

# **LET'S GO 2050**

Regional Transportation Plan for Southern Nevada Executive Summary

2025 - 2050



## Introduction

The Regional Transportation Commission of Southern Nevada (RTC) oversees public transportation, traffic management, roadway design and construction funding, transportation planning, and regional planning efforts known as Southern Nevada Strong.

The RTC is overseen by a governing board that includes elected officials from Clark County, the City of Las Vegas, the City of North Las Vegas, the City of Henderson, Boulder City, and the City of Mesquite. The Nevada Department of Transportation (NDOT) is an ex-officio member of the RTC board. The RTC provides a forum for public agencies in the region to work together.

As the federally designated Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for Southern Nevada, the RTC is responsible for developing and maintaining a Regional Transportation Plan (RTP). The Let's Go 2050 Plan sets the region's long-term vision for transportation and guides related investments over the next 20+ years.

RTPs must comply with federal and state laws to ensure that the region is eligible for federal transportation funding. This plan is required to include all regionally significant transportation projects as well as all projects that receive federal funding. It is fiscally constrained, meaning projects can only be included if funding is projected to be available. The RTP must be updated every four years to reflect changing regional conditions and priorities.



## **Vision and Goals**

The Let's Go 2050 vision encapsulates the region's priorities and aspirations, and guides transportation investments. The vision statement incorporates input received throughout the development of Let's Go 2050.

Goals play a critical role in Let's Go 2050, providing guidance in selecting the projects and programs that best meet the needs of our region while advancing the regional vision. The goals are directly tied to performance measures that help monitor how the region is addressing challenges in the years ahead, as summarized in Figure 1.

Figure 1: Process Summary

Community Priorities and Federal Requirements

Vision and Goals

Project Evaluation Criteria

Performance Measures and Targets



#### Let's Go 2050 Vision:

Southern Nevada provides a worldclass transportation system that offers a variety of safe, convenient, and accessible travel choices to all members of our diverse community.





RTC developed six goals for Let's Go 2050, as shown in Figure 2. These goals guide the decision-making process during planning and implementation.

Figure 2: Let's Go 2050 Goals



#### **GOAL 1: SAFETY**

Provide for the safety and security of people walking, bicycling, rolling, riding transit, and using automobiles.



#### **GOAL 2: MOBILITY**

Ensure efficient and resilient movement of people and goods.



#### **GOAL 3: EQUITABLE ACCESS**

Provide equitable access to destinations, such as employment, essential services, and recreation, through a variety of travel options.



#### **GOAL 4: PRESERVATION**

Maintain the region's transportation infrastructure in good condition.



#### **GOAL 5: ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

Support a thriving and growing region through strategic transportation investments.



#### GOAL 6: QUALITY OF LIFE/ HEALTH/ENVIRONMENT

Invest in a transportation system that promotes a high quality of life for all residents, including public health and environmental sustainability.

#### **About the RTC**

The RTC is passionate about Southern Nevada, from our Board of Commissioners to our Executive Team to our dedicated network of contractors and public/private partnerships. We are committed to bringing efficient, reliable solutions to the complex needs that make our desert community special.

Find out more about the RTC.



## **Community Engagement**

The RTC is committed to a community and agency engagement process that is inclusive, equitable, and meaningful, as defined in the RTC Public Participation Plan (PPP). Input from partner agencies and the broader community was used to develop the plan, from initiation to adoption. The RTC included input from people of diverse demographic backgrounds, ages, and abilities to develop solutions that meet community needs. The broad array of engagement opportunities had a reach of almost 125,000 people and included the following:

Virtual public meetings: The first virtual public meeting was held between February 15 and March 31, 2024, to gather input about the Let's Go 2050 vision and goals. An example of survey results is shown in Figure 3. The second virtual public meeting was held between October 10 and November 12, 2024, to seek comment on the draft Let's Go 2050 plan. The virtual public meetings included information about transportation needs and trends, online comment forms, surveys, and interactive maps. During the public comment period, an interactive online map invited people to place thumbs-up or thumbs-down icons on individual projects as well as adding comments.

