



Nevada Department of Transportation

Board of Directors • Meeting Minutes

March 13, 2023

9:30 AM

Meeting Location(s):

1263 South Stewart Street	123 East Washington Avenue	1951 Idaho Street
Third Floor Conference Room	Building B	Conference Room
Carson City, Nevada 89712	Las Vegas, Nevada 89101	Elko, Nevada 89801

SEC 1. OPENING

1. Welcome/Call to Order/Roll Call

Governor Lombardo called the meeting to order on Monday, March 13, 2023. A roll call was conducted, and a quorum was established.

In attendance: Governor Joe Lombardo, Lieutenant Governor Stavros Anthony, Controller Andy Matthews, Member Virginia Valentine, Member Stephen Ascuaga, Member Gary Perea.

2. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

3. Consideration of Annual Appointment of a Vice Chair to the Transportation Board of Directors pursuant to NRS 408.106(4). – For Possible Action

Motion: Appoint Lieutenant Governor Stavros Anthony to the position of Vice Chair of the Transportation Board of Directors

By: Member Virginia Valentine

Second: Member Stephen Ascuaga

Vote: Passed unanimously

4. Receive Director's Report – Informational Item

Director Tracy Larkin Thomason informed the Board that March is Nevada Moves Month. Director Larkin Thomason explained that NDOT works with the Safe Routes to School Program to educate pedestrians and motorcycles about pedestrian safety. Director Larkin Thomason indicated that some of the big highlights were putting phones down, not wearing headphones, never passing cars that have stopped at a crosswalk, and allowing three feet of clearance when passing a bicycle, per state law.



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Director Tracy Larkin Thomason next discussed project updates, beginning with the Tropicana Interchange. Director Larkin Thomason explained that this project is well into Phase 2 of construction and discussed the diverging diamond interchange configuration in place now, noting that NDOT has worked on modifying this as there has been some confusion regarding traffic control, noting the project has been closed overnight on three occasions to make improvements to the diverging diamond interchange. Director Larkin Thomason informed the Board that Phase 3 will begin in the fall of 2023 with another full closure of Tropicana and I-15 to demolish the south side of the bridge.

Director Larkin Thomason indicated that there are two projects on the Summerlin Parkway that started in February with the intent to improve safety, mobility, and aesthetics along the corridor between Buffalo Drive and the 215. Director Larkin Thomason shared this project will include resurfacing and repairing the roadway, curb ramp upgrades, replacement of overhead signs, new LED lighting, overhead sign structures and improved barrier rails, with an expected end date of August 2023. Director Larkin Thomason noted there will be intermittent lane restrictions on eastbound Summerlin Parkway to Town Center until early April.

Director Larkin Thomason discussed the SR 169 project in Moapa Valley, indicating that the project limits are from Canal Avenue to Interstate 15 to create a truck climbing lane from Waterline Rd going about a mile north on SR 169, buffered bike lanes on both sides of the roadway, striped median except in the truck passing lane area, slope flattening, deceleration and acceleration lanes at Waterline Intersection, drainage improvements and pavement rehabilitation. Director Larkin Thomason stated the notice to proceed on this project was issued in January and that early construction activities will begin in the next few weeks and conclude in approximately 180 days.

Director Tracy Larkin Thomason next discussed property protection, indicating that NDOT is seeing a significant amount of copper wire theft as well as property damage. Director Larkin Thomason explained that the cameras NDOT is putting up are strictly being used to protect the property in those locations and are not intended for surveillance or any other purpose beyond property protection. In response to a question posed by Controller Andy Matthews, who asked if this was a new development, Director Larkin Thomason confirmed that this type of theft has been happening for decades, noting that previous countermeasures eventually fail. Director Larkin Thomason indicated that these cameras are not being monitored on a regular basis and as such, it will be difficult to stop the theft in real time. Responding to a question presented by Member Virginia Valentine regarding monitoring of these cameras, Director Larkin Thomason noted that this monitoring is more for the purpose of evidence than for response.



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Director Tracy Larkin Thomason next discussed the storm activity around the state. Director Larkin Thomason commended crews for their responses to the ice storms in northern Nevada. Director Larkin Thomason discussed the snowstorms, ice storms, and the damage caused this winter that NDOT crews have been working hard to repair. Director Larkin Thomason informed the Board that the Lieutenant Governor had stopped by to talk to the maintenance workers, and was able to ride in a snowplow, and had indicated that this was a more difficult job than he had imagined.

Vice Chair Stavros Anthony commended the road crews, noting that they do an outstanding job of keeping the roads clear, and indicated his pleasure in being able to join them on a ride-along.

