



# **MPO POLICY COMMITTEE** **AGENDA**

**August 25, 2016**  
**1:30 p.m.**

**Executive Conference Room**  
**Farmington City Hall**  
**800 Municipal Drive**  
**Farmington, New Mexico**

**AGENDA**  
**FARMINGTON METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION**  
**POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**August 25, 2016 1:30 PM**

This regular meeting of the MPO Policy Committee will be held in the Executive Conference Room, Farmington City Hall, 800 Municipal Drive, Farmington, New Mexico.

<b>ITEM</b>	<b>PAGE</b>
1. Call meeting to order	
2. Approve the minutes from the June 23, 2016 Special Policy Committee meeting.	<b>8</b>
3. Receive a report on the Safety Plan <b>Presented by: Duane Wakan</b>	<b>1</b>
4. Receive a report on the 2016 Proposed Fall Traffic Counts <b>Presented by: Derrick Garcia</b>	<b>3</b>
5. Reports from NMDOT a. District 5 ( <i>Paul Brasher</i> ) b. Planning Division ( <i>Robin Elkin</i> )	
6. Review and consider approval of the final draft Complete Streets Design Guidelines <b>Presented by: Duane Wakan</b>	<b>6</b>
7. Information Items a. TAP Project Feasibility Review b. Red Apple Transit Ridership Update c. APA Affiliate Memberships d. Grant Writing Workshop e. Citizens Advisory Committee f. Other <b>Presented by: Derrick Garcia</b>	<b>7</b>
8. Business from Chairman, Members, and Staff	
9. Business from the Floor	
10. Adjournment	

**ATTENTION PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES:** If you are an individual with a disability who is in need of a reader, amplifier, qualified sign language interpreter, or any other form of auxiliary aid or service to attend or participate in the hearing or meeting, please contact the MPO Administrative Aide at the Downtown Center, 100 W Broadway, Farmington, New Mexico or at 505-599-1466 at least one week prior to the meeting or as soon as possible. Public documents, including the agenda and minutes, can be provided in various accessible formats. Please contact the MPO Administrative Aide if a summary or other type of accessible format is needed.

**FARMINGTON METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION  
Agenda Item #3**

<b>Subject:</b>	Safety Plan
<b>Prepared by:</b>	Duane Wakan, MPO Planner
<b>Date:</b>	August 16, 2016

**BACKGROUND**

- The MPO needs to develop a Safety Plan for use in evaluating needs and targeting safety related projects throughout the MPO area.
- The Safety Plan will be a resource for the entities and NMDOT to use in improving the safety of the transportation system by identifying improvements to be made for all modes of travel and areas of greatest need.
- A Safety plan is a tool whereby local projects can be prioritized with the appropriate safety countermeasure(s).
- NMDOT recognized MPOs who have developed safety plans when considering Highway Safety Improvement Plans and funding opportunities.
- All modes should be considered when developing a safety plan.  
MPO Funds will use a combination of PL and 5303 programs by formula to pay for the primary consulting services.
- This report was presented to the Technical Committee on August 10.

**CURRENT WORK**

- Establish a steering committee to ascertain regional safety goals and objectives
- Create a RFQ/P to attract the appropriate consultant
- MPO Intern is currently creating the preliminary crash data maps for use in the public participation process
- Integrate historic crash data with the MPOs travel demand model (Bob Shull)
- Staff research consistently found the four E's of safety to be prevalent in safety plans, Engineering, Education, Enforcement and Emergency Medical Services (EMS) – Data Driven plan – Goals and Objectives- Safety Counter Measures
- MPO Staff will present the timeline for moving forward with development of the Safety Plan.