# What transportation issue is most important to you?

(Participants could select up to 3)

# Over 4,600 completed surveys and 25+ community events attended

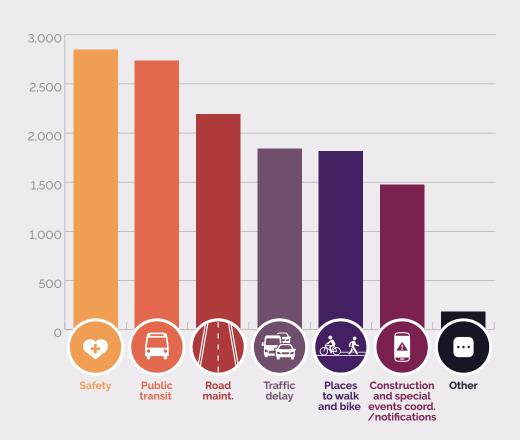


Figure 3: Survey Results

- In-person community events: The Let's Go 2050 team participated in over 30 community events to meet with members of the public. This effort made information and opportunities to participate easily accessible to people in a wide geographic area. Four formally noticed public meetings were held to seek public comments.
- Project website: The Let's Go 2050 project website included an
  interactive StoryMap that made a broad array of transportation
  information available in an easy-to-understand format. It also
  provided another opportunity for members of the public to submit
  comments.
- Stakeholder Workshops: To inform the development of the plan, three stakeholder workshops were held to discuss community transportation needs. These were attended by approximately 30 community leaders representing diverse perspectives.
- Housing and Transportation Workshop: A workshop was held on February 21, 2024, to discuss how best to integrate housing development and affordability needs into the Let's Go 2050 process.

- A group of community advocates, state and local housing agency representatives, and local developers joined to discuss the critical housing needs facing the region and the role of transportation in supporting improved access between housing, jobs, and essential services.
- Advisory Committees: The RTC Executive Advisory Committee, which includes planning and public works leaders from each RTC member jurisdiction, served as the primary advisory committee for the Let's Go 2050 plan. Input was also sought from other groups, including the Transportation Access Advisory Committee (TAAC) and Metropolitan Planning Subcommittee.
- Agency and Tribal Coordination: The RTC held a series of one-onone and small group meetings with each local jurisdiction, NDOT, federal land management agencies, and Tribal governments.
- **Digital Engagement:** Online outreach included social media, e-blasts, transit on-board wi-fi banner, and blog posts.









Stakeholder Workshops

**Community Outreach Events** 

## **Transportation Needs**

The RTC's planning efforts are shaped to meet the needs of the region, which is home to 2.3 million people. By 2050, the population is expected to exceed 3 million and the number of jobs will reach 1.3 million. As the RTC plans for the future of transportation, several key areas will be central to the planning process:

- Safety: Transportation safety for all types of travel is a primary goal of the Let's Go 2050 Plan. The community survey developed for this plan clearly showed safety as the top priority for the region. From 2018 through 2022, there were 1,094 traffic fatalities in Southern Nevada, or an average of 218 fatalities per year. With a vision of eliminating traffic fatalities, this plan invests in projects that will make roadways safer for all travelers and extend off-road facilities for walking and bicycling.
- Heat: Extreme heat impacts mobility and health outcomes across Southern Nevada.
   With the number of days each year with temperatures over 100 degrees on the rise and nearly 500 heat-related deaths in 2024, RTC seeks ways the transportation system can alleviate heat impacts. This plan includes projects that plant street trees and incorporate more shade in design elements, such as bus stops.
- Health: Transportation investments have multiple opportunities to benefit community health. Active transportation, such as walking and bicycling, integrates physical movement

- into daily routines. Providing zero emission transit vehicles and developing alternatives to driving have the potential to improve air quality, which benefits respiratory health.
- Equity: A goal of Let's Go 2050 is to provide equitable access to employment, essential services, recreation, and other destinations through a variety of travel options. Recent studies about health, extreme heat, and traffic safety have shown that the most adverse outcomes for these factors tends to be concentrated in the central Las Vegas Valley and extend along some of the region's highspeed arterials, such as North Las Vegas Boulevard, Boulder Highway, and Lake Mead Boulevard. RTC has designated areas with the greatest health, extreme heat, and safety challenges as communities of concern. These areas generally have higher proportions of low-income residents, indicating that the greatest burdens are borne by residents with limited resources. Let's Go 2050 has focused transportation safety and multimodal investment these areas, with 42% of all project funds expected to be invested in communities of concern.

Let's Go 2050 provides additional detail about the needs and planned improvements for all types of transportation, including transit, infrastructure for walking and bicycling, regional roads, and bridges. Other priority areas include freight transportation, access to federal lands, the preservation and maintenance of transportation infrastructure, and maximizing the efficiency of the roadway network through use of innovative technology.





# **Investment Strategy**

The RTC used a robust community-based and data driven process to identify and select projects for the Let's Go 2050 plan. This continuing, comprehensive, and cooperative process, illustrated in Figure 4, led to the recommendation of transportation investments that support regional and national goals.



