



## Connecting Nevada Long-Range Transportation Planning Public Information Meetings

Thursday, January 17, 2013, Historic 5<sup>th</sup> Street School, 401 S. Fourth St., Suite 145, Las Vegas, NV

Tuesday, January 22, 2013; McKinley Arts & Culture Center, 925 Riverside Drive, Reno, NV

Thursday, January 24, 2013, City of Elko Council Chambers, 1751 College Avenue, Elko, NV

Brian Sandoval  
Governor

Rudy Malfabon  
Director

Nevada Department of Transportation  
1263 S. Stewart Street  
Carson City, NV 89712



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January 2013

WELCOME:

Thank you for attending this informational meeting regarding the Nevada Department of Transportation's (NDOT) Connecting Nevada Long-Range Transportation Planning Study. In 2011, NDOT launched Phase II of the Connecting Nevada Study, an initiative to address the future of Nevada's transportation system. Connecting Nevada is a statewide, multimodal plan to chart Nevada's transportation future in ways that respect our state's unique geographic areas, provide for new and emerging opportunities, encourage economic growth, and promote responsible development. This public information meeting is an opportunity for the community to review the draft plan and exhibits, provide feedback regarding current findings, and propose additional considerations for the project team.

NDOT is conducting this meeting in an open-house format from 4 to 7 p.m. Representatives will give a brief presentation beginning at 5:30 p.m. followed by a short open comment period from the audience.

As you enter the room, you will notice displays describing the study. Representatives will be located at the displays. Please take this opportunity to ask questions and discuss the Connecting Nevada Long-Range Transportation Study with them.

During this meeting, as well as any public meetings conducted by NDOT, we are seeking your comments. There are several ways you may give us your comments for the public record. Exhibits you wish to submit as a part of the public record will be accepted.

First: During the open-house portions of the meeting, you may make a verbal statement to the court reporter. Comments you make during the audience comment period following the presentation will also be recorded for the public record.

Second: You may fill out the comment form attached to this handout and deposit it in the comment box or give the completed form to one of the representatives.

Third: The public meeting record will remain open for two weeks following this meeting. If you prefer to write a letter or mail your completed comment form and any exhibits, these will become part of the official transcript of the proceedings if mailed to **Tim Mueller, Project Manager, Transportation Planning Division, Nevada Department of Transportation, 1263 South Stewart St., Carson City, NV, 89712, and received by 5 p.m., Friday, February 8, 2013.**

Fourth: You may e-mail your comments to [tmueller@dot.state.nv.us](mailto:tmueller@dot.state.nv.us). Please reference the project in the subject line. E-mail comments will also be accepted until 5 p.m., Friday, February 8, 2013.

Thank you for attending this informational meeting and providing comments to help shape the future of transportation across Nevada.

Sincerely,

Tim Mueller, Project Manager  
Transportation Planning  
Nevada Department of Transportation



# Executive Summary

Public Information Meeting ■ January 2013

## PLANNING OUR TRANSPORTATION FUTURE

### What is Connecting Nevada?

The Nevada Department of Transportation (NDOT) is developing Connecting Nevada, an initiative to address the future of Nevada's transportation system. Connecting Nevada is a long-range, statewide multimodal plan to chart Nevada's transportation future.

### Why is Connecting Nevada important?

Transportation planning in the state is typically done for a 20-year planning horizon. Looking beyond 20 years gives us an opportunity to envision what transportation in Nevada might look like in the future. Connecting Nevada is looking out 50 years into the future.

Metropolitan planning organizations (MPOs) in the state (Regional Transportation Commission (RTC) of Washoe County, Carson Area MPO, Tahoe MPO, and RTC of Southern Nevada) prepare detailed transportation models to understand future transportation demand. The state has no such tool to address inter-regional and interstate travel.

### How is NDOT planning for the future?

Connecting Nevada includes the first statewide travel-demand model to evaluate scenarios such as growth and improved regional connections. In addition, the project engages stakeholders to help identify future needs to improve capacity, efficiency, and the safety of our state routes. So far, Connecting Nevada has identified 71 projects to improve transportation.

In addition to identifying projects, this process has developed policy guidance that has already helped provide a link to other elements of planning, such as environmental clearances and shared use of corridors with other infrastructure like utilities, bike lanes and rail.

### Who is involved?

This process is being led by NDOT, but the success of long-range planning depends on input from a wide range of sources. The process includes both Technical Advisory and Steering Committees made up of technical experts from NDOT and the MPOs. Stakeholders including representatives from Nevada cities, businesses, transit and special interest groups shared ideas and priorities at meetings in Elko, Ely, Las Vegas, Reno, Tonopah and Winnemucca. Public information meetings in Las Vegas, Reno and Elko will provide an additional opportunity for residents to provide feedback.