Director Tracy Larkin Thomason indicated the effects of drifting snow continue in Districts 1 and 3, exacerbating poor visibility and difficult to clear off. Director Larkin Thomason informed the Board that Ely and Elko have seen 250 percent of normal snowfall, which is a blessing for the needed water, but will ultimately result in increased foliage that will increase burn season. Director Larkin Thomason next discussed rockslides in various areas of Nevada, including US 95 between Hawthorne and Schurz, cleared in two and half days, and 208 along Wilson Canyon, a \$7 million project that will involve removing approximately 12,000 cubic yards of debris on the road. Director Larkin Thomason noted the use of emergency contracts to address these issues and more.

Director Tracy Larkin Thomason next discussed recent flooding events throughout the state, noting that although not one of these events can be categorized as a major catastrophe, all together they create many minor catastrophes that stretch the NDOT crews very thin as crews intermittently close roadways to address marking and performing emergency repairs to make the roads passable. Director Larkin Thomason cautioned that it does not take a lot of water to move a very large vehicle.

Director Tracy Larkin Thomason next discussed forecasts and some of the weather risk outlooks used as resources. Director Larkin Thomason indicated that the river forecasts the peaks of the high-water and dry zones, which helps NDOT to prepare in advance to help mitigate any impacts. Director Larkin Thomason confirmed that NDOT has requested that Clark County assist with these resources but could not speak to the reimbursement mechanism for this assistance, noting that the reimbursement could come from places like emergency funds or the state.

Director Larkin Thomason highlighted a crew taking advantage of a break in inclement weather to repair a guard rail, emphasizing the dedication to public safety.



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Director Tracy Thomason Larkin concluded the Director's report by wishing farewell to Cole Mortensen, who has served NDOT for over 20 years and is moving on to another opportunity.

Governor Lombardo provided Cole Mortensen with a certificate of recognition from the State of Nevada for his service to NDOT and to the state as a whole.

5. Consideration of Approval of the February 13, 2023, Nevada Department of Transportation Board of Directors Meeting Minutes. – *For Possible Action*

Motion: Approve February 13, 2023, Nevada Department of Transportation Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
By: Controller Andy Matthews
Vote: Passed unanimously

SEC .2. CONSENT AGENDA: Items No. 6 through No. 23

Governor Lombardo explained that items 6 through 23 will be taken together unless any of the Board members wish to hear an item separately.

Contracts over \$5,000,000 from January 13, 2023, to February 9, 2023

6. Contract 3943-READV, Project No. STBG-NHPP-011-1(004), on I-11, from NV/AZ Stateline to SR 172 at Hoover Dam Interchange, and SR 172, from I-11 to 1.612 miles west of NV/AZ Stateline, with LAS VEGAS PAVING CORPORATION, to coldmill and place plantmix bituminous surface with open grade, Clark County, Nevada. – *For possible action*
7. Contract 3948, Project No. NHP-0445(013), on SR 445, Pyramid Highway, from Queen Way to Golden View Drive, with GRANITE CONSTRUCTION COMPANY, to widen roadway and make multimodal improvements, Washoe County, Nevada. – *For possible action*
8. Contract 3959, Project No. SP-000M(190), on FR PE01 northwest of Lovelock at the Union Pacific Railroad (UPRR) grade separation, with Q & D CONSTRUCTION, LLC, to replace bridge structure, G-29 and rehabilitate roadway, Pershing County, Nevada. – *For possible action*
9. Contract 3961, Project No. STBG-050-3(014), on US 50, from US 50A to 0.008 miles east of Allen Road with A & K EARTH MOVERS, INC., for roadbed modification, coldmill, and place bituminous surface with open grade, Churchill County, Nevada. – *For possible action*



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10. Contract 3962, Project No. NHFP-015-1(167), on I-15, north of the US 93 Garnet Interchange, with LAS VEGAS PAVING CORPORATION, for median widening to add southbound truck climbing lanes, Clark County, Nevada. – *For possible action*

11. Contract 3963-READV, Project No. SPI-580-1(038), on I-580 from Peckham to Mill, with Q & D CONSTRUCTION, LLC, to remove existing Portland Cement Concrete Pavement (PCCP) in travel lanes and reconstruct with plantmix and high quantity polymer modified asphalt (HIMOD) overlay, Washoe County, Nevada. – *For possible action*

Agreements over \$300,000 from January 13, 2023, to February 9, 2023

12. Agreement 281-22-040, with C.A. GROUP, INC., for construction augmentation of Crew 906 for the oversight of the I-11/SR172 to Hoover Dam Preservation Project, Clark County, Nevada. – *For possible action*

