

**MINUTES**  
**FARMINGTON METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION**  
**POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**August 26, 2021**

Policy Members Present

Rosalyn Fry, City of Aztec  
Julie Baird, City of Farmington  
Jeanine Bingham-Kelly, City of Farmington  
Sean Sharer, City of Farmington  
Steve Lanier, San Juan County

Policy Members Absent:

George Walter, City of Bloomfield  
Paul Brasher, NMDOT District 5  
GloJean Todacheene, San Juan County  
Town of Kirtland Representative

Staff Present:

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

Staff Absent: None

Others Present: None

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Sharer called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m.

**2. APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM THE JUNE 24, 2021 POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING**

Commissioner Lanier moved to approve the minutes from the June 24, 2021 Policy Committee meeting. Councilor Bingham-Kelly seconded the motion. The motion passed with no opposition.

**3. QUARTERLY EDUCATION – HIGHWAY FUNCTIONAL CLASSIFICATION**

<b>Subject:</b>	Quarterly Education:
<b>Prepared by:</b>	Peter Koeppel, MPO Officer
<b>Date:</b>	August 26, 2021

**PRESENTATION**

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

**PRESENTATION:** As a quarterly educational presentation, Mr. Koepfel provided an overview of the Highway Functional Classification system. The following is a summary of that presentation:

Highway Functional Class – What?

- 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

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.

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.).

Highway Functional Class – How?

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

Highway Functional Class – 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.

Maps of the regional functional classification system are shown on Pages 2 and 3 of the Agenda and are also available at:

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

The classifications can be updated with NMDOT once per year. Mr. Koepfel encouraged the Policy Committee members to speak with their Technical Committee representative about roadway classifications in their community to ensure they are accurate so that appropriate funding may be applied for when applicable.

**4. REPORTS FROM NMDOT**

**District 5 – Paul Brasher**

Mr. Brasher was unable to access the meeting.

**Planning Bureau – Joseph Moriarty**

Mr. Moriarty was unable to attend the meeting.

**5. COMMITTEE MEMBER DISCUSSION ITEMS**

<b>Subject:</b>	Committee Member Discussion Items
<b>Date:</b>	August 26, 2021

## DISCUSSION ITEMS

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

## 6. INFORMATION ITEMS

<b>Subject:</b>	Information Items
<b>Prepared by:</b>	MPO Staff
<b>Date:</b>	August 26, 2021

## INFORMATION ITEMS

- a. **RTP/CMAQ/TAP Call for Projects.** Technical Committee members submitted the Project Feasibility Forms (PFF) for projects they want considered for funding under this Call for Projects to MPO staff by August 13.

MPO staff and the entities will meet with NMDOT to go over the forms and make any necessary changes.

Finalized applications will be due to the MPO by September 30 to allow sufficient time to evaluate them for eligibility and completeness before submitting them 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/>

c. **New Mexico Transportation Project Fund (TPF).** The FMPO and the Technical Committee submitted seven projects for potential Transportation Project Fund (TPF) funding for fiscal year 2022 to NMDOT's District 5 on June 14. The District recommended approval to the State Transportation Commission of all of the FMPO's projects. The Transportation Commission meets the week of August 23 to review and consider approval of the projects submitted. The FMPO should know by September 1 which projects will receive funding.

**DISCUSSION:** Mr. Koepfel reported that Staff is working with the Technical Committee members to arrange meetings with NMDOT to discuss their Recreational Trails, Congestion, Mitigation & Air Quality, and Transportation Alternative Programs (TAP/CMAQ/TAP) project feasibility forms. This process will allow the communities to receive feedback and strengthen their applications before submittal by October 29.

The proposal to re-designate the Metropolitan Statistical Area threshold from 50,000 to 100,000 was retracted due to the overwhelming number of negative comments received during the public comment period. There is legislation in the Senate to retain the 50,000 threshold into perpetuity.

The State Transportation Commission met this morning and announced that six of the seven FMPO projects submitted for funding under the state's Transportation Project Fund (TPF) recent call for projects were approved. The projects that will receive funding are:

Aztec – McWilliams Road paving/sidewalks  
Bloomfield - East Blanco Bridge  
Farmington - Foothills Drive, Phase III  
Kirtland – Roads 6405 and 6411 resurfacing  
San Juan County - CR 6100 resurfacing

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

There was no 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**

Councilor Bingham-Kelly moved to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Lanier seconded the motion. The motion passed with no opposition. Chair Sharer adjourned the meeting at 10:43 a.m.

  
Sean Sharer, Policy Committee Chair

  
June Markle, Administrative Assistant