*I-15 Las Vegas*



*I-80 Reno*

## CONTACT US

For additional information about Connecting Nevada:

**Web:** [www.connectingnevada.org](http://www.connectingnevada.org)

**Phone:** (775) 888-7351

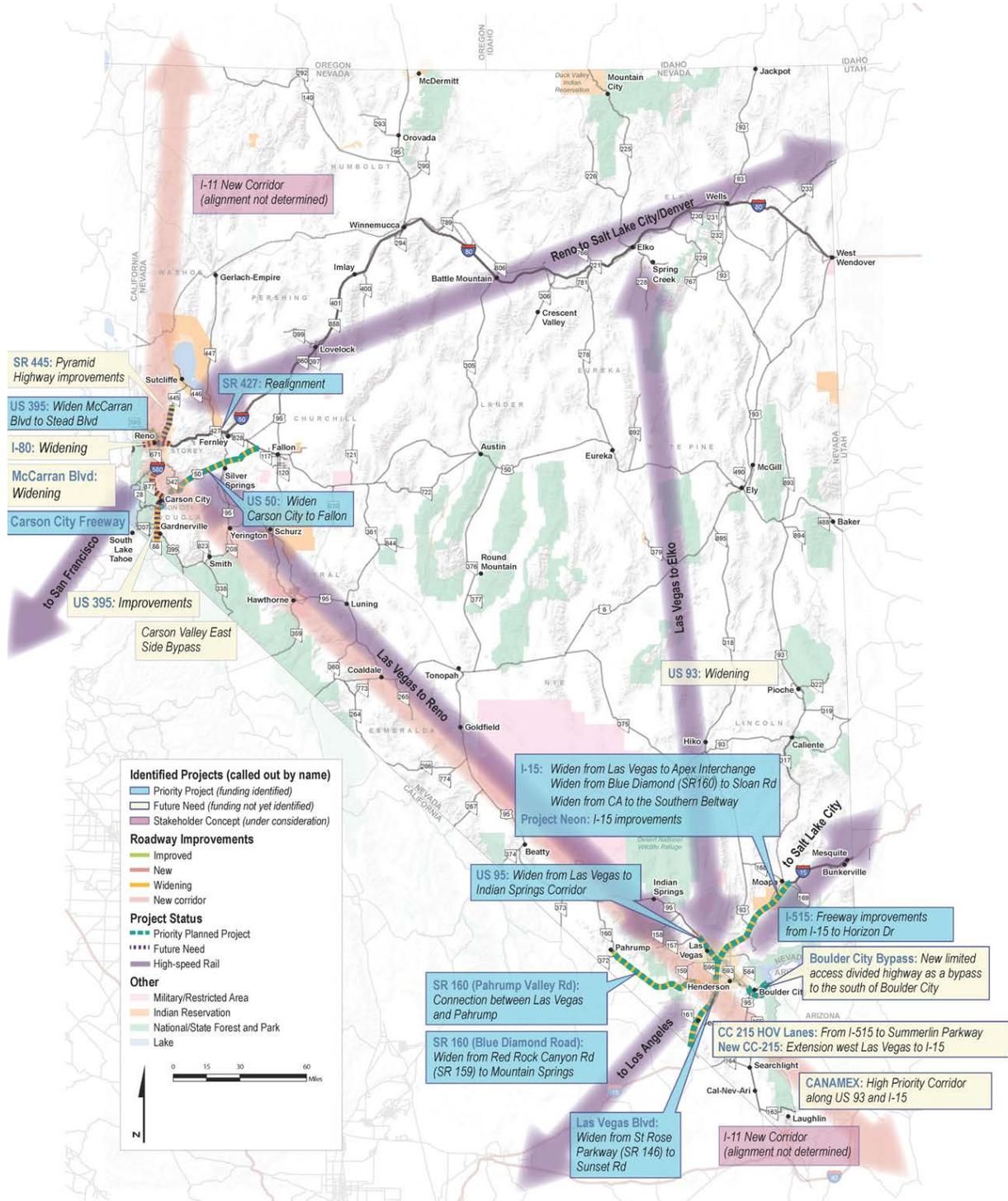
**Email:** [connectingnevada@dot.state.nv.us](mailto:connectingnevada@dot.state.nv.us)

**Address:** 1263 S. Stewart Street,  
Carson City, NV 89712

**Tim Mueller**  
**NDOT Project Manager**  
(775) 888-7351

**Jason Van Havel**  
**NDOT Project Manager**  
(775) 888-7119





Disclaimer: None of the routes shown represent actual alignments. The projects noted are for discussion purposes only and should not be used for any other purpose.