13. Agreement 377-22-040, with HARRICKS ENGINEERS, INC., to provide construction engineering services in District I by augmenting Crew 916 on the I-515 Wyoming to Auto Show Project, Clark County, Nevada. – *For possible action*

14. Agreement 459-22-040, with DIVERSIFIED CONSULTING SERVICES, for construction engineering services to augment Crew 905 on three (3) Projects: US 395 in Cold Springs, US 395 at McCarran to Golden, and I-580 Peckham to Mill, Washoe County, Nevada. – *For possible action*

15. Agreement 466-22-015, with HDR ENGINEERING, INC., to provide design services for Phase 2 of the North Valleys widening, Stead Boulevard to Cold Springs pavement preservation, and North Virginia Complete Streets Projects, Washoe County, Nevada. – *For possible action*

16. Amendment 01, to Agreement 573-21-052, with KBTS TECHNOLOGIES, INC., to provide compliance monitoring services for the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), statewide, Nevada. – *For possible action*

17. Amendment 02, to Agreement 068-21-040, with INFO TECH, INC., dba INFOTECH, to fund change request to complete the implementation of the Civil Rights and Labor (CRL) module, statewide, Nevada. – *For possible action*



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18. Amendment 02, to Agreement 544-17-016, with CUMMINS, INC., to provide annual service and repairs as needed on backup generator system for the Department's Intelligent Traffic System (ITS) and Nevada Shared Radio System (NSRS) facilities, statewide, Nevada. – *For possible action*
 19. Amendment 03, to Agreement 059-20-201, with ANNIE'S JANITORIAL, to provide janitorial services at the District II offices and Equipment Division offices, Washoe County, Nevada. – *For possible action*
 20. Amendment 03, to Agreement 412-190-016 with LUMIN8 TECHNOLOGIES SERVICES, LLC, for additional Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) task orders to include Wrong-Way Driver (WWD) system replacements, Carson City, Washoe, Pershing, Humboldt, Churchill, Douglas, Lyon, and Mineral Counties, Nevada. – *For possible action*

Right-of-Way

21. RT 21-01A -- Relinquishment of a portion of IR 580 (Damonte Ranch) within the City of Reno, Washoe County, Nevada. – *For possible action*
22. REL 21-09 -- Resolution of Relinquishment of Martin Slough shared-use path, Minden, Douglas County, Nevada. – *For possible action*

General Administration

23. **Contracts, Agreements, and Settlements/Judgements**

Pursuant to NRS 408-131 the Board may delegate authority to the Director which the Director may exercise pursuant to NRS 408-205. These items and matters have been delegated to the Director by the Board by resolutions in April 1990, and July 2011. – *Information item only*

Motion: Approve Consent Agenda Items 6 through 23
By: Member Virginia Valentine
Vote: Passed unanimously

END OF CONSENT AGENDA

SEC. 3. ITEMS TAKEN SEPARATELY FROM CONSENT AGENDA

There were no items taken separately from the consent agenda.



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SEC. 4. ADDITIONAL BUSINESS ITEMS

24. Executive Session: Receive information from legal counsel regarding potential and existing litigation involving a matter over which the Transportation Board of Directors has supervision, control, jurisdiction, or advisory power and to deliberate toward a decision on the matter (Note: This item may be closed to the public pursuant to NRS 241.015(3)(b)(2) in order to discuss legal matters.). – *For possible action*
There was no executive session.

25. Public Comment: A period devoted to comments by the general public about matters relevant to the Board's jurisdiction will be held. No vote may be taken upon a matter not listed on the posted agenda. Comments will be limited to three minutes. Please clearly state your name and spell your last name for the record. If any of the Board wishes to extend the length of a presentation, this will be done by the Chair, or the Board by majority vote.

Elizabeth Lernhardt expressed her disapproval for the NDOT Highway 50 East Shore CMP plan, indicating that it has become self-evident, particularly with the winter weather, how important this route is as Highway 50 is the first to open when other roads are closed due to inclement weather. Elizabeth Lernhardt discussed the issues of two-lane roads, citing the example of a jack-knifed truck in Clear Creek blocking US 50 for three hours, during which the snowplow, tow truck and other rescue equipment could not make it up to the scene of the accident. Ms. Lernhardt indicated that the Tahoe Transportation District has reported that NDOT has several plans on how to safely reconfigure Highway 50 and questioned why residents were not informed of these alternative plans. Ms. Lernhardt explained that the question has been posed as to what residents want from Highway 50 and indicated that this is the wrong question and raises unrealistic expectations and that rather, the correct question to ask is what the locals need. Ms. Lernhardt indicated that the answer to this question is four lanes in anticipation of fire, inclement weather, accidents, medical emergencies, rockslides, and any other unforeseen emergencies.

