

CARSON CITY REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

Amended Minutes of the October 21, 1998 Meeting

Page 1

A regular meeting of the Carson City Regional Transportation Commission was held on Wednesday, October 21, 1998 in the Community Center Sierra Room, 851 E. William St., Carson City, NV at 6:00 p.m.

PRESENT: Chairperson Greg Smith
Jon Plank

STAFF: Tim Homann, Deputy Public Works Director
Fran Smith, Recording Secretary
(RTC 10/21/98 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 6:05 p.m. A roll call was taken and a quorum was present although Chairperson Smith said Commissioner Wolf would be absent.

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES - None.

2. MODIFICATION OF AGENDA - See comments on Item 5.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT - (1-0009.5) Larry Borges expressed a concern that there are no cross walks on a street in his neighborhood and described the problems encountered, especially by school children, in getting across a four lane street. Chairperson Smith was familiar with the street and asked Mr. Homann to look into the situation.

(1-0039.5) Frank Page asked if the Transportation Plan would be discussed at this meeting and Chairperson Smith said public comment would be taken although he did not believe any action would be taken. Mr. Page also asked about the item on Little Lane. Chairperson Smith said staff had not had time to get all the information they need on Item 5, possible action on moving Little Lane up on the priority list, and that it would be pulled and be on the agenda for the next meeting. Mr. Page also asked if a traffic impact study would be required on the Little Lane project and Mr. Homann said yes. Mr. Page also expressed the hope that the Post Office would put funding toward their project because he did not believe they should locate there and not pay anything.

(1-0095.5) Alben Balch asked if the Little Lane project would be taken into consideration in the Transportation Master Plan. Chairperson Smith said there are some references as far as the priority ranking given by the Transportation Advisory Committee. Mr. Balch then talked about the funding issue and Chairperson Smith said staff would be looking into that. However, as previously noted, it would not be discussed at this meeting. There were no additional comments and Chairperson Smith closed public comments.

4. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON ADOPTING THE 1998 CARSON CITY TRANSPORTATION PLAN - (1-0123.5) Mr. Homann said for the record that staff is not at a point where they feel this needs to move forward. He expressed his personal opinion that the process of taking public comment should continue so that the citizens have an opportunity to be heard. He added what staff is doing with the plan is getting all the feedback they can so that it can be integrated into a final draft. He explained that this Commission or the Planning Commission are not the groups that would adopt the plan but rather it would ultimately be the Board of Supervisors. He referred to the meeting held October 14 with the Planning Commission and Transportation Advisory Committee and felt they pretty well understand the plan as it has been drafted to this point. He noted that comments would be accepted at this meeting and also at the October 28 meeting of the Planning Commission. He felt they should then know where they are at in terms of public comment and what, if any, changes would be proposed and given to the consultant. He said there would then probably be a special joint Planning Commission/RTC meeting, perhaps in mid November, for a formal recommendation of the plan as

CARSON CITY REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

Amended Minutes of the October 21, 1998 Meeting

Page 2

amended. It would then go on to the Board, probably at their first meeting in December.

(1-0163.5) Mr. Homann then talked about information that had come in since the October 14 meeting. He explained saying he would provide updated copies of the presentation by John Long of DKS at that meeting. He commented that there was a change which said Sonoma Street would not be included on the collector route. He then read a letter from citizen Maxine Nietz into the record. It related to the priorities established by the Transportation Advisory Committee and asked that two more be considered. These were East Fifth Street near Eagle Valley Middle School and Goni Road. She noted that the consultant had stated that 2.3 million square feet of potential growth exist in the north end of the City much of which could be commercially or industrially developed. She said truck traffic intermingled with residential traffic is currently and will be exacerbated as the area, with only one outlet, continues to grow. She said on East Fifth Street the only access into or out of the middle school needs to be safe for the children. She hoped that the Commission could look at available funding and assign top priority to only those projects that merit the distinction. Mr. Homann said he would also provide copies of this letter.

(1-0219.5) Mr. Homann then said Park Planner Vern Krahn had provided staff with some corrections that need to be made to the Bicycle System Plan maps. He added that the consultant would get copies of the information. He then talked about the issue of rollerblading which had also been brought up. This related to how it could fit into the plan. He commented that Mr. Krahn had researched this and provided responses from the District Attorney and Sheriff's Department on how they handle this. He felt there would probably be some language in the plan that will speak to it. Mr. Krahn said he had asked the bicycle consultant to work on it and had also contacted NDOT. He added he was expecting a response from the NDOT safety department bicycle coordinator and would provide that information when it is available. Commissioner Plank suggested he also give that information to Sue Newberry of NDOT with respect to the pedestrian situation in the plan. Mr. Homann said the pedestrian element is relatively generic in scope at this point. He noted that upon adoption the recommendation would be that a specific transportation system plan on that be done. He said this subject would be coming back for discussion as part of the final draft.

