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## MINUTES OF THE SANTA FE MPO TECHNICAL COORDINATING COMMITTEE MONDAY, April 5, 2010

## INTRODUCTIONS:

# a. CALL TO ORDER

A meeting of the Santa Fe MPO Technical Coordinating Committee was called to order by Mr. Mark Tibbetts in the absence of the Chair at approximately 1:30 p.m., on the above date in the Nambe Room, Community Convention Center, 201 West Marcy Street, Santa Fe, New Mexico.

## b. ROLL CALL

Roll Call indicated the presence of a quorum as follows:

## MEMBERS PRESENT

Andrew Jandáček – Santa Fe County Shelley Cobau for Jack Kolkmeyer – Santa Fe County Reed Liming – City of Santa Fe Eric Martínez for Chris Ortega – City of Santa Fe Robert Martínez – Santa Fe County Greg Smith – City of Santa Fe

## MEMBERS ABSENT

John Romero, Chair – City of Santa Fe Jon Bulthuis – Santa Fe Trails Miguel Gabaldon – NMDOT District 5 Jack Valencia for Josette Lucero – NCRTD Larry Samuel – Tesuque Pueblo One Vacancy - RPA

## STAFF PRESENT

Mark Tibbetts – MPO Officer [arriving later] Keith Wilson – Senior Planner

# **OTHERS PRESENT**

Claude Morelli - NMDOT

## c. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

There were no changes requested to the Agenda.

# 1. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

There were no communications from the public.

# 2. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION:

# a. Working Session on the Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) - MPO Staff

# • Discussion of the Future Roads Network

Mr. Wilson provided 3 handouts. The first including a printout of recommendations from the 3 corridor studies that were categorized by short term, medium and long range. It also had other projects they discussed in independent studies.

The second handout was a full List of Roadway Project Priorities for the MTP in the short term with rankings (1-3)

The third handout was a list of Short Range Project Priorities for the MTP with jurisdiction and costs with federal funding listed.

On the Recommendations, the first section was programmed projects, second was short term projects. The yellow highlighted were developer funded; green was county funded.

Staff wanted to make sure these priorities were agreed upon by the TCC.

He handed out a quick calculation of roadway funding. As discussed last week the federal allocation would be \$5-10 million so they used \$7.5 million per year. He noted that the county total for 2010-2012 was incorrect.

Mr. Eric Martínez said the City was going through the CIP right now. Some of the smaller ones were not even listed. He asked if Mr. Wilson looked up the current TIP. One project was not listed - downtown bridges.

Mr. Wilson said he was going to ask if that was something the City was still working on.

Mr. Eric Martínez asked that it be kept on the list.

Mr. Wilson agreed.

#### Discussion of Fiscal Constraints and Project Prioritization

Mr. Wilson recalled he went through the priorities last time. Most of them were short term. The interim improvements on I-25 would allow other major interchange improvements to shift on this median. They also included potential funding for the transit study.

Ms. Cobau reported that the Rodeo Road median enhancements were done. Mr. Wilson agreed and was just listing what was in the TIP.

Mr. Liming asked if there were any others.

Mr. Wilson said there was Siler Road extension. They were still accessing 2010 funds.

Mr. Tibbetts said Airport Road Safety was not yet completed.

Mr. Robert Martínez thought noting in the report which ones were under construction would help.

Mr. Wilson agreed to adjust that.

Mr. Eric Martínez asked if they were still on track with what they were required to do. There might have been some confusion about the criteria.

Mr. Tibbetts said they were required to show anticipated revenue sources but on assigning each project to a given fiscal year was very difficult. They were all important in the next 10 years. He clarified that some must precede others.

Mr. Eric Martínez asked if this had the priorities through 2035.

Mr. Tibbetts explained it was just for the next 10 years. Although some were sequential, they could not decide without knowing how much funding would be available.

Mr. Robert Martínez asked how long ago he was told how much money was available.

Mr. Tibbetts said it was at the last meeting.

Mr. Liming asked if the 2010 programmed projects were for this fiscal year. Mr. Tibbetts agreed.

Mr. Liming suggested those just be taken off the list.

Mr. Wilson explained that the first page was just for TCC members' information.

Mr. Tibbetts explained the funding for South Meadows.

Ms. Cobau asked about the timing since it was developer driven.

Mr. Tibbetts said it was a contract with the State. Oshara would accept it but the agreement was between the County and the State.

Ms. Cobau asked if they could take money left over from Siler Road for the NE Connector.

Mr. Wilson agreed that could be done.

Mr. Wilson explained how the priority process was undertaken.

Ms. Cobau advocated for better paving at the Santa Fe Community College. There was one mile that needed to be resurfaced and another mile than needed to be finished.

Mr. Smith brought up the pro rata share of Richards improvements tacked on to developments down there.

Ms. Cobau said they didn't really have anyone except Rancho Viejo and Oshara.

Mr. Wilson asked if that was more important than Cerrillos. The Committee briefly discussed Cerrillos Road.

Mr. Morelli said he brought up the federal factors last time. The MTP needed to follow that format. The MPO did a good job in the past. He suggested they determine what they wanted to get out of the transportation system first.

Mr. Liming asked why they were abandoning the 5 year plan for this ten year plan. He thought a five year time frame was a lot for officials and the public to get their arms around. It was true especially if they were uncertain about federal money. They could get their minds around 5 years much easier. So they might specify the criteria they were using.

Mr. Tibbetts said the TIP would be a five year plan. They would pick from the MTP but arguing over the next 2 years would take more time.

Mr. Liming was trying to match up what they could put their arms around with the TIP.

Mr. Wilson reminded them they still had to go through all of these to ten years out.

Mr. Tibbetts added that they had no guarantee of funding yet but would know by the end of the year.

Ms. Cobau asked what a two mile road (rural section) would cost.

Mr. Robert Martínez said it was about a million dollars per mile.

Ms. Cobau said that meant the NE connector would be about \$1.4 million.

Mr. Wilson thought they could have that discussion when they got to the TIP.

Mr. Tibbetts noted that the County said Hwy 14 widening was hugely important and now were saying that the NE connector was very important.

Ms. Cobau said the County had \$2 million set aside for widening 14. They had a big project going in out there.

Mr. Tibbetts said that was good to know. To respond to Mr. Morelli, these projects had all been on the list for the last two years. They were on five years ago. They were now coming back. This was what the public addressed.

Mr. Morelli said Mr. Wilson brought up the section USC. It was a federal law and the plans had to include these federal criteria (A through H) in the scope of the planning process.

Mr. Tibbetts said staff had stressed everyone of these each time. They had quoted them verbatim. It was nothing new.

Mr. Morelli countered that he couldn't explain the Santa Fe MPO prioritizing process as a relative newcomer. Others might share that opinion. He didn't see the strategy.

Mr. Tibbetts said they were not listed in order of importance but each of these projects addressed most of those goals.

Ms. Cobau asked about Las Soleras on Beckner giving a frontage from Cerrillos Road to Richards as part of their project.

Mr. Tibbetts said in the agreement on the Master Plan there would be a station there