

CARSON AREA METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

**DRAFT**

Minutes of the May 31, 2007, Meeting

Page 1

The regular monthly meeting of the Carson Area Metropolitan Planning Organization was held on Thursday, May 31, 2007, at the Community Center Sierra Room, 851 East William Street, Carson City, Nevada, beginning at 5:30 p.m.

**PRESENT:** Chairperson Shelly Aldean, Vice Chairperson Larry Hastings and Members Russell Carpenter, Charles Des Jardins, Dan Holler, Richard Staub, and Dennis Taylor

**STAFF PRESENT:** Public Works Director Andrew Burnham, Development Services Director/City Engineer Larry Werner, Senior Deputy District Attorney Ed Oueilhe, Transportation Program Manager Patrick Pittenger, RTC Engineer Harvey Brotzman, and Recording Secretary Katherine McLaughlin (CAMPO 5/31/07 Recording 5:31:15)

**NOTE:** Unless otherwise indicated, each item was introduced by staff's reading/outlining/clarifying the Request for Board Action Report and/or supporting documentation. Staff members making the presentation are listed after the Item's heading. Any other individuals who spoke are listed immediately following the staff listing. A recording of these proceedings is on file in the Clerk-Recorder's office. The recording is available for review and inspection during normal business hours.

**A. ROLL CALL AND DETERMINATION OF A QUORUM** - Chairperson Aldean convened the meeting at 5:30 p.m. Roll call was taken. A quorum was present although Member Holler did not arrive until 5:56 p.m.

**B. APPROVAL OF MINUTES - REGULAR MEETING OF APRIL 30, 2007 (5:32:48)** - Chairperson Aldean noted that the meeting had not been held on the regular meeting date, however, it is the monthly meeting. Member Hastings moved to approve the Minutes of April 30, 2007, for the Carson Area Metropolitan Planning Organization as presented. Member Staub seconded the motion. Motion carried 6-0.

**C. MODIFICATION OF AGENDA (5:32:17)** - None.

**D. STAFF PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENTS (5:32:25)** - None.

**E. PUBLIC COMMENT (5:32:25)** - None.

**F. DISCLOSURES (5:32:25)** - None.

**G. PUBLIC MEETING ITEMS:**

**G-1 PRESENTATION BY THE DIRECTOR OF THE NEVADA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION REGARDING THE DEPARTMENT'S DRAFT TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM PROJECTS DOCUMENT AND ACTION BY CAMPO TO APPROVE THE DOCUMENT (5:33:09)** - NDOT Assistant Director-Planning Kent Cooper apologized for Director

CARSON AREA METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

**DRAFT**

Minutes of the May 31, 2007, Meeting

Page 2

Susan Martinovich's absence. She was at the Legislature. Reasons for attending the meeting and the timetable for adoption of the document by the State Transportation Board were limned. A final copy of the plan will be sent to CAMPO in August.

RECESS: (5:35:45) A brief recess was taken due at 5:36 p.m. to technical audio problems. The meeting was reconvened at 5:38 p.m. A quorum of the Board was present. Member Holler had not yet arrived.

(5:37:10) Mr. Cooper displayed a copy of the State Highways Speed and Safety Plan and briefly summarized it. Copies are available at his office. He explained the composition change to the State Transportation Board and its semi-annual meetings. The funding dilemma was noted. It may not be solved by the current Legislature. A proposal may be submitted to the electorate in two or four years. Roads and bridges are the number one funding priority. Funding for Maintenance is being reduced. The deteriorating conditions of Highway 50 at Stateline and Highway 395 in Pleasant Valley were cited to illustrate the impact of the funding cuts. Other NDOT staff members who were present were introduced. Elements of the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program for Fiscal Year 2008 to 2011, the area's Annual Work Program for Fiscal Year 2008, the Short Range Element for fiscal Years 2009-2010, and the Long Range Element for Fiscal Year 2011-2017, and various legislative attempts to resolve the funding issues were briefly summarized. The Carson Freeway Project 2A's bid opening is scheduled for July 19 with the bid award to occur within 30 days thereafter. Funding is in the budget for this project. The interchange on Highway 50 at Spooner Summit is almost completed. Maintenance projects that had been completed in the Carson area were limned. It included a portion of the V&T Railroad reconstruction project. Carson Freeway Phase 2B is listed in both the short range element and the long range elements. Its design is approximately 16% complete. The object is to get it "on the shelf" and then find funding for it. Proposed safety improvements included the use of "cable barriers" which have been successfully used in Southern Nevada.

Discussion indicated that NDOT pays close attention to the methodology used in distributing the funding. The process includes a review of the needs. The funding table per county is not yet completed or available. Mr. Cooper agreed to provide CAMPO with a copy when it becomes available in August. Member Cooper asked that it be more detailed than the bar chart used last year by the Statewide Transportation Board. Discussion explained the lawsuit settlements and changes which will occur due to them. (Member Holler arrived at 5:56 p.m. The entire Board was present, constituting a quorum.) Discussion then ensued on NRS 408.271 and the allocation of these funds for capital acquisitions to other jurisdictions but not Carson City. Mr. Cooper pointed out that NDOT is still performing a lot of MPO work for the Carson area. NDOT is willing to discuss/negotiate on the issue but, at this time, he did not believe that funding would be forthcoming until Carson takes over those duties. Mr. Pittenger explained the effort for CAMPO to become the grant recipient and felt that if and when the Feds approve CAMPO's UPWP it will be the grant recipient. He looked forward to discussing the matter with NDOT.

