



WASHOE COUNTY

Integrity Communication Service

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STAFF REPORT

BOARD MEETING DATE: March 26, 2019

DATE: February 25, 2019

TO: Board of County Commissioners

FROM: Dave Solaro, Arch., P.E., Assistant County Manager
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THROUGH: John Slaughter, County Manager

SUBJECT: Recommendation to adopt a Resolution Supporting the Project known as the Reno Spaghetti Bowl Project. (All Commission Districts.)

SUMMARY

The Nevada Department of Transportation has been working in cooperative partnership with the City of Reno, Washoe County, and community interests to develop and construct the "Spaghetti Bowl Project." The project is intended to eliminate the traffic back-up that occurs at the I-80 and I-580 Interchange. The Project is expected to increase overall freeway safety by addressing the unsafe portions of the roadway.

The Spaghetti Bowl Project includes the following elements:

- I-80 freeway capacity improvements (widening) from the Sierra Street-Virginia Street-Center Street interchange to the East McCarran Boulevard interchange
- I-580/US 395 freeway capacity improvements (widening) from Parr Boulevard to Kietzke Lane
- Reconstruction and widening of Freeway Ramps in the freeway-to-freeway interchange to improve safety and operations
- Interchange improvements including reconstruction and/or enhancement of the Virginia Street, Wells Avenue, Fourth Street, Kietzke Lane, Rock Boulevard, Pyramid Way, E. McCarran Boulevard, Clear Acre Lane, N. McCarran Boulevard, Oddie Boulevard, Second Street, Mill Street, Plumb Lane, and Moana Lane and S. Virginia Street local road interchanges
- Realignment of 9th Street with 10th Street/G Street
- Retention of the inbound direct access ramp from southbound I-580 to the Reno-Tahoe International Airport

Strategic Objective supported by this item: Safe, secure and healthy communities.

PREVIOUS ACTION

On November 13, 2018, the Board of County Commissioners (Board) heard a presentation and update on major transportation studies and projects, including the Spaghetti Bowl Project and US 395 North improvements.

AGENDA ITEM # _____

On February 27, 2019, the Reno City Council adopted a Resolution Supporting the Project known as the Reno Spaghetti Bowl Project.

BACKGROUND

The Nevada Department of Transportation (NDOT), in preparation for continued population growth, is improving portions along Interstate 80, Interstate 580, and U.S. 395, with particular attention to the I-80/I-580 Interchange, also known as the Spaghetti Bowl. Spaghetti Bowl improvements include short-, mid- and long-range projects. NDOT has plans in place to add more freeway digital message signs advising drivers of upcoming traffic conditions near the Spaghetti Bowl. Long-range projects may include the widening of the freeway and interchange ramps to accommodate increased traffic volumes.

Phase One: Spaghetti Bowl Xpress

Spaghetti Bowl Xpress, an early action project, serves as phase one of NDOT's Spaghetti Bowl Project, and addresses the areas most critical for safety within the Spaghetti Bowl system-to-system interchange. With the proposed Spaghetti Bowl Xpress improvements (see below), eastbound I-80 backups approaching the exit to I-580/US 395 should be greatly reduced or eliminated, and southbound I-580/US 395 backups at the Spaghetti Bowl should be eliminated.

Phase One Project Scope includes:

- EASTBOUND I-80: Stripe and sign the freeway so that two lanes are dedicated to the eastbound exit; and revise the Wells entrance to a parallel entrance metered during the peak hours
- SOUTHBOUND I-580/US395: Restore the third southbound lane at I-80; and restore appropriate lane balance down to the Villanova exit
- EASTBOUND I-80 EXIT RAMPS: Widen the east-to-south ramp to two lanes
- LOCAL INTERCHANGES: Resolve the weaving issue between Second Street/Glendale Avenue and Mill Street

FISCAL IMPACT

There is no fiscal impact to adopt the Resolution in support of the project.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended the Board of County Commissioners adopt a Resolution Supporting the Project known as the Reno Spaghetti Bowl Project.

POSSIBLE MOTION

Should the Board agree with staff's recommendation, a possible motion would be: "Move to adopt a Resolution Supporting the Project known as Reno Spaghetti Bowl Project."