

M I N U T E S
FARMINGTON METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION
TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEETING
October 9, 2019

Technical Members Present: Steven Saavedra, City of Aztec
Jason Thomas, City of Bloomfield
Virginia King, City of Farmington
Dan Flack, Town of Kirtland
Stephen Lopez (Alt.), NMDOT District 5
Fran Fillerup, San Juan County
Nick Porell, San Juan County

Technical Members Absent: Andrew Montoya, Red Apple Transit

Staff Present: Mary Holton, MPO Officer
June Markle, Administrative Assistant

Staff Absent: None

Others Present: Aaron Sussman, Bohannon Huston (via phone)
Raoul Archuleta, NMDOT, Right-of-Way Bureau
Gabrielle Chavez, NMDOT, Transit & Rail
Manuel Maestas, NMDOT, North Region Design
Larry Hathaway, San Juan County

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Nick Porell called the meeting to order at 10:07 a.m.

2. APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM THE SEPTEMBER 11, 2019 TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEETING

Mr. Fillerup moved to approve the minutes from the September 11, 2019 Technical Committee meeting. Ms. King seconded the motion. The motion to approve the minutes passed unanimously.

3. REPORT ON THE 2045 METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION PLAN (MTP) UPDATE

Subject:	Report on the 2045 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) Update
Date:	October 9, 2019

MONTHLY REPORT

Mr. Aaron Sussman, Planner with Bohannon Huston (BHI) will call-in monthly with a report on the Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) Update.

DISCUSSION: Aaron Sussman with Bohannon Huston and Michael Wright with Sites Southwest participated in the meeting by telephone.

Mr. Sussman announced that the MTP website up and running. A link to the site was sent out and several public events will be hosted next week in the area. The MTP project website includes background information, meeting announcements, and a participation page that provides the opportunity for public engagement through a survey as well as an online interactive map. Both of these public engagement options will be available until December 31 although the website will be available until completion of the 2045 MTP. Mr. Sussman encouraged the Technical Committee members to share the website and the opportunities to participate with local community members.

An announcement for the upcoming public events is being advertised in the Daily Times as well as the San Juan Sun. Flyers for these public events have been distributed to the entities and the MPO's list of public outreach contacts. Mr. Sussman would also like to visit individually with each of the Technical Committee members next week.

Michael Wright with Sites Southwest reported on the planned public engagement outreach events planned for next week (see schedule of events below):

DATE	TIME	LOCATION
10.17.19	11 AM - 2 PM	<i>Aztec Public Library</i>
10.17.19	11:30 AM - 2:30 PM	<i>Kirtland Youth Association Building</i>
10.17.19	4:30 PM - 6:30 PM	<i>Downtown Farmington Makers Market</i>
10.18.19	9 AM - 12 PM	<i>Bloomfield Multi-Cultural Center</i>
10.18.19	9 AM - 12 PM	<i>Animas Trail - Berg Park</i>

At each of these meetings, attendees will learn about the MPO, the MTP, and the 2045 MTP website (survey and interactive map). Participants at the events will be able to complete the survey on paper or on laptops that will be provided at those locations with internet access. The survey will also be sent to a directory of past participants in the 2040 MTP.

Chair Porell asked if there was a benefit to having Technical Committee members attend the public event meetings. Ms. Holton said the members were always invited to public meetings and, as the Steering Committee for the 2045 MTP, early and ongoing Technical Committee input is very important.

The Technical Committee members each volunteered to participate in one or more of the public events:

- Virginia King - Animas Trail (Berg Park) and Makers Market

- Nick Porell & Dan Flack - Kirtland Youth Association
- Fran Fillerup & Jason Thomas - Bloomfield Multi-Cultural Center
- Steven Saavedra - Aztec Public Library

Mr. Sussman thanked everyone for their engagement and participation in the public events. Additionally, he asked if there would be time next week to meet with each Technical Committee member to get an update from them on the socioeconomic forecast. He needs to gather as much local data as possible and, based on member knowledge, gain an understanding of which areas will experience growth and/or land development and which 2040 MTP projects will be retained in the 2045 MTP.

Mr. Sussman said he would email his available time slots to meet individually with each member next week. Chair Porell added that since each member would be in attendance at one of the public outreach events and there would likely be downtime during each of them, Mr. Sussman could possibly speak with the Technical Committee member at that particular event.

