

**MINUTES**  
**FARMINGTON METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION**  
**TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**May 28, 2009 10:00 a.m.**

Members Present: Dave Keck, San Juan County  
Steve Christensen, City of Aztec  
Julie Baird, City of Bloomfield  
Cindy Lopez, City of Farmington  
Nica J. Westerling, City of Farmington

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Michael D. Sullivan, MPO Officer  
Joe Delmagori, MPO Planner  
Martin Lucero, MPO Associate Planner  
Dee Dee Moore, MPO Admin Aide

Staff Absent: None

Also Present: Chico Quintana, City of Farmington, Alternate  
Jody Ortiz, NMDOT  
Lisa Neie, FHWA  
Dr. Bob Wideo, NMDOT  
Dave Martinez, NMDOT  
Roshana Moojen, NWNMCOG  
Linda Sillers, SJCI  
Paula Gruber, SJCI

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Keck called the meeting to order at 10:05 am.

**2. APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM THE APRIL 23, 2009 TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEETING**

Motion to approve the minutes from the April 23, 2009 Technical Committee Meeting was made by Ms. Lopez, seconded by Ms Westerling, passed unanimously.

3. **AMENDMENT #1 TO THE FY2010-2015 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (TIP)**

**FARMINGTON METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION  
Agenda Item**

<b>Subject:</b>	FY2010-2015 TIP Amendment #1
<b>Prepared by:</b>	Martin Lucero, MPO Associate Planner
<b>Date:</b>	May 18, 2009

**BACKGROUND or PREVIOUS WORK**

- On April 26, 2009 the Farmington MPO advertised Amendment #1 to the FY2010-FY2015 Transportation Improvement Program.
- The amendment adds funding through the Transportation, Community, and System Preservation (TCSP) program to two projects currently in the TIP.

**AMENDMENT DETAILS**

<b>Project Name:</b>	Piñon Hills East & Animas River Bridge	East Aztec Arterial Route
<b>Project Description:</b>	ROW acquisition, final design, and construction of open space trail system	Design, engineering, environmental assessment, and construction of Phase 1A
<b>Funding Amount Total:</b>	\$1,119,219	\$385,938
<b>Federal Share:</b>	\$895,375	\$308,750
<b>Local Match:</b>	\$223,844	\$77,188

**CURRENT WORK**

- The MPO is holding a 30-day public comment period from April 26, 2009 to May 27, 2009.
- A public hearing will be held on Amendment #1 during the May 28, 2009 Technical Committee meeting.

**ANTICIPATED WORK**

- Present any public comments to the Technical Committee.
- Approve the amendment.
- Amend the STIP to reflect the new funding.

**RECOMMENDATION**

- It is recommended that the Technical Committee hold a public hearing on and recommend approval of Amendment #1 to the FY2010-2015 TIP.

**Discussion:** Mr. Lucero explained the details of the amendment and mentioned the need for holding a public hearing on the amendment. Mr. Keck opened the public comment portion for Amendment #1 to the FY2010-2015 TIP. Ms. Westerling and Mr. Christensen were under the impression that there were no local matches required on this funding. Dr. Wideo reaffirmed that there is a required match for the

Transportation Community System Preservation (TCSP) funding. With no further public comments, Mr. Keck closed the public hearing.

**Action:** Ms. Lopez made the motion for approval of Amendment #1 to the FY2010-2015 TIP. Mr. Christensen seconded the motion. The motion was voted on and passed unanimously.

4. RECEIVE A PRESENTATION ON THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT (ADA)

FARMINGTON METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION  
Agenda Item

<b>Subject:</b>	ADA Presentation
<b>Prepared by:</b>	Joe Delmagori, MPO Planner
<b>Date:</b>	May 18, 2009

**CURRENT WORK**

- Jody Ortiz with NMDOT and Lisa Neie with FHWA will give a presentation on ADA requirements.
- The presentation will provide an update to the local governments on their responsibilities for complying with ADA requirements.
- ADA guidance material is attached.

