

SENATE BILL NO. 350—SENATOR WOODHOUSE

MARCH 19, 2007

Referred to Committee on Transportation and Homeland Security

SUMMARY—Requires regional transportation commissions to take certain actions to minimize the impacts of street and highway projects. (BDR 32-1311)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: No.
Effect on the State: No.

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EXPLANATION – Matter in *bolded italics* is new; matter between brackets ~~omitted material~~ is material to be omitted.

AN ACT relating to regional transportation commissions; requiring regional transportation commissions to take certain actions to minimize the impacts of certain street and highway projects; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel's Digest:

Existing law allows for the creation of a regional transportation commission when a county or regional planning commission has adopted a streets and highways plan as a part of the master plan created by the planning commission. (NRS 373.030) After such a regional transportation commission is created, all street and highway construction, surfacing or resurfacing projects in the county which will be financed from a county motor vehicle fuel tax must first be submitted to the regional transportation commission for evaluation and approval. (NRS 373.140)

If the regional transportation commission approves such a plan, this bill requires the commission to cooperate with the Department of Transportation and any contractors, subcontractors and utilities working on the project to ensure that the project impacts the flow of traffic as little as possible. The commission must work to accomplish this by: (1) providing accurate information to the public as to when and where streets and highways will be closed and any convenient alternative routes or forms of transportation, and including this information on a website; (2) reducing instances of multiple closures within the same area, closure of streets where no work is being performed or the unnecessary closure of streets during peak commuting hours; (3) minimizing the impact of the project on adjacent streets, highways and public transit systems; (4) mitigating any disruption of a regional transportation network; (5) providing easily readable signs giving notice of detours and alternative routes; and (6) providing a toll-free number to report problems with traffic flow.



THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, REPRESENTED IN
SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Chapter 373 of NRS is hereby amended by adding thereto a new section to read as follows:

If a commission approves a project for street or highway construction, surfacing or resurfacing pursuant to NRS 373.140, the commission shall, insofar as is practicable, cooperate with the Department of Transportation and any contractors, subcontractors and utilities working on the project to perform the following functions in connection with the project:

1. Provide accurate and comprehensive information to the public regarding:

(a) The closure or restriction of streets, highways and lanes of traffic;

(b) The days on which and the hours during which the construction, surfacing or resurfacing will take place; and

(c) The availability, if any, of:

(1) Convenient alternative routes by which motorists may avoid traveling through the area affected by the project; and

(2) Alternative forms of transportation, including, without limitation, systems of public transit, by which commuters may avoid traveling through the area affected by the project;

2. Reduce instances of:

(a) Multiple closures or restrictions of streets, highways and lanes of traffic within the same geographic area;

(b) The closure or restrictions of streets, highways and lanes of traffic during periods in which no construction, surfacing or resurfacing is being performed;

(c) The unnecessary closure or restriction of streets, highways and lanes of traffic, particularly during peak commuting hours and other times at which the flow of vehicular traffic may reasonably be expected to be heavy; and

(d) The repetitive closure or restriction, within a 12-month period, of the same street, highway or lane of traffic;

3. Minimize the impact of the project on:

(a) Adjacent streets, highways and lanes of traffic; and

(b) Systems of public transit;

4. Mitigate the effects of the project with respect to disruption or interruption of the interconnectivity of the regional transportation network;

5. If applicable, provide or cause to be provided large, easily readable signs giving motorists notice of detours and other alternative routes of travel;



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- 1 6. *Provide for a toll-free telephone number that may be used*
2 *to report problems relating to the congestion of traffic, the altered*
3 *or impeded flow of traffic, misplaced cones and barriers and other*
4 *obstructions; and*
- 5 7. *Provide for a website on the Internet or its successor, if*
6 *any, at which interested persons may obtain the information*
7 *described in subsection 1.*

