Santa Fe MPO Technical Coordinating Committee

Monday December 12th, 2011, 1:30 P.M.

**City Councilors' Conference Room*
City Hall, 200 Lincoln Avenue, Santa Fe, NM
***Note Change from Regular Meeting Location**

AGENDA

CITY CLERK'S OFFICE
DATE 12-6-11 TIME 2:46pm
SERVED BY Keith Wilson
RECEIVED BY

- Call to Order
- Roll Call
- Approval of Agenda
- Approval of Meeting Minutes from October 24th, 2011

1. **Communications from the Public**
2. **Items for Discussion and Possible Action:**
   a. Review and Approval of the 2012 Meeting Schedule – *MPO Staff*
   b. Review and Release for Public Review proposed amendments to the Santa Fe Metropolitan Transportation Plan 2010-2035 – *MPO Staff*
   c. Review and Release for Public Review proposed amendments to the FFY 2012-2015 Transportation Improvement Program – *MPO Staff*
   d. TIP Project Updates – *MPO Staff*
   e. Update on the status of the Federal Transportation Bill Reauthorization – *MPO Staff*
3. **MPO Officer Report**
4. **Communications from TCC Members**
5. **Adjourn** - Next TCC Meeting: Monday January 23rd, 2012

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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SFMPO-TCC MEETING
December 12, 2011

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MINUTES OF THE
SANTA FÉ MPO
TECHNICAL COORDINATING COMMITTEE
December 12, 2011

CALL TO ORDER

A regular meeting of the Santa Fé MPO Technical Coordinating Committee was called to order on the above date by Chair John Romero at approximately 1:30 p.m. in the Councilors' Conference Room, City Hall, 200 Lincoln Avenue, Santa Fé, New Mexico.

ROLL CALL

Roll call indicated the presence of a quorum as follows:

MEMBERS PRESENT:
Mike Kelley for Jon Bulthuis – Santa Fé Trails
Shelley Cobau – Santa Fé County
Phil Gallegos for Miguel Gabaldon – NMDOT District 5
Andrew Jandáček – Santa Fé County
Eric Martínez – City of Santa Fé
Jack Valencia for Tony Mortillaro – NCRTD
Tamara Baer for Greg Smith – City of Santa Fé
Ryan Swazo-Hinds – Tesuque Pueblo

MEMBERS EXCUSED:
John Romero, Chair - City of Santa Fé [excused]
Richard Macpherson for Reed Liming – City of Santa Fé [excused]
Robert Martínez – Santa Fé County

STAFF PRESENT:
Mr. Keith Wilson, Senior MPO Planner
Mr. Mark Tibbetts, MPO Officer

OTHERS PRESENT:
Mr. Claude Morelli, NMDOT
Mr. Steve Coca - SW Bellamah Neighborhood Association.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Ms. Baer moved to approve the agenda as presented. Ms. Cobau seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous voice vote.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES - October 24, 2011

Mr. Martínez asked for clarification on page 2, item 2 in Mr. Hinds response he said, "There are several possibilities, one being the use of an on-call contract and the other going to RFP.

Ms. Cobau said on page 7, sixth paragraph it should say that there were many accidents at the new Walmart.

Mr. Valencia moved to approve the October 24, 2011 minutes as amended. Mr. Gallegos seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous voice vote.

1. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

Mr. Steve Coca, from Vista del Prado and SW Bellamah neighborhood assn (president) introduced himself and said he was just taking notes today..

2. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION

a. Review and Approval of the 2012 Meeting Schedule

Mr. Wilson said the proposed schedule was in the packet. The TPB had recommended having fewer meetings but longer meetings. He showed the five meetings for TPB that were scheduled at times needed for submissions of reports.

Ms. Cobau noted that in August there was one TPB meeting but they would have 3 TCC meetings just before that meeting. She asked if that many were necessary.

Mr. Wilson agreed they might not but this provided a monthly schedule. For a TIP amendment TPB approved after the public review and TCC recommendation to TPB.

Ms. Cobau moved to approve the 2012 MPO Meeting Schedule. Mr. Martínez seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous voice vote.

b. Review and Release for Public Review proposed amendments to the Santa Fé Metropolitan Plan 2010-2035

Mr. Wilson shared a letter from District 5 asking the MPO to amend the plan that was in the packet. This project would receive funding only if added to the MTP. He included a couple of maps to show the project and listed the projects in several tables where amendments would be proposed.

Because the money was already identified it would just be added into the fiscal constraints as coming from outside the district for this project.

Mr. Gallegos clarified that they put it into the STIP and he previously thought it was outside of this MPO found out it wasn't. So it needed to be included in this MPO's STIP. The ramps were currently too short and clearance was only 13'. They were getting severe seepage through the box there. It had been in their program a long time so they were going to replace it. To get the right geometry for it the location might be altered. There were historic preservation and wildlife issues to consider and some other factors.

Ms. Cobau asked about traffic volume there.

Mr. Gallegos acknowledged that it was fairly light. He didn't know what the rating was.

Ms. Baer asked what that was.

Mr. Martínez explained it was part of the bridge inspection system that graded its sufficiency.

