

NEVADA HIGHWAY USERS COALITION

Media Advisory

Senate Taxation Committee to Hear Transportation Funding Bill SB-324 Users Coalition to Present Expert Testimony on the Cost of Not Keeping Up *Find out More at www.fixNVroads.com*

WHO: Nevada Senate Taxation Committee

Mike McGinness - Chair

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Randolph J. Townsend - Vice Chair

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WHAT: SB 324, the Highway Funding and Accountability Act of 2007. This bill addresses the Nevada Department of Transportation's Blue Ribbon Task Force recommendations and analysis that the state is \$3.8 billion behind in necessary highway funding over the next 10 years.

The Nevada Highway Users Coalition will present to the Committee findings from "Nevada Transportation Issues: An Economic and Fiscal Overview." Highlights from this study by Applied Analysis and Hobbs, Ong & Associates:

- Congestion is perhaps the most cited concern among citizens. Southern Nevada's Travel Time Index is the 10th worst in the nation and is roughly equivalent to that in New York City.
- Congestion costs Southern Nevadans an estimated \$380 million annually, roughly \$279 per capita. (Texas Transportation Institute)
- For every \$1 that is spent on highway construction, a total of \$1.52 is spent throughout the economy; generating more jobs and a greater tax base.
- Delaying construction of projects for 5 years will cause a 26.4% increase in the cost of the project. **This means that the I-15 project will cost Nevada taxpayers an additional \$611 million and I-80 will cost an additional \$229 million.**
- Nevada has Sixth highest traffic fatality rate in the United States

WHEN: 1 p.m. on Tuesday, April 10, 2007

WHERE: Room 2135, Nevada Legislature The hearing will be teleconferenced to room 4412 of the Grant Sawyer State Office Building from 1 to 2:30 p.m. on Tuesday

Background:

The Nevada Highway Users Coalition was formed to advance the rights of Nevada's residents and visitors to travel on safe, reliable public roads; for the efficient transport of goods and effective public safety; and to hold government accountable for ensuring financing is transparent, motivated by public good and dedicated to transportation purposes. Chairman is Stan Goodin.

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