

MINUTES
FARMINGTON METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION
POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING
MAY 23, 2019

Policy Members Present: Jeanine Bingham-Kelly, City of Farmington
Sean Sharer, City of Farmington
Rob Maes (Alt.), City of Farmington
Dan Flack (Alt), Kirtland
Larry Hathaway (Alt.), San Juan County

Policy Members Absent: Sherri Sipe, City of Aztec
Curtis Lynch, City of Bloomfield
Julie Baird, City of Farmington
John Beckstead, San Juan County
Glojean Todacheene, San Juan County

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

Staff Absent: None

Others Present: Joseph Moriarty, Planning Liaison, NMDOT (via phone)
David Quintana, NMDOT District 5 (via phone)

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Sharer called the meeting to order at 1:45 p.m.

2. APPROVE THE MINUTES APRIL 25, 2019 POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING

Mr. Hathaway moved to approve the minutes from the April 25, 2019 Policy Committee meeting. Councilor Bingham-Kelly seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

3. QUARTERLY EDUCATIONAL PRESENTATION – CRITICAL ISSUES IN TRANSPORTATION 2019

Subject:	Quarterly Educational Presentation - Critical Issues in Transportation 2019
Prepared by:	Mary L Holton, AICP, MPO Officer
Date:	May 8, 2019

PRESENTATION

A copy of the Transportation Research Board (TRB) publication "Critical Issues in Transportation 2019" was included within the email for your agenda. This reading was selected as it "poses a series of challenging questions about potential critical issues that may arise 10 to 20 years into the future." This subject is especial important as the MPO begins preparing for the development of its 2045 MTP.

The authors advise that "Changes are coming at transportation from all directions, including potentially revolutionary technologies such as drones and automated vehicles, rapid innovations in urban transportation services, unreliable funding for infrastructure and operations, and possible changes in national policies affecting trade, climate, environmental protection, and sources of energy. The potential consequences of these changes could make future congestion, fuel consumption, and emissions either markedly better or markedly worse. Correspondingly, these potential changes could positively or adversely affect commercial truck, rail, aviation, and waterborne networks, with significant implications for the delivery of goods and services, personal travel, and the economy."

Sections in the reading include Transformational Technologies and Services; Serving a Growing and Shifting Population; Energy and Sustainability; Resilience and Security; Safety and Public Health; Equity; Governance; System Performance and Asset Management; Funding and Finance; Goods Movement; Institutional and Workforce Capacity; and, Research and Innovation.

MPO Staff invites you to read the publication noting what the MPO will most likely need to address in the development of the new MTP. Please come to the meeting prepared to discuss the issues you believe will challenge the MPO in the future.

DISCUSSION: Ms. Holton said the copy of the TRB publication, "Critical Issues in Transportation 2019" was provided to the Policy Committee as the quarterly education required by NMDOT to be presented to both FMPO Committees. The purpose of sharing this particular article was to provide a broad understanding of future transportation issues. Ms. Holton said that the article touches on many futuristic concepts along with a discussion on the safety features being added to newer vehicles.

Mr. Maes noted the article looked interesting and, after reading it, would pass it on to Julie Baird. He asked if there was any discussion of driverless vehicles. Ms. Holton responded that there was, but added that the writers explained that some of the concepts might come into play while others might not. There may not be the economies for these concepts to occur in all areas. The article presented a very big picture futuristic view of transportation.

4. REPORTS FROM NMDOT **District 5 - David Quintana**

Mr. Quintana said that he, along with the entities and MPO Staff, will be meeting soon to review Project Feasibility Forms for the new call for projects.

Construction on US 64 and the LaPlata Bridge are ongoing. Their construction schedules remain the same.

Mr. Quintana said that there are some pavement preservation projects planned for Murray Drive (truck route) in Farmington. In the next few months, District 5 will be working with the MPO to get projects programmed into the TIP and STIP.

Mr. Hathaway re-stated a continuing issue with signage along NM 516 between Aztec and Farmington. Heading west on NM 516, the speed limit drops to 45 mph shortly before the turnoff to Farmington Lake. However, not 50 feet away, and still before the Farmington Lake turnoff, there is a state speed limit sign showing 55 mph. Mr. Hathaway has brought up this concern several times, but the signage confusion persists. It was recommended to show Mr. Quintana the problem first-hand the next time he is in the area.

Chair Sharer asked if the new Transportation Commissioner for District 5 had been named. Mr. Quintana said he had no word yet on this appointment, but would check with Paul Brasher.

Planning Bureau - Joseph Moriarty

Mr. Moriarty reported that the Planning Bureau will also be working with the MPO and District 5 on the state's recent call for projects. He noted this was a very unique funding opportunity to provide more flexibility to local agencies in funding local transportation projects. He encouraged all member entities to apply.

5. COMMITTEE MEMBER DISCUSSION ITEMS

Subject:	Committee Member Discussion Items
Date:	May 23, 2019

DISCUSSION ITEMS

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

6. INFORMATION ITEMS

Subject:	Information Items
Prepared by:	MPO Staff
Date:	May 23, 2019

INFORMATION ITEMS

- a. **TIP Amendment #7, New FFY2020-2025 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).** It is noted that there were no project change forms received by FMPO for the formal TIP Amendment #7 to the FFY2018-2023 TIP.

The remaining amendment cycles (#8 and #9) for the FFY2018-2023 TIP have been cancelled so that we can start the FFY2020-2025 TIP Adoption Process, which will begin in May 20th with the Call for Projects and will end with the final consideration by both the Technical and Policy Committees in August 2019. A schedule for this TIP Adoption is attached for your information.

