

MINUTES
FARMINGTON METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION
POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING
January 27, 2022

Policy Members Present: Sean Sharer, City of Farmington
Glojean Todacheene, San Juan County
Ken George, City of Aztec
Julie Baird, City of Farmington
Jeanine Bingham-Kelly, City of Farmington

Policy Members Absent: Tony Herrera, City of Bloomfield
Steve Lanier, San Juan County
Mark Duncan, Town of Kirtland
Paul Brasher, NMDOT, District 5

Staff Present: Peter Koeppel, MPO Officer
Kathryn Leys, MPO Associate Planner

Staff Absent: None

Others Present: Rosa Kozub, Planning Liaison, NMDOT

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Sharer called the meeting to order at 10:31 a.m.

Mr. Koeppel introduced the new committee member from the City of Aztec, Commissioner Ken George.

2. APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM THE NOVEMBER 18, 2021 POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING

Commissioner Todacheene moved to approve the minutes from the November 18, 2021 Policy Committee meeting. Councilor Bingham-Kelly seconded the motion. The motion passed with no opposition.

3. ANNUAL ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Subject:	Annual Election of Officers
Date:	January 27, 2022

BACKGROUND

- Per FMPO Bylaws, each January the Policy Committee selects the Chair and Vice-Chair from its membership. The elected members will serve until the following annual election (January 2023).
- The Chair presides over the meetings and is responsible for the other duties which are outlined in the Committee Bylaws and Operating Procedures document.
- The Vice-Chair presides over the meetings in the absence of the Chair.
- Councilor Sean Sharer has been serving as the current Policy Committee Chair, while Commissioner Jeanine Bingham-Kelly served as Vice-Chair.

ELECTION

- Elect a Policy Committee Chair and Vice-Chair who will serve until January 2023.

ACTION ITEM

- It is recommended that the Policy Committee accept nominations and the Committee members vote to elect the Policy Committee Chair and Vice-Chair.

DISCUSSION:

Mr. Koepfel informed the committee that per the bylaws, the January meeting is the time to elect or reelect chair and vice chair.

Nomination for Chair: Commissioner George nominated Current Chair Sharer; Ms. Baird seconded that nomination. There was no opposition to Chair Sharer retaining the position of Chair of the FMPO Policy Committee.

Nominations for Vice Chair: The current vice chair is Commissioner Bingham-Kelly. Chair Sharer nominated Commissioner Bingham-Kelly as vice chair again. Ms. Baird seconded the nomination. No other members were nominated. There was no opposition to Councilor Bingham-Kelly retaining her position as Vice Chair of the FMPO Policy Committee.

4. NATIONAL PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT MEASURES FOR HIGHWAY SAFETY IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (PM 1)

Subject:	National Performance Management Measures for Highway Safety Improvement Program (PM 1)
Prepared by:	Peter Koepfel, MPO Officer
Date:	January 27, 2022

BACKGROUND

- 23 CFR §490 Subpart B – *National Performance Management Measures for Highway Safety Improvement Program (see attached).*

- The FHWA requires that MPOs establish targets for five (5) safety performance measures for all public roads in the MPO planning area within 180 days after the State establishes each target.
- The five Performance Measures to be considered are: 1) Number of Fatalities, 2) Number of Serious Injuries, 3) Fatalities per 100 Million VMT (Vehicle Miles Traveled) or Fatality Rate, 4) Serious Injuries per 100 Million VMT (Vehicle Miles Traveled) or serious injury rate, and, 5) Number of Non-Motorized Fatalities and Non-Motorized Fatalities and Serious Injuries.
- The first three targets are common measures and must be identical to the targets established for the Highway Safety Plan (HSP).
- MPOs may either: Agree to support State targets **OR** Establish specific numeric targets for a safety performance measure (number or rate).
- Reporting is done on an annual basis, leaving the choice to adopt State standards vs. establish MPO specific targets up to the MPO Policy Committee each year.
- The Technical Committee recommended their approval on January 12, 2022.