**RECOMMENDATION**

- It is recommended that the Technical Committee receive a presentation on ADA requirements.

**Discussion:** Mr. Ortiz, Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Coordinator, with New Mexico Department of Transportation (NMDOT) and Ms. Neie, Civil Rights Specialist for the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) were in attendance to provide a presentation on the ADA requirements. Mr. Ortiz spoke about the need for a local point of contact among the entities, preferably someone with a construction background. Training will be provided by the NMDOT for all designated ADA Coordinators. A Transition Plan should be implemented by the ADA Coordinators for use in identifying any non-compliant facilities and the schedule to bring those facilities into compliance. Mr. Ortiz stated that the standards are available on the Department of Justice website ([www.usdoj.gov](http://www.usdoj.gov)), as well as the US Access website ([www.access-board.gov](http://www.access-board.gov)). Ms. Neie completed the presentation with the information that Title 2, under Section 504, requires all communities with 50 or more employees (Double-Check the employee threshold) to have an ADA coordinator and directed the entities to refer engineering firms to the ADA standards or the Public Rights Of Way Accessible Guidelines (PROWAG) standards for federal requirements.

**Action:** The report was received.

5. ARRA FUNDING

FARMINGTON METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION  
Agenda Item

<b>Subject:</b>	ARRA Funding
<b>Prepared by:</b>	Joe Delmagori, MPO Planner
<b>Date:</b>	May 20, 2009

**BACKGROUND or PREVIOUS WORK**

- District 5 submitted a recommended list of projects for the ARRA program.
- All four entities in the MPO are receiving ARRA funding for construction projects.

**CURRENT WORK**

Project List Development

- Staff will work with the Technical Committee to develop another list of projects for potential ARRA funding.
- If additional ARRA funds become available, the MPO would have a project list ready to submit.
- The entities can include projects originally submitted earlier this year as well as information on any new projects.

TIGER Grant Program

- The TIGER grant program is intended for projects costing between \$20 million and \$300 million.
- Road, highway, and transit projects are eligible.
- Selection criteria includes economic competitiveness, sustainability, safety, job creation, and partnership among stakeholders.
- The application deadline is September 15, 2009.

**ANTICIPATED WORK**

- Present recommended list to the Policy Committee.

**ATTACHMENTS**

- Project information provided to the Technical Committee members under separate cover.
- Fact sheet on the TIGER grant program.

**RECOMMENDATION**

- It is recommended that the Technical Committee:
  - a. Develop and recommend approval of a list of projects for possible submittal if additional ARRA funding becomes available.
  - b. Receive a report on the TIGER grant program.

**Discussion:** Mr. Delmagori shared that he wanted to work with the Technical Committee on a proactive approach to prioritizing the list of ARRA projects in the event that additional stimulus money comes available. The original list of stimulus projects from the entities was provided and reviewed by the members. Ms. Baird asked to remove the Third Street and Fourth Street Improvement Project because it is not federally eligible and the City of Bloomfield has received funding through the CDBG program. Ms. Westerling asked to remove the project at the north end of College Boulevard and to add various streets in the Industrial Park off of Troy King Road. Mr. Keck requested the Chaco Canyon Road (CR 7950) project be removed and to keep the County portion of the Piñon Hills Bridge project on the list. After each entity discussed their projects, it was agreed upon by the committee that there would be a priority list which includes one project from each entity, and that the remainder of the projects would remain on the list as secondary projects.

Mr. Delmagori continued his report providing the above information on the Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) grant program. Mr. Keck stated that San Juan County and the City of Farmington are pursuing funding for a combined project on the Piñon Hills Bridge, which is estimated at \$30 Million. Mr. Christensen was also requesting funding for Phase II of the East Arterial in Aztec. Ms. Westerling informed the committee that the application process required a supporting document from the MPO and suggested putting together resolutions for each of the projects for this TIGER grant program.