(1-0291.5) Larry Osborne, Executive Director of the Chamber of Commerce, thanked the citizens on the Transportation Advisory Committee for the work they had done. He added that the Chamber had reviewed the document, particularly where it concerns business and commerce in the community. He expressed their concern about the need for the southern leg of the bypass. He commented that they support TAC in their emphasis that there needs to be a constant effort and a commitment from the Board and RTC to NDOT for completion of that portion of the bypass. However, he said they totally disagree with the TAC emphasis that this is so important the Board must immediately begin to identify and implement sources of revenue to stimulate the construction of that section. He added that Carson City has put in its "pound of flesh" for the construction of the highway which was the five cent gas tax for acceleration of the northern leg. He said the southern leg is what is going to complete the route and that the northern leg is not the answer but has to be done so that the southern leg can get started. He then said the Chamber was urging RTC and the Board to continue to keep the pressure on NDOT to immediately identify and implement sources of revenue to complete the southern leg.

(1-0339.5) Sue Newberry had provided a letter to RTC on the plan. She then commented on her concerns relating to the model, community vision, goals and objectives of the Transportation Plan, the streets and highways element, the public transportation plan, the bicycle plan, and pedestrian element. After her presentation Chairperson Smith commented that the points she had mentioned are very widely accepted. He also felt the information she had presented merits review and discussion on how it can be implemented.

(1-0471.5) Mr. Borges referred to the comments made by Ms. Newberry and said the plan should include every street built should have sidewalks on each side. He said his other comment was on the funding for the southern leg. He felt that the government should pay for it and also referred to the new Post Office location saying they also had the means to pay for their site.

CARSON CITY REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

Amended Minutes of the October 21, 1998 Meeting

Page 3

(1-0504.5) Mr. Balch then asked if copies of the transportation plan would be available for the public. Chairperson Smith felt that some would be made and Mr. Homann said twenty copies are being printed. The expense to produce the copies was discussed it was noted perhaps copies could be available for public review at such departments as Community Development. Commissioner Plank suggested that some copies could also be placed in the library. Chairperson Smith felt that was a good idea, not just for now but in the future if the public would like to review progress. Mr. Homann emphasized it is not yet a final draft and that the information would be available for review at the RTC office.

(1-0595.5) Sue McQuarry had also written a letter to the Commission in which she had referred to the pedestrian element of the plan. She provided her reasons for concern and emphasized the need to proceed with the plan as soon as possible.

(1-0643.5) Mr. Page said there had been discussion on funding for the southern leg and referred to Federal government allocations for road projects and cited an example. He felt that the Board of Supervisors should exert pressure on NDOT to let them know they are serious about the project. He felt that the Congressional delegation should also participate in that effort.

(1-0719.5) Chairperson Smith then commented that even when the plan is finalized and accepted it would basically be guidelines and could be changed if the need arises. At this point he commended TAC for the work they had done as did Commissioner Plank, Mr. Homann and Mr. Krahn. Mr. Homann also commended RTC Engineer Harvey Brotzman and staff for their participation. Mr. Homann then said this would be on the agenda for the next Planning Commission meeting of October 28 and would be timed to be heard at 7:30 p.m.

5. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON MOVING LITTLE LANE UP ON THE PRIORITY LIST, ALLOWING FOR ITS CONSTRUCTION - Pulled.

6. STATUS REPORT ON CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS - (1-0889.5) Mr. Homann said there is one outstanding issue on the Graves Lane project relating to the McCloud property. He added staff had gotten a response from the McCloud attorney and that a meeting is set up to discuss the problem. He added that staff should have information in a week or so. He then said once that is resolved they should be in a position to go out to bid.

(1-0915.5) Mr. Homann added that on the Graves-Arrowhead connector staff is working with the consultant on the FAA questions.

(1-0925.5) His next topic was the traffic signal project at Edmonds and Fifth and said bids were being accepted. However, he noted a roundabout is being considered rather than a signal. Chairperson Smith said he was in favor of cost savings that would result if a roundabout was installed although the feedback he has received from the public has not been favorable. Mr. Homann commented that roundabouts are starting to gain acceptance nationwide. He commented that except for commute times the intersection does not really need a signal and a roundabout offers free flow at any time of day. Chairperson Smith asked about trucks using the street and Mr. Homann said that is taken into consideration when the roundabouts are designed. He also noted that substantial savings would be accomplished if a roundabout were constructed.

7. COMMISSIONER'S COMMENTS - (1-1103.5) Commissioner Plank said when he received the agenda he had not been inclined to consider taking action on the items but rather felt there should be more discussion.

8. STAFF COMMENTS TO INCLUDE THE NEXT MEETING DATE - (1-1125.5) Chairperson said the next scheduled meeting would be November 18 at 6:00 p.m. Mr. Homann added that once staff has the feedback from the Planning Commission they would meet with the consultant to see how fast they could respond to the issues. He expressed the hope that an item on the Brunswick Canyon Bridge issue could be on the next agenda and that the Little Lane project would also be heard then. Commissioner Plank referred to the Brunswick bridge

CARSON CITY REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

Amended Minutes of the October 21, 1998 Meeting

Page 4

item and said he had been at a meeting earlier in the day relating to the V&T re-construction project. Mr. Homann said the information he had been given was that there would be enough room for a roadway adjacent to the tracks and provided details.

9. ADJOURNMENT - There being no further business Commissioner Plank moved to adjourn. Chairperson Smith seconded the motion. Motion carried 2-0-1-0. Chairperson Smith adjourned the meeting at 7:25 p.m.

The Minutes of the October 21, 1998 meeting of the Carson City Regional Transportation Commission

ARE SO APPROVED 11/18, 1998

/s/ _____
Greg Smith, Chairperson