Figure 4: Planning Process Overview

# Developing the Let's Go 2050 Regional Transportation Plan:

A continuing, comprehensive, and cooperative process



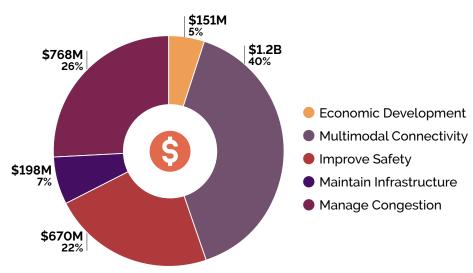
To identify potential investments for this plan, the RTC conducted a region-wide call for projects. The RTC sought project recommendations from each local jurisdiction, NDOT, and community partners. These project concepts build on the many plans that each agency has been advancing through other coordinated initiatives.

All project requests were evaluated through a merit-based screening tool, referred to as the project benefits calculator, based on their ability to deliver benefits aligned with the federal and RTP goal areas: safety, mobility, equity, preservation, economic benefit, and environment. Projects were assigned a benefit score and ranked. Additionally, sponsoring agencies provided prioritized rankings for each of their requests. The proposed project prioritization considered project readiness, regional geographic

equity, and the eligible uses for available federal funding sources. The RTC also sought community input on the proposed project ranking.

The Let's Go 2050 call for projects resulted in a diverse package of project types. These projects advance recent work to reduce the number of traffic fatalities on area roadways, expand trail networks, improve transit infrastructure, and incorporate technology solutions, along with new connections and operational improvements for the roadway network. The plan also includes investments toward preserving existing roads and bridges. As shown in Figure 5, 62% of funds are allocated to projects that improve safety and multimodal connectivity. The full list of projects is provided in Appendix A and shown in Figures 6 and 7.

Figure 5: Planned Investments by Goal Area



# Examples of the types of projects included in Let's Go 2050 are provided below:

- Multimodal Connectivity:
   Red Rock Legacy Trail
- Improve Safety: City of Las Vegas
   Vision Zero Improvements
- Maintain Infrastructure: Lake Mead Boulevard Preservation and ADA Improvements
- Manage Congestion: North 5th Street Improvements from Cheyenne to Lone Mountain
- Economic Development:
   Gilespie, Volunteer to Via
   Inspirada Improvements

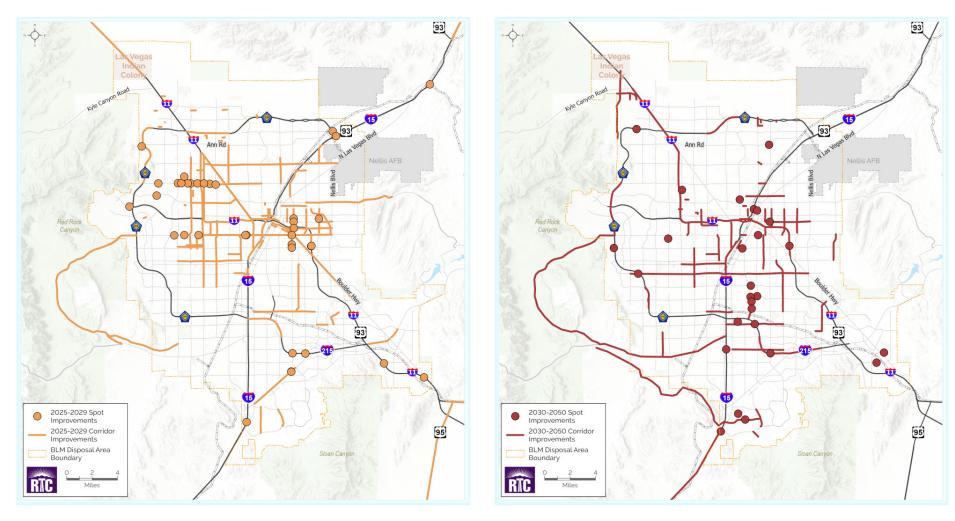


Figure 6: Recommended Projects 2025 – 2029

Figure 7: Recommended Projects 2030 – 2050



## **In Summary**

The RTC embraces a data-driven and performance-based planning program. The Let's Go 2050 Plan is founded on meeting the vision and goals expressed by members of the community. In close partnership with local jurisdictions, NDOT, and other partner agencies, the RTC has developed a plan to advance mobility solutions that will enhance safety and access to opportunity throughout a thriving Southern Nevada region.