

**MINUTES**  
**FARMINGTON METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION**  
**TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**July 14, 2021**

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

Technical Members Absent: Jason Thomas, City of Bloomfield  
Javier Martinez, District 5 NMDOT  
Andrew Montoya, Red Apple Transit

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

Staff Absent: None

Others Present: Shannon Glendenning, NMDOT  
Joseph Moriarty, Planning Liaison

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

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

**2. APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM THE JUNE 9, 2021 TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEETING**

Mr. Saavedra moved to approve the minutes from the June 9, 2021 Technical Committee meeting. Ms. Escobar seconded the motion. The motion to approve the minutes passed unopposed.

**3. TAP, CMAQ, AND RTP CALL FOR PROJECTS**

<b>Subject:</b>	TAP, CMAQ, and RTP Call for Projects
<b>Prepared by:</b>	Peter Koeppel, MPO Officer
<b>Date:</b>	July 14, 2021

**PRESENTATION**

Shannon Glendenning, NMDOT's Active Transportation Programs Supervisor, will provide an overview of the call for projects for the Transportation Alternatives,

Congestion Mitigation/Air Quality, and Recreational Trails programs. Ms. Glendenning's contact information is: [Shannon.glendenning@state.nm.us](mailto:Shannon.glendenning@state.nm.us) (505) 231-4300.

**PRESENTATION:** Below is a summary of Shannon Glendenning's presentation on the FFY2023+ Transportation Alternatives (TAP), Recreational Trails (RTP), and Congestion Mitigation & Air Quality (CMAQ) programs and the current call for project applications:

The call was issued in May and ends in October; application deadline is October 29, 2021 with agreements expected to be issued in March 2022;

Call for Projects Timeline	
May - October	Open call for projects
Now-July	Project feasibility meetings with MPO
July 12	Submit ADA Transition Plan/Title VI Plan to NMDOT's Construction Civil Rights Bureau to ensure eligibility for federal funding
Sept-Oct (MPO set date)	Applications due to MPO
October	MPO screen applications
October 29	TAP, RTP, & CMAQ applications due to NMDOT from MPO
Nov-Dec	NMDOT review of applications
Dec-Jan	Scoring committee meetings (each program has own scoring committee and criteria)
Feb-March 2022	Awards announced

The NMDOT Tribal/Local Public Agency (T/LPA) Handbook has all information on project applications from inception to closeout;

**Preparing for Call**

- Coordinate with MPO
- Confirm eligibility status (ADA/Title VI/Financial)
- Identify eligible projects supported in community
- Begin Project Feasibility Form (PFF) process as soon as possible
- Make progress on project: obtain cost estimate, collect data, initiate environmental reviews, obtain certifications (eligible under programs, but consider necessary timelines), conduct public outreach, etc.
- Solicit letter of support from pertinent entity.

**Eligible entities:**

- Local governments
- Tribal governments
- Transit agencies
- School districts
- NMDOT
- State/Federal governmental entities

Note: Nonprofits and MPOs/RTPOs are NOT eligible project sponsors. NMDOT is not eligible for TAP.

Considerations & Requirements:

- Reimbursement program and NOT disbursement
- Competitive process across state
- Required local match = 14.56% of total project
- Buy America requirement (steel, iron and coating)
- Certifications (ROW, ITS, environmental, rail, utilities)
- ADA Transition Plan or Policy
- Title VI Plan
- Financial review (audit findings)
- Coordination with MPO and NMDOT District 5

Previous Call Program Competitiveness:

- TAP - Requested \$28,104,661; Awarded \$12,365,129
- RTP - Requested \$4,681,172; Awarded \$3,334,470
- CMAQ - Requested \$38,511,512; Awarded \$16,533,410

Project Overviews

TAP

Fund active transportation focused projects that support alternatives to single occupancy vehicles. Goal is to leverage funds to further the multimodal and quality of life goals set forth in NMDOT's long-range plan (NM 2040 Plan)

Eligible Project Examples - Safe Routes to School programs, non-motorized, paved shared use paths, bicycle/pedestrian lighting and signage, Active Transportation Plans, etc.