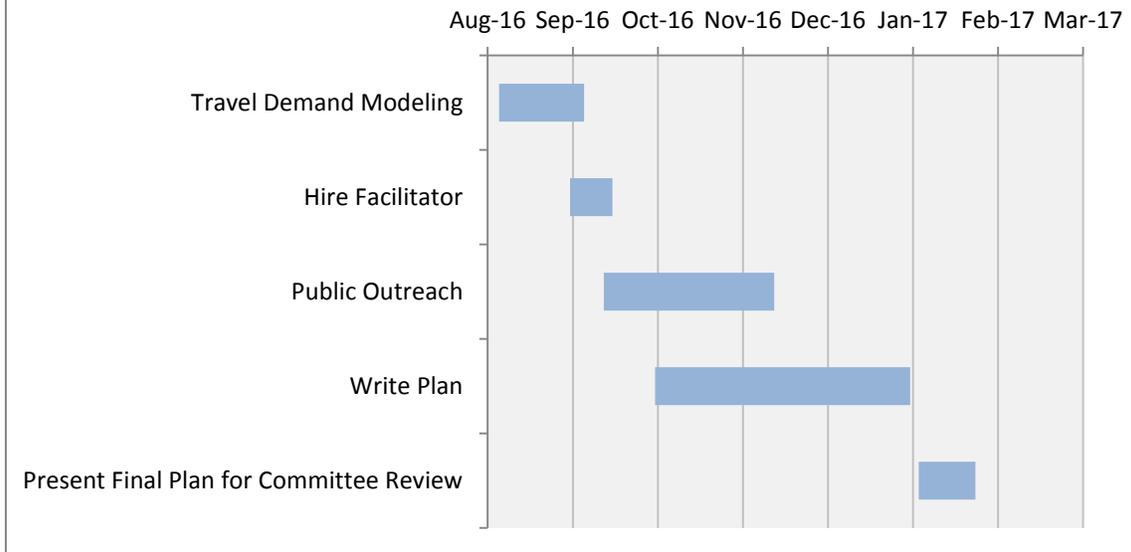
**ANTICIPATED WORK**

- Work with consultant to outline the planning particulars with clear deadlines.
- Collect crash data from UNM and BBER crash reporting unit.
- Provide input to HSIP program at the State level: Data Driven (reactionary) vs Close calls (proactive)

**INFORMATION ITEM**

- This is an informational item requesting feedback from the Policy Committee members.

## Safety Plan - Phases of Implementation



**FARMINGTON METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION  
Agenda Item #4**

<b>Subject:</b>	2016 Proposed Fall Traffic Counts
<b>Prepared by:</b>	Derrick Garcia, MPO Associate Planner
<b>Date:</b>	August 17, 2016

**BACKGROUND**

- The MPO maintains traffic counts for over 220 locations throughout the MPO area.
- Locations are counted according to a three-year cycle and change periodically.
- Staff split the administration of the annual traffic count calendar into spring and fall iterations which began 2013.
- NMDOT Traffic Count Division has asked the FMPO to count an additional 15 locations which have been spread out over the spring and fall schedule. Several of the locations were in marked contrast to previous counts and Staff was asked to follow up and verify the validity of those counts and ensure the accuracy of the numbers.
- Spring counts took place the week of April 25<sup>th</sup>. There were a total of 47 locations (21 speed and class).

**CURRENT WORK**

- Traffic counts are scheduled for the week of August 29<sup>th</sup>.
- The Fall traffic count list is attached.
- Aggregating data for trend analysis.
- Interactive traffic count map now available on FMPO website.  
([www.fmtn.org/375/MPO-Traffic-Counts](http://www.fmtn.org/375/MPO-Traffic-Counts))

**ANTICIPATED WORK**

- Work flow development with consultants.
- Perform traffic count data mapping and analysis.
- Data upload to NMDOT and MS2.

**INFORMATION ITEM**

- A report on the proposed 2016 Fall Weekday Traffic Counts.

LOCAL_ID	ON_ROAD	FROM_	TO	Area	SpeedClass	LATEST_YR
AZ_125	Park Ave	Rio Grande Ave	Chaco St	Aztec	Y	2014
AZ_32	Blanco	Mesa Verde	E Urban Limit	Aztec		2014
AZ_47	CR 3008	CR 3000	CR 3009	Aztec		2013
AZ_93	Mesa Verde	Zia	Chuska	Aztec		2013
BL_X1	Kirby Street	Evans Ln	Oakwood Dr	Bloomfield		
BL_226	E Blanco/CR 4899	N Kirby St	Deer Trail	Bloomfield	Y	2013
BL_155	US 550	Sullivan Rd	US 64	Bloomfield	Y	2016
BL_175	US 64/Broadway	Church	US 550 S	Bloomfield		2014
SJ_154	CR 6480	Troy King Rd	CR 6200	County		2013
SJ_178	US 64/Broadway	CR 4899	CR 4800	County	Y	2012
SJ_195	CR 3000	CR 3950	CR 350	County	Y	2012
SJ_203	NM 489 (CR 6100)	CR 6400	US 64	County	Y	2012
SJ_52	Old Aztec Hwy/ CR 3520	NM 516	CR 3590	County		2012
SJ_53	Old Aztec Hwy/ CR 3520	CR 3590	CR 350	County		2012
SJ_76	Lake St	Murray	Pinon St	County		2012
SJ_161	US 550	NM 173	5.362 mi S of Col State Line	County	Y	2014
SJ_164	US 64	CR 6500	NM 489 (CR 6100)	County	Y	2012
SJ_172	US 64/Broadway	Browning Pkwy	CR 5569	County	Y	2012
SJ_198	CR 390	Andrea Dr	CR 350	County	Y	2012
SJ_221	US 64	CR 6800	CR 6500	County	Y	2012
SJ_48	CR 350	US 64	CR 5580	County	Y	2012
FM_X1	24th St	Municipal Dr	Glade Rd	Farmington		
FM_X2	Miller Ave	Broadway	Miller	Farmington		
FM_27	Auburn Ave N	Apache	Glade	Farmington		2014
FM_1	20th	Municipal Dr	Sunset	Farmington		2014
FM_17	Airport	Main	Apache	Farmington		2012

