

From: [Casey Jones](#)
To: [PublicComment](#)
Subject: Ely Roadway project
Date: Thursday, May 7, 2020 2:33:02 PM

I have lived in Ely Nevada all my life and love this community! We have been waiting for this project for years and the time finally came. There is people in this community that have worked tireless to get project going for our great community! It is down right sickening the Governor would stop this project! But it to be expected when the only one who he takes care of is Clark County!!!

This job absolutely should move forward with no questions asked !

Thanks

Casey Jones

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Paula Jones](#)
To: [PublicComment](#)
Subject: Fwd: Suspension of Ely Roadway Rehabilitation Project
Date: Thursday, May 7, 2020 3:00:20 PM

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Paula Jones <paulafondij@yahoo.com>
Date: May 7, 2020 at 2:55:42 PM PDT
To: PublicCommet@dot.nv.gov
Subject: Suspension of Ely Roadway Rehabilitation Project

Ely has been waiting & waiting for project improvements in our town for years.

It is pretty sad that our governor has suspended this project. The roads are pathetic & it is an embarrassment to our community White Pine County that we all love. We have chosen to live here & it is so sad when people have worked very hard to have these improvements done. Maybe to our governor Ely is just a small nothing community. Those of us that live here our very proud of the town.

We realize we are not Las Vegas, which all the monies go to, it's time to take care of other counties in the state.

The hardship everyone has had with this covid 19 this project would have given our community a boost. We have not had cases as Vegas or Reno, but being put under the same rules as the governor has like the big cities it has devastated us here in White Pine County!!!

The governor needs to proceed with this project. We understand Q&D has put lots of time & money in this project & so have the Downtown restoration committee.

The city of Ely has invested several million out of their monies too, which would upgrade all the underground utilities.

Governor Sisolak, the little counties need attention ALSO!!!

Paula & Jerry Jones

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Charity Marques](#)
To: [PublicComment](#)
Subject: Suspension of Ely Roadway Rehabilitation Project
Date: Thursday, May 7, 2020 3:05:50 PM

To Whom It May Concern:

JCR Development is a local contractor in Ely Nevada that has invested over a million dollars in equipment and engineering to provide aggregate, concrete and asphalt to Q&D Construction, who was hired as the NDOT construction manager for this project. JCR has thousands of man hours invested to assemble plants and get NRMCA approval to meet state specs before the project was supposed to start this month. The Covid 19 Pandemic has been devastating to our industry and to the economy in general. This project would have been a great way to jump start our economy in a county that was shut down and treated like the rest of the state even though we had only a few cases. It's disheartening to know that the Governor's decision to stop this project could once again have a negative cash flow effect on White Pine County. It's pretty sad the Governor can overlook the millions of dollars the City of Ely has invested to upgrade all the underground utilities for this project, the millions of dollars Q&D Construction has invested as the General Contractor for this project and the millions of dollars that JCR has invested to make the long overdue improvements to this rural community.

We ask that you keep the project going forward as planned!

Respectfully,
Charity Marques
JCR Development, LLC
1006 Aultman Street
Ely, Nevada 89301
(775) 289-6708 Office

From: [Ely Mayor](#)
To: [PublicComment](#)
Subject: NDOT Board Meeting 5/11/2020
Date: Thursday, May 7, 2020 3:23:22 PM

For NDOT Board meeting 5/11/2020

Dear Board Members,

I deeply regret hearing that the Ely Roadway Rehabilitation Project has been removed from this meeting's agenda. The language I was given was that this project has been "suspended indefinitely". This project has been in the works for upwards of 15 years. It has been pulled after being funded once in 2008 already and cut into phases earlier last year. Everytime this project comes up for consideration the cost to complete it goes up exponentially. The condition of the infrastructure doesn't get any better and the need to complete this project keeps getting more acute. Furthermore the City of Ely has been assessing its citizens and saving to be able to perform it's portion of this work to the tune of more than \$2,000,000. Local action groups have worked tirelessly to plan and to assist local businesses in coping with the construction process. We've worked as a community with the contractor that was hired by the NDOT to make sure the project goes as smoothly as possible. Two weeks ago officials from the NDOT told the AGC organization that this project was going forward no question. The contractor hired to complete the project has engaged subs and together with the NDOT has spent millions on this project already. To cut this project again would be throwing away money only to have to spend more for the same work down the road. Furthermore, the economic stimulus to the area this project would bring is critical. This project is taking place at the intersection of 3 major US routes. We have as many as 14,000 vehicles a day passing through this intersection. This traffic is bound for Las Vegas and locations all over the intermountain west. This is not a local infrastructure issue. It is a national infrastructure issue. This project is already past due. To single this project out seems ill advised and short sighted.

