

MINUTES
FARMINGTON METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION
TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEETING
June 25, 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
Chico Quintana, City of Farmington, Alternate

Members Absent: Nica J. Westerling, City of Farmington

Staff Present: Joe Delmagori, MPO Planner
Martin Lucero, MPO Associate Planner
Dee Dee Moore, MPO Admin Aide

Staff Absent: None

Also Present: Dr. Bob Widoe, NMDOT
Dave Martinez, NMDOT

1. CALL TO ORDER

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

2. APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM THE MAY 28, 2009 TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEETING

Motion to approve the minutes from the May 28, 2009 Technical Committee Meeting was made by Ms. Lopez and seconded by Ms. Baird. Motion passed unanimously.

3. DISCUSS AND REVIEW THE PROJECT INFORMATION FOR THE PROPOSED FUTURE ROAD PROJECTS

FARMINGTON METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION
Agenda Item

Subject:	Proposed Future Road Projects
Prepared by:	Joe Delmagori, MPO Planner
Date:	June 17, 2009

BACKGROUND

- Staff sought input from the entities and the public on future road projects.
- Staff has developed a future road network map that identifies potential future road improvements and proposed road classification changes.

CURRENT WORK

- Information and details on the proposed projects are provided.
- The Technical Committee is asked to review the information.
- There is an opportunity to add additional projects to the list prior to road alternatives analysis.

ANTICIPATED WORK

- Create proposed roads in the VISUM traffic model.
- In combination with population and employment projections, analyze the effectiveness and benefit of these road projects.
- Rank and prioritize the proposed road projects.

ATTACHMENTS

- Project information lists showing road projects in the current MTP as well as those identified in the MTP update process.
- Maps provided under separate cover.

RECOMMENDATION

- It is recommended that the Technical Committee discuss and review the project information for the proposed future road projects.

Discussion: Mr. Lucero began the discussion with an overview of the roads previously identified in the MTP on the road network map. Mr. Quintana asked if the road identified as N2 was the same Lakewood that is part of the Foothills Project. Mr. Lucero stated that N2 is the portion of Lakewood that connects into the Hood Mesa Trail system. Mr. Keck questioned the alignment for the road identified as N9, CR4990, and the need to eventually have a bridge connecting that road to US 64. Mr.

Christensen asked whether anyone had looked into the possibility of some type of shopping area on Crouch Mesa so the public can shop in the area they reside. Mr. Lucero shared that the MPO is currently looking at land uses and how that can affect the road system that is created. Further discussion with each corresponding roadway identified in the proposed network system took place. Comments were made concerning connectivity between Crouch Mesa and the three cities. A consensus was achieved that the MPO should meet with each entity to further discuss the details of the proposed road projects.

Mr. Christensen asked how the multi-modal fits into this plan. Mr. Lucero confirmed that the Bike Pedestrian Plan was an integral part of all transportation planning.

Action: A discussion was held and projects were reviewed.

4. RECEIVE A REPORT ON THE REGIONAL BICYCLE/PEDESTRIAN PROJECTS

**FARMINGTON METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION
Agenda Item**

Subject:	Regional Bicycle/Pedestrian Projects
Prepared by:	Joe Delmagori, MPO Planner
Date:	June 17, 2009

BACKGROUND
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ A list of regional bicycle/pedestrian projects were identified as part of the MPO Bicycle/Pedestrian Plan. ▪ Reviewing and ranking the projects will need to be completed in order to develop a prioritized list. ▪ Evaluation criteria for prioritizing projects were adopted as part of the plan.

ANTICIPATED WORK
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Complete a technical analysis of the regional projects. ▪ After the technical analysis, the regional projects will be grouped into short, mid, and long range timeframes. ▪ Rank the projects using the adopted evaluation criteria. ▪ Prepare and develop a prioritized list of regional bicycle/pedestrian projects.

RECOMMENDATION
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ It is recommended that the Technical Committee receive a report on regional Bicycle/Pedestrian projects.

