



A G E N D A

Farmington Metropolitan Planning Organization Technical Committee Meeting

**Council Chambers
Bloomfield City Hall
915 N. First Street
Bloomfield, New Mexico**

**June 23, 2011
10:00 a.m.**

AGENDA
FARMINGTON METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION
TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEETING
June 23, 2011 **10:00 A.M.**

This meeting will be held in the Council Chambers at Bloomfield City Hall, 915 N First St., Bloomfield, New Mexico.

| <u>ITEM</u> | <u>PAGE</u> |
|---|-------------|
| 1. Call meeting to order | |
| 2. Approve the minutes from the May 26, 2011 Technical Committee meeting. | 1 |
| 3. Receive a report on the proposed MPO tier system relating to reauthorization and its potential impact to small MPOs. | 15 |
| 4. Receive a report on Red Apple Transit data collection activities. | 17 |
| 5. Receive a report on the Functional Classification Change Request Forms. | 18 |
| 6. Receive a report from NMDOT. a. District 5 (<i>Phil Gallegos</i>) b. Planning Division (<i>Ray Matthew</i>) | |
| 7. Receive a report on MPO projects programmed into the FY2012-2015 STIP. | 19 |
| 8. Information Items a. TAZ-TAD Delineation b. Joint Policy/Tech Committee Meeting in July c. Statewide MPO Summit d. MPO Major Thoroughfare Plan e. Other | 22 |
| 9. Business from: a. Chairman b. Members c. Staff | |
| 10. Business from the floor | |
| 11. 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.

MINUTES
FARMINGTON METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION
TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEETING
May 26, 2011

Technical Members Present: Mike Huber, City of Aztec
Brad Ellsworth, City of Bloomfield
Fran Fillerup, City of Farmington, Alternate
Nica J. Westerling, City of Farmington
Dave Keck, San Juan County

Technical Members Absent: Cindy Lopez, City of Farmington

Staff Present: Mary L. Holton, MPO Officer
Joe Delmagori, MPO Planner
Martin Lucero, MPO Associate Planner
June Markle, MPO Administrative Aide

Staff Absent: None

Also Present: Miguel Gabaldon, District 5 Engineer, NMDOT
Dave Martinez, Assistant District Engineer, NMDOT
Ray Matthew, Planning Liaison, NMDOT
Cory Gonzales, NMDOT
Chico Quintana, City of Farmington, Alternate
Larry Hathaway, San Juan County

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Huber called the meeting to order at 10:10 a.m.

2. APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM THE APRIL 28, 2011 TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEETING

Mr. Keck made a motion to approve the minutes from the April 28, 2011 Technical Committee meeting. Ms. Westerling seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

3. RECOMMEND APPROVAL OF THE 2011 TRAFFIC COUNT LOCATION LIST

FARMINGTON METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION
Agenda Item

| | |
|---------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Subject: | 2011 Traffic Count Program |
| Prepared by: | Martin Lucero, MPO Associate Planner |
| Date: | May 16, 2011 |

BACKGROUND

- MPO maintains traffic counts for 221 locations throughout the MPO boundaries.
- Locations are taken according to a three-year cycle and periodically change due to the deletion or addition of various locations.
- The 2011 traffic counts are the second year of the three-year cycle.
- Counts that were not approved last year or were affected by road construction will be counted in 2011.
- The MPO expects to take 87 volume counts in 2011.
- The MPO anticipates that speed and class count information will be provided for 27 of the 87 count locations.

CURRENT WORK

- The proposed location list is attached for review.
- The members are asked to identify locations that might conflict with known road construction schedules.
- Staff will ask member entities to review the list in August for any unforeseen conflicts with construction or other events.
- The MPO anticipates taking the counts in September and October.

RECOMMENDATION

- Staff recommends that the Technical Committee review and recommend approval of the 2011 Traffic Count Location list.

DISCUSSION: In response to Ms. Westerling's question of when the traffic counts were to be conducted, Mr. Lucero answered that the counts will be taken in late September or early October. The contractor who does the counts has been fairly accurate in targeting the actual dates once they have been scheduled.

Mr. Lucero stated there are 87 identified traffic count locations for this year. In addition to the volume counts that will be performed, 27 of the 87 locations will include speed and class counts. The MPO currently has 221 traffic count locations and with the pending functional road class changes, expect to add another 60 locations once the changes are approved by NMDOT. The 87 traffic counts scheduled for this year include those that failed or were affected by road construction last year. Mr. Lucero stated the reasons for some of the recounts and mentioned the following areas that will be included in this year's recount: Apache Street, CR 5580, Hood Mesa Trail, Mesa Verde, Murray Drive, Navajo Street, NM 173, NM 371, and NM 516. Along with some of the classification changes, Staff will be asking the entities to install tubes at various locations to facilitate the functional classification. Staff would like to get the classification changes submitted before September so the revised locations can be included in this year's counts and to ensure this area's changes are considered by the State before they are inundated with the state-wide traffic counts. Mr. Lucero asked the Technical Committee members to review their traffic count list to determine if changes needed to be made. Members did not have any questions.

ACTION: Ms. Westerling moved to recommend approval of the 2011 Traffic Count Location list. Mr. Keck seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

4. STATE ROAD MAINTENANCE

FARMINGTON METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION Agenda Item

| | |
|---------------------|----------------------------|
| Subject: | State Road Maintenance |
| Prepared by: | Joe Delmagori, MPO Planner |
| Date: | May 18, 2011 |

BACKGROUND or PREVIOUS WORK

- MPO staff, the City of Aztec, and San Juan County met in February to discuss improvements to NM 173.
- Aztec and San Juan County suggested that the local governments pass resolutions to illustrate the poor conditions of state-owned facilities.
- A suggestion from the Policy Committee has been that the entities seek to develop a JPA with the state in which the local governments perform the maintenance and receive reimbursement from NMDOT.
- As of May 18, Aztec, Bloomfield, and San Juan County have passed resolutions requesting NMDOT to make necessary repairs to state highways within their jurisdictions.

