

**MINUTES**  
**FARMINGTON METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION**  
**POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**April 22, 2021**

Policy Members Present  
(verified by a verbal roll call):

Rosalyn Fry, City of Aztec  
Julie Baird, City of Farmington  
Jeanine Bingham-Kelly, City of Farmington  
Sean Sharer, City of Farmington  
Paul Brasher, NMDOT District 5  
Glojean Todacheene, San Juan County  
Steve Lanier, San Juan County

Policy Members Absent:

George Walter, City of Bloomfield  
Thomas Wethington, Town of Kirtland

Staff Present:

Peter Koeppel, MPO Officer  
Kathryn Leys, MPO Associate Planner  
June Markle, MPO Administrative Assistant

Staff Absent:

None

Others Present:

Joe Moriarty, Planning Liaison, NMDOT

*Chair Sharer and MPO Staff were present in person; the rest of the Policy Committee members, as well as "Others Present" attended via the GoToMeeting link*

Chair Sharer reminded the members that all voting is recognized to be in the affirmative unless an objection is noted.

**1. CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL**

Chair Sharer called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m.

**2. APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM THE FEBRUARY 25, 2021 POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING**

Commissioner Todacheene moved to approve the minutes from the February 25, 2021 Policy Committee meeting. Commissioner Fry seconded the motion. The motion passed with no opposition.

**3. QUARTERLY EDUCATION**

<b>Subject:</b>	Quarterly Education:
<b>Prepared by:</b>	Peter Koeppel, MPO Officer
<b>Date:</b>	April 22, 2021

## PRESENTATION

Staff will provide an overview of the contents and requirements of the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).

**PRESENTATION:** Mr. Koepfel provided a presentation on the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). A summary of that quarterly education presentation follows below and incorporates Agenda Item 4, which discusses the development of the new FFY2022-2027 TIP:

### Background

- The TIP, along with the Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) are two of the core documents produced and maintained by the MPO;
- Per the Code of Federal Regulations, MPOs, in cooperation with the State and any affected public transportation operator, are required to develop a TIP, which is a list of upcoming transportation projects covering a period of at least four years;
- The TIP must:
  - o Contain projects consistent with the current metropolitan transportation plan (MTP) and reflect the investment priorities established in the MTP;
  - o Be designed to make progress toward achieving the performance targets established by the MPO (safety and maintaining our roads and bridges);
  - o Be fiscally constrained (revenues identified to fund the project).

### TIP Selection of Projects

- As a region of less than 200,000, federally funded projects in the MPO area are carried out from the approved TIP:
  - o For projects under Title 23 (highways), the State;
  - o For projects under Section 5303 (public transportation), the designated recipients of public transportation funding;
  - o Done in cooperation with the metropolitan planning organization (MPO):
    - The parties involved in transportation planning and programming processes work together to achieve common goals or objectives;
    - Local governments want more insight into how to get regionally significant projects into the STIP and to understand how the federal dollars are allocated within the District.

### In Practice

- First four years of the six-year TIP constitute the Federal TIP and State's STIP; the remaining two years are considered "informational years";
  - o Projects in the informational years do not need to be fiscally constrained; these projects may eventually receive funding, but that is not guaranteed.
- Updates to the TIP are coordinated with the development of the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP). Every two years a new TIP is developed and extends out to the next four fiscal years;
  - o The STIP can be viewed at: E-STIP - <https://estip.dot.state.nm.us/>

- This is a database of statewide transportation projects and programs, Additional information for staff provides information on the project phases, funding by category, along with a map and timeline.
- TIP can be amended quarterly;
  - Technical Committee members provide their project updates at each monthly Technical Committee meeting;
  - Several amendments received for the current Amendment #7 to be reviewed and considered by both Committees in May;
    - Amendments are to add, remove, modify projects, and/or add funding
- FMPO's TIP follows the federal fiscal year that runs from October 1 through September 30;
- Current TIP is through 2025; new TIP will extend to 2027 with FY2026 and 2027 being the information years;

Next Steps

- Review current TIP
- Begin required public comment period (for FFY2022-2027 TIP the public notice was published on April 18, 2021);
- Review and approve final TIP in May;
- Projects included in Amendment #7 will also be considered for approval in May and will then roll over into the new TIP;
- The STIP incorporates TIPs from all the MPOs and will be released in August.

**4. FFY2022-2027 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (TIP) DEVELOPMENT**

<b>Subject:</b>	FFY2022-2027 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Development
<b>Prepared by:</b>	Peter Koeppel, MPO Officer
<b>Date:</b>	April 22, 2021

<b>BACKGROUND</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The TIP is a short-term program of projects expected to be completed in the next four (4) years.</li> <li>▪ Projects included in the TIP must be regionally significant and fiscally constrained.</li> <li>▪ The TIP adoption process includes updating project information, adding new projects, and developing a TIP priority list.</li> <li>▪ A Call for Projects was issued on December 18, 2020 to start the new TIP adoption process.</li> <li>▪ See the schedule published in the Call for Projects memo distributed on December 18, 2020 for submittal deadlines for all projects.</li> </ul>

<b>CURRENT WORK</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Staff continues to discuss updates to current projects and/or new projects with the entities, Red Apple Transit, and NMDOT.</li> <li>▪ The STIP is scheduled to be updated in August 2021</li> </ul>

- The new TIP needs to be submitted to NMDOT by June 30, 2021.
- A 30-day public comment period on the new TIP will open on April 18. Public hearings will be held during the May 12 Technical Committee meeting and the Policy Committee meeting on May 27.