# Executive Summary

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## Future Needs

*Future Needs are projects that have been identified by NDOT or the regional planning authorities through their planning processes, but may not yet have identified funding sources.*

### Roadway

- New: Winnemucca Ranch Road from California State Line to Spring Mountain Town Center
- New Southeast Connector: Greg Sparks Boulevard to South Meadows Parkway
- New: East Truckee Canyon/Spanish Springs Connector
- New: USA Parkway from Comstock Valley to New Lazy 5 Parkway from Sun Valley Boulevard to Wingfield Hills Road

### Nonmotorized

- Tahoe Pyramid Bikeway: Verdi to Sparks, Mustang to USA Parkway, Wadsworth to Pyramid Lake
- America's Most Beautiful Bikeway

### Rail

- High-speed interstate passenger railroad from Victorville, CA to Las Vegas, NV

## Stakeholder Concepts over the Planning Horizon

*Stakeholder Concepts are projects which have been identified through the Connecting Nevada stakeholder outreach activities and may be considered for further evaluation in the future.*

### Roadway

- New: East to west route from Winnemucca to Nevada/California Stateline; construct one lane each direction
- US 95: Widen from north of I-80 to Nevada/Oregon Stateline; add one lane in each direction
- SR 225: Widen from I-80 to Nevada/Idaho Stateline; add one lane in each direction
- Improve Elko to Las Vegas connectivity: Widen US 93, SR 318, US 6, US 93; add one lane in each direction
- I-80: Widen between Winnemucca to Reno; add one lane in each direction

### Rail

- Reno to Salt Lake City improved passenger rail
- High-speed rail corridor between Reno, Salt Lake City, Denver, Las Vegas, Phoenix and Los Angeles
- Ely to Caliente and Pahrump to Jean rail connections
- Los Angeles to Reno improved freight corridor
- Gardnerville/Minden improved Reno light rail corridor
- Reno, Fernley, Carson commuter rail corridor
- Los Angeles to Las Vegas-X-Train

## Nevada State Rail Plan

*In September 2012, the State Transportation Board adopted the Nevada State Rail Plan. Key elements not identified by stakeholders (see above) are summarized below.*

- Reno–Tahoe–San Francisco passenger rail service support for the proposed 2022 Reno-Tahoe Olympics bid
- Las Vegas and other cities: high-speed rail passenger terminals
- Northern and southern Nevada inland port projects
- Statewide: NDOT rail/highway grade-crossing improvements

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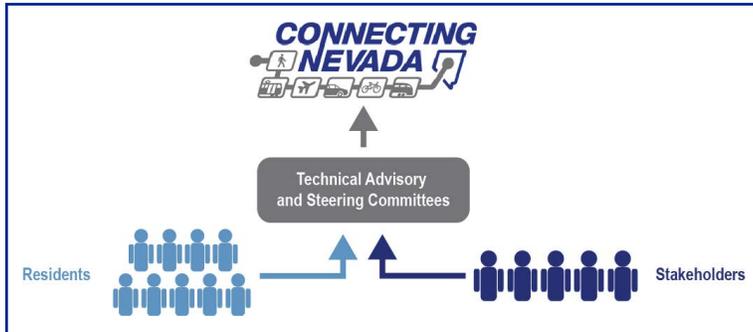


# Executive Summary

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## WHAT WE HEARD

Through meetings with stakeholders, economic development agencies, environmental groups and government entities from across Nevada, the following issues were consistently identified as priorities that should guide the planning process.



### Safety

- Improve signage for consistency and communication with drivers (intelligent transportation systems)
- Provide additional turn-out and passing lanes for improved efficiency and safety
- Address issues of access to emergency services and communication, especially in rural areas of the state

### Economic Development

- Include long-term transportation planning to support and encourage economic development and diversification
- Identify key sectors for which long-range transportation planning will affect economic development, including renewable energy, mining, distribution, and tourism
- Coordinate long-range transportation planning with Nevada's economic development goals and objectives

### Partnership Development

- Partner to identify potential shared or multiuse corridors for transportation, utility, and communication
- Incorporate proactive processes to collaborate with federal, state, regional, and local government agencies
- Identify and expand opportunities for public/private partnerships in transportation planning and development

### Improved Access

- Determine appropriate means to expand freight capacity, such as dedicated truck lanes or urban bypass routes
- Incorporate plans for walkable communities, complete streets, and other sustainable/quality of life options
- Coordinate long-term transportation planning to strengthen network of bike lanes and regional trails

### Environmental Issues

- Understand implications of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) on planning and options
- Identify opportunities to better integrate the NEPA process with transportation planning
- Understand constraints of water availability, threatened and endangered species, and conservation areas

## HOW TO COMMENT



**Submit tonight** – Fill out a comment form (last page of this packet) and place it in the comment box.



**Mail** – Send to: Tim Mueller, Project Manager, Planning Division, Nevada Department of Transportation, 1263 S. Stewart St., Carson City, NV 89712



**Email** – Send to [connectingnevada@dot.state.nv.us](mailto:connectingnevada@dot.state.nv.us) and please reference this project in the subject line.



**Open comment session** – During the open comment period following presentation, share your comment verbally.



**Verbal comment** – A court reporter will record the presentation and will be available to take comments before and after the presentation.

**Comments will be accepted until 5 p.m. on Friday, February 8, 2013.**

