



Santa Fe Metropolitan Planning Organization

"Promoting Interconnected Transportation Options"



Santa Fe MPO Transportation Policy Board

Thursday May 28, 2015, 4:30 P.M.

*City of Santa Fe Offices @ Market Station
500 Market Street, Suite 200, Santa Fe, NM*

(Map: <http://tinyurl.com/l6kejeg>)

AGENDA

CITY CLERK'S OFFICE

DATE 5/19/15 TIME 2:27pm

REMOVED BY Mark Tibbets

RECEIVED BY Licia Hartung

CALL to ORDER

ROLL CALL

APPROVAL of AGENDA

APPROVAL of MINUTES: *March 19, 2015*

A. MATTERS FROM THE PUBLIC

B. PUBLIC HEARING

1. Approval of Amendment 8 of the FFY2014-2017 Transportation Improvement Program – *MPO Staff*

C. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION:

1. Presentation of the New Mexico Transportation Plan – *Claude Morelli, NMDOT*

D. MATTERS FROM THE MPO STAFF

1. Update on Draft Public Transit Master Plan
2. Update on Draft Pedestrian Master Plan
3. Metropolitan Transportation Plan 2015-2040 Update
4. Development of the FFY2016-2019 Transportation Improvement Program
5. Transportation Improvement Program Updates
6. Other Updates

E. MATTERS FROM THE SFMPO TRANSPORTATION POLICY BOARD

F. MATTERS FROM THE NMDOT AND FHWA

G. ADJOURNMENT – Next Scheduled Meeting June 25, 2015

Persons with disabilities in need of accommodations, contact the City Clerk's office at 955-6520, five (5) working days prior to the meeting date.

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**MINUTES OF THE
SANTA FE
MPO TRANSPORTATION POLICY BOARD
Market Station
May 28, 2015**

CALL TO ORDER

The Santa Fe MPO Transportation Policy Board was called to order by Chair Carmichael Dominguez, at approximately 4:40 p.m., on May 28, 2015, at Market Station 500 Market Street, Suite 200, Santa Fe, New Mexico.

ROLL CALL

Members Present

Councilor Carmichael Dominguez, Chair
Commissioner Miguel Chavez, Alternate for Commissioner Anaya
Councilor Patti J. Bushee
Tamara Haas, DOT
Governor Robert Mora, Tesuque Pueblo

Members Excused

Commissioner Henry Roybal, Vice Chair
Commissioner Robert Anaya
Mayor Javier Gonzales
Commissioner Liz Stefanics

Others Present

Mark Tibbetts, MPO Officer
Keith Wilson, MPO Planner
Erik Aune, MPO Planner
Elizabeth Martin for Melessia Helberg, Stenographer
David Quintana
Jasen Coffey
Ray Matthew

At the time the meeting was called to order, there was not a quorum of the Board in attendance. The Chair said the Committee can receive reports, and began with Agenda Item C(1). With the arrival of Councilor Bushee, there was a quorum, and following the completion of discussion under Item C(1) the Board completed the balance of the agenda.

C. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION

1. PRESENTATION OF THE NEW MEXICO TRANSPORTATION PLAN (CLAUDE MORELLI, NMDOT)

Jason Coffey presented the New Mexico Transportation plan via slide presentation. Please see the slide presentation in the packet for specifics of this presentation.

Councilor Bushee arrived at the meeting

Chairman Dominguez said then there there are not two strategies per goal.

Mr Coffey said no, commenting he will go into more detail in a few minutes.

Commissioner Chavez asked what tier is the WHIP route in.

Mr. Coffey said it is in Tier 2, in the category with NM 599. He said they are proposing that the northern part be in Tier 3.

Commissioner Chavez asked the reason for that.

Mr. Coffey said he is not sure. He said if approved overall, there will be further discussions and decisions about what roads will go in what tier.

Ms. Haas said it was put into the lower tier due to the amount of traffic, noting that all of U.S. 285 from Santa Fe to the WIPP site is in that tier.

Commissioner Chavez said then that section acts both as a federal highway and the WIPP route.

Ms. Haas said yes. What it did was to incorporate funding to put the highway system and the federal highway in one group, noting this is one proposal, and some refinement will need to be done.

Chairman Dominguez said so then everything else is in Tier 4, including local roadways.

Councilor Bushee said we have not fared well in the National ratings, and asked if urban versus rural is a factor in this.

Mr. Coffey said yes. He said the plan is set out to have urban and rural equity. It will create a framework for decision making, noting all of that is built into the plan.

Councilor Bushee said is there a funding formula, but it seems have had less money. She asked if the administration has an emphasis on cutting back the amount of funding that is available.

Mr. Coffey said he doesn't pick that up at his level, commending that they use a lot of federal funding, and there are built in restrictions on how the funds are spent, noting they are a Statewide agency.

Chairman Dominguez asked how the public meetings are being advertised.

