

# Santa Fe Metropolitan Planning Organization

*"Promoting Interconnected Transportation Options"*



## Santa Fe MPO Transportation Policy Board

**Thursday August 9, 2012, 4:00 PM**

*Santa Fe City Council Chambers  
200 Lincoln Avenue, Santa Fe, NM*

### AGENDA

CALL to ORDER  
ROLL CALL  
APPROVAL of AGENDA  
APPROVAL of MINUTES: June 25, 2012

CITY CLERK'S OFFICE

DATE 7-30-12 TIME 10:02am

SERVED BY Kerth Wilson

RECEIVED BY [Signature]

**A. MATTERS FROM THE PUBLIC**

**B. PUBLIC HEARINGS**

1. Approval of Amendments to the FFY 2012-2015 Transportation Improvement Program – *MPO Staff*

**C. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION:**

1. TIP Project Updates – *MPO Staff*
2. Update on the status of the Federal Transportation Bill Reauthorization – *MPO Staff*
3. Feedback on the FHWA/NMDOT Review of the Santa Fe MPO held on July 18 & 19 – *MPO Staff*

**D. MATTERS FROM THE SFMPO TRANSPORTATION POLICY BOARD**

**E. MATTERS FROM THE MPO STAFF**

**F. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE NMDOT AND FHWA**

**G. ADJOURNMENT** – Next meeting, Thursday November 8, 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-TPB MEETING**  
**August 9, 2012**

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B. PUBLIC HEARINGS		
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C. DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION		
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**MINUTES OF THE  
SANTA FÉ MPO  
TRANSPORTATION POLICY BOARD  
August 9, 2012**

**CALL TO ORDER**

A regular meeting of the Santa Fé MPO Transportation Policy Board was called to order on the above date by Board Chair Danny Mayfield at approximately 4:20 p.m. in the Santa Fé City Councilor's Conference Room at City Hall, 200 Lincoln Avenue, Santa Fé, New Mexico.

**ROLL CALL**

Roll call indicated the absence of a quorum as follows:

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Commissioner Danny Mayfield, Chair  
Deputy Secretary Katherine Bender, NMDOT  
Councilor Patti Bushee, City of Santa Fé 4:26  
Mayor David Coss, City of Santa Fé  
Commissioner Liz Stefanics, Santa Fé County

**MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Commissioner Robert Anaya, Santa Fé County  
Mr. Robert Mora, Tesuque Pueblo  
Councilor Ron Trujillo, City of Santa Fé

**STAFF PRESENT:**

Mr. Mark Tibbetts, MPO Officer

Also present: David Quintana, NMDOT

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**Mayor Coss moved to approve the agenda as presented. Commissioner Stefanics seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous voice vote.**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES – June 25, 2012**

**Commissioner Stefanics moved to approve the minutes of June 25, 2012 as presented. Mayor Coss seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous voice vote except for Councilor Bushee who abstained.**

#### **A. MATTERS FROM THE PUBLIC**

There were no matters from the public.

#### **B. PUBLIC HEARING**

##### **1. Approval of an Amendment to the FFY 2012-2015 Transportation Improvement Program**

Mr. Tibbetts said the amendment was in the packet as a spreadsheet. Number 12 was the amendment - for Old Santa Fé Trail bicycle lanes study and design. It was a Santa Fé County project and funded at \$129,692 by the County. The amendment had a 30-day review and approval was recommended by the TCC at their meeting last week.

**Commissioner Stefanics moved to approve the amendment. Councilor Bushee seconded the motion.**

Councilor Bushee noted there was a recent bike accident there.

Mr. Tibbetts said the accident was on city side. This project goes from the City limits to El Gancho where it meanders a lot and has site view problems and would add extra shoulders. It won't be a shared sharrow design. This will be on the shoulder and not in the driving lane. The comments are included in the packet. One from Alan Baer was that the scope didn't go far enough and should go to Two Trails Road to connect with Old Las Vegas Highway. That was noted in the TCC meeting. This is a study but might look at the next stage. Another comment talked about dirt washing down and the County Public Works Director said they responded and were working on that issue. So both were responded to by County Public Works.

Chair Mayfield asked if this could also be used for pedestrians. Mr. Tibbetts agreed.

There were no public comments made at the meeting.

**The motion passed by unanimous voice vote.**

#### **C. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION:**

##### **1. TIP Project Updates**

Mr. Quintana provided the update.

S 1070 - Jaguar Drive was still in FY 2012 and would have to be moved to 2013. 60-90% was designed now and they were working on a 3-party agreement to identify who would be responsible for construction and quality. City would retain ownership of Jaguar and State would maintain ramps and incorporate a bridge into District 5 bridge inventory.

599/62 was under construction now as planned. They were now building abutments for the bridge so lots of dirt was being moved and one lane detoured using the ramp. South Meadows was closed and detoured.