The primary recommendations for the FMPO will include:

- 1) Industrial Park Access Improvements on US 550 in Bloomfield
- 2) Construct East Arterial Phase 2 in Aztec
- 3) US 64/Monroe Improvements in Farmington
- 4) Replace Bridge #8105 on CR 7150 in San Juan County

The committee members agreed to submit five other projects as secondary recommendations.

**Action:** Ms. Westerling made the motion to approve the list of projects as worked out by the committee. Ms. Baird seconded that motion. Motion was voted on and passed. Ms. Westerling made the motion for staff to draft resolutions for the Pinon Hills Bridge and the East Arterial projects being submitted for the TIGER grant program. Ms. Christensen seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

6. **RECOMMEND APPROVAL TO MAINTAIN THE MTP VISION AND MISSION STATEMENTS**

**FARMINGTON METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION  
Agenda Item**

<b>Subject:</b>	MTP Vision and Mission Statements
<b>Prepared by:</b>	Joe Delmagori, MPO Planner
<b>Date:</b>	May 18, 2009

**CURRENT WORK**

- Staff reviewed the Vision and Mission statements with the Technical Committee on April 23.
- No changes were suggested.
- The MTP Vision and Mission statements are attached.

**RECOMMENDATION**

- It is recommended that the Technical Committee recommend approval to maintain the MTP Vision and Mission Statements.

**Discussion:** Mr. Delmagori shared that there were no additional changes since the previous Technical Committee Meeting to the current MTP Vision and Mission Statement.

**Action:** Ms. Lopez made the motion to recommend approval. Ms. Westerling seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

**7. RECOMMEND APPROVAL OF THE MTP GOALS AND OBJECTIVES**

**FARMINGTON METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION  
Agenda Item**

<b>Subject:</b>	MTP Goals and Objectives
<b>Prepared by:</b>	Joe Delmagori, MPO Planner
<b>Date:</b>	May 18, 2009

**CURRENT WORK**

- Staff reviewed the MTP Goals and Objectives with the Technical Committee on April 23.
- Several changes were made, including the addition of new goals and objectives and modifications to existing ones.
- The changes to the Goals and Objectives are attached.

**RECOMMENDATION**

- It is recommended that the Technical Committee recommend approval of the MTP Goals and Objectives.

**Discussion:** Mr. Delmagori briefly outlined the changes and additions made previously to the MTP Goals and Objectives by the Technical Committee. Upon review, there were no additional changes made. Ms. Westerling requested adding a 4<sup>th</sup> possible name to replace the wording 'Farmington Region' as shown in the goals. She suggested the wording 'Tri-City Region'. Mr. Delmagori stated that it would be added to the list to be presented to the Policy Committee.

**Action:** Ms. Baird made the motion for recommendation of the list for approval. Ms. Lopez seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**8. RECOMMEND APPROVAL OF THE MTP EVALUATION CATEGORIES FOR PROJECT PRIORITIZATION**

**FARMINGTON METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION  
Agenda Item**

<b>Subject:</b>	MTP Evaluation Categories
<b>Prepared by:</b>	Joe Delmagori, MPO Planner
<b>Date:</b>	May 18, 2009

<b>CURRENT WORK</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Current evaluation categories are based upon the TEA-21 planning factors as well as factors with significance to the FMPO.</li><li>▪ The evaluation categories were used when ranking the regional roadway projects to determine a priority list.</li><li>▪ The evaluation categories could be slightly revised to reflect modifications shown in the SAFETEA-LU planning factors.</li><li>▪ The categories will be used again during analysis of regional roadway projects in the MTP update.</li><li>▪ The MTP evaluation categories are attached.</li></ul>

<b>RECOMMENDATION</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ It is recommended that the Technical Committee recommend approval of the MTP Evaluation Categories for project prioritization.</li></ul>

**Discussion:** Mr. Delmagori recommended keeping the existing Evaluation Categories for Project Prioritization from the previous MTP since they are based upon the TEA-21 Planning Factors. The only possible changes suggested by staff are to Safety and Security to stay consistent with SAFETEA-LU and to expand the Environment category to include Air Quality and Quality of Life. Dr. Wideo stated that the MPO should be aware that all of the Categories will need to be measurable. Ms. Westerling suggested combining Safety and Security and to add Quality of Life at this time. Dr. Wideo shared that the planning factors all have to be evaluated, but there was still time to revise them before completion.

