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SANTA FE MPO TECHNICAL COORDINATING COMMITTEE
March 23, 2009

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**MINUTES OF THE
SANTA FE MPO
TECHNICAL COORDINATING COMMITTEE
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2009**

1. INTRODUCTIONS:

a. CALL TO ORDER

A meeting of the Santa Fe MPO Technical Coordinating Committee was called to order by Chair, John Romero at approximately 1:30 p.m., on the above date in the City Councilors Conference Room, City Hall, Santa Fe, New Mexico.

b. ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT

John Romero, Chair – City of Santa Fe,
Mary Helen Follingstad, Vice Chair – RPA Director
Johnny Baca – Santa Fe County
Phil Gallegos, NMDOT District 5
Eric Martínez for Chris Ortega – City of Santa Fe
Larry Samuel – Tesuque Pueblo

MEMBERS EXCUSED

Jon Bulthuis – City of Santa Fe
Reed Liming – City of Santa Fe [excused]
Josette Lucero – NCRTD [excused]
[Vacancy – Santa Fe Public Schools]

STAFF PRESENT

Mark Tibbetts – MPO Officer

OTHERS PRESENT

Claude Morelli
Andrew Jandáček

c. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mr. Martínez moved to approve the agenda as published. Ms. Follingstad seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous voice vote.

d. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES FROM FEBRUARY 23, 2009.

Chair Romero noted that on page 5, it was Jon Bulthuis who made the motion; not John Romero (twice)

Ms. Follingstad moved to approve the minutes of February 23, 2009 as corrected. Mr. Martínez seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous voice vote.

2. ACTION ITEMS

a. SFMPO – Transportation Improvement Program for FY 2010-2013

Mr. Tibbetts briefly reviewed the changes made to the TIP. He explained that he started with the TIP for 2008-2011 and made revisions. Projects would have to be ready to go by Aug 15th or they would drop out unless there was some contingency. (To a specific date). Hopefully all the projects identified by District 5 would make it through. They were encouraged to add some others just in case so that was why there were additional projects in there.

Mr. Bulthuis had called him on Friday to request that the multimodal project at the Railyard be included. It was either coming through the legislature or from the stimulus money.

Mr. Gallegos clarified that all those projects had to be approved by the Governor's Office now. So it was not assured.

Mr. Tibbetts said that at the MPO quarterly meeting, it was mentioned that the requirements were that 50% had to be ready to go by June 30th and as soon as they hit the 50% amount, they wouldn't approve any further projects. But he heard a rumor that a legislator had included a separate project.

Chair Romero asked if they approved a dollar amount or 50% of the number of projects on the list.

Mr. Gallegos thought it was both. We have about 10m district wide and evaluated project readiness. We were not sure on statewide projects.

He went over his list for the district that included three projects in the Santa Fe MPO: Airport Road at \$2 million; Rodeo Road median at \$150,000 and the Santa Fe Rail Trail at \$100,000. He said they had put Siler Road extension as the top priority but the MPO put Airport Road ahead of it.

Mr. Martínez noted that the TPB at last Thursday's meeting asked for \$ 250,000 more for Siler Road.

Mr. Gallegos repeated that the decision would come out of the Governor's office and this might not be the ones that get approved.

Ms. Follingstad asked if the Governor's Office had a different list than his. The TPB did take action on

Siler Road.

Mr. Gallegos said Ms. Pat Oliver-Wright turned it in.

Mr. Morelli explained that she was not aware of the Siler Road action by the TPB.

Ms. Follingstad wondered if that meant the TPB in taking the action was a dollar short. She asked how it had fallen off the list he submitted.

Mr. Gallegos said it could still be chosen by the Governor's Office. District 5 didn't have any control over choosing them.

Mr. Tibbetts said the whole MPO purpose was to prioritize the projects. A lot of projects were not ready.

Mr. Gallegos agreed this list made the most sense. He said he would find out from Ms. Oliver-Wright if this was the list that went to the Governor.

Mr. Martínez asked if the projects had to be on the TIP. Mr. Gallegos agreed.

