

MINUTES
FARMINGTON METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION
TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEETING
July 25, 2013

Technical Members Present: Brad Ellsworth, City of Bloomfield
Cynthia Lopez, City of Farmington
Nica J. Westerling, City of Farmington
Larry Hathaway, Alternate, San Juan County

Technical Members Absent: Roshana Moojen, Alternate, City of Aztec
Dave Keck, San Juan County

Staff Present: Duane Wakan, MPO Associate Planner
June Markle, MPO Administrative Aide

Staff Absent: Mary Holton, MPO Officer
Joe Delmagori, MPO Planner

Also Present: Brian Degani, Planning Liaison, NMDOT
T. J. Richards, San Juan County

1. CALL TO ORDER

Ms. Lopez, Vice-Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m.

2. APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM THE JUNE 27, 2013 TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEETING

Mr. Ellsworth made a motion to approve the minutes from the June 27, 2013 Technical Committee meeting. Mr. Hathaway seconded the motion. The motion to approve the minutes was passed unanimously.

3. UPDATE TO THE REGIONAL TRAFFIC MODEL

Subject:	Population/Employment Base and Projections
Prepared by:	Duane Wakan, MPO Associate Planner
Date:	July 18, 2013

BACKGROUND or PREVIOUS WORK

- Staff completed baseline population/employment estimates and changes to the Traffic Analysis Zones (TAZ) boundary structure.
- The Policy Committee approved the new TAZ boundary structure on April 23.

CURRENT WORK

- Staff used historical population & employment data sources to extrapolate mid-year and long-range projections for the county and MPO boundary.
- Population and employment for a new 2012 baseline, a new 2025 mid-year, and a new 2040 long-range were presented at the June 27th Technical Committee meeting.
- Staff re-assigned population and employment distribution based on feedback from land-use planners, developers, Four Corners Economic Development and other data sources.
- Staff developed a work schedule for traffic model update activities that will be completed by a hired consultant as well as in-house efforts.

ANTICIPATED WORK

- Staff will seek approval of final population and employment projections at the August 7 Special Policy Committee meeting.
- Staff will hire a consultant in early to mid-July 2013 to begin model calibration, validation and staff training opportunities.
- Staff will use the model updates to assist with MTP planning activities in early fall 2013.

ATTACHMENTS

- Final Population and Employment TAZ Distribution Maps and the traffic model work schedule will be provided at the meeting.

RECOMMENDATION

- It is recommended that the Technical Committee recommend approval of the Traffic Analysis Zones (TAZ) base year and future (2010, 2025, and 2040) population and employment projections and distribution.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Wakan reported Staff has been working on updating the population/employment forecasts and he gave a presentation to explain the reassignment of population and employment numbers based on feedback from local groups. Mr. Wakan said Staff would be seeking recommended approval of the TAZ base year and future population and employment projections and distribution, and requesting that administrative modifications to the data by Staff be allowed.

Mr. Wakan reiterated that Staff had decided to use the Trend approach in projecting population and employment as it is based on statistical analyses where the Dynamic and Scenario Planning approaches require land use models. The MPO does not have the technical capacity or software available at this time to consider these approaches.

For projecting future population, Mr. Wakan stated that Staff is looking at data available through the Bureau of Business & Economic Research (BBER) through UNM. The BBER projections provide population data for San Juan County for the future years

of 2025 and 2040. Staff will take this information and historical data provided by the U. S. Census to calculate the future percentage of MPO population compared to the county.

Mr. Wakan explained that Staff had calculated three different scenarios to project MPO population. Mr. Wakan said that, prior to running the analysis below, Staff had determined that the MPO area would not urbanize past 80%. The scenario with the most realistic data on the percentage of MPO population compared to the county is shown below for the years of 2010 to 2040:

Year	2010	2020	2025	2030	2040
MPO % of SJC Population	74.46%	76.87%	77.77%	78.47%	79.31%

Using these percentages and the county's population projections provided by BBER, Staff developed corresponding MPO population numbers:

2010 - 96,925 (current per US Census Bureau data)
 2025 - 119,316
 2040 - 138,505

Mr. Wakan said that Staff will next redistribute the population numbers over the TAZ structure. He showed some slides which showed how the TAZ structure will change from the current year of 2010 out to 2040. Mr. Wakan also demonstrated how the TAZ maps are set up and can display information that includes the TAZ number along with the total employment and population numbers for the years of 2010, 2025, and 2040. To redistribute population over the TAZ, Staff also had to look at zoning. Mr. Wakan has uploaded a zoning map to assist in determining if population can be added into a certain TAZ in the future based on how the area is zoned or how it might change in the future.