475/Washington - Last Tuesday was a public meeting at the downtown public library with 15 people participating. Everyone was actually pleased with it. There was a letter in the New Mexican wondering when something would happen so DOT was going to respond in the New Mexican. It would be let in October with construction early next year. The project would require a weekend closure of Paseo from Washington to Otero. He brought that up with public. They were hoping to do it over Memorial Day weekend and didn't get any negative feedback. DOT requested a waiver from the noise ordinance for that.

Mayor Coss asked if it was let in October whether it could start in November.

Mr. Quintana said it usually takes about 2½ months to get it awarded so late December and groundbreaking in February of March.

Councilor Bushee commented that folks didn't know it was a state road. She was getting emails regularly and didn't know if they get forwarded to Mr. Quintana. She asked if Memorial Day weekend was a good time to do that.

Mayor Coss thought it was a good time.

Mr. Quintana said they would respond to that letter very likely through a letter to the editor and he would call the constituent personally. It also would be detailed under the projects tab on the DOT website. They would have to close Bishop's Lodge Road also for a while. People received the information well and he hoped it wouldn't be too burdensome. They had an ad in the New Mexican Sunday paper about 3 weeks ago.

Councilor Bushee noted that people didn't always read the newspaper so maybe we could have a sign board.

Mr. Quintana said last Tuesday was their last public meeting and they would update the website. You could direct people to the project page on the website. They would also meet with anyone on construction details but they could not use message boards anymore. FHWA had come down on DOT for doing that. But DOT did get greater public involvement when they did.

Councilor Bushee added that the City had a media group here at the city you could use.

Mr. Quintana - we would make sure our PIO contacts the City's media source tomorrow.

Chair Mayfield asked if there were concerns with access to the federal court house.

Mr. Quintana said that would be open at all times except for maybe an hour closure at a time but they were committed to access at all times for them and for businesses in the area.

NE/SE Connector was a county project. They issued an RFP and were in negotiations with a consultant. Construction funding depended on the county bond issue.

Commissioner Stefanics said the County Commission was just informed at the last meeting that it would cover the SE connector and the County was relying on the State for the NE connector.

Mr. Quintana agreed and continued the update.

Cerrillos Road reconstruction was a city project and funding was for design of the next phase from Osage Avenue.

I-25/Cerrillos was now in a study for configurations. Funding would need to move that to 2014 in the December amendment.

Cañoncito interchange - DOT was wrapping up the Environmental Assessment and anticipated a public hearing in September and finish by the end of 2013.

Caja del Rio was a county project and about a month behind the interchange project and should come into construction soon. Traffic control was coordinated between the two projects.

NM 14 improvements - funding would be moved to 2013. DOT anticipated the project to be ready for October issue for a December let. It was restricted by ROW for providing ADA access throughout the area. There were no major utility impacts. There was a need for ADA improvements throughout that corridor and they needed to acquire right of way and underground utilities through a study by RFP. He didn't know the time frame right now. The Indian School was doing some developments there so the Second Street intersection would be impacted. Once identified DOT could coordinate at Second Street and would be a full major project.

Mayor Coss asked if the Indian School was working on a Traffic Impact Assessment (TIA).

Mr. Quintana agreed. It was usually the developer who provided the TIA reports to the DOT and then the DOT determined what improvements were appropriate.

Mayor Coss asked if those reports would be public documents.

Mr. Quintana said not on their own but DOT could make them available upon request.

Mayor Coss recalled the House authorized them to develop there but the Senate was blocking it.

Beckner Road crossing at Chamiso was also a County project. They requested an access break on 599 but he didn't know other details.

Pavement preservation was being done through a price agreement and should start in late fall with completion before the first snowfall. It was being coordinated with traffic control on St. Francis at I-25.

Last was the Old Santa Fé Trail bike lanes which was already heard.

Councilor Bushee asked when they expected to be done with Caja del Rio but meant 599/62 interchange.

Mr. Quintana said it was scheduled for anticipated completion by November before Thanksgiving.

Chair Mayfield asked about the condition of the bridge on Guadalupe at the National Cemetery.

Mr. Quintana said it needed some repair and he could get a report on it. It was not near-term critical but was on the radar. 4-5 years ago the corridor study indicated a need for that project. The left hand off merge was an issue to be corrected within the next 10-15 years. He agreed to report on it at the next TPB meeting.

## **2. Update on the status of the Federal Transportation Bill Reauthorization**

Mr. Tibbetts noted the report in the packet summarizing MAP 21 that was created through the Senate and final outcome was laid out here. New Mexico got a little increase in funding. States were given more flexibility in funding but it was constrained. NMDOT was scrambling now to get things ready to move forward. It in general it was a good thing - not just a continuing resolution. The MPO would have to create a new MOA before long. He would bring more specifics at the November meeting.

Commissioner Stefanics said one requirement was within two years the MPO must have members that provide transportation.

Mr. Tibbetts agreed and there were now two - Santa Fé Trails was a provider and Jon Bulthuis was on TCC. Tony Mortillaro was also on TCC representing the NCRTD. That adequately met the requirement.

Commissioner Stefanics explained she brought it up because we had minor conversations that the MPO should continue to do the routes. She would be interested to see the final resolution since the RPA had been dormant and there was no city-county entity to deal with transit so maybe MPO could handle that.