Mr. Gallegos said the scale went from 1 - 200 and anything over 70 was pretty good. Below 70 needed work. He offered to get the rating for the Committee. Since this bridge served the interstate traffic it needed to be replaced.

Mr. Jandáček asked if the traffic volume warranted lengthening the ramps.

Mr. Gallegos said it was a federal requirement regardless of traffic volume.

Ms. Cobau felt the $7 million could have been allocated to a higher priority project - one that had a greater need.

Mr. Gallegos said this was a project-specific allocation and could not be changed. If the location had been outside the Santa Fé MPO area, it would not have become part of the MPO STIP. He said it was a project with an 80/20 match and the NMDOT was providing the match.

Mr. Jandáček asked if the DOT did any evaluation for what other interchanges could have used this money.

Mr. Gallegos said no. It was specifically for this bridge and it would only be used for that bridge.

Ms. Cobau said it was just a ramp to eastbound and westbound I-25.

Mr. Gallegos said it also served as one entrance to the Glorieta Monument.

Ms. Cobau said an owner with the land grant had been in negotiations for land trades. She asked if it

was too late in the process for public input.

Mr. Gallegos said no. They just started with the first public meeting in September. It was still in phase A.

Ms. Cobau asked if that land owner had been present at that hearing.

Mr. Gallegos said he would have to check but they did notify all owners in the area.

Mr. Wilson said the process at this meeting was not an approval but to send if out for the30-day public review and after that the TCC would vote on it for recommendation to the TPB.

Ms. Cobau wanted to express the discord of Santa Fé County. It made them look stupid to spend $7 million for 340 cars when they had other places with so much more need.

Mr. Gallegos countered that the bridge served all interstate traffic so it was much more that 340; it was about 14,000 per day. The District had a bridge priority list based on structural deficiencies to make sure they were safe for the public.

Ms. Cobau asked if they could eliminate that bridge by just filling it in with dirt.

Mr. Gallegos said they could not. There were federal spacing requirements to follow and the next intersection was at Lamy after this one which was about 3-4 miles further. The funds were specific. Some was programmed on a statewide basis. $25 million was the fiscal year target for the year so DOT programmed the needs for what they had. They determined how to fund the projects. This one was an interstate bridge and FHWA was coming down hard on the DOT to make sure all interstate bridges met the federal standards. DOT had tackled almost all of them on I-40 but this one and one other at Valencia had been there a long time.

Ms. Cobau recalled when they discussed the NE and SE Connectors Mr. Gallegos said they had criteria to follow from the corridor studies - the corridor study, the location study, the alignment study, the environmental study.

Mr. Gallegos said the money was there for the study and he hadn't heard anything about that one.

Ms. Cobau said she would find out.

Mr. Martínez understood the importance of safety issues but what Ms. Cobau was talking about was that in phase A there was an Environment Analysis.

Mr. Gallegos agreed. And they were going to phase B for that. It wasn't always enforced when they didn't have the construction money available. It was similar to the way they did the Cerrillos project. Unless the National Transportation Bill was re-authorized the money would all stop at the end of March. That was

why the County needed to get the PIF in for the NE/SE Connector.

Mr. Jandáček noticed this was proposed for the 2013 TIP and asked if it would get moved to 2014 if they didn't get the money. If so, he wondered if there were other projects that were going to compete for those funds.

Mr. Gallegos said if this one were to fall out, they would have to rearrange it and this money would potentially become available to the MPO, depending where they were next summer. They might have to put it all into interstate overlays.

Ms. Cobau felt there were not that many people who would be inconvenienced by using the Clines Corner turn off instead.

Mr. Gallegos explained that if they closed that one, they would have to build a frontage road on that side and acquire a good mile and half of ROW. To change the geometry they would have to move it SE about 1000 ft.

Mr. Wilson thought they could just rehabilitate the culvert and forget about the ramps.

Mr. Gallegos said FHWA wouldn't allow that. That was a location where NPS started tour buses for the monument. It had all been looked at in the study. He offered to have their consultant report to the TCC at a future meeting before the next public hearing.

Mr. Tibbetts said this funding was just for design and they might not get construction funding.

Mr. Gallegos said if the 37% reduction happened, it would go on a statewide list and this would receive a priority. If it were to be closed it would get emergency need status.

Mr. Martínez moved to approve the project for release to the public for 30-day review. Mr. Gallegos seconded the motion and it passed by majority voice vote with all voting in favor except Ms. Cobau who voted against.

c. Review and Release for Public Review proposed amendments to the FFY 2012-2035 Transportation Improvement Program

Mr. Wilson went through the changes. This was an annual grant application for Santa Fé Trails and it needed a separate control # each year. This could be done administratively for FY12 and 13. He was just waiting for the control numbers.

The third was the Caja Del Rio Road Improvements - even though it was just County bond funding.

Ms. Cobau said the County should have plans as of this week.

Mr. Gallegos said it had regional impact so it needed to be on the STIP.

Mr. Jandáček asked when that PIF needed to be submitted.

Mr. Wilson said as soon as possible.

