

TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Minutes of the June 2, 1998 Meeting

Page 1 DRAFT

A regular meeting of the Transportation Advisory Committee was held on Tuesday, June 2, 1998 in the City Hall Capitol Conference Room, 201 N. Carson St., Carson City, NV at 3:00 p.m.

PRESENT: Chairperson Frank Page
Vice Chairperson Kelly Garcia
Tom Abbott
John Bullis
Juan Guzman
Bill Hoffman
Vern Krahn
Jerry Mather
Dennis Ritchie
Bruce Robertson
Neil Weaver

STAFF: Tim Homann, Deputy Public Works Director
Harvey Brotzman, RTC, Engineer
Katherine McLaughlin, Recording Secretary

(TAC 6/2/98 1-0000.5)

NOTE - Unless otherwise indicated each item was introduced by Chairperson Page. 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 Page called the meeting to order at 3:05 p.m. A roll call was taken and a quorum was present although Vice Chairperson Garcia and Members Guzman and Krahn had not yet arrived and Members Loebeer, Fronapfel and Sullivan were absent.

E. DISCUSSIONS - COMMITTEE MEMBERS AND POSSIBLE ACTION

1. UPDATE ON STATUS OF U.S. 395 BYPASS BY NDOT ASSISTANT DIRECTOR SUSAN MARTINOVICH - (1-0013.5) Ms. Martinovich said the project has been under design for quite some time. She added that the design has been slowed because of the wandering skipper butterfly. She said last year NDOT had waited for their flight and that only 5 or 7 were found. She felt they might have been impacted by the flooding and it could have been an abhorrent year. Because of this it had been requested that they study them again this year. She said this species only flies once a year as opposed to twice a year for other butterfly species and that they are now waiting for them to fly.

(1-0019.5) Ms. Martinovich then said concurrent with that they are doing a hydraulic study of the wetlands mitigation plan. She said staff is out in the field analyzing to see if they find any of the species flying. She noted when the plan was originally outlined no EPA impact statement was done and, because a lot of time has passed between then and now, they have to go back and do a supplemental. She added part of what is required is a 401B1 permit which considers hydraulics, wetlands and wildlife features and that they are finalizing it to take to the regulatory agency for approval. She commented that it says "These are our preferred options" and they need to get approval to go forward with final design. She said the agency would take into account the information accumulated about the butterfly and will also take into account NDOT's consideration of the wetlands issue. She said their goal is that everything will come together in late June or July. She said their intent was to then have a public informational hearing to let the public know where NDOT is and what design features they are proposing. She commented that the last open meeting they had on this was in November 1994 and the next should be in July or August.

(1-0055.5) Ms. Martinovich then said they are working with the City because the City has proposed detention basins in Vicee, Combs, King and Ash Canyons. She added with those basins in place it would reduce the size of culverts needed in the freeway, She felt the savings they realize could be applied toward the construction of the

TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Minutes of the June 2, 1998 Meeting
Page 2 DRAFT

basins. She noted that they are working with the City on the Master Plan of the entire basins which is an ongoing process. She then said the meeting in 1994 indicated three alternatives for the northern interchange, two of which had a grade separation at Arrowhead and one showed some ramps. She added that the project as it was first discussed had an interchange at Arrowhead but subsequent to that it was determined an interchange was not necessary or warranted and it had been removed. She commented at that hearing a lot of the residents supported taking it out. She added that they are now receiving comments and one is a concern that the project has a budget of \$80,000,000 and that the City would be contributing approximately \$19,000,000. She noted they have scaled back the structural section where four lanes of concrete will be installed rather than six lanes of asphalt in an effort to stay within the budget. She added they have also scaled back some of the other features and if they add the ramps there are associated costs, not only for the ramps, but with the right of way. She said it also affects the Imus Road connection at Arrowhead. She also talked about the existing roadway at the gravel pit and they would have to perpetuate the pit operation down to Arrowhead. She added with the configuration they have with no interchange ramp the frontage road would come in tight against the freeway. With the ramp they would have to swing the frontage road to the east somewhere along Ruby to come in at Arrowhead. She felt that would make some of the residents unhappy. She felt they would need to get input from the City on what alternative they want to propose. She also said that would be outside of the budget and they would have to evaluate where the funding would come from. She then said they will have a hearing and will welcome comments to determine what the consensus is relating to the ramps. She noted they have new information concerning Highway 50 east and that it might have to be widened to accommodate the turning movements and the increased traffic. She also said they are evaluating what their right of way needs are and what future right of way needs could be at the interchange. She then said the project was originally scheduled for May 1999 but they have moved it in house to October primarily because once they have a preferred alternative for the hydraulics they can go out with a RFP for a final design. She noted that the rest can then go around it because the design details are pretty much established and done. She then said they have acquired the majority of the rights of way although they still need some acquisitions at the northern end. She commented that they have an ongoing program of demolishing properties and are working with Longs so that they can remain at their present location while they are waiting for their new building.

