

MINUTES
FARMINGTON METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION
TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEETING
November 6, 2019

Technical Members Present: Virginia King, City of Farmington
Andrew Montoya, Red Apple Transit
Dan Flack, Town of Kirtland
Matt Grush (Alt.), NMDOT District 5
Fran Fillerup, San Juan County
Nick Porell, San Juan County

Technical Members Absent: Steven Saavedra, City of Aztec
Jason Thomas, City of Bloomfield

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

Staff Absent: None

Others Present: Aaron Sussman, Bohannan Huston (via phone)
Beth Escobar, City of Farmington
Joseph Moriarty, Planning Liaison, NMDOT
Larry Hathaway, San Juan County

Ms. Holton introduced Beth Escobar, Planning Manager for the City of Farmington, who will be seated as a new member on the Technical Committee following official written notice from the City of Farmington's Community Works Director.

1. CALL TO ORDER

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

2. APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM THE OCTOBER 9, 2019 TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEETING

Mr. Flack moved to approve the minutes from the October 9, 2019 Technical Committee meeting. Mr. Fillerup seconded the motion. The motion to approve the minutes passed unanimously.

3. REPORT ON THE 2045 METROPOLITAN

Subject:	Report on the 2045 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) Update
Date:	November 6, 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: Mr. Sussman reported on the public outreach activities recently conducted by Bohannon Huston and Sites Southwest in the MPO area. Bohannon Huston and Sites Southwest representatives held five events on October 17 and 18 throughout the communities and Mr. Sussman said they spoke with 60-70 people over the course of the two-day outreach event. He thought this was a more successful approach to outreach than the formal meeting settings. He thanked all the Technical Committee members who participated in events. Mr. Sussman will continue to follow up with the members as data collection process begins.

Mr. Sussman said that in addition to two newspaper stories on the MTP that included links to the project website, the Technical Committee members have been very active in getting out the information. To date, 100 people have completed the survey. The survey will be open through the end of the year and Mr. Sussman is hopeful that the good level of engagement will continue.

The next steps in the MTP development process are putting the socioeconomic data together for the base and forecast years. Mr. Sussman will also be reaching out to the Technical Committee members to gather data needs and input on recent economic changes and likely locations for future growth. It is recognized that significant growth is not expected and that much existing housing may not be occupied so that population growth may be absorbed before new housing development happens. BHI will be producing some early chapters of the 2045 MTP to share with the Technical Committee in early 2020. Mr. Sussman thanked all the members for their assistance to date.

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:	MPO Staff
Date:	November 6, 2019

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.

CURRENT ISSUES & RECOMMENDATIONS

- This item is being presented to both committees in November for their information. It will be brought back to both the Technical and Policy Committees in January for their recommendation/approval.
- Staff recommends that the state standards be adopted for 2020.
- FMPO Policy Committee action is due no later than February 27, 2020.

INFORMATION ITEM

- This is being presented during the November meeting as a heads up.

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)

DISCUSSION: Ms. Holton reported that adoption of the PM 1 targets for the Highway Safety Improvement Program is taken annually. The actual adoption for the 2020 targets will not be considered until January.

Ms. Holton provided copies of the 235 CFR Subpart B regarding the National Performance Management Measures for the Highway Safety Improvement Program. This federal regulation that requires the state DOT to set their targets and then within 180 days, the MPO is required to either adopt the state's targets (NMDOT's FY2020 targets are on Pages 4-7 of the Agenda) or adopt their own targets. The FMPO adopted the NMDOT targets last year.

Chair Porell asked if a local entity has roads in their transportation network that did not meet the targets, would that put the entity in a better position to receive HSIP funding. Mr. Moriarty said he thought that was correct.

Mr. Fillerup asked why the state was projecting the number and rate of fatalities to go up. Mr. Moriarty thought it was due to demographics, and noted that VMT is trending upward nationally. Mr. Moriarty said he would take Mr. Fillerup's question on why the projection is for an increase in fatalities back to Jessica Griffin in the Planning Bureau.

