

August 11, 2009

Board of County Commissioners of Washoe County, Nevada  
c/o Derek Morse  
Interim Executive Director  
Regional Transportation Commission  
PO Box 30002  
Reno, NV 89520

Dear Washoe County Commissioners:

On behalf of the 1500 members of the Reno Sparks Chamber of Commerce, northern Nevada's largest business organization, I want to urge your support of the ordinance change that would implement the RTC-5 ballot question and the SB 201 bill from the 2009 Nevada Legislative Session. This would be the final step in a long process of ensuring that the people of Washoe County have a transportation network and infrastructure that will allow our economic vitality to continue to flourish.

The Chamber has been a strong supporter of this initiative since its inception. Our Political Action Committee endorsed the passage of RTC-5 on the November 2008 ballot and contributed money to the campaign effort that led to its passage. We educated our members on the details of the proposal and the benefits of its success. We advocated for the passage of SB 201 before several committees in the 2009 Nevada State Legislative Session, urged Governor Gibbons to support the bill, and lobbied the Legislature to overturn the Governor's eventual veto.

As you all know, RTC-5 was supported by 55% of Washoe County voters and will create 3,000 well-paying jobs in Washoe County. It is important to note, however, that it will not only be contractors, construction workers, and engineers that will benefit from this law. All of my members who sell goods and services will benefit as well, as those 3,000 new workers will have money to spend in the Truckee Meadows.

This bill will also benefit every type of business owner who needs to get to work quickly and safely, who need to take their kids to school, and then get back home in the evening. Every moment spent sitting in traffic is a moment that is stolen from running a business or raising a family.

It is the Chamber's belief that, by enacting this ordinance, you are encouraging further economic development and diversification of our community. While companies looking to move and expand here care about our tax structure, our workers comp costs, and our education system, they also want to be able to move their goods and employees into, around, and out of this region in a safe and efficient manner. Our transportation system is an economic development tool and a quality of life issue. The Chamber's primary mission is to ensure the continued economic vitality of this region for current and future residents. This ordinance does that and we urge you to approve it.

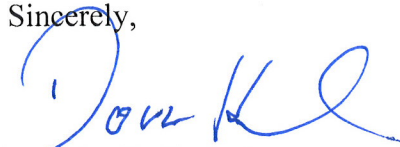


Finally, this letter serves as a business impact statement that will assist you in determining whether or not this proposed ordinance will “impose a direct or significant economic burden on a business” or “directly restrict the formation, operation, or expansion of a business.” It is the position of the Reno Sparks Chamber of Commerce that by NOT implementing the will of the voters and the Nevada State Legislature, you will be imposing an economic burden on almost every family and business owner in the Truckee Meadows and that you could very well be restricting future growth and business formation in our region. We believe that you have an obligation to ensure that our region remains a great place to own and operate a business. This ordinance helps to fulfill part of that obligation.

Again, the Reno Sparks Chamber of Commerce urges you to support this ordinance and we thank you for your service to the people of Washoe County.

Please do not hesitate to contact me on this or any other matter of concern to you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Doug Kurkul", written in a cursive style.

Douglas R. Kurkul  
CEO