



## **NORTH VALLEYS CITIZEN ADVISORY BOARD**

**DRAFT MINUTES:** 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 on March 13, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. at North Valleys Library, 1075 N Hills Blvd. Reno, NV 89506

- 1. CALL TO ORDER/ DETERMINATION OF QUORUM** – Roger Edwards, Teresa Aquila, Wendy Leonard, William Robinson, Kelly Orr. Absent: Derek Schoepf.
- 2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** – The Pledge was recited.
- 3. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT** –  
Gilbert Lentz spoke about I-580 improvements. North Virginia to 580 interchanges will prevent residents from being able to exit. We will have to reroute around. It won't alleviate traffic issues but might make it safer. They should extend the third lane.
- 4. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FOR THE MEETINGS OF [February 13, 2023](#)** (For Possible Action) – Roger Edwards moved to approve the minutes of February 13, 2023. Wendy Leonard seconded the motion which carried unanimously in favor.
- 5. PUBLIC SAFETY UPDATES** – General community updates from public safety representatives; including but not limited to Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District, Washoe County Sheriff's Office, and others as such [Non-Action Item]

Battalion Chief Solaro provided an update from the previous month. He said there were 214 calls in the month of February. Four fires, 145 EMS, 38 good intent, and nine false alarms. He said as the winter continues, we have up staffed with an extra engine. We are responding to needs. We will have open burning in March, and possibly into April, weather dependent. We have green waste scheduled for Lemmon Valley on April 22 and 23, 9-4 p.m. Curbside chipping is a new pilot program for the elderly, low-income, and disabled. Chair Aquila asked if they would do green waste days in Rancho Haven. He said just the two days he provided.

Sheriff's office representative advised the public to visit their website to see the statistics reports. He spoke about an outreach program. He said they have a lot of new deputies.

- 6. WASTE MANAGEMENT** – Representatives from Waste Management will be available to provide information about trash disposal service during winter weather.

Kendra Kostelecky provided a PowerPoint presentation.

A public comment asked about the process of emptying the snow boxes. Are we supposed to call you or expect WM will come once a week? Ms. Kostelecky said they would be serviced once a week. She said they could fill up faster; in that case, you can call, and we can service it.

In response to Gilbert's question, Ms. Kostelecky said we team up with KTMB for clean-ups. She will give him her business card.

Mr. Edwards asked if the drivers notice when the totes are damaged. Ms. Kostelecky said they do, but they aren't doing an inspection. She said you could get a new cart every year. Just let us know, and we will schedule a swap out.

A public member said his recycling was passed up, and we contacted WM. He said they would be

serviced on the next service day, but he suggested the message have more clarification on the next waste day or next recycling day.

- 7. RAIL AUXILIARY TEAM (RAT) OVERVIEW** – Program Coordinator and Rail Awareness Consultant Richard Gent will share information on how RAT provides training and education to individuals familiar with rail operations under the direction of local law enforcement to act as a force multiplier in helping keep their communities safe and secure. (Non-Action Item)

Richard Gent provided a PowerPoint presentation.

Mr. Edwards asked about heated barring sensors. Mr. Gent spoke about the recent derailment in Ohio. He said the train was sparking for train miles. There were detectors to detect sparks. Mr. Gent spoke about derailments.

Randall asked if the PowerPoint would be available. Ms. Wilson noted it would be available online after the meeting.

- 8. US 395 IMPROVEMENTS** – A representative from the Nevada Department of Transportation (NDOT) will be present to discuss the planned improvements from the [US 395 North Valleys Phase 1B Project](#). This project will cover the 4-mile stretch of U.S. 395 from N. McCarran Boulevard to Golden Valley Road.

Bob Vrooman provided a PowerPoint slideshow.

Victor Peters addressed the question raised during public comment and why they chose a braided ramp design. He said he made a screen that kind of showed the whole area, there have been quite a few comments about the ramp, and it just wanted to touch on why it was put in there and how it was designed. The traffic studies of the Golden Valley interchange showed that the current ramp was going to start backing up into mainline traffic. They suggested a braided ramp to provide additional storage along 395. But to make that work, we had to basically have the off-ramp occur at Panther Valley. The way this is set up currently is getting off it at Panther Valley to use the Golden Valley off ramp; you'll go over the northbound Virginia St./Panther Valley onramp northbound, and then basically, that just provides additional storage. We looked at trying to put some sort of slip ramp in here. We had several comments about people currently using this ramp to get off at Golden Valley and avoid the local street system. We ran into issues trying to keep that within NDOT right-of-way and in our control of access. There are NV energy transmission lines. You'll see that NDOT control of access fencing, and realistically, this ramp comes down and goes over a new structure that will go over the top of this ramp. And we didn't have any room within the current control of access and inside those power poles to put a slip ramp in there. I hope that covers that.

Mr. Vrooman spoke about the goals of the project to keep the traffic moving. He shared his contact information and invited the public to share their comments and ideas.