**Action:** Mr. Christensen motioned for approval of the MTP Evaluation Categories for Project Prioritization and Mr. Baird seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously

9. RECOMMEND APPROVAL OF POPULATION AND EMPLOYMENT BASE YEAR AND PROJECTS FOR THE FARMINGTON MPO AT THE CITY/COUNTY AND TAZ LEVELS

FARMINGTON METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION  
Agenda Item

<b>Subject:</b>	MTP Population/Employment Data
<b>Prepared by:</b>	Martin Lucero, MPO Associate Planner
<b>Date:</b>	May 20, 2009

**BACKGROUND**

- Staff created population and employment distributions for the years 2000-2008 based on Census data and E911 GIS data points.
- Population and employment data were set into groups by census block.
- Staff collected socio-economic data for all of San Juan County for the years 1969-2008.

**CURRENT WORK**

- Staff met with each entity to review population and employment projections and methodology.
- Staff held stakeholder meetings to discuss socio-economic data and methodology.
- Population and employment numbers were converted from census blocks to TAZ for the areas within the Farmington MPO boundary:
  - Future projections for years 2015, 2020, 2030 and 2035

**ANTICIPATED WORK**

- Approve socio-economic projections by city/county and by TAZ.
- Update VISUM Travel Model based on socio-economic projections.
- Overlay road and transit networks onto socio-economic maps to evaluate future needs.

**ATTACHMENTS**

- Maps and tables for population and employment projections will be provided under separate cover.

**RECOMMENDATION**

- It is recommended that the Technical Committee recommend approval of population and employment base year and projections for the Farmington MPO at the city/county and TAZ levels.

**Discussion:** Mr. Lucero reminded the committee how the Population and Employment data sets were created and added that the 2008 Population for Aztec was labeled incorrectly and would be changed to 7,600. The committee was asked to review the maps for any areas that they had concerns about. Ms. Lopez and Ms. Westerling had

concerns regarding the proposed La Plata Ranch development. Mr. Lucero identified that the numbers were actually located in the TAZ adjacent to the area on the map and could be moved to reflect that location. Mr. Keck questioned a new subdivision location on CR3100. Mr. Lucero shared that the numbers in that TAZ were already large so there would be no noticeable increase in the area. Mr. Lucero shared that he met with Bureau of Land Management and their timeframe for release of the land between the three cities will be within a 15 year window. Ms. Lopez questioned whether the proposed water and sewer extension were factored in. Mr. Lucero stated that after meeting with the City of Farmington Public Works Department all of the proposed upgrades were taken into account.

**Action:** Ms. Lopez motioned for approval of the Population, Employment and TAZ numbers. Ms. Westerling seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**10 REVIEW THE SUMMARY REPORT OF THE MTP PUBLIC SURVEYS**

**FARMINGTON METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION  
Agenda Item**

<b>Subject:</b>	MTP Public Surveys
<b>Prepared by:</b>	Joe Delmagori, MPO Planner
<b>Date:</b>	May 19, 2009

**BACKGROUND or PREVIOUS WORK**

- Through March and mid-April, the MPO issued two surveys to solicit public input on general travel characteristics, public transit services, and improvements needed for our regional transportation system.
- Overall, 639 surveys were received: 248 were transit surveys and 391 were surveys on general transportation characteristics and needed improvements.
- The surveys were available through a link on the MPO website and paper copies were provided at many public destinations.
- The surveys give the MPO an understanding of how effectively our transportation system is currently operating and where improvements are needed.

