

**REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION
WASHOE COUNTY, NEVADA**

FRIDAY

9:00 A.M.

April 17, 2026

PRESENT:

**Alexis Hill, Chair, Washoe County Commissioner
Ed Lawson, Mayor of Sparks
Mariluz Garcia, Washoe County Commissioner
Bill Thomas, RTC Executive Director
Adam Spear, Legal Counsel**

ABSENT:

**Devon Reese, Vice Chair, Reno City Council
Hillary Schieve, Mayor of Reno
Tracy Larkin Thomason, Director of NDOT**

The regular monthly meeting, held in the 1st Floor Great Room at Regional Transportation Commission of Washoe County, Reno, Nevada, was called to order by Chair Hill. The Board conducted the following business:

Item 1 CALL TO ORDER

- 1.1 Roll Call
- 1.2 Pledge of Allegiance

Item 2 PUBLIC COMMENT

Tammy Holt-Still addressed the Board regarding concerns about representation of North Valleys residents, responsiveness from RTC staff, and opposition to the Lemon Drive project, including cost, traffic congestion, and roadway conditions. She expressed concern regarding delays and lack of communication, and urged changes in project priorities.

Carlos Elizondo Reyna provided public comment regarding lack of response to a transit pass issue, concerns about communication between RTC, bus drivers, and construction impacts, and maintenance issues on a bus vehicle. He also raised concerns regarding inaccurate information received from customer service.

Donna Clontz provided public comment regarding AARP activities related to fraud prevention outreach for seniors. She also discussed transportation access challenges for seniors in Sun Valley and requested additional outreach, training, and consideration for expanded Flex Ride service.

Item 3 APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Bill Thomas, RTC Executive Director, requested removal of Items 4.3.2, 4.4.5 and 6.3 from the agenda.

On motion of Commissioner Lawson to approve the agenda as amended, seconded by Commissioner Garcia, which motion unanimously carried, Chair Hill ordered that this item be approved.

Note: Due to fire alarm alert and technical difficulties due to the alarm, the meeting was stopped at 10:13 a.m. and was reconvened at 10:41 a.m. by Chair Hill. The remainder of the meeting was recorded with audio only, as the video system was inoperative due to technical difficulties.

Items 4 CONSENT ITEMS

4.1 Minutes

- 4.1.1 Approve the meeting minutes for the 02/20/2026 RTC Board meeting. (For Possible Action)
- 4.1.2 Approve the meeting minutes for the 03/13/2026 RTC Board Retreat. (For Possible Action)

4.2. Reports

- 4.2.1 Acknowledge receipt of the monthly Procurement Activity Report. (For Possible Action)
- 4.2.2 Acknowledge receipt of the monthly Planning Activity Report. (For Possible Action)
- 4.2.3 Acknowledge receipt of the monthly Engineering Activity Report. (For Possible Action)
- 4.2.4 Acknowledge receipt of the monthly Public Transportation and Operations Activity Report. (For Possible Action)
- 4.2.5 Acknowledge receipt of the monthly summary report for the Technical, Citizens Multimodal, and Regional Road Impact Fee Advisory Committees. (For Possible Action)
- 4.2.6 Acknowledge receipt of the monthly Outreach Report from the Communications staff. (For Possible Action)

4.3 Engineering Department

- 4.3.1 Approve Amendment No. 1 to the contract with Nichols Consulting Engineers, CHTD, for additional engineering during construction services in connection with the Pembroke Drive Capacity and Safety Project, in the amount of \$200,789, for a new total not-to-exceed amount of \$1,948,054. (For Possible Action)
- 4.3.2 Approve a Reimbursement Agreement with the City of Sparks for betterment improvements on the Prater Way Rehabilitation Project, including sanitary sewer improvements, storm drain improvements, and fiber line relocation, with the City of Sparks reimbursing the RTC for the actual costs of the improvements. (For Possible Action) *Item Pulled from Agenda*
- 4.3.3 Approve Amendment No. 1 to the contract with Lumos & Associates, Inc., for engineering during construction services in connection with the Prater Way Rehabilitation Project, in the amount of \$686,370, for a new total not-to-exceed amount of \$1,315,660. (For Possible Action)
- 4.3.4 Acknowledge receipt of RTC's Transportation Systems Management and Operations (TSMO) Capability Maturity Model (CMM) Assessment Final Report. (For Possible Action)
- 4.3.5 Approve a contract with Jacobs Engineering Group for design services associated with the Highland Ranch Parkway Capacity and Safety Project, in an amount not-to-exceed \$4,461,771. (For Possible Action)
- 4.3.6 Approve an Interlocal Cooperative Agreement with the Nevada Department of Transportation for administration, funding, maintenance, and operations responsibilities for the Pyramid Highway Operations Improvements Project. (For Possible Action)
- 4.3.7 Approve Amendment No. 1 to the Interlocal Cooperative Agreement (ICA) with the Nevada Department of Transportation (NDOT) for the North Virginia Street Multimodal Improvements Project to reflect changes in federal fund sources. (For Possible Action)