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Nathan Robertson
Mayor - City of Ely

From: [Sheldon Mudd](#)
To: [PublicComment](#)
Subject: Ely Roadway Rehabilitation Project
Date: Thursday, May 7, 2020 3:55:01 PM
Attachments: [image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)
[image006.png](#)

Dear NVDOT,

This email is being provided in response to recent developments regarding the long planned and very much anticipated Ely Roadway Rehabilitation Project. From our understanding, the last bit of funding that was designated for this project has been de-allocated essentially rendering the project dead.

If this is, in fact the case, it brings with it a tremendous amount of disappointment as over a decade of planning has been dedicated to this endeavor. Further, because the citizens of White Pine County and the City of Ely were given an extensive amount of assurance that this project was going to take place, a multiplicity of other developments were planned that would anchor off of the rehabilitation project. Should the foundation fall (rehabilitation project), the rest (sewer projects, Main Street Program, etc.) is likely to crumble with it. The force multiplier that was going to be created by this project was expected to be quite significant.

New developments in White Pine County (Industrial Hemp Industry) have created a surge of interest within the County and the Community of Ely. The rehabilitation project was expected to come at a pinnacle moment. Citizens were looking forward to showcasing their community before a string of business and industry leaders who were finally giving their unique town a second look. The opportunity for diversification and newfound economic vibrancy was finally on the horizon. The finish line for these aspirations seem to be fading off in the distance.

It is understandable that we face unique times and that sacrifice will be required for all Nevadans. If all State DOT projects are now cancelled, then Ely will have to take their bumps and bruises along with everyone else. With that said, I find it hard to believe that will be the case. I suspect select projects will continue to be pursued, especially those that yield a great deal of attention within the urban areas. I strongly encourage you to reconsider funding for the Ely Road Rehabilitation project – the community has been in this race for over a decade, please help them get across the finish line!

Respectfully,

Sheldon Mudd

Executive Director

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From: [Wade Robison](#)
To: [PublicComment](#)
Subject: Ely Main Street
Date: Friday, May 8, 2020 10:39:51 AM

I am writing this email to voice my opposition to postponing the Ely Main Street project. As a business owner in Ely it is vital to our business community that this project move forward as planned. This project is a very small project in relation to other NDOT projects around the state. This project is not by any means a local project, 14,000 vehicles travel this road every day. This highway is a major interconnect for north-East Nevada. This project has already been downsized and postponed once and the costs are only going to go up if postponed again. Ely has been very excited and very patient to get this project done. Please don't delay this project any longer.

Thank you
Wade Robison
Local business owner

From: [Caroline McIntosh](#)
To: [PublicComment](#)
Subject: Ely Roadway Rehabilitation Project
Date: Friday, May 8, 2020 11:26:39 AM

Dear NDOT Board of Directors:

On behalf of the White Pine Main Street Association, a member of the Nevada Main Street Program under GOED, I would like to communicate the importance of continuing the Ely Rehabilitation Project that has been in the planning stages since 2006.

The Ely project is a state and national project involving three US Highways, 93, 50 and 6, with an average daily count of 14,000 vehicles. It is a critical interstate traffic project that primarily serves commercial vehicles and tourists, rather than just local traffic.

NDOT has spend millions of dollars in engineering and preparation for this project which was slated to be approved in April 2020. The City of Ely is contributing over \$2m towards the project. This project will not become any less expensive with a delay.

The Ely Project will provide an high return on investment with statewide employment benefits from the contractor, subs and suppliers. Nevada needs to get back to work and the Ely Project is an excellent means to improve infrastructure and economic recovery.

Please consider the importance of going forward with the Ely Rehabilitation Project.