CURRENT WORK

- At the April 28 Technical Committee meeting, the members asked that Dave Martinez with District 5 attend the May meeting to discuss maintenance issues in the MPO.
- Staff has prepared a similar maintenance resolution to be passed by the MPO.

ANTICIPATED WORK

- Policy Committee adoption of the maintenance resolution.

ATTACHMENTS

- PC Resolution 2011-3 for review.

RECOMMENDATION

- It is recommended that the Technical Committee:
 - Hold a discussion with NMDOT on maintenance of state facilities.
 - Recommend approval of PC Resolution 2011-3, requesting that NMDOT take immediate action concerning necessary repairs to state highways in the MPO.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Delmagori began discussion of the state road maintenance issue by giving a background of previous MPO and entity activities. In February 2011, MPO Staff, City of Aztec and San Juan County discussed some of the safety issues along NM 173. Being a state highway, the entities determined that NMDOT should be aware of the road conditions and should make the needed repairs. It was further decided to include all state roads in the area and the need for repairs county-wide. The Cities of Aztec and Bloomfield and the San Juan County have passed resolutions on the need for NMDOT to take action on the necessary repairs to State highways within the Farmington MPO. Mr. Delmagori said the MPO could discuss possible further action following NMDOT's presentations today. Mr. Delmagori welcomed Mr. Miguel Gabaldon and Mr. Dave Martinez from NMDOT District 5.

Mr. Gabaldon addressed the Technical Committee members and spoke of discussions within NMDOT on the needs within San Juan County. He stated that over the past several weeks, NMDOT and Governor Martinez's office had received correspondence from several of the FMPO entities regarding their concern for road conditions on state highways in the area. Mr. Gabaldon said the responses to the Cities of Aztec and Bloomfield, as well as San Juan County, should be mailed out shortly. Mr. Gabaldon reminded the Technical Committee members that NMDOT has over 400 lane miles of state highway in San Juan County and has faced challenges over the past three to five years especially in District 5. Budgets for FY2011 were cut by 50% (from \$5,000,000 in 2010 to approximately \$2,500,000 for FY2011) in the areas of fuel, field supplies and contract maintenance. These are funding sources used at the District level for pothole repairs, to lay patches, pavement preservation, as well as working with contracting partners to do more involved maintenance such as guard rails, large signs, or pavement construction. Mr. Gabaldon reiterated the difficulties faced in meeting all the needs of the District and that these same issues were being faced Statewide.

Mr. Gabaldon reported that NMDOT has now re-assessed the remaining FY2011 budget and looks forward to FY2012. Money is now available for spring pavement preservation projects as well as to complete some additional projects District-wide. Mr. Gabaldon stated that beginning with the new fiscal year in July and in conjunction with their maintenance contractors, NMDOT is planning to address some projects in San Juan County. Also, with the Federal year-end closeout, NMDOT hopes to pick up some additional projects in San Juan County and incorporate them into the STIP and TIP. Mr. Gabaldon stated that the projects NMDOT has identified are:

1. US64 - McGee Park to Andrea Drive. Due to budget constraints, NMDOT will plan to do a mill inlay for the right-hand lanes in both directions as these are the most distressed;
2. NM 516 - same distresses seen in the right-hand lanes and NMDOT will also do an inlay on both right-hand lanes from Oliver Drive in Aztec to just before the Farmington Lake turnoff.

Some other projects that might have gotten started this year were delayed when material contract bids were not submitted correctly which resulted in no source of material for San Juan County. Deadline for the revised bids are due June 9th and contracts should be in place by July 1st. Mr. Gabaldon stated that there are several projects which are candidates for the Federal year-end closeout dollars. If Federal funds are not available, NMDOT will re-evaluate State funding for these projects:

1. US64 - between NM 170 and Troy King Road, and;
2. US 64 -pothole repair around Hogback;

3. NM 173 - safety project development at the intersection of NM 575 to create a more desirable grade;
4. The City of Aztec completed their recreational project and the East Arterial project through ARRA funding and approached NMDOT on what can be done on NM 173 at US 550 to tie into these projects;
5. With State funding resources, NMDOT is looking at chip sealing NM 173 from the East Arterial out toward Navajo Lake;
6. NM 511 - NMDOT plans to chip seal NM 511 from mile marker zero up to the dam.

Mr. Gabaldon added that NMDOT's chip sealing will begin next week and that it has been delayed due to funding limitations (first of year the budget was \$750,000 and that is now down to \$500,000) as well as being unable to purchase materials.

Mr. Gabaldon also spoke to the Technical Committee concerning NMDOT staffing issues. NMDOT was impacted by the State's staffing reductions and freezes in the calendar years of 2009 and 2010. They are now trying to re-staff Statewide which would increase the current five-member crew in San Juan County back up to its typical nine members.

