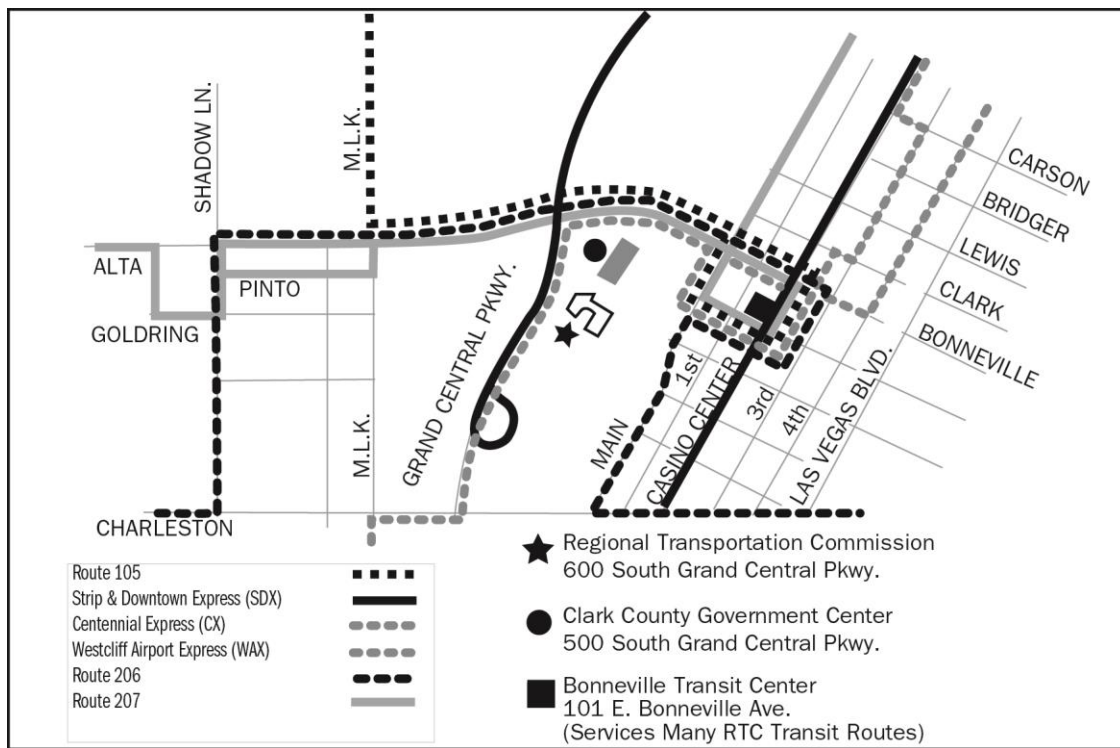


**NOTICE AND AGENDA OF  
PUBLIC MEETING**

**NEVADA HIGH-SPEED RAIL AUTHORITY**

**4:00 P.M. OCTOBER 28, 2015**

**RTC/RFCD ADMINISTRATION BUILDING  
600 S. GRAND CENTRAL PARKWAY, ROOM 108  
LAS VEGAS, NV 89106  
(702) 676-1500**



*This agenda with full backup is available at the Regional Transportation Commission Administration Building, 600 S. Grand Central Parkway, Las Vegas, Nevada; the Regional Transportation Commission's website, <http://www.rtcnv.com>; or by contacting Marin DuBois at (702) 676-1836.*

**THIS MEETING HAS BEEN PROPERLY NOTICED AND POSTED IN THE FOLLOWING LOCATIONS:**

Clark County Government Center  
500 S. Grand Central Pkwy.  
Las Vegas, NV 89155

City of Henderson  
Office of the City Clerk  
240 Water Street  
Henderson, NV 89015

CC Regional Justice Center  
200 Lewis Ave.  
Las Vegas, NV 89155

RTC  
600 S. Grand Central Pkwy.  
Las Vegas, NV 89106

RTC Website  
[www.rtcnv.com](http://www.rtcnv.com)

BY: \_\_\_\_\_

DocuSigned by:  
*Marin DuBois*  
67F25985C7F8458

**Item 2 and 4 are items for possible action. Items 1, 3 and 5 are discussion items and no action can be taken.** Please be advised that the Nevada High-Speed Rail Authority has the discretion to take items on the agenda out of order, combine two or more agenda items for consideration, remove an item from the agenda or delay discussion relating to an item on the agenda any time.

