

**REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION
CITIZENS MULTIMODAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
WEDNESDAY JUNE 3, 2026**

CMAC MEMBERS PRESENT

Ryan Bernadett, Chair
Kathie Stanfield
Juan Martinez
Sue-Ting Chene

Panah Stauffer, Vice Chair
Kelly Orr
Damien Cole

CMAC MEMBERS ABSENT

Michael Lansborough

Sierra Henderson

RTC STAFF

Marquis Williams
Graham Dollarhide
Lolita Davis
Christian Schonlau

Sai Sun
Shay League
Alex Cruz
Rick Parton

CMAC GUESTS

Justin Haghighi

Member of the Public

1. ROLL CALL/CALL TO ORDER

The Citizens Multimodal Advisory Committee (CMAC) meeting was conducted as a Zoom Meeting. The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Marquis Williams.

2. VERBAL INSTRUCTIONS REQUIRED BY ASSEMBLY BILL 219 (2023)

RTC staff read the instructions required for participating via Zoom and participating via telephone.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no public comments.

4. APPROVE THE MAY 6, 2026, MEETING MINUTES *(For Possible Action)*

The CMAC May 6, 2026, meeting minutes were approved as submitted.

5. INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION ITEMS.

ITEM 5.1: PROVIDE INFORMATION, ADVICE, AND RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING THE FISCAL YEAR 2027 RTC TENTATIVE BUDGET.

Christian Schonlau, RTC Finance Director & Chief Financial Officer, gave a presentation on FY2027 RTC tentative budget.

Juan Martinez requested that RTC purchase the 2200 buses because they are wider, have more space, and better shocks, which makes for a more comfortable ride compared to the smaller 1500 and 2500 buses that have poor shocks and narrow seats. Christian Schonlau said the request would be passed to the transit department.

Panah Stauffer asked Christian about funding for public transit and whether it will be reduced. Christian confirmed there will be no reduced funding or service changes. Panah questioned why funding for capacity expansion is much larger than for transit. Christian explained that recent funding has come mainly from federal legislation, like the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA), which supports projects with significant federal backing. He mentioned RTC successfully received a grant for transit that helped replace part of the bus fleet but noted that funding for operating the transit system continues to outgrow the pace of the sales tax revenue which funds transit.

Panah emphasized the importance of enhancing transit capacity alongside roadway capacity, and suggested more dedicated bus lanes, extended routes and transit opportunities to attract riders. Christian acknowledged the suggestions and highlighted ongoing efforts, such as the BRT line expansion in the South Virginia corridor expanding bus-only lanes and improving pedestrian access in project designs. He reassured the committee that RTC is always looking for funding opportunities to enhance transit services.

Damien asked about the Arlington Street Bridge project and its connection to road expansion funding. Christian explained the funding structure and mentioned that the Sierra Street Bridge project would start construction next year and would also be funded through the Federal Bridge Improvement Program.

ITEM 5.2: PROVIDE INFORMATION, ADVICE, AND RECOMMENDATIONS 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.

Rick Parton, RTC Financial Manager, gave a presentation on the Fiscal Year 2027 increase in the indexed fuel taxes in Washoe County that will become effective on July 1, 2026.

Christian Schonlau confirmed this will be effective July 1, 2026, not 2025 which was an error in the agenda packet.

ITEM 5.3: PROVIDE INFORMATION, ADVICE, AND RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING THE CONSTRUCTION, INSTALLATION, AND MAINTENANCE OF BENCHES, SHELTERS AND TRANSIT STOPS FOR RTC PASSENGERS.

Sai Sun, RTC Sr. Transit Planner, gave a presentation on the construction, installation, and maintenance of benches, shelters and transit stops for RTC passengers.

Juan Martinez requested that RTC ensure route announcements are working on all buses for the benefit of disabled and blind individuals. Juan also mentioned a problem with the bus stop at Walmart on West 7th Street rising up. He stated it feels like a rooftop. Sai stated RTC will take a look at it.

ITEM 5.4: PROVIDE INFORMATION, ADVICE, AND RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING THE STATUS OF THE ROCK BOULEVARD CORRIDOR STUDY.

Shay League, RTC Sr. Transportation Planner gave a presentation on the status of the Rock Boulevard Corridor Study.