LOCAL_ID	ON_ROAD	FROM_	TO	Area	SpeedClass	LATEST_YR
FM_209	Foothills	Pinon Hills Blvd	Crestwood Dr	Farmington	Y	2012
FM_21	Apache	Palmer	Airport	Farmington	Y	2012
FM_211	Foothills	Rinconada	End of Route	Farmington		2012
FM_26	Auburn Ave N	US 64/Broadway	Apache	Farmington		2012
FM_29	Beckland Dr	NM 516/E Main	End of Route	Farmington		2012
FM_39	Butler	20th	30th	Farmington	Y	2012
FM_63	English	Largo	NM 516/E Main St	Farmington	Y	2012
FM_64	English	NM 516/E Main St	Pinon Hills	Farmington		2012
FM_73	Hutton	20th	Cliffside	Farmington		2012
FM_8	30th	Pinon Hills	Sunset	Farmington		2014
FM_90	Marseille Blvd	NM 516/E Main St	Martello	Farmington		2012
FM_91	McCormick School	Murray	US 64/Broadway	Farmington		2012
FM_153	Twin Peaks Rd	NM 170	Troy King Rd	Farmington	Y	2014
FM_214	Browning Pkwy	US 64	So Side River Rd	Farmington		2012
FM_116	NM 516	Country Club	CR 350	Farmington		2012
FM_212	Main St	Scott	Sullivan	Farmington		2012
FM_215	Browning Pkwy	So Side River Rd	Morningstar	Farmington		2012
FM_35	Butler	San Juan Blvd	E Main St	Farmington		2012
FM_86	Main St	Auburn	Butler	Farmington	Y	2014
FM_98	Murray Dr/NM 5001	US 64/W Main	W Pinon St	Farmington		2012
FM_34	Butler	US 64/Broadway	San Juan	Farmington		2012
FM_217	NM 516	Largo	Shopping Center	Farmington		2012
FM_218	NM 516	English	Pinon Hills Blvd	Farmington		2014
FM_88	Main St	Sullivan	San Juan Blvd	Farmington		2012

**FARMINGTON METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION  
Agenda Item #6**

<b>Subject:</b>	Complete Streets
<b>Prepared by:</b>	Duane Wakan, MPO Planner
<b>Date:</b>	August 16, 2016

**PREVIOUS WORK**

- Complete Streets are a means of designing a roadway so that it accommodates all modes of travel, including driving, walking, biking, and transit.
- Staff has worked with the Complete Streets Advisory Group (CSAG) on content, and design guidelines for the FMPO planning area.
- The Advisory Group held its last meeting on September 3, 2015 and reviewed the draft Complete Streets Design Guidelines document.
- Technical Committee Workshops were held on February 24, March 16, and April 26 to review and provide edits to the draft Design Guidelines document.
- The Technical Committee reviewed the Intersection section on June 22, 2016 and their recommendations were included.
- The Technical Committee reviewed the Intersection and Equity sections on July 23, 2016.
- A final Technical Committee Workshop was held on August 24, 2016 to complete a final review of the draft Design Guidelines document. The final version will be presented to the Policy Committee on August 25.

**CURRENT WORK**

- The Technical Committee has had many opportunities provide comments and adjustments to the design guidelines.
- Seek input from PC members on any updates and recommendations.