1. CONDUCT A COMMENT PERIOD FOR CITIZENS PARTICIPATION
2. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES: Meeting of September 29, 2015 (FOR POSSIBLE ACTION)
3. RECEIVE A REPORT REGARDING ALL FRANCHISEE APPLICATIONS RECEIVED
4. DISCUSS AND APPROVE A TIMELINE AND SELECTION PROCESS FOR THE NEVADA HIGH-SPEED RAIL SYSTEM'S FRANCHISEE (FOR POSSIBLE ACTION)
5. CONDUCT A COMMENT PERIOD FOR CITIZENS PARTICIPATION

During the initial Citizens Participation, any citizen in the audience may address the Authority on an item featured on the agenda. During the final Citizens Participation, any citizens in the audience may address the Authority on matters within the Authority's jurisdiction, but not necessarily featured on the agenda. No vote can be taken on a matter not listed on the posted agenda; however, the Authority can direct that the matter be placed on a future agenda.

Each citizen must be recognized by the Chair. The citizen is then asked to approach the microphone at the podium, to state his or her name, and to spell the last name for the record. The Chair may limit remarks to three minutes' duration, if such remarks are disruptive to the meeting or not within the Authority's jurisdiction.

The Regional Transportation Commission keeps the official record of all proceedings of the meeting. In order to maintain a complete and accurate record, copies of documents used during presentations should be submitted to the Recording Secretary.

The Regional Transportation Commission appreciates the time citizens devote to be involved in this important process.

**The Regional Transportation Commission Meeting Room and Conference Room are accessible to the disabled. Assistive listening devices are available for the hearing impaired. A sign language interpreter for the deaf will be made available with a forty-eight hour advance request to the Regional Transportation Commission offices. Phone: (702) 676-1500 TDD (702) 676-1834**



# NEVADA HIGH-SPEED RAIL AUTHORITY

## AGENDA ITEM

<b>SUBJECT:</b> CITIZENS PARTICIPATION
<b>PETITIONER:</b> BOARD MEMBERS NEVADA HIGH-SPEED RAIL AUTHORITY
<b>RECOMMENDATION BY PETITIONER:</b> THAT THE NEVADA HIGH-SPEED RAIL AUTHORITY CONDUCT A COMMENT PERIOD FOR CITIZENS PARTICIPATION
<b>GOAL:</b> SUPPORT THE IMPLEMENTATION OF NEVADA HIGH-SPEED RAIL SYSTEM

### **FISCAL IMPACT:**

None

### **BACKGROUND:**

In accordance with State of Nevada Open Meeting Law, the Nevada High-Speed Rail Authority (Authority) shall invite interested persons to make comments. For the initial Citizens Participation, the public should address items on the current agenda. For the final Citizens Participation, interested persons may make comments on matters within the Authority's jurisdiction, but not necessarily on the current agenda.

No action can be taken on any matter discussed under this item, although the Authority can direct that it be placed on a future agenda.

*NHSRA Item #1*  
*October 28, 2015*  
**Non-Consent**

mld



**MINUTES  
NEVADA HIGH-SPEED RAIL AUTHORITY  
SEPTEMBER 15, 2015**

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*These minutes are prepared in compliance with NRS 241.035. Text is in summarized rather than verbatim format. For complete contents, please refer to meeting recordings on file at the Regional Transportation Commission.*

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**THIS MEETING WAS PROPERLY NOTICED AND POSTED  
IN THE FOLLOWING LOCATIONS ON SEPTEMBER 24, 2015**

Clark County Government Center  
500 S. Grand Central Pkwy.  
Las Vegas, NV 89155

City of Henderson  
Office of the City Clerk  
240 Water Street  
Henderson, NV 89015

CC Regional Justice Center  
200 Lewis Ave.  
Las Vegas, NV 89155

RTC  
600 S. Grand Central Pkwy.  
Las Vegas, NV 89106

RTC website  
[www.rtcnv.com](http://www.rtcnv.com)

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mr. David Clyde, Government Affairs Administrator for the Regional Transportation Commission of Southern Nevada, called the meeting to order at 5:04 p.m. in Meeting Room 108 of the Regional Transportation Commission Administration Building.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