5. AMENDMENT #1 TO THE FFY2020-2025 TIP

Subject:	Amendment #1 to the FFY2020-2025 TIP
Prepared by:	Mary L. Holton, AICP, MPO Officer
Date:	November 6, 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 has been published on the MPO's website and in the Daily Times on November 3.
- The amendment currently includes two District 5 projects, one Aztec project, and one project from San Juan County.
- The Technical Committee will consider recommending approval of proposed Amendment #1 to Policy Committee at their 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.
- The City of Aztec's project is for cost increases in the East Aztec Arterial-Phase II project.
- San Juan County's project is for cost increases in the CR 5500 bridge replacement.

ACTION ITEM

- Staff recommends that the Technical Committee consider recommending approval to the Policy Committee of proposed Amendment #1 to the FFY2020-2025 TIP.
- The Policy Committee will consider approval of proposed Amendment #1 to the FFY2020-2025 TIP at their November 21, 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: Mr. Holton reported that there are four projects on Amendment #1 to the FFY2020-2025 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP): East Aztec Arterial-Phase I, CR 5500 bridge replacement, NM 173 safety Improvements, and US 550 pavement rehab (in the informational year of 2025). Staff recommended that the Technical Committee consider recommending approval of Amendment #1 to the Policy Committee on November 21.

The Committee discussed the proposed study for additional safety improvements on NM 173 and the public input received from the community at the May FMPO Technical Committee meeting on their concern for safety along NM 173. Mr. Grush said this study is in the works and, although there is still concern with the utility, the issue with the gas line has been worked out.

Chair Porell opened the public hearing. There were no public comments. The public hearing was closed.

ACTION: Mr. Fillerup moved to recommend approval of Amendment #1 to the FFY2020-2025 TIP and the self-certification to TIP Amendment #1. Mr. Grush seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

6. STATUS OF TIP PROJECTS

Subject:	Status of TIP Projects
Prepared by:	MPO Staff
Date:	November 6, 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
F100350 - NM 371/N36 (PE)
F100351 - NM 371/N36 (Const)

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: No TIP updates were submitted prior to the meeting to allow Staff to compile a consolidated table on the updates prior to the meeting. The Technical Committee provided their project updates here:

City of Aztec - Steven Saavedra

No update on the East Aztec Arterial as Mr. Saavedra was unable to attend the meeting.

City of Bloomfield - Jason Thomas

No update on the East Blanco Bridge as Mr. Thomas was unable to attend the meeting.

City of Farmington - Virginia King

Foothills Drive Enhancement - Ms. King reported that the right-of-way acquisition has been completed for this project. She will set a date for auditing the files prior to receiving NMDOT certification. The design was broken out into phases and, since it has been on the shelf for a while, will need to be refreshed with Sauder Miller.

East Pinon Hills Boulevard Extension - The Community Works Director and City Engineer are beginning discussions on this project again.

20th Street - Phase III - This project is at 60% design and the acquisition process has begun. The City of Farmington is seeking property donations, but if unable to obtain the needed property through donation will have to go to an appraisal process. Most are willing to donate the property.

Red Apple Transit - Andrew Montoya

Mr. Montoya reported that beginning in January, Red Apple Transit will begin looking at some new shelters and a plan for replacement of the existing shelters.

San Juan County - Nick Porell

Chair Porell said there were no project changes from those noted in last month's minutes:

East Pinon Hills Boulevard Extension - The right-of-way acquisition process continues.

Glade Run Trails - This project is still in design with anticipated construction in the spring. Work continued on the environmental certifications required from both BLM and NMDOT.

CR 5500 Bridge Replacement - The design is 95% complete with right-of-way acquisition process started.

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

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

NMDOT District 5 - Matt Grush

NM 173 - This \$4,000,000 project is completed and is on the shelf with letting expected around October 2020.

NM 371 & N36 Intersection - The design level will be at 90% in a few weeks with letting expected in the spring of 2020. This is a primarily a Navajo Nation project. They are about \$400,000 short in needed funding which they will likely request from NMDOT.

