman said they would either need assurance from the Board of Supervisors for additional funding to get to June 30 or direction to restrict the rides. Mr. Aldean said they would still be able to provide some rides until the Board makes a decision on funding but felt if there is a restriction it should begin in January. Mr. Brotzman noted that last year in December and January there was a drop in ridership and said if there is a drop again this year there may be enough funding there but they won't know until February or March. He added that they will be making a quarterly report to the Board at the January 9 meeting and Chairperson Smith suggested agendaizing the issue for that meeting. Chairperson Smith then commented he is in favor of staying within a budget but for \$2,000 he could probably be persuaded to fund it. He added he did not want to have people wanting to use the rides and be told because of budgetary constraints the rides have been limited. Commissioner Wolf felt that they, being private enterprise, should live within their means and should know that the Commission is serious about their budget.

(1-0109.5) Commissioner Bennett had a question on some of the figures reported in previous Minutes vs. those shown in the chart in the packet. Mr. Brotzman explained that the figures are always a month behind and also that some customers ride more than once in a month. Commissioner Bennett then commented that in a private enterprise situation where business is growing and more operating capital is needed they are going to look to the private sector to borrow that capital based on their ability to pay it back. She added that is basically what she is hearing going on. Commissioner Wolf questioned whether they would pay the \$2,000 back. Mr. Brotzman said the Board funds transit out of a special project fund. He added that the estimated \$30,000 match that the Board has put in the past two years will have to be increased in order to meet projections for an increase in ridership. Commissioner Wolf said it is costing the City money and asked if perhaps the price of a ride could be increased.

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Mr. Aldean said he had wanted this on the agenda because he wanted to go over the issue with the Commission in order to get direction for staff.

(1-0181.5) Chairperson Smith said some public services are not cost covering and a decision has to be made as to whether the price can be kept reasonable or increase the price but at the same time the decision has to be made as to whether the service is important and how much can be subsidized. He added he had always felt if the program became successful then it would reach a point where the decision would have to be made. He said an option would be to look at a bus system for the City rather than put money into this program. Mr. Brotzman then said NDOT gives the Senior Citizens Center and OARC some vehicles and explained how the process works using those vehicles. Chairperson Smith noted that NDOT is becoming reluctant to back both programs unless there is a consolidation of effort. Commissioner Wolf asked if OARC is satisfied with the program. Mr. Brotzman said they are providing the majority of the rides and are getting the revenue. Commissioner Wolf reiterated her feeling that it is costing the City money. Mr. Brotzman said no public transit system in the United States makes money and said that one reason it had been mentioned to the Commission was to schedule it for the first meeting before the new Board was so that the Board could come back at the second meeting in January or first meeting in February to give staff direction because they, the Board, are the ones who will have to come up with additional funding. Chairperson Smith asked how much is being paid Paratransit per year. Mr. Brotzman said it is \$49,554. Chairperson Smith felt there may be other ways of coordinating the system at less money which would then free up more money to be used for rides. Discussion ensued on how coordinated efforts could work and that the issue would be agendized for the Board meeting discussed earlier. No formal action was taken.

4. STATUS OF CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS AND 5. STATUS OF WEST COLLEGE PARKWAY SOUNDWALLS FROM IMPERIAL WAY TO NORTHGATE LANE - (1-0375.5) Mr. Homann, Mr. Brotzman, and Mr. Aldean provided updates and responded to questions from the Commission on each item. Included in the extensive discussion were the advantages and disadvantages of the Graves Lane extension to Highway 50 east, the Goni Road realignment between Arrowhead Drive and Hot Springs Road, the Sonoma Street extension from Carson Street to Curry Street, the Ormsby Boulevard extension from Winnie Lane to Ash Canyon, the College Parkway sound wall from Imperial Way to Northgate Lane, the Roop Street widening from Evelyn Way to Little Lane, and a traffic signal at Edmonds Drive and Pheasant. Some of these projects will be back for updates at future meetings. No formal action was taken.

6. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON THE FORMATION OF A TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE - (1-0901.5) Commissioner Wolf asked what was the purpose of having this committee. Mr. Brotzman explained that they are looking at updating the Streets and Highways Master Plan. He added one of the things they would do is to get individuals from the community to sit on the committee as they hold meetings with a consultant. Mr. Homann stated that it could consist of some members who are transportation experts. He also noted that staff envisions this group giving them the assistance they need so that staff is not making all the calls. He felt that the first thing the committee could do is help staff set up the scope of work for the consultant. He commented that it should be a broad based community effort. Commissioner Bennett said there are two ways of doing a Master Plan upgrade. One is to direct staff to hire a consultant, pay a lot of money, and for them to come back with input to the Commission. Another way, although a little more cumbersome, is to ask the community, up front, to come forward. She emphasized that when the consultant has finished the work it would reflect what the community wants. Commissioner Wolf asked when this Master Plan would be completed. Mr. Aldean said there would be a lot of buyin and staff could then intermingle and communicate with that committee. He also noted he had discussed this with City Manager John Berkich and said staff was inclined to want to postpone the new Master Plan until the Graves Lane project was completed because of the traffic impact. He also said next month staff would be recommending to the Commission that staff talk to the traffic engineers asking them to do a model of the City. He said that model could be set up according to NDOT specs and they would train staff who could then run it. Mr. Aldean also provided details on how the model would work. Mr. Brotzman said he would get with Community Development Director Walter Sullivan to develop the formula of how the committee would be comprised, perhaps NDOT planning, someone from BLM, one person from each ward, and would bring it back to the Commission. At this point Chairperson Smith entertained a motion for approval of the Transportation Advisory Committee as it relates to the Master Planning concept. Commissioner Bennett then moved that the Regional Transportation Commission approve in concept the formation of a Transportation

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Advisory Committee for the purpose of the development of the streets and highway Master Plan element. Commissioner Wolf seconded the motion. She also noted that she would like to see the motion include that upon the adoption of the Master Plan the advisory committee would expire. Commissioner Bennett said that was the intent of her motion. Motion carried 3-0.

7. COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS - (1-1331.5) Chairperson Smith said he had not heard any more from the citizens on Bowers Lane regarding their problem with traffic. He added that this had previously come before the Commission and Mr. Homann was to try to put some information together on a possible alternative to take to the Board. It was also noted that this was not the purvue of the Commission but rather a local traffic issue and Mr. Homann said he had not been contacted either.

8. STAFF COMMENTS - (1-1361.5) Mr. Brotzman said he has to get back to the people on Snyder Avenue because it crosses both BLM and State prison property. He added he had met with BLM and the State of Nevada on the prison property and that they are trying to get a defined right of way and moving forward on it. Mr. Alden said in conjunction with that Mr. Berkich, himself, Mary Walker, the District Attorney's office, and bond counsel Jennifer Stern he was trying to get direction as to what options are available regarding the formation of an assessment district but for the amount of work to be done it is not feasible and explained.

9. FUTURE MEETING DATE - The next meeting will be January 15 at 8:30 a.m. in Room 59. Commissioner Bennett felt that agenda items should include status updates on construction projects, specifically the Graves Lane project, and criteria for the advisory committee. Mr. Homann also suggested an item on the transit plan consultant.

10. ADJOURNMENT - Commissioner Bennett moved to adjourn. Chairperson Smith seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0. Chairperson Smith adjourned the meeting at 10:01 a.m.

The Minutes of the December 18, 1996 meeting of the Carson City Regional Transportation Commission

ARE SO APPROVED___January_15_____, 1997

_____/s/_____
Greg Smith, Chairperson