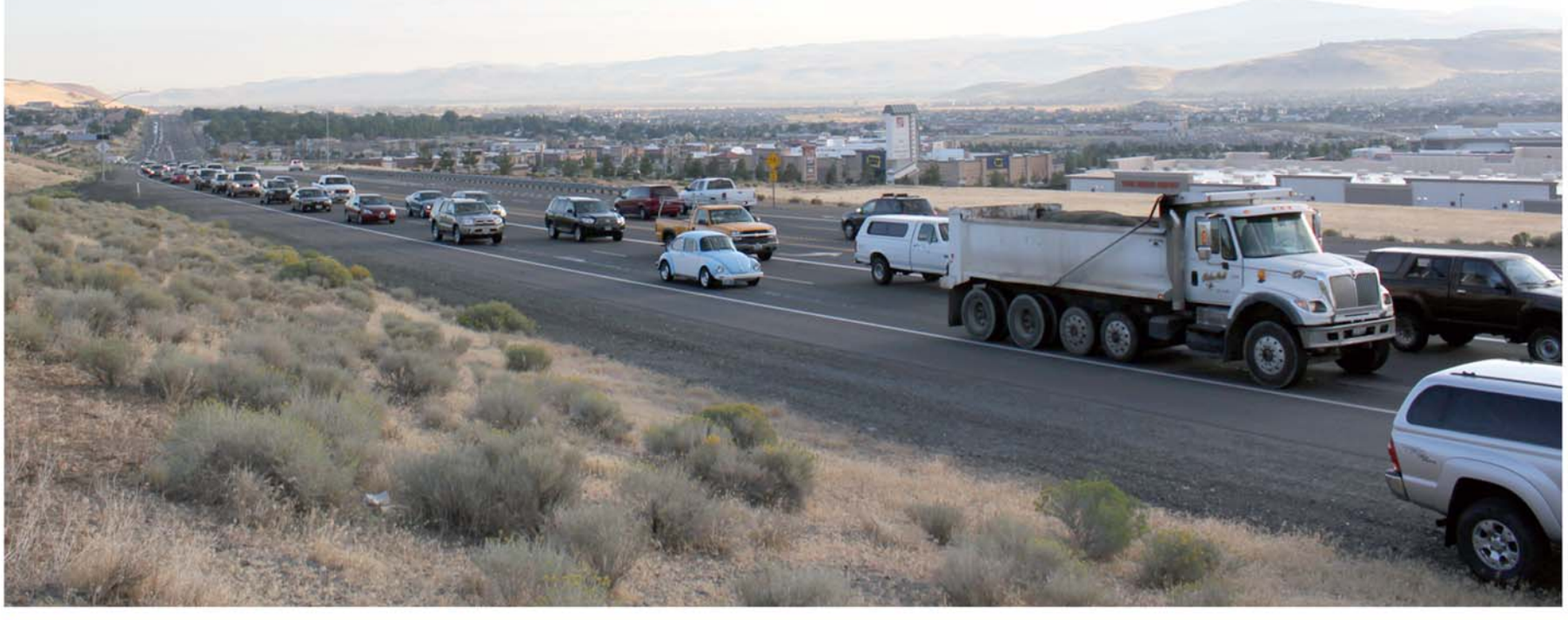
RTC PYRAMID HIGHWAY US 395 CONNECTION

Washoe County, Nevada

Final Environmental Impact Statement and Section 4(f) Evaluation

FHWA-NV-EIS-12-02-F



Prepared for:

NEVADA DOT

RTC

U.S. Department of Transportation Federal Highway Administration

June 2018

FHWA-NV-EIS-12-02-F

Pyramid Highway/US 395 Connection
Final Environmental Impact Statement

NDOT Project No.: 73390/73391
NDOT Highway Agreement No.: P461-07-063

Submitted Pursuant to 42 USC 4332(2)(c) and 49 USC 303 by the U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration, Nevada Department of Transportation, and Regional Transportation Commission, with the Bureau of Land Management as a cooperating agency:

6/15/18
Date of Approval

Susan Klekar
Division Administrator, Federal Highway Administration

6-15-18
Date of Approval

Rudy Malfabon, PE
Director, Nevada Department of Transportation

6/14/18
Date of Approval

Lee Gibson
Executive Director, Washoe County Regional Transportation Commission

The following individuals may be contacted for additional information concerning this document:

Abdelmoez Abdalla, PhD
Environmental Program Manager
U.S. Department of Transportation
Federal Highway Administration-Nevada Division
705 North Plaza Street, Suite 220
Carson City, Nevada 89701
(775) 687-1231

Steve M. Cooke, PE
Environmental Services Division Chief
Nevada Department of Transportation
1263 South Stewart Street
Carson City, Nevada 89712
(775) 888-7013