George Smith, Chair  
Fred Dilger  
Tina Quigley  
Hualiang Teng  
Peter Thomas

**MEMBERS ABSENT:**

None

**RTC STAFF:**

Angela Castro, Senior Director of Government Affairs and Media Relations  
David Clyde, Government Affairs Administrator  
Kelly Backman, Executive Secretary  
Marin DuBois, Administrative Specialist

**INTERESTED PARTIES:**

Sandra Rosenberg, Nevada Department of Transportation  
Michael Vannozzi, Las Vegas Global Economic Alliance  
Steve Collin, LV.net  
Gerhard Gran  
Daniel Rothbey

**NHSRA Item #2  
October 28, 2015  
Non-Consent**

**Item:**

1. CONDUCT A COMMENT PERIOD FOR CITIZENS PARTICIPATION

**Comments:**

No comments were made.

**Motion:**

No motion was necessary.

**Vote/Summary:**

No vote was taken.

**Item:**

2. ELECT A CHAIR (FOR POSSIBLE ACTION)

**Comments:**

Mr. Hualiang Teng suggested Mr. George Smith serve as Chair.

**Motion:**

Mr. Hualiang Teng made a motion to elect Mr. George Smith as Chair.

**Vote/Summary:**

5 Ayes. 0 Nays. The motion carried.

**Item:**

3. APPROVE THE RECOMMENDATION TO HAVE THE REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION OF SOUTHERN NEVADA AND/OR THE NEVADA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION PROVIDE FACILITIES AND STAFF SUPPORT FOR THE NEVADA HIGH-SPEED RAIL AUTHORITY (FOR POSSIBLE ACTION)

**Comments:**

Ms. Tina Quigley, General Manager for the Regional Transportation Commission of Southern Nevada (RTC), stated that the RTC operated out of the building the meeting was being hosted in, as did the Nevada Department of Transportation, and could therefore both assist the Nevada High-Speed Rail Authority (NHSRA) moving forward.

**Motion:**

Mr. Peter Thomas made a motion to approve.

**Vote/Summary:**

5 Ayes. 0 Nays. The motion carried.

**Item:**

4. RECEIVE A REPORT THAT REVIEWS SENATE BILL 457 AND EXPLAINS THE AUTHORITY'S STATUTORY PURPOSE AND RESPONSIBILITIES

**Comments:**

Following a detailed PowerPoint presentation [attached], Mr. David Clyde, Government Affairs Administrator for the Regional Transportation Commission of Southern Nevada (RTC), stated that Senate Bill (SB) 457 was passed during the 2015 State of Nevada legislative session. The purpose of the statute, he said, was to declare the intent to pursue a high-speed rail system that would connect Southern Nevada to Southern California. Secondly, he said the statute indicated an authority must be created, and lastly, outlined that the authority would be enabled to select a franchisee responsible for implementing and constructing such a rail system. Regarding the authority's responsibilities, Mr. Clyde said support and facilitation was also outlined in the statute and could include hosting semi-annual progress report meetings as well as assisting the franchisee navigate other governance related activities. Mr. Clyde was clear to state that the authority could not obligate any government entity to participate in the process. He added it would be a voluntary process.

Mr. Clyde stated the selected franchisee would be responsible for acquiring lands, conducting studies, issuing debt, pulling permits, and coordinating program implementation among all related entities between Southern Nevada and Southern California.

Mr. Peter Thomas asked if government entities would have any legal responsibilities to, or over, a franchisee once one was selected. Mr. Clyde replied that the franchisee would be responsible for following Nevada Revised Statutes and that the authority is able to provide support as outlined in SB 457.

Mr. Fred Dilger stated that the franchisee may request matching funds from the federal government under the Passenger Rail Improvement Act and therefore it would be its responsibility to ask for and organize those funds. Mr. Clyde added that the authority would have the ability to assist in connecting the franchisee to the federal funding agencies, but maintained that SB 457 outlined that the franchisee, once selected, is responsible for leading such efforts.

Mr. Thomas asked if other Nevada governmental entities existed that would be involved in the high speed rail project in some aspect, from a regulatory standpoint. Mr. Clyde responded and clarified that the statute stated the franchisee is required to work together with any entity impacted or involved with any given part of the project. Mr. Thomas redirected his question and asked which entity would oversee that the engineering aspects of the plan were sound before proceeding. Mr. Clyde stated he was uncertain.