FFY Annual TAP Funding	
<u>Annual Apportionment* (federal + local match)</u>	
Population: 5,001 - 200,000	\$1,253,916
Population: 5,000 or less	\$1,277,415
Flexible (any area)	<u>\$3,344,481</u>
TOTAL	\$5,875,811*

*\*All funding amounts are estimates and subject to congressional authorization*

RTP

Develop and maintain recreational trails and related facilities for both non-motorized and motorized uses.

Eligible Project Examples - maintenance & restoration of existing trails, development & maintenance of trail-side and trailhead facilities (no restrooms), construction of new trails, Statewide Trail Planning (not for local trail planning), trail design and certifications, purchase and lease of equipment, and educational programs.

FFY Annual RTP Funding	
<u>Annual Apportionment* (federal + local match)</u>	
Diverse Use:	\$635,257 (40% of total)
Non-Motorized:	\$476,443 (30% of total)
Motorized:	<u>\$476,443 (30% of total)</u>
TOTAL	\$1,588,144*

*\*All funding amounts are estimates and subject to congressional authorization*

CMAQ (Non-Mandatory)

For larger transportation projects (\$500,000 +) that contribute to air quality improvements and provide congestion relief with an emphasis on multi-modal projects: 1. Reduction in the number of vehicles trips and/or vehicles miles traveled (VMT); 2. Reduction of emissions related to congestion, and/or: 3. Reduction of per-mile emissions through improved vehicles and fuel technologies.

Eligible Project Examples - transit improvements, bicycle/pedestrian facilities that reduce vehicle trips (not exclusively recreational), roundabouts, HOV lanes, left-turn or other managed lanes, road diets, traffic demand management, active transportation network improvements, traffic calming measures, carpools or vanpools, diesel engine replacement/repowering (Buy America), electric vehicle charging infrastructure.

CMAQ Estimated Funding

Statewide competitive process

Approximately \$11 million per year (if NM remains in air quality attainment)

2023 is partially programmed; 14.56% local match required

CMAQ or TAP?

CMAQ

Diesel engine/locomotive retrofits  
Travel Demand management  
Roundabouts  
Carpool/Rideshare  
Parking pricing

TAP

Safe Routes to School  
Bike/Ped plans  
Traffic calming  
Vegetation and stormwater management

Both

Bike/Ped streetscape improvements  
Sidewalks  
Transit projects  
Multi-use paths

Positive Attributes of Successful Applications

Planning - project appears in, and is consistent with, numerous planning documents.

Narrative - responses are clear, compelling, and concise. Major claims are supported with data and documentation.

Consistency - responses are internally consistent.

Alignment - project demonstrates strong alignment with the purpose of the grant.

Impact - persuasive case that project will have a high impact and level of use.

The Committee thanked Ms. Glendenning for her presentation. Mr. Koepfel stated that he would be providing an email to the Committee members to outline the internal FMPO deadlines and project feasibility reviews. These projects come together fairly quickly and official Policy Committee action is not required.

#### 4. FUNCTIONAL CLASS CHANGES

<b>Subject:</b>	Functional Class Changes
<b>Prepared by:</b>	Peter Koeppel, MPO Officer
<b>Date:</b>	July 14, 2021

##### **BACKGROUND**

- All public roads are assigned a classification in the functional classification system. The classification scheme is a hierarchal list that relates to how roads function, as determined by a number of factors. The respective classification system for these factors rank roads from Interstates to Locals. Roadway classifications may also change at different points along a numbered or named route, depending on their characteristics.

##### **CURRENT WORK**

- The functional classification system changes with time, to reflect changes in population and traffic generators. A statewide system review occurs approximately every ten years, following the approval of urban boundary adjustments. The urban boundary adjustment is to be completed within two years of the release of the census, and the statewide functional system review is to be completed within the following three years. In New Mexico, submittals for a change of a roads classification between the statewide system reviews may be submitted once per year.

##### **APPLICABLE CITATIONS**

- 23 CFR § 470.105 Urban area boundaries and highway functional classification.

**DISCUSSION:** Mr. Koeppel explained that all public roads, from small local roads to major interstate highways, are arranged in a type of “hierarchy”. This roadway classification is based on lane width, traffic volumes, have shoulders or not, is roadway divided, and what is its function.

The functional classification system feeds into regional and statewide traffic modeling. The state updates their overall functional classification system every ten years and the MPO may submit their local roadway functional classification updates once per year. The deadline this year for updates is the end of August.