Although the cooperative agreements with entities in this area have gotten stuck within NMDOT, Mr. Gabaldon stated he still sees this as an opportunity and plans to speak individually with each entity in the near future to discuss compensation of materials, funding, or in-kind services. As NMDOT rebounds, Mr. Gabaldon hopes they will be able to pursue these agreements. Much of this will remain dependent on future Federal funding. NMDOT has been advised that Washington could reduce road funding to 2008 levels. Should this happen and if there is no assistance from the State's general fund, the STIP will be hit hard. NMDOT has been directed to create STIPs for varying levels of Federal funding from \$27,000,000 down to \$18,000,000. Mr. Gabaldon said NMDOT continues to evaluate the information coming from Washington, the State needs, and the District needs. He encouraged everyone to continue working together and said NMDOT plans to do what they can to address the concerns and needs of the MPO.

Mr. Huber thanked Mr. Gabaldon for reviewing the issues and presenting NMDOT's plans and actions. Mr. Huber said the City of Aztec's Commission has been frustrated with how road maintenance appears to be handled in District 5. The budget constraints discussed are reasonable as this is an issue everyone is dealing with, but the Commission wants to see a maintenance plan developed with NMDOT so they know what projects are planned and how they will be executed. Mr. Huber asked if NMDOT had plans for the intersection of US 550 and NM 516 going northbound on US 550 as well as for NM 516 from Oliver to US 550? Mr. Gabaldon said that he is not prepared today to speak with each group individually, but will make himself and his group available to meet with each entity and their respective Councils or Commissions to discuss specific projects and/or concerns and how then to prioritize the needs of San Juan County.

Mr. Keck added that he believed many of the "hot spots" were now being addressed by NMDOT, but hoped the secondary roadways would not be left out. Roads such as NM 173 and NM 511 are in very poor condition and his office receives calls daily from citizens having to travel these roads. He said that with blade and pothole patching, as well as chip sealing, the life of these roads should be indefinite, but this type of maintenance is not being addressed. The road deterioration and lack of ongoing NMDOT maintenance and upkeep is why the San Juan County Commissioners issued their Maintenance Resolution. Mr. Gabaldon said that

NMDOT plans to begin this work in July, but it will be dependent on obtaining the materials contracts. Mr. Keck said that perhaps the MPO entities could help out because the State's materials contracts are frequently delayed when the entities want to start paving. Mr. Gabaldon stated that even though NMDOT had begun their bid process earlier this year, procurement policies were not followed and contractors were required to re-bid. He added that materials are available for other areas, but the materials bidders in this area did not properly complete the paperwork and had to re-bid.

Ms. Westerling thanked NMDOT representatives for their presentation and understood NMDOT's budget constraints. Constituents, however, call the local planning office with their road maintenance complaints and concerns and she tells them that NMDOT is responsible for the state highway maintenance. Ms. Westerling proposed that the entities help to identify specific problem areas so that when NMDOT is in the area they have a list of sites that directs them to the areas of concern. She stated that with a tight budget, she is working to develop newer, smarter, and cheaper methods to get projects completed. Ms. Westerling reviewed previous discussions of possibly having the local entities do some of NMDOT's chip sealing or other maintenance work, and by working as a team to get needed maintenance/repairs completed.

Mr. Gabaldon agreed that statewide road maintenance has fallen behind the curve. With the recent naming of Mr. Martinez to the position of Assistant Maintenance Engineer for District 5, Mr. Gabaldon plans to continue their effort to get things back up to speed and will do the best he can with the available resources. Mr. Martinez stated that he plans to meet with all the MPO entities and learn their needs and get possible solutions. Ms. Westerling asked if receiving the Resolutions from the cities assists NMDOT. Mr. Gabaldon said that once the written responses are provided, NMDOT must address the issues outlined in the Resolutions by meeting with each group, discussing the issues, and listening to solutions and ideas. He added that the NMDOT Transportation Commission and the State legislature must be proactive and if a special session is called, legislators must be willing to address transportation needs. The resolutions assist NMDOT in emphasizing the statewide transportation needs to the legislators.

Mr. Keck re-stated the benefits of coordinating efforts between the entities and NMDOT. His materials budget was the first to be cut so he has more manpower to work with than materials. With his crew fully staffed and if chip seal materials were available, he could assist NMDOT by providing a chip seal crew to get a project completed.

Mr. Fillerup asked if NMDOT could provide a list of all projects within District 5 to show how our area compares to the other areas within the District, and how our District compares to other Districts within the State to offer a comparison of needs as well as a better understanding of NMDOT obligations. Mr. Gabaldon proposed that this type of detail would be better given and explained in a meeting. Ms. Westerling stated this would be a huge undertaking by NMDOT based on the number of State roads within each District and the varying types of state roads in each District. The District allocations of funds are also different for each type of road. Mr. Gabaldon believed that a face-to-face, focused meeting/workshop would be the best format in which to answer these types of questions. Ms. Westerling asked if a joint meeting of the Policy and Technical Committees was scheduled. Mr. Delmagori said that none had been scheduled for this year. Ms. Westerling believed this to be a good idea and would ensure at least one Councilor or Commissioner from each entity would be in attendance and could lessen the need for NMDOT to speak with each entity separately.

Mr. Keck and Ms. Westerling added that local political and public perceptions are that San Juan County generates huge oil and gas revenues for the State and then, because this area is in the maintenance district with Santa Fe, that all the maintenance funds are spent in Santa Fe. Mr. Gabaldon stated that he understood that this could very easily be the perception. He added that there is substantial oil and gas industry traffic on State roads which cause significant wear and tear. The oil and gas industry generates significant revenues for the State which goes into the State's general fund. However, transportation receives no funding from the general fund.

Mr. Huber restated that this is a working partnership and for NMDOT to call on any of the entities should they need assistance and that by working together solutions would be developed. Mr. Gabaldon added that NMDOT was also available to the MPO entities and all they needed to do was to call.