Mr. Coffey said they will do press releases to the newspapers, plus they are relying on the MPO and the TPO partners to help them spread the word.

Chairman Dominguez said in communities where there is a lot of poverty, communications are a challenge. He asked if there has been thought given to the strategy to get the word out to as many people as possible.

Mr. Coffey said there are concerns around that issue that they are doing their best to address. He said they are using the best means that are available to them but it is an ongoing challenge. He said all of this is important and it affects peoples' lives.

Chairman Dominguez noted that only 3 public meetings are planned.

Mr. Coffey said yes, in this phase, but previously there have been many meetings.

Chairman Dominguez thanked Mr. Coffey for his presentation and for the information.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION: Governor Mora moved, seconded by Commissioner Chavez, to approve the Agenda as presented.

VOTE: The motion was approved unanimously on a voice vote.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – March 19, 2015.

MOTION: Commissioner Chavez moved, seconded by Governor Mora, to approve the minutes as presented

VOTE: The motion was approved unanimously on a voice vote.

A. MATTERS FROM THE PUBLIC

There were no Matters from the Public.

B. PUBLIC HEARING

1. APPROVAL OF AMENDMENT 8 OF THE FFY 2014-2017 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (MPO STAFF)

Keith Wilson reviewed the amendment which is in the Board packet.

Mr. Wilson said staff is seeking approval, noting the the MPO-TCC has recommended approval of the amendment.

Commissioner Chavez asked if we are talking about the projects on the one page in our packet.

Mr. Wilson said there actually are more than two pages, noting we are going from a four year TIP to a six year TIP.

Commissioner Chavez said so we are looking at pages 15 and 16 of the packet.

Mr. Wilson said we are also adding page 16 for the Northeast Connector and the Southeast Connector.

Commissioner Chavez said so you will ask for public comment again and then will approve this request, and Mr. Wilson said this is correct.

Public Hearing

There was no one speaking to the request.

The Public Testimony Portion of the Public Hearing Was Closed

MOTION: Commissioner Chavez moved, seconded by Councilor Bushee, to approve Amendment 8 of the FFY2014-2017 Transportation Improvement Program, as presented.

VOTE: The motion was approved unanimously on a voice vote.

D. MATTERS FROM THE MPO STAFF

1. UPDATE ON DRAFT PUBLIC TRANSIT MASTER PLAN

Mr. Aune reviewed the proposed *Chapter 6: Strategies*, which is in the Board packet. Please see this document for specifics of this presentation.

Mr. Aune said this represents eighteen months of work. He said currently we are in the 30-day public review phase at this time. The TCC will be invited to recommend to you approval of this document. He said at the last TCC meeting, all of the service providers were supportive of the proposed draft "at the end of the day."

Commissioner Chavez said he believes Santa Fe County provided information from the County as well.

Ray Matthew, Santa Fe County Transportation Planner, said he forwarded comments to the staff and the County took formal action for their Regional Plan to be included in this Plan.

Mr. Aune said a lot has been occurring as the plan was developing.

Commissioner Chavez said, regarding the Mountain Trail Route and the private trail, those are minor but specific details that need to be included. He said connectivity, the ability to meet the public needs and to be flexible are critical.

Mr. Matthew said the MPO staff has received the County's recommendations to include the latest updates.

Mr. Aune said the public comment period ends at the end of this week.

Mr. Aune said a lot of leg work was done, and he has been hearing that progressive steps are happening.

Councilor Bushee departed the meeting

Mr. Aune said he also made this presentation to the Transit Advisory Board.

Commissioner Chavez asked if that means it will stand alone but will be incorporated into services provided by Santa Fe Trails.

Mr. Aune said it will be moved to the Transit Division. He said buses will be here this fall to accommodate ADA folks. He said the buses will not have confusing advertisements on them, commenting that marketing and training will be done as well.

Commissioner Chavez asked how many drivers we will have.

Mr. Aune said there will be 6 drivers.

Commissioner Chavez said then they will not be Transit employees.

Mr. Aune said that is correct, and we will be unrolling all of the details in the next couple of weeks.

Commissioner Chavez asked if the bus still will do the Canyon Road pick up.

Mr. Aune said yes as well as the circulation downtown.

2. UPDATE ON DRAFT PEDESTRIAN MASTER PLAN

Mr. Tibbetts said we have basically completed the draft. He said a few issues were brought up at TCC at its meeting on May 18, 2015. He said staff is working to bring the implementation side into a bit more specific project development rating process, noting this information is in the Board packet.

Mr. Tibbetts said they came up with ten areas of critical concern, and our focus is to prioritize those. He said we are in the process of refining the Plan before it is released for public review. The general theme is multi-modal levels of service, noting they are looking at it comprehensively and for all users. He said we expect to have this ready for public release in the next couple of weeks and to have it for review and approval at the August meeting of the MPO Policy Board.

Ms. Haas asked if there is a separate component for ADA.

