

2.0. THE PRIMARY PARTNERS

Nevada Department of Transportation

The Nevada Department of Transportation has lead responsibility for the planning, construction, operation and maintenance of the 5,400 miles of highway and nearly 1,000 bridges that make up the state highway system. NDOT is divided into three districts, with a district engineer and at least two assistant engineers in each. The districts are responsible for supervising all state transportation activities within their local areas. NDOT's headquarters building is located in Carson City, with the three main district offices located in Las Vegas (District One), Reno (District 2) and Elko (District 3).

A seven-member Board of Directors oversees the Nevada Department of Transportation. Directors include Nevada's Governor, Lt. Governor, Attorney General and State Controller. Three additional Directors, one representing each of the three NDOT districts (Las Vegas, Reno and Elko) comprises the remaining membership.

MPO's and Transit Providers

Transit providers and Metropolitan Planning Agencies (MPO's) are partners with NDOT to help ensure successful HOV/managed lane facility planning and subsequent education and outreach actions. Because MPO's are the "local planning voice" with regard to HOV/managed lane vision, without their enthusiastic support, HOV/managed lanes have difficulty succeeding, as the additional programs which support HOV/managed lanes (park and ride lots, commute trip reduction programs) may not be prioritized. Additionally, because of the very nature of HOV and managed lane facilities in Nevada – to promote person movement – transit usage (and high patronage of the buses traveling on the HOV/managed lane) is elemental to facility success. It is impossible to over emphasize that transit is a key component to success, for without transit usage it is very difficult, if not impossible, to reach the desired HOV/managed lane person-movement thresholds.

In Northern Nevada, the Regional Transportation Commission (RTC) of Washoe County serves the citizens of Reno and Sparks along with unincorporated areas of Washoe County and is responsible regional public transportation and the transportation network for Washoe County. The RTC of Washoe County was formed in July 1979 as a result of legislation approved by the Nevada Legislature, which consolidated the Regional Street and Highway Commission, the Regional Transit Commission and the Washoe County Area Transportation Study Policy Committee.

The RTC of Washoe County is supervised by an executive director and directed by a regional board comprised of five representatives appointed from three government jurisdictions – two from the Reno City Council, one from the Sparks City Council and two from the Washoe County Board of Commissioners.

In Southern Nevada, the Regional Transportation Commission of Southern Nevada, or RTC, is the regional government agency that performs many transportation activities within the Southern Nevada community. The RTC was created in 1965 and in 1981; the agency was named the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the Las Vegas Urban Area and charged with the responsibility to state and federal governments for maintaining a continuing, cooperative and

comprehensive transportation planning process. In 1983, state legislation enabled the agency to own and operate a public mass transit system, known today as Citizens Area Transit (CAT).

The Southern Nevada RTC is directed by an executive director and overseen by a Board of Commissioners. Board membership is set by State statute and consists of two members from the Board of Clark County Commissioners, two members from the city council of the largest incorporated city and one member from the city council of every other incorporated city in the county. Additionally, the Nevada Department of Transportation Director serves as an ex-officio member.