#### **FUNDING AND FISCAL CONSTRAINT**

- The TIP is required to be fiscally constrained. The projects listed have identified detailed funding sources as required.

#### **INFORMATION ITEM**

- MPO Staff recommends that the Policy Committee review the TIP development process.
- The final draft FFY2022-2027 TIP will be considered by the Technical Committee on May 12; final approval by the Policy Committee will be sought on May 27, 2021.

#### **APPLICABLE CITATIONS**

- 23 CFR § 450.326

**DISCUSSION:** This Agenda Item was presented in conjunction with Agenda Item #3 on the function and purpose of the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).

### **5. REPORTS FROM NMDOT**

#### **Planning Bureau – Joseph Moriarty**

Mr. Moriarty reported on the Transportation Project Fund (TPF) and the recent funding legislation (SB 20 and HB 2) signed by the Governor. Below is a summary of this funding and the program:

- HB 2 allocates a portion of the motor vehicle excise tax to fund the TPF estimated to be about \$40 million per year;
- SB 20 has carved out \$100 million per year for the next five years;
- The TPF is a State funding mechanism for local transportation projects;
- State picks up 95% of project cost; local entity match is 5%;
- Final ruling on the TPF became effective on April 20;
- Each MPO to submit list of ranked projects to respective District Engineer by May 31;
- Designed to be a recurring source of local transportation funding.

Mr. Koepfel added that the Technical Committee members have been apprised of the ruling and tight deadlines and are working to submit their project list to the MPO by May 4. The MPO will conduct a preliminary review and then bring their proposed ranking to the Committee on May 12.

Mr. Moriarty reported on a consolidated call for projects also in May for the Transportation Alternatives Program, Recreational Trails Program, and Congestion Mitigation & Air Quality Program. This call for projects is from May to October for

FY2023 program funding which would begin in July 2022. Further guidance material will be forthcoming in the next few weeks.

**District 5 – Paul Brasher**

Mr. Brasher reported that NMDOT has applied for a RAISE Grant (Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity – formerly BUILD Grant and TIGER Grant) to rebuild and improve US 64 from the Arizona border to Shiprock (about 22 miles). A decision on this funding will come out in September.

The Legislature approved some funding that NMDOT District 5 will be using on the northern end of NM 170 where there are no shoulders. The maintenance crew will be widening the roadway shoulders to accommodate future paving in order to add a few feet of roadway edging for the last 11-12 miles before the Colorado border. Repaving will take place next year and will complete the paving to the Colorado state line.

The pavement resurfacing project along Murray Drive is nearing completion at the intersection with Browning Parkway.

Mr. Brasher stated that District 5 maintenance crews will be more active in litter cleanup in the region along NM 516 and US 64.

**6. COMMITTEE MEMBER DISCUSSION ITEMS**

<b>Subject:</b>	Committee Member Discussion Items
<b>Date:</b>	April 14, 2021

**DISCUSSION ITEMS**

There were no additional discussion items provided by Policy Committee members for inclusion on the Agenda.

**7. INFORMATION ITEMS**

<b>Subject:</b>	Information Items
<b>Prepared by:</b>	MPO Staff
<b>Date:</b>	April 22, 2021

**INFORMATION ITEMS**

- a. **TIP Amendment #7.** The Call for Projects for TIP Amendment #7 was issued on March 22, 2021. Several projects were received for inclusion in this Amendment which will be considered by both Committees in May.

- b. **House Committee on Transportation & Infrastructure – Request for Federal Funding.** See attached information.
- c. **State of New Mexico Transportation Project Fund.**
- d. **Follow-up on Pursuing Potential Farmington to Aztec Trail.**
- e. **Update on MPO Quarterly.** MPO Staff participated virtually in the spring MPO Quarterly held on March 16 and hosted by Mid-Region Council of Governments in Albuquerque.

**DISCUSSION:** Mr. Koepfel provided updates on the informational items:

- Three projects were received in the Call for Projects for TIP Amendment #7. Some of these projects are a result of the funding announcements from the House Committee on Transportation & Infrastructure (earmarks) and the state's TPF funding. Amendment #7 will be considered for approval in May.
- Congresswoman's Leger Fernandez' office will be accepting project requests from stakeholders as part of legislation building on H.R. 2, "Moving Forward Act". The City of Farmington is looking to pursue Foothills Drive Enhancement Phase III and this is a project that will be seeking this funding. How projects will be evaluated and eventually selected is unclear at this point.
- Mr. Moriarty explained the Transportation Project Fund. The Technical Committee members are aware of the quick turnaround time and the MPO will work to get a prioritized list drafted for review.
- Local entity staffs from Aztec, Farmington, and San Juan County continue to work on the potential trail from Farmington to Aztec. This trail could be a tremendous regional amenity and the three governments plan to partner together and apply for Recreational Trails Program (RTP) funding for the project.
- The MPO Quarterly was hosted virtually by the Albuquerque MPO in March. This is a quarterly meeting of the state's MPOs and NMDOT and provides the opportunity for participants to exchange ideas and receive updates.

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

Chair Sharer asked the Policy Committee members their thoughts about beginning to meet again in person. Virtual attendance and participation would still be available for those unable to attend the meeting in person. The Policy Committee members gave their consensus to restart in-person meetings. The next meeting is May 27 and will be held in Commission Chambers in San Juan County's Administrative Building.

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

#### **9. PUBLIC COMMENT ON ANY ISSUES NOT ON THE AGENDA**

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

**10. 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 10:58 a.m.



Sean Sharer, Policy Committee Chair



June Markle, Administrative Assistant