4. FFY2020-2025 TIP AMENDMENT #1

Subject:	FFY2020-2025 TIP Amendment #1
Prepared by:	MPO Staff
Date:	October 9, 2019

BACKGROUND

- The Calls for Projects for the FFY2020-2025 TIP Amendment #1 was sent out on September 23, 2019, September 20, and October 3.
- The Public Notice for Amendment #1 to the FFY2020-2025 TIP will be published on November 6 with the Daily Times and on the MPO's website.
- The amendment involves (currently) two District 5 projects.
- The Technical Committee will consider recommending approval of the amendment to Policy Committee at their next meeting on November 6.

AMENDED TIP PROJECTS

- The two District 5 projects include an amendment for NM 173 Safety Improvements to clarify its proposed project scope.

INFORMATION ITEM

- Staff recommends that the Technical Committee review and consider the projects in proposed Amendment #1 to the FFY2020-2025 TIP.
- The Technical Committee will consider recommending approval of proposed Amendment #1 to the FFY2020-2025 TIP at their November 6, 2019 meeting.

APPLICABLE CITATIONS

- § 450.328 TIP revisions and relationship to the STIP.
- (a) An MPO(s) may revise the TIP at any time under procedures agreed to by the cooperating parties consistent with the procedures established in this part for its development and approval. In nonattainment or maintenance

areas for transportation-related pollutants, if a TIP amendment involves non-exempt projects (per 40 CFR part 93), or is replaced with an updated TIP, the MPO(s) and the FHWA and the FTA must make a new conformity determination. In all areas, changes that affect fiscal constraint must take place by amendment of the TIP. The MPO(s) shall use public participation procedures consistent with § 450.316(a) in revising the TIP, except that these procedures are not required for administrative modifications.) After approval by the MPO(s) and the Governor, the State shall include the TIP without change, directly or by reference, in the STIP required under 23 U.S.C. 135. In nonattainment and maintenance areas, the FHWA and the FTA must make a conformity finding on the TIP before it is included in the STIP. A copy of the approved TIP shall be provided to the FHWA and the FTA.

- (c) The State shall notify the MPO(s) and Federal land management agencies when it has included a TIP including projects under the jurisdiction of these agencies in the STIP.

DISCUSSION: Ms. Holton reported that copies of the two projects for proposed Amendment #1 and that were received prior to the Agenda being sent out (NM 173 HSIP project from milepost 2 to 3.5; and a pavement rehab on US 550 from Aztec to 5 miles south of the Colorado state line (informational year of 2025). Another project change request just received was Phase II of the East Aztec Arterial. The funding listing instructions were received and it will be entered into the TIP/STIP database. An additional \$2,000,000 was awarded to the project by the state and there is now \$11,800,000 available for this project.

The MPO also received two projects for improvements at the intersection of NM 371 and N36 scheduled for 2020. This location is just out of the MPO planning area but they impact the planning area. Because they are less than \$2,000,000, they will be handled as administrative modifications. One of the projects is for the project design and the other is for the construction portion of the project and has many sources of funding (New Mexico Department of Finance Administration - capital outlay grant of \$1,300,000; Navajo Nation Gaming Enterprise - \$100,000; NAPI - \$200,000, and; Navajo Transitional Energy - \$100,000).

Ms. Holton asked if the entities had received any information on the funding from NMDOT's call for projects. Chair Porell said that San Juan County had received a digital confirmation that their agreement was in the mail. It thought those whose projects were approved for funding had all received the same email. Once that information is provided by NMDOT, please let Staff know so that proposed Amendment #1 can be updated. Consideration of proposed Amendment #1 to the FFY2020-2025 TIP will be given in November.

5. STATUS OF TIP PROJECTS

Subject:	Status of TIP Projects
Prepared by:	MPO Staff
Date:	October 9, 2019

BACKGROUND

- The STIP Protocols, finalized in early 2014, require that each MPO shall develop a process to monitor the progress and status of each project in the first two years of the TIP. These monthly reviews help correct inconsistencies in the TIP, STIP, the MPO's MTP, Agreement Request Forms (ARFs), etc. and provide for discussion among the members and NMDOT representatives.
- The Policy Committee approved the new FFY2020-2025 TIP during a Special meeting on July 25, 2019.
- The projects currently on the FFY2020-2025 TIP are listed below.