Janine Nyre noted that despite public comment sessions in which many comments were submitted to NDOT identifying critical concerns about the Highway 50 project, and discussed the following features, noting her belief that they are unworkable: lane reductions; lane width reduction; a bike trail adjacent to the road. Ms. Nyre commented that the current situation with snow removal complications as well as recent experience with evacuations should be considered prior to adopting a final plan.

Phillip Schloss protested the removal of lanes on Highway 50 for fire safety and fire evacuation safety reasons. Mr. Schloss suggested that NDOT tell TARPA that there is nothing that says they can't widen the



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lanes to put in center lanes to accommodate them as well as medians and pavement, such as was done at Round Hill. Mr. Schloss further indicated that he has spoken with Congressman Amodei regarding potentially reigning in TARP's authority over Highway 50 and encouraged the Governor and the Board to do the same.

Dana Englekirk echoed the points made by the other speakers and thanked the Board for taking the time to consider these points of view.

Chad Dornsife expressed his opinion that Vision Zero and Safe Systems is an effort to defund engineering and has purged all the national data that has anything contrary to this effort. Mr. Dornsife indicated that Nevada has been out of compliance with the law since 1985. Mr. Dornsife explained his efforts with a BDR in 1995 when the national speed limit changed, and discussed that once the BDR had passed the Senate and the Assembly, a person from NHP changed the language, creating the current enforcement standard, which violates the Fourth Amendment and equal protection. Mr. Dornsife indicated that none of Nevada's speed limits have been passed in compliance with state and federal laws, nor have Nevada's speed limit signs followed statutory requirements. Mr. Dornsife discussed the importance of ensuring that pedestrians can safely get around traffic, noting that the lack of this has resulted in pedestrian fatalities in multiple locations around the state. Mr. Dornsife indicated that he has documentation to support all of his statements in today's public comments that can be provided to the Board.

Director Tracy Larkin Thomason noted that one written public comment was received after the deadline and, as such, will be included in the minutes of the next meeting.

There was no additional public comment.

26. Adjournment

Motion: Adjourn the March 13, 2023, Nevada Department of Transportation Board of Directors Meeting
By: Member Virginia Valentine
Vote: Passed unanimously

Governor Lombardo adjourned the March 13, 2023, Nevada Department of Transportation Board of Directors Meeting.



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Public Comment received by 4:00 P.M. (Pacific Time) on the business day prior to the meeting.

Elisabeth Lernhardt 3/10/2023: Governor, Lieutenant governor, controller, director, and trustees. This winter weather is reinforcing my message about highway 50. It has become self-evident, how important this route is. When all other highways and I80 were closed last month, U50 was the first to open up. Because of the lower elevation of Echo summit, this happens regularly every year! There are 7 roads into Tahoe Basin, only one has 4 lanes! If anyone of you wants to experience, how the 2-lane U50 functions, now is the time to drive up to Tahoe! But that is just the beginning of the troubles. As we experienced on 3/1/2023 one jackknifed truck at Clear Creek blocked U50 for over 3 hrs. Only after the 2 opposite lanes were cleared of traffic, the snowplow, tow truck, and other rescue equipment could make it up to the place of the accident. Why does Nevada not have chain controls to prevent this? Why is NDOT even considering this lane reduction? Is it really their job to modify the behavior of the citizens? And what are the objectives and metrics they plan to achieve by doing so? Why is 4-lane traffic bad in Tahoe, but in Dayton U50 is being widened to 4 lanes because of high demand? According to Tahoe Transportation, District NDOT has developed several plans on how to safely reconfigure highway 50. Why are we not informed about them? I was told that TRPA is mandating no new asphalt be laid. After studying their compact, there is no such requirement. This mandate seems rather arbitrary. It follows a pattern of extortion: TRPA gets its agenda passed, for their approval of necessary construction. We were asked, what it is the residents want in regard to U50. Having witnessed 4 of these outreach events being framed .in such a way, I believe this is the wrong question and it raises unrealistic expectations. The question to ask is, what do the locals need? In the event of a fire, inclement weather, accidents, medical emergencies, rock slides, and many other unforeseen emergencies, you will come to very different answers!

Public Comment received after 4:00 P.M. (Pacific Time) on the business day prior to the meeting and prior to 5:00 P.M. (Pacific Time) on the day of the meeting.

No comments received after 4:00 P.M. or day of the meeting.

DocuSigned by:

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Jeff Lerud'. The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above a horizontal line.

Jeff Lerud, Deputy Director

Secretary to the Board of Directors