A public member said she had a question regarding the backs up to the ranch. She said there are complaints about getting off at Parr going southbound or northbound. The stop line was moved because people couldn't see around the walls, which put you in traffic. She asked if that would be fixed as part of the northbound/southbound construction. Mr. Peters said that as part of the projects, we will address the substandard shoulders. We will be putting in 12-foot shoulders inside/outside both directions for broken-down vehicles. That should solve the problem. Mr. Peters said a developer is coming in on the northeast corner of Parr Blvd. As part of the project, they had to signal both sides of Parr Blvd. They are getting a permit for signals. Ms. Aquila said it backs up on the freeway right now. The public member said the problem is now, and the development is a way out. Can we ask the developer to put in temporary lights ahead of the development? Mr.

Vrooman said they are getting a permit and will be ahead of our work. Work is imminent. Mr. Peters said putting in the signal before starting the development was required. They can begin as soon as the snow melts out there. The public member said she is concerned the lights will be put in last, and we will have more traffic from development with the TMCC traffic. Making a left from northbound or southbound is a nightmare. She asked if there was anything you could do, such as a temporary light. Mr. Vrooman said a temporary light would take just as long as to get the actual light going. Reno required them to put the signal in prior to development. The public member said they need to work on both signals, not just one. Mr. Vrooman said he would look into it. The Sheriff representative said one of their deputies was hit the other day by someone who could not see making a left turn. It's worse than before it was fixed. Mr. Vrooman will follow up with Reno and District NDOT to see how we can increase the sight distance. Rob Pierce said he goes north and southbound, and there is always an issue between Golden Valley and Lemmon Valley, and he doesn't understand what is happening. He asked if you could extend it another ¼ mile. It's a big disservice to stop it. Go to Golden Valley instead of stopping at Lemmon Valley. Chair Aquila said it backs up at Red Rocks too. Mr. Vrooman said we had to find a project that we could deliver the quickest and that fits within the existing right-of-way. The biggest piece is the funding available and march it forward. We need to get some right-of-way out there. As you increase construction zones, it accumulates backup too.

A public member said he does this drive twice a day. He agreed with Rob. He said we go from three lanes and two lanes. Adding one extra lane won't be a significant increase to funding. It would move traffic through there.

Kelly Orr said for the Parr interchange and now the Golden Valley interchange, how many provided public comment with this new phase and timeline that you have? Are you working with RTC on the road construction and widening on Military, Stead, and North Hills that is expected to be widened? Mr. Vrooman said we received 70-80 comments by email, website, or phone. We received several hundred on the email list. The website had 2,000 hits. He said we do talk to RTC regularly and speak to them on two projects. We will coordinate with them to make sure there are no conflicts. Ms. Orr said there might be a missed opportunity as people are experiencing traffic delays with housing construction projects and impacting freeway access. We have construction on the freeways. It's going to be constant construction around the clock. We need that conversation with them sooner than later. Mr. Vrooman said he could contact the City of Reno for coordination. She said there are about seven projects out there. He invited her to reach out to her. Chair Aquila asked him to come back next month. He said he could report on the topics he needs to follow up on.

- 9. NEIGHBORHOOD DEVELOPMENT HUB** – Staff to display the online [HUB](#) for review by the CAB members and/or attendees to determine if there are new or existing projects for discussion. Specific questions and feedback will be brought back to the appropriate staff for announcement at the next CAB meeting. [Non-Action Item]

Ms. Wilson provided an update on the HUB site.

Mr. Edwards said there is flooding on the gun streets. He said it would wash out the road eventually. He said it's Marlin ditch.

Ms. Leonard spoke about the Peterson and Juniper Village construction projects. Those are both in Cold Springs. Ms. Wilson asked her to send her the link or additional information on that.

- 10. BOARD MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS/REQUESTS/DISCUSSION** — This item is limited to announcements, requests for future agenda items, or discussion by CAB members and/or Commissioner Jeanne Herman [Non-Action Item]

Ms. Wilson said in lieu of postcards; we printed the postcards out to share. She said we received a lot of returned postcards when they were mailed last time. She invited the board and public members to put them up at the local supermarkets and neighbors.

Mr. Edwards said we received another threatening letter for non-payment for utility for Golden Valley regarding the recharge program. He said he would provide a packet. The system has been shut down for seven years but is still billing for it. They can make all the changes they want. It's close to \$1 million in funds. He said the County representative, Dwayne Smith, said we could disregard the letters, but people are concerned about the threatening letter. He said he called the number on the letter, and they said they didn't know anything about Dwayne Smith and said to disregard this. The CAB member asked to have Dwayne Smith attend to provide an update.

11. **GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT** – Comment heard under this item will be limited to three (3) minutes per person and may pertain to matters both on and off the agenda. The public is encouraged to submit a "Request to Speak" form to the Board chair. Comments are to be addressed to the Board as a whole.

**ADJOURNMENT – The meeting adjourned at 7:32 p.m.**