Mr. Delmagori asked the Technical Committee members if they wanted to go forward and schedule a joint workshop with the Policy Committee to discuss a maintenance partnership as well as going forward with Resolution 2011-3. He stated that after the June meeting, the Policy Committee does not meet until September so he suggested considering a joint meeting in July or August. Mr. Delmagori asked if the Technical Committee wanted to recommend action on PC Resolution 2011-3 and follow the other local entities by passing a resolution requesting NMDOT take immediate action concerning necessary repairs to State highways in the FMPO. He noted that NM371 had been inadvertently left off the resolution as one of the state-maintained highways in the FMPO. It will be added to the resolution before it is taken to the Policy Committee should the Technical Committee recommend its approval.

ACTION: Mr. Keck moved to recommend approval of PC Resolution 2011-3, requesting that NMDOT take immediate action concerning necessary repairs to state highways in the MPO. Mr. Ellsworth seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

5. RECEIVE A REPORT FROM NMDOT

DISCUSSION: Mr. Martinez stated that Mr. Phil Gallegos wanted to remind the entities that projects in the STIP for FY2013 need to be project ready and a Project Identification Form needs to be completed. Mr. Gallegos will be contacting Mr. Delmagori with a list of projects that are proposed for the next STIP cycle. Some of those projects for FY2013 are:

- Final design for US 64 Farmington to Bloomfield Phase 4;
- City of Aztec pedestrian facilities on US 550, NMDOT ID#5100200;
- City of Farmington pedestrian facilities on Pinon Hills Blvd, NMDOT ID#F100070.

Projects for FY2014 are:

- Construction of US 64 Phase 4 from mile marker 58 to mile marker 60;
- City of Aztec North Animas River pedestrian bridge, NMDOT #F100120;
- City of Farmington 20th Street pedestrian facility, NMDOT #F100130.

For FY2015, the projects are:

- Second year of construction funding of US 64 Phase 4;

- City of Farmington Pinon Hills Blvd from NM516 to Hubbard, NMDOT #F100150;
- City of Bloomfield Bergin Lane pedestrian facilities, NMDOT #F100140.

Mr. Martinez added that all these projects need to be included in the TIP. Mr. Delmagori stated that the projects mentioned here are from the MPO’s priority list and will now need to be moved from the Unfunded Project List to the Regionally Significant Project List. Mr. Gabaldon also stated that the additional two projects that were identified as potential federal closeout projects (US64 between NM170 and Troy King and US64 at Hogback) need to be added to the TIP and Mr. Martinez will provide that information to the MPO. Mr. Delmagori stated that these changes to the TIP could be on the agenda for the special joint meeting of the Technical and Policy Committees tentatively scheduled for July or August.

Mr. Gabaldon also mentioned that the Transportation Commission Meeting will be held in Farmington on July 21st. NMDOT will contact the MPO once the location has been chosen. Mr. Delmagori stated the last time the Commission met in Farmington was in 2008.

Mr. Ray Matthew stated that during the last month, there has been a wide variance in what the Federal Administration had proposed for transportation funding and what actually came out of Congress. The impact to New Mexico is hard because 35%-40% of NM funding is committed to bond repayment going out to 2027. Mr. Matthew said that at the State level during the last session, there were some proposals to have a separate source of transportation funding, but these never got out of the committee level. Prior to that effort there was a public survey done to gauge interest in raising various taxes to cover transportation issues. Although people see transportation as a need, they were not in favor of raising taxes to secure transportation funding. Mr. Matthew said that both the Federal and State governments will need to address the issue of principally funding transportation as a user fee at the pumps.

Mr. Matthew reported that LTAP is working to organize a project management implementation class. They will be seeking local government preferences on the three options to be offered with a project management certification being awarded at the completion of the class.

The Planning Division has recently hired an individual for the Transportation Information and Management Systems (TIMS). They plan to develop dashboard technology where traffic count information can be easily accessed on-line. A presentation will be given once the system is up and running.

ACTION: The report was received.

6. RECEIVE A STATUS REPORT ON CENSUS 2010 DATA AND THE DELINEATION OF TRAFFIC ANALYSIS ZONES (TAZs) AND TRAFFICE ANALYSIS DISTRICTS (TADs) FOR THE FMPO

**FARMINGTON METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION
Agenda Item**

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|---------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Subject: | 2010 Census and TAZ/TAD Delineation |
| Prepared by: | Martin Lucero, Associate MPO Planner |

Date: May 17, 2011

BACKGROUND or PREVIOUS WORK

- U.S. DOT and the U.S. Census Bureau will obtain census 2010 block equivalencies for Traffic Analysis Zones (TAZs) from MPOs and State DOTs in 2011.
- The 2010 TAZ geography will be added to the Census Bureau's TIGER file and these equivalency files will be used by the ACS for the CTPP 5-year tabulation (2006 through 2010 ACS records).
- A base TAZ is a basic spatial unit of analysis facilitating the ability of transportation planners to forecast changes in commuting patterns, trip volumes, and modes of travel, and to develop plans to meet the changing demands for transportation facilities and capacities.
- Each TAZ represents an area containing similar kinds of land use and commuter travel.

CURRENT WORK

- The Farmington MPO is currently developing base TAZs.
- Staff will also develop Census TADs. These are aggregates of the base TAZs and must have an estimated population lower limit of 20,000 residents.
- Staff has reviewed and has made adjustments to the basic TAZ groups based on Census Blocks.
- The TAZs were developed to represent homogenous residential groupings while working within the Census requirements.

ANTICIPATED WORK

- Staff will finish the review of both the TAZs and TADs.
- Staff will export all required GIS data and send it to the Census Bureau by mid June.