4.4 Public Transportation/Operations Department

- 4.4.1 Approve a contract with Inter-Con Security Services for the provision of armed and unarmed transit security services, after-hours patrol, and alarm response for an initial four-year term, plus two, three-year options, with annual not-to-exceed amounts ranging from \$1,660,531.60 in year 1 up to \$2,211,610.80 in year 10. (For Possible Action)
- 4.4.2 Approve a contract with Trapeze Software Group, Inc., dba Vontas, for fifty-three (53) Message Point Media passenger infotainment fixed-route bus displays, in an amount not-to-exceed \$627,486. (For Possible Action)
- 4.4.3 Approve a contract with Power-Sonic Corporation for the purchase of six (6) bus chargers to replace existing obsolete Proterra charges at Villanova, in an amount not-to-exceed \$198,792. (For Possible Action)
- 4.4.4 Approve Amendment No. 3 to the agreement with Enterprise Leasing Company-West, LLC (Enterprise) to increase the monthly vanpool subsidy by one hundred dollars (\$100) per mileage tier from \$400 to \$500 for vanpools up to 3,000 miles; from \$500 to \$600 for vanpools in mileage tiers between 3,001-4,000 miles; and from \$600 to \$700 for vanpools in mileage tiers over 4,000 miles. (For Possible Action)
- 4.4.5 Authorize the Executive Director to commence negotiations with the Washoe County School District (WCSD) for the purchase of a portion of the Earl Wooster High School property located in Reno, Nevada, for the purpose of developing a replacement fixed-route transit maintenance and operations facility to replace the Jerry L. Hall Regional Transit Operations and Maintenance Center at 2050 Villanova Drive. (For Possible Action) *Item Pulled from Agenda*

On motion of Commissioner Garica to approve with the exceptions noted previously, seconded by Commissioner Lawson, which motion unanimously carried, Chair Hill ordered that these items be approved.

Item 5 DISCUSSION ITEMS AND PRESENTATIONS

5.1 Review a report from the RTC's Director of Finance regarding the Fiscal Year 2027 increase in the indexed fuel taxes in Washoe County that will become effective on July 1, 2026, as required by NRS 373.067 and WCC § 20.43416.(Informational Only)

Christian Schonlau, Director of Finance/CFO, presented a report on the Fiscal Year 2027 indexed fuel tax increase. He explained that the rate is determined by statutory formula using a ten-year average of the Producer Price Index for highway construction materials. The calculated increase is 4.71%, equivalent to approximately \$0.042 per gallon. He noted that RTC does not set the rate and that indexing smooths fluctuations in inflation. Additionally, the Regional Transportation Commissions of Washoe County and Southern Nevada collaborate to ensure calculations are correct each year.

5.2 Acknowledge receipt of the Fiscal Year 2027 RTC Tentative Budget. (For Possible Action)

Christian Schonlau, Director of Finance/CFO, presented the FY 2027 tentative budget. He outlined the budget development process, including long-range planning, advisory input, and Board direction. He reported that major revenue sources include fuel tax and federal funding, with significant capital investment planned, particularly in roadway and transit projects. He noted increased federal funding tied to major projects, stable fuel tax revenue trends, and anticipated slight declines in sales tax revenue.

He highlighted that approximately 90% of expenditures are dedicated to capital and debt service, with major projects including Sparks Boulevard, Arlington Bridge completion, and transit vehicle investments. He also noted operational cost increases and ongoing efforts to modernize internal systems.

Chair Hill requested a future presentation on bus stop improvements once the capital has been approved. It would be good to know where we are with improvements and how they are prioritized.

Adam Spear, RTC Legal Counsel, noted that this item is informational only and was inadvertently listed as “for possible action”. No action was taken.

Item 6 *REPORTS (Informational Only)*

6.1 RTC Executive Director Report

Bill Thomas deferred his report to the next meeting due to technical challenges during the meeting.

Chair Hill asked Mr. Thomas who Donna Clontz, public commenter, could contact regarding transportation access challenges for seniors. Mr. Thomas introduced Julia Tohlen, newly hired Customer Experience Manager, highlighting her experience in transportation and customer service and her role overseeing customer experience programs, as the person to contact.

6.2 RTC Federal Report

Paul Nelson, RTC Government Affairs Officer, provided an update on recent participation in the APTA Legislative Conference in Washington, D.C. He summarized discussions with federal representatives regarding funding requests, reauthorization of transportation programs, and federal budget proposals. He noted potential changes in federal funding levels and ongoing uncertainty regarding future transportation funding programs.

6.3 NDOT Director Report - *This item was pulled from Agenda.*

Item 7 *COMMISSIONER ANNOUNCEMENTS AND UPDATES*

No Commissioner announcements were made.

Item 8 *PUBLIC COMMENT*

Chair Hill opened the public comment period. There was no public comment.

Item 9 *ADJOURNMENT*

The meeting was adjourned at 10:00 a.m.



ALEXIS HILL, Chair
Regional Transportation Commission

****Copies of all presentations are available by contacting Michelle Kraus at mkraus@rtcwashoe.com.**