Discussion ensued on a previous effort to impose a weight distance tax on heavy rigs. Mr. Cooper explained that the studies conducted for this tax proved that heavy vehicles cause more damage than autos. The real issue is one of equity and the gas tax. The difference in taxes on gasoline and diesel fuel was

CARSON AREA METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

**DRAFT**

Minutes of the May 31, 2007, Meeting

Page 3

noted. The auditing required to impose a weight distance tax was described. The four states who currently have this tax have found a noncompliance rate of 30%. This is the issue that the Legislature has been discussing. He did not see any changes coming from the present Legislature regarding this matter. The State is considered a pass-through for the trucking industry as 43% of the goods shipped from the western coastal ports goes to other regions. A study conducted on 200 autos in Oregon was cited to illustrate a potential method of making the taxes more equitable. It, however, questioned whether the residents would want to have the tracking and reporting required to maintain accuracy and equity. The legislative desire to pursue such a program was also questioned.

Discussion then explained the status of I-580 in Pleasant Valley. Mr. Cooper felt that the current contractor is well qualified and would complete the job based on his performance in getting the Bay Bridge in California repaired. His explanation of the status of I-580 included justification for the delay in completing the Galena structure on time. It requires EPA and Federal approvals. His personal observation indicated that this work is “impressive” although not observable from the roadway due to the topography.

Discussion also indicated that a permit for a banner across Carson Street may have been approved recently. Mr. Thorson indicated that he will check on its status if Mr. Brotzman has not received it.

Chairperson Aldean thanked Mr. Cooper for his report and asked that he relay the Board’s congratulations to Ms. Martinovich.

Member Staub moved to accept the Department’s Draft Transportation System Projects Document as presented by Kent Cooper of the Nevada Department of Transportation. Member Hastings seconded the motion. Motion carried 7-0.

**G-2. ACTION TO ACCEPT THE RESULTS OF THE CARSON CITY DOWNTOWN MODELING TRAFFIC ANALYSIS (6:12:56)** - Transportation Program Manager Patrick Pittenger, DKS Associates Representative John Long - A copy of the analysis and its summary are included in the file. Mr. Long explained the summary in depth including the elements of the analysis, its assumptions, and findings including the current and project traffic counts, the projected intersection service levels, and potential solutions to any unacceptable intersection service levels. Discussion indicated that he believed that a majority of the heavy trucks will use the freeway rather than traverse Carson and Williams Streets. (Member Staub left the meeting at 6:34 p.m. A quorum was still present.) Mr. Long acknowledged the need to consider this issue for the few remaining trucks during the planning of future roadways. Revisions to the intersection of Carson and Williams were described which may assist with mitigation. It was felt that by narrowing Carson Street at that intersection, people will begin to use ancillary streets. This usage was felt to vary block by block depending on the traveler’s purpose. Comments stressed the need to have the freeway completed before the narrowing is implemented. By widening Roop and Stewart Streets and synchronizing the traffic signals, traffic should be able to flow smoothly and the downtown area will become more pedestrian friendly. The issue with Highway 50 is to be discussed during the RTC meeting. Member Holler was encouraged to remain for it. Additional comments were solicited but none were given. Member Carpenter moved to accept the results of the Carson City downtown modeling traffic

CARSON AREA METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

DRAFT

Minutes of the May 31, 2007, Meeting

Page 4

analysis as presented. Member Hastings seconded the motion. Chairperson Aldean asked Principal Planner Lee Plemel and Redevelopment/Economic Development Manager Joe McCarthy if they wished to make comments. They did not wish to do so. The motion was voted and carried 6-0.

**G-3. ACTION TO ADOPT THE 2008 CAMPO UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM (UPWP) (6:45:48)** - Transportation Program Manager Patrick Pittenger - A packet containing the public comments was distributed to the Board and Clerk. (A copy is in the file.) Clarification indicated that the packet covers both Items G-3 and G-4. Mr. Pittenger described the process used to conduct the public comment periods. They are now closed. He assured the Board that Anne MacQuarie and Barbara Howe's concerns were included in the packet as well as Minutes from the 4/30/07 CAMPO meeting and the 5/1/07 Parks and Recreation Commission meeting. He then limned the meetings held on the UPWP including the 4/30 meeting with the Douglas County Commissioners. Changes that were made as a result of the meetings were reviewed. He agreed to include the astericks on the funding summary to illustrate the work that the consultants will perform before submitting the report. Those items were listed. Member Des Jardins suggested that additional funding be allocated for training for the Board members. Justification for the suggestion was provided. Locations where this funding could be put and the augmentation and revision processes were discussed. Clarification indicated that Task 3.1 should be removed as the Board had accepted the modeling. This freed up approximately \$10,000 which could be used for training or another item. Chairperson Aldean directed that 3.1 be eliminated, and that its \$10,000 be reallocated for training for both the Board and staff. Justification for this allocation was provided. The Board Members concurred. Additional comments were solicited but none were given. Member Hastings moved to adopt the 2008 CAMPO Unified Planning Work Program with the amendments as presented tonight. Member Des Jardins seconded the motion. Motion carried 6-0.