Discussion: Mr. Delmagori reminded the committee that all previously identified projects were part of the approved Bicycle/Pedestrian Plan. In order to prioritize the projects, the MPO members will need to review the projects. The review will involve

determining feasibility of projects and identifying any ROW or property issues with the projects. MPO staff will be meeting with the entities to discuss these routes and estimated costs. Mr. Quintana asked if staff was looking for places that the bike projects would not fit such as the North Foothills Project because of Right-of-way concerns. Mr. Delmagori assured the committee that is exactly what the meetings will discuss. Mr. Christensen shared that in the next 20 years it is possible that there will be less vehicles rather than more and that the MPO should focus more on other modes of transportation. Mr. Martinez stated that with the evolution of the electric car the need for roads is still possible and that the public enjoys the convenience of personal travel. Discussion also centered on how the economy is going to affect the distance people are willing to travel to work and shop and the social issues resulting from increasing residential density. Dr. Widoe suggested that staff create 2-3 scenarios in terms of looking at technology trends and how the MPO should address transportation based on future conditions.

Action: A report was received.

5. REVIEW THE MTP UPDATE TIMELINE AND SCHEDULE

**FARMINGTON METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION
Agenda Item**

Subject:	MTP Timeline and Schedule
Prepared by:	Joe Delmagori, MPO Planner
Date:	June 17, 2009

CURRENT WORK

- Staff has maintained a timeline and work schedule for tracking MTP activities.
- The most current timeline is attached for information.
- The timeline shows completed projects, ongoing work, and upcoming activities along with anticipated timeframes by month.

RECOMMENDATION

- It is recommended that the Technical Committee review the MTP Update Timeline and Schedule.

Discussion: Mr. Delmagori provided a brief overview of the timeline and the upcoming phases. Mr. Delmagori reviewed areas that staff had completed and the adjusted portions of the timeline. He indicated that during the summer months meetings and analysis regarding technical and specific detail of all the modes will be collected. In the fall and early winter months staff will work on policy development, create strategies related to air quality issues and congestion issues. MPO staff is now entering into the evaluation stage of the MTP update. Mr. Lucero added that he had received additional training for the modeling software and hoped that the entities would take advantage of this opportunity to request information.

Action: A report was received.

6. RECEIVE A REPORT ON THE FEDERAL REAUTHORIZATION BILL

**FARMINGTON METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION
Agenda Item**

Subject:	Federal Reauthorization Bill
Prepared by:	Joe Delmagori, MPO Planner
Date:	June 17, 2009

CURRENT WORK

- SAFETEA-LU expires on September 30, 2009.
- Congress is preparing to develop a new reauthorization bill.
- National transportation organizations are issuing reports on what they would like Congress to focus on for the new transportation bill.
- A summary of these reports is attached for information.

RECOMMENDATION

- It is recommended that the Technical Committee receive a report on the Federal reauthorization bill.

Discussion: Mr. Delmagori provided a handout from the AMPO organization specific to the potential changes to the MPO. Generally speaking the new bill would set minimum population for new MPOs at 100,000. Existing MPOs under the new proposed population threshold would be grandfathered in if they choose to continue as a planning organization. The AMPO report also talked about proportionate voting for MPO boards, specifically the Policy Committee. Concern about proportionate voting was raised by staff from other MPOs in the state at the MPO Quarterly. Mr. Delmagori continued indicating that the bill looks at new performance targets and measures as well as annual reporting. Mr. Delmagori explained that the last couple of pages go into more detail on funding and air quality issues. Dr. Widoe stated that he had heard that there was discussion on extending SAFETEA-LU during the period of time it would take to revise the plan.

Action: A report was received.

7. RECEIVE A REPORT ON THE RENEWAL OF THE COMMITTEE BYLAWS AND OPERATING PROCEDURES MANUAL

FARMINGTON METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION
Agenda Item

Subject:	Committee Bylaws and Operating Procedures
Prepared by:	Joe Delmagori, MPO Planner
Date:	June 17, 2009

BACKGROUND or PREVIOUS WORK

- The Committee Bylaws and Operating Procedures describe the guidelines for conducting Policy and Technical Committee meetings.
- The Bylaws describe the roles of the Chair and Vice-Chair for each committee, voting procedures, and removal and replacement of members.
- The Bylaws are reviewed in conjunction with the JPA and need to be renewed by September 30, 2009.