Mr. Dilger stated he was aware Governor Brian Sandoval would like to proceed with a high-speed rail system project, but asked if the statute provided an option to the authority to consider other options. Mr. Clyde replied that the statute did not provide another option.

Mr. Hualiang Teng asked who would be responsible for approving the project's design. He added that a high-speed rail was a critical design project and would need oversight. Mr. Clyde agreed and stated the authority would need to discuss how it would like move forward with project criteria. Mr. Thomas added he too would like to have clearer details as to the regulatory process needed in order for the authority and franchisee to move forward.

Mr. Dilger recommended receiving input via the Surface Transportation Board.

***Motion:***

No motion was necessary.

***Vote/Summary:***

No vote was taken.

***Item:***

5. RECEIVE A REPORT THAT EXPLAINS THE PROCESS BY WHICH THE AUTHORITY IS TO SELECT A FRANCHISEE TO CONSTRUCT AND OPERATE THE NEVADA HIGH-SPEED RAIL SYSTEM

***Comments:***

Following a detailed PowerPoint presentation [attached], Mr. David Clyde, Government Affairs Administrator for the Regional Transportation Commission of Southern Nevada (RTC), stated that Senate Bill (SB) 457 was passed during the 2015 State of Nevada legislative session and outlined the process in which a franchisee could be selected.

Mr. Clyde stated three steps must be completed to move forward:

1. Immediately post a public notice soliciting applications



2. Accept applications until October 26, 2015
3. Select a franchisee based on criteria no later than November 30, 2015

Mr. Clyde explained the criteria set forth in SB 457, in which the Nevada High-Speed Rail Authority (NHSRA) would evaluate franchisee responders, were comprised of the following:

- Completion of environmental studies
- Level of private investment
- Readiness to engage in construction
- Pending or completed permit applications

Mr. George Smith asked if SB 457 provided detail as to how each criteria segment would be weighted and judged. Mr. Clyde responded that the statute provided no such details and that it would be up to the NHSRA as to how the criteria is weighted and measured. Mr. Smith verified if all four criteria items would need to be evaluated. Mr. Clyde replied affirmatively.

Mr. Fred Dilger expressed concerns regarding the short timeframe and amount of detail and work environmental studies require for any given project as well as how to evaluate the level of private investment as funding strategies could be complex.

Ms. Tina Quigley, General Manager for the RTC, clarified that the criteria evaluation set forth in the statute asked the NHSRA to gauge whether or not franchisee responders met the criteria.

***Motion:***

No motion was necessary.

***Vote/Summary:***

No vote was taken.

***Item:***

6. APPROVE THE PUBLICATION OF A NOTICE INFORMING POTENTIAL FRANCHISEE APPLICANTS OF THE PROCESS AND DEADLINES FOR APPLYING TO BE THE NEVADA HIGH-SPEED RAIL SYSTEM FRANCHISEE (FOR POSSIBLE ACTION)

***Comments:***

No comments were made.

***Motion:***

Mr. Peter Thomas made a motion to approve the publication of the notice.

***Vote/Summary:***

5 Ayes. 0 Nays. The motion carried.

***Item:***

7. CONDUCT A COMMENT PERIOD FOR CITIZENS PARTICIPATION

***Comments:***

Mr. Gerhard Gran expressed concern regarding the use of steel for a railway, and as a result, needing to burn coal to create steel. He stated that coal inventories were quickly disappearing.

Mr. George Smith asked Mr. Gran if he had a comment or question specifically pertaining to a high-speed rail.

Mr. Gran reiterated that railways cannot operate without steel.

***Motion:***

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Meeting of September 29, 2015  
Page 5 of 5

No motion was necessary.

***Vote/Summary:***

No vote was taken.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 5:28 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

DocuSigned by:

*Marin DuBois*

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Marin DuBois, Recording Secretary

DocuSigned by:

*Amber Stidham*

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Amber Stidham, Transcription Secretary



## STATUTE PURPOSE

1. Declare intent to implement high-speed rail
2. Create Nevada High-Speed Rail Authority
3. Authorize Authority to select franchisee





## POWERS & RESPONSIBILITY – AUTHORITY

Select franchisee

Facilitate and support franchisee

Special Note – Authority cannot obligate any government entity unless entity already obligated itself.



## POWER & RESPONSIBILITIES - FRANCHISEE

Acquire land

Conduct studies

Obtain permits and certificates

Issue debt

Negotiate governmental agreements

Coordinate implementation of system







## PROCESS

1. Post public notice soliciting applications immediately.
2. Accept applications through October 26, 2015.
3. Select franchisee based on criteria no later than November 30, 2015.