ATTACHMENTS

- Maps depicting newly created TAZs and TADs will be provided at the meeting.

RECOMMENDATION

- It is recommended that the Technical Committee receive a status report on the 2010 Census and the TAZ/TADs Delineation for the FMPO.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Lucero reviewed the original and revised Traffic Analysis Zone (TAZ) information for each entity. The newly created TAZs were developed using 2010 census data and are based on employment or population.

City of Aztec: TAZ created to separate out the newer residential subdivision of Kokopelli; broke up an old TAZ that covered the entire eastern side of Aztec; evaluated the effects of the new growing areas of Aztec that are adjacent to old historic districts which are next to multi-family areas; took into consideration how the City will also be affected by construction of the East Arterial.

City of Bloomfield: split TAZ on east side into two separate residential neighborhoods along US64 to reflect major division by State highway and to show the newer development to the north and the older development to the south; going further west, broke up neighborhood based on growth area in the southwest side of Bloomfield which includes Maple Street and some of the smaller mobile home parks in that area.

City of Farmington: many of the changes were in the north Foothills area where the communities of Country Club Estates, Hood Mesa Trail, Silver Ridge, Crestwood Estates, and Flora Vista were broken out from each other. These are all large communities that function separate from each other from a transportation, economic, and/or demographic standpoint. The area of Andrea Drive that houses the jail was spilt from residential areas but includes the industrial area of US64.

Community of Kirtland: the large TAZ which included the north side of US 64 and all the way to the south which included the junkyard and some of the older, rural farm neighborhoods was broken out at the southeast. The TAZ was further broken out to include everything south of US64 and along CR 6100 and another TAZ made for everything to the north. A separate TAZ was created for the community north of CR 6480.

Mr. Lucero commented that Staff had strived to give identity to these areas, each with their own distinct social and economic character. TAZ size was limited based mainly on population or economic factors such as employment. This was especially evident in County areas adjacent to Aztec or Bloomfield, north of Farmington, and west of NM170. Density was such that the TAZs could not be further broken down. Staff hopes that in the next three years the entities will find this information useful for more than just transportation needs. Staff will make individual presentations to each entity if desired. Staff will be generating an overall TAD structure shortly, which is a compilation of the smaller TAZs presented.

ACTION: The report was received.

7. RECEIVE A STATUS REPORT ON ALTERNATIVES FOR THE MPO MAJOR THOROUGHFARE PLAN RELATING TO THE NORTHEAST FARMINGTON AREA AND PROPOSED REGIONAL CONNETIONS

**FARMINGTON METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION
Agenda Item**

| | |
|---------------------|--|
| Subject: | MPO Major Thoroughfare Plan Alternatives |
| Prepared by: | Joe Delmagori, MPO Planner |
| Date: | May 18, 2011 |

BACKGROUND or PREVIOUS WORK

- The Farmington City Council directed staff to hold a series of public meetings to review alternatives for the Northeast Farmington area and its connection to proposed regional routes.
- Staff held three meetings in March and April.

- The original connections and two alternatives were discussed with the public.
- Comments from the public meetings have identified two additional alternatives.

CURRENT WORK

- Staff will review the four alternatives with the Technical Committee:
 - Alternative #1 - Run the Northern Route over the top of Foothills and connect it to College Blvd
 - Alternative #2 - Keep the connection described above but also continue the Northern Route to intersect with Glade Road.
 - Alternative #3 - Run the Northern Route over the top of Foothills to connect to College but do not extend Foothills north to the Northern Route
 - Alternative #4 - Expand upon Alternative #3 by extending the Northern Route to Glade Road.
- The MPO Major Thoroughfare Plan will be amended at the regional level once approved by the local governments.

ANTICIPATED WORK

- Seek approval of the MPO Major Thoroughfare Plan and an alternative for Northeast Farmington by Farmington City Council in June.

ATTACHMENTS

- Maps of the alternatives are available on the MPO website and will be provided at the meeting.

RECOMMENDATION

- It is recommended that the Technical Committee receive a status report on the MPO Major Thoroughfare Plan and alternatives for the Northeast Farmington area.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Delmagori reported that the series of public meetings to get public input and review the alternatives for the Northeast Farmington area and its connection to proposed regional routes were completed in late April. Mr. Delmagori reviewed the four proposed alternatives for the Technical Committee:

- Alternative #1 - run the northern route over the top of Foothills and connect it to College Blvd. Both of these roads would be made into minor arterials. An unnamed road to east would connect to the Northern Route to create dispersion for regional traffic as it reaches the City of Farmington limits;
- Alternative #2 - keep the connection described above but also continue the Northern Route to intersect with Glade Road and upgrade Glade Road to a minor arterial. This creates another outlet and another connection for the regional traffic. This also allows traffic from Colorado or Aztec to reach the west side of Farmington, Kirtland, and Shiprock without having to travel through Farmington;

- Alternative #3 - run the Northern Route over the top of Foothills to connect to College but do not extend Foothills north to the Northern Route. This alternative would lessen the impact to the current trail systems;
- Alternative #4 - expand upon Alternative #3 by extending the Northern Route to Glade Road.

These options will be presented to Farmington’s City Council on June 28th and to seek their approval of one of the alternatives outlined above as well as approval for the entire Major Thoroughfare Plan. Once approved by the City Council, the information will be brought back to the Technical and Policy Committees to make an amendment to the Major Thoroughfare Plan.

ACTION: The report was received.