Mr. Tibbetts said it integrates with the Transition Plan. He said the first phase is to identify areas of critical concern such as ADA improvements and coordination, noting it is prioritized by activity efficiency.

3. METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION PLAN 2015-2040 UPDATE

Mr. Aune said the Plan is on the MPO website where we have been adding chapters along the way, and we will continue to update the site as it is modified. The TCC will be asked to recommend this plan for approval to this Board by August 24, 2015, noting the Schedule is in the Board packet.

4. DEVELOPMENT OF THE FFY2016-2019 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

Mr. Wilson noted the information is in the packet, and noted this is the other part of the TIP conversation.

Mr. Wilson said we have a well defined process, noting the TCC carries most of the work. He said we had a call for projects earlier this year, and 6 projects were submitted, 3 from the DOT and 3 from the City of Santa Fe. He said the project that rose to the top is the St. Francis/St. Michaels Interchange improvements.

Commissioner Chavez said the dollar amount seems to have changed.

Mr. Wilson said \$8 million was the number that came out of the study.

Commissioner Chavez said the interim improvements were based on the last public meeting.

Mr. Quintana said they have just received a compilation of comments from their consultants, he hasn't had a chance to review them. He said they will be meeting with the DOT staff to review the comments with them and make a recommendation. He said the full closure of the intersection is one option, construction of a raised median and the do nothing alternative are options as well.

Commissioner Chavez asked if that will go before the TCC.

Mr. Quintana said it will go to the TCC then to the MPO Policy Board.

Commissioner Chavez said he wants to keep that on his calendar and asked Mr. Tibbetts to share that timeline with Tessa and his staff.

Chairman Dominguez asked, regarding the \$8 million, if there are any other improvements to the frontage road.

Mr. Quintana said that will be reviewed, noting it will be a diamond interchange.

Mr. Wilson said this is a wish list, and the lower table shows what already is programmed in the current TIP. It came down to a combination of factors. He said roughly \$6 million is available to our MPO area.

Mr. Wilson reviewed the proposed TIP projects on the chart, which is in the Board packet, noting this is out for public review at this time. He said action will be taken at the June 25, 2015 meeting, and there will be one public meeting on June 2, 2015.

5. TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM UPDATES

Mr. Wilson reviewed the updates which are in the Committee packet.

Chairman Dominguez asked if this is the only diverging diamond interchange in the state.

Mr. Quintana said yes, and this will be the first one.

Chairman Dominguez said it is an interesting concept and design.

Commissioner Chavez commented that there will be a learning curve, but because of what we have to work with there is no way around it.

Chairman Dominguez said he is excited about this project.

Mr. Quintana said when drive through the interchanges, he believes you will find it to be easier than you think.

6. OTHER UPDATES

There were no other updates.

E. MATTERS FROM THE SFMPO TRANSPORTATION POLICY BOARD

Commissioner Chavez said he is concerned about the lack of surface transportation, commenting that we need to provide permanent funding for surface transportation, and hopefully we can work on that.

Chairman Dominguez commented that the nationwide costs of infrastructure are into the trillions.

Commissioner Chavez said he hopes we can keep this discussion moving forward.

Chairman Dominguez said he may not be able to attend the June meeting.

F. MATTERS FROM THE NMDOT AND FHWA

Ms. Haas said District Engineer Miguel Gabaldon's last day is tomorrow. She said she has concerns about the availability of federal funding, noting they are watching this very carefully. She said they have signed an extension of MAP 21, and said hopefully Congress will take more significant action.

Commissioner Chavez said now is the time to send the message to Congress.

Ms. Haas said everybody needs to made recommendations to our New Mexico Congressional Delegation that we need a long term fix, commenting they are just looking at offsets right now.

Mr. Wilson said the anticipated deadline is July 31, 2015.

Commissioner Chavez said we need adequate funding.

Ms. Haas said they have to provide some funding for this extension, but have not identified funding for the long-term, permanent fix.

Commissioner Chavez asked if the MPO can write a letter to our Congressional Delegation and asked if that would make a difference.

Mr. Wilson said due to our funding source, we are prohibited from lobbying for funds.

Ms. Haas said the Santa Fe County Commission and the City Governing Body can write a letter to them.

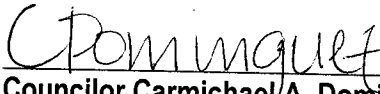
Mr. Wilson said the difference is that we are 100% federally funded.

Ms. Haas said they don't lobby, they just just write a letter.

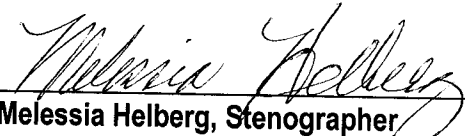
Ms. Haas said the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking closes tomorrow at midnight.

G. ADJOURNMENT – Next scheduled meeting June 25, 2015

There was no further business to come before the Board, and the meeting was adjourned at approximately 6:20 p.m.



Councilor Carmichael A. Dominguez, Chair



Melessia Helberg, Stenographer