TRACKING INFORMATION (2018-2023 TIP)

Local Agreement Status (ARF) ROW Certification Design Completion 30 - 60 - 90% Environmental Certification Utilities Certification Railroad Certification Archeology Certification	ITS/Sys ENG Certification Public Involvement Certification
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PROJECTS ON FMPO FFY2020-2025 TIP

- Aztec
F100091 - East Aztec Arterial Phase II
- Bloomfield
F100300 - East Blanco Bridge
- Farmington
F100099 - Foothills Drive Enhancement Phase II
F100100 - East Pinon Hills Blvd Extension Phase I
F100101 - East Pinon Hills Blvd Extension Phase II
F100132 - 20th Street Phase III
TF00001 - Red Apple Transit
- San Juan County
F100021 - East Pinon Hills Blvd Extension Phase III
F100240 - Glade Run Recreation Area Trails
F100290 - CR 5500 Bridge Replacement
F100320 - Kirtland Schools Walk Path Extension
F100330 - Glade Run Recreation Area Trails Extension
- NMDOT
F100170 - NM 173

INFORMATION ITEM

- This is an information item only. Committee members will have an opportunity to provide any needed feedback/updates regarding current TIP projects status and details.

DISCUSSION: One of the items identified in the MPO 2019 Quality Assurance Review conducted earlier this year by NMDOT was for Staff to request Technical Committee members provide TIP updates on the Monday prior to their actual Wednesday meeting, so that the reports could be compiled into a consolidated table before the meeting. Mr. Thomas did provide his update as requested and the following status table was generated:

Status Reports - FMPO TIP Projects			
Aztec	F100091	East Aztec Arterial Phase III	
Bloomfield	F100300	East Blanco Bridge	All acquisitions completed, have requested a ROW certification.
Farmington	F100099	Foothills Drive Enhancement Phase II	
	F100100	East Pinon Hills Blvd Extension Phase I	
	F100101	East Pinon Hills Blvd Extension Phase II	
	F100132	20 th Street Phase III	
	TF00001	Red Apple Transit	
San Juan County	F100021	East Pinon Hills Blvd Extension Phase III	
	F100240	Glade Run Recreation Area Trails	
	F100290	CR 5500 Bridge Replacement	
	F100320	Kirtland Schools Walk Path Extension	
	F100330	Glade Run Recreation Area Trails Extension	
NMDOT	F100170	NM 173	
	F100350	NM 371/Navajo 36	
	F100351	NM 371/Navajo 36	

The Technical Committee members gave their verbal project updates:

City of Aztec - Steven Saavedra

Mr. Saavedra reiterated that the City of Aztec is very pleased with the funding now awarded to the East Arterial project.

City of Bloomfield - Jason Thomas

Mr. Thomas reported that the final right-of-way was completed and the project is now with the NMDOT's Right-of-Way Bureau for review. Mr. Thomas thanked Mr. Archuleta for his efforts on behalf of this project.

City of Farmington - Virginia King

Foothills Drive Enhancement - The right-of-way acquisitions are complete. Ms. King will be setting an audit date soon.

East Pinon Hills Blvd Extension - Phases I and II - There has been discussion about starting work on this project again. Nica Westerling will be in charge of this project.

20th Street - Phase III - Some acquisition has begun. The City of Farmington is also seeking authorization to ask for property donations. Utility meetings were held yesterday.

San Juan County - Nick Porell

East Pinon Hills Blvd. Extension - Phase III Approval process by NMDOT on the right-of-way maps is ongoing.

Glade Run Trails - Environmental certifications are required from both BLM and NMDOT. This has been a back and forth process.

CR 5500 Bridge - The design is 95% complete. Comments from the bridge engineer were received last week. San Juan County is having to reissue the right-of-way maps following discussion with the right-of-way consultant and appraiser.

Kirtland Schools Walk Path Extension - San Juan County is awaiting the agreement from NMDOT.

Glade Run Trails Extension - San Juan County is awaiting the agreement from NMDOT.

NMDOT-District 5 - Stephen Lopez

NM 173 - Construction on this project is set to begin in 2020 and will be funded with HSIP funding.

Intersection of NM 371 and N 36 - The project design is at 60%. The Nation was given a capital outlay grant to assist with this project. Some easement on the western leg of the intersection (N 36 side) for a left turn lane will be sought from the Navajo Nation. No delays are anticipated with the process and construction should begin in 2020. This will be a full stop signalized intersection.