(1-0157.5) Ms. Martinovich then commented that on the south portion of the bypass the department is proceeding with the frontage road and acquisition of a right of way south of the interchange as it comes into Highway 50. She said what is prompting that is the development Douglas County and the City are pursuing. She talked about access to 395 and said they feel if they get a lot of people accessing 395 and controls are needed then the price would be more than anticipated. She added that essentially there would be a frontage road from Clear Creek Road along the west side to Jacks Valley Road and on the other side from Jacks Valley to Clear Creek or Snyder. She believed the remaining portion of the freeway should be funded by the transportation bill passed by the Senate, designated TEA-21, although it has not yet been signed by the President. She added that the Director has allocated the southern portion of the Carson bypass as one of five projects to be pursued with the additional funding. However, she said that portion is not in design except for the hydraulic features on the northern section. She also said they have met with OSAC and are trying to acquire some parcels as part of the hydraulic design and could keep them available for butterfly or open space mitigation.

(1-01201.5) Ms. Martinovich then said there has been discussion about putting culverts under the freeway to allow for bicycles. However, that is not part of the original budget and would have to be considered and solicited comments from the Committee. Chairperson Page said the City has a plan to extend Curry Street and asked if that could tie in. Ms. Martinovich said the plan is to eventually tie routes together and explained how Curry would be affected. Discussion ensued on available and anticipated funding for several projects. Chairperson Page asked if doing projects in segments is a possibility and Ms. Martinovich said that is an option. She also felt the south interchange would probably be built first because it would alleviate congestion. Member Abbott talked about non-vehicle access from the east side and asked what pedestrian and bicycle access is planned. Ms. Martinovich said they have worked with the committee involved in this and bike facilities have been proposed where they can be accommodated along the freeway. She explained that Fifth Street and Carmine are being considered as locations. More discussion ensued on access points and interchanges. Ms. Martinovich then said she has been asked to provide updates and said she will be producing fact sheets and attending Board meetings to occasionally give them updates. She will also provide these to the Committee. The question of alleviating truck traffic on Graves Lane was brought up. Mr. Brotzman said once that project is completed it will be turned over to NDOT. Ms. Martinovich said there would still be trucks on Carson Street because they will still need to service its

TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Minutes of the June 2, 1998 Meeting
Page 3 DRAFT

businesses. Chairperson Page expressed his appreciation to Ms. Martinovich for her participation and for the information.

Vice Chairperson Garcia and Member Guzman had arrived during this discussion.

- B. APPROVAL OF MINUTES** - None.
- C. MODIFICATION OF AGENDA** - None.

E-7 NEIL WEAVER - REPORT ON ACTION BY FAR - (1-0945.5) He said they had met with representatives of FAA. He commented that the FAA was not happy with the idea of a road going across to the airport. He explained that the City has helped the airport financially until it is able to stand on its own in the eyes of the FAA and that they are close to doing that. He added that the Legislature then has to give the Airport Authority the ability to impose a tax similar to the gas tax. He said at that point they will be a stand alone agency. He then explained the process involved. He said they had acquired some property at the end of the runway in conjunction with the City and provided the rationale. He said the consultant for the Committee had been asked to prepare a list of options on how a road could go across the area, i.e. surface street, signs, above grade, etc. Mr. Brotzman felt if they got approval from the FAA and the Airport Authority they would try to negotiate with John Serpa, property owner adjacent to Arrowhead, on a condemnation. Member Weaver expressed his belief that the Authority would be a willing partner on the road because of the need. However, he said the FAA is in the driver's seat and approaches things cautiously and cited development and zoning as possible concerns. Discussion ensued on the value of the airport and the purposes it serves.

E-2 DISCUSSION OF GOALS AND OBJECTIVES OF THE 1990 MASTER PLAN AND INCLUSION OF THEM IN THE 1998 PLAN - (1-1407.5) Mr. Brotzman said it was his desire to wrap this up by the first week in August. He added that John Long would be at the next meeting and felt the goals and objectives were something that could be taken care of then. Chairperson Page said the Committee could at least do a preliminary review at this meeting. An extensive discussion ensued with comments and suggestions being made.

E-3 STATUS OF CURRENT RTC PROJECTS - None.

E-4 REVIEW OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS - None.

E-5 DISCUSSION - COMMITTEE MEMBERS (NON-ACTION) - (1-1971.5) It was noted that an integration planning study on the options and alternatives for pedestrian and bicycle access has started. Discussion ensued on the timetable and it was noted it should be available by the end of June.

D. PUBLIC COMMENT - None.

E-6 DISCUSSION AND REVIEW OF PEDESTRIAN PLAN - None.

E-8 STAFF REPORTS WHEN REQUIRED - None.

E-9 FUTURE COMMITTEE ITEMS - Previously discussed.

E-10 ADJOURNMENT - Member moved to adjourn. Member seconded the motion. Motion carried. Chairperson Page adjourned the meeting at 5:08 p.m.

TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Minutes of the June 2, 1998 Meeting
Page 4 DRAFT

The Minutes of the June 2, 1998 meeting of the Transportation Advisory Committee

ARE SO APPROVED _____, 1998

Frank Page, Chairperson