Functional classification changes may occur due to construction, growth, population movement among regions, and the construction of alternate routes. Mr. Koeppel gave the example of the road diet recently completed on Farmington’s Main Street. This roadway’s functional classification changed from a four-lane arterial to a two-lane collector street.

A copy of NMDOT’s guide to the functional classification system as well as the Change Request Form, was provided in the meeting Agenda (Pages 3-14). Mr. Koeppel asked

that any local functional classification changes be submitted to the FMPO by August 15. These will then be passed onto NMDOT for incorporation into the statewide mapping.

## 5. STATUS OF TIP PROJECTS

<b>Subject:</b>	Status of TIP Projects
<b>Prepared by:</b>	MPO Staff & Technical Committee Members
<b>Date:</b>	July 14, 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)	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 - 20<sup>th</sup> 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**

No updates.

**City of Bloomfield - East Blanco Bridge - Jason Thomas**

Mr. Thomas was unable to attend the meeting and no update was provided.

**City of Farmington - Virginia King**

**20<sup>th</sup> Street**

Executed agreement was received and the project went out for bid on July 11.

**Pinon Hills Boulevard Phase I & II**

No update.

**Foothills Drive Enhancement Phase II**

Under construction.

**San Juan County - Nick Porell**

**Pinon Hills Boulevard Phase III**

No active movement although San Juan County and the City of Farmington continue to work with New Mexico's congressional delegation to ensure the project is considered for any federal transportation program funding.

**CR 5500 Bridge**

The bridge is under construction and moving smoothly. Traffic is still weight restricted with one lane open. A new lane should be completed by October and the load restriction lifted at that time.

**Kirtland Schools Walk Path**

Awaiting a construction agreement from NMDOT.

**Glade Run Recreation Area Trails Extension**

Awaiting a notice to proceed to construction from NMDOT. San Juan County recently obtained an extension on this project through December. It is hoped that construction

will be substantially complete in time for the Outdoor Economic Conference to be held in Farmington in late September and October.

**NMDOT - District 5 - Javier Martinez**

Mr. Martinez was unable to attend the meeting and no updates were provided.

**6. REPORTS FROM NMDOT**

**Planning Division - Joseph Moriarty**

Mr. Moriarty reported that FHWA is hosting a pre-value capture webinar series for agencies looking for innovative funding and financial strategies to pay for transportation projects. For more information, please contact Mr. Moriarty or the FMPO for registration information.

**District 5 - Javier Martinez**

Mr. Martinez was not in attendance.

**7. COMMITTEE MEMBER DISCUSSION ITEMS**

<b>Subject:</b>	Committee Member Discussion Items
<b>Date:</b>	July 14, 2021

**DISCUSSION ITEMS**

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

**8. INFORMATION ITEMS**

<b>Subject:</b>	Information Items
<b>Prepared by:</b>	MPO Staff
<b>Date:</b>	July 14, 2021

**INFORMATION ITEMS**

- a. Update on the Farmington 2040 Comprehensive Plan. Ms. Beth Escobar will present this update.

**DISCUSSION:** Ms. Escobar shared that on July 6, the City of Farmington began an intensive 30-day push for public outreach and comment on their draft 2040 Comprehensive Plan. The interactive plan document is found at <http://www.fmtn.org/917/2040-Comprehensive-Plan>. The specific transportation



element of the Plan is on Page 17 of the document and the City is seeking feedback on the concepts noted. One of the newer areas of the Plan is micro-mobility and ride-sharing. Ms. Escobar said that the City has been approached by an e-bike business asking for a franchise in Farmington, which generated questions about sidewalks in town, bike lanes, and how to manage and monitor this type of program.

**9. BUSINESS FROM THE CHAIRMAN, MEMBERS AND STAFF**

Mr. Porell commented that San Juan County is still trying to hire an Engineer for their Public Works Department.

**10. PUBLIC COMMENT ON ANY ISSUES NOT ON THE AGENDA**

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

**11. ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Saavedra moved to adjourn the meeting. Chair Porell seconded the motion. The motion passed with no opposition and Chair Porell adjourned the meeting at 10:38 a.m.

  
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Nick Porell, Technical Committee Chair

  
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June Markle, Administrative Assistant