

## STAFF REPORT

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**Date:** March 12, 2025

**To:** Mayor and City Council

**Through:** Jackie Bryant, City Manager

**Subject:** Staff Report (For Possible Action): Presentation, discussion and potential approval of proposals to be considered for Fiscal Years (FY) 2026/2027 Regional Transportation Commission (RTC) Transportation Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) call for proposals.

**From:** Khalil Wilson, Assistant Director

**Department:** Public Works

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**Summary:**

RTC is seeking proposals for transportation plans and/or studies to be conducted as part of the fiscal year (FY) 2026-2027 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP). The UPWP funds concept-level planning, analysis, design efforts, and transportation planning activities for the RTC over a two-year period. RTC opened the call for proposals starting January 31, 2025, and the submission period will close on April 4, 2025.

Staff recommends submission of four studies in two categories that align with the eligibility criteria of the UPWP. The first category focuses on crash analysis and safety mitigation. Public Works Department has an updated crash database, incorporating traffic volume that identifies crash rate data along roadways to pinpoint potential safety issues. The UPWP study would validate this data and deliver a planning-level traffic safety analysis for the targeted corridors.

The second priority area involves developing a Regional Truck Route Plan. Local agencies' identified truck routes have remained unchanged for several years, needing an update to align with regional growth. This plan aims to establish specific regional roads and designate "Through Truck Routes" to facilitate freight movement across the area. As part of this UPWP study, the RTC would lead a collaborative process involving the local agencies and public engagement to confirm key freight corridors, confirm operational truck routes, and develop a regional truck route plan for approval by each agency. In order to meet the April 4, 2025 deadline, staff is requesting the council's approval of the following four proposals, ranked by priority, to be submitted to RTC for potential inclusion in the FY 2026-2027 UPWP.

Based on crash data and community responses to safety concerns staff is requesting the council's approval of the following four proposals, ranked by priority, to be submitted to RTC for inclusion in the FY 2026-2027 UPWP.

1. Safety and Crash Analysis Mitigation – Locust/Kirman/Wells Avenue Area
2. Safety and Crash Analysis Mitigation – Silverada/Wedekind/Clear Acre/Sutro Area
3. Safety and Crash Analysis Mitigation – West 7th Street, Kings Row and Keystone Avenue Area
4. Local Freight Analysis - Regional Truck Route Plan

**Alignment with Strategic Plan:**

Economic and Community Development

Infrastructure, Climate Change, and Environmental Sustainability

Public Safety

**Previous Council Action:**

There is no recent Council action relevant to this item.

**Background:**

The Regional Transportation Commission (RTC), which serves as the designated Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for Washoe County, oversees the transportation planning process required by federal regulations within the designated metropolitan planning area (MPA). This planning process by the RTC encompasses all forms of transportation and develops plans and programs that align with the planned growth of the urbanized region. The RTC collaboratively coordinates transportation planning efforts with its three member entities: the City of Reno, the City of Sparks, and Washoe County. Additionally, the Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) funds concept-level planning, analysis, design efforts, and transportation planning activities for the RTC over a two-year period. The RTC is seeking proposals for transportation plans and studies to be conducted as part of the fiscal year (FY) 2026-2027 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP). Only the three RTC member agencies, City of Reno, City of Sparks, and Washoe County, are eligible to submit proposals for evaluation.

**Discussion:**

RTC will administer and act as the lead on all planning activities approved for the FY 2026-2027 UPWP. Applicant agencies will be required to participate in any advisory committee that is formed for the selected plan/study and be active partners for the duration of the planning process. Proposals that are concept-level planning, analysis, design initiatives and transportation planning activities during may encompass a specific site, corridor, neighborhood, or municipality. Examples of eligible plan/study categories are:

- Safety and Crash Mitigation

- Circulation / Street Connectivity or Access management.
- Local Freight Analysis

Ultimately, each plan/study proposal must identify the need, demonstrate a regional transportation benefit and align with regional goals and priorities. Multiple proposals are permitted but must be given an order of priority by the local agency.

Ensuring safety on all roads is a top priority for the city. To prioritize the highest need for UPWP safety study proposals, Public Works utilized a data-driven approach. Combining crash data from the Reno Police Department and traffic volume information from the Nevada Department of Transportation from 2022 through 2024, Public Works developed a model that assesses the crash rate along road corridors in the city. The crash rate represents the quantity of crashes relative to the traffic volume on a roadway segment or intersection over a specified time. This crash rate serves as the key metric for evaluating roadway safety along roadways with higher crash rates ranking higher in priority. Along with the crash rate data, Public Works gathered and cross-referenced citizen service requests related to traffic safety along the designated corridors to provide an additional metric for determining priority.