Abstract

The Federal Highway Administration, in cooperation with the Nevada Department of Transportation and the Regional Transportation Commission of Washoe County, prepared this Final Environmental Impact Statement (Final EIS) to identify and evaluate transportation improvements along the Pyramid Highway (State Highway 445) corridor in the area of Northeast Truckee Meadows. Improvements considered in this Final EIS address the regional movement of people and goods; relieve congestion on Pyramid Highway; and provide improved east-west community connectivity between Pyramid Highway, United States Highway 395, and Vista Boulevard. This Final EIS provides a detailed evaluation of proposed improvements, including an examination of the purpose and need for the proposed action, alternatives under consideration, the affected environment, environmental consequences, impacts to Section 4(f) properties, and mitigation measures. Five alternatives, including the No-Action Alternative, were considered for implementation in the project area.

Comments on this Final EIS are due by July 30, 2018, or 30 days after the Notice of Availability is published in the *Federal Register*, whichever is later, and should be sent to Steve Cooke, Nevada Department of Transportation, 1263 South Stewart Street, Carson City, NV 89712.

FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

Prepared by:

Regional Transportation Commission
Nevada Department of Transportation
and
Federal Highway Administration

June 2018

LIST OF ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

AADT	Average Annual Daily Traffic
AASHTO	American Association of State Highway Transportation Officials
ACM	Asbestos-Containing Materials
ADT	Average Daily Traffic
APE	Area of Potential Effect
BIA	U.S. Bureau of Indian Affairs
BLM	U.S. Bureau of Land Management
BMP	Best Management Practice
BRT	Bus Rapid Transit
BTU	British Thermal Unit
BWQP	Bureau of Water Quality Planning
CAA	Clean Air Act
CAB	Citizens Advisory Board
CCCRMP	Carson City Consolidated Resource Management Plan
CDP	Census Designated Place
CEQ	Council on Environmental Quality
CF	Consensus Forecast
CFR	Code of Federal Regulations
CMP	Pyramid Highway Corridor Management Plan
CO_2	Carbon Dioxide
CWA	Clean Water Act
CWS	Carson Wandering Skipper
dBA	A Weighted Decibels
DCA	Development Constraints Areas
DEIS	Draft Environmental Impact Statement
DOT	Department of Transportation
DRI	Desert Research Institute
EA	Environmental Assessment
EDR	Environmental Data Resources
EIS	Environmental Impact Statement
EJ	Environmental Justice
EO	Executive Order
EPA	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
ESA	Environmental Site Assessment
FAC	Facultative
FACU	Facultative Upland
FACW	Facultative Wetland
FEIS	Final Environmental Impact Statement
FEMA	Federal Emergency Management Agency
FESA	Federal Endangered Species Act

LIST OF ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

FFPA	Farmland Protection Policy Act of 1981
FHWA	Federal Highway Administration
FIRMs	Flood Insurance Rate Maps
FTA	Federal Transit Administration
GAP	Gap Analysis Project
GHG	Greenhouse Gas
GID	General Improvement District
GIS	Geographic Information System
HCM	Highway Capacity Manual
HHS	U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
HOV	High Occupancy Vehicle
HRIF	Historic Resource Inventory Form
HRPS	Historic Reno Preservation Society
HUC	Hydrologic Unit Code
HUD	U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
IAC	Interagency Coordination
ICF	Interim Consensus Forecast
IMACS	Intermountain Archaeological Computer System
LBP	Lead-Based Paint
Leq	The energy equivalent of steady-state sound level, over a period of time usually an hour
LOS	Level of Service
LRMP	Land and Resource Management Plan
MBTA	Migratory Bird Treaty Act
MHC	Mobile Home Community
MHI	Median Household Income
MLRA	Major Land Resource Area
MOVES	Motor Vehicle Emissions Simulator
Mpg	Miles Per Gallon
mph	Miles Per Hour
MS4	Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems
MSA	Metropolitan Statistical Area
MSAT	Mobile Source Air Toxics
MU/DRC	Mixed-Use/Dandini Regional Center Overlay District
NAAQS	National Ambient Air Quality Standards
NAC	Nevada Administrative Code
NAC	Noise Abatement Criteria
NCHRP	National Cooperative Highway Research Program
NDEP	Nevada Division of Environmental Protection
NDOT	Nevada Department of Transportation
NDOW	Nevada Department of Wildlife
NEPA	National Environmental Policy Act