Chair Romero asked if Siler Road was on the TIP. Mr. Tibbetts agreed.

Mr. Tibbetts said they had this ARRA and then the regular funding. They were both about the same.

Ms. Follingstad was not clear if the approval by TPB got included.

Mr. Gallegos said it would be up to the City if they wanted to shift money to Siler from the Airport Road project. There was also a possibility that bids could come in lower and money could be shifted to other projects. The City of Española was doing it at their own risk if they don't get awarded money. District 5 advised them not to break ground until that was known. He said the City should not break ground on any project they hoped to have stimulus money funding for. It had to start after approval.

Mr. Morelli clarified that Ms. Oliver-Wright sent the list dated February 26th and it had Airport Road but not Siler Road. They were having trouble getting all the information needed but thought they had every project that was shovel ready.

Mr. Tibbetts said those lists went from district to the local governments and bypassed the MPO process. He thought it might have been because of the urgency of the stimulus.

Mr. Baca excused himself from the meeting.

Mr. Morelli said they didn't know what the legislation was going to say so they did not intend to bypass the MPO process.

Mr. Tibbetts said that both Siler and Airport Road were on the list from long ago. The DOT said the Siler Road was not shovel ready but he told David Martínez that it was ready.

Chair Romero asked if he was saying that Siler Road and Rodeo Road median wouldn't get approval.

Mr. Morelli said he was not saying that. The timeline change from 120 days to a year had changed everything.

Ms. Follingstad said the TPB approved the list with Siler Road and also a request for an additional \$250,000 and if the MPO process was functioning, she could not understand why it didn't get submitted to the State.

Mr. Tibbetts reminded them that Siler Road was on the TIP and could be funded in the conventional way. Mr. Gallegos agreed.

Mr. Gallegos acknowledged that they were just guessing at the monies right now. The approval of the TPB should have been a recommendation for ARRA funding. It had not been assigned to anything.

Chair Romero asked if the TPB would have to amend the TIP to follow the Governor's decision.

Mr. Gallegos agreed and probably within 30 days. He asked them to bear in mind that the District didn't know much at the moment.

Ms. Follingstad was concerned that the list the MPO recommended was different from the one the State turned into the Governor's office.

Mr. Gallegos was concerned about the differences too. He suggested that if Siler got thrown in there then one of the Farmington projects would get cut.

The Committee briefly discussed enhancements.

Ms. Follingstad asked if the Santa Fe MPO could submit a letter if it wanted to approach the Governor's office with a letter.

Mr. Gallegos saw no reason why they could not do that.

Mr. Morelli said Ms. Oliver-Wright did know about the Siler Road project but he thought it was going up to \$7 million.

Ms. Follingstad disagreed and said it was just to \$6 million.

Mr. Morelli said it then might get back on there.

Mr. Gallegos gave the list to Mr. Morelli. He cautioned again that if they broke ground prior to contract, the project would not be eligible. Groundbreaking was key and it had to be under contract before that.

Ms. Follingstad asked if the addition of other funds would keep ARRA funds from being used.

Mr. Gallegos didn't know.

Mr. Martínez explained that they were scraping up city and county funds and planned to go to Council to get it awarded.

Mr. Gallegos said they could award the contract as long as groundbreaking did not occur.

Mr. Martínez asked if they would be reimbursed by ARRA monies.

Mr. Gallegos said he would have to find out the answer.

The Committee discussed the allocation of projects within the TIPs for each year including the St. Francis interchange which Mr. Gallegos said had to be kept as a priority with the other interstate bridges.

Mr. Gallegos said if the corridor study recommended a complete replacement and/or change in configuration, they would include it. He explained that they were holding the bridge replacement together with the interchange reconfiguration. If the State recommended reconfiguration, then if they did not do anything to keep the bridge from deteriorating and it continued to fall apart, they might not have the money for it at that time. At present they didn't have sufficient money. If they had more and not that many immediate safety needs, then the MPO would have more programming ability. The MPO right now makes recommendations. He thought they would have a draft of the corridor studies in three months. He added that the Policy Board could refuse to put things in the STIP.