**ANTICIPATED WORK**

- Publish final document and distribute to entities.
- Create a regional Complete Streets resolution for regional consideration and adoption.

**ATTACHMENTS**

- A final draft of the Complete Streets Design Guidelines was sent out on August 18th and can also be downloaded on the following link:  
<http://www.fmtn.org/DocumentCenter/View/8695>.

**ACTION ITEM**

- It is recommended that the Policy Committee consider approval of the final draft of the Complete Streets Design Guidelines.

**FARMINGTON METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION  
Agenda Item #7**

<b>Subject:</b>	Information Items
<b>Prepared by:</b>	Derrick Garcia, MPO Associate Planner
<b>Date:</b>	August 16, 2016

**INFORMATION ITEMS**

a. **TAP Project Feasibility Review.** MPO and entities staff met with District 5 engineering staff and NMDOT planning representatives in Santa Fe on August 8, 2016 to review and discuss TAP project feasibility forms.

b. **Red Apple Transit Ridership Update.**

2015-2016 comparison (January to July)

Route	2015	2016	Percent Change
Red	8,007	6,199	-22.6%
Green	13,919	12,700	-8.8%
Purple	9,874	9,829	-0.5%
Yellow	9,671	11,210	15.9%
Blue	21,432	22,645	5.7%
Saturday Rte	1,127	2,100	86.3%
<b>2016 Fmtn Routes</b>	<b>64,030</b>	<b>65,786</b>	<b>2.7%</b>
Tiger (Aztec)	2,119	3,854	81.9%
Bobcat (Bloomfield)	2,975	3,137	5.4%
Bronco (Kirtland)	4,034	4,000	-0.8%
<b>Total Ridership</b>	<b>73,158</b>	<b>76,688</b>	<b>4.8%</b>

c. **APA Affiliate Memberships.** The accepted applications for APA Affiliate Membership for each Policy Committee member were received. Several Technical Committee members, who were not already APA members, were also registered for Affiliate Membership.

d. **Grant Writing Workshop.** Mr. Garcia attended a grant writing workshop in Albuquerque on July 20 and 21, 2016

e. **Other.**

**MINUTES**  
**FARMINGTON METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION**  
**SPECIAL POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**June 23, 2016**

Policy Members Present: Curtis Lynch, City of Bloomfield  
Nate Duckett, City of Farmington  
Linda Rodgers, City of Farmington  
Larry Hathaway, Alternate, San Juan County

Policy Members Absent: Sherri Sipe, City of Aztec  
Paul Brasher, NMDOT District 5  
Jimmy Voita, San Juan County

Staff Present: Mary Holton, MPO Officer  
Duane Wakan, MPO Planner  
Derrick Garcia, MPO Associate Planner  
June Markle, MPO Administrative Aide

Staff Absent: None

Others Present: Terri Kennedy, Citizen & Place Matters Member  
David Sypher, City of Farmington  
Steven Saavedra, City of Farmington

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Councilor Duckett called the meeting to order at 1:35 p.m.

**2. APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM THE MAY 26, 2016 POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING**

Mr. Hathaway moved to approve the minutes from the May 26, 2016 Policy Committee meeting. Ms. Rodgers seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.

Mr. Wakan introduced the new MPO Associate Planner, Derrick Garcia to the Policy Committee.

**3. FFY2017-2018 UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM**

<b>Subject:</b>	FFY2017-2018 Unified Planning Work Program
<b>Prepared by:</b>	Duane Wakan, MPO Planner
<b>Date:</b>	June 14, 2015

**BACKGROUND**

- The Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) is the fiscal year work plan for the MPO.
- The FFY2017-2018 UPWP will cover planning activities and work products to be completed from October 1, 2016 to September 30, 2018.
- Based on the Planning Procedures Manual (PPM), the MPO needs to provide a draft UPWP to NMDOT in April with final approval in June.
- The Technical Committee reviewed the final draft of the FFY2017-2018 Unified Planning Work Program and their recommended approval is anticipated on June 22.

**CURRENT WORK**

- Annual activities will include reporting and budgeting, the traffic count program, TIP maintenance, GIS activities, and Safe Routes to School activities, transit data collection and mapping.
- Major activities will include land-use and transportation scenario planning, transit studies, travel demand modeling updates, and completion of the safety plan.
- Staff estimates base federal PL funds of \$207,125 and base federal 5303 funds of \$57,119 for both FFY2017 and FFY2018.
- Staff consolidated sections and deleted a couple sections based on recommendations from the Technical Committee.

