

## Red Apple Transit: New Buses & New Service on the Horizon.



### NEW BUSES:

In the coming month, there will be several changes to the Red Apple Transit system through the MPO area. The Red Apple Transit recently purchased seven new buses that will be operating in the very near future. The buses are bright red for better visibility. They are going to be equipped with radios, GPS tracking systems, audible route destination announcers, and cameras. All buses will be ADA accessible with wheelchair equipment and bike racks.

### NEW SERVICE:

Due to the purchase of the seven new buses, Red Apple will begin a new bus route between Farmington and Bloomfield. There will be three stops in Farmington, one stop at the fairgrounds and race track at McGee Park within the county, and three stops in Bloomfield. In addition, the existing Green route in Farmington will add a stop at the Four Corners Regional Airport and a stop at the new Wal-Mart on the west side of town.

### NEW HEADWAY TIMES:

As a way to increase service efficiency, the Red and Green routes in Farmington will soon run at 30-minute intervals from 7:30am to 6:00pm, Monday through Saturday.

### RIDERSHIP STATISTICS:

Ridership continues to improve on Red Apple Transit. Ridership consistently rose month-to-month from October 2005 to January 2006. After a slight drop in February, ridership reached its highest monthly total in March with nearly 5,600 riders. Red Apple is also on pace to reach its highest yearly ridership total overall by the end of the federal fiscal year in September.

### Transportation Improvement Program.

Transportation Improvement Program – The FY2007-2012 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) was approved by the Policy Committee on June 8. The TIP is a list of all transportation projects in the MPO that are expected to be completed in the next 3-6 years.



*Is This How They Make Condensed Milk?*

## INTELLIGENT TRANSPORTATION SYSTEMS



As a requirement for the MPO, staff is currently working with a variety of stakeholders to develop an Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) architecture. ITS is a system of integrated technologies that improve safety and mobility on roadways, provide for integrated emergency management procedures, and supply regional traveler information. The architecture will become the plan that will describe how projects are implemented in the MPO and the roles stakeholders will have in the implementation.

Some of the stakeholder groups that will play a role in creating the ITS architecture for the MPO include staff from the three cities and the county, county emergency management departments, Red Apple Transit, and the New Mexico Department of Transportation. In order for ITS projects to be built in the MPO, an architecture needs to be in place. Once complete, the MPO architecture, along with the ITS architectures from the other statewide MPOs, will be incorporated into the NMDOT ITS architecture.

*Certainly, travel is more than the seeing of sights; it is a change that goes on, deep and permanent, in the ideas of living.—*

*Miriam Beard*

### Policy Committee Chairman—Dr. Henderson



Dr. Henderson is the San Juan County Commissioner for District 4, and the Chairman of the MPO Policy Committee. He began his academic career in 1959 as a teacher in the Douglas (AZ) Public Schools. He was also Director of Instruction for Catalina Public Schools and the Chief Administrator of the San Juan Branch Community College, New Mexico State University (before it became San Juan College). He served as President of San Juan College from 1982 to 2002. In 1989, Dr. Henderson, Marjorie Black and Nancy Shepherd established a Leadership program for San Juan County (Leadership San Juan). In recognition of his service to the citizens of San Juan County, both Mayor Bill Standley and Governor Gary Johnson named May 9, 2002 as Dr. James C. Henderson Day.



## MPO ACTIVITIES

The following list highlights the major MPO activities during the past few months:

MPO Associate Planner – The MPO is looking to hire an Associate Planner. The job has been posted locally, regionally, and nationally. More information about the position is found below.

Joint Powers Agreement and Committee Bylaws – Staff has worked with the Technical and Policy committees to review and update the JPA and Bylaws document. The JPA, which binds the four entities to the MPO, expires on September 30, 2006. The Technical Committee agreed to update and review the Bylaws in conjunction with the renewal process for the JPA.

Aztec Vision Meetings – Staff attended several of these meetings that continued during the past few months. Topics included proposals for river trail corridor development and multi-modal options for the proposed North Main extension and east arterial route. In late June a presentation was given that summarized many of the alternatives discussed at these Vision meetings. After final public input, the Vision proposals will be brought to NMDOT and the MPO committees for their reviews.

FY2007 Unified Planning Work Program – The FY2007 UPWP documents planning activities that the MPO expects to complete between July 1, 2006 and June 30, 2007. Some of the activities include renewal of the JPA, proposed transportation studies, development of long-range policies described in the MTP, and TIP management.

Safe Routes to School Summary Report – The MPO completed a summary report of the one-day training on SR2S held on March 22. The report was distributed to participants at the training, the elementary and middle schools, city/county staff, and NMDOT. The report is also available on the FMPO website ([www.farmingtonmpo.org](http://www.farmingtonmpo.org)).

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### MPO ASSOCIATE PLANNER

**\$3,434.84 - \$4,070.04 per month**

The City of Farmington, New Mexico is currently seeking a MPO Associate Planner. This position will perform a variety of routine and complex administrative, technical and professional work in the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Division of the Community Development Department related to the development and implementation of transportation planning process and projects. Perform technical and professional work on MPO plans, programs, and studies, including the Metropolitan Transportation Plan, the Transportation Improvement Program, bicycle and pedestrian plans, transit plans, and a regional ITS architecture. Graduation from an accredited four-year college or university with a degree in transportation planning, urban planning, city planning, civil engineering, geography or a closely-related field. Two (2) years experience in a transportation related field is required. A Master's degree is highly desirable. Post-graduate planning education may be substituted for experience on a year-for-year basis. This is a regular, full-time position. Applications received will be reviewed on July 28, 2006. Position opened until filled.



*USA Today has come out with a new survey - apparently, three out of every four people make up 75% of the population—*

*David Letterman*



Do you want to be notified of MPO meetings? Would you like to receive a copy of the newsletter? To add your name to our mailing list, just send us an e-mail, write us a letter, stop by our office, send us a fax, fill in the form on the website or give us a call. We'll need to know your name, an address to send the information (either electronically or via mail), and whether you want meeting notification, the newsletter, or both. Here's how to reach us:

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**Staff:**  
**Nica Westerling:** MPO Officer  
**Joe Delmagori:** MPO Planner  
**Virginia Turney:**  
Administrative Aide

TECHNICAL COMMITTEE		POLICY COMMITTEE	
10:00 a.m. 4 <sup>th</sup> Thursday of the month (except as noted) Executive Conference Room Farmington Municipal Building, 800 Municipal Drive Farmington, New Mexico		5:00 p.m. 2 <sup>nd</sup> Thursday of the month (except as noted)	
<b>Date</b>		<b>Date</b>	<b>Location</b>
July 27, 2006		September 14, 2006	City Council Chambers Bloomfield City Hall 915 N. First St. Bloomfield, New Mexico
August 24, 2006			
September 28, 2006			
October 26, 2006		November 9, 2006	Commission Room Aztec City Hall 201 W. Chaco St. Aztec, New Mexico
November 16, 2006* (3 <sup>rd</sup> Thursday)			
December 14, 2006* (2 <sup>nd</sup> Thursday)			



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Farmington, NM 87401