CURRENT ISSUES & RECOMMENDATIONS

- Staff recommends that the state targets be adopted for 2022.
- FMPO Policy Committee action is due no later than February 28, 2022.

ACTION ITEM

- The Technical Committee and Staff recommend approval of PM 1 targets and Policy Committee Resolution 2022-1

APPLICABLE CITATIONS

Requirement for MPOs to establish performance targets for Federal-aid highway measures and public transportation established by USDOT.

- 23 USC 134(h)(2)
- 49 USC 5303(h)(2)
- 49 USC 5304(d)(2)

Requirements to include discussion in the metropolitan and statewide improvement program as to how the planned program will achieve State/MPO targets:

- 23 USC 134(j)(2)(D)
- 23 USC 135(g)(4)
- 49 USC 5303(j)(2)(D)
- 49 USC 5304(g)(4)

Mr. Koepfel introduced the Performance Targets that the MPO is required to adopt on an annual basis. He explained that under federal transportation law, which began in 2014 and was originally called MAP-21 but later became the FAST act and now Investment, Infrastructure, and Jobs Act, congress required that states and MPO establish national goals, performance measures, and targets when they plan and fund transportation investments. The goal areas include safety, infrastructure conditions, congestion reduction, system reliability, freight movement and economic vitality, environmental sustainability, and reduced project delivery delay. The idea overall is to improve accessibility and mobility.

Mr. Koeppel state that today, the committee will discuss safety because the MPO is required on an annual basis to set targets for safety for our transportation network in the region. He then went on to explain how performance-based planning works. Congress identifies the previously stated national goal areas through the highway bill. It then goes to USDOT, which identifies measurable performance measures. For safety, it is measures like fatalities on the roadways and serious injuries. While not being discussed today, Mr. Koeppel also noted some of the other performance measures including pavement and bridge conditions. Once DOT established these measures, each state is required to set target for their system. Following the state, MPO have six months to support the states or set their own targets. Our plans and programs, like the long-range transportation plan and the Transportation Improvement Program must describe how the region will work towards these agreed upon targets. He summed up the introduction of the Performance Measures by stating that this committee is the metropolitan planning organization for the Farmington Region. It is federally required to set targets for these goal areas.

Mr. Koeppel then introduced the Safety Performance Target. The overall goal set by congress written into the statute is to significantly reduce the fatalities and serious injuries on all public roadways. The measures that have been established, and that the MPO must set targets for, are the number and rate of fatalities, the number and rate of serious injuries per 100 million vehicle miles traveled, and the number of non-motorized fatalities and serious-injuries.

Mr. Koeppel next described the safety trends in New Mexico in the past 12 years. He explained that fatalities are slowly increasing, serious injuries have been trending down, and non-motorized fatalities and serious injuries are going up and recently have been more or less holding steady. The state safety officers have taken these numbers and set targets. Mr. Koeppel displayed these targets on the screen. He explained that at this point the MPO can adopt the state targets or adopt our own regional targets. Staff recommend the adoption of the state targets. The state set their targets a few months ago and now t must set our targets for the Farmington region. He reiterated that staff recommends adopting the state targets given that the state has a large role in the investments in our region. He added that the Technical Committee also recommend the adoption of the resolution to support the state targets for the calendar year 2022.

DISCUSSION:

No discussion.

ACTION: Councilor Bingham-Kelly motioned to approve Resolution 2022-1. Commissioner Todacheene seconded the motion. The motion was passed with no opposition.

5. REPORTS FROM NMDOT

Planning Bureau – Rosa Kozub

Ms. Kozub informed the committee that NMDOT has completed their update of the Strategic Highway Safety Plan and submitted it to the FHWA a few days ago for FHWA to sign-off on. Ms. Kozub thanked everyone how participated and hoped to get concurrence from FHWA soon and share the final version with the committee.