8. INFORMATION ITEMS

FARMINGTON METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION Agenda Item

| | |
|---------------------|----------------------------|
| Subject: | Information Items |
| Prepared by: | Joe Delmagori, MPO Planner |
| Date: | May 18, 2011 |

INFORMATION ITEMS

- a. **FY2012 NMDOT Call for Safety Projects.** NMDOT is seeking applications for potential funding through the Highway Safety Improvement Program. Applications are due on January 6, 2012. The MPO has established a prioritized list of Safety projects through the recent TIP process.
- b. **ADA and Title VI Training.** The NMDOT Office of Equal Opportunity Programs would like to organize an ADA training for the entities this summer to discuss ADA Transition Plans, Title VI requirements, and responsibilities of the ADA Coordinators. Information is attached.
- c. **Functional Classification Change Request Forms.** Staff will provide a status report on these forms at the Technical Committee meeting.
- d. **FY2012-2017 TIP.** Based on the TIP discussion during the April 21 Policy Committee meeting, NMDOT asked for the entities to break their local priority projects into phases for potential programming into the outer years of the FY2012-2015 STIP. Information on these phases has been provided to the NMDOT and a TIP Adjustment will be prepared.

- e. **MPO Quarterly Meeting.** The Farmington MPO will host the next MPO Quarterly meeting on June 22 at the MPO office.
- f. **Other.**

DISCUSSION: Mr. Delmagori reported that NMDOT has issued their FY2012 call for safety projects. The application deadline is January 2012 so the MPO has time to review the prioritized list of Safety projects already developed through the recent TIP process. Staff will have this item on the agenda in late summer or early fall to finalize the project list.

At the recent RPO meeting attended by Mr. Delmagori, ADA and Title VI training was discussed as well as the need for having an ADA Transition Plan completed by August. NMDOT staff will conduct this training to address the requirements for the ADA Transition Plan as well as Title VI. Mr. Delmagori added that an ADA Coordinator must also be identified for local governments with 50 or more full-time employees. The training will additionally explain the need for and responsibilities of this Coordinator. Staff will work to coordinate this meeting with NMDOT.

The Functional Classification Change Request Forms have been received from Aztec and San Juan County and Farmington's are in the process of being completed. Bloomfield has only a few so Staff will work with Mr. Ellsworth on getting those completed.

Mr. Delmagori again thanked NMDOT representatives for their presentation and for identifying projects to be programmed into the STIP. This is a testament to the work the MPO completed over the past few months to develop the TIP priority list. Mr. Delmagori stated that the City of Farmington has also received the Phase 2 money for the SRTS program and once the details of those projects are squared away, they will be added to the TIP adjustment as well.

Mr. Delmagori reported that he has e-mailed an invitation to Mr. Butch Matthew, the new District 5 Transportation Commissioner, to attend an upcoming Technical and/or Policy Committee meeting.

Mr. Delmagori welcomed Mr. Brad Ellsworth, Finance Director for the City of Bloomfield, as the new member of the Technical Committee.

9. BUSINESS FROM THE CHAIRMAN, MEMBERS AND STAFF

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

10. BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR

DISCUSSION: There was no business from the floor.

11. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Keck made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Fillerup seconded the motion. Mr. Huber adjourned the meeting at 11:50 a.m.

Mike Huber, Vice Chair

June Markle, MPO Administrative Aide

**FARMINGTON METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION
Agenda Item**

| | |
|---------------------|---|
| Subject: | Draft Reauthorization - Proposed MPO Tier System |
| Prepared by: | Joe Delmagori, MPO Planner |
| Date: | June 15, 2011 |

BACKGROUND or PREVIOUS WORK

- In May, AMPO informed the nation's MPOs about a 'preliminary' draft reauthorization that describes a MPO tier system.
- Tier 1 would consist of MPOs with a population of 1,000,000 or more.
- Tier 2 would consist of MPOs with a population between 200,000 and 1,000,000.
- Small MPOs under 200,000 would either have to demonstrate their technical capacity to remain a MPO or develop a plan to be dissolved.
- MPO planning requirements would be assumed by the state DOT for all dissolved MPOs.
- AMPO has developed a list of Talking Points and is requesting Congress to keep all existing MPOs intact.
- Small MPOs are being encouraged to contact their US representatives and senators requesting that they do not support this proposal.
- Staff developed a letter to the state's US legislators highlighting the detrimental effects this proposed bill would have to the Farmington MPO.
- The letter and a report was presented to the Policy Committee on June 16.

CURRENT WORK

- MPO staff is continually being informed about this proposal through AMPO conference calls and other correspondence.

ANTICIPATED WORK

- Submit the letter to Representative Lujan, Senators Udall and Bingaman, Governor Martinez, and Transportation Commissioner Butch Mathews.

ATTACHMENTS

- Excerpt from proposed authorization that describes the MPO tier system.
- FMPO Letter to US and state officials (provided at the Technical Committee meeting based on Policy Committee action).

RECOMMENDATION

- It is recommended that the Technical Committee receive a report on a proposed tier system relating to reauthorization and its potential impact to small MPOs.

MPO Tier System -- Excerpt from the Undated USDOT Draft Reauthorization Bill
Subtitle C – Federal-Aid Highways, Part 2 – Performance Management, Section 2302 – Metropolitan Transportation Planning

"(4) TIERING.--

"(A) TIER I MPOS.--(i) MPOs operating primarily within urbanized areas of 1,000,000 or more persons according to the Bureau of the Census shall be designated as Tier I MPOs and shall fully implement the processes described in subsections (h) through (k) of this section within two years of the enactment of the Surface Transportation Transformation Act

"(ii) MPOs operating primarily within urbanized areas of more than 200,000, but less than 1 million persons, that are designated as Tier II MPOs as described in paragraph (B), may, with the support of the Governor, request designation as a Tier I MPO upon a determination by the Secretary that such MPO has demonstrated adequate technical capacity to implement the processes described in subsections (h) through (k).

