

**MINUTES**  
**FARMINGTON METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION**  
**POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**January 8, 2009 - 5:30 p.m.**

Members Present: Vice Chair, Dan Darnell, City of Farmington  
Mayor Bill Standley, City of Farmington  
Dr. Henderson, San Juan County  
Sherri Sipe, City of Aztec

Members Absent: Sam Hinson, City of Bloomfield

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

Staff Absent: None

Also Present: Steve Christensen, City of Aztec  
Dave Martinez, NMDOT  
Lori Meszaros, Citizen

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Vice Chair Darnell called the January 8, 2009, Policy Committee meeting to order at 5:33 p.m.

**2. APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM THE SEPTEMBER 11, 2008 POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING**

Mayor Standley moved to approve the minutes from the September 11, 2008 meeting. Vice Chair Darnell seconded the motion. Motion carried and minutes were approved.

**3. APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM THE NOVEMBER 13, 2008 POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING**

Mayor Standley moved to approve the minutes from the November 13, 2008 meeting. Vice Chair Darnell seconded the motion. Motion carried and minutes were approved.

4. **POSSIBLY REVISE THE 2009 MEETING SCHEDULE AND AMEND RESOLUTION 2008-5**

**FARMINGTON METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION  
Agenda Item**

<b>Subject:</b>	Annual Meeting Resolution
<b>Prepared by:</b>	Joe Delmagori, MPO Planner
<b>Date:</b>	December 24, 2008

**BACKGROUND**

- The Policy Committee adopted PC Resolution 2008-5 at their November 13, 2008 meeting.
- The Policy members asked to revisit the meeting schedule at their January meeting.

**CURRENT WORK**

- The Policy Committee will hold six regular meetings during 2009.
- Meetings will be held in January, March, April, June, September, and November.
- The attached 2009 meeting schedule maintains the current meeting schedule: meetings occur on the second Thursday at 5:30pm and rotate among the entities.
- The members have the opportunity to modify the meeting schedule as necessary prior to adopting the resolution.

**RECOMMENDATION**

- It is recommended that the Policy Committee possibly revise the 2009 meeting schedule and amend Resolution 2008-5.

**Discussion:** Mayor Standley indicated that the day and the rotation of the meeting schedule were satisfactory. However, he would like the meetings to be held earlier in the afternoon because of other constraints on his schedule. Vice Chair Darnell confirmed that he too shared that opinion. Dr. Henderson stated he was unavailable in late afternoon, and that early afternoon would be best for him. After everyone in attendance discussed the best time for the meetings, a motion was made to revise the meeting time to 1:30pm. This time change will give various state agencies the opportunity to attend and contribute to the meetings by accommodating driving times and distances.

**Action:** Vice-Chair Darnell made a motion to change the meeting time to 4:00pm, and subsequently made a friendly amendment to change the 4:00pm time to 1:30pm. Mayor Standley seconded the motion. The meeting time change to 1:30 p.m. was passed unanimously.

5. **APPROVE THE PRIORITIZED LIST OF SAFETY PROJECTS FOR THE FARMINGTON MPO**

**FARMINGTON METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION  
Agenda Item**

<b>Subject:</b>	Safety Project Solicitation
<b>Prepared by:</b>	Joe Delmagori, MPO Planner
<b>Date:</b>	January 9, 2009

**BACKGROUND**

- The NMDOT is requesting proposals for safety improvement projects for consideration for funding in either FY 2009 or FY 2010.
- On November 20, 2008 the Technical Committee received presentations of safety projects from each applicant.
- The Technical Committee members ranked the projects to create a recommended prioritized list.
- The recommended prioritized list was sent to the Policy Committee members; no disagreements were voiced from the Policy Committee members.
- The MPO submitted the proposed project list to NMDOT on December 23, 2008 in order to meet the January 7, 2009 deadline.
- After all projects statewide are submitted, a Project Selection Team will determine which projects to award funding.

**CURRENT WORK**

- The recommended prioritized list will be presented to the Policy Committee members; if there are no disputes, the recommended prioritized list will be approved by the Policy Committee.