**CURRENT WORK**

- The summary report will be discussed with the Technical Committee at their May 28 meeting.
- Top transportation improvements identified by the public include:
  - More sidewalks and bicycle facilities
  - Engineering improvements
  - Signal synchronization
  - Expand the transit system
  - Make transit service more convenient for travel

**ANTICIPATED WORK**

- Incorporate this summary and other public comments into the MTP planning process.

**RECOMMENDATION**

- It is recommended that the Technical Committee receive the summary report of the MTP public surveys.

**Discussion:** Mr. Delmagori informed the committee that the report was attached to the agenda for their perusal. He provided a summary of the highlights. Ms. Westerling asked if the location and intersections that the public identified in the surveys were listed anywhere. Mr. Delmagori stated that he could provide her that information.

**Action:** The report was received.

**11. RECOMMEND APPROVAL OF THE 2009 TRAFFIC COUNT LOCATION LIST**

**FARMINGTON METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION  
Agenda Item**

<b>Subject:</b>	2009 Traffic Count Program
<b>Prepared by:</b>	Martin Lucero, MPO Associate Planner
<b>Date:</b>	May 20, 2009

**BACKGROUND**

- MPO maintains traffic counts for 221 locations throughout the MPO boundaries.
- Locations are taken according to a three year cycle and periodically change due to the deletion or addition of various locations.
- This year’s list includes approximately 10 new locations based on splits to existing sections.
- Counts that were not approved last year or were affected by road construction will be counted in 2009.
- The MPO expects to take 91 counts in 2009.

**CURRENT WORK**

- The proposed location list is attached for review.
- The members are asked to identify locations that might conflict with known road construction schedules.
- MPO anticipates taking the counts in September and October.

**RECOMMENDATION**

- Staff recommends that the Technical Committee review the report on the traffic count program and recommend approval of the 2009 Traffic Count location list.

**Discussion:** Mr. Lucero presented the 2009 Traffic Count Location list that included 91 locations. The counts are proposed to begin in September continuing through October. MPO staff requested each entity review the list for possible scheduling conflicts. Mr. Lucero stated that revisions could be made up to the Policy Committee meeting.

**Action:** Ms. Westerling made a motion to approve the current list. Ms. Baird seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**12 RECEIVE A REPORT ON THE RENEWAL OF THE JOINT POWERS AGREEMENT (JPA)**

**FARMINGTON METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION  
Agenda Item**

<b>Subject:</b>	Renewal of the Joint Powers Agreement
<b>Prepared by:</b>	Joe Delmagori, MPO Planner
<b>Date:</b>	May 19, 2009

**BACKGROUND or PREVIOUS WORK**

- The Joint Powers Agreement (JPA) is the document that binds the cities of Aztec, Bloomfield, and Farmington, and San Juan County to the Metropolitan Planning Organization.
- The JPA is set to expire on September 30, 2009.
- The JPA explains the responsibilities of the City of Farmington as the fiscal agent and the functions and organizational structure of the Policy and Technical Committees.
- It describes the roles and work products required of the MPO.

**CURRENT WORK**

- Updates to the language of the Joint Powers Agreement and suggested changes by staff will be reviewed with the Technical Committee on May 28.
- The MPO requests input from its members on potential changes to the JPA.

**ANTICIPATED WORK**

- Current staff descriptions as outlined in the JPA could be added and modified.
- Along with the JPA renewal and additional funding being provided to the MPO, this would be an opportunity to discuss future staff positions.
- New local funding contribution formulas could be discussed based on population proportions within the member entities.
- The renewal process for the JPA will likely conclude in September with adoption of the new JPA by the Policy Committee.

## RECOMMENDATION

- It is recommended that the Technical Committee receive a report on the renewal of the Joint Powers Agreement.

**Discussion:** Mr. Delmagori shared with the committee the housekeeping changes and minor modifications including changing the billing schedule to reflect quarterly rather than semi-annual billing as requested by some of the entities. Mr. Delmagori brought up the entities percentages and how they were originally based on population. Ms. Westerling stated that the percentage of cost sharing was sure to come up at the Policy Committee Meeting. Mr. Sullivan spoke regarding the cost sharing percentage stating that even if you look at the old or the new numbers, the County's percentage is closer to 30%. Mr. Sullivan also pointed out that the appointed committee seats were directly linked to the percentage of cost sharing.