**G-4. ACTION TO ADOPT AN AMENDMENT TO THE REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (RTIP) (7:02:09)** - Transportation Program Manager Patrick Pittenger, RTC Engineer Harvey Brotzman, NDOT Program Development Administrator Leif Anderson - Changes that were made to the RTIP were reviewed. Efforts to spend the funding for Hot Springs Road before they are lost were explained. The process used to establish the allocations and priorities was limned. It was felt that the Federal funding may be reduced. The State Transportation Board has historically left the local priorities as established by the local entities. Member Hastings moved to adopt an amendment to the Regional Transportation Improvement Program as presented tonight. Members Carpenter and Des Jardins seconded the motion. Motion carried 6-0. Public comments were solicited but none were given. The motion was voted and carried 6-0.

**G-5. UPDATE ON AMENDMENT TO THE BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN ELEMENTS OF THE REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLAN (RTP) (7:10:34)** - Transportation Program Manager Patrick Pittenger, Carson City resident and Muscle Power President Anne MacQuarie, Public Works Director Andrew Burnham - The RTP is not ready for action by the Board. Staff is still responding to the comments. A draft has been given to NDOT. Mr. Pittenger assured the Board that the report will be in the June 13 Board packet. Member Taylor commended Mr. Pittenger on the RTP. Mr. Pittenger

CARSON AREA METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

**DRAFT**

Minutes of the May 31, 2007, Meeting

Page 5

complimented NDOT staff members who had worked with him on the plan. He felt that he has a good, positive working relationship with them. Public comments were solicited.

Ms. MacQuarie pointed out that the Board had received her comments. She stressed the need to put the multi-use trail along the southern portion of the Carson City freeway on the map or it may not be possible to add it in the future. This path was on the bike path plan prior to 1996. It was removed due to an agreement with NDOT. There have been recent discussions that indicate it is possible to have the path within the right-of-way along the freeway. She felt certain that the funding could be found if the path is on the RTP and the discussions are fruitful. It cannot become a reality unless it is on the RTP. She asked that it be put on the map as it is important to the residents.

Member Taylor noted his involvement in its removal. He acknowledged that with the recent change in the NDOT administration, it may be possible to add it. The pathway had been on the initial freeway draft plan. FHWA will require its construction if it is in the right-of-way. The question is, if it is constructed, who will maintain it. Previous NDOT administrators did not want it in the right-of-way. The Feds would not consider the plan with it included under those circumstances. Therefore, its removal was requested. It may be possible to add it due to the change in NDOT administrators. Chairperson Aldean indicated a desire to have the discussions on it continue. Both Mr. Burnham and Member Taylor concurred. Discussion indicated that NDOT is cooperating and, if the ability to have it in the right-of-way is there, it is included in the designs. Member Taylor explained other concerns regarding the location of the path including the alignment, jeopardizing advertising the freeway, and Federal issues. Mr. Pittenger explained that the local plan under discussion is the Carson City Unified Pathway Plan which has a dashed or straight line indicating the proposed location of the facility which Carson City could use as a local Carson City project to work with developers as opportunities present themselves. He also noted that the plan is dynamic and can be changed as desired in the future. Chairperson Aldean felt that there is a willingness to look at the pathway in the future. Member Taylor reiterated that the plan is dynamic and can be amended at any time. At this time discussions are occurring on it. Additional public comments were solicited but none were given. No formal action was required or taken.

**H. INTERNAL COMMUNICATIONS AND ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS (NON-ACTION ITEMS) - FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS (7:22:51)** - Member Taylor explained the delay in providing the 395 Corridor Study. Its final draft was received by NDOT staff. NDOT has sent its comments to consultant. Member Taylor felt that the final report will be received by the end of June. His report on the 50 Corridor Study indicated that the stakeholder working group is discussing the final draft and it will soon be brought to the Board for discussion. Mr. Pittenger indicated that the Bicycle and Pedestrian Plans will be to the Board at the June meeting which is scheduled for June 13.

**I. ADJOURNMENT (7:24:15)** - Member Holler moved to adjourn. Member Hastings seconded the motion. Motion carried 6-0. Chairperson Aldean adjourned the meeting at 7:25 p.m.

**DRAFT** CARSON AREA METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION  
Minutes of the May 31, 2007, Meeting  
Page 6

The Minutes of the May 31, 2007, Carson Area Metropolitan Planning Organization meeting

ARE SO APPROVED ON December 12, 2007.

/s/ \_\_\_\_\_  
Shelly Aldean, Chairperson