



## NORTH VALLEYS CITIZEN ADVISORY BOARD

**DRAFT:** Approval of these draft minutes, or any changes to the draft minutes, will be reflected in writing in the next meeting minutes and/or in the minutes of any future meeting where changes to these minutes are approved by the CAB. Minutes of the regular meeting of the North Valleys Citizen Advisory Board held February 15, 2022 at 6:15 p.m.

**1. \*CALL TO ORDER/DETERMINATION OF QUORUM** - The meeting was called to order at 6:15 p.m. by Teresa Aquila. A quorum was present. Members of the North Valleys CAB include Teresa Aquila, Wendy Leonard, Roger Edwards. Absent: Wesley Johnson, Craig Durbin, Derek Schoepf

**2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** – The pledge was recited.

### **3. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT –**

Nevin Armstrong said he decided to move up here after his 1975 Ford Van was in the Hot August Nights 30 years ago. He said he couldn't pass smog. It's time for Washoe County to stop smogging these old vehicles or stop having Hot August Nights. He said he doesn't feel like he is being treated fairly. The government agencies are hard to deal with. Teresa Aquila

**4. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FOR THE MEETING OF January 10, 2022** (For Possible Action) – Roger Edwards moved to approve the minutes of January 10, 2022. Wendy Leonard seconded the motion to approve the motion, which passed unanimously.

**5. OFF-LEASH DOG PILOT PROGRAM** – Celia Walker, Washoe County Regional Parks and Open Space Park Ranger, will provide information and update on the "Off-Leash Dog Pilot Program" for North Valleys, Lazy 5 and South Valleys areas. (Non-Action Item)

Celia Walker, Park Ranger, spoke about the off-leash pilot program. Wendy Leonard asked about collecting data. Ms. Walker said there are Park Rangers and maintenance workers stationed at each park who use data sheets with the number of people, time, and date collected regularly. Ms. Leonard asked if incidences had been reported. Ms. Walker said they hadn't received reports directly; however, she said she has seen a post on Nextdoor about an incident with a German Sheppard.

**6. RTC LEMMON VALLEY PROJECT** – Reno Transportation Commission (RTC) to provide an update on the Lemmon Drive Segment 1 project. (Non-Action Item)

Judy Tortelli, RTC project manager, provided a PowerPoint slideshow of the Lemmon Drive project.

Teresa Aquila asked about the impact to the traffic going northbound, coming off at Lemmon because right now, it's backed up to Golden and beyond during heavy traffic. Ms. Tortelli said we are not impacting this northbound off-ramp movement. It will remain as it is. It's a single-lane exit through construction with free-flow movement because there won't be any opposing traffic.

Wendy Leonard asked about the northbound U-turn by Walgreens. The eastbound side by Walgreens on Lemmon, for those businesses there, is there anything to help the traffic turn back south, exiting those businesses on the east side of Lemmon? Ms. Tortelli said no. The thought is they will be able to use the U-turn movement that is just up north a little bit. She said with this project; we are trying to improve access and stop unsafe U-turns and people darting across the roads from the businesses.

They will have to use the U-turn. Ms. Leonard asked about widening planned for the highway beyond Golden. Ms. Tortelli said Phase 2 includes widening, which isn't planned until 2026.

**Public Comment:**

Grace said the warehouses created congestion. She asked about a bus option. Ms. Tortelli said she isn't familiar with the transit plans out on Stead Blvd., but she can share the contact information to follow up with Grace. She said she believes there will be micro-transit service but will follow up.

Earl Stiple, Ramsey Way, said it'd been a mess for 20 years, and then we had a flood. You will make improvements on Lemmon; I assume curb and gutter. Ms. Tortelli said the presentation she is giving today is about Segment 1 of Lemmon Drive interchange improvements. She said she is not the project manager of Segment 2. She said any questions for Segment 2, she will direct to Del. His improvement projects are on the website.

