

CARSON CITY TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Minutes of the August 25, 1998, Meeting

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A regularly scheduled meeting of the Transportation Advisory Committee was held on Tuesday, August 25, 1998, at the Capitol Conference Room, 201 North Carson Street, Carson City, Nevada, beginning at 3:00 p.m.

PRESENT: Chairperson Frank Page, Vice Chairperson Kelly Garcia and Members Tom Abbott, John Bullis, Tom Fronapfel, Vern Krahn, Juan Guzman, Jerry Mather, Dennis Ritchie, and Bruce Robertson

STAFF PRESENT: Assistant City Manager Dan St. John, Parks and Recreation Director Steve Kastens, RTC Engineer Harvey Brotzman, Recording Secretary Andrea Burnell
(T.A.C. 8/25/98 Tape 1-0030)

A. CALL TO ORDER AND DETERMINATION OF A QUORUM - Chairperson Page convened the session at 3:03 p.m. Roll call was taken. A quorum was present although Members Hoffman and Weaver were absent. Discussion and a newspaper article indicated Member Weaver had apparently resigned. (See file information for the RTC's change in the Committee's membership composition to 11 Members.)

B. APPROVAL OF MINUTES - Chairperson Page noted minor corrections which had been made prior to the meeting. Member Bullis moved to approve the Minutes of the August 4, 1998 meeting, as corrected. Member Guzman seconded the motion. Motion carried 10-0.

C. MODIFICATION OF AGENDA - None.

D. PUBLIC COMMENT - None.

E. DISCUSSIONS - COMMITTEE MEMBERS AND POSSIBLE ACTION

1. REVIEW OF THE BICYCLE ELEMENT OF THE MASTER PLAN (1-0078) - John Long of DKS Associates gave an overview of the Draft Bicycle Plan. (A copy of the Plan is in the file.) The 1994 Bikeway Plan was the basis for the 1998 Plan, however, this is a new element with new details. Reasons were given for updating the 1994 Plan. The priority system is one of the new issues. The maps were posted on the wall and referenced. (The Clerk received a copy of both maps.) One map is the Final Draft of the Carson City Bicycle System Map. Its companion document was referred to as the Carson City Priority Bikeway Map. The Carson City Bicycle System Map is similar to the 1994 plan but reflects elements that have been adopted since then. The different routes on the Bicycle System Map were explained and felt to be important to the overall bikeway system. The Priority Bikeway Map reflects the categorization that the Parks and Recreation Department put together through public workshops. It shows routes for destination, recreation, commuter and routes Parks and Recreation recommended which are known as either staff routes or connectivity routes and is the system that, according to the public workshops, into which the City should put money and energy. The Bicycle System Map is important as it shows the intent for those routes. Member Krahn explained that he wished to take the maps to Parks and Recreation Commission for approval on September 1. Mr. Long then referred to sections in the Draft Bicycle Plan, stated that he had eliminated some elements that were on the 1994 plan, and may change some of the language and definitions. Discussion ensued on rights-of-ways, safety issues, flexibility issues, and traffic volumes. Member Krahn explained criteria used to establish priorities such as safety, linkage with urban areas, destination issues, and benefit ratio. Sue Newberry a Nevada Department of Motor Vehicles and Public Safety, Highway Safety Representative, complemented the Committee and Mr. Long on their efforts and encouraged more public participation. She had concerns as indicated in her statement which she read into the record. (A copy is in the file.) She suggested rephrasing a policy, using better definitions, and setting policies for striping. Bruce MacKey a Nevada Department of Motor Vehicles and Public Safety, Safety Education Officer, commended the people involved with the plan, stated that he would like Carson City to become the show place for bicycle safety in the state, and that the adoption of this plan is progress toward that goal. Member Krahn explained that he and Mr. Long wanted the Committee to consider adding two policies and suggested: 1. Once a transit system is in place, integrate bicycle linkages and facilities; and, 2. Identify a Public Works Department staff person to be the Carson

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City Bike/Pedestrian Coordinator to interact with the Carson City Parks and Recreation Department for input on the Bicycle Plan System.