Mr. Wakan said that Staff is using information from the Bureau of Economic Analysis - Regional Economic Information System (BEA REIS) & the Quarterly Workforce Indicators (US Census Bureau) to extrapolate the employment data. The information from the Bureau of Economic Analysis is provided for every ten-year period and projects an employment number of 55,653 in 2020. The future growth factor using this data set, however, showed a very conservative trend line. Mr. Wakan said some of the other scenarios Staff developed showed growth trends of 76,000 jobs in 2040 and this was believed to be too steep a trend.

Using a different set of data from the Quarterly Workforce Indicators from the US Census Bureau provided data for the county every year from 1996 through 2011. Mr. Wakan stated that the scenario that seemed to be the most realistic for the area estimated employment to be at 59,340 in 2025 and at 69,716 in 2040. Staff then determined the MPO percentage of county employment at 93.26% in 2025 and at 92.5% in 2040. From this data, Staff projected that in 2025 there will be 55,342 jobs and 64,485 in 2040.

Mr. Wakan reported that Staff had met with local planners, a local developer, as well as staff from Four Corners Economic Development that included a representative from

the oil and gas industry. These groups reviewed the employment projections and thought they looked good. They believe the economy will grow despite the current decline in the local oil and gas industry.

Mr. Hathaway asked if the changes at the area's coal-fired power plants had been factored into the projections. Mr. Wakan said he had spoken with a representative from the power plant who believed the impact on local employment will not be known until 2016.

Mr. Wakan reported that Mr. Bob Shull, a traffic model consultant has been hired and will begin working with Staff on the calibration and validation of the traffic model. He will review and possibly recommend changes to the TAZ structure and the population/employment numbers. Mr. Wakan said that Staff would like to receive recommended approval from the Technical Committee of the Traffic Analysis Zones (TAZ) base year and future (2010, 2025, and 2040) population and employment projections and distribution, but allow for administrative modifications/adjustments should any be identified through the work with Mr. Shull.

ACTION: Ms. Westerling moved to recommend approval of the Traffic Analysis Zones (TAZ) base year and future (2010, 2025, and 2040) population and employment projections and distribution. Mr. Ellsworth seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously. Ms. Lopez clarified that this recommended approval did allow for MPO Staff to administratively update the data.

4. TRANSPORTATION ALTERNATIVES PROGRAM (TAP)

Subject:	Transportation Alternatives Program
Prepared by:	Duane Wakan, Associate Planner
Date:	July 17, 2013

BACKGROUND or PREVIOUS WORK

- MAP-21 has created the new Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP).
- Funding for TAP projects will be based on a project selection process.
- Final TAP guidelines were developed and approved in April.
- An overview of the guidelines and project selection process were presented to the Policy Committee on June 20 and with the Technical Committee on June 27.

CURRENT WORK

- The MPO determined how project selection would transpire by using a scoring matrix.
- The entities confirmed and submitted TAP-eligible projects with technical assistance provided by MPO Staff.
- MPO Staff reviewed and scored the eligible projects the week of July 22.
- Staff has developed a TAP schedule for key items and deadlines.

ANTICIPATED WORK
<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Approve the selected projects in July and August.▪ Amend the TIP to include the selected TAP projects.

ATTACHMENTS
<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ TAP Funding and local match estimates, Entity application descriptions, and planning factors used in the scoring process.▪ MPO scoring for received TAP applications will be provided at the meeting.

RECOMMENDATION
<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ It is recommended that the Technical Committee recommend approval of the selected list of projects for TAP funding in FFY2014 and FFY2015.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Wakan reported that three Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) project applications were submitted for possible funding during FFY2014 and FFY2015.