District 5 – Javier Martinez

Mr. Martinez informed the committee that Mr. Brasher was unable to attend due to attending a legislative committee.

Mr. Martinez said that NMDOT has some maintenance projects coming up in the spring on NM 170 from milepost 0 to 2 and also from mile post 8 to the Colorado state line. That activity will be seen beginning in the spring.

Mr. Martinez also gave an update on NM 173. That project went out to bid and was awarded to contractor AUI Incorporated. At the time of the meeting the start of construction is planned for the beginning of June, after the City of Aztec moves their waterline. NMDOT is working on permits for construction to begin, which will be as soon as the water line is moved. The contractor is ready to begin on June 1st.

Commissioner Todacheene asked Mr. Martinez if NMDOT could install signs to alert road users about falling rocks, similar to what is in Colorado. She mentioned a previous conversation regarding a large rock that had fallen off the Hogback. She explained that constituents have approached her regarding this issues and the sign would be beneficial for the people travelling through the region. Mr. Martinez responded by saying he will get the falling rock signs on order as soon as possible, installed in both directions. He also informed the committee that NMDOT has a rock fall study that will be districtwide. The study will recommend improvements in the area where the rock fall occurred. He explained this can be difficult because NMDOT does not own the entire right-of-way for the rock fall. NMDOT is limited in what they can do when it happen on private property. Signs will be ordered as soon as possible.

6. INFORMATION ITEMS

Subject:	Information Items
Prepared by:	MPO Staff
Date:	January 27, 2022

INFORMATION ITEMS

- a. **Farmington MPO ITS Architecture Update** - The MPO is hosted a virtual stakeholder workshop to facilitate the update of the Regional ITS Architecture Plan.
- b. **Local Road Safety Plan** - A kickoff meeting with local stakeholders, NMDOT, and FHWA was held on December 16th, 2021
- a. **Potential FMPO Bicycle/Pedestrian Plan update**

DISCUSSION:

Ms. Leys informed the committee that the previous Tuesday, the MPO held a stakeholder workshop for the Regional ITS Architecture Update. The workshop gave stakeholders an overview of the regions ITS architecture and inventory of the existing ITS architecture in the region, and how cities can use the document in future ITS projects. Ms. Leys also informed the committee that the consultant will provide an interactive website in addition to the final plan document. ITS architecture will be the topic of the next quarterly education and the MPO hopes that by April a draft of the plan will be available and how city staff will use the plan.

Mr. Koepfel informed the committee about the December Local Road Safety Plan meeting. The meeting was for regional stakeholders, NMDOT, and FHWA and hosted by a consultant. He explained in the first step of the creation of this plan, the consultants reviewed existing data and analyze data so they could determine safety trends on our roadways and possible emphasis areas on our roads for future investments, for example bike and pedestrian safety or distracted driving. The ultimate goal of the plan in to create a list of projects and programs that could be implemented to improve safety throughout the region. The MPO did not have any deliverable at the time, however they will keep the committee updated. Mr. Koepfel also added that there will be time for additional comments as the plan progresses.

Mr. Koepfel also informed the committee that the MPO staff is looking to update the regional bike plan. The last plan was completed in 2019. The MPO thinks it is time to update and expand the document. Mr. Koepfel explained that the current document is heavily focused on design and Staff want a plan that will focus on a prioritized network and implementation steps both throughout and within our communities, as well as opportunities for off road recreation investments.

7. BUSINESS FROM THE CHAIRMAN, MEMBERS AND STAFF

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

8. PUBLIC COMMENT ON ANY ISSUES NOT ON THE AGENDA

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

9. ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Todacheene moved to adjourn the meeting. Councilor Bingham-Kelly seconded the motion. The motion passed with no opposition. Chair Sharer adjourned the meeting at 10:51 a.m.



Sean Sharer, Policy Committee Chair



MPO Staff