**ACTION ITEM**

- It is recommended that the Policy Committee consider approval of the FFY2017-2018 UPWP.

**DISCUSSION:** Mr. Wakan said in lieu of reviewing the entire final draft of the Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) he would provide an outline of the changes made since the May Policy Committee meeting:

UPWP Revisions/Updates

- The document has been shortened after receiving feedback from NMDOT;
- Data collection activities consolidated into one new activity (3.6) under Task 3. This data includes population/employment, land use, demographic data, crash data, transit, and kid counts for Safe Routes to School (SRTS);
- Some tasks deleted as plans were recently worked on and are complete, and there will be no need to address them in the next two years (as examples);
  - o Highway Functional Classification Review and Update – completed once every 10 years with NMDOT;
  - o Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) – technology in our signals or signage that alerts motorists to traffic issues. This infrastructure plan was updated last year. No work will need to be done on this other than to manage new TIP projects that might want to incorporate ITS;
- Access Management Plan will be kept in the UPWP in order to update the plan and get regional adoption. It was adopted with mixed success in 2009. This Plan addresses turns and driveways, excess ingress/egress for businesses, and looks at consolidation to reduce conflicts for bikes and pedestrians.

- New Special Studies and Activities
  - o Storm Water Management – San Juan County already has a regional body that meets (MS4) to address storm water management issues. The MPO will join and participate in this discussion;
  - o Travel & Tourism – assist with the city and county branding campaigns; contribute conceptual planning and visualization to impact tourism
  - o Regional Models of Cooperation – MPO already does but FHWA wanted this task included in the UPWPs. This activity is participating in activities outside of the MPO area and help coordinating projects (TIGER grants) and communities;
- Travel Demand Modeling – add language, “coordinate with NMDOT to ensure statewide model interfacing with the MPO model;
- Safety Plan – work to develop a regional plan and work with stakeholders who can help guide and direct the plan. NMDOT wants to participate in this plan and FMPO has encouraged both NMDOT engineers and planners participate to ensure a more comprehensive look is provided;
- Public Health Activities – goals for public health and including active transportation amenities in planning were included in the MPO’s MTP. These MTP goals are now tied to the UPWP.

Mr. Wakan stated that the Technical Committee recommended the UPWP be approved with the inclusion of the Access Management Plan as a task along with the minor NMDOT changes.

Mr. Hathaway asked if this was a one or two year plan. Mr. Wakan replied that it was a two-year plan that would begin on October 1, 2016.

**ACTION:** Councilor Lynch moved to approve the FFY2017-2018 UPWP. Councilor Rodgers seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.

#### **4. COMPLETE STREETS**

<b>Subject:</b>	Complete Streets
<b>Prepared by:</b>	Duane Wakan, MPO Planner
<b>Date:</b>	June 14, 2016

#### **BACKGROUND or PREVIOUS WORK**

- Complete Streets are a means of designing a roadway so that it accommodates all modes of travel, including driving, walking, biking, and transit.
- Staff has worked with the Complete Streets Advisory Group (CSAG) on content, and design guidelines for the FMPO planning area.
- The Advisory Group held its last meeting on September 3, 2015 and reviewed the draft Complete Streets Design Guidelines document.
- Staff made editorial revisions based on input from CSAG members. Works cited and minor grammatical errors will be corrected or updated on an ongoing basis.

- A Technical Committee Workshop was held on February 24, March 16, and April 26 to review and provide edits to the draft Design Guidelines document.

#### CURRENT WORK

- The Technical Committee reviewed the Intersection section of the Design Guidelines document at the June 22 meeting.

#### INFORMATION ITEM

- Complete the review of the draft Design Guidelines document.

**DISCUSSION:** Mr. Wakan reported that the Technical Committee met and reviewed the Intersection chapter to the draft Complete Street Design Guidelines on June 22. They went over the chapter page by page and made the following recommendations/comments:

#### Page 1

Add the words “multi-modal” to the title.

#### Page 2

Remove the last two sentences in the 3<sup>rd</sup> paragraph and the diagram associated with the text. This level of detail regarding turning movements and radii are too specific to the more generalized, regional design guidelines being developed.

#### Page 3

There is a question in the last sentence of the 2<sup>nd</sup> paragraph as to whether the 10% reduction in accidents refers to all accidents or just to bicycle accidents. This is a quote from another’s research and Staff wants to clarify the author’s meaning.

