

(1) INTRO SLIDE

Hello everyone and welcome back to the third Public Information Meeting for the NEPA/Design phase of the Arlington Avenue Bridges Project. I am Judy Tortelli, Project Manager for the RTC. You are watching a pre-recorded presentation that will run until June 30th 2023. This third Public Information Meeting does not have an in-person event. A link to provide your feedback by taking a survey is located on the website and at the end of this presentation.

Due to the amount of information I want to share with you, the material is broken-up into five mini-presentations. This provides you the flexibility to choose which topics you want to learn more about.

This mini-presentation includes a project overview, construction impacts, and how to stay informed.

(2) PURPOSE AND NEED

The RTC started the process of getting the two bridges on Arlington Avenue replaced back in 2019 with the initial Feasibility Study where the purpose and need were formally developed. Review of the purpose and need of the Project happened throughout the Feasibility Study. Initially, FHWA, NDOT, and the City of Reno agreed on the content. It was also vetted with the Reno City Council, Technical Advisory Committees, Stakeholder Working Group, and the Public. The purpose and need statement – describes the intention of the project and states the problems. Ultimately, it sets the stage for developing and evaluating possible improvement alternatives but is NOT mode specific or biased toward a particular solution.

The project needs to maintain a functional bridge over the river, preserve the hydraulic capacity through the project limits, improve safety and multi-modal access to the park area, and coincide with adopted regional and community plans.

It is important to note that this project's scope is not to improve flooding conditions, but to ensure there are no adverse impacts to the existing flooding inundation limits.

(3) DESIGN – PROJECT MEETINGS / DESIGN INPUT

The final design is a culmination of all the input received during the several public, agency, and design team meetings. Here is a list of the meetings that we have had to date. That's over 60 meetings during the past year!

Let me touch on a few highlights,

- Two public meetings have provided invaluable comments, and shaped final decisions for the bridge aesthetics.
- The monthly design review and utility coordination meetings provide frequent opportunities to discuss the design with the agencies to ensure consistent endorsement as the design progresses.
- Several hydraulic modeling meetings with the City of Reno, Carson-Truckee Water Conservancy District, and the Truckee River Flood Management Authority were held to ensure consensus on the hydraulic design criteria and results.
- Multiple meetings have focused on the Environmental Review and Permitting. These meetings help ensure RTC is meeting all necessary requirements
- With the change from two piers in the river for the north bridge to just one pier, we have hired and met with the original Whitewater Kayak Park designer to modify the drop structure of the kayak park just upstream of the north bridge.

(4) DESIGN – AESTHETICS

Based on the survey results of the August 2022 prerecorded presentation and in-person public information meeting, the bridge aesthetics will consist of an all metal railing, custom light columns, and tall end pylons.

Here is a photo rendering with the chosen aesthetics applied to both the north and south bridges, looking eastward towards downtown Reno.

(5) WHAT TO EXPECT DURING CONSTRUCTION

The RTC will select the construction contractor in the fall of 2024, with construction to start in early 2025.

Wingfield Park and Arlington Avenue from Island Avenue north to W. 1st Street will be closed for the duration of the 2-year construction.

One-lane traffic with flaggers will be needed at the Island Avenue intersection during the construction of the south bridge abutment.

One-way traffic along W. 1st Street between Stevenson Street and West Street is expected for the duration of construction.

The contractor will be limited to in-river access yearly from July 1 through October 31.

Limited access to the Truckee River Whitewater Kayak Park will be coordinated with the river diversions necessary to construct the bridges one at a time.

Pedestrians and Cyclists can use Sierra Street as an alternate route.

Motorists can use Keystone Avenue or the Sierra Street/ Center Street couplet as alternate routes.

Construction is expected to be complete by December 2026.

(6) PROJECT TIMELINE

Here is our project timeline which shows only some of the many meetings we have had.

As you know, we are in June of 2023 and this is our third Public Information Meeting.

We are working on the 90% design submittal which will be completed in October and final bid documents will be complete in the spring of 2024.

The RTC will select the construction contractor in the fall of 2024, with construction to start in early 2025.

It is expected that one bridge will be built in 2025 and the other in 2026.

Construction is expected to be complete by December 2026.

(7) NEXT STEPS

Environmental Review

- RTC has been coordinating with NDOT, FHWA, and other state and federal agencies to complete the required environmental studies and secure permits.
- As part of this effort, NDOT has been coordinating FHWA's consultation with tribes regarding potential effects to the Truckee River, which is considered a Traditional Cultural Property to the area's Native American tribes.
- The result of this collaborative environmental review process is a set of project commitments on how RTC will
 - 1) minimize and avoid impacts to sensitive resources, and
 - 2) how RTC will mitigate unavoidable impacts.
- These commitments are being compiled and incorporated into the design plans and specifications for construction.

On the Design Side

- Final construction plans, details, quantities, and project specifications will be finalized in the spring of 2024 for RTC to advertise the project.

- RTC anticipates awarding the construction contract in August.

Permitting

- One of the final steps before construction can start is for RTC to get authorization from state and federal agencies who have jurisdiction in the project area.
- We are currently working on getting a Section 401 Clean Water Act water quality certification from the Nevada Department of Environmental Protection, and two permit authorizations from the US Army Corps of Engineers including a Section 404 Clean Water Act nation-wide permit for impacts to the river and a Section 408 River and Harbors Act encroachment permit for alterations to a civil works project.
- Once the contractor is on board, they will need to obtain additional permits from the City and state agencies.

How can you Stay Informed?

- RTC will host one additional informational public session prior to construction once the contractor is on board.
- This will include a recorded presentation with more details about what you can expect during construction
- Check out the website, it contains a ton information about the project
- Sign-up for updates so we can get you on our Project Stakeholder list

(8) Questions and Comments

Here is the link to the survey where you can

- Submit questions or comments
- Stay informed by joining the email list
- And tell us what construction information updates you'd like to receive

The survey will be open until June 30, 2023.

Once it's closed, the team will compile the questions and comments received, and responses will be posted on the website in August 2023.

You can also check out the project website anytime to get the latest information: [www. ArlingtonBridges.com](http://www.ArlingtonBridges.com)

(9) THANK YOU

Thank you for your participation and please complete the survey to provide your input by June 30th.