



# REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

## MEMBERS

Tom Lean

Dennis Romeo

Dian VanderWell

Rosanna Coombes, Director

## MINUTES

### REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION (RPC) REGIONAL UTILITY CORRIDOR REPORT (RUCR) SUBCOMMITTEE Thursday, May 6, 2010, 4:00 p.m.

The Regional Planning Commission RUCR Subcommittee met in the Washoe County Health District Building B, Room B, 1001 East Ninth Street, Reno, Nevada and conducted the following business:

The meeting was called to order by Chair Romeo at 4:00 p.m.

#### 1. ROLL CALL

The clerk called the roll and the following Commissioners were present: Tom Lean, Dennis Romeo, and Dian VanderWell.

Truckee Meadows Regional Planning Agency (TMRPA) staff present: Rosanna Coombes, Director of Regional Planning; Norm Azevedo, Legal Counsel; Peter Gower; Paige Menicucci; and Andy Simpson.

#### 2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

COMMISSIONER LEAN MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE AGENDA, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER VANDERWELL. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY WITH THREE (3) MEMBERS PRESENT.

#### 3. PUBLIC COMMENT

None

#### 4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

##### A. September 14, 2009

COMMISSIONER LEAN MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE SEPTEMBER 14, 2009, MINUTES, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER VANDERWELL. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY WITH THREE (3) MEMBERS PRESENT.

##### B. September 23, 2009

COMMISSIONER LEAN MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE SEPTEMBER 23, 2009, MINUTES, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER VANDERWELL. THE MOTION CARRIED WITH TWO (2) IN FAVOR AND ONE (1) ABSTENTION BY COMMISSIONER ROMEO.

C. December 22, 2009

COMMISSIONER LEAN MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE DECEMBER 22, 2009, MINUTES, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER ROMEO. THE MOTION CARRIED WITH TWO (2) IN FAVOR AND ONE (1) ABSTENTION BY COMMISSIONER VANDERWELL.

**5. BUSINESS OF THE DAY**

- A. Presentation, discussion, and direction to staff regarding input received during community workshops regarding the proposed revisions to the Regional Utility Corridor Report (RUCR).

Peter Gower, Senior Planner, reviewed information included in the staff report regarding the input received during the community workshops.

- B. Discussion and direction to staff regarding proposed draft Regional Plan text and mapping amendments concerning the Regional Utility Corridor Report, related to:
- 1) Existing and future utility corridors
  - 2) Undergrounding of transmission lines; and
  - 3) The siting of transmission lines originating from renewable energy sources

Mr. Gower reviewed information included in the staff report regarding proposed Regional Plan amendments concerning the RUCR.

*[The public hearing was opened.]*

Elizabeth High, representing North Valleys Investment Group, stated that it is not clear whether the RUCR set back requirements will apply retroactively. Ms. High also stated that they want to know that the subcommittee has viewed these issues not just from a safety standpoint but also from a land use planning and zoning approach.

Arlo Stockham, representing companies with impacted property, stated that staff addressed most of his previous concerns but he is still not convinced of the need for a wholesale change to the RUCR. Mr. Stockham expressed concern regarding new utility corridors going through undisturbed land and stated that disturbed properties should be used first. Mr. Stockham stated that he still has some concern over the weak undergrounding and separation statements. Mr. Stockham also expressed concern regarding the lack of notification of property owners.

*[The public hearing was closed.]*

Commissioner Lean asked Mr. Gower to address Ms. High's comments regarding the requirements being retroactive. Mr. Gower responded that it is addressed as part of the second to last paragraph in Policy 3.8.3, which states that the minimum ten foot set back shall not apply to development in existence or approved prior to the adoption date of the amendment.

There was discussion regarding Ms. High's concern that the issues be addressed not just from a safety standpoint but also from a land use planning and zoning approach. Mr. Gower stated that Regional Planning staff coordinated on several occasions with local government staff and received and incorporated their input with regard to land use.

There was also some discussion regarding public noticing requirements. Norm Azevedo, Legal Counsel, stated that the RPC RUCR subcommittee has done more than it is required to do with regard to public noticing.

There was some discussion regarding the process and costs for undergrounding.

Commissioner Lean asked Jim Rundle to comment. Jim Rundle, City of Sparks, stated that they support the proposed changes and the document as it has been revised.

COMMISSIONER VANDERWELL MADE A MOTION TO RECOMMEND THAT THE DOCUMENT BE FORWARDED TO THE WORKSHOPS FOR THE RPC AND THE RPGB WHERE THERE WILL BE AN ADDITIONAL OPPORTUNITY FOR THE FULL RPC AND THE RPGB TO PROVIDE COMMENT PRIOR TO IT BEING PREPARED FOR THE FINAL TWO ADOPTION HEARINGS, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER LEAN. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY WITH THREE (3) MEMBERS PRESENT.

- C. Discussion and direction to staff regarding the process and timeline to prepare the proposed Regional Plan amendments related to utility corridors.

Mr. Gower reviewed information included in the staff report regarding future steps in the timeline.

**6. REQUESTS FOR AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

- A. Discussion and direction to staff regarding future meeting dates and agenda items.

It was decided that the RUCR Subcommittee will wait until after the RPC and RPGB workshops to determine the need for future meetings.

**7. WRITTEN CORRESPONDENCE**

None

**8. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 4:38 p.m.

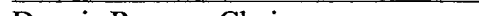
Respectfully submitted by Christine Birmingham.

Reviewed by:

Approved by:



Rosanna Coombes, Director  
Truckee Meadows Regional Planning Agency



Dennis Romeo, Chair  
RPC RUCR Subcommittee

FILED ON 6/10, 2010.