#### Page 4

Not many substantive changes recommended on this page.

#### Conclusion

3<sup>rd</sup> sentence: “Where possible, the intersection should be designed for the most vulnerable street user rather...”; the street is not designed for one mode or group over another, it is designed for all modes. Delete this sentence. Also, the last sentence in the paragraph clarifies that the design is for all modes

Mr. Wakan stated that the final draft design guidelines will be reviewed again by the Technical Committee and the Policy Committee in July and August.

**ACTION:** The report was received.

**5. REPORTS FROM NMDOT**

There were no NMDOT representatives at the meeting.

Mr. Wakan recapped the NMDOT updates presented the day before at the Technical Committee meeting. The following is the engineering update from District 5:

- NMDOT met with the City of Aztec June 22<sup>nd</sup> regarding the East Arterial Route. Staff has not heard the outcome of this recent meeting. NMDOT wants the City of Aztec to expand the right-of-way so that any future road exchange would be for a four-lane facility. The East Arterial is currently being built as a two-lane relief route facility. This expanded right-of-way is encroaching on an old landfill managed by the BLM and this environmental issue is causing setbacks in the design. By taking this facility to four lanes, it becomes a bypass and not a relief route and what then is the economic impact to the City of Aztec in this scenario.
- Mr. Sypher reported on Phases I and II of the Pinon Hills Boulevard project. There has been some movement from NMDOT, but nothing conclusive and it is coming much too late in the process. The current deadline is June 30 which they said they can extend until August 31. All the remaining processes are with NMDOT and they cannot meet the tighter time frames. Mr. Sypher said that without some intervention, NMDOT has successfully killed this project.

Nica Westerling has travelled to Santa Fe to take them another set of documents that they claim they cannot find. The boxes of materials were given to NMDOT last November and they had never looked at them, but now they say they cannot find them. Mr. Sypher said the City of Farmington has provided six separate duplicate submittals over the past few years.

Mr. Sypher added that NMDOT's environmental comments were ready over a year ago, but were withheld pending the review resolution of the right-of-way issues. In the meantime, NMDOT's right-of-way division did not review any of their documents. Mr. Sypher said the City of Farmington will wait and see for another week and then push the issue up a level to Mr. Butch Mathews. Mr. Mathews is not aware of the newest developments.

- There were no updates from the Planning Division. There is a training regarding a workshop for anyone seeking grants for Brownsville remediation. Mr. Wakan will forward the e-mail to the Policy Committee members.

**6. INFORMATION ITEMS**

<b>Subject:</b>	Information Items
<b>Prepared by:</b>	Duane Wakan, MPO Planner
<b>Date:</b>	June 15, 2016

**INFORMATION ITEMS**

- a. **Associate Planner.** Welcome Derrick Garcia.
- b. **MPO Quarterly.** The Farmington MPO hosted the MPO Quarterly on June 13 & 14.
- c. **30<sup>th</sup> Street & Hutton Pedestrian Boulevard.** Presentation by Anngela Wakan, Safe Routes to School Coordinator.
- d. **Other**

**DISCUSSION:** a. Derrick Garcia came on board as the Associate Planner with the MPO on June 20. Mr. Garcia said he had been an intern with the MPO in 2012 collecting Red Apple Transit ridership data throughout the summer. He went to UNM in 2013 and earned his Master in Community & Regional Planning. Following graduation, he went to work with Texas DOT. The FMPO Associate Planner position opening gave him the opportunity to return to his hometown of Farmington.

b. The MPO Quarterly was a two-day event that began with a tour of the US 64 and US 550 facilities in Bloomfield specifically the refuge islands/medians and intersections. The refuge islands are difficult to access in a wheelchair and there is an isolated pork chop island that can leave pedestrians stranded. Mr. Maurice Williams with UNM's Center for Injury Prevention Research & Education (CIPRE) also participated in the tour. The Center provides safety awareness promotional campaigns and is willing to partner with the MPOs. He gathered some ideas for infrastructure improvements in Bloomfield and Staff will work with Mr. Williams again in the future.