Sincerely,
Caroline McIntosh, Chairman
White Pine Main Street Association

From: [Donna Bath](#)
To: [PublicComment](#)
Subject: Ely-Roadway-Rehabilitation-Project Public Comment May 11th Meeting
Date: Friday, May 8, 2020 12:18:30 PM
Attachments: [Ely 4-28-11 Approved Minutes.pdf](#)

Dear Board Members:

I did not see the Ely Roadway Rehabilitation Project specifically addressed on your agenda but once again, heard second hand, that this project has been indefinitely “postponed”. If this is in fact correct, I would like to express my extreme disappointment. The citizens of White Pine County have been waiting on promised upgrades to the highways that run directly through our community for approximately a decade. I have attached minutes from a Ely City Council meeting dated 4/28/11 where then Ely NDOT Engineer, Kathleen Weaver (page 8 of attachment) presented drawings to the Council and citizens of Ely for upgrades to Highway 50 and 93 which runs right through our downtown area. Ms. Weaver stated that this project was to begin in spring 2013. The plans were far enough along, that the Council was picking out the type of lighting they preferred for the downtown area. The estimated cost of the Main Street portion at that time was estimated to be approximately \$14 Million. It was revived over a year ago and once again our community began excitedly partnering with NDOT and finally a contractor, Q&D Construction. There was to be two phases; Main Street Phase I and the East Alutman Project Phase II. These projects include portions of highways 50 and 93, which again, travel right through our community.

Many citizens in our community have several hundred volunteer hours into what was called the NDOT Pavement Rehabilitation Project, “Main Street Project”. August of 2019, our Main Street Committee found out “by accident” that after waiting since 2008, that the Main Street Phase I portion which was to have run from Highway 50 Aultman Street up to McDonalds on Highway 93, was not going to happen. We asked for a meeting with NDOT and that meeting was held on August 6th 2019 in Ely, Nevada. Several expressed great frustration about the lack of communication from NDOT. NDOT advised at the meeting, that the Main Street portion was being postponed, because the estimated cost now, would be approximately \$30 Million not the original \$14 million. They further explained that they chose to do the Phase II project first, as that area of town has drainage and infrastructure issues that would cause health and safety concerns and needed to be addressed. Phase II was to also include a portion of Hwy. 93 towards McDonalds, which was originally to be include in Phase I. At the meeting with NDOT in Ely, several members of our Main Street Committee expressed a lack of trust that this portion of the project would even happen, based on past history of cancelled projects for the community. We were assured that the project was indeed budgeted and was going to happen. Our committee once again, went forward in good faith, helping the contractor and NDOT contact businesses along the proposed Phase II construction site to ensure that they would be prepared for the disruption to their business during construction and finding alternate entrances into their businesses during that time.

Besides the hundreds hours of community volunteer time, the City of Ely has approximately \$2 million allocated towards this project. The Council recently had to make the hard decision to cut salaries and budgets 12% across the board, yet the money allocated for this project remained. This demonstrates the great need and importance of these two projects to our community.

I fully understand that we are all treading in waters that we have never had to be in right now and that all Nevadans will be required to do more with less. The citizens of White Pine County are not asking to be exempt from that standard, if indeed *all* State DOT improvement projects are now cancelled. If these projects are again tabled, the cost is going to continue to rise and they undoubtedly will never happen.

I would sincerely appreciate information/notification on which NDOT projects are cancelled, postponed indefinitely and which projects if any, are still going forward. If there are indeed projects still going forward, could our community please receive an explanation as to how and why the decision was made to cut ours, considering the amount of time our community has been waiting and the health and safety issues that were addressed regarding this project.

Thank you very much for your time and consideration.

Respectfully,
Donna M Bath
570 First Street
Ely, Nevada 89301
dbath@outlook.com
775-296-0283

From: bradsimpson@elyliving.com
To: [PublicComment](#)
Subject: Ely roadway rehabilitation project, public comment May 11th meeting.
Date: Friday, May 8, 2020 12:49:04 PM

Dear Board Members,

I am sending this comment in response to rumors I have heard about the cancellation of the Ely Roadway Rehabilitation Program. As a local businessman in the Ely area I was extremely disappointed in the information I received concerning the cancellation of this project. The community and the County have been patiently waiting for over 10 years to have the redevelopment of this section of highway completed.