**CRITERIA**

- NMDOT has outlined the following criteria to assist with project selection:
  - Cost should be \$2,000,000 or less.
  - Crash analysis shows a history of serious crashes or fatalities.
  - Crash analysis shows evidence of a particular type of crash.
  - A safety study shows the project will reduce traffic hazards.

**RECOMMENDATION**

- It is recommended that the Policy Committee:
  - a. Approve the prioritized list of safety projects.
    1. Geometric improvements and signalization of the CR 350/ CR 3720 intersection in San Juan County
    2. Geometric design, ROW acquisition, sight distance improvements, and sidewalks at the NM 516/ Lt Plant Road intersection in Aztec
    3. Building a paved shoulder and shoulder widening on NM 516 (East Main) in Farmington from Villa View to Old Aztec Hwy
    4. Rebuild and replace the traffic signal at Apache/West Main in Farmington.

**Discussion:** Mr. Delmagori reviewed the four projects and the need to get the Policy Committee's approval of the rankings for submittal to the NMDOT. After a short discussion by the Policy Committee the Vice-Chair opened the discussion to the floor for comments. With no comments received the Vice-Chair received a motion for adoption.

**Action:** Mayor Standley made a motion to approve as recommended by the Technical Committee the list of prioritized projects. Dr. Henderson seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously. The list of safety projects was adopted by the Policy Committee as recommended by the Technical Committee.

**6. ADOPT THE FARMINGTON MPO ACCESS MANAGEMENT PLAN (PC RESOLUTION 2009-1)**

**FARMINGTON METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION  
Agenda Item**

<b>Subject:</b>	Access Management
<b>Prepared by:</b>	Joe Delmagori, MPO Planner
<b>Date:</b>	December 29, 2008

**BACKGROUND or PREVIOUS WORK**

- Staff has finalized the elements of the access management plan.
- Staff has finished meeting with the local elected officials and planners to review the draft access management plan.

**CURRENT WORK**

- Review the final draft of the plan with the Committee members.

**ANTICIPATED WORK**

- Seek adoption by the local governments in January and February.

**BACKUP MATERIAL**

- Final draft of the access management plan has been provided to the Policy Committee members.
- Final draft of the access management plan is available on the MPO website at: <http://www.farmingtonmpo.org/documents.html>
- PC Resolution 2009-1 for review.

**RECOMMENDATION**

- It is recommended that the Policy Committee adopt the Farmington MPO Access Management Plan (*PC Resolution 2009-1*).

**Discussion:** Mr. Delmagori presented the final draft of the Access Management Plan to the committee members. After the presentation there were no questions.

**Action:** Dr. Henderson made a motion to adopt the Farmington MPO Access Management Plan through PC Resolution 2009-1. Mayor Standley seconded the motion. Motion was approved unanimously. The Policy Committee adopted the Farmington MPO Access Management Plan (*PC Resolution 2009-1*).

**7. RECEIVE A REPORT ON THE METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION PLAN (MTP) UPDATE**

**FARMINGTON METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION  
Agenda Item**

<b>Subject:</b>	Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) Update
<b>Prepared by:</b>	Martin Lucero, MPO Associate Planner
<b>Date:</b>	January 8, 2009

**BACKGROUND & PREVIOUS WORK**

- Staff created a schedule and timeline of activities to gauge workload and estimated time needed to complete the MTP update.
- The FMPO Vision and Mission statements have been reviewed by both committees.
- Staff held a public meeting on November 12.
- Staff developed two initial surveys to be administered to the public.
- A call for land use and socioeconomic data has been issued to all the entities.

**CURRENT WORK**

- Analyze current transit needs.
- Development of a MPO Roadway Classification map.
- Initial socioeconomic data collection.
- A technical review of proposed regional bicycle/pedestrian improvement projects.

**BACKUP MATERIAL**

- MPO Roadway Classification Map (provided at the meeting).

**ANTICIPATED WORK**

- Contact trucking industry for needs and safety assessment.
- Socioeconomic data collection and evaluation.
- The creation and administration of online surveys.

**RECOMMENDATION**

- It is recommended that the Policy Committee receive a report on the MTP update.

