

MINUTES
FARMINGTON METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION
TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEETING
June 9, 2021

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

Technical Members Absent: 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: Rosa Kozub, Planning Bureau, NMDOT

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Porell called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m.

2. APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM THE MAY 12, 2021 TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEETING

Ms. Escobar moved to approve the minutes from the May 12, 2021 Technical Committee meeting. Mr. Saavedra seconded the motion. The motion to approve the minutes passed unopposed.

3. NEW MEXICO TRANSPORTATION PROJECT FUND (TPF) PROJECT REVIEW

Subject:	New Mexico Transportation Project Fund (TPF) Project Review
Prepared by:	Peter Koepfel, MPO Officer
Date:	June 9, 2021

BACKGROUND

During the 2019 legislative session, the New Mexico legislature passed

HB 694, which created a new fund known as the “Local Government Transportation Project Fund” (LGTPF). The LGTPF serves as an expeditious mechanism to distribute appropriated funds to local governments using the NMDOT’s existing Metropolitan Planning Organization and Regional Transportation Planning Organization planning process. The Legislature changed the name of the fund during the 2020 Regular Session to the Transportation Project Fund.

Due to the timelines specified in HB 694, the NMDOT passed an emergency rule in mid- 2019 to administer the initial \$50 million appropriation. (No money was appropriated to the fund during the 2020 Regular Session). At the same time the State Transportation Commission authorized the adoption of an emergency rule, it authorized the adoption of a permanent rule and that rulemaking process is now complete.

CURRENT WORK

- The Project Oversight Division is soliciting applications for the Department's Transportation Project Fund (TPF) for fiscal year 2022 formally known as Local Government Transportation Project Fund (LGTPF).
- Local and tribal governments in New Mexico are eligible to apply for state funded grants.
- FMPO entities submitted projects to the MPO for potential TPF funding.
- The FMPO list of projects will be submitted to NMDOT by June 15.

ACTION ITEM

- Staff recommends that the Technical Committee review and finalize a list of projects for TPF funding.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Koepfel reported that the MPO received seven projects in response to the Transportation Project Fund call for projects (see preliminary list below).

Project	Entity	Description	Amount requested	Planning: Is this project identified as a priority on a local or regional planning or programming document? Is this project consistent with local or regional plans?	Project Readiness: If awarded, will the applicant be able to start spending the money within 3 months from receiving the fully executed project agreement?	Priority Bridge: Is this project addressing a bridge on NMDOT's Local Bridge Priority List for Replacement/Rehabilitation?	Phasing: a. Is this project part of a phased project previously funded with other state funds (e.g. Local Government Road Fund, Municipal Arterial Program, Capital Outlay, State Road Fund etc.)? b. Is this project part of a phased project previously funded with TPF? If so, what year?	Evaluation Criteria		Functional Class
								ADT (2019 & 2020)	# of Crashes (2015-2019)	
East Blanco Bridge	Bloomfield	Bridge replacement	\$383,000	MTP, TIP	Yes	Yes - fair condition	Yes	2550 & 2101	N/A	Minor Arterial
Foothills Dr. Phase 3	Farmington	Reconstruct road with travel lanes, bike lanes, roundabout, multi-use trail, and drainage improvements.	\$1,672,950	MTP, Comprehensive Plan, ICI, FMPO Bike Plan	Yes	No	Yes	2370 & 2114	7	Minor Arterial
Wildflower Pkwy	Farmington	Resurfacing	\$605,910	Comprehensive Plan	Yes	No	No	Before Wildflower Mesa Parkway: 9719 & 8008 After Wildflower Mesa Parkway: 7066 & 5822	55	Minor Arterial
CR 6100	San Juan County	Resurfacing	\$603,250	TIP, Capital Replacement Plan	Yes	No	No	1808 & 1408	21	Major Collector
Roads 6405	Kirtland	Resurfacing	\$114,950			No	No	N/A	4	N/A
Roads 6411	Kirtland	Resurfacing	\$114,950			No	No	N/A	2	N/A
McWilliams Rd.	Aztec	Paving + sidewalks	\$698,000	MTP, ICI, Comp Plan	Yes	No	No	3,243 & 2526	1	Minor Collector

The final prioritized list of FMPO projects must be to NMDOT by June 15. Mr. Koepfel asked if Mr. Martinez had any additional thoughts or guidance on the FMPO's proposed list, which totaled \$4,193,010.