Small towns in Nevada appear to have been forgotten in the planning and development of needed infrastructure changes. I am a volunteer that is working hard to bring redevelopment into this community. I am also a member of the Regional Planning Commission that works hard to make the economic atmosphere, in Ely, viable for growth and expansion.

Our community would greatly appreciate information on what the intentions and plans are for this project. The economic viability of our community, and other rural communities, are very dependent on the enhancement of State sponsored infrastructure.

It appears to me and many community members, that Las Vegas and Reno are the communities that CONTINUALLY get infrastructure support and the expense of rural Nevada communities.

Rural Nevada is the back bone of huge mining operations and agricultural endeavors. This project is extremely important to the well being of these economic structures.

Any information on the NDOT projects that will move forward and those that are being cancelled would be appreciated.

**Brad Simpson, Realtor
Salesperson**

Keller Williams Realty - The Market Place
1776 Aultman Street
Ely, Nevada 89301
Office Phone: 775-289-2814
Cell Phone: 702-400-6353
Website: www.elyliving.com
Email: BradSimpson@elyliving.com
Mobile App: <http://app.kw.com/KW18TYAQ>

From: [Mark Bassett](#)
To: [PublicComment](#)
Subject: Ely Roadway Rehabilitation Project
Date: Friday, May 8, 2020 2:46:11 PM

Dear NDOT Board of Directors:

I understand that the Ely Roadway Rehabilitation Project is under consideration to be terminated, The project must go forward. The termination of the project would be a major blow to the community and in particular to the Nevada Northern Railway National Historic Landmark. Our visitation has grown tremendously to over 30,000 visitors a year. Unfortunately, one of our international visitors was struck and killed by a vehicle on Great Basin Blvd in an unlit predestern crossing while going from their hotel to a restaurant.

The completion of the Ely Roadway Rehabilitation Project would address this life safety issue. The cancellation of the project will leave a dangerous situation unaddressed. The situation will only get worse as more tourists come to the community and have to cross a five lane highway in an unlit pedestrian crossing.

The Ely community has been working proactively in addressing the shortcomings of the community. The Ely Roadway Rehabilitation Project is central to the community's plans of betterment.

Millions of dollars in engineering and preparation for this project has already been spent by NDOT. This project has been promised to the community for years and after many false starts, it is the community's understanding that the project was to be approved in April 2020.

The City of Ely has been very proactive in supporting this project. It is one thing to support a project with words, but in a community of less than 4,000 residents, it is contributing over \$2,000,000 towards this project! That is over \$500 for every man, woman and child! And now we are being told that the future of the project is in jeopardy!

We can all agree that this project is needed. It must be done, we have over 14 years worth of data that points to the need of doing this project. The community has already lived through a multitude of delays. Every time the project becomes delayed, it only gets more expensive. The underlying factors of the project are not changing. Three United States Highways all come together in Ely. Traffic on those three highways only continues to increase. Visitation to the community continues to increase. Essentially, we will be having more tourists trying to cross major highways without appropriate crossing protection. It is only a matter of time before there is another incident where a tourist or tourists gets killed crossing at an unsafe crossing.

News headlines today are depressing with the Covid-19 pandemic. It would be very uplifting to hear that the Ely Roadway Rehabilitation Project is going to be completed as planned, now. In the huge scope of all NDOT projects, the cost of this project is minor in comparison, yet its impact on Ely will be gigantic!

Sincerely,

Mark S. Bassett
President, Nevada Northern Railway

Direct: (775) 289-0103
Depot: 1100 Avenue A, Ely Nevada • Mail: PO Box 150040, Ely NV 89315

Web: www.nnry.com

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/nnry1>

From: [Shadrach Michaels](#)
To: [PublicComment](#)
Subject: Ely, Nevada
Date: Friday, May 8, 2020 3:17:16 PM

Help us get the Ely Rehabilitation Project back on track.
Nevada is more than Las Vegas and Reno.

The Ely Rehabilitation Project has been in the planning stages since 2006. Millions of dollars and incalculable amounts of labor hours have been focused on getting this project started over the last fifteen years.

