REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION
WASHOE COUNTY, NEVADA

FRIDAY **9:04 A.M.** **October 16, 2026**

PRESENT:

Alexis Hill, Chair, Washoe County Commissioner
Devon Reese, Vice Chair, Reno City Council
Mariluz Garcia, Washoe County Commissioner
Hillary Schieve, Mayor of Reno (Arrived at 9:09 a.m.)
Bill Thomas, RTC Executive Director
Adam Spear, Legal Counsel
Sondra Rosenberg, NDOT Deputy Director

ABSENT:

Ed Lawson, Mayor of Sparks
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 expressed concerns about emergency evacuation routes and preparedness in the North Valleys following recent wildfires and flooding. She described the closure of U.S. 395, limited alternative access for residents, and difficulties evacuating or obtaining supplies. She urged agencies to address roadway capacity, emergency access and infrastructure planning before additional development occurs, including concerns about Lemmon Drive and Cold Springs.

The Board Clerk reported that seven written public comments had been received, distributed to Board members the previous evening, and would be included in the permanent record. Chair Hill confirmed that staff and the project manager were preparing responses to comments concerning roadway projects.

1.3 Special Recognition
1.3.1 Proclamation Honoring the Service of Commissioner Hillary Schieve

Following Item 2, Chair Hill presented a proclamation recognizing Mayor Schieve's service on the RTC Board since 2022 and her advocacy for safer, accessible, and connected transportation. The

proclamation highlighted her support for the Arlington Avenue Bridges replacement, Biggest Little Bike Network, Truckee River multimodal connectivity, accessible transit and regional collaboration.

Chair Hill proclaimed October 16, 2026, as a day recognizing Mayor Schieve's service to the RTC Board.

Vice Chair Reese and Commissioner Garcia recognized her leadership, vision, commitment to innovation and equitable transportation access.

Mayor Schieve thanked the Board and RTC staff, particularly Executive Director Bill Thomas, and reflected on the importance of transportation access for the community.

Item 3 APPROVAL OF AGENDA

On motion of Vice Chair Reese, seconded by Commissioner Garcia, which motion unanimously carried, Chair Hill ordered the item be approved.

Item 4 CONSENT ITEMS

4.1 Minutes

4.1.1 Approve the meeting minutes for the 9/18/2026 RTC Board meeting. (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 Planning Department

4.3.1 Approve a contract with The Langdon Group for planning services to complete the 2050 Regional Transportation Plan Community Engagement Effort, in an amount not-to-exceed $111,256. (For Possible Action)

4.4 Engineering Department

4.4.1 Approve a contract with Nichols Consulting Engineers, CHTD to provide design and optional construction management services related to the Mill Street Rehabilitation Project, in an amount not-to-exceed $1,232,269. (For Possible Action)

4.4.2 Approve a Regional Road Impact Fee (RRIF) offset agreement between RTC, Oakmont Properties-South Virginia, LLC, and City of Reno for offset-eligible

improvements and intersection signalization at Virginia Street and South Hills Drive for Elysium Apartments. (For Possible Action)

4.5 Executive, Administrative and Finance Departments

4.5.1 Acknowledge receipt of the Asset Donation Log for the second and third quarters of calendar year 2026. (For Possible Action)

4.5.2 Approve the Executive Director employment contract between RTC and Dale Keller. (For Possible Action)

On motion of Commissioner Garcia to approve, seconded by Vice Chair Reese, which motion unanimously carried, Chair Hill ordered that these items be approved.

Item 5 PUBLIC HEARING

5.1 Conduct a public hearing regarding approval of Amendment No. 4 to the FFY 2025-2029 Regional Transportation Improvement Program (RTIP); adopt a resolution approving Amendment No. 4 to the FFY 2025-2029 Regional Transportation Improvement Program (RTIP). (For Possible Action)

a. Staff Presentation
b. Public Hearing
c. Action

Graham Dollarhide, RTC Transportation Planning Manager, presented Amendment No. 4 to the FFY 2025-2029 RTIP. He explained that the RTIP identifies fiscally constrained, federally funded or regionally significant transportation projects and is a necessary step toward project implementation. The amendment increases the programmed cost of NDOT's existing Verdi Commercial Vehicle Inspection Station Upgrades Project based on updated estimates, without changing its scope, and adds an NDOT pavement preservation project on Interstate 80 between East McCarran Boulevard and Vista Boulevard. No new air quality conformity analysis or RTP amendment is required. The public comment period ran from September 23 through October 13, 2026, and no comments were received. The amendment was also presented to RTC advisory committees.