"(B) TIER II MPOS.--(i) MPOs operating primarily within urbanized areas of less than 1,000,000 persons but more than 200,000 persons shall be designated as Tier II MPOs and shall follow processes set forth under subsection (l) of this section.

"(ii) Existing MPOs operating primarily within urbanized areas of less than 200,000 persons but more than 50,000 persons prior to enactment of this section may, with the support of the Governor, request designation as a Tier II MPO upon a determination by the Secretary that such MPO has demonstrated adequate technical capacity and commitment to collaborative

transportation decision-making to implement the processes set forth under subsection (l) of this section and the requirements of the Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. 7506(c)) in nonattainment and maintenance areas.

"(iii) In the absence of such designation as a Tier II MPO, the MPO and State shall, within 12 months of the enactment of the Surface Transportation Transformation Act, submit, a two-year plan to transfer the MPO's responsibilities back to the State or to a planning organization designated by the State, and to dissolve the MPO.

"(iv) If the MPO is dissolved, such metropolitan planning area shall continue to receive metropolitan transportation planning funds for the period of time until the MPO is dissolved, not to exceed 24 months after enactment of this section and shall be treated by the State as a non-metropolitan area under this title.

"(C) CONSOLIDATION.--MPOs operating within contiguous or adjacent urbanized areas may elect to consolidate in order to meet the requisite population thresholds necessary in order to achieve designation as a Tier I or Tier II MPO. Nothing in this subsection shall be construed as to require or prevent consolidation among multiple MPOs located within a single urbanized area.

**FARMINGTON METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION
Agenda Item**

| | |
|---------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Subject: | Red Apple Transit Data Collection |
| Prepared by: | Joe Delmagori, MPO Planner |
| Date: | June 15, 2011 |

BACKGROUND or PREVIOUS WORK

- The MPO and Red Apple Transit worked with LSC Consultants to determine future transit needs and make recommendations for expansion options.
- LSC Consultants developed recommend options for both the regional and Farmington routes for modifying and expanding the existing system.
- Development of the transit study illustrated the need for transit data collection.
- The information will be used to further justify the recommendations made in the Red Apple Transit Study.

CURRENT WORK

- The data will be collected utilizing two interns that will administer onboard surveys, track boarding/alightment, and take passenger counts at various bus stop locations.
- The interns will ride on the bus to collect origin/destination data of passengers.
- Staff has developed a survey that will be administered to Red Apple passengers to help determine:
 - The frequency of usage
 - The need of the transit system
 - An estimate of 'unique riders'
- The FMPO interns are scheduled to begin collection of the data during the week of June 20th.

ANTICIPATED WORK

- Staff will evaluate the collected data for any correlations between social economic factors and riders.
- Staff will evaluate the transit needs within this region.
- Staff will try to estimate the number of unique riders on the Red Apple.

RECOMMENDATION

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

**FARMINGTON METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION
Agenda Item**

| | |
|---------------------|---|
| Subject: | Functional Classification Request Forms |
| Prepared by: | Martin Lucero, MPO Associate Planner |
| Date: | June 15, 2011 |

BACKGROUND or PREVIOUS WORK

- Staff discussed the possibility of helping NMDOT update their thoroughfare plan for the MPO region by submitting requests for reclassification and/or adding roadways to the classification system.
- MPO staff has reviewed the MPO Major T-Plan and has created templates to submit to NMDOT for roadways that meet classification criteria.
- Staff has worked with each member entity to fill out the reclassification request forms.
- Staff identified approximately 70 road sections based on the FMPO Major Thoroughfare Plan.

CURRENT WORK

- Staff plans on submitting 52 road sections to NMDOT for reclassification.
- These sections include declassifications, reclassification, and assigning new classifications for either newly constructed or proposed roads.
- The remaining 18 road sections have been identified but will be submitted to NMDOT at a later time.

ANTICIPATED WORK

- Staff will submit completed templates to NMDOT for consideration.

RECOMMENDATION

- It is recommended that the Technical Committee receive a status report on the Functional Classification Change Request Forms.

**FARMINGTON METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION
Agenda Item**

| | |
|---------------------|---|
| Subject: | MPO Projects Programmed into the FY2012-2017 STIP |
| Prepared by: | Joe Delmagori, MPO Planner |
| Date: | June 15, 2011 |

BACKGROUND

- On May 26, 2011 the Farmington MPO were informed that NMDOT District 5 had selected five projects from the MPO priority lists to be programmed into the FY2012-2015 Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP).
- On June 14, 2011 Staff received the official notice outlining the projects and funding amounts.
- The top three Transportation Enhancement Projects from the Unfunded List had been selected.
- A phase of the Pinon Hills extension was selected.
- US 64 Phase IV will be funded in 2014 and 2015.
- In addition the City of Farmington was awarded SRTS Phase 2 funding in the amount of \$25,000 for non infrastructure activities and \$250,000 for infrastructure improvements.

CURRENT WORK

- Staff is adjusting the TIP for all the projects that were already in the unfunded portion of the FY2012-2017 Transportation Improvement Program.
- The SRTS funding will be added into the STIP.
- Additional modifications will be made once maintenance funds for US 64 are identified.

ANTICIPATED WORK

- Complete and issue out the revised FY2012-2017 TIP based on the programming of these new projects.

ATTACHMENTS

- Project details of the new MPO projects in the FY2012-2017 STIP.