The Ely project is a state and national endeavor that will safeguard and improve three US Highways, 93, 50 and 6, which has an average daily traffic count of 14,000 vehicles. It is a critical interstate traffic project that primarily serves vital interstate commercial vehicles and tourists, rather than benefiting only local traffic.

NDOT has spent millions of dollars in engineering and preparation for this project which was slated to be approved in April 2020. The already cash strapped City of Ely is contributing over \$2 million towards the project. This project will only become more expensive with a delay, as this project's history has already proven.

Ely is a small town that is being egregiously penalized financially by the shortsightedness of this decision. As the gateway to the west, north, south, and east, the home to the National Historic Landmark Nevada Northern Railway, and the door to Great Basin National Park, Ely is the keystone of North Eastern Nevada economic stimulation.

The Ely Rehabilitation Project will provide a high return on investment with statewide employment benefits from the contractor, subs and suppliers. Nevada needs to get back to work and the Ely Project is an excellent means to improve infrastructure and economic recovery in rural sectors.

The rural regions of this state deserve as much attention as the urban centers that have historically taken the lion's share of resources and attention. Ely deserves to be treated with more respect. The decision to pull the Ely project is a slap in the face to countless people relying on reliable and crucial infrastructure that has been ignored for decades. Some of the infrastructure is approaching one hundred years in age.

Ely, it's residents, and the people of White Pine County ask for you to reconsider the cancelation of the the Ely project. This plan has already been split into two parts, reduced, and repeatedly postponed.

Show rural residents the state actually cares. Fund this project, help save a struggling community, help ensure the future success of more than just Las Vegas and Reno.

Shadrach Michaels
First Gentlemen of Ely

PUBLIC COMMENT

Received via On-Line Public Comment Form

Nevada Department of Transportation
Board of Directors Meeting
May 11, 2020

ID: 5
Start time: 5/7/2020 1:11:01 PM
Completion time: 5/7/2020 3:03:22 PM
Name: Laurie Carson Email: anonymous
Representing: Self
Agenda Item: 5
Position: Support

Total # of Words: 292

Comment Dear Board Members,
My name is Laurie Carson and I am a White Pine Commissioner. I am writing this as a commissioner and not as a representative for the Board.
I am in support of Package B of the White Pine Main Street Project (Highways 93/50/6). This project is/was scheduled to start in less than a month, with Q&D Contractors having ordered supplies in anticipation for starting this project.
First, let me go back to 2008, when the project was 12 million. Kathy Weaver was NDOT's Supervisor for White Pine County, she told us the project was funded. The recession hit and the monies to fund the project was swept. Fast forward to 2019, what was 12 million became 30 million. There was not enough to fund Main Street (Aultman), Package A and Package B. We are told there is 16 million available for funding. Hence, a start time in June from Q&D Contractors. NDOT told our community in a meeting at our convention center that doing Package B was both necessary and critical to put in the infrastructure to prevent the flooding (FEMA Flood Plane). There are places in the City streets that still has wood water pipes in place.
This is the first phase that will help continue to bring us into the 21st century. While the roads are being worked on, CommNet, on their own dime is planning on coming in with much needed broadband for the Library, schools and Tribe.
I know this is a very condensed and brief overview on a very important and much needed infrastructure project.
We have been anxiously waiting for 12 years. I ask you to please consider moving forward with funding this critical project.
Sincerely,
Laurie Carson
White Pine County Commission

PUBLIC COMMENT

Received via On-Line Public Comment Form

Nevada Department of Transportation
Board of Directors Meeting
May 11, 2020

ID: 6

Start time: 5/7/2020 3:47:24 PM

Completion time: 5/7/2020 3:52:22 PM

Name: Aleta Dupree Email: anonymous

Representing:

Agenda Item: 12

Position: Support

Total # of Words: 361

Comment Greetings Governor Steve Sisolak and Members.
Aleta Dupree here for the record.
I write to you today with my miscellaneous comments concerning NDOT, not pertaining to the posted Agenda.
I state to you that NDOT is indeed important to me. Our state is indeed in the middle of a crisis, as you all know. I believe this, NDOT indeed has a good role to play in helping our great State that is Nevada to work through it, and effectively so.
I speak to you briefly about the HOV lane system in Las Vegas. Again, I reiterate this system is indeed important to our community. Before the COVID-19 crisis hit us, I as a person with various challenges was able to navigate my community more easily, knowing that the HOV lanes are there, and available to me on a 24 hour basis. My disability is 24 hours in nature, and this is a 24 hour town, so this consistency is most helpful to me.
There is equity in HOV lanes, making better travel opportunities for the many who do not have vehicles, or need to share vehicles for various reasons, or riding in RTC public transportation vehicles.
I have not been out much, but I have heard the report of the message signs being activated and used on Interstate 15 in Las Vegas. Such will indeed help the Public navigate the area in a safe and timely manner.
I have lived and visited in many places. And there are many things good that I say about Nevada. And one of many things I tell others is this. In Nevada, we have good roads. And good roads are important to me, as I ride RTC buses, and good roads are better for our buses.
Even in this crisis logistics are important, ensuring our necessary goods are moved into and through our State, indeed for the good of the Public.
We must stay the course, especially with the 24 hour HOV lanes. Nevada is my home, and I, like many, am staying home for Nevada. I look forward to attending and speaking at a meeting in person with you in the future.
Thank you.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Received via On-Line Public Comment Form

Nevada Department of Transportation
Board of Directors Meeting
May 11, 2020

ID: 7
Start time: 5/8/2020 3:24:07 PM
Completion time: 5/8/2020 3:29:39 PM

Name: Craig Madole Email: anonymous
Representing: Nevada Chapter AGC
Agenda Item: 12
Position: No position stated - Concerned or Neutral

Total # of Words: 162

Comment
The Nevada Chapter AGC is disappointed to see the Ely Main Street Improvements Project is not on the May agenda as originally planned. Taxpayers have already invested significant resources to ensure the construction of this vital project, which has been under preconstruction services for 18 months. This project is critical to the City of Ely's flooding, sewer and roadway infrastructures. Without the completion of this project, these critical infrastructures will begin to fail at an alarming rate. Additionally, this project will allow for the installation of high-speed internet, which is fundamental for economic growth and prosperity. Finally, and most importantly in these trying economic times, 100 union construction employees will be laid-off this summer without this project moving forward. It is unfair to put the livelihood of these hard-working Nevadans at risk by canceling a critical job without notice and cause. We respectfully request that this project be brought before the NDOT Board of Directors as soon as possible for final approval.

ID: 8

PUBLIC COMMENT

Received via On-Line Public Comment Form

Nevada Department of Transportation
Board of Directors Meeting
May 11, 2020

Start time: 5/8/2020 2:24:07 PM

Completion time: 5/8/2020 3:52:44 PM

Name: Richard Daly Email: anonymous

Representing: Laborers Union Local 169 Reno Nv

Agenda Item: 2

Position: No position stated - Concerned or Neutral

Total # of Words: 340

Comment My name is Skip Daly Business Manager for the Laborers Union Local 169 representing 1200 members in Northern Nevada. I am appearing here today to find out how and why the NDOT Ely project was removed from the agenda for today's meeting. It is my understanding that the project was included, approved and funded by previous Board action. The project was put out for proposals using the CMAR procurement procedures that the project has been designed that a Guaranteed Maximum Price has been agreed to. When suddenly and by unilateral action someone on this Board removed the Ely project from the agenda. In fact the Ely project was and is still in the preliminary agenda packet given to the Board members but last minute it was removed from the public agenda. I find it extremely disturbing when a long planned project is pulled with little to no explanation. This project includes vital infrastructure including flood control and broadband fiber-optics. Fiber-optics that will be needed so students can continue to learn online while schools are closed. This project will employ over 100 construction workers and will be an economic boost for the Ely businesses. Despite prior approval and funding someone high enough in the Executive Branch pulled the Project for no apparent reason. I am here to ask the person responsible to explain this action. If none is given people will start to draw their own conclusions regarding the true motivations behind this in my view very foolish and short sighted maneuver. My final comments will be about how people are allowed to submit public comment. These comments if submitted by 4pm will be provided to the Board as a supplement immediately prior to the meeting and will go largely unread. Every other level of government has figured out how to allow some form of live public comment at the meeting. This in my opinion is not any way to provide meaningful public access to participate in the governmental process. Written public comment in a day off supplemental packet is lame.