Using the scoring matrix to rank and score the three projects, Mr. Wakan explained the TAP applications received by the MPO:

The City of Bloomfield submitted the Verada De Rio San Juan Trail project which falls within the urbanized area designation as defined by the 2010 US Census. This is Phase II of a project for trail development and infrastructure.

The City of Farmington submitted two projects:

The Southside River Road River Trail project is considered a rural project as it falls outside the urbanized area. This project is to connect the proposed Pinon Hills Bridge crossing to city-owned land downstream on the north side of the Animas River. The second application was for Phase I of a sidewalk project on 20th Street from Clayton to Fairview.

Mr. Wakan said MPO Staff had scored the projects using the TAP scoring criteria shown below on the TAP Scorecard. Mr. Wakan explained how points for the projects were determined.

Verada De Rio San Juan Trail Project

Points were given because the right-of-way was established and design work and environmental certifications were in place. The project readiness factors of Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) and Railroad were not a consideration with this project or the other two project applications submitted.

This project was identified in Bloomfield's ICIP, their Comprehensive Plan, and the MPO's TIP.

Southside River Road River Trail

This project was the only project submitted in the rural category and therefore was the only project eligible for the Rural TAP funds.

20th Street Sidewalks

This project scored second in the urban project category behind the Verada De Rio San Juan. Mr. Wakan said this project did not score as high in the category of project readiness because certifications are yet to be completed. The project did score very well in the Planning section of the scorecard with strong write-ups for each of the factors.

Mr. Wakan said Staff spoke with NMDOT to determine the funds to be used in FY2014 and any amount that would then carry over to FY2015. Ms. Holton recommended that, since no funding had yet been approved, Mr. Wakan should provide additional project details for each of the three TAP applications submitted to better explain how the points were determined.

Mr. Wakan provided details of the scoring for each of the TAP applications:

Verada De Rio San Juan Phase II

This project had all rights-of-way, completed design work, and environmental certifications and scored a total of 15 points.

The project was identified in the City of Bloomfield's ICIP as well as their Comprehensive Plan and a Master Trails Plan. It is also in the MPO's TIP. The project scored a total of 8 points.

Scoring Factors:

- Good written statement showing how project will enhance the vitality of that area of Bloomfield. Bloomfield anticipates constructing a multi-mixed use project along the river on the east side of US 550. This trail project will be a catalyst for much of the activity in the area.
- Electric utilities are included in this project to light the trail and provide safety for pedestrians.
- The current trail is isolated from other points, but when built out, it will be a well-connected trail for retail and other activities.
- Project scored well in promoting environmental conservation and addressing the quality of life for residents.
- The plan did lack in Factor 5 - Efficient System Management and Operation. This factor determines if there is a plan laid out by the city to update and maintain the infrastructure and new projects as they come on line. This application did not reference any specific plan.

TAP SCORECARD				
SCORING	Possible Points	Points Awarded		
		Verada De Rio San Juan	20th Street	SSRR Trail
Project Readiness: Refer to the list below (a-f). Award 5 points for each certification/clearance/proof of exemption that is completed AND documentation is provided in the application packet. Application receives 0 points if documentation is not provided.				
a. Right-of-Way	5	5	5	5
b. Design	5	5	0	0
c. Environmental Certification	5	5	0	0
d. Utility Clearances	5	0	0	0
e. Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS)	5	0	0	0
f. Railroad	5	0	0	0
Planning: Award 5 points if the project is included in the ICIP. Award 2 points for each additional plan that includes the project, up to a maximum of 10 points. For both the ICIP and other plans, the application must include appropriate documentation, including the cover page of the plan and the page(s) on which the plan is identified.				
a. Infrastructure and Capital Improvements Plan (ICIP)	5	5	0	0
b. Other eligible plans (2 points each, max of 10)	10	8	6	6
Scoring Factors (Refer to TAP Application & NM TAP Guide)				
Factor 1: Economic Vitality	5	5	5	3
Factor 2: Safety and Security	5	5	5	4
Factor 3: Accessibility and Mobility through Integration and Connectivity	5	4	5	3
Factor 4: Protection & Enhancement of Environment:				
a. Promote environmental conservation	5	5	4	3
b. Improve quality of life for residents	5	5	4	4
c. Achieve community's land use goals	5	5	5	4
Factor 5: Efficient System Management and Operation	5	3	5	3
Factor 6: System Preservation	5	4	5	2
TOTAL	85	66	44	37

Ms. Westerling asked about the scoring of the Environmental Certification category on this project. Mr. Wakan clarified that this project did have environmental certifications in place since this was the second phase of an ongoing project.