Commissioner Stefanics asked if this MPO was meeting the new population size requirements.

Mr. Tibbetts explained that MAP 21 left the Santa Fé MPO grandfathered in. He briefly clarified that TMA stood for transportation management area. He said regarding the whole transit issue that the MPO had a designated planning area that was approved by the Governor and DOT. The planning area was the

urbanized and urbanizing area over the next 25 years. The RTD did operate within the counties. The rural areas were represented by RPOs. Santa Fé's MPO designated area didn't include the whole county and for that we would have to get approval from the DOT and the Governor. MPOs were for metropolitan needs. RPOs had different funding sources. Both dealt with transportation planning but there was overlap.

In response to Councilor Bushee regarding opting out, Mr. Tibbetts said we don't have any discretionary funding per se. Communities over 200,000 have more discretion. We work with District 5 but generally there had been a good balance in distributing funding equitably.

Secretary Bender said Safe Routes to School and recreational trails were now discretionary to the state so she agreed with Mr. Tibbetts that it would be a matter of working it out with the state.

### **3. Feedback on the FHWA/NMDOT Review of the Santa Fé MPO held on July 18, 19**

Mr. Tibbetts said the review was preceded by a desk review of all documents produced and then a general review of financials. The team had 9 members from FHWA and DOT. They gave a verbal finding and they have 50 days for written finding but he was told the MPO got high marks on MTP, clearly understood process for funding and revenue; high review on TIP on which they were impressed. Areas of concern were already noted in the work program - to review the Public Participation Plan (PPP) because we have not revisited it since 2007. They were impressed that we have a web site and Facebook page. We have a plan and now need to implement it. The other concern was on performance measures - any review of monitoring - throughout federal government - to clearly define objectives and show progress on them. Most comments were favorable on the work program. The only unfavorable was on Title Six program. Staff was working now with a representative from the State on that. They should have PPP finished by spring. It requires a 45 day review from the public and then approve the changes. Our books and record keeping were fine.

For the audit, what we had was a performance and expenditure report that was an annual report. It looked at quarterly expenditures. The City was the fiscal agent and the audit was through the City rather than directly. He was asked several questions this year from the auditors about our process. But as far as requirements for the MPO, he was not sure they were required to have a separate audit. He was told if the MPO had federal funding through work authorization over \$500,000 they would be subject to a direct, full audit. This MPO was less than that - usually around \$260,000. So he would say no to the question.

Chair Mayfield understood the City audit did some sampling. He would ask the county attorney about it next week.

### **D. MATTERS FROM THE SFMPO TRANSPORTATION POLICY BOARD**

Commissioner Stefanics noted that Secretary Dominguez did send a thank you note to city and county for hosting the meeting.

Mayor Coss agreed and it was great to have them here. He really wanted to see the TIA from the



Indian School. Then he read Las Soleras didn't need to build a railroad station and wondered if the TPB needed to take it off the TIP.

Secretary Bender said the FHWA was not in favor of another railroad station. The Las Soleras would be like 599 and extend over the southbound lanes and FHWA wouldn't allow us to do that.

Councilor Bushee asked where the Zia station was now.

Mr. Tibbetts said there would be a meeting on it next week. In the last legislative session there was a memorial to look at traffic on St Francis and Zia and the legislative committee meeting was to discuss the scope and determine if there was going to be a significant impact and if development was to occur if the station opened. It would also determine if there was a strong justification to hold up the opening or tying it to development on those corners. The study was delayed because of tunnel construction and more so on St. Francis bridge that greatly reduced traffic volumes and they needed to wait for normal traffic flow - probably next month.

Secretary Bender added that it was not a good time to start a traffic study on that intersection and the study would encompass from St. Michael's to Rodeo - back to Yucca and over to Botulph. Until construction was over they wouldn't have an accurate count.

#### **E. MATTERS FROM THE MPO STAFF**

Mr. Wilson was on vacation for two weeks and would return on the 15<sup>th</sup>.

Staff had been working on all the studies Mr. Quintana mentioned and doing research on the pedestrian Master Plan including a review of those from other MPOs. The summer intern put the MPO on Facebook and created some GIS mapping that impressed by the Title Six people. She was a Cornell student but her family lives here.

The Santa Fé MPO would host next quarterly meeting and would be at Warehouse 21 on Oct 26<sup>th</sup>.

#### **F. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE NMDOT AND FHWA**

Secretary Bender reported regarding MAP 21 that the feds would start delivering money to states based on performance and if the State didn't meet the objectives New Mexico would get less money so it was imperative for MPOs as well as DOT to work on these measures.

She echoed the review comments and thanked the Santa Fé MPO for a good job.


#### **G. ADJOURNMENT – Next meeting, Thursday November 8, 2012.**

**Commissioner Stefanics moved to adjourn the meeting. Mayor Coss seconded the motion and**


it passed by unanimous voice vote.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:30.

Approved by:

  
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Danny Mayfield, Chair

Submitted by:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Carl Boaz, Stenographer