NMDOT is providing support information for the project with traffic counts and pavement design.

There are also some other projects coming up in the next few years in San Juan County.

Mr. Grush said there have been several changes at District 5 with the retirement of Stephen Lopez and promotion of David Quintana. He will send the contact information for the new District 5 Construction contact, Sally Reeves, P.E. and the Maintenance contact, Ken Barnett, P.E. to FMPO Staff to share with the Technical Committee.

7. QUARTERLY EDUCATIONAL PRESENTATION - THE ROAD TO ZERO

Subject:	Quarterly Educational Presentation – The Road to Zero
Prepared by:	Mary L Holton, AICP, MPO Officer
Date:	November 6, 2019

PRESENTATION

From The Road to Zero's summary:

“Why Zero? Is This Really Possible?”

... the idea of a future with literally zero roadway deaths seems like a pipe dream. Roadway deaths—deaths due to traffic crashes—have been increasing, not decreasing, over the past two years. In 2016, more than 37,000 Americans died on the roads-5,000 more people than died in 2011.

The United States has made good progress in road safety over the long run, despite this recent backsliding, but incremental progress is no longer acceptable given the increasingly rapid advances in technology and the wealth of knowledge about how to prevent crashes. Inspired by the goals and progress in other countries, the broader traffic safety community is now working together to achieve a common vision—that by 2050, nobody would be killed in a traffic crash on U.S. roads.

Why zero? That raises the question, "What level of death on the roads should we as a society accept?" How many of our own family members, classmates, neighbors, or people in our community losing their lives to crashes would be considered an appropriate number? These deaths are preventable—the safety community deliberately calls them crashes, not accidents, for this very reason. Accident implies unforeseeable circumstances or a twist of fate, but crashes can be prevented. The number of roadway deaths has long been accepted as a "price" of mobility, but 37,000 deaths is more than 100 Americans killed per day. Imagine the outcry if plane crashes or natural disasters killed 100 Americans every day.

As to whether this is possible, the country has seen enormous improvements in safety in other areas. As of 2017, no commercial U.S. airline passenger flight has had a fatal crash since 2009, thanks in large part to a collaborative government/industry safety management system. The number of people who smoke has fallen by more than half in 50 years, thanks to education campaigns and laws limiting where people can smoke.

In addition, the experiences of other high-income countries show that more-significant change is feasible. In 2013, the U.S. roadway death rate was more than twice the average of other high-income countries, and almost all of those countries have seen greater improvement than the United States over the past two decades. Sweden, where the idea of Vision Zero began, has seen declines in its crash death rates of 50 percent or more, using the Safe System approach. A number of U.S. cities and states have also embraced this Vision Zero strategy.

While it will take a generation, the success of other countries and some U.S. cities demonstrates that a combination of approaches makes this an achievable goal.”

The Road to Zero Video: <https://www.nsc.org/road-safety/get-involved/road-to-zero>

DISCUSSION: Ms. Holton provided a presentation and a video on “The Road to Zero” and explained that the concept is to strive to achieve zero roadway deaths by the year 2050. She said this is a great goal but she was not advocating this and recommended the FMPO be conservative in their goals. She believed this education coincided well with the upcoming consideration of the PM 1 safety targets.

Ms. Holton said that some additional reading material on this subject had been emailed to the members along with the meeting agenda (“The Road to Zero; A Vision for Achieving Zero Roadway Deaths by 2020”). She also has additional information available that she will share with anyone who is interested. Additional materials distributed at the meeting included:

- U.S. Transportation Secretary Elaine Chao Announces Further Decreases in Roadway Fatalities;
- Durango Herald article from October 30, 2019 about car crash rates decreasing in 2018;

Mr. Fillerup asked where the FMPO stands on this issue and wondered if the Policy Committee had discussed a safety plan within the MPO. Because work on the MTP is underway, any discussion of a safety plan would need to come at the conclusion of the work on the MTP due to budget constraints. The safety plan that was discussed several years ago was encouraged by NMDOT, but was never required. Mr. Fillerup asked if this could be included in the future UPWP. Ms. Holton said it is referenced in the current UPWP but any focus on it would have to wait for the future.

