



# Virginia Street Project FAQ

## Phase 2

1. How long is Virginia Street remaining two-way traffic?  
**The next phase is scheduled to begin on June 17. For the most part, when construction operations are in process, there will be one-way traffic in that location. Go to [VirginiaStreetProject.com](http://VirginiaStreetProject.com) for updated traffic control information.**
2. What is the Phase II construction schedule? **Phase II Construction will begin approximately June 17 and the target completion date is winter of 2020. At this time, the tentative construction schedule is as follows:**
  - **Summer through fall 2019** – Work on select side streets in Midtown and work on Virginia Street from Mt. Rose Street to Plumb Lane.
  - **Winter 2019 through spring 2020** - Work on Virginia Street sidewalks and paving from Mt. Rose Street northward.
  - **Spring through winter 2020** - Work on Virginia Street sidewalks and paving continuing northward to Liberty Street and the installation of a roundabout at Center Street.
  - **Spring 2020 through fall 2020** - University of Nevada, Reno roadway reconstruction and transit stations begin.

**The project team will be reaching out to businesses and residents one-on-one in the next couple of months to discuss construction activities and answer questions.**

3. What is the order of operations?
  - **From June to October crews will complete nine side streets (see question 13) and the section of Virginia Street from Plumb to Mt. Rose Street. They will construct sidewalks and curb and gutter starting on the east side first, then west side, and then complete paving. At times during construction, there will be one-way southbound traffic from Plumb Lane to Mt. Rose Street. RTC will provide notice of the traffic controls that will be in place during construction.**
4. Will RAPID use Virginia Street?  
**RAPID will operate southbound on Virginia Street and northbound on Center Street during construction.**
5. Why aren't you working around the clock?

- **We strive to minimize the impacts of construction on businesses and residents. While there will be night work at times, we have to balance the needs of businesses and our residential neighbors so as not to impact business operations or sleep hours. While we might not always be working at night, we will work various shifts to minimize impacts to businesses. We will also have multiple crews working simultaneously throughout the project to expedite the construction process.**
6. When is the project completion date?
    - **Project completion is expected in winter 2020. Extended RTC RAPID Virginia Line service begins in summer 2021.**
  7. Will there be updated video simulations?
    - **Yes, the next simulation will include updated landscaping and lighting.**
  8. What is the RTC's active plan to let the community know about operations/timelines?
    - **Weekly stakeholder updates, local news reports, social media campaigns and updates, weekly project videos, Road Ahead segments on KOLO 8 News Now, radio advertising, tv advertising, public meetings, project team office hours, text notifications, community partnerships and special events during construction.**
  9. What is the right-of-way process?

**For right-of-way questions, please contact RTC's Carrie Byron at [cbyron@rtcwashoe.com](mailto:cbyron@rtcwashoe.com).**
  10. How can we learn about upcoming Reno City Council and RTC Board meetings:
    - **RTC Board meetings and agendas are posted at: [rtcwashoe.com/meetings](http://rtcwashoe.com/meetings)**
    - **Reno City Council meetings and agendas are posted at: [reno.gov/meetings](http://reno.gov/meetings)**
  11. How long will you be in front of my business?

**It really depends on the business' location. For most businesses, we will be in front of your business for about six weeks. Our team will meet with you beforehand to discuss any potential impacts.**
  12. How long will side streets be closed?

**It depends on the street and the work that needs to be done, for example, St. Lawrence will take longer than Caliente because St. Lawrence is a full reconstruction.**
  13. Which side streets are you working on? **Stewart, Moran, Cheney, St. Lawrence, E. Taylor, Tahoe, Martin, Caliente, and Arroyo.**
  14. Can we park on side streets during construction? **Not during side street reconstruction, but we are working on sides streets first to open up parking.**
  15. Why is the tree lighting not a part of the larger RTC project? **Based on project funding requirements, it is not an eligible project cost.**
  16. Can we get recyclable trash cans? **This will be decided by the City of Reno's design review committee.**

17. Does the City have an obligation to provide trash receptacles?

- **The City of Reno does not have an obligation to do this, but this will be decided by the City of Reno's design review committee.**

18. Who is responsible for sidewalk maintenance?

- **Cleanliness and maintenance is the responsibility of the adjacent property owner, with the exception of public trees. Businesses may decide to establish a Business Improvement District (BID) or similar agreement.**

19. What are the additional funding sources for enhancements?

- **Design Review Committee members are welcome to research private donors, fundraisers, grants. The City of Reno and the RTC are not able to do that at this time.**

20. What is the maturity level of the trees being planted [for the project]?

**A typical tree is around 15 gallons or 1.5 inches in diameter; the trees being planted here are 2 to 2.5 inches in diameter and 7 to 12 feet in height.**

21. Can you talk about irrigation and basements?

- **We are using suspended pavement and selected specific tree species to avoid impacts to basements. The City doesn't foresee issues as the project is currently proposed.**

22. Can the frequency of the meetings be reduced?

- **Yes, we are open to changing the meeting frequency depending on how often the group would like to meet. Meetings have now been scheduled biweekly.**

23. When will the Ponderosa Hotel parking become available?

- **Parking at Ponderosa will be available when phase II construction begins in mid-June.**

24. Are the sidewalks going to be wider?

- **Yes. Sidewalk widths will vary from five feet to 20 feet in some sections to allow for sidewalk bulb-outs to help with pedestrian safety at crosswalks. When the project is complete, all sidewalks will be Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)-accessible.**

25. How will people access businesses during construction?

**Boardwalks will be installed to ensure continued access to Midtown businesses. This will be a step-by-step process: first, the project team will meet with businesses individually in advance, determine access points, coordinate with businesses on hours of operations and deliveries and then develop solutions for access. Concrete work could require longer closures, but can be plated.**

26. Does construction become less invasive as it progresses?

- **Construction operations from Mt. Rose Street to Plumb Lane will be constructed on half of the roadway at a time. Northern section operations will include concrete, lighting, sidewalks and landscaping work first and then the roadway improvements. Foundations for lighting, planting etc. foundations will be included in the concrete sidewalk work.**

27. Will Mary Street continue as a one-way street? **Yes.**

28. Will crosswalks be brighter (include flashers)?

- **Pedestrian safety will improve in Midtown and by UNR when construction is complete. The project design includes shorter-length crosswalks with sidewalk bulb-outs to help make pedestrians more visible. Street lighting throughout the corridor will also be improved with the project. Only one crosswalk location near Regency will have flashers, based on the location of the bus stop.**

29. What is the City of Reno Design Review Committee process?

- **The committee will meet the second Thursday of each month, immediately after the RTC meeting to decide on project enhancements. Decisions made at meetings will move forward to Reno Arts & Culture's Public Arts Committee for recommendation to Reno City Council. Design Review Committee participants are encouraged to send a representative to meetings if they cannot attend. Once decisions are made, they will advance for final approval.**