Day two of the Quarterly provided the MPOs and NMDOT an opportunity to discuss a host of topics. Councilor Duckett and Mr. Hathaway participated in the meeting and agreed that some good ideas were shared and the meeting is a valuable opportunity for all the agencies to communicate and work together.

c. Mrs. Wakan, Safety Routes to School Coordinator, presented a proposal for a 30<sup>th</sup> Street & Hutton pedestrian boulevard. The following is a summary of her presentation:

- 8 80 City – if it works for an eight-year old and it works for an eighty-year old, it will work for everyone in between. Would like to make Farmington an 8 80 city; encourage other cities to consider changes for their community;
- Walking and biking are the only individual mode of mobility for youth; additional health aspects for all;
- Dignify walking and biking by building the facilities for them;
- Need physical separation of pedestrians/bicycles from vehicles;
- Impatiens (something done quickly and inexpensively to show progress and what can be achieved) vs. orchids (long-term, more expensive changes);
- Roads are public and not just meant for vehicles; need to be creative in how roadways are used;
- Take outside lanes of 30<sup>th</sup> Street from Sunset to Hutton (and then down Hutton to Main Street) and turn them into a bike/ped facility; roughly three miles;



- The infrastructure is already in place and the city has the right-of-way;
- Eventually take the pedestrian boulevard down Hutton to address equity issues and help balance low income neighborhoods near Animas Elementary and Heights Jr. High;
- Proposing to start pedestrian boulevard with the use of paint and bollards;
- Average daily peak traffic count (from 2012) in single-lane sections of 30<sup>th</sup> Street is 16,000 vehicles; one lane roads can easily handle 18,000-25,000 cars per day; other vehicle travel options are Pinon Hills Boulevard, 20<sup>th</sup> Street, and Main Street;
- The boulevard could offer connections for seven local schools (Farmington has 16 total schools): FHS, Ladera, Northeast, Hermosa, Mesa Verde, Heights, and Animas;
- The boulevard could eventually connect with parks, library, aquatic center, recreation center, Boys & Girls Club, baseball/soccer fields, and be designed in a way to access the downtown area;
- Add specialized crosswalk on 30<sup>th</sup> Street between Knudsen and Carlton;
- Possibly consider secondary future phases to expand down Dustin and Sullivan Avenues;
- San Juan County Partnership is planning to hire a county-wide SRTS coordinator who could help with these types of concepts for Aztec and Bloomfield.

Mrs. Wakan said that she has also identified some pedestrian safety projects that she asked to be considered for possible 2018 TAP funding:

- Speed Indicator Flashing Beacons
- Pedestrian Activated Flashing Beacons
- Sidewalks
- Crosswalks
- Bollards for secondary phases of Pedestrian Boulevard

There are two school zone flashing beacons missing for Bluffview Elementary and on 20<sup>th</sup> Street near Hutton Avenue for Animas Elementary. These would help slow traffic down to 15 mph (this is the required speed in school zones in New Mexico) during school hours.

Mrs. Wakan also noted where some solar-powered pedestrian activated flashing beacons (\$8,000 each) on each side of the roadway that could be used when there is no (or absent) crossing guard that would assist pedestrians to cross busy streets. The beacons remain off unless activated by a pedestrian and then gives 30-40 seconds for the pedestrian to cross the street before shutting off:

- Butler: McKinley Elementary crosswalk
- Dustin: McKinley Elementary crosswalk
- Apache: Apache Elementary crosswalk
- 30<sup>th</sup> Street: Between Knudsen and Carlton - crosswalk for Hermosa and Northeast
- Sullivan and Cliffside
- Hutton and Cliffside (new crosswalk)
- Veterans Park: Cross Butler (new crosswalk)
- Foothills: Country Club crosswalk
- Sunset: FHS crosswalk

Missing sidewalk sections (it was noted that these are typically at an undeveloped lot and that the sidewalk is funded when the lot is developed):

- 30<sup>th</sup> Street between Butler and Knudsen
- 30<sup>th</sup> Street on northwest corner of Sullivan
- East side of Hutton between 20<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> Streets

Proposed new areas for crosswalks:

- Special paint or treat crosswalk and move from 30<sup>th</sup> Street and Knudsen to between Knudsen and Carlton
- Across Butler near North Carlton: connects to bus line and Veterans Park
- Across Hutton near Cliffside

In conclusion, Mrs. Wakan said she would like to encourage making some inexpensive, quick changes (impatiens) now and begin looking at the more expensive, future amenities (orchids).

