

CARSON CITY REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

Minutes of the May 14, 2014 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, May 14, 2014 in the Community Center Sierra Room, 851 East William Street, Carson City, Nevada.

PRESENT: Chairperson John McKenna
Vice Chairperson James Smolenski
Commissioner Brad Bonkowski
Commissioner James Mallery
Commissioner Robert McQueary

STAFF: Andrew Burnham, Deputy Public Works Director
Patrick Pittenger, Transportation Manager
Daniel Doenges, Senior Transportation Planner
Joseph Ward, Senior Deputy District Attorney
Kathleen King, Deputy Clerk / Recording Secretary

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 part of the public record. These materials are available in the Clerk's Office, during regular business hours.

A. CALL TO ORDER AND DETERMINATION OF A QUORUM (5:20:25) - Chairperson McKenna called the meeting to order at 5:20 p.m. Roll was called; a quorum was present.

B. PUBLIC COMMENT (5:20:54) - Chairperson McKenna entertained public comment; however, none was forthcoming.

C. POSSIBLE ACTION ON APPROVAL OF MINUTES - March 12, 2014 (5:21:15) - Chairperson McKenna entertained suggested revisions and, when none were forthcoming, a motion. **Commissioner Bonkowski moved to approve the minutes, as presented. Commissioner Mallery seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.**

D. AGENDA MANAGEMENT NOTICE (5:21:30) - Chairperson McKenna entertained modifications to the agenda; however, none were forthcoming.

E. DISCLOSURES (5:21:39) - Chairperson McKenna entertained disclosures; however, none were forthcoming.

F. PUBLIC MEETING ITEMS:

F-1. POSSIBLE ACTION TO ADOPT THE CARSON CITY COMPLETE STREETS POLICY FOR IMPLEMENTATION BY CITY STAFF (5:21:59) - Chairperson McKenna introduced this item, and Mr. Pittenger explained the purpose of a complete streets policy. Mr. Doenges reviewed the agenda materials. He and Mr. Pittenger responded to questions of clarification, and extensive discussion followed.

Chairperson McKenna entertained public comment. (5:41:18) Muscle Powered President Donna Inversin expressed support for a complete streets policy “so that we can see this improvement over time.” She

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clarified there is no expectation “that every street's going to have a bike lane, but we would like to see that every time a street is redone, someone says let's think about how can we do this the best way.” Following a brief discussion, Ms. Inversin described the draft policy as “more [of] ... a reminder that we consider all different modes of transportation whenever major changes are made to streets.”

(5:46:17) Ann Macquarrie expressed strong support for the complete streets policy, and described the route she took to ride her bicycle to the meeting room. She suggested that bicycle paths are more than just amenities. “It's a modern transportation system.” She discussed the complete streets bill which passed the legislature last year. She advised of having reviewed and provided input to the draft policy.

(5:48:25) Safe Routes to School Coordinator Cortney Bloomer thanked Mr. Doenges and Mr. Pittenger for drafting the document, and expressed support “because, for too long, on the federal, state, and ... local level, transportation design and policy has been very 'car-centric,' ... and in that process, we've really overlooked the walkers, the cyclists, the people with special needs who have transportation impairments. We haven't paid attention to the elderly, we haven't paid attention to children. A complete streets policy isn't an anti-car policy; it's a policy to bring equity to transportation. Everybody in Carson City deserves a way to get where they need to be and that's really what this policy is about.” She commended Mr. Pittenger and Mr. Doenges on their support of pedestrians and bicyclists, but “having a policy in place that encourages and reminds those people who are working on planning our transportation systems really is a way to ensure that regardless of who is sitting in these chairs in the future, Carson City will still have something in place that really encourages them to consider all the citizens ...”

Commissioner Bonkowski expressed full support for the complete streets policy, but noted the importance of clarity and conciseness. He suggested revisions to the first paragraph under the “Exceptions” heading, at page 3, and Mr. Pittenger agreed to make them.

