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ELKO COUNTY REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

**ELKO COUNTY REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION,
COUNTY OF ELKO, STATE OF NEVADA, REGULAR MEETING TO BE HELD IN
THE ELKO COUNTY COURTHOUSE ROOM 105, 571 IDAHO STREET, ELKO,
NEVADA, BEGINNING AT 10:00 A.M., PACIFIC TIME.**

REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

The Regional Transportation Commission, County of Elko, State of Nevada, meet in a special session on Wednesday, January 18, 2006 in Room 105 of the Elko County Courthouse, 571 Idaho Street, Elko, Nevada beginning at 8:30 A.M. (PST).

Commissioner Members Present: CHARLIE MYERS, Chair
MIKE FRANZOIA
WARREN RUSSELL

Others Present:	ROBERT STOKES	County Manager
	MARILYN TIPTON	Deputy County Clerk
	OTIS TIPTON	County Road Supervisor
	KEVIN LEE	NDOT District Engineer
	MICHAEL MURPHY	NDOT Ast. Dist. Eng.
	CASEY KELLY	NDOT Traffic Engineer
	JOLENE SUPP	Well City Manager
	JIM JEFFRIES	
	ANTOINETTE CAVANAUGH	Elko School Dist. Supt.
	STEVE BOWERS	Elko School District

The following proceedings were held:

Chairman Myers called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

He noted that Commissioner Russell was not present.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Commissioner Myers led the meeting participants in the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.

COMMENTS BY THE GENERAL PUBLIC:

No public comments were submitted at this time.

ELKO COUNTY:

The Board considered a request for funding to assist in the replacement of the roadway flood damaged irrigation structure and cattleguard at Tuscarora, Nevada.

Otis Tipton, Elko County Highway Department, commented that he had previously submitted a request to be placed on this agenda to get financial assistance. He requested \$25,000.00 to help replace the flooded structures damaged in the Tuscarora area. Commissioner Myers asked what the flooding had taken out. Otis Tipton replied the road, a cattleguard and irrigation structure. He stated they had started replacing the road and had installed another cattleguard. Commissioner Myers inquired if that road went to the reservoir. Otis Tipton gave an affirmative response and noted that road went from Tuscarora to Midas and was listed as a regional road.

MOTION: Commissioner Franzoia moved to approve the \$25,000 funding request for the replacement of the roadway flood damaged irrigation structure and cattle guard at Tuscarora, Nevada out of the safety funds. Commissioner Myers seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.

ELKO COUNTY:

Lamoille Highway and Licht Parkway:

Emergency Vehicle Entrance Signal and/or Traffic Signal:

The Board considered a request for match funding for the NDOT Transportation System Improvement project for an Emergency Vehicle Entrance signal and/or discussion of funding for a new traffic signal at the intersection of Lamoille Highway and Licht Parkway in the Spring Creek area.

Commissioner Myers noted that Assemblyman Carpenter had requested

this item be placed on the agenda. Robert Stokes stated Assemblyman Carpenter had requested a full traffic signal at that intersection at their last meeting. Robert Stokes stated the County had submitted a Transportation Improvement Grant Application for an emergency vehicle access signal for that intersection. He was told by Lynn Forsberg the match would be approximately \$145,000 for that emergency signal. He noted that the grant had been written so that the size and type of poles and cross arms would be identical to which was required for a full traffic signal. Robert Stokes had been informed that Assemblyman Carpenter had received a number of phone calls requesting a traffic signal at that intersection. He noted that NDOT had performed repeated traffic signal warrant studies at that intersection and it had not met the warrants for a full traffic signal.

Commissioner Myers had spoken to Kevin Lee of the Nevada Department of Transportation who suggested a roundabout at that location. Kevin Lee explained that a roundabout forced traffic to slow down similar to flashing lights. He stated it would negate the need for an emergency vehicle because traffic would be going slow enough. He stated they had, in the interim, submitted a request to have it evaluated to see if it would work at that intersection. He stated if the County, RTC and the Spring Creek Association would like to look at that; their department would pay for a professional to give a presentation on that. Kevin Lee noted that other communities in the United States were using roundabouts. Commissioner Franzoia commented that there was one by the prison located outside of Carson City which carried a lot of traffic. Kevin Lee stated they needed professionals to see if the design would assist the traffic flow. He cautioned that once you put in a traffic signal they would see their accident rates go up. He stated those accident rates could be more severe. Kevin Lee noted there were more severe accidents in the two intersections with high speed which had new signals. He suggested that they review the situation to see if there was a better alternative.

Commissioner Myers asked how that would affect the emergency access signal if a round-about was installed. Kevin Lee replied that signal would not be needed for a roundabout. Commissioner Myers asked how long a study would take. Kevin Lee replied it would not take long because they would look at the traffic volumes in/out, and geometry to make sure there was sufficient room for the round-about. Commissioner Franzoia noted that people in Europe automatically slow down going into a roundabout. Kevin Lee noted it was more visual and stated they recommend something in the center to obstruct the view

through the roundabout. Commissioner Myers asked if it was less costly than a light. Kevin Lee stated they had not figured a dollar estimate. Commissioner Franzoia stated on Fifth and Spruce they had looked at a roundabout and it was estimated at about \$60,000.00. Commissioner Franzoia felt it would be less for a roundabout in a rural area because there would be no curb, gutters and sidewalks to install. Kevin Lee noted that it would be less costly to maintain than a traffic signal. He stated they could try to bring in professionals and educate the people about a turnabout. Kevin Lee stated they knew putting in a traffic signal was not always the answer. Commissioner Myers inquired what NDOT needed from this Commission to start this process. Kevin Lee suggested a simple written request.

Commissioner Russell arrived at 8:44 a.m.

Commissioner Myers asked if they want to leave this on the agenda. Robert Stokes inquired if it was too late to request a Transportation Improvement Grant Application for a roundabout study. Kevin Lee noted that because Assemblyman Carpenter requested them to do another signal warrant study; they could perform the roundabout study at the same time as the other study. Kevin Lee noted they could put in applications for both studies and they might go for this next fiscal cycle. Commissioner Myers suggested a letter of request be sent to NDOT. Kevin Lee suggested that they keep them separate because one application would be for the emergency signal and the other request was to bring in an expert for a roundabout.

Commissioner Myers requested this be upon the next RTC agenda.

GENERAL DISCUSSION OF ROUTINE RTC ISSUES:

There were no comments submitted.

Chairman Myers noted the next regularly quarterly RTC meeting was scheduled for Wednesday, April 5, 2006, at 10:00 a.m., in Room 105.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 8:47 a.m.

APPROVED,
CHARLIE MYERS, Chairman

ATTEST:

MARILYN TIPTON, Deputy Clerk