

MINUTES
FARMINGTON METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION
TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEETING
October 14, 2020

Technical Members Present: Beth Escobar, City of Farmington
Virginia King, City of Farmington
Javier Martinez, NMDOT District 5
Scott Martin, San Juan County
Nick Porell, San Juan County
Dan Flack, Town of Kirtland

Technical Members Absent: Steven Saavedra, City of Aztec
Jason Thomas, City of Bloomfield
Andrew Montoya, Red Apple Transit

Staff Present: Peter Koepfel, MPO Officer
Kathryn Leys, MPO Associate Planner
June Markle, Administrative Assistant

Staff Absent: None

Others Present: None

Continuing to take health precautions, most of the members of the Technical Committee listed above as "Present" attended via GoToMeeting. Those attending in person were Chair Nick Porell and MPO Staff, Peter Koepfel, Kathryn Leys, and June Markle.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Nick Porell called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

2. APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM THE SEPTEMBER 9, 2020 TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEETING

Ms. Escobar moved to approve the minutes from the September 9, 2020 Technical Committee meeting. Ms. King seconded the motion. The motion to approve the minutes passed unopposed.

3. STATUS OF TIP PROJECTS

Subject:	Status of TIP Projects
Prepared by:	MPO Staff & Technical Committee Members
Date:	October 14, 2020

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)	ITS/Sys ENG Certification
ROW Certification	Public Involvement Certification
Design Completion 30 - 60 - 90%	
Environmental Certification	
Utilities Certification	
Railroad Certification	
Archeology Certification	

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
F100360 - CR 3000 Bridge Replacement
F100370 - CR 3500 Bridge Replacement
- NMDOT
F100170 - NM 173 Safety Improvements
F100340 - US 550 Pavement Rehab
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: The Technical Committee members presented updates/feedback on their current TIP projects:

City of Aztec - Steven Saavedra

Mr. Saavedra was unable to attend the meeting. Mr. Koepfel reported that the City of Aztec does plan to move funding for the Aztec East Arterial to FY2022 during TIP Amendment #5.

City of Bloomfield - Jason Thomas

Mr. Thomas was unable to attend the meeting; however, he provided an update to report that Phase I of the East Blanco Bridge project is underway.

City of Farmington - Virginia King

Foothills Drive Enhancement Phase II

The PS&E is complete and the obligation letter has been signed. The City of Farmington is awaiting the executed agreement from NMDOT. Bidding is anticipated in early 2021.

East Pinon Hills Boulevard Extension, Phases I and II

This project has been amended in the STIP from Informational to Fiscally Constrained. The City of Farmington plans to begin the environmental reassessment.

20th Street Phase III

The City of Farmington has requested a contract extension for the design. Work on the right-of-way acquisition continues with one property owner needed to sign the TCP in order to get the right-of-way certification. PS&E to be scheduled within the next month.

San Juan County - Nick Porell

CR 5500 Bridge Replacement

The right-of-way certification is with NMDOT. Following receipt of this certification, the project will be put out to bid.

Kirtland School Walk Path Extension

The design is ongoing. The milestone will be the 60% review.

Glade Area Recreation Area Trails Extension

The kickoff meeting with the contractor is scheduled for October 15.

NMDOT - District 5 - Javier Martinez

NM 173

NMDOT is waiting on the utility certification. Once the water line has been relocated by the City of Aztec, the PS&E can be scheduled.

US 550 Pavement Rehab

Although this project is in the outer years of the STIP, the survey has been completed.

NMDOT is moving forward on the agreement with the Navajo Nation. The plans are almost ready, but the final agreement is needed before the project is let.

4. REPORTS FROM NMDOT

District 5 - Javier Martinez

Mr. Martinez had no additional updates.

Chair Porell reported that San Juan County will be providing staff to support the highway litter clean-up day being planned by District 5 Maintenance for early November. If any other entities are interested in helping, let Chair Porell know. Mr. Martinez said to let him know the date of the cleanup and he would put out the word with the "adopt a highway" program volunteers for additional support.

Planning Bureau - Joseph Moriarty (provided written)

Mr. Moriarty was unable to attend the meeting, but provided the following written update:

Transportation Safety Plans

The NMDOT Planning Division has some remaining funding for "on-call" for consultant led local transportation safety plans. These plans are focused on T/LPA roads and/or community-wide projects. These funds recently funded a safety corridor study in Espanola and a community-wide safety study in Gallup. These Transportation Safety plans could be a foundation for pursuing additional safety funding. If interested, I would suggest the first step is discussing your idea with your MPO and District Engineering staff to "flesh out" a potential proposal. The department requires a written letter proposal that provides a justification for why you are seeking funding for a Transportation Safety Plan.