(5:51:30) Chas Macquarrie expressed strong support for implementation of the complete streets policy, describing it as “essential for any community in the modern day ...” He discussed the practices of Washoe County relative to their complete streets policy. He suggested “this is just the first step and, what's really important, ... is that we actually move forward as quickly as possible to put the teeth in the thing which is developing street standards within City code and other code changes that may be appropriate to actually get it down on paper so that, as developments come forward in the future, we're not relying on the good will of the developer but we're relying on the good sense of the community and the transportation commission and the citizens in making guidelines that are modernist guidelines that make it implementable as it goes forward.” In response to a question, Mr. Macquarrie explained his intent in using the term “street diet” in his comments. “You have a policy but you still need to analyze a particular situation to come up with a solution and that's where staff can use guidelines to arrive at that point.” Mr. Macquarrie referenced the Roop Street improvements “as a good example because we started off with more lanes and no bicycle lanes and, then through a process, ... we got that changed for the better.” He suggested that the draft policy “is a guidance document that says, 'Well, if we go forward with the next phase of widening Roop Street, for example,' then you would take this into account in the final plans and the development of the configuration for that, you would look to this document for guidance. ... It's guidance that says ... the City's going to consider these things and if they ... make sense, then they'll get implemented. There's going to be grey areas. There always are, but ... going forward, it's really important that the City adopts a complete streets policy ...” Mr. Macquarrie encouraged the commission to adopt the policy.

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Following discussion, Mr. Doenges acknowledged the intent for the policy to be constantly evolving. “This is kind of the stepping stone and ... this whole process is kind of evolving and we need to continually look ... at our design standards or some of these other things ...” In response to a question, Deputy Public Works Director Andy Burnham advised that the draft policy is “pretty consistent with what they're planning and what we have been planning for ... in the future.”

Chairperson McKenna entertained a motion. **Commissioner Bonkowski moved to adopt the Carson City Complete Streets Policy for implementation by City staff with one correction, to delete the words “This is intended to be an exhaustive list,” on page 3 under the first paragraph under “Exceptions.” Commissioner Mallery seconded the motion.** Chairperson McKenna entertained public and commissioner comments on the motion and, when none were forthcoming, called for a vote.

RESULT:	Approved [5 - 0]
MOVER:	Commissioner Brad Bonkowski
SECOND:	Commissioner James Mallery
AYES:	Commissioners Bonkowski, Mallery, McQueary, Vice Chair Smolenski, Chair McKenna
NAYS:	None
ABSENT:	None
ABSTAIN:	None

F-2. INFORMATION REGARDING THE PROPOSED FISCAL YEAR 2014 - 2015 BUDGETS FOR THE TRANSIT, CAMPO, RTC, AND STREETS FUNDS, AS PRESENTED TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS (6:02:22) - Chairperson McKenna introduced this item, and Deputy Public Works Director Andy Burnham reviewed the agenda materials. Mr. Burnham and Mr. Pittenger responded to questions of clarification, and discussion followed. Chairperson McKenna called for public comment; however, none was forthcoming.

G. INTERNAL COMMUNICATIONS AND ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

G-1. STREET OPERATIONS REPORT - March 2014; G-2. PROJECT STATUS REPORT; G-3. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS (6:18:27) - Chairperson McKenna introduced these items and Mr. Pittenger reviewed the agenda materials. Mr. Pittenger reviewed the tentative agenda for the June commission meeting, and noted that Deputy Public Works Director Andy Burnham would be retiring prior to the next commission meeting. He related a personal anecdote, and expressed appreciation for the opportunity to have worked with Mr. Burnham for the past eight years.

H. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS (6:23:55) - Chairperson McKenna discussed his experience with Mr. Burnham while serving as a School Board Member, and expressed appreciation for Mr. Burnham's hard work and intelligent contributions to the community. Mr. Burnham expressed pride over the accomplishments over the years, and advised that he would be available to assist Public Works Department Director Darren Schulz in the future.

I. PUBLIC COMMENTS (6:25:20) - Chairperson McKenna entertained public comment; however, none was forthcoming.

J. ACTION TO ADJOURN (6:25:24) - Commissioner Bonkowski moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:25 p.m. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

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The Minutes of the May 14, 2014 Carson City Regional Transportation Commission meeting are so approved this 9th day of July, 2014.

JOHN McKENNA, Chair