

STAFF REPORT

Date: February 26, 2025

To: Mayor and City Council

Through: Jackie Bryant, City Manager

Subject: Presentation and discussion regarding crash trends and safety measures along McCarran Boulevard (For Discussion Only).

From: Chief Kathryn Nance

Department: Reno Police Department

Summary:

Following two fatal crashes on McCarran Boulevard in early January 2025, Mayor Schieve requested a public discussion about safety along the corridor. The Reno Police Department (RPD), Nevada State Police, Nevada Department of Transportation (NDOT), Regional Transportation of Washoe County (RTC), and City of Reno staff will present information about McCarran Boulevard, including crash data and trends, enforcement strategies, details from the recent corridor study, and best practices for road safety. Representatives from each agency will be available to answer questions at the meeting.

Alignment with Strategic Plan:

Public Safety

Previous Council Action:

There is no recent Council action relevant to this item.

Background:

McCarran Boulevard is a ring road approximately 23 miles in length that largely encircles the Reno-Sparks urbanized area. Sections of the roadway carry some of the highest traffic volumes in the region, including high percentages of freight traffic. The corridor provides direct access to some of the largest employers in the region and key regional destinations, including the Reno-Tahoe International Airport and the University of Nevada, Reno (UNR). McCarran Boulevard has multiple interchanges with the interstate system and other major highways, such as I-80, I-580, US 395, and Pyramid Highway.

Due to the length of the corridor, it impacts a wide variety of neighborhoods and commercial centers. Constructed with the purpose of serving high-speed regional travel needs, sections of

McCarran Boulevard now traverse densely developed communities with high volumes of pedestrian and bicycle activity.

Discussion:

Following two fatal crashes on McCarran Boulevard in early January 2025, Mayor Schieve requested a public discussion about safety along the corridor. While McCarran Boulevard is a state highway, multiple jurisdictions play roles in management and enforcement of the roadway. RPD, State Police, NDOT, RTC, and City of Reno staff will present information about McCarran Boulevard, including crash data and trends, enforcement strategies, and details from the recent corridor study. The presentation will also explain the Safe Systems Approach, which is a comprehensive framework that works by building and reinforcing multiple layers of protection to both prevent crashes from happening in the first place and minimize the harm caused to those involved when crashes do occur. Representatives from each agency will be available to answer questions at the meeting.

Financial Implications:

None for the City.

Legal Implications:

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

Attachments:

McCarran Boulevard Corridor Study Volume 1
McCarran Boulevard Corridor Study Volume 2