Southside River Road River Trail

The project had the right-of-way for the project, but there is no current design work or environmental clearances.

The project is not identified in the City of Farmington's ICIP; it is identified in the Riverine Plan, the Comprehensive Plan, and the MPO Bike/Pedestrian Plan.

Scoring Factors:

The Technical Committee members agreed they did not need Mr. Wakan to review each of the Scoring Factors for these other two projects.

Ms. Westerling asked who at the Parks & Rec Department had submitted the application. Mr. Wakan said the application had been submitted by Mr. Roger Drayer.

20th Street Sidewalk - Phase I

Mr. Wakan noted that this project was second in the scoring for funding in the urban category.

The right-of-way has been established. No other project readiness points were awarded.

The project was identified in the MPO's TIP, NMDOT's STIP, and the MTP. Ms. Westerling stated that it was also in the Comprehensive Plan. Mr. Wakan said an additional two points would be awarded in the category of "Other Eligible Plans" for this project taking the total from six points to eight points.

Mr. Wakan stated that there were strong write-ups for each of the Scoring Factors. The overall score for this project (with the additional points noted above) was 46.

Ms. Westerling asked about the remaining funds shown in the presentation and if those funds are eligible. She questioned if the projects should be expanded or additional projects included. Mr. Wakan explained how the funding might be allocated should all three projects be approved for funding.

Federal Funding Requested for FFY2014	Remaining Funds for FFY2014 & 2015
Bloomfield - Urban: \$158,580	Rural: \$23,293 (2015)
Farmington - Urban: \$188,700	Urban: \$66,733 (2015)
Farmington - Rural: \$34,600	Anywhere: \$148,434 (2014)
	Anywhere: \$211,322 (2015)

The chart below shows the total of FMPO Federal TAP funding amounts and local match estimates:

Population Area Target	FFY 2014	FFY 2015
Pop. 4,999 or less (Rural)	\$ 23,293	\$ 23,293
Pop. 5,000 to 200,000	\$106,999	\$106,999
Pop. 200,001+	\$0	\$0
Anywhere	\$211,322	\$211,322
Federal Total:	\$341,614	\$341,614
Local Match	\$49,739	\$49,739
TAP Total for FMPO	\$391,353	\$391,353

Mr. Wakan said that, based on the current scoring and assuming the project funding is approved, Bloomfield would receive all the urban funding for FFY2014 and use some of the Anywhere funding for FFY2014. This project could be completed in 2014.

The SSRR River Trail project would use all the Rural funding for FFY2014 and approximately \$10,000 of the FFY2014 Anywhere funds. This project could be completed in 2014.

Mr. Wakan stated that assuming the funding is approved for the two projects as stated, this would leave \$148,484 in Anywhere funds in FFY2014. This amount could then be applied to the 20th Street Sidewalk project.

For FFY2015, there will be \$23,293 in Rural funds; \$66,733 in Urban funds; and \$211,322 in Anywhere funds.

Staff discussed allowing a second iteration of project applications in order to allocate all of the FFY2014 and FFY2015 funds. Mr. Wakan said this could mean accepting another Rural project and another Urban project or an additional phase of the 20th Street project to spend the remaining Urban and Anywhere funds. Mr. Wakan said there would still be time to review additional projects at the August Technical Committee meeting with anticipated Policy Committee approval at their September meeting.

Mr. Degani said he concurred with Staff's assessment. He stated that if the funds are not programmed through the TAP application process, any remaining funds could revert back to NMDOT. The unused funds state-wide could generate a final call for TAP applications sometime in 2015. Mr. Degani said NMDOT is currently unsure how these unused funds are going to be handled. He agreed that FMPO has done a good job to date and that any remaining TAP funds can be looked at a second time. Mr. Degani noted, however, that all completed applications must be received by NMDOT by October 1.

