

Pyramid Highway/US 395 Connection Study Public Meeting Summary

ATTENDEES: Members of the Public
 Doug Maloy/RTC
 Tom Greco/RTC
 Howard Riedl/RTC
 Michael Moreno/RTC
 Jack Lorbeer/RTC
 Bryan Gant/Jacobs
 Gina McAfee/Jacobs
 Steve Oxoby/Jacobs
 Jim Clarke/Jacobs
 Chris Primus/Jacobs
 Mark Gallegos/CH2M HILL
 Leslie Regos/CH2M HILL
 Cindy Potter/CH2M HILL

 David Dodson/CH2M HILL
 Todd Montgomery/NDOT
 Patty Brisbin/NDOT
 Sharon Jones/NDOT
 Mike Fuess/NDOT
 Thor Dyson/NDOT
 Kent Cooper/NDOT
 Adam Mayberry/City of Sparks
 Holly Flores/TMWA

FROM: Mark Gallegos/CH2M HILL
 Leslie Regos/CH2M HILL

MEETING DATE: March 4, 2009

On Wednesday, March 4, 2009, the Regional Transportation Commission of Washoe County (RTC) hosted a Public Information Open House for the Pyramid Highway/US 395 Connection Study held at the Lazy 5 Community Center, 7100 Pyramid Highway, Sparks, Nevada. Following is a summary of the meeting, including its format, a description of the informational materials provided, a summary of the questions and comments collected at the meeting, attendee rosters, presentation slides and meeting notification methods used.

1. General Meeting Summary

The Pyramid Highway/US 395 Connection Study's second public information meeting was held in an "open house" format with informational display boards and Study representatives available to discuss the study and answer questions between the hours of 5:30 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. The purpose of the open house was to provide information on the Study's progress, potential alternatives being considered, and the Study Team's initial findings and recommendations. The open house also provided an opportunity for the Study Team to obtain public feedback prior to finalizing their recommendations and moving forward into the next phase of analysis.

A Level 2A Screening Summary, public comment form, study website information flier, and Level 2A Alignment Alternatives handout were provided to attendees as they entered the meeting room. Attendees were provided the opportunity to submit written comments during the meeting and were also given contact information for submitting written comment via U.S. mail, e-mail, and through the study website.

Approximate public attendance – 75.

Elected officials in attendance:

(1) Assemblymen Don Gustavson

2. Presentation Content

Display Board Summary

The following is a list of the display boards presented during the meeting and a brief synopsis of the content for each board. Study representatives from various engineering disciplines and public agencies were also on-hand to explain the various displays and answer questions.

- **Level 2A Study Area:** Map illustrating the study boundaries.
- **Purpose and Need Elements:** A list of transportation needs that the current study is using as a basis for the development of evaluation criteria.
- **Screening Process Workflow:** Graphical illustration of the alternatives screening process that will take place as the study progresses, and depicting those elements that have been completed to-date.
- **NEPA Planning Process:** Outline of the steps required during the NEPA process, and where the study is currently in relation to these steps.
- **Project Schedule:** Graphical overview of the study schedule illustrating process timeframes and major milestones.
- **Level 1 Alignment Alternatives:** Display depicting the alternatives evaluated during the Level 1 Screening and identifying those that were carried forward for additional evaluation.
- **Level 1 Screening Results:** Large format display depicting the alternatives studied and evaluation criteria used during the Level 1 Screening as well as findings and recommendations.
- **Level 2A Alignment Alternatives:** Display depicting the alternatives evaluated during the Level 2A screening and the Study Team’s recommendations for those alternatives to be carried forward for additional evaluation.
- **Level 2A Screening Results:** Large format display depicting the alternatives studied and evaluation criteria used during the Level 2A Screening as well as findings and recommendations.
- **Environmental Resources Being Studied:** A list of various natural and man-made resources being studied.
- **Level 2A Constraints-Potential Relocations and Environmental Justice Areas:** Map depicting the alternatives being studied and the estimated potential relocation and environmental justice impacts along various segments.

- **Level 2A Constraints-Recreation Areas:** Map depicting the alternatives being studied and the potential impacts to parks, recreation areas, and public lands along various segments.
- **Level 2A Constraints-Floodplains and Streams:** Map depicting alternatives being studied and potential stream and floodplain impacts along various segments.
- **Level 2A Screening-2040 Traffic Demand:** Map depicting alternatives being considered and bar graphs illustrating 2040 model travel demands at key locations.
- **Next Steps in the Study Process:** Overview of the remaining steps to be completed within the EIS process.

3. General Public Comment Summary

The bullet points below are a general summary of the questions and comments received.

- Comments were generally opposed to alternatives H-6 and H-7 due to potential impacts to golf course and residences, safety and noise impacts, and impact to the overall character of the Wedekind and Village Greene areas.
- H-17 was generally considered a viable option and felt to provide the most traffic relief with the least negative impacts.
- Numerous concerns regarding access to Lazy 5 Park and the raised median along Pyramid Highway.
- Improved/increased transit options are desired within the corridor.
- There was expressed concern regarding horse trails along the north end of Pyramid Highway which are not fenced, creating potential safety issues for trail users and highway users.
- Some attendees disliked the “open house” style and would have preferred a more structured/formal presentation with Q&A period.

4. Meeting Notification

Public notifications for the open house were distributed as follows:

Media Outlets, Direct Mail, and E-mail

- 2/4/2009 - Email blast (see attached e-mail lists)
- 2/9/2009 - Notices sent via USPS (see attached mailing list)
- 2/18 & 3/2/2009 - RGJ advertisement
- 2/25 & 3/4/2009 - Ahora! Spanish Newspaper advertisement
- 3/2/2009 - RTC issued press release
- 3/3/2009 - “The Road Ahead with RTC,” KOLO Channel 8

- 3/3/2009 – Sparks Tribune advertisement
- 3/4/2009 – RGJ Article, “Planners weigh fate of Pyramid Highway”

Web Site Postings

- www.pyramidus395connection.com
- www.rtcwashoe.com
- www.nevadadot.com

Public Posting Locations

- Immaculate Conception Church, 2900 N. McCarran Blvd., Sparks, NV 89431
- Sparks Library, 1125 12th Street, Sparks, NV 89431
- Larry D. Johnson Community Center, 1200 12th Street, Sparks, NV 89431
- Scolari’s Food & Drug, 5430 Sun Valley Blvd., Sun Valley, NV 89433
- Scolari’s Food & Drug, 950 Holman Way, Sparks, NV 89431
- Bi-Rite Market, 5690 Sun Valley Blvd., Sun Valley, NV 89433
- Spanish Springs Library, 7100A Pyramid Hwy., Sparks, NV 89436
- Boys & Girls Club, 2680 E. 9th Street, Reno, NV 89512