



February 5, 2013

TO: City of Sparks

FROM: Amy Cummings, AICP/LEED AP
Planning Director, RTC

SUBJECT: 2035 Regional Transportation Plan Update

RECOMMENDATION

Receive report about the 2035 Regional Transportation Plan and provide feedback.

SUMMARY

The draft RTP reflects over a year of community outreach and agency coordination. A public comment period from February 22 to March 15 will provide an opportunity for additional community feedback on the plan. An open house will be held on March 14 from 4:30 to 6:30 at the Discovery Museum and a public hearing will be held during the March 15 RTC Board meeting.

The draft plan includes a combination of projects that address both regional connectivity and quality of life. Examples of projects that support regional connectivity include the SouthEast Connector, Pyramid-US 395 Connector and capacity improvements to the regional freeway network. Projects that enhance quality of life through livability include regional ADA accessibility improvements, increasing connectivity of the sidewalk and bicycle lane networks, and roadway safety improvements. The draft project listing also includes funding for programmatic elements that received strong community support such as preventive maintenance and traffic signal/Intelligent Transportation System (ITS) upgrades.

The proposed fiscally constrained transit program is generally limited to existing service. A long-range vision for transit was developed through the RTP process that includes an extension of RAPID, expansion of RIDE service and a new service tailored to senior citizens. Although community support was expressed for these services, projected revenues are not sufficient to fund expanded service. Additional studies will be undertaken of the services included in the transit vision and funding alternatives.

Proposed transit capital investments focus on improving the fuel efficiency of the vehicle fleet by expanding the capacity at the Villanova maintenance facility to accommodate additional hybrid vehicles. The operation of additional electric, hybrid, or compressed natural gas (CNG) vehicles will require additional maintenance facilities. The Transit Facilities Master Plan is currently under development and will be completed later this year.