The Technical Committee members asked if it was possible to get a second round of TAP applications scored and approved before the deadline. Mr. Wakan said that was possible since project scoring could be reviewed by the Technical Committee at their August meeting. Ms. Holton stated that prior to the October 1 deadline for getting the applications to NMDOT, the local Councils and Commissions will need to approve the funding. This cuts into the timeframe available to consider a second iteration of TAP applications. Mr. Degani agreed that time was of the essence to get the letters of support and resolutions from the local entities.

Mr. Degani reported that Ms. Rosa Kozub, the TAP Coordinator, attended a recent training where FHWA clarified that transit projects are not eligible for TAP funding.

Mr. Ellsworth asked Mr. Wakan to e-mail the TAP presentation to the members.

The Technical Committee members discussed holding a special meeting to review the second iteration of TAP applications. They discussed times and dates of upcoming Council and Commission meetings in order to present the TAP applications to those bodies and obtain their resolutions. The Members agreed to the following schedule:

August 1 at 5:00 p.m.	Deadline for the 2 nd Iteration of TAP applications
August 2 at 10:00 a.m. (MPO Office)	Workshop for scoring process

August 7 at 1:30 p.m.
(MPO Office)

Joint Meeting with the Policy Committee

Ms. Lopez said that the City of Aztec needed to be informed of the decision to accept a second round of TAP applications. Mr. Wakan said he would inform them.

ACTION: Mr. Ellsworth moved to recommend approval of the selected list of projects already submitted for TAP funding in FFY2014 and FFY2015. Ms. Westerling seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

Mr. Hathaway also moved to include a second iteration of TAP project applications due on August 1, a special meeting of the Technical Committee on August 2, and a Joint Meeting with the Policy Committee on August 7. Mr. Ellsworth seconded. The motion was approved unanimously.

5. COMPLETE STREETS PROGRAM

Subject:	Complete Streets
Prepared by:	Duane Wakan, MPO Associate Planner
Date:	July 17, 2013

BACKGROUND or PREVIOUS WORK

- Complete Streets is a means of designing a roadway so that it accommodates all modes of travel, such as walking, biking, and transit.
- Overview presentations on Complete Streets have been given to all councils/commissions and several organizations.
- The Complete Streets Advisory has developed values, goals, and a vision statement that indicate the need and importance of Complete Streets.
- The Advisory Group held its latest meeting on July 9.

CURRENT WORK

- On July 9, the MPO worked with the Advisory Group to finalize Complete Streets values, goals, and the vision statement.
- The Advisory Group approved the vision, goals, and values.
- Staff introduced the concept of defining new land use context areas and road types for the development of Complete Streets design guidelines.
- The Advisory Group began to define how land use context areas and road types in this area should look with Complete Streets.

ANTICIPATED WORK

- Further development of land use context areas and road types.

ATTACHMENTS
<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Final approved draft values and goals.▪ Final approved draft vision statement.▪ Land use context areas & road type examples.

RECOMMENDATION
<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ It is recommended that the Technical Committee receive a report on the July 9 Complete Streets Advisory Group meeting and recommend approval of the Complete Streets Values, Goals, and Vision Statement as recommended by the Complete Streets Advisory Group.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Wakan reported on the Complete Streets Advisory Group meeting held on July 9. The Advisory Group finalized and recommended approval of the Complete Streets values, goals, and vision statement (see Pages 6-10 of the Agenda).

Mr. Wakan reviewed the final vision statement developed by the Advisory Group on July 9:

The Farmington MPO region will plan, design, and construct connected, multi-modal, and context appropriate transportation networks. These will address the needs of all users and integrate the community values of health, safety, and economic vitality in an aesthetically pleasing way.

Mr. Wakan noted that the Advisory Group specifically identified the Farmington MPO region in this final vision statement developed on July 9. Additionally they strengthened the wording in the second sentence to say; "address the needs of all users..." as opposed to the earlier wording; "consider the needs..."

The final draft values and goals were on Pages 8-10 of the Agenda. Mr. Wakan reported that there were only minor changes made at the July 9 meeting to the values and goals.

