

MINUTES
FARMINGTON METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION
TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEETING
April 12, 2023

Technical Members Present:

Colby Gibson, CDBG Planner FMTN
Lisa Hale-BlueEyes, San Juan County
Nick Porell, San Juan County
Virginia King, City of Farmington
Dan Flack, Town of Kirtland
Andrew Montoya, Red Apple Transit
Prudence Brady, City of Bloomfield

Technical Members Absent:

Javier Martinez, NMDOT District 5
Beth Escobar, City of Farmington

Staff Present:

Peter Koepfel, MPO Officer

Staff Absent:

Olivia Groeber, MPO Associate Planner

Others Present:

Shannon Glendenning, Planning Liaison, NMDOT
Aaron Sussman, Toole Design
Cherita, Planning
Mike Safrany
Mark Hathcock, Traffic Engineering
Rachelle Crosby
New outdoor rec. guy
Ruben from Aztec

1. CALL TO ORDER

Nick Porell called the meeting to order at 10:03 am.

2. APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM THE MARCH 8, 2023 TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEETING

MOTION - Colby Gibson

SECOND - No opposed, all said aye

Colby Gibson moved to approve the minutes from the March 8, 2023 Technical Committee meeting. All said aye, none opposed seconded the motion. The motion to approve the minutes passed unopposed.

3. MPO BOUNDARY AND URBAN AREA UPDATE: Overview of 2010 and 2020 Decennial Census Urban Areas and potential need for MPO boundary update.

Presented by Peter Koepfel

-UAs are provided by Census Bureau after each Decennial Census (late as the last census occurred in 2020), criteria for UA changes per census for example this time they were based on the housing density rather than population density (for MPOs and DOT it is how to fund projects urban/ rural)

-Cheat sheet of who does what/ when provided → changing the UAs and the MPO boundary is a GIS exercise that is essentially more of a smoothing process

-our boundary has never been adjusted, we have an area in Bloomfield where a UA is outside the boundary for whatever reason we need to adjust based on that

-cannot reduce UA areas, no holes/ islands (contiguous), roadway in same class

Nick Porell: County is a member of the RTPPO, non-participatory right now, not expand to be all non-tribal lands as it would be a bit much, go to highway corridors

-thoughts to get all 173, 550, etc. only change business-wise could change the contribution per entity (maybe county portion would go up while others decrease a bit), no changes to the joint powers agreement as adding another jurisdiction complicates things a bit

Coby Gibson - Q: consider going further south on the boundary?

-not particularly need to except that 371 and 550 extend those directions but those areas further east do not serve anyone except perhaps oil and gas

-extending up to CO makes sense based on projects we have and where a lot of people travel/ live/ where growth may occur

4. COMMITTEE BYLAWS AND OPERATING PROCEDURES UPDATE: Overview of update.

Presented by Peter Koepfel

-every 3 years renew, hybrid format (hope we can continue to allow), as long as it is in tune with the open meetings act (1995?), difficult or impossible (wording of the statute)

Nick Porell - feels strongly about face-to-face group, mandatory in person attendance perhaps (ask legal) for good standing on the committee

5. BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN PLAN UPDATE

Presented by Aaron Sussman, from Toole Design Group

-Work session after for stakeholders, public meeting in the evening at the Civic Center

-Complete street facility types, how that can inform the bikeway improvement opportunities, gaps and opportunities for improving pedestrian infrastructure across the region, preview of the work session after TC meeting

-clearly defined recommendations, design elements for those improvements

-regional connection and local networks (corridors), day-to-day trips

- survey results: presented a few months ago, how to incorporate into the plan: majority of people do some of time mainly recreation purposes (not aversion, but want to allow for wider range of trips, need infrastructure for those uses though)
- level of separation (has a huge impact on comfort/ decision making for mode taken)
- other thoughts feasibility, apparent right of way along width of different road (small improvements not crazy cost projects)
- most bicyclists are curious/ interested but concerned, need some level of comfort → how to create comfort, more separation (appeals to a larger range of users)
- complete streets facility types is how organizing (6 types), design guidance comes with - bicycles in correct context for each type of roadway (have all pedestrian ways not all need bike ways)
- how to quantify comfort- level of traffic stress: inputs widths, mixed traffic, number of lands, posted speed, etc. LTS increase as speeds and volume go up generally, more space and separation lower LTP conditions
- Priority Pedestrian Areas - population density (sq mi), crashes, and destinations (things to make the area more pedestrian friendly)
- next: review concepts and specific locations, missing areas (?), other modifications at smaller scale

Nick Porell: need to include a class of users that don't have a choice (Social Justice category), those are often those seen on highway 64, 516, 550
 Bikes that don't work well in a high stress situation. How to plan for those, add to the plan - forced users in stressed areas are the most vulnerable.

6. STATUS OF ENTITY PROJECTS

**FARMINGTON METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION
 Agenda Item #4**

Subject:	Status of Entity Projects
Prepared by:	MPO Staff & Technical Committee Members
Date:	April 12, 2023

BACKGROUND
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 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 current entity projects some of which are part of the FFY2022-2027 TIP. ▪ The Policy Committee approved the new FFY2022-2027 TIP on May 27, 2021, which became effective on October 1, 2021.

