

M I N U T E S
FARMINGTON METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION
TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEETING
August 11, 2021

Technical Members Present: Steven Saavedra, City of Aztec
Jason Thomas, City of Bloomfield
Beth Escobar, City of Farmington
Virginia King, City of Farmington
Javier Martinez, NMDOT District 5
Andrew Montoya, Red Apple Transit
Nick Porell, San Juan County
Dan Flack, Town of Kirtland

Technical Members Absent: None

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

Staff Absent: None

Others Present: 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 JULY 14, 2021 TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEETING

Ms. Escobar moved to approve the minutes from the July 14, 2021 Technical Committee meeting. Mr. Saavedra seconded the motion. The motion to approve the minutes passed with no opposition.

3. QUARTERLY EDUCATION

Subject:	Quarterly Education:
Prepared by:	Peter Koeppl, MPO Officer
Date:	August 11, 2021

PRESENTATION

Staff will provide an overview of the Highway Functional Classification system.

PRESENTATION: As the Committee education for the quarter, Mr. Koeppel provided an overview of the Highway Functional Classification system. The following is a summary of the presentation:

Highway Functional Classification System - Why?

- Used to determine which roads, streets and highways are eligible for federal transportation funds;
- Used to establish design criteria for various roadway features;
- Serves as management tool to measure the importance of routes in project election and program management.

Highway Functional Class - What?

Generally, roads provide either mobility or access for vehicles to reach locations. Mobility is determined by the vehicular speed and the distance of the roadway without interruption. Its focus is moving travelers from point A to B in the most efficient way. Interstates, freeways and arterials are roadways with high mobility because they move a large volume of vehicles at higher speeds with fewer access points.

- All roads that are open for public use and access are assigned a classification;
- The classification is a hierarchical list that relates to how the road functions (as determined by a number of factors);
- The system for these factors ranks roads from Interstate (Code 1) to Local (Code 7);
- Classifications may change at different points along a numbered or named route, depending on its characteristics.

Assigned Code	Classification
1	Interstate
2	Other Freeways and Expressways
3	Other Principal Arterial
4	Minor Arterial
5	Major Collector
6	Minor Collector
7	Local

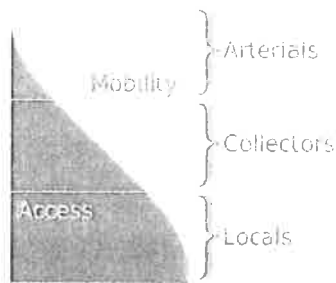
Definitions

Arterial - includes interstates and expressways, as well as roads that carry most of the traffic entering and leaving urban areas. Access is controlled or limited allowing for higher traffic volumes and speeds.

Collector - provides traffic circulation within residential, commercial, and industrial areas and carry trips to and from arterials.

Local - includes residential and other “small” streets. These are typically not identified on functional classification maps.

Access is determined by the frequency of entry and exit points on a roadway. Local and collector roads typically have a higher level of accessibility because there are more interruptions (intersections, driveways, etc.).



Each class has distinct characteristics to help define its function:

- Lane width
- Inner and outer shoulder width
- Average Annual Daily Traffic (AADT)
- Directional separation
- Access
- Vehicles Miles Traveled (VMT)
- Other qualitative and quantitative attributes

Maps of the regional functional classification system are shown on Pages 2 and 3 of the Agenda and can be found at:

<https://maps.fmtm.org/portal/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=a604b49eb7c14e3e8c3aded4013e003c>

Mr. Koepfel asked the Technical Committee members to review the roadway classifications in their community and to let Staff know if a roadway functions differently so that reclassifying it can be reviewed and discussed.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Thomas asked what the roadway classification needed to be to be eligible for state MAP funds. Mr. Martinez explained that the Municipal Arterial Program (MAP) requires that a roadway be designated as an arterial.

4. STATUS OF TIP PROJECTS

Subject:	Status of TIP Projects
Prepared by:	MPO Staff & Technical Committee Members
Date:	August 11, 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 (see also Page 5 of the Agenda for the preliminary updates):

City of Aztec - Steven Saavedra

The City of Aztec is working to provide the NMDOT requested letter showing the required fiscal constraint for the East Arterial project.

City of Bloomfield - Jason Thomas

The City of Bloomfield provided the requested fiscal constraint letter to NMDOT for the East Blanco Bridge project.

There are still some minor design revisions being done along with a plan to purchase another piece of property. If all awards come through, the project should be fully funded assuming the bids come in within the City's budget.

Chair Porell commented that the bridge contractor working on the CR 5500 bridge asked if there were other upcoming projects in the county they might be considered for. Chair Porell said if the Bloomfield project went out to bid in the next six months or so, this contractor might be interested in bidding. He said he would provide them with Mr. Thomas' contact information.

City of Farmington - Virginia King

Foothills Drive Enhancement

This project is under construction.

East Pinon Hills Boulevard

No update.

20th Street

Phase III went out to bid on July 11. Bid opening is scheduled for August 12.

San Juan County - Nick Porell

CR 5500 Bridge

Construction is ongoing with two and one-half months of an eleven-month contract completed. One new lane of the bridge is expected to be completed in October. Traffic would then move over to the new lane and the load restriction lifted.