Mr. Martínez asked what happened to left over money in a project.

Mr. Gallegos said it could go somewhere else in the district. He clarified that they would probably be under continuing resolutions. So the MPO should prioritize the 2012 projects so DOT could look at them.

Mr. Tibbetts wasn't sure which project should be moved to 2012 in terms of readiness.

Ms. Follingstad noted that the corridor studies interfaced with the Guadalupe bridge replacement.

Chair Romero agreed that bridge was going to fall down and had to be fixed but projects like the Guadalupe Street Extension should have a decision made by the TPB to amend the TIP. It would be clearer after the studies were done.

Mr. Gallegos said they would discuss it further at a future meeting. That could be done and then

amend the STIP.

Mr. Tibbetts said he had to know the status on Old Pecos Trail, for instance. Some might be short of funds or have run into resistance from the neighborhood. Realistically, 2012 and 2013 would not be fiscally restrained because they didn't know how much money they would get. So they should remain in there.

Mr. Gallegos agreed. Those projects should at least be scoped or designed.

Mr. Martínez said Airport Road was a hot item right now. They received several pots of money for this project including \$250,000 in safety funds for construction. It was sitting there for now. That could be moved ahead if they could realize the rest of the funds.

Mr. Tibbetts thought having the median concurrent with paving would help. It would only delay it a couple of months.

Chair Romero asked if it would still be eligible if moved to 2010.

Mr. Gallegos thought it probably would.

Mr. Martínez favored moving it up noting it was a priority for the City.

Mr. Tibbetts agreed to redo the projects for 2012 and 2013 and send it out. It would just be a carryover of this one. Maybe even by email. They might have to have an extra meeting to get things on the TIP. At least they could get the projects in the right order. He said he would check with each of the sponsors. He asked if there were others besides Airport Road to move up.

Mr. Martínez thought Siler Road should be 2010.

Mr. Tibbetts thought they could put it as an amendment in 2009.

Mr. Gallegos asked Mr. Tibbetts to send those to him because they amended quarterly. That would be the last amendment for this current STIP.

He also recommended moving up Cerrillos Road because it was ready.

Mr. Gallegos recommended putting Siler Road in 2012 for now and if the transportation bill was signed it could be moved up. Other funding would be needed because it would have to be fiscally restrained.

Mr. Tibbetts agreed to clean this up from the discussion and send it out to everyone.

Mr. Martínez moved to move up Airport Road from 2013 to 2012 and Siler Road to 2009

Mr. Tibbetts asked if he was including switching the bridge back to 2013. Mr. Martínez said he was not including that in his motion.

Mr. Gallegos seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous voice vote.

b. UPWP for FY 2010

Mr. Tibbetts said there weren't that many changes; just adding the ARRA language and then reformatting. A lot was ongoing and their budget was up to \$128,000. They were in the same boat as everyone else but might get more money because of additional money that was found. He said Mr. Quintana had given him the list.

INFORMATION/DISCUSSION:

a. Update on Santa Fe Studies (I-25, New Mexico 599, and St. Francis Drive (Dave Quintana)

Mr. Quintana was not present. Mr. Tibbetts said the 599 Study was setting stakeholder meetings now for the middle to end of April. St. Francis Drive just finished two public meetings. I-25 had one on the 8th, a day before the TPB meeting on the 9th.

Chair Romero thought that would help them amend the plan.

Chair Romero and Mr. Gallegos urged members to get involved in the corridor meetings.

b. Updates on public transit and rail activities within the MPO Planning Area (by service providers: NMDOT, MRCOG, NCRTD, Santa Fe Trails, Santa Fe Pick-Up)

None.

4. MPO Officer Report

None.

5. TCC Member Comments

None.

6. PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

7. ADJOURN – Next TCC meeting: Monday, April 27, 2009

The meeting space was committed to another committee at 3:00 p.m. so the meeting was adjourned at 2:59 p.m.

Approved by:

John Romero, Chair

Submitted by:



Carl Boaz, Stenographer