Councilor Rodgers spoke about the issues she is aware of in the Bluffview Elementary School and Sycamore Park Community Center areas. She was very interested in how these ideas could also be considered and implemented for this area. Mrs. Wakan said she will be meeting with the Bluffview principal in July and that school's safety concerns will be discussed. Councilor Rodgers thought some of these ideas could be implemented as a visible, interim measure until sidewalks or something more costly could be constructed. Mrs. Wakan said she had started with the 30<sup>th</sup> Street location because that area is what she is most familiar with. The innovations could certainly be considered for anywhere in Farmington.

Councilor Duckett said Mrs. Wakan had presented this proposal to him a few weeks ago. He commented on growing up in Denver and the multitude of bike paths that provided

access to wherever he needed to go. Councilor Duckett said people have asked for and he would like to see the community look at building trails and bike routes from north Farmington down to the river and to the downtown area. He acknowledged that funding is tight with the other projects scheduled and under construction.

Councilor Duckett commented that there are questions and obvious concerns with narrowing 30<sup>th</sup> Street which are magnified by the current construction on 20<sup>th</sup> Street construction making 30<sup>th</sup> Street the main travel road. Councilor Duckett said the changes need to be taken step by step and the costs considered for each. Mrs. Wakan said her research estimated a few thousand per mile for paint and bollards. Mr. Sypher said there were a lot of considerations and he would prefer to spend some time and calculate a more accurate cost estimate.

Mr. Sypher said there are numerous considerations with the pedestrian boulevard proposal: shared bike/pedestrian paths are not preferable as they each want their own space; lower speeds would have to be looked at, average daily traffic (ADT), and; the possible future growth of Farmington that could necessitate taking 30<sup>th</sup> Street back to four travel lanes. Mr. Sypher added that the number of available grants has shrunk. The City of Farmington has \$20,000,000 in pending street/surface repairs. The additional proposed projects make maintaining the status quo even more difficult.

Mr. Sypher said the sidewalk issues will be studied and, if they are warranted, they will be installed. He said there are numerous reasons why a sidewalk section could be missing, but that 90% of the time it was because the lot was undeveloped.

Councilor Rodgers said she was excited about the concept. Along with the safety and traffic aspects, she thought taking the pedestrian boulevard along Hutton would be a great amenity to an under-served area. Mr. Wakan stated that having bicycle and pedestrian amenities raise property values and increases economic development in those areas.

Mr. Wakan showed a video on changes to street designs made in New York City over a six-year period. They realized the need to focus on quality of life and the efficiency of their infrastructure. Mr. Wakan said that although Farmington is not a New York City, it is a microcosm of New York City with many of the same problems. He noted the leadership, innovation and risk it took to implement these changes, and he hoped the MPO committees and staff could begin to make some similar changes in Farmington and across the region.

Mr. Hathaway commented on this video and the benefits the city of Bogotá, Colombia experienced when they eliminated all vehicular traffic on their downtown main street. An unexpected benefit they saw was a reduced crime rate because having more pedestrians on the street increased awareness and visibility.

Councilor Duckett asked what the current TAP projects were. Mr. Sypher said the City of Farmington was going to be applying for three projects that, unfortunately, will all compete against each other:

- Phases II and III of Foothills; this project is already designed; will incorporate some aspects of a multi-use path; the City may decide to only seek funding for Phase II;

- 20<sup>th</sup> Street; complete streets project including great landscaping, curbs, separate sidewalks, ADA improvements, some underground power, resurfacing, bike paths and all new utilities;
- Downtown Main Street; complete streets project for Farmington's downtown Main Street.

Mr. Wakan explained that a city can only be awarded a maximum of \$2,000,000 in TAP funding. Additionally, there is a minimum project cost of \$75,000 or more (excluding the SRTS Coordinator position). Mr. Sypher said that the Foothills project alone is a \$2,000,000 project. Mr. Wakan said that the school districts are their own entity and can apply for their own funding and are separate from any entity requests. Mr. Sypher added that the TAP/RTP funding is for a two-year cycle with year one being for planning and design, and construction happening in year two. He said it was important to note that the projects selected will be the only projects for the next two years.

#### **7. BUSINESS FROM THE CHAIRMAN, MEMBERS AND STAFF**

There was no business from the Chairman, Members and Staff.

#### **8. BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR**

There was no business from the floor.

#### **9. ADJOURNMENT**

Councilor Lynch moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Hathaway seconded the motion. Councilor Duckett adjourned the meeting at 2:55 p.m.

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Councilor Duckett, Chair

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June Markle,  
MPO Administrative Aide