LIST OF ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

NHPA	National Historic Preservation Act
NHTSA	National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
NI	No Indicator Status
NNHP	Nevada Natural Heritage Program
NO_2	Nitrogen Dioxide
NOA	Notice of Availability
NOI	Notice of Intent
NPDES	National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System
NRCS	National Resource Conservation Service
NRDG	Noise Reduction Design Goal
NRHP	National Register of Historic Places
NUD	New Urban Development
OBL	Obligate Wetland
PA	Programmatic Agreement
Pb	Lead
PM_{10}	Particulate Matter less than ten microns in diameter
$PM_{2.5}$	Particulate Matter less than 2.5 microns in diameter
POAQC	Projects of Air Quality Concern
ppm	Parts Per Million
R&PP	Recreation and Public Purposes
RCRA	Resource Conservation and Recovery Act
REC	Recognized Environmental Conditions
RMHQ	Requirements to Maintain Existing Higher Quality
RMP	Resource Management Plan
ROD	Record of Decision
RPC	Regional Planning Commission
RPGB	Regional Planning Governing Board
RTC	Regional Transportation Commission of Washoe County
RTP	Regional Transportation Plan
SAFETEA-LU	Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act-A Legacy for Users
SHPO	State Historic Preservation Officer
SIP	State Implementation Plan
SO_2	Sulfur Dioxide
SOI	Sphere of Influence
SPL	Sound Pressure Levels
SSURGO	Soil Survey Geographic Database
STIP	State Transportation Improvement Program
SWG	Stakeholder Working Group
SWMP	Stormwater Management Plan
SWPPP	Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan
SWReGAP	Southwest Regional Gap Analysis Project

LIST OF ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

TAC	Technical Advisory Committee
TART	Tahoe Area Regional Transit
TAZ	Traffic Analysis Zone
TMCC	Truckee Meadows Community College
TMDL	Total Maximum Daily Load
TMRPA	Truckee Meadows Regional Planning Agency
TMWA	Truckee Meadows Water Authority
TMWC	Truckee Meadows Watershed Committee
TMWRF	Truckee Meadows Water Reclamation Facility
TNM	Traffic Noise Model
TROA	Truckee River Operating Agreement
UPL	Obligate Upland
URA	Uniform Relocation Act
USACE	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
USDA	U.S. Department of Agriculture
USDOT	U.S. Department of Transportation
USFWS	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
USGS	U.S. Geologic Survey
USTs	Underground Storage Tanks
VHD	Vehicle Hours of Delay
VHT	Vehicle Hours Traveled
VMS	Variable Message Signs
VMT	Vehicle Miles Traveled
vph	Vehicles Per Hour
VRM	Visual Resource Management
WCAQMD	Washoe County Health District—Air Quality Management Division
WCRM	Western Cultural Resource Management
WCSD	Washoe County School District
WRWC	Western Regional Water Commission
WSA	Wilderness Study Area

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Page No.

Page No.

Page No.

Page No.

Page No.

Page No.

APPENDICES

(Note: All appendices are included on the computer disc attached to the back cover of this document due to their large file size.)

LIST OF FIGURES

Page No.

Page No.

Page No.

LIST OF TABLES

Page No.

Page No.

Page No.

LIST OF TECHNICAL REPORTS AND MEMORANDA

Following is a list of technical reports and memoranda prepared as part of this EIS. Except where noted, these reports are included on the computer disc attached to the back cover of this report:

A Class III Cultural Resources Inventory for the Pyramid Highway/US 395 Connection Project in Washoe County, Nevada. April 2015.*

Air Quality Technical Report for Pyramid Highway and US 395 Connector, September 2017.

Alternatives Development and Screening for Pyramid Highway and US 395 Connector, June 2012.

Alternatives Development and Screening Update: Identification of a Preferred Alternative for Pyramid Highway and US 395 Connector, September 2017.

Architectural Inventory: Pyramid Highway/US 395 Connection Project (historic architecture), January 2012; Revised December 2012 (Note: Redacted version to protect sensitive resources). *

File and Literature Search and Preliminary Field Survey: Archaeological Inventory of the Pyramid Highway/US 395 Connection Projects, Sparks, Washoe County, Nevada. March 2012; Revised May 2012.*

Pyramid Highway & US 395 Connector Project Conceptual Drainage Report, September 2011.

Revised Drainage Requirements for the Preferred Arterial Alternative 3 Based on Revised Designs, Pyramid Highway/US 395 Connection Environmental Impact Statement, June 2017.

Social Considerations, Right-of-Way/Relocation Impacts, and Environmental Justice Technical Report, September 2017.

Summary of Environmental Database Search Results Pyramid Highway and US 395 Connector Project Technical Memorandum, June 2017.

Traffic Noise Technical Report, September 2017.

Traffic Report, December 2011.

Addendum to the Pyramid Highway/US 395 Connector Traffic Report (December 2011), for Arterial Alternatives for Pyramid Highway and US 395 Connector, June 2017.

Visual Technical Memorandum, September 2017.

*Not provided on CD to protect location of sensitive resources.