**Discussion:** Mr. Lucero presented the current activities, processes and timeline for the Metropolitan Transportation Plan update process. The road network map that was distributed showed the progress and the direction that staff is taking and is encouraging input by all the entities. The road map will be used to establish a base road network of potential new roads and to propose road classification changes. Mr. Delmagori explained that when the entities agree to the base map, it will assist with studying road alternatives and transit and freight analysis. Mr. Lucero contacted the NM Chapter of the American Trucking Association and they are going to provide socio-economic data, as well as trucking route data. This information will allow staff to prioritize other alternatives in the future as part of the MTP update. Vice Chair Darnell questioned the section of Glade Road and the position the Bureau of Land Management takes regarding roads crossing their boundaries. Mr. Lucero informed the committee that these identified roads are in the primary stage of this process. The BLM Department has been contacted and agreed to meet with staff to discuss these types of issues. Mr. Sullivan stated that we don't need BLM's permission to put it on a classification map, but that if the road is to be built, the permission of BLM and right-of-way will need to be secured at that time.

**Action:** The report was received.

**8. RECEIVE A REPORT ON THE NEW MEXICO ENVIRONMENTAL DEPARTMENT  
AIRE QUALITY PUBLIC MEETING**

**FARMINGTON METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION  
Agenda Item**

<b>Subject:</b>	Air Quality Public Meeting
<b>Prepared by:</b>	Joe Delmagori, MPO Planner
<b>Date:</b>	January 8, 2009

**BACKGROUND**

- On March 12, 2008 the EPA revised the ozone standard from 0.084ppm to 0.075ppm.
- The station near Navajo Lake has a three year average reading of 0.077ppm which puts the station in non-compliance.
- The San Juan substation has a three year average reading of 0.071ppm; the Bloomfield station has a three year average reading of 0.065ppm.
- On December 2, the New Mexico Environmental Department held a public meeting to discuss the new ozone standards and the air quality data.
- If designated non-attainment, new measures will go into effect:
  - Stricter air quality requirements for industries
  - Offsets
  - Requirements for reducing transportation emissions
  - Implementing a plan that explains how the county will get back into attainment

**TIMELINE**

- New Mexico must designate recommended attainment/non-attainment areas by March 12, 2009.
- EPA will make final designations by March 12, 2010.
- For areas in non-attainment, they must prepare non-attainment plans by March 12, 2013.

**MPO & AIR QUALITY**

- Transportation conformity requirements.
- Emissions modeling applied to projects to ensure they do not make air quality worse.
- Transportation plans have to meet the State Implementation Plan (SIP).
- Failure to comply can result in withholding transportation funds for this area.

**RECOMMENDATION**

- It is recommended that the Policy Committee receive a report on the NM Environmental Department Air Quality Public Meeting.

**Discussion:** Mr. Delmagori reviewed the items covered at the December 2, 2008 public meeting presented by the Environmental Department regarding the data results from the Navajo Dam monitoring station. Mayor Standley shared his concerns regarding the effects of the winds on the readings. He asked if Colorado was identified as a contributing factor to the readings at Navajo Dam. Mr. Delmagori stated that the Environmental Department showed that a combination of traffic, power plants and winds coming as far away as Arizona and Colorado contributed to the reading. The Environmental Department will be looking at much of the Four Corners region for factors contributing to non-attainment readings.

**Action:** The report was received.

**9. RECEIVE A REPORT ON THE FY2010-2015 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM**

**FARMINGTON METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION  
Agenda Item**

<b>Subject:</b>	FY2010-2015 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)
<b>Prepared by:</b>	Joe Delmagori, MPO Planner
<b>Date:</b>	December 24, 2008

<b>BACKGROUND</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The Transportation Improvement Program is a short-term list of projects that are expected to be completed in the immediate future.</li> <li>▪ The MPO has been updating the TIP on an annual basis and the process typically runs from December through April.</li> <li>▪ The TIP is updated based on the procedures outlined in the Public Participation Plan (PPP).</li> </ul>

<b>CURRENT WORK</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ A Call for Projects for new TIP projects was issued to the entities in December.</li> </ul>

<b>ANTICIPATED WORK SCHEDULE</b>	
<b>MONTH</b>	<b>ACTION</b>
December-January	Call for Projects & Project Identification Forms issued
Late January, 2009	Project ID Forms submitted to MPO
January – February 2009	Entities review project lists and develop priorities
Early March – early April 2009	30-day Public Comment period is advertised and opened
March 2009	Final reviews of draft TIP by both Committees; Technical Committee recommends adoption of TIP
April 9, 2008	Policy Committee adopts the FY2010-2015 TIP

<b>RECOMMENDATION</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ It is recommended that the Policy Committee receive a report on the FY2010-2015 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).</li> </ul>

**Discussion:** Mr. Delmagori informed the committee of the steps required for updating the TIP. The month by month breakdown will lead staff towards the completion of a draft TIP that will be presented to the Technical Committee and the Policy Committee in March and April. After adoption by the Policy Committee, the TIP is submitted to the NMDOT for inclusion into the statewide Transportation Improvement Program.