The areas outlined below have been identified as the top candidates for safety and crash analysis studies. Additionally, the Regional Truck Route Plan is a priority, as local agencies' designated truck routes require an update to align with the regional freight plan and regional growth. The proposals meet the eligibility requirements of the UPWP, will advance federal planning goals and priorities and align with the RTP goals of safety, and efficient freight movement.

City staff proposes the following four proposals, ranked by priority, for submission to the RTC for consideration in the FY 2026-2027 UPWP.

1. Safety and Crash Analysis Mitigation – Locust/Kirman/Wells Avenue Area
2. Safety and Crash Analysis Mitigation – Silverada/Wedekind/Clear Acre/Sutro Area
3. Safety and Crash Analysis Mitigation – West 7th Street, Kings Row and Keystone Avenue Area
4. Local Freight Analysis - Regional Truck Route Plan

## Exhibit 1 – Safety and Crash Analysis Mitigation – All Areas

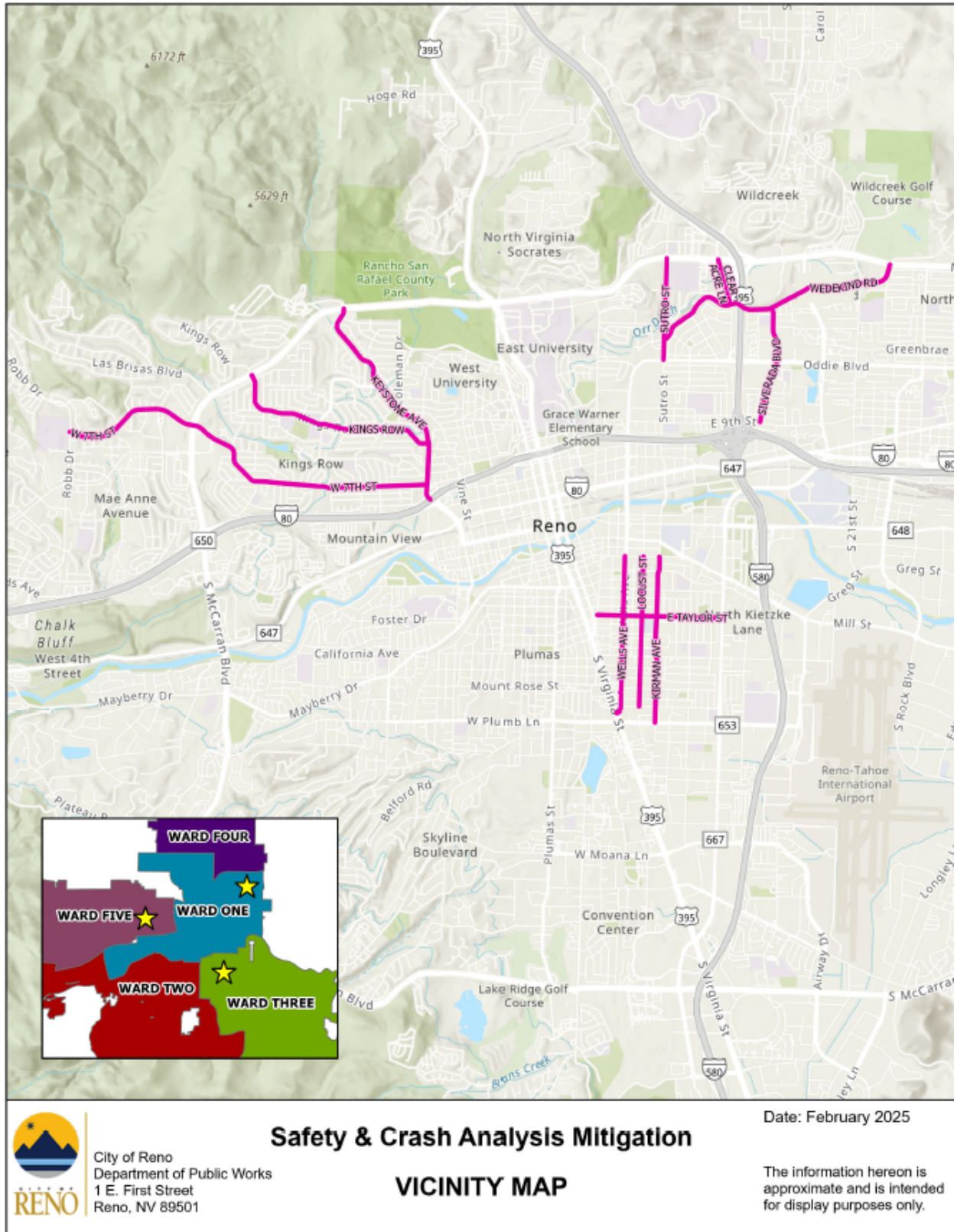
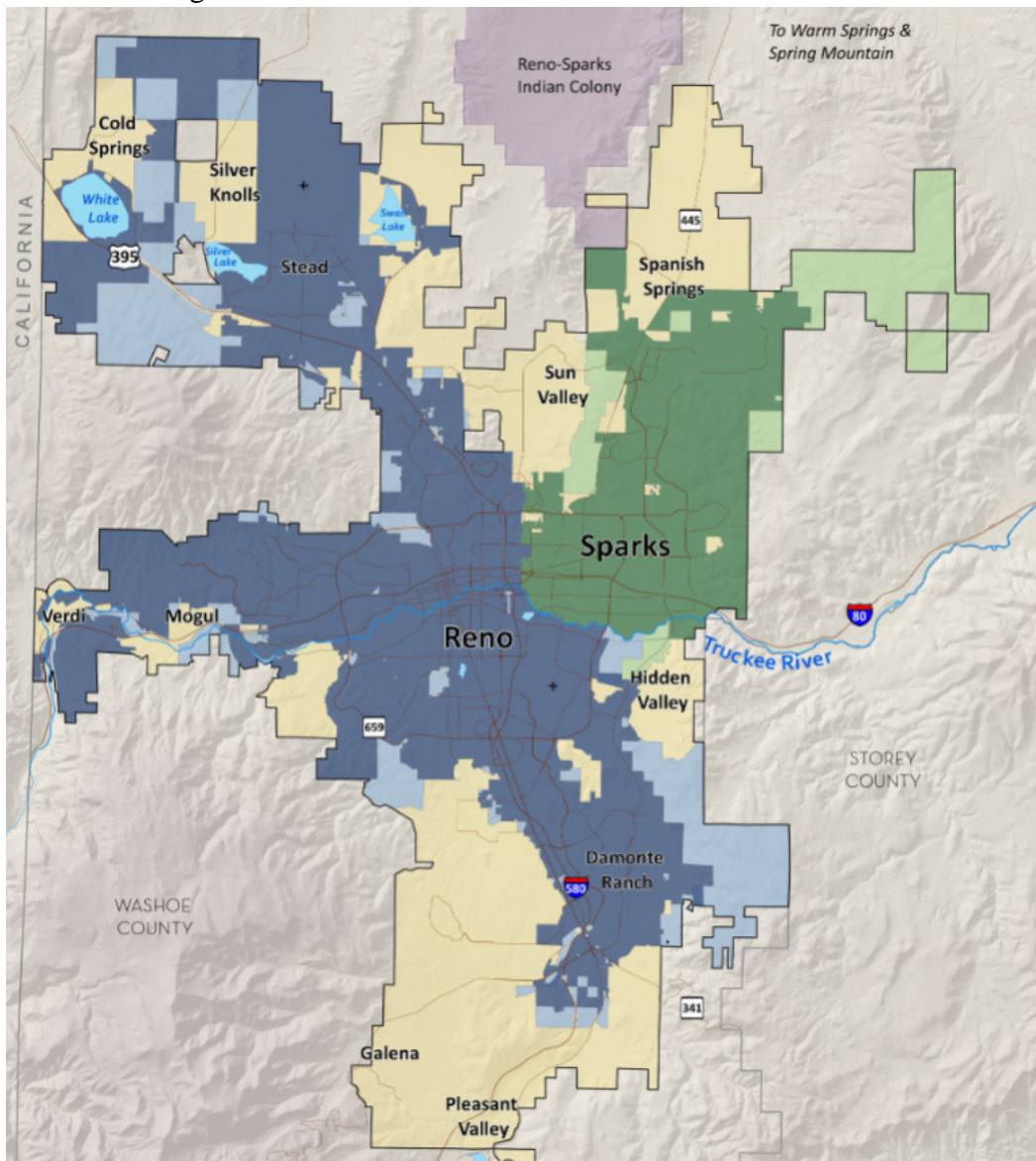


Exhibit 2 – Regional Truck Route Plan



**Financial Implications:**

The proposal applications require no financial contribution from the City of Reno.

**Legal Implications:**

Legal review completed for compliance with City procedures and Nevada Law.

**Recommendation:**

Staff recommends

**Proposed Motion:**

I move to approve staff recommendation.

**Attachments:**