Mr. Martinez stated that District 5 is anticipating \$20,000,000 for projects District-wide. That means that there is approximately \$5,000,000 for FMPO projects. In reviewing the preliminary FMPO list with the District Engineer, the list looked good assuming each of the projects met NMDOT's requirements. The District will be recommending that all FMPO projects be approved; however, Mr. Martinez recommended that the Committee prioritize the projects in the event the Cabinet Secretary's decision is different and he only approves the first few ranked projects from a list.

The Technical Committee discussion on the project list is summarized below:

- Blanco Bridge recommended to be at the top of the list as TPF funding would provide the money needed to complete the project;
- All projects have merit; there is funding for all the submitted projects; be as equitable as possible; perhaps prioritize with a tier system;
- The first four columns under "Evaluation Criteria" denote NMDOT project criteria: AADT, number of crashes, and functional class columns were included by MPO Staff;
 - The Committee needs to agree on the evaluation criteria;
 - Rank resurfacing projects on traffic counts/usage;
 - Use a tier system for the resurfacing projects;
 - Consider functional class in ranking projects;
 - Should the number of documents a project is listed in factor into the ranking;
 - How is "phasing" viewed when evaluating projects? Can be a positive if allows for project readiness or if a phase completes a project. Completing projects is the priority.
- Three projects tie into NMDOT rights-of-way and need letters of support from District 5:
 - Wildflower Parkway
 - NM 6405
 - NM 6411
- Time frame:
 - Upload to NMDOT by June 15
 - All applications will move forward for Cabinet Secretary and Transportation Commission consideration in August;
 - Contracts to entities for review in September or October;
 - Once contract is executed, the 30-day clock begins.
- Five percent of project funding must be spent in first three months;
- Progress not necessarily measured in dollars as long as project is moving forward;
 - Resurfacing project may set an anticipated schedule date for in the future (due to winter weather) and project would be on suspension until then.

- Committee reached consensus to allow project ranking to be decided by FMPO Staff;
 - Using evaluation criteria, ranking decisions are defensible.
- TPF to be an ongoing funding source, so plan and prioritize projects throughout the year; discuss quarterly with the Technical Committee;
- Funding next year is expected to be less (\$6,000,000 vs. \$20,000,000) for District 5 although additional funds could still be added when next year's budget is considered.

After Committee discussion of the projects and ranking criteria, the FMPO compiled and submitted the final ranked list of projects to NMDOT on June 14 (see below):

FMPO 2021 TPF Project Submittals

Project	Entlty	Description	Amount requested	Evaluation Criteria				AADT (2019 & 2020)	# of Crashes (2015-2019)	Functional Class
				Planning: Is this project identified as a priority on a local or regional planning or programming document? Is this project consistent with local or regional plans?	Project Readiness: If awarded, will the applicant be able to start spending the money within 5 months from receiving the fully executed project agreement?	Priority Bridge: Is this project addressing a bridge on NMDOT's Local Bridge Priority List for Replacement/R rehabilitation?	Phasing: a. Is this project part of a phased project previously funded with other state funds (e.g. Local Government Road Fund, Municipal Arterial Program, Capital Outlay, State Road Fund etc.)? b. Is this project part of a phased project previously funded with TPF? If so, what year?			
Tier 1										
East Blanco Bridge	Bloomfield	Bridge replacement	\$383,000	MTP, TIP	Yes	Yes - fair condition	Yes	2550 & 2101	N/A	Minor Arterial
Tier 2										
Foothills Dr. Phase 3	Farmington	Reconstruct road with travel lanes, bike lanes, roundabout, multi-use trail, and drainage improvements	\$1,672,950	MTP, Comprehensive Plan, ICIP, FMPO Bike Plan	Yes	No	Yes	2370 & 2114		7 Minor Arterial
McWilliams Rd	Aztec	Paving + sidewalks	\$698,000	MTP, ICIP, Comp Plan	Yes	No	No	3,243 & 2526		1 Minor Collector
Tier 3										
CR 6100	San Juan County	Resurfacing	\$603,250	TIP, Capital Replacement Plan	Yes	No	No	1808 & 1408		21 Major Collector
Wildflower Pkwy	Farmington	Resurfacing	\$605,910	Comprehensive Plan	Yes	No	No	Before Wildflower Mesa Parkway: 9719 & 8008 After Wildflower Mesa Parkway: 7066 & 5822		55 Minor Arterial
Roads 6405	Kirtland	Resurfacing	\$114,950			No	No	N/A		4 N/A
Roads 6411	Kirtland	Resurfacing	\$114,950			No	No	N/A		2 N/A
			\$ 4,193,010.00							

4. STATUS OF TIP PROJECTS

Subject: Status of TIP Projects
Prepared by: MPO Staff & Technical Committee Members
Date: June 9, 2021

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.
- Listed below are the projects currently on the FFY2020-2025 TIP.

