

CARSON CITY REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION
Minutes of the Wednesday, December 1, 1993 Meeting
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A regular meeting of the Carson City Regional Transportation Commission was held on Wednesday, December 1, 1993 in the Community Center Sierra Room, 851 East William Street, Carson City, NV at 6:00 p.m.

PRESENT: Chairman Greg Smith
Kay Bennett
Nanell Mawbey

STAFF: Paul Lipparelli, Deputy District Attorney
Harvey Brotzman, Senior Engineer
Fran Smith, Recording Secretary
(RTC 1-0000 12/1/93)

NOTE - Unless otherwise indicated, each item was introduced by Chairman Smith. Those 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. ROLL CALL - Chairman Smith called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. A roll call was taken and a quorum was present.

AGENDA ITEMS

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES - Commissioner Mawbey moved to approve the Minutes of the October 20, 1993. Commissioner Bennett seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

2. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON THE EXTENSION OF AIRPORT ROAD FROM DESATOYA DRIVE TO BUTTI WAY - (1-0025) Harvey Brotzman - Dan O'Brien, Public Works Director - Dwight Millard and Ed Furgerson, Builders - Commissioners - Mr. Brotzman provided an exhibit showing the options for remedying the traffic problem. Discussion ensued and included acquisition of property from one or both property owners affected by the proposed extension, its size (1.16 acres), length (approximately 900 feet), the flood plain, a drainage study, grading, the cost to acquire the right-of-way, and an estimated cost of construction (\$81,000).

(1-0275) Mr. Brotzman explained how and why the traffic has been impacting the neighborhood. Commissioner Bennett inquired about the effect of the stop signs and speed limit signs that have been installed. Mr. O'Brien advised that they have helped in some instances but that residents are still complaining about cars speeding around the curve. Commissioner Bennett said she had received a call from one of the property owners who had expressed a concern that the project would solve one problem but would result in another by channeling a lot more traffic to Fifth Street. Mr. O'Brien asked for direction from the Commission relating to an appraisal of the property, survey work, and condemnation. He felt that once these are done the project can be included in the budget in one or two years. Chairman Smith agreed that Fifth Street would be affected but expressed a strong belief that Saliman Road and Graves Lane could handle the traffic. Commissioner Mawbey inquired about a car count. Mr. Brotzman said they had done one in October but can do it again. Mr. Millard noted that Edmonds Drive had recently been widened and has helped the traffic flow once it gets there. He also said he has gotten feedback from the residents that the stop signs are working well. He felt that the funds for the project could better be spent in widening Graves Lane to Fifth Street. Commissioner Bennett inquired about a left hand turn at Airport. Mr. Brotzman explained that a determination can be made after the car count results are in.

(1-0875) Mr. O'Brien commented that in order to avoid the turn at Airport and Desatoya, four wheel vehicles are going over the berm and across the empty lot to get to Butti. He felt that

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something should be done to eliminate this. Chairman Smith said he had been contacted by a citizen elsewhere in the City who was having the same kind of problem and had suggested putting large boulders around the edge of the curve to stop this maneuver. Mr. O'Brien said that could be done but needed the authority to proceed. Mr. Brotzman agreed to write a letter sanctioning this. Commissioner Mawbey moved that the Commission direct staff to go back and do the car counts on Airport Road and Desatoya and also to look at other options that may alleviate the traffic and the situation existing on that corner. Commissioner Bennett seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

3. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO INCREASE RTC GAS TAX REVENUE - (1-1070) Paul Lipparelli - Larry Osborne of the Chamber of Commerce - Dan O'Brien - Harvey Brotzman - Commissioners - Chairman Smith had provided Commissioners and staff with a proposed resolution for ballot consideration. This was a result of the legislature having authorized counties to impose a tax on motor fuel up to 9 cents per gallon. He read the proposed question into the record: "Shall the Carson City Municipal Code be amended to raise the county motor vehicle tax in Carson City from the present tax of four cents to nine cents to generate approximately \$1.2 million annually to be used to construct the Highway 395 bypass around Carson City and for the other costs of that project authorized by state law and to also be used for signal improvements. Mr. Brotzman reported that each additional cent raises approximately \$300,000. Noting that the City currently imposes four cents of the nine allowed, and if a five cent increase is approved by voters, Chairman Smith polled the Commissioners to see if they wanted it all in a set aside fund for the bypass or have one cent to go for the immediate needs identified by Mr. Brotzman. He said they could designate the rest, whether it be two, three, or four cents, to the bypass. He also felt that a sunset clause might be more palatable to the voters and ask Commissioners how they felt.