**Action:** The report was received.

**10. RECEIVE A REPORT FROM THE NEW MEXICO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (NMDOT)**

Mr. Martinez provided a report on the Economic Stimulus Package. Back in November 2008 NMDOT was asked to provide a list of projects that were able to be delivered within a 120 to 180 day period. The list submitted at the National level was at a cost of \$1.136 billion. For District 5, for the 11 projects submitted, the cost was around \$174 million dollars; however, most of these projects were under funded GRIP projects. In addition to these projects, statewide, \$250 million was identified for pavement preservation projects, \$50 million for bridge preservation projects and \$25 million for local government projects. The Planning Division asked for projects and 9 were submitted from the FMPO at an estimated cost of \$53,115,000. Out of the Pavement

Preservation Project, in this area, we have US 64 from Troy King towards Kirtland and one in the Hogback Area. At this point, Vice Chair Darnell asked how the block grant program would decide how much money will be designated to transportation. Mr. Martinez shared that his department will rely on the historic federal formulas that have been applied nationwide.

## 11. INFORMATION ITEMS

### FARMINGTON METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION Agenda Item

<b>Subject:</b>	Information Items
<b>Prepared by:</b>	Martin Lucero, MPO Associate Planner
<b>Date:</b>	December 29, 2008

#### INFORMATION ITEMS

- a. **2008 Traffic Count Program.** Traffic Data Services (TDS) took reset counts during the week of November 17. The final counts will be sent to NMDOT for validation.
- b. **Safe Routes to School Program.** An application for SRTS funding was submitted for elementary schools in the City of Farmington.
- c. **Annual List of Federally Obligated Projects.** This SAFETEA-LU requirement includes local projects that received federal funding during FY2008.
- d. **2009 NMDOT Transportation Commission Schedule.** The 2009 meeting schedule for the Transportation Commission is provided.
- e. **Other**

**Discussion:** Mr. Lucero started the report with the Traffic Count Program. Staff is working with the consultant to get the data into a format that can be accepted by the NMDOT. Currently there are 83 counts submitted to the MPO. These numbers will be submitted to the NMDOT once the files are reformatted by the consultant.

Ms. Meszaros, the Safe Routes to School Coordinator, informed the committee that the application for Phase 1 funding was submitted, however, the application needed some corrections and will be resubmitted before the January 16, 2009 deadline. SRTS is planning a Bike Rodeo in May at San Juan College on a weekend between Mother's Day and Memorial Day.

Mr. Lucero continued by stating that the MPO's annual list of federally obligated projects has been completed and that the NMDOT and Transportation Commission schedule for 2009 is on the NMDOT website.

Mr. Delmagori also shared that the New Mexico Local Technical Assistance Program (NMLTAP) is sponsoring a workshop on Roundabouts in Farmington on January 22, 2009 at the Civic Center.

**Action:** The report was received.

## **12. BUSINESS FROM THE CHAIRMAN, MEMBERS AND STAFF**

Vice Chair Darnell welcomed Sherri Sipe as the newest member of the Policy Committee from the City of Aztec.

## **13. BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR**

Ms. Meszaros raised the question about the maintenance of Bisti Highway. While riding her bike sections of concrete were thrown up by passing trucks. Mr. Martinez informed Ms. Meszaros that the NMDOT has a maintenance patrol yard stationed here in Farmington and to contact them and they will fix the problem.

## **14. ADJOURNMENT**

Dr. Henderson made the motion to adjourn. Ms. Sipe seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously. Meeting was adjourned at 6:30pm.

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Dan Darnell, Vice Chairman

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Dee Dee Moore, MPO Admin Aide