## CRITERIA

1. Completion of environmental studies
2. Level of private investment
3. Readiness to engage in construction
4. Pending or completed permit applications







# NEVADA HIGH-SPEED RAIL AUTHORITY

## AGENDA ITEM

<b>SUBJECT:</b> FRANCHISEE APPLICATION REPORT
<b>PETITIONER:</b> BOARD MEMBERS NEVADA HIGH-SPEED RAIL AUTHORITY
<b>RECOMMENDATION BY PETITIONER:</b> THAT THE NEVADA HIGH-SPEED RAIL AUTHORITY RECEIVE A REPORT REGARDING ALL FRANCHISEE APPLICATIONS RECEIVED
<b>GOAL:</b> SUPPORT THE IMPLEMENTATION OF NEVADA HIGH-SPEED RAIL SYSTEM

### **FISCAL IMPACT:**

None

### **BACKGROUND:**

Section 8.7 of Senate Bill 475, passed during the State of Nevada's 78th legislative session, states that the Nevada High-Speed Rail Authority (Authority) is responsible for selecting "a franchisee for the construction and operation of a high-speed rail system, to be commonly known as the Nevada High-Speed Rail System, principally following the route of Interstate Highway No. 15 between Las Vegas, Nevada, and a point in southern California." During the Authority's meeting on September 29, 2015, members of the Authority approved receiving franchisee applications through October 26, 2015.

dmc

*NHSRA Item #3*  
*October 28, 2015*  
Non-Consent



# NEVADA HIGH-SPEED RAIL AUTHORITY

## AGENDA ITEM

<b>SUBJECT:</b> APPLICATION SELECTION PROCESS
<b>PETITIONER:</b> BOARD MEMBERS NEVADA HIGH-SPEED RAIL AUTHORITY
<b>RECOMMENDATION BY PETITIONER:</b> THAT THE NEVADA HIGH-SPEED RAIL AUTHORITY DISCUSS AND APPROVE A TIMELINE AND SELECTION PROCESS FOR THE NEVADA HIGH-SPEED RAIL SYSTEM'S FRANCHISEE (FOR POSSIBLE ACTION)
<b>GOAL:</b> SUPPORT THE IMPLEMENTATION OF NEVADA HIGH-SPEED RAIL SYSTEM

### **FISCAL IMPACT:**

None

### **BACKGROUND:**

Section 8.7 of Senate Bill 475, passed during the State of Nevada's 78th legislative session, states that the Nevada High-Speed Rail Authority (Authority) is responsible for selecting "a franchisee for the construction and operation of a high-speed rail system, to be commonly known as the Nevada High-Speed Rail System, principally following the route of Interstate Highway No. 15 between Las Vegas, Nevada, and a point in southern California."

During the Authority's meeting on September 29, 2015, members of the Authority approved receiving franchisee applications through October 26, 2015. Members of the Authority also agreed to select a franchisee no later than November 30, 2015. An exact timeline and process for the selection, however, has yet to be determined.



# NEVADA HIGH-SPEED RAIL AUTHORITY

## AGENDA ITEM

<b>SUBJECT:</b> CITIZENS PARTICIPATION
<b>PETITIONER:</b> BOARD MEMBERS NEVADA HIGH-SPEED RAIL AUTHORITY
<b>RECOMMENDATION BY PETITIONER:</b> THAT THE NEVADA HIGH-SPEED RAIL AUTHORITY CONDUCT A COMMENT PERIOD FOR CITIZENS PARTICIPATION
<b>GOAL:</b> SUPPORT THE IMPLEMENTATION OF NEVADA HIGH-SPEED RAIL SYSTEM

### **FISCAL IMPACT:**

None

### **BACKGROUND:**

In accordance with State of Nevada Open Meeting Law, the Nevada High-Speed Rail Authority (Authority) shall invite interested persons to make comments. For the initial Citizens Participation, the public should address items on the current agenda. For the final Citizens Participation, interested persons may make comments on matters within the Authority's jurisdiction, but not necessarily on the current agenda.

No action can be taken on any matter discussed under this item, although the Authority can direct that it be placed on a future agenda.

*NHSRA Item #5*  
*October 28, 2015*  
**Non-Consent**

mld