- The Policy Committee approved the new FFY2022-2027 TIP on May 27, 2021, which becomes effective on October 1, 2021.

TRACKING INFORMATION

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
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/details regarding the status of current TIP projects.

DISCUSSION: The Technical Committee members provided their TIP project updates:

City of Aztec - East Aztec Arterial - Steven Saavedra

The City of Aztec is compiling and reviewing all available federal and local funding for this project. A TIP amendment may be needed to change the City's funding.

City of Bloomfield - Blanco Bridge - Jason Thomas

Mr. Thomas was not present at the meeting, but had provided a written update to report that Phase I of the Blanco Bridge project is complete and the City is seeking funding for Phase II.

City of Farmington - Virginia King

Foothills Drive Enhancement

The contract was awarded with a notice to proceed of June 21.

Pinon Hills Boulevard Extension

No updates

20th Street

The City is awaiting an executed cooperative agreement for construction before moving forward.

San Juan County - Nick Porell

Pinon Hills Boulevard

San Juan County and the City of Farmington are collaborating on a RAISE grant application for this project, as well as some legislative requests to state senators for funding through the pending transportation bill at the federal level.

County Road 5500

This project is two weeks into the construction contract. Within the next three weeks, half of the bridge will be demolished, the roadway reduced to one lane, and construction will begin on the new bridge.

Kirtland Schools Walk Path Extension

The agreement for this project is still working through the signature process at NMDOT. San Juan County hopes to get the project done this summer before the new school year.

Glade Run Recreation Area Trail Extension

BLM approved the NEPA document and issued a FONSI and a decision record on June 7. The project is now with NMDOT for the final environmental certification followed by a notice to proceed to construction. If the project is underway beginning in July, it is expected to be completed by September in time for the statewide outdoor recreation conference hosted by the City of Farmington.

NMDOT - District 5 - Javier Martinez

NM 173

The safety improvement project for NM 173 is ready for PS&E. It should go out to bid later this year with construction beginning next spring.

US 550 Pavement Rehab

This project is under design and will be a shelf-ready project.

NM 371 / N36

NMDOT is awaiting an agreement with the Navajo Nation before moving forward with the project.

5. REPORTS FROM NMDOT

Planning Bureau - Rosa Kozub

The draft 2045 Plan is out for public review until June 20. This is the state's long-range plan and overarching transportation goals.

The draft Pedestrian Safety Action Plan is also out for public comments until June 13.

Ms. Kozub asked the Committee to keep in mind the requirements and deadlines for the current Transportation Alternatives, Recreational Trails, and Congestion Mitigation, & Air Quality call for projects.

District 5 - Javier Martinez

Mr. Martinez reminded the Technical Committee members that the deadline for submittal of the list of projects for Transportation Project Fund (TPF) funding is June 15. The District will be working quickly to get the required signed PIFs and letters of support for the entities.

Chair Porell stated that the County Manager wanted to express his thanks to Mr. Martinez and NMDOT for the recent highway cleanup campaign and to say that their effort had not gone unnoticed! Mr. Martinez responded that it was a statewide effort by all NMDOT employees.

6. COMMITTEE MEMBER DISCUSSION ITEMS

Subject:	Committee Member Discussion Items
Date:	June 9, 2021

DISCUSSION ITEMS

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

7. INFORMATION ITEMS

Subject:	Information Items
Prepared by:	MPO Staff
Date:	June 9, 2021

INFORMATION ITEMS

There were no Information Items identified for this meeting.

8. BUSINESS FROM THE CHAIRMAN, MEMBERS AND STAFF

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

9. PUBLIC COMMENT ON ANY ISSUES NOT ON THE AGENDA

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

10. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Saavedra moved to adjourn the meeting. Ms. King seconded the motion. The motion passed with no opposition. Chair Porell adjourned the meeting at 10:42 a.m.



Nick Porell, Technical Committee Chair



June Markle, Administrative Assistant