- b. **Annual FMPO Quality Assurance Review (QAR).** The MPO's Annual Quality Assurance Review (QAR) was held on April 10. We are expecting Joseph Moriarty's written evaluation soon.
- c. **MTP Report.** MPO Staff continues to work on the draft Public Participation Plan (PPP). Once finalized, the PPP will require a 30-day public review/comment period.
- d. **NMDOT Traffic Counts.** Staff advised last month "the NMDOT Traffic Monitoring section is in the process of annualizing all of the 2018 traffic counts. During then March MPO Quarterly, Sean Noonan/NMDOT reported that FMPO's data is expected to be released in April, and that the 2019 locations will be coordinated with the MPO (including the Tech Committee) very soon." Sean has released the raw data, which MPO staff releases to the member entities. The files were also forwarded to the GIS Division with the City of Farmington so that they can provide mapping assistance to the MPO so that the maps can be posted on the MPO's website.
- e. **TAP/RTP/CMAQ Application Update.** Please congratulate San Juan County and the City of Farmington on their recent Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) and Recreational Trails Program (RTP) grant awards for the following projects: Glade Run Recreation Area Trails, Kirtland School Multi-Use Trail, and Foothills Drive Enhancement Phase II! The federal funding for the three FMPO projects totals more than \$1.3M. Way to go Fran, Nick, and Virginia! A copy of Selection Process and Feedback from NMDOT is attached. Unfortunately, none of the FMPO member entities received a CMAQ grant award.
- f. **TAM Plan Transit Performance Targets Adoption.** This item will return next month, as the FTA requires that the MPO adopt these targets annually by June 30. Andrew has advised that the Red Apple's Targets have not changed.
- g. **Call for Projects.** NMDOT has announced its call for projects. Local and tribal governments in New Mexico are eligible to apply for state funded grants. Applications are due to NMDOT by June 14, 2019, with a number of steps prior to submittal. See the attached letter for details.
- h. **Staff Training.** MPO Staff will travel to Santa Fe for NMDOT eSTIP Training and FHWA Grants Management Training (2 CFR 200) May 13-15.
- i. **NM 173.** Approximately 20 persons attended the Technical Committee in Aztec on May 8 to voice their support for safety improvements to this roadway that serves

Navajo State Park and the adjoining communities. The Technical Committee has requested that a Policy Committee Resolution of support be considered during the June FMPO meetings.

It is noted that this project is on the MPO's TIP. Paul Brasher was instrumental in getting the project on the TIP, which all of the FMPO members supported. The MPO looks forward to the project's monthly Technical Committee update by the District Representative and the updated information we receive from NMDOT in the FFY2020-FFY2025 TIP Call for Projects.

DISCUSSION: Ms. Holton first discussed Information Item "g", the Call for Projects (see Page 46 of the Agenda). The NMDOT's Call for Projects was issued on April 30, 2019 in a letter from Michael Sandoval, Cabinet Secretary. The deadline for submittal of projects to the MPO is May 24 at 5:00 p.m. The project feasibility meeting to discuss the projects with the entities, David Quintana, Joseph Moriarty, and MPO Staff is tentatively set for June 6.

- a. There were no project change forms received by the FMPO for the formal TIP Amendment #7 to the FFY2018-2023 TIP.

In addition, the remaining amendment cycles (#8 and #9) for the FFY2018-2023 TIP were cancelled in order to begin the new FFY2020-2025 TIP adoption process which will began May 20th with the Call for Projects. Final consideration by both the Technical and Policy Committees will be taken in July 2019 due to a revised submittal date to NMDOT of August 26. The TIP Adoption Schedule is attached (see Page 43 of the Agenda) for your information.

Due to this revised NMDOT submittal date and final considered adoption of the new FFY2020-2025 TIP needing to take place in July, a Special Policy Committee is now required. This special meeting is scheduled for July 25, 2019 at 1:30 p.m. at the MPO Office.

- b. The MPO's Quality Assurance Review was conducted on April 10 by Joseph Moriarty. His written evaluation is expected soon.
- c. Work on the MTP is progressing. Ms. Holton has been working to rewrite the Public Participation Plan (PPP) and working on the procurement process to identify a consultant for the MTP.
- d. No update on the status of the traffic counts. Staff is hopeful that the City of Farmington's GIS Department will be able to provide some information soon that will be posted to the MPO's webpage.
- e. Three local TAP/RTP applications received grant awards: San Juan County's Glade Run Recreation Area Trails, Kirtland School Multi-Use Trail, and the City of Farmington's Foothills Drive Enhancement Phase II. The federal funding for the three FMPO projects totaled more than \$1.3M. A copy of the Selection Process and Feedback from NMDOT is attached (see pages 44-45 of the Agenda). Unfortunately, none of the FMPO member entities received a CMAQ grant award.

- f. FHWA and FTA required the adoption of the Red Apple Transit's Transit Asset Management (TAM) Plan performance targets annually in June. Consideration of this will be on the June meeting agendas for both the Policy and Technical Committees. No changes to last year's TAM Plan are proposed.
- g. Addressed above.
- h. Ms. Holton attended eSTIP and FHWA Grants Management (2 CFR 200) training in Santa Fe on May 13-15.
- i. A group of citizens and interested parties attended the Technical Committee meeting on May 8 to voice their support for safety improvements for NM 173. The Technical Committee Chair directed FMPO Staff to draft a resolution of support that will be presented to the Policy Committee for considered approval in June.

Since that meeting, FMPO received a TIP amendment to place funding in a future year for safety improvements to NM 173.

7. BUSINESS FROM THE CHAIRMAN, MEMBERS AND STAFF

There was no 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

Councilor Bingham-Kelly moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Maes seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously. Chair Sharer adjourned the meeting at 2:03 p.m.


Sean Sharer, Policy Committee Chair


June Markle, Administrative Assistant