Sondra Rosenberg, NDOT Deputy Director, expressed NDOT's appreciation for RTC's support.

Chair Hill opened the public hearing; no public comment was received, and the hearing was closed.

On motion of Vice Chair Reese to approve Amendment No. 4 and adopt the corresponding resolution, seconded by Mayor Schieve, which motion unanimously carried, Chair Hill ordered the item approved.

Item 6 DISCUSSION ITEMS AND PRESENTATIONS

6.1 Receive a presentation on the draft Rock Boulevard Corridor Study. (Informational Only)

Shay League, RTC Senior Transportation Planner, presented the draft Rock Boulevard Corridor Study for the segment between North McCarran Boulevard and the Truckee River in Sparks.

Recommendations include a multi-use path connecting Victorian Avenue to the Truckee River trail at Rock Park, wider sidewalks and accessibility improvements, safer pedestrian crossings near Maxwell Elementary School and Sparks High School, bus stop upgrades, and targeted intersection and interchange improvements. Interim measures at Interstate 80 and Rock Boulevard would address congestion while NDOT advances longer-term interstate improvements. Public comments will be accepted through October 27, and staff anticipates returning to the Board in November for potential adoption.

Chair Hill requested continued outreach to Mayor Lawson to ensure his input is included, particularly regarding the river connection and student safety.

Vice Chair Reese asked about implementation timing and compared the study to the Oddie/Wells project. Staff explained that corridor projects must compete for prioritization in the Regional Transportation Plan and may take approximately five to twenty years to implement, depending on funding and regional priorities.

Commissioner Garcia commended coordination with the school district and asked how proposed interim improvements at the I-80 interchange align with NDOT's Spaghetti Bowl work.

Sondra Rosenberg, NDOT Deputy Director, explained that the agencies are coordinating closely, but major interchange reconstruction remains uncertain and potentially many years away.

Mayor Schieve emphasized the corridor's outdated pedestrian infrastructure and the need for improvements. Chair Hill suggested exploring public art and grant funding to improve the underpass environment.

Executive Director Thomas indicated staff would monitor applicable grant opportunities and that smaller safety improvements could proceed before major interchange reconstruction.

No action was taken.

6.2 Receive a presentation on the draft Sun Valley/Panther Valley & Meadowood/Hidden Valley Neighborhood Network Plans. (Informational Only)

Marquis Williams, RTC Senior Transportation Planner, presented the third and fourth Neighborhood Network Plans under RTC's Active Transportation Program. Developed through community outreach, school coordination, field assessments and safety data, the plans focus on neighborhood-scale walking and bicycling connections, especially safe routes to schools, trails and local destinations. The proposed quick-build projects include curb extensions, pedestrian refuge islands, traffic calming, and buffered or protected bicycle lanes. The plans recommend approximately 4.6 miles of improvements in Sun Valley/Panther Valley and five miles in Meadowood/Hidden Valley, together with longer-term projects for future RTP consideration.

Mr. Williams explained that RTC has allocated $5 million annually for neighborhood quick-build implementation, generally targeting two neighborhoods each year. The two plans presented are targeted for summer 2028 construction, while Central Reno and Central Sparks projects are scheduled for summer 2027. Baseline counts have been completed to support future performance

evaluations. Public comment remains open through October, and the plans are expected to return for possible approval in November.

Commissioner Garcia emphasized the lack of continuous sidewalks, drainage ditches, speeding and school access hazards on Side Hill and Leon Drives. She asked about responsibilities for school-area improvements. Staff explained that RTC coordinates with the school district and Safe Routes to School partners, supplementing their work rather than replacing it.

Chair Hill supported additional coordination with the school district, including potential discussions with the superintendent regarding resources and school safety.