Kirtland Walk Path Extension

The construction agreement was received from NMDOT. The County expects to bid the project this fall with an award around the first of 2022 to allow for construction to begin as soon as weather permits.

Glade Run Recreation Area Trails Extension

Awaiting the construction agreement from NMDOT.

District 5 - Javier Martinez

NM 173 Safety Improvements

District 5 has the needed 2021 highway safety funds for the project on NM 173 and the project is ready at PS&E. However, the utility certification is holding up construction because the water line has yet to be relocated. If the water line is not moved before the project goes out to bid (set for November), the project will be pulled and the funding will be lost until, at the earliest, 2024. Mr. Saavedra replied that as of August 10, NMDOT should have the City of Aztec's plans to move forward with the moving the

water line. He suggested a meeting of all the parties so that this project can move forward.

US 550 Pavement Rehab

The survey is completed. The next step is getting the plans ready so this project is shelf ready and, when funds do become available, construction can begin.

NM 371 & N 36

NMDOT negotiating the agreement with Navajo DOT. Once signed, the project is ready to go out to bid and begin construction.

5. REPORTS FROM NMDOT

Planning Bureau - Joseph Moriarty

NMDOT has finalized the 2045 Plan, which is the long range statewide plan. It is available for viewing on NMDOT's website under the Planning Division tab.

NMDOT has also just adopted the Pedestrian Safety Action Plan. Implementation will begin in the upcoming months.

All FMPO member LPAs are compliant with ADA and Title VI requirements as of August 1. Agencies must continue to comply in order to receive federal funding.

NMDOT is planning to schedule a combined MPO and RTPPO meeting in September to discuss the TPF and any other issues of interest to both groups.

District 5 - Javier Martinez

District 5 did recommend approval of the seven projects submitted by the FMPO for TPF funding. The Transportation Commission is holding a special meeting this month to look at the District's proposal and, hopefully, give their approval to all the projects submitted. Mr. Martinez hoped to have an update on the projects approved by the Commission at the next Technical Committee meeting.

Chair Porell asked if Mr. Martinez knew if any NMDOT or District 5 projects were able to get into the legislative infrastructure bill. Mr. Martinez said he would get a list of the projects submitted and have it available for the next meeting. Mr. Koeppel added that he had heard that none of the earmarks had made it into the Senate bill.

6. COMMITTEE MEMBER DISCUSSION ITEMS

Subject:	Committee Member Discussion Items
Date:	August 11, 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:	August 11, 2021

INFORMATION ITEMS

a. RTP/CMAQ/TAP Call for Projects.

Please submit PFFs for any projects that you are considering to MPO staff by August 13.

Subsequently MPO staff and applicants will schedule meetings with NMDOT to go over those forms and make any necessary changes.

Applications will be due to the MPO by September 30, allowing sufficient time to evaluate them for eligibility and completeness.

The MPO will submit completed applications to NMDOT by October 29

b. Metropolitan Statistical Areas Re-Designation.

The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) has announced that they will be maintaining the Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) threshold of 50,000. The official announcement can be found here:

<https://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/briefing-room/2021/07/13/office-of-management-and-budget-announces-2020-standards-for-delineating-core-based-statistical-areas/>

DISCUSSION: Mr. Koepfel reminded the Technical Committee members to submit any potential projects for RTP, CMAQ, and/or TAP funding to Staff by August 13. Once the project PFFs are received, Staff will schedule meetings with NMDOT and the applicants to review the forms and update as necessary.

The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) announced that the Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) threshold would remain at 50,000. Additionally, there is pending legislation to have the 50,000 remain into perpetuity.

Chair Porell asked if the designation of a "macro" MSA area had been included. Mr. Koepfel said this could occur in the future, but there should not be any negative impact for FMPO.

Ms. Escobar asked if a Policy Committee member would be included in the FMPO review of the RTP, CMAQ, and TAP applications. Mr. Koepfel replied that the projects would be selected by NMDOT. FMPO staff, project applicants, and NMDOT District 5 will hold feasibility meetings to ensure the applications are complete.

8. BUSINESS FROM THE CHAIRMAN, MEMBERS AND STAFF

Mr. Thomas asked if the RTPO entities had an agreement, or would there be interest in creating an MOU, to rotate award dollars so that a larger share of funding could go to one agency one year and to another agency the next (i.e.: with MAP and LGRF funds). Chair Porell said that this had not occurred. Mr. Thomas thought this might be an idea to consider so that instead of receiving only partial project funding from several different NMDOT funds and the subsequent administrative burden. Chair Porell thought this would better be considered in regard to TPF funding as it is a larger pot of money and the projects are ranked for this program.

Mr. Moriarty recommended this be discussed at the upcoming joint MPO and RTPO meeting.

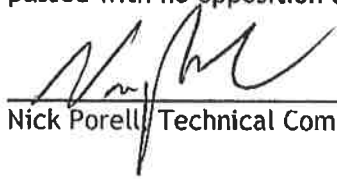
There was no additional business from the Chairman, Members and Staff.

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

Ms. King moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Thomas seconded the motion. The motion passed with no opposition and Chair Porell adjourned the meeting at 10:33 a.m.



Nick Porell, Technical Committee Chair



June Markle, Administrative Assistant