Mr. Wakan reported that the Advisory Group members have now begun to consider land use context areas and road types. Page 7 of the Agenda showed a visual approach and a tabular/chart method that are being used by other cities and entities to explain the concepts of land use context areas and road types. Mr. Wakan said that during the Advisory Group meeting, Staff had presented a virtual tour of 30th Street in Farmington to visually show the dramatic changes it undergoes from a rural setting to suburban, and to a commercial area as land use context areas change from the west side of Farmington to the east side.

Mr. Wakan said that in the next few meetings, the Advisory Group will work to identify local land use context areas and road types. Based on feedback from Advisory Group members, Staff will develop some initial ideas for them to react to and begin working from. This information will be developed based on comments and suggestions provided by the Advisory Group during the July 9 meeting.

ACTION: Mr. Ellsworth moved to recommend approval of the Complete Streets Values, Goals, and Vision Statement as recommended by the Complete Streets Advisory Group. Mr. Hathaway seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.

6. RECEIVE A REPORT FROM NMDOT

Mr. Phil Gallegos was unable able to attend the meeting, but Mr. Degani provided several District 5 updates:

- Construction on US 64 at the Troy King intersection should be completed by July 26.
- The US 64 intersection (pavement and concrete sections) should begin July 31 with anticipated completion by the end of the summer.

Ms. Westerling asked if this work was at the intersection of La Plata and Troy King. Mr. Degani said he thought it was, but would clarify with Mr. Gallegos exactly where this intersection construction was being done.

- \$2,000,000 (FY2013 funds) for Aztec Arterial project. Ms. Margaret Haynes and Mr. David Quintana of NMDOT are working with the City of Aztec on this project.
- District 5 is working with the entities and the STIP Unit on completing the Transportation Enhancement Projects (FY2013 funds) by the fiscal year end. The new federal fiscal year begins on October 1.

Mr. Degani reported that the Planning Division is working with a consultant to integrate new MPO boundary information in the federal functional classification system. This will help NMDOT develop a GIS base map. The Planning Division will be working with the MPOs to review traffic volumes and roadway capacity as this project moves forward. Mr. Degani said this update is expected to take two years to fully complete.

Mr. Degani reported that NMDOT will be seeking a consultant to assist with the state's long-range plan and in upgrading the statewide model. More information will be provided to FMPO as this project gets underway.

7. RECEIVE A REPORT ON TRANSIT DATA

Subject:	Red Apple Transit Data Collection
Prepared by:	Duane Wakan, MPO Associate Planner
Date:	July 17, 2013

BACKGROUND or PREVIOUS WORK

- The MPO collected Red Apple ridership data in 2012.
- Interns were hired to track passenger travel and ridership by route.
- Saturday route changes were implemented in June 2013.

CURRENT WORK

- The MPO has again hired two interns to administer surveys, track boarding/alignment, and take passenger counts at various bus stop locations.
- The interns are riding the bus to collect origin/destination data of passengers.
- Staff has revised the survey questionnaire that will again be administered to Red Apple passengers to help determine:
 - The frequency of usage
 - The ongoing need of the transit system.
- The interns are collecting transit data from June through September.

ANTICIPATED WORK

- Staff will evaluate the collected data for any correlations between social economic factors and riders.
- Staff will evaluate the transit need within this region.
- Staff will evaluate the route changes implemented in June and provide information to address potential future transit changes.

RECOMMENDATION

- It is recommended that the Technical Committee receive a report on Red Apple Transit data collection activities.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Wakan reported that the MPO had again hired two interns to ride the bus to collect origin/destination data of passengers, to administer surveys, track boardings/alignments, and take passenger counts at various bus stop locations.

Staff will use the survey data gathered to assist with planning and scheduling recommendations to the City of Farmington. Additionally, information will be provided to the local entities.

Ms. Westerling asked when Staff might have some ridership numbers compiled and survey data available. Mr. Wakan said some of the early information should be available at the Technical Committee meeting in September.

ACTION: The report was received.