Mr. Delmagori briefly discussed options for making the best use of the additional PL funding for the next few years. One possible option is to increase the MPO Staff by one position which could be either a planner or a technician. Ms. Westerling stated that at this point all of the entities are looking to reduce employees, not increase them. She mentioned that despite an increase in funding for the MPO, strong justification and a specific job description of the new position would be needed if any type of staff position were to be created.

**Action:** The committee directed staff to compile various scenarios related to expanding MPO staff, including: job functions, rate of pay, proposed classifications, and the overall benefit to the end products of the MPO.

### 13. RECEIVE A REPORT FROM THE NMDOT

**Discussion:** Mr. Martinez provided the current information on the TIGER grant funding being lowered from \$30 Million to \$20 Million per project. There will be a \$300 million limit for each state for this program. Each District was asked to remove any local lead projects from the districts list and from the remaining projects to pick two projects for submission. Mr. Martinez stated that the number one priority for District 5 is US 64 from Bloomfield to Farmington and the second priority is NM 68, the highway from Espanola to Taos. Mr. Martinez shared that there is no guarantee that each district will be awarded a project since there could be a single project that uses all the available grant funds. Mr. Martinez also shared he would like a copy of the prioritized list of ARRA funding projects once the MPO has approved it.

Mr. Keck shared with Mr. Martinez that MPO Staff has been directed to create resolutions providing support to the local projects being submitted for the TIGER program. Based on the information provided by Mr. Martinez, Ms Baird made a motion to amend the earlier motion and to include the US 64 project as part of draft resolutions of support to be developed by MPO staff. Ms Westerling seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Dr. Widoie continued the report from the NMDOT by passing out the PIF form. This form will be required for all projects stretching into a second year in the STIP. One of

the obvious changes was under the Project Description which now is asking for Purpose and Need. Ms. Westerling thought that having a few more lines for Other Alternates Reviewed would be helpful. Dr. Widoe stated that he will keep that in mind. The other changes were an additional section on page two titled as Specific Cost Information, Project Certifications, and the required electronic distribution of the PIF. Ms. Lopez asked if these were on-line. Dr. Widoe stated that when they are finalized he would be sending them out electronically and if anyone had problems using the form to contact him directly.

#### 14. INFORMATION ITEMS

##### FARMINGTON METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION Agenda Item

<b>Subject:</b>	Information Items
<b>Prepared by:</b>	Joe Delmagori, MPO Planner
<b>Date:</b>	May 18, 2009

#### INFORMATION ITEMS

- a. **Federal Reauthorization Status Report.** Information has been provided by the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee about the reauthorization of SAFETEA-LU. The memo is attached.
- b. **Safe Routes to School Program Update.** The Bike Rodeo is scheduled for Saturday, May 30 at the Henderson Center parking lot at San Juan College from 10am to 2pm.
- c. **FY2009 UPWP 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Report.** The report highlighting accomplishments from January to March 2009 is now available on the MPO website.
- d. **Other.**

**Discussion:** Mr. Delmagori informed the committee that information regarding the Federal Reauthorization is beginning to be sent out by Congress. The SAFETEA-LU bill expires at the end of September. The agenda provides the most current information that the MPO Staff has. AASHTO and AMPO are providing their thoughts and comments to this whole process.

#### 15. BUSINESS FROM THE CHAIRMAN, MEMBERS AND STAFF

**Discussion:** There was no business from the Chairman, Members or Staff.

**16. BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR**

**Discussion:** There was no business from the floor.

**17. ADJOURNMENT**

**Discussion:** Ms. Lopez made the motion for adjournment, Ms. Westerling seconded the motion and the meeting was adjourned at 12:52 pm.

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Dave Keck, Chairman

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Dee Dee Moore, MPO Admin Aide