RECOMMENDATION

- It is recommended that the Technical Committee receive a report on MPO projects programmed into the FY2012-2015 STIP.

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| Project Name: North Animas River Bridge | Project Description: Property acquisition, design, environmental, archeological, and construction of a pedestrian bridge | | |
| Lead Agency: City of Aztec | Work Description: | Construction | |
| TIP ID: A-17 NMDOT ID: F100120 | Fiscal Year: | 2014 | |
| From: Ruins Rd To: N Main Extension | Fund Type: | Federal | |
| Project Type: Bicycle/Pedestrian | Source: | STP/Enhancements | |
| Functional Class: N/A | Funds: | 600,000 | |
| | | Total Programmed Funds: 600,000 | |

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|--|---|--|--|
| Project Name: Bergin Lane | Project Description: Construct pedestrian improvements | | |
| Lead Agency: City of Bloomfield | Work Description: | | |
| TIP ID: B-12 NMDOT ID: F100140 | Fiscal Year: | 2015 | |
| From: US 64 To: W. Blanco | Fund Type: | Federal | |
| Project Type: Pedestrian | Source: | STP/Enhancements | |
| Functional Class: Urban Collector | Funds: | 1,000,000 | |
| | | Total Programmed Funds: 1,000,000 | |

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|--|--|--|--|
| Project Name: 20th Street | Project Description: Pedestrian Facilities, including sidewalks | | |
| Lead Agency: City of Farmington | Work Description: | | |
| TIP ID: F-59 NMDOT ID: F100130 | Fiscal Year: | 2014 | |
| From: Santiago To: Main | Fund Type: | Federal | |
| Project Type: Pedestrian | Source: | STP/Enhancements | |
| Functional Class: N/A | Funds: | 491,000 | |
| | | Total Programmed Funds: 491,000 | |

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|---|--|--|--|
| Project Name: E Pinon Hills Blvd | Project Description: Full Rebuild of the Intersection of Pinon Hills and NM 516; Extension of Pinon Hills Blvd to include earthwork, asphalt, street lighting, drainage improvements and signalization upgrades | | |
| Lead Agency: City of Farmington | Work Description: | | |
| TIP ID: F-60 NMDOT ID: F100150 | Fiscal Year: | 2015 | |
| From: NM 516 (E. Main) To: Hubbard | Fund Type: | Federal | |
| Project Type: Roadway/Bicycle/Pedestrian | Source: | STP/Under 200,000 | |
| Functional Class: Urban Principal Arterial | Funds: | 3,000,000 | |
| | | Total Programmed Funds: 3,000,000 | |

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|---|--|--|--|--|
| Project Name: Safe Routes to School Phase 2 Non-Infrastructure | | Project Description: Bike Rodeo activities, Local Champion salary, Advertising, Team Meetings, Promotional Items, SRTS Training, and Background checks. | | |
| Lead Agency: City of Farmington | | Work Description: | | |
| TIP ID: F-61 NMDOT ID: | | Fiscal Year: | 2011 | |
| From: N/A To: | | Fund Type: | Federal | |
| Project Type: Pedestrian | | Source: | Safe Routes to School (SRTS) Phase II Infrastructure Funding | |
| Functional Class: N/A | | Funds: | 25,000 | |
| Priority Ranking: | | Total Programmed Funds: 25,000 | | |

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|---|--|---|---|--|
| Project Name: Safe Routes to School Phase 2 Infrastructure | | Project Description: Construct sidewalks along north side of Apache St from Auburn west to Apache Elementary School. | | |
| Lead Agency: City of Farmington | | Work Description: | Construction | |
| TIP ID: F-62 NMDOT ID: | | Fiscal Year: | 2011 | |
| From: Auburn To: Apache Elem. School | | Fund Type: | Federal | |
| Project Type: Pedestrian/Bicycle | | Source: | Safe Routes to School (SRTS) Phase III Infrastructure funding | |
| Functional Class: N/A | | Funds: | 65,000 | |
| | | Total Programmed Funds: \$65,000 | | |

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|---|--|--|---------------------|---------------------|
| Project Name: US 64 Phase IV | | Project Description: Widen to 6 lanes | | |
| Lead Agency: NMDOT | | Work Description: | | |
| TIP ID: DOT-13 NMDOT ID: F100110 | | Fiscal Year: | 2014 | 2015 |
| From: MP 58 To: MP 60 | | Fund Type: | Federal | Federal |
| Project Type: Roadway | | Source: | National Hwy System | National Hwy System |
| Functional Class: Urban Principal Arterial | | Funds: | 4,625,000 | 3,700,000 |
| | | Total Programmed Funds: 8,325,000 | | |

**FARMINGTON METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION
Agenda Item**

| | |
|---------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Subject: | Information Items |
| Prepared by: | Martin Lucero, MPO Associate Planner |
| Date: | June 15, 2011 |

INFORMATION ITEMS

- a. **TAZ-TAD Delineation.** MPO staff finalized the delineation process by meeting with entity staff. The TAZ-TAD maps have been submitted to the Census Bureau.
- b. **Joint Policy/Technical Committee Meeting.** It was recommended that NMDOT and both MPO committees discuss District 5 maintenance plans and strategies for the MPO region. Staff would like to coordinate this meeting in July
- c. **Statewide MPO Summit.** Las Cruces is proposing that the members of the Policy and Technical Committees from the state MPOs meet to share planning ideas and discuss regional transportation issues.
- d. **MPO Major Thoroughfare Plan.** MPO staff will seek approval of the MPO Major Thoroughfare Plan and an alternative for the Northeast Farmington area from Farmington City Council on June 28.
- e. **Other.**