Vice Chair Reese requested clarification on the distinction between traditional corridor studies and quick-build neighborhood plans.

Mr. Williams and Mr. Dollarhide explained that corridor study recommendations require future RTP prioritization and funding, whereas neighborhood quick-build projects are implemented through an existing, funded Active Transportation Program already included in the RTP and RTIP.

Vice Chair Reese commended the program's responsiveness to neighborhood needs.

Chair Hill requested coordination with Commissioner Andriola to present the Hidden Valley recommendations at a neighborhood meeting. Mayor Schieve supported additional outreach to Hidden Valley residents.

No action was taken.

Item 7 REPORTS (Informational Only)

7.1 RTC Executive Director Report

Bill Thomas, RTC Executive Director, reported that the Storey County Board of Commissioners subsequently voted unanimously to support advancing the Northeast Connector into the NEPA process and to continue working toward funding the environmental study, consistent with RTC's direction at the joint meeting.

He reported that RTC's first Stuff a Bus diaper drive with Baby's Bounty collected more than 3,100 diapers and nearly 4,500 baby wipes, and that a food drive is planned for December.

Mr. Thomas congratulated Austin McCoy and his family on the birth of baby girl Parker Ellie McCoy.

Mr. Thomas also recognized several Finance Department personnel changes, including the promotions of Jennie Murray to Accountant I and Omar Casildo to Payroll Specialist, and welcomed Anna Jimenez, Senior Accountant, and Eduardo Silva-Lucas, Accounting Specialist.

7.2 RTC Federal Report

Josh MacEachern, RTC Public Information Officer, delivered the federal report on behalf of Government Affairs Officer Paul Nelson. He discussed congressional recess and the need for federal spending and surface transportation authorization action before the December 11 continuing resolution deadline; proposed federal permitting reforms; the proposed Safe Transit Act; potential changes to the 2030 Census affecting allocation of federal resources; and federal consideration of the Union Pacific Norfolk Southern merger application, which RTC is monitoring in connection with regional passenger rail discussions.

7.3 NDOT Director Report

Sondra Rosenberg, NDOT Deputy Director, reported that preliminary figures through September showed 261 roadway fatalities statewide and 34 in Washoe County, compared with 45 in Washoe County during the comparable period the prior year. Although total fatalities declined, pedestrian and bicyclist fatalities increased. Speeding and impairment remain leading contributing factors.

Mayor Schieve requested a jurisdiction-level breakdown of safety trends, and Ms. Rosenberg explained that more detailed geographic analysis is available but takes additional time to compile.

Ms. Rosenberg highlighted the annual Nevada Traffic Safety Summit, hosted in Reno, and thanked Chair Hill for participating. She reported that major paving and striping on Pyramid Way in downtown Sparks were completed ahead of schedule, with utility and signage work continuing into early 2027. She also announced the October 18 Trunk or Treat event at the South Reno DMV.

Vice Chair Reese commended NDOT's roadway and safety improvements in northwest Reno.

Item 8 COMMISSIONER ANNOUNCEMENTS AND UPDATES

Chair Hill requested future Board presentations evaluating the costs and potential funding sources for commuter rail, including a possible pilot project and state or local funding opportunities, and options to increase service frequency on RTC's highest-ridership fixed routes, including local funding strategies.

Vice Chair Reese discussed lessons from the American Public Transportation Association conference and expressed interest in exploring transit ambassador and service-provider outreach programs for riders and individuals experiencing homelessness.

Mayor Schieve commended RTC's public-facing social media outreach and its efforts to connect with younger riders.

Chair Hill and Board members recognized Executive Director Bill Thomas at his final Board meeting, acknowledging his six years at RTC and 27 years of local government service.

Vice Chair Reese and Mayor Schieve highlighted his leadership, public service, regional infrastructure contributions and mentorship, and recognized his family's support. A commemorative gift from the City of Reno and a tribute video were presented.

Item 9 ***PUBLIC COMMENT***

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

Item 10 ***ADJOURNMENT***

The meeting was adjourned at 10:54 a.m.

ALEXIS HILL, Chair
Regional Transportation Commission

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