Mr. Martínez asked why it should be put on the TIP if it was fully funded by the County.

Mr. Wilson said it was because it was regionally significant. It was probably more for record keeping than anything else.

Ms. Cobau thought the general public when looking at these numbers would be confused.

Mr. Wilson said that was why they would have a public meeting.

Ms. Cobau asked about reducing the length of on-off lanes.

Mr. Gallegos said it depended on speed limits. We want those getting on to be able to match the speed of those traveling on it.

Ms. Cobau felt it would be good to have a discussion with FHWA on it.

Mr. Martínez moved to release the TIP amendments for 30-day public review. Mr. Gallegos seconded the motion and it passed by majority voice vote with all voting in favor except Ms. Cobau who voted against.

d. TIP Project Updates

Mr. Wilson said Dave Quintana did a comprehensive review last time and this should be kept on the agenda for future meetings.

Mr. Gallegos reported that the St. Francis project went out for bid last Friday. He was unable to check on the low bidder but they were on schedule.

The 62 interchange would be out for bid in January. DOT was now doing the final touches on it.

For Cerrillos Road they were gathering data and looking for alternatives. There was no change from last time.

The Washington Avenue project was moving forward and would be part of the fiscal year closeout. The city contributed to extend it to the east so that would be incorporated into it.

The Jaguar Interchange had individual funding and was moving for construction sometime next year.

Mr. Martínez asked if St. Francis was still planned with traffic detour.

Mr. Gallegos was not sure when it would happen but the contractor had set March through April to close that ramp.

Ms. Cobau asked if they would have any art work on the St. Francis bridges.

Mr. Gallegos said no.

Ms. Cobau asked about Cañoncito.

Mr. Gallegos said no.

Mr. Wilson asked about an update on Las Soleras train station.

Mr. Gallegos said there was nothing new.

Mr. Wilson gave a brief report on the redesigned drop off at Zia Station. It would not allow any parking and would be reviewed by Mr. O'Reilly and Mr. Pino.

Mr. Wilson said the next step was for DOT to allow it to open and assurance that construction would meet safety standards. The property owner committed to construct those improvements and submit plans to the City for approval. When they did the lease schedule, Zia was to be updated for stops as one in Albuquerque was considered. It would be sometime in the next six months. The state approval for Las Soleras was dependent on a state office facility being located there.

e. Update on the status of the Federal Transportation Bill

Mr. Tibbetts said the Senate version was on the move right now.

Mr. Wilson summarized the work on the two versions. They were talking about getting rid of enhancements as a stand-alone. It had language about authorizing MPO's for populations over 200,000 and Santa Fé MPO had120, 000, this MPO could disappear. A number of small MPOs around larger MPOs might be consolidated. They could be looking at existing funding levels or maybe huge cuts. There were significant differences in the two bills like 6 year vs. 2 year. There would probably be no approval until after the presidential election.

3. MPO OFFICER REPORT

Mr. Tibbetts said a new two-year UPWP would be brought to the January meeting. It had to be approved by the TPB in April. Staff would try to get a lot more input before then. There were a few other issues - traffic count model and other data and working on implementation.

They would have an update on the public participation plan in April so the first quarter would be busy with those.

Mr. Morelli asked if they would have the UPWP by January 23rd.

Mr. Tibbetts agreed. There were not many substantial changes.

Mr. Valencia asked what the RTD needed to do now that he would no longer be coming.

Mr. Tibbetts said they should send a letter indicating the name of the representative.

4. COMMUNICATIONS FROM TCC MEMBERS

Mr. Valencia announced his retirement in 8 more days.

Ms. Cobau announced that Jack Kolkmeyer was retiring on Friday and having a party at San Francisco Bar and Grill.

Mr. Jandáček thanked Mr. Valencia for all of his efforts in transportation for Santa Fé County.

Ms. Baer said Tim Rogers and Mr. Wilson did a great presentation to the Planning Commission at their last meeting.

Mr. Wilson said they were just about finished with the series of presentations. The City allocated $4 million in the GO bond for trails and open space and the Parks Commission approved that.

Ms. Baer said the Commission was confused about why so much money was being spent on Cerrillos Road.

Mr. Gallegos said having to replace the bridge was the bottom line. They also needed to address southbound to Beckner Road.

Mr. Wilson said there was a potential to create a great bikeway if they took out those two bridges.

Mr. Jandáček asked on what date the TCC would review the bikeways master plan.

Mr. Wilson thought they might have it ready by the January TCC meeting.

Mr. Morelli said DOT got a grant two years ago for public outreach for pedestrian safety and Anne McLaughlin and Tom Trowbridge have been working on it. The media theme was "Look for Me." He brought hats and said they also had posters as well as funds for some bus wraps. He invited everyone to take one of the hats and wear them. He also asked to make a presentation to the TPB in April.

Mr. Wilson asked if he could also come in January to TCC. Mr. Morelli agreed.

5. ADJOURNMENT - Next Meeting: Monday January 23, 2012

Mr. Gallegos moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Valencia seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous voice vote.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:05 p.m.

Approved by:

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John Romero, Chair

Submitted by:

Carl Boaz, Stenographer