Mr. Fillerup asked if Staff would assist the members in understanding how all the performance measures relate and how they get through to the project level as well as the relationship of those rules to projects and turning into criteria for scoring. Also of interest would be more guidance on how the targets play into decisions that NMDOT makes. Mr. Moriarty said he would take this question back to Jessica Griffin and Rosa Kozub for clarification.

8. REPORTS FROM NMDOT

Planning Bureau - Joseph Moriarty

Mr. Moriarty reported on the following:

- Local Government Project Transportation Fund Rulemaking - this has been posted on the NMDOT website which includes a schedule of public hearings, how to make comments, and contact information. Ms. Holton noted that all the information was emailed to the Technical Committee members;

Mr. Fillerup asked if this fund would lend itself to maintenance projects. Ms. Holton mentioned that a City of Farmington repaving project on San Juan Boulevard received an award. The members discussed other aspects of the fund and projects that might be considered to receive the funding.

- The draft Annual Performance & Expenditure Report (APER) is due to Mr. Moriarty on November 15;

- Annual Listing of Obligated Projects is due to be posted by December 15.

District 5 - Matt Grush

Mr. Grush had nothing further to add to the District 5 update.

9. COMMITTEE MEMBER DISCUSSION ITEMS

Subject:	Committee Member Discussion Items
Date:	November 6, 2019

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Chair Porell asked if there was an NWNMCOG update on their recruiting efforts. Ms. Holton said Staff had no update on this.

10. INFORMATION ITEMS

Subject:	Information Items
Prepared by:	Mary L. Holton, AICP, MPO Officer
Date:	November 6, 2019

INFORMATION ITEMS

- a. **F100350 Change in Funding Source for PE.** Staff reported last month that the NM Department of Energy was funding the design costs for the intersection improvements at NM 371 and N 36. NMDOT now reports that the Navajo Nation DOT will be providing the funding.

- b. **MPO Quarterly.** The next MPO Quarterly is scheduled for December 3 in El Paso. MPO staff plans to participate by phone.
- c. **Proposed 2020 Technical Committee Meeting Schedule.** Adoption of the proposed meeting calendar for 2020 will be considered at the December 11, 2019 meeting (see attached).
- d. **NM-LTAP Quarterly Advisory Committee Meeting.** The next NM-LTAP Quarterly Advisory Committee Meeting will be held on November 12. Please let Ms. Holton know of any training needed by your agency so that it can be discussed at the meeting.

DISCUSSION: a. Funding for the design portion of the project at the intersection of NM 371 and N 36 was reported last month to be by the NM Department of Energy. NMDOT has not stated that the Navajo Nation expects to fund the project.

b. The MPO Quarterly is on December 3 in El Paso. Ms. Holton will participate by phone.

c. The proposed 2020 Technical Committee meeting schedule (copy on Page 27 of the Agenda) will be considered at the December 11 meeting. Please let Staff know of any conflicts.

d. Ms. Holton plans to participate in the NM-LTAP Quarterly Advisory Committee meeting on November 12 by phone. Please let her know of any training you may want to take advantage up. The members said they would like to see more trainings held in San Juan County.

e. A copy of the paper 2045 MTP Survey was distributed to the members for their information and to make them available in their entity's public areas.

f. Staff shared a copy of the first public comment received on the recently distributed public comment card. The community member commented on the lack of street striping and lighting in the region.

g. A copy of a Public Information Meeting notice was received from NMDOT announcing an open house on November 14 at the Shiprock Chapter House to present plans for the US 64/491 San Juan Bridge Cross and roadway improvement project.

11. BUSINESS FROM THE CHAIRMAN, MEMBERS AND STAFF

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

12. PUBLIC COMMENT ON ANY ISSUES NOT ON THE AGENDA

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

13. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Flack moved to adjourn the meeting. Ms. King seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously and Chair Porell adjourned the meeting at 10:52 a.m.



Nick Porell Technical Committee Chair



June Markle, Administrative Assistant