New Federal Fiscal Year

October 1st was the start of the new Federal Fiscal 2021. A notice to proceed was issued to the MPO so that you can proceed with your regional transportation planning activities. Related to this is that the FAST Act (Federal Transportation Bill) was extended through December 11, 2020 through a continuing resolution signed by the President at the end of September, (Continuing Appropriations Act, 2021 and Other Extensions Act (HR 8337). This means that it is "business as usual" for the Farmington MPO and for Federal Transportation funding programs at least through December 11.

Pedestrian Safety Action Plan

The Multimodal Planning and Programs Bureau is currently developing a state-wide Pedestrian Safety Action Plan. The next phase of the plan is to gather input from the public and stakeholders by conducting virtual workshops in late October and early November. We will work with your MPO staff to let you know when these workshops will be scheduled. We intend to release the draft plan for public comment in the winter of 2021.

Chair Porell suggested that, perhaps, Kirtland could partner with NMDOT to look at a pedestrian plan and access control along US 64 through Kirtland. Mr. Flack agreed and noted that this was on NMDOT's radar as well. Mr. Koepfel said that he would forward the information to the Committee and offered FMPO assistance if needed.

5. COMMITTEE MEMBER DISCUSSION ITEMS

Subject:	Committee Member Discussion Items
Date:	October 14, 2020

DISCUSSION ITEMS

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

6. INFORMATION ITEMS

Subject:	Information Items
Prepared by:	MPO Staff
Date:	October 14, 2020

INFORMATION ITEMS

- a. **Traffic Count Locations.** The Farmington MPO coordinates with NMDOT for collecting traffic count data. The majority of NMDOT traffic count locations are determined by the FHWA, however NMDOT has informed the MPO that there is some flexibility on traffic counting locations. Recommendations for additional traffic count locations need to be submitted to the MPO by December 14 to be considered by NMDOT.

A map of current traffic count locations is attached. An interactive map of traffic count locations can be found on our website (<http://fmtn.org/1093/Traffic-Counts>).

- b. **Traffic Software Checkout.** The MPO has available for use by all entities the licenses for the three travel demand modeling software programs available for use by all entities:

PTV Visum: Traffic analysis and forecasting
PTV Vissim: Multi-modal traffic flow simulations
PTV Vistro: Signal optimization and traffic impact

The software checkout policy is attached and is available on the MPO website (<http://fmtn.org/1099>).

- c. **Call for Projects for TIP Amendment #5.** The first Call for Projects for TIP Amendment #5 was made on September 21. The completed application and A-1340 form are due to the MPO Officer by October 12.

- d. **Updates to Website.** The MPO has recently updated their website to include interactive maps, including performance measures are projects in the TIP. A short demonstration will be given.

DISCUSSION: Ms. Leys reported on the FMPO traffic counts that are currently conducted by NMDOT in June and July each year. Pages 5-7 of the Agenda show the traffic count locations in the FMPO area as well as those within the entities. NMDOT does determine the count locations, but there is some flexibility with the list of locations. If there are any recommended additions or changes please send those to the FMPO by December 14 and they will be forwarded to NMDOT for consideration in 2021.

Ms. Leys also explained the checkout program and availability for use by any entity of the FMPO travel demand modeling and traffic planning software programs:

- PTV Visum - traffic simulation for macro level transportation planning;
- PTV Vissim - traffic simulation software for micro level modeling;
- PTV Vistro - traffic signal timing and traffic impact analysis tools.

Please visit the FMPO website to reserve any of the software.

Mr. Koepfel reported that the first Call for Projects for TIP Amendment #5 was made on September 21. Completed applications should already have been submitted to the FMPO.

Ms. Leys also reported on the recent updates to the FMPO website to include interactive maps and data visualizations. The FMPO is also expanding how performance measure information is displayed. The maps show the general state of some of the key performance measures that the FMPO sets goals for, as well as for the state's targets. Ms. Escobar recommended tracking visits to the FMPO website if that was not currently being done.

7. BUSINESS FROM THE CHAIRMAN, MEMBERS AND STAFF

Mr. Koepfel said the NMDOT has requested assistance with the location of traffic signals in the FMPO area. Ms. King recommended contacting Isaac Blueeyes with the City of Farmington's Traffic Division.

There was no addition 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

Ms. King moved to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Escobar seconded the motion. The motion passed with no opposition. Chair Porell adjourned the meeting at 10:19 a.m.



Nick Porell, Technical Committee Chair



June Markle, Administrative Assistant