2. REVIEW OF THE PEDESTRIAN ELEMENT OF THE MASTER PLAN (1-0645) - A copy of the Draft Pedestrian Element was distributed. (The Clerk received a copy.) Mr. Long reviewed some items that he would like to see incorporated into the Plan such as multi-use trails and streets. As an inventory of pedestrian use facilities is not available it cannot be easily planned. He recommended the City plan to do an inventory of pedestrian facilities, define standards and guidelines to identify deficiencies in different areas of town, and to find solutions. (At 3:50 p.m. Member Guzman left the room momentarily. A quorum was present as noted.) Member Abbott suggested changing some of the language and not ruling out any options. Discussion ensued on the inventory, deficiencies, the downtown district, multi-use situations, and sidewalks. Mr. MacKey gave his opinion on shared-use paths. Member Guzman suggested changing certain language in the original Draft (distributed at the April 21, 1998 meeting). Discussion ensued on: funding improvements, lot sizes, certain areas of the City, and inventories. Ms. Newberry encouraged the Committee to include policies and standards, to address the need for linkages, and to "tighten up" the Plan. Mr. MacKey stated that Nevada was very high in pedestrian fatalities and that showed the importance of the issues before the committee.

3. REVIEW OF THE FINANCIAL ELEMENT OF THE MASTER PLAN (1-1200) - (Member Krahn left the room momentarily at 4:15 p.m. A quorum was present as noted.) (An updated version of the Financial Element is in the file.) Mr. Long explained that the Financial Element will have three sub-elements to it, streets and highways, bicycle facilities, and a transit component. The transit component has not yet been produced. He then reviewed the streets and highways element. He explained Tables 11 and 12 compare the cost to the estimated revenue, the assumptions made to arrive the figures, and the funding shortfalls. Various funding schemes relating to: bonding, gas tax, and traffic impact fees were reviewed, including the pros and cons of traffic impact fees and various issues related thereto. Washoe County's schedule of traffic impact fees was distributed. (The Clerk received a copy.) Carson City's fees should not be as high. Discussion ensued on impact fees and their effects on new businesses. (Member Ritchie left the room momentarily at 4:35 p.m. A quorum was present as noted.) Mr. St. John commented the theory of impact fees or connection fees. Some aspects of impact fees and revenue uses were reviewed. The differences between what the City could afford and what the City needs were reiterated. Mr. Brotzman explained the theory of "sphere of influence", and felt that Mr. Long's traffic impact theory recognizes City wide needs and it will give the best level of service overall. Member Bullis expressed concern about too many fees, and urged the Committee to use a more regional approach. Mr. Brotzman thought that this was a fair and just way to make up for the shortfalls. Mr. Long indicated that he was not advocating traffic impact fees, however, it is a technique to make up for the shortfall.

(1-1945) Mr. Long gave an overview of the Bikeway Element. There is a financial shortfall with this Element as well. (Members Fronapfel and Mather left at 4:50 p.m. A quorum was still present as noted.) The financial figures and some of the funding sources that are now available, Residential Construction Tax (RCT) and Question 18 (sales tax) which is dedicated to Park and Recreation facilities were all explained. He pointed out that only a portion of the Question 18 funds that are dedicated to Parks and Recreation are going to be earmarked for Bicycle facilities. The figures in the Plan were estimated by using past trends. An estimation was made that half of the Priority Facilities could be built with the available funding, and no additional funding sources have been identified as yet. (Member Guzman left the room momentarily at 4:58 p.m. A quorum was present as noted.) Discussion ensued on, gas tax, RCT, Question 18, grant money, and possibly doing surveys of bicycle use in the City.

4. DISCUSSION ON THE PUBLIC TRANSIT SYSTEM - None.

5. REVIEW OF PAST MOTION - None.

6. DISCUSSION - COMMITTEE MEMBERS - Meeting dates, the Final Draft of the Plan, and tentative scheduling were discussed. Marie Wolfe commented on the parameters of the Committee. Mr. Brotzman explained that certain requirements had to be met in order for the City to be comply with NDOT's transportation plan. Mr. Bullis distributed copies of his suggestions for topics for consideration. (The Clerk received a copy.)

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Mr. Brotzman read Supervisor and RTC Chairperson Greg Smith's letter into the record. (The Clerk received a copy.) (1-2369) Chairperson Page thanked the Committee for all of their hard work and commented on the status of the Plan. Mr. St. John stated that the City needed to meet certain requirements in order to be eligible for federal grant funds and/or revolving funds.

8. FUTURE COMMITTEE ITEMS - Mr. Brotzman indicated that Member Bullis' topic for discussion would be on the next agenda. Future meeting dates were discussed. Mr. Long wished to have the Committees comments on the plan to Mr. Brotzman by next week.

9. ADJOURNMENT - Member Ritchie moved to adjourn. Member Krahn seconded. Motion carried unanimously. Chairperson Page adjourned the meeting at 5:15 p.m.

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.

The Minutes of the August 25, 1998 Carson City Transportation Advisory Committee meeting

ARE SO APPROVED ON September 15, 1998.

/s/

Frank Page, Chairperson