ATTACHMENT
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The Status Report Table of project updates received from Technical Committee members. Subsequent project updates will be presented by members during the committee meeting.

INFORMATION ITEM
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ This is an information item only. Committee members will have an opportunity to provide any needed feedback/updates/details regarding the status of current projects.

Status Reports – Entity Projects – April 12, 2023			
Aztec	F100091	East Aztec Arterial Phase III	90% reviews completed, grants recertified, waiting for NM legislative approval of budget

	F100410	McWilliams Rd.	Received 50% of plans, design underway, ROW acquisition is in progress
Bloomfield	F100300	East Blanco Bridge	Issues with ROW, access, still need to get a permit (want to contact Javier and get in contact with Army Corp of Engineers)
Farmington	F100099	Foothills Drive Enhancement Phase II	No change
	F100100 F100101 F100102	East Pinon Hills Blvd Extension Phase I	FHWA approved the request to waive the ROW accusation process at the end of February, 90% of the design review meeting with NMDOT was done March 2 nd , ROW cert. letter submitted march 6 th , project management requests March 21 st , ARS forms submitted 22 nd , working with Army Corps on permit application, NMDOT plans on submitting application by April 6th (404 permit)
	F100132	20 th Street Phase III	Construction restarted, at 95% complete, need landscaping and asphalt patching
	F100390	Foothills Drive Phase III	One theme E need to acquire from BLM, updating design (hoping to get in next few weeks)
	TF00001	Red Apple Transit	West facilities grant due tomorrow, resubmitting again for next year
Kirtland	F100420	CR 6405	Bid and awarded to 4-Corners Material, start in August, full depth reconstruction
	F100430	CR 6411	
San Juan County	F100021	East Pinon Hills Blvd Extension Phase III	Waiting on ROW agreement (NMDOT),
	F100320	Kirtland Schools Walk Path Extension	In agreement issue, some non-compliant ADA issues to be done with NMDOT
	F100360	CR 3000 Bridge Replacement	More or less done, a hybrid construction approach, some by contractor some county, local funds
	F100370	CR 3500 Bridge Replacement	Same as 3000
	F100400	Lower Animas Valley River Trail	Early phase master plan on review, sending out shortly
			No one from NMDOT to speak about projects
NMDOT	F100170	NM 173	
	F100350	NM 371/Navajo 36	
	F100351	NM 371/Navajo 36	
	F100340 F100341 F100342	US 550 pavement rehab	(N. Porell) Traffic control up and work has begun, one way each direction

DISCUSSION:

Aztec - Steven Saavedra

Bloomfield - Prudence Brady

Farmington - Virginia King

Kirtland - Dan Flack

San Juan County - Nick Porell

NMDOT - Javier Martinez

5. REPORTS FROM NMDOT

Planning Bureau - Shannon Glendenning

Update on carbon reduction strategy - reduce on-road CO2 emissions, state wide meeting May 10th all welcome to attend

Working on projects for trails, in carbon reduction strategy (not linked), trying to get funds out

Hiring - Bike/ Ped/ Equestrian Coordinator, Sothern Planning Liaison in Las Crucis

FHWA safe roads for all opportunity closes July 10th, for implementation of projects

New ADA, Title VI Coordinator - asking for resubmittal by Sept. 18, 2023 (Peter has contact info) for compliance

In construction civil rights program - trainings for certification in federal aid funding - mitigate risk for funding

Transit Bureau - statewide transportation study - meeting in Gallup April 18th, identify projects probably not funding

District 5 - Javier Martinez

No updates

DISCUSSION:

There was no further discussion form the committee.

6. INFORMATION ITEMS

Subject:	Information Items
Prepared by:	MPO Staff
Date:	April 12, 2023

INFORMATION ITEMS

- a. Update on MPO Quarterly, March 14, 2023
- b. MPO Boundary and Urban Area Update
- c. 2024 Transportation Project Fund Calls for Projects
- d. Committee Bylaws and Operating Procedures Update

DISCUSSION:

Wrong PFF form for transportation projects was sent out need form 1373 not 1341
Will correct and resend correct form.

Nick Porell: Exchange with D5 need for a letter of support from district engineer, they will not be writing because MPO needs to rank the project to see if funding is available.

Peter Koepfel: We do not control funding on this project.

Nick Porell: Agreed.

Discussion: collect projects, rank in tiers, collection of applications by May 31st, but challenge with funding, letters, and submittals, etc.

No response from D5. MPO follow up on letter requirement by May 31st.

7. BUSINESS FROM THE CHAIRMAN, MEMBERS AND STAFF

There was no additional 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

MOTION - Colby Gibson


SECOND - All opposed say ay, none opposed

TIME - 11:05 am

Colby Gibson moved to adjourn the meeting. None opposed and seconded the motion. The motion passed with no opposition. The meeting at 11:05 am.



Nick Porell, Technical Committee Chair



MPO Staff