Damien Cole asked for clarification whether the complete street designation for eastern McCarran Boulevard referred to the Sparks portion or just the Reno portion. Shay League confirmed that it was the Sparks portion as identified in the Sparks Comprehensive Plan.

Damien inquired about future pop-ups now that discussions and surveys were underway. Shay responded that there would be no additional pop-ups, but there would be follow-up communications with those who signed up for the mailing list. Damien expressed concern over whether Reno residents were included in a survey about Rock Boulevard usage, noting the proximity of Sparks to Reno. Shay mentioned that multiple Reno residents participated in the survey and that the survey was not only for the City of Sparks. Shay stated if interest is there, she can report back to the committee regarding responses received from the City of Reno.

Sue-Ting pointed out that the traffic lights at the intersection between Rock Boulevard and Mill Street are too short for cyclists, making it hard to cross with cars. She noted that accessing the pedestrian light button can be challenging for cyclists. Shay responded that this comment had not been mentioned but would be passed along to the consultant for consideration.

Ryan Bernadett asked Shay about traffic concerns at the north end of Rock Boulevard speeding issues during commuting hours. He questioned if the planning philosophy aims to prioritize neighborhood serenity or to upgrade Rock Boulevard into a major arterial. Shay replied that the goal is to find a balance between both approaches.

6. RTC STAFF ANNOUNCEMENTS

Xuan Wang, RTC Transportation Planning Manager, announced that the Locust Taylor Kerman Wells study is currently seeking public input through a survey available at <https://rtcwashoe.com/locust-taylor-kirman-wells-corridor-study/> . The survey will remain open until June 26th and aims to gather feedback on recommended improvements. Please share

the survey link with those interested and those that live in the area. Results will be shared in the next meeting.

Marquis Williams mentioned that Panah, Vice Chair, will be lead during the next meeting. Marquis also reminded everyone that June starts the recommitment process for CMAC membership and advised everyone to check their emails for more details.

7. PUBLIC COMMENT

Juan Martinez suggested that RTC notify ACCESS riders three days prior to July 26th, which is the ADA anniversary, when free rides will be available. Juan emphasized the importance of early notifications for those who may need to plan trips.

Sue-Ting Chene, shared insights about students using ACCESS buses. She highlighted the positive impact the services has had on students. Sue-Ting mentioned many students travel 2-3 hours from the North Valleys to Sparks. She suggested collaborating to provide materials to schools to educate students about trip planning and using RTC services effectively for commuting.

Damien Cole spoke about the Nevada Department of Transportation (NDOT)'s proposed plan to demolish a 70-year-old section of the Nugget and build a freeway over Centennial Station, which he said could increase noise pollution and disrupt efforts to pedestrianize Victorian Avenue. He noted that this change would also bring more traffic near an amphitheater and new housing developments. Damien explained that an alternative plan included using a bridge for the freeway over the Union Pacific Railroad, allowing the space beneath it to be used for surface roads and future light rail development. He stated that this approach would free up land for pedestrian initiatives and improve transportation access to areas such as Tesla and the Tahoe-Reno Industrial Center (TRIC). Damien added that a diagram of this plan could be provided to city officials for consideration.

Ryan Bernadett announced that he had accepted a new job in California and would be moving by the end of the month. He expressed gratitude for the opportunity to work with everyone and said he appreciated the community's enthusiasm for multimodal transportation and public transit. He reflected positively on his three years of participation and wished the community a bright future.

Panah Stauffer noted that the City of Reno had adopted a moratorium on data centers for a specified period. She said there had been discussions encouraging Reno to take a leadership role in developing a regulatory framework for data centers that could provide community benefits. Panah referenced a workforce rail study presented by Jim Gee, RTC Public Transportation and Operations Director, the previous month, highlighting it as an opportunity to attract private funding for the TRIC area through collaboration among various stakeholders. She urged RTC staff to bring this opportunity to RTC leadership, particularly board members from the City of Reno, to begin discussions on how data centers could benefit the region. Panah emphasized the importance of exploring ways these facilities could not only mitigate their

impacts but also enhance community value, especially by supporting funding for workforce rail and other transportation projects.

8. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 6.42 p.m.