

# CARSON CITY REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

Minutes of the September 8, 1999, Meeting

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A regularly scheduled meeting of the Carson City Regional Transportation Commission was held on Wednesday, September 8, 1999, at the Community Center Sierra Room, 851 East William Street, Carson City, Nevada, beginning at 5:30 p.m.

**PRESENT:** Chairperson Jon Plank, Vice Chairperson Steve Reynolds, and Commissioners Kay Bennett and Marv Teixeira

**STAFF PRESENT:** Street Superintendent John Flansberg, RTC Engineer Harvey Brotzman, and Recording Secretary Katherine McLaughlin (R.T.C. 9/8/99 Tape 1-0001)

**A. ROLL CALL AND DETERMINATION OF A QUORUM** - Chairperson Plank convened the meeting at 5:30 p.m. Roll call was taken and a quorum was present although Commissioner Kennedy was absent. Chairperson Plank welcomed Commissioner Teixeira and explained Commissioner Kennedy's absence.

**B. APPROVAL OF MINUTES - Regular Sessions of 1/27 and 8/11/99 and the Special 12/2/98 Joint Session with the Planning Commission (1-0015)** - Chairperson Plank indicated he had requested the Recording Secretary correct a few minor typographical errors. Commissioner Bennett noted her absence from the August 11th meeting and indicated that she would not vote on those Minutes. Commissioner Bennett then moved that the Regional Transportation Commission accept and approve the Minutes of December 2, 1998, January 27, 1999, and August 11, 1999, as corrected. Commissioner Reynolds seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

**C. AGENDA MODIFICATIONS (1-0035)** - Chairperson Plank noted that none of the agenda items required Commission action. No modifications were made to the agenda.

**D. PUBLIC COMMENT (1-0048)** - Brad Harker polled the audience to show the number of residents from River Knolls who were present. He then read his prepared statement into the record. (A copy is included in the file.) He also gave a second letter to the Commission and Mr. Brotzman. (None to the Clerk.) The statements/letters requested a decision be made on the soundwall for South Graves Lane at the next meeting due to the noise study, the current and projected traffic volumes, criteria used for the construction of sound/safety walls in other areas, and safety concerns. He then read Laura McGaffin's letter into the record. She is a resident of River Knolls who had purchased the home in the belief that the freeway would soon be constructed as it will reduce the traffic on Graves Lane. She requested the sound/safety wall be constructed based on the data previously presented justifying its need. Several examples were provided detailing the safety concerns.

Larry Borges noted his previous comments concerning the "Devil's Acre" along the west side of Graves Lane and described its present condition. He urged the Commission to have staff address the situation posthaste as it is a fire hazard.

Eric Berry urged the Commission to finalize the sound wall issue for the River Knolls residents. Extending Graves Lane will only magnify their concerns. Additional comments were solicited but none given.

**E. DISCLOSURES (1-0252)** - None.

**F. PUBLIC MEETING ITEMS:**

**F-1. DISCUSSION AND STATUS REPORT ON SOUTH GRAVES LANE TRUCK USAGE (1-0258)** - Mr. Brotzman reviewed his report explaining the traffic study which had been conducted on South Graves Lane. Only 41 - 50 feet or longer trucks had used South Graves Lane between 7 p.m. and 7 a.m. Only 3.5 percent of the traffic volume had been trucks, which is approximately 421 vehicles. The total traffic volume was 12,300 vehicles per day. He felt that some of the Model Dairy trucks may be using the route at night as they commence earlier than other trucking firms. This could impact the 7 p.m. to 7 a.m. count. Commission comments questioned whether the suggestion to restrict truck traffic between 8 a.m. and 8 p.m. was warranted and if it could be enforced. Mr. Borges explained that he had originally contacted the Mayor concerning the volume of night-time truck traffic

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and his feeling that it had been caused by a lot of night-time road construction south of Carson City. He felt that the study had been conducted on a date when the trucks were at a minimum. He requested a Commission member set in his backyard during such construction periods. He did not feel that the culprit was the dairy. Until the freeway is constructed, the residents should have relief from the heavy truck traffic at night. He also voiced his opposition to having the street sweeper clean the street at 5 a.m. Mr. Harker suggested that a sign be installed at Highway 50 and South Graves Lane informing truckers that heavy truck traffic is prohibited between certain hours and to use Stewart Street as an alternate route. This may reduce the volume. Chairperson Plank indicated that the soundwall issue would be addressed at the next RTC meeting which is scheduled for October 13. The second issue relates to the truck route ordinance which should also be agendized for that meeting.

Deputy City Manager Dan St. John explained the truck route ordinance which prohibits heavy trucks from using certain streets/roads. Minutes of these meetings were to be included in the Commission packets. The issue is to be agendized to make a recommendation to the Board of Supervisors and include any other sites where problems have arisen. Discussion supported considering this item in November or December to allow time for staff to contact all of the individuals who had been involved with the previous ordinance, the users, and any other interested parties. Comments also noted the compliance ratio for the sign notifying truckers to use the left lane on Carson Street and questioned the need for such signs. Chairperson Plank noted the map which had been prepared and distributed to the truckers and Sheriff's Department. He requested that compliance with the ordinance and comments from these users also be included in the discussion. Commissioner Bennett reiterated her request that the issue be considered on a broad spectrum, to which Chairperson Plank agreed. No formal action was taken or required.