8. RECEIVE A REPORT ON RED APPLE TRANSIT MONTHLY RIDERSHIP

Subject:	Red Apple Transit Monthly Update
Prepared by:	Duane Wakan MPO Associate Planner
Date:	July 16, 2013

RED APPLE REPORT

- Ridership in 2013 through the first six months was 66,032; in 2012 ridership was 61,994 during the same period, which is a 7% increase.
- Ridership for the Farmington routes between January and June increased by approximately 2,208 passengers.
- Ridership for the regional routes (Aztec, Bloomfield & Kirtland) increased by 1,830 passengers.
- MPO Staff are serving on the San Juan College Transit Committee; Staff is conducting research to guide policy decisions recommendations.

ATTACHMENT

- 2013 monthly ridership summary for Red Apple Transit.
- San Juan College Transit Mapping analysis will be provided at the meeting.

RECOMMENDATION

- It is recommended that the Technical Committee receive a report on the Red Apple Transit monthly ridership.
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DISCUSSION: Mr. Wakan reported that there has been a 7% increase in ridership numbers through the first six months of 2013 compared to the same time last year. There were an additional, 2,208 passengers on the Farmington routes and 1,830 additional passengers on the regional routes.

Mr. Wakan also reported on work he is doing with the San Juan College Transit Committee. San Juan College is looking at the possibility of including bus fares with tuition packages. MPO Staff is developing maps of where college students live in relation to Red Apple Transit routes. With enrollment data provided by San Juan College, Staff has created some maps that provide information on where students live within one-quarter and one-half mile buffers. These maps show that two-thirds of all San Juan College students live within the one-half mile buffer.

Ms. Westerling asked if a link could be provided from San Juan College's webpage to Red Apple Transit. Mr. Wakan said Staff is still working on some of these concepts with San Juan College along with a transit route planner feature.

Staff will be meeting with the college's Transit Committee next month and will update them on current work and available data.

ACTION: The report was received.

9. INFORMATION ITEMS

Subject:	Information Items
Prepared by:	Duane Wakan, MPO Associate Planner
Date:	July 17, 2013

INFORMATION ITEMS

- a. **Special Policy Committee Meeting:** A Special Policy Committee will be held at the MPO office at 1:30 p.m. on August 7 to take action on TAP project selections and approval of the 2025 mid-range and 2040 long-range TAZ population and projection forecasts.
- b. **REMI Conference:** Staff will be attending a presentation on the land-use modeling applications and capabilities of the REMI software used in the transportation planning field in Santa Fe on August 5.
- c. **Other**

DISCUSSION: As discussed previously, there will be a Special Policy Committee meeting on August 7 at 1:30 p.m. The Policy Committee will be asked to take action on TAP project selections and to approve the 2025 mid-range and 2040 long-range TAZ population projection and employment forecasts.

Mr. Wakan will be attending a REMI conference in Santa Fe on August 5. REMI is a software developer that creates land use modeling data which assists with scenario planning and in predicting population and employment numbers.

Mr. Wakan reported on the new Special Projects Manager for the City of Bloomfield, Teresa Brevik, who will be the new representative from Bloomfield for the Technical Committee. Mr. Ellsworth will remain as the Alternate for Bloomfield. Mr. Wakan thanked Mr. Ellsworth for his service during the past two years.

Ms. Holton reported on the upcoming New Mexico APA conference to be held in Farmington on October 2-5, 2013. Mr. Claude Morelli and other representatives from NMDOT will be presenting a session on the state wide plan. There will be sessions on Complete Streets and active transportation planning. Early registration is expected to begin in August and Ms. Holton noted that the fees are very affordable. There will be four mobile workshops on October 2 to choose from along with technical training on October 5 that the MPO is hosting along with representatives from ESRI.

Ms. Holton said that breakfast and lunch on Thursday and Friday will be provided to participants and there are also two receptions scheduled. The welcome reception will be on Wednesday evening, October 2 at Red Lion with a second reception at Three Rivers on Thursday evening. The New Mexico Municipal League will also host a training session for planning commissioners on October 4. There is no cost for this session but interest parties are encouraged to pre-register.

10. BUSINESS FROM THE CHAIRMAN, MEMBERS AND STAFF

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

11. BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR

There was no business from the floor.

12. ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Westerling moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Ellsworth seconded the motion. Ms. Lopez adjourned the meeting at 11:30 p.m.

Cynthia Lopez, Vice Chair

June Markle, MPO Administrative Aide