CURRENT WORK

- Review the Bylaws with the Technical Committee members.
- The MPO requests input from its members on potential changes to the Bylaws.

ANTICIPATED WORK

- Make any necessary corrections.
- Review the Bylaws over the next couple of months.
- Seek approval of the Bylaws by the Policy Committee in September.

RECOMMENDATION

- It is recommended that the Technical Committee receive a report on the renewal of the Committee Bylaws and Operating Procedures.

Discussion: Mr. Lucero identified the changes requested by the Policy Committee to delete the actual months that their meeting would be held but to retain 6 meetings a year. The annual resolution will determine their meeting schedule. Mr. Lucero also identified the ex-officio definition explaining to the committee that the MPO Officer under this designation would have similar powers as the other Technical Committee members. Mr. Lucero also identified that the Robert's Rules of Order were in effect at all meetings. Mr. Lucero shared that some MPO's have members sitting on the board from other agencies such as the Department of Transportation, School Boards, or the Public Transit Group. Changes will need to be identified and available to the public during a 30 day comment period.

Action: A report was received.

8. RECEIVE A REPORT FROM THE NMDOT

Discussion: Mr. Martinez updated the committee regarding the TIGER grant program sharing that each District was allowed to submit two projects to the Technical Team for evaluation. The recommendation was narrowed down to four projects: US 64 in the Raton area, a section of US 491, the I-25 and I-10 interchange in Las Cruces, and I-25 at Mesa Del Sol in Albuquerque. Mr. Martinez encouraged the committee to submit an application for the US 64 Corridor. Mr. Keck asked about any maintenance projects that may be planned for this area, in the summer. Mr. Martinez stated he believed there were projects planned and he would get with Miguel Gabaldon to develop a list for staff. Mr. Keck suggested the local entities write a letter to District 5 indicating their top road maintenance concerns.

Dr. Wideo shared that the increased funding to the MPO in the amount of \$110,786 was obligated today. FHWA has asked for the UPWP to be amended to justify how the additional funds are going to be spent.

9. INFORMATION ITEMS

**FARMINGTON METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION
Agenda Item**

Subject:	Information Items
Prepared by:	Joe Delmagori, MPO Planner
Date:	June 17, 2009

INFORMATION ITEMS

- a. **Safe Routes to School Program Update.** The Bike Rodeo was held on Saturday, May 30 at the Henderson Center parking lot at San Juan College. Around 50 children participated in the event. Phase 1 funding for the City of Farmington is available starting July 1. The SRTS Committee will develop a SRTS Action Plan during the summer.
- b. **MPO Quarterly.** The FMPO hosted the Quarterly MPO meeting on June 24.
- c. **VISUM Training.** Martin Lucero attended a 3-day training on the VISUM program in Santa Fe on June 16-18.
- d. **Other.**

Discussion: Mr. Delmagori shared that another Bike Rodeo is being held in August and the SRTS Phase I funding is available for use on July 1, 2009. At the MPO Quarterly Santa Fe shared that they have a new Long Range Planner and it was identified that all MPO's can purchased counters at a cost of \$800 if needed. Mr. Christensen shared

with the committee that the City of Aztec has two counters available that the MPO can use.

Action: A report was received.

10. BUSINESS FROM THE CHAIRMAN, MEMBERS AND STAFF

Discussion: Mr. Keck reminded the committee about the National High School Rodeo from July 16-28 and asked for assistance from the DOT for message boards to announce on US 64 that there is a special event ahead.

11. BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR

Discussion: No business from the floor.

12. ADJOURNMENT

Discussion: Ms. Lopez made the motion to adjourn, Mr. Quintana seconded the motion and the meeting was adjourned at 11:34am.

Dave Keck, Chairman

Dee Dee Moore, MPO Admin Aide