David Quintana had mentioned at a recent meeting the possibility of NMDOT funding a study for the entire length of NM 173 (to the intersection of NM 575). Ms. Holton asked if Mr. Lopez had any additional information on this. Mr. Lopez said this study is not in play yet. Ms. Holton said the MPO Committees would like to see that happen and asked for the MPO to be kept updated on this potential study.

Mr. Lopez reported that he was retiring on October 11, 2019. Manuel Maestas will be the District 5 contact until a replacement is hired.

6. REPORTS FROM NMDOT

Planning Bureau - Joseph Moriarty

Mr. Moriarty reported on the following:

- FHWA PL funding, which is administered through NMDOT and which assists in funding the UPWP projects, will be revised based on actual apportionments from FHWA.
- Annual Performance & Expenditure Report (APER) are required annually of each MPO. The APER documents program work and a final accounting of the

expenditures through the previous federal fiscal year. The draft APER is due to NMDOT by November 15.

- The Annual Listing of Obligated Projects is another annual list that must be published and posted on the MPO website by December 28.
- Research work by the consultants working on NMDOT's long-range transportation plan is ongoing. Internal steering committees will meet in December and MPOs will be invited to stakeholder meetings in early spring. The completion date for the plan is the fall of 2020.

District 5 - Stephen Lopez

Mr. Lopez said that District 5 was also very interested in assisting in moving forward the Pinon Hills Boulevard Extension project. They are, however, still awaiting requested information on how the project will be fiscally constrained. Ms. Holton noted that the project is currently listed in the informational years of the FFY2020-2025 TIP and once funding is constrained, there will likely be a TIP amendment. Ms. King stated that Ms. Westerling is currently working on a bonding ordinance that may be prepared by next week. Mr. Lopez thought this was very position information.

Mr. Saavedra thanked District 5 for repairing a large pothole on Main Street in Aztec. Mr. Lopez said that District 5 is interested in improving US 550 through downtown Aztec.

Chair Porell asked if there was a striping plan to go east from Bloomfield to Blanco. Mr. Lopez said their traffic engineer has on-call for striping. He recommended sending an email to Paul Brasher to make a request.

Mr. Lopez added that there is a project being planned for US 550 from Aztec to the Colorado state line. The project will be completed in phases with the priority being the stretch from NM 173 to the Animas River.

Mr. Raoul Archuleta, a new Tribal/Local Government agent the Right-of-Way Bureau of NMDOT introduced himself. He is interested in learning more about local projects to be able to better answer questions. He provided his contact information to the Technical Committee members.

7. COMMITTEE MEMBER DISCUSSION ITEMS

Subject:	Committee Member Discussion Items
Date:	October 9, 2019

DISCUSSION ITEMS

There were no additional discussion items provided by Technical Committee members for inclusion in the Agenda.

8. INFORMATION ITEMS

Subject:	Information Items
Prepared by:	MPO Staff
Date:	October 9, 2019

INFORMATION ITEMS

- a. **Draft 2020 Technical Committee Meeting Schedule.** The draft 2020 Technical Committee meeting schedule will be provide for the Committee's review and input. The final schedule will be considered for adoption in December.
- b. **Initial MTP Outreach Activities.** Arrangements have been made at several events throughout the region on Oct 17-18. A schedule will be provided at your meeting.

DISCUSSION: Ms. Holton advised that a draft 2020 Technical Committee meeting schedule was provided in the Agenda for the members to review. Adoption of the FY2020 schedule will be considered in December. The Policy Committee will be considering moving their meetings next year to the mornings rather than afternoons.

The MTP outreach activation as thoroughly discussed earlier in the meeting.

9. BUSINESS FROM THE CHAIRMAN, MEMBERS AND STAFF

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

10. PUBLIC COMMENT ON ANY ISSUES NOT ON THE AGENDA

Manuel Maestas, Assistant Manager with the North Region Design Center, introduced himself and the new T/LPA Coordinator, Sharon Cruz.

There was no additional public comment on any issues not on the agenda.

11. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Thomas moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Saavedra seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously and Chair Porell adjourned the meeting at 10:48 a.m.



Nick Porell, Technical Committee Chair



June Markle, Administrative Assistant