Emerson Roger asked when they are planning on closing the off ramp in March. Ms. Tortelli said we were anticipating the first week in March, but the schedule is moving to the 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> week. She said we don't have a confirmed date yet.

Devin Armstrong asked if Segment 2 is Military and beyond. Segment 1 goes up to Military. Ms. Tortelli said I don't know if we have improvements for Segment 2. She said she could let the project manager know. Teresa Aquila suggested calling the RTC office to speak with the project manager.

Pat Wilson asked about emergency vehicles. She said she had been trapped on Lemmon Valley drive with emergency vehicles trying to get through. Ms. Tortelli said absolutely. Emergency vehicles take priority in construction zones. Q&D has made every effort out there to get the emergency vehicles through. Ms. Wilson said she had been on the road, and nothing happened for 30 minutes. The emergency vehicle couldn't get through.

**7. ENVISION WASHOE 2040** – Eric Young, Washoe County Community Services Department Senior Planner, will provide an overview of EnvisionWashoe2040. This is a community-driven process aimed at updating the County's Master Plan and Development Code in support of our diverse and dynamic community to thrive in the next ten to twenty years. (Non-Action Item)

Chris Bronczyk, Washoe County Planner, provided an update and summary of the Envision Washoe 200 Project. He noted he is filling in for Eric Young, who is out sick. He provided Mr. Young's email if anyone had any comments or questions. He said he could not answer any questions as he isn't the lead on this project.

Teresa Aquila said she is on the committee for Envision.

Wendy Leonard noted the survey link on the website is not readily available. Mr. Bronczyk said its in the 'Get Involved' tab on the website. He said he would take that information back to Eric to update the website.

**8. FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION (FAA)** – Larry Cheek, Reno FAA Safety Program Manager, to provide community awareness on the proper use of Drones for both commercial use and recreational use. (Non-Action Item)

Larry Cheek provided a PowerPoint slideshow presentation.

Washoe County Sheriff Deputy Masters, Drone Division, provided an update regarding law enforcement regarding drones.

Brian, a local drone professional, provided a background of the history of drones. Mr. Edward asked about the transponders. Brian said transponders would be incorporated in the computer's CPUs inside the drones or backup controllers. There are several ways these drones can be transmitted.

Lee Oscar, FAA, said there hadn't been approved for any company to do this yet. They will have to retrofit it.

Teresa Aquila asked if anyone could get on the app and identify the drone. Brian said that is on the law enforcement side. Lee Oscar said no, it's not open to the public, but law enforcement can.

A public member asked about the invasion of privacy with drones flying too close to my home. Brian said according to Nevada law flying below 250 feet is considered an invasion of privacy. Deputy Masters said under NRS 493; a drone operator can operate up to 400 feet without special authorizations. As a private citizen, you are protected 250 feet above your property. The legislature designed the law to mimic the trespassing law. You have the ability to trespass them off your property. The identification of drone and operator comes into play. If you know where the drone is coming from, we can attempt to make contact and facilitate a trespass from your property. The operator is to take off and land through the 250 feet buffer. They can penetrate as long as they are stagnant. They can fly from 250 feet to 400 feet above your property.

Lee Oscar answered a public member's questions about shooting a drone. A drone is an aircraft. You cannot shoot at an aircraft. Even law enforcement, you cannot shoot at a drone. FBI will be visiting you.

Earl Stiple spoke about air traffic has quadrupled in the last few years. He said he loves airplanes. He said the air race guys are bringing in a different class jet. Lee Oscar said small aviation was shut down during COVID; it's past that now. General aviation is booming. The airlines are critically short pilots, including the air force. To answer his question about fires, he said around the Stead airport; there is a temporary flight restriction to allow other events to have priority during fires. Stead is considered a drone test airport. Lee Oscar said FAA does not answer noise complaints; it's up to the airports.

**9. BOARD MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS/REQUESTS** — There were no announcements.

**10. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT** – There were no requests for public comment.

**ADJOURNMENT** – The meeting adjourned at 7:46 p.m.