(1-1241) Chairman Smith also reported that the Commission was to have a joint meeting with Board of Supervisors on December 8 with a public/private partnership group who will be making a presentation. He added that the next agenda item at that meeting would relate to the ballot question. He said the RTC would take action to be followed by that of the Board. He suggested that Commissioners study the resolution in the meantime and get input from their friends and neighbors to assist in a decision at the joint meeting. Mr. Lipparelli emphasized that this is merely a preliminary resolution that can be changed. Chairman Smith felt that work needs to start soon on this because it has to be formalized by February 1 in order to get it on the September primary ballot.

(1-1458) Mr. Lipparelli explained that the four cents currently charged is authorized by the NRS and is called the "County Motor Vehicle Fuel Tax Statute". He said this is the same chapter of NRS that authorizes the establishment of the RTC. He added that it says what the RTC is, what its powers are, and the options they have regarding a yes/no recommendation on raising the tax. Chairman Smith commented that the Board of Supervisors could levy the five cent increase without a vote of the people but felt that they, the taxpayers, should have a say.

(1-1280) Mr. Osborne said the Chamber of Commerce has supported the need for the bypass/expressway. He added that their Board of Directors had passed a resolution asking the Board of Supervisors to place an advisory question on the primary ballot. This would have a five cent per gallon gasoline tax increase specifically designated for accelerated construction of the bypass. He also felt that there should be a sunset clause. He said the Chamber is seeing a lot of indecision and cited the resolution in its third draft. He had a concern that indecision would cause the deadline for getting the question on the ballot to pass without any action. Commissioner Bennett inquired if the Chamber had considered the need for a transit system at some point in the future. Mr. Osborne replied they had but feel that the bypass is the top priority at this time.

(1-1564) Mr. Brotzman commented that the City will be faced with the need to install more

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traffic signals and that the cost for each installation is approximately \$120,000 to \$150,000. He felt that one option is to designate four cents to the bypass and one cent to other new needs in the City. He noted that there are ten years of work to be done and that, without doing something, it will go to eleven, twelve, or more years. He talked about all the costs involved in the bypass - acquisition of the right-of-way, reimbursement under Q funds to the Federal Government, and the construction costs which he estimated to be \$2,000,000. He said a four cent raise comes to about \$1,000,000 of revenue per year. Chairman Smith said he favored the four and one idea. He also said he was deferring action on this item until the December 8 meeting with the Board at which time he was to ask for a vote on this. Mr. Lipparelli commented if an advisory question is being considered it should be spelled out where the revenue is to be spent before the resolution becomes finalized. No formal action was taken.

4. CITIZENS COMMENTS - Letter from the Chamber of Commerce - (1-2093)
Harvey Brotzman - Ruth Blake - Mr. Brotzman read the letter into the record. It conveyed the Chamber's support for the Graves Lane extension and encouraged the Commission to keep this project as their number one priority. The letter also suggested that sufficient funds be allocated to the project each year until its construction is a reality. Mr. Brotzman reported that the City is in the process of obtaining surveying to determine additional right-of-way acquisitions. He added that the total land acquisition is approximately 9000 square feet. Chairman Smith commented on the impact the project will have on the traffic flow. Mr. Brotzman felt that the volume of traffic in the area will probably drop once the project has been completed. Citizen Ruth Blake agreed with Mr. Brotzman's statement.

5. COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS - None.

6. STAFF COMMENTS (Non-Action Items) - Mr. Brotzman commented that this meeting was actually the November meeting that had been postponed. He added that he has no items which are pressing. Chairman Smith agreed and polled Commissioners who concurred. It was determined that the December 8 meeting with the Board will be considered the December meeting and the next regular meeting will be January 19 and will return to the usual 8:00 a.m. starting time.

8. ADJOURNMENT - There being no further business Chairman Smith entertained a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Bennett moved to adjourn. Commissioner Mawbey seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0. Chairman Smith adjourned the meeting at 7:10 p.m.

The Minutes of the December 1, 1993 meeting of the Carson City Regional Transportation Commission

ARE SO APPROVED _____, 19 _____

Greg Smith, Chairman