### **F-2. DISCUSSION AND STATUS REPORT ON GRAVES LANE CONSTRUCTION (1-0521) -**

Street Superintendent John Flansberg reviewed his status report. He felt that the project is on schedule and will be completed by Nevada Day if the weather continues to cooperate. Staff had discussed the fugitive dust situation at Sherman and Graves Lane with Granite and they were purportedly addressing the situation. Discussion explained the Sherman Lane's proposed right turn only configuration, the ability for traffic to cross Graves Lane at Nye Lane, and the Carmine Street closure at Graves Lane. The soundwall had cost between \$130 and \$220 a foot. No formal action was required or taken.

### **F-3. DISCUSSION AND STATUS REPORT ON FIFTH AND EDMONDS ROUNDABOUTS (1-0583) -**

Mr. Brotzman explained that the design had been completed and submitted to NDOT for comments. NDOT had been requested to participate in the cost. When NDOT's comments on the design are received, they will be submitted to the consultant for inclusion in the design. Mr. St. John explained the estimated cost. The larger circle and the realignment should increase the safety factors. The present roundabout moves traffic faster than a signal. The project will be put out to bid in January/February. This will provide time for a response from NDOT regarding the funding participation. NDOT had constructed a more permanent facility than had originally been planned. It should, therefore, be able to handle the winter traffic and weather conditions. This will provide an opportunity to evaluate its winter operation and adjust the design, if necessary. Spring construction may be more favorable to the City and its budget. NDOT had not proposed to financially assist the City with the cost of a signal. The cost savings, the actual service level, and the public's perception of that service level as compared to a signal were discussed. The City had agreed to maintain the roundabout and may be responsible for this cost. This agreement had not been committed to writing. Public comments were solicited but none given. No formal action was required or taken.

### **F-4. DISCUSSION AND STATUS REPORT ON SELECTION OF CONSULTANT FOR**

**PRELIMINARY DESIGN OF CURRY STREET FROM NEAR LAKE GLEN DRIVE TO KOONTZ LANE (1-0736) -** Lumos and Associates had been retained for this project. Staff is now working on the scope of work. Once this process has been completed and the cost figures have been added, the contract will be submitted to the Board of Supervisors for award. Commissioner Bennett disclosed her Lake Glen Manor residency but did not feel that this would create a conflict of interest. She also complimented staff on the selection process. Public comments were solicited but none given. No formal action was required or taken.

## **G. INTERNAL COMMUNICATIONS AND ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS (NON-ACTION ITEMS)**

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**- FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS (1-0846)** - South Graves Lane soundwalls will be agendized for the next meeting. The truck routes may appear on the November agenda. The expenditure spread sheet is to be provided to the Commission in October. Commissioners Teixeira and Kennedy are to meet with staff in the interim and be brought up-to-date on the projects. Direction regarding staff's involvement with NDOT's freeway value engineering process on the south leg of the freeway was requested. Comments expressed the desire to have a presentation on it made to both the Board of Supervisors and RTC. Comments also explained the Board's direction to the City Manager to designate a site where public information on the freeway could be obtained/viewed by the public. The information which is available at the Corporate Yard was felt to be commendable but inadequate. It was felt that this information should be in a more centralized location, such as the City Hall. Additional maps, plans, televised presentations, photographic enhancements, etc., should be developed and accessible to the public. NDOT is aware of the Board/Commission/City's desire and is working to comply. This information is to be made available at City Hall and the Library. NDOT is developing a web page which will be linked to the City's. GROW has received a grant for a website for this project and working on it. NDOT is developing a speakers' bureau. The City will promote it. The Corporate Yard may be used to provide any additional information the public cannot find at the other sites. NDOT had purportedly requested the Board adopt a resolution supporting the value engineering findings. As the Commission wished to hear the value engineering report, it may want to make a recommendation regarding its issues to the Board. Mr. St. John expressed an intent to invite Mr. Gallegos to make a presentation to the Commission. Chairperson Plank indicated that this could be at either the October or November meeting, whichever provides a quality product. Mr. St. John felt that a quality presentation could be made at the next meeting.

Commissioner Bennett announced the Public Transportation Advisory Committee's meeting scheduled for tomorrow evening and briefly described its agenda. Mr. Brotzman indicated that he had submitted the information which had been requested to Jerry Hall and Finance Director David Heath. Commissioner Bennett then expressed an intent to provide the Commissioners with copies of the agenda. No formal action was required or taken on any of these issues.

**ADJOURNMENT (1-1103)** - Commissioner Bennett moved to adjourn. Commissioner Reynolds seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0. Chairperson Plank adjourned the meeting at 6:40 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 September 8, 1999, Carson City Regional Transportation Commission meeting

ARE SO APPROVED ON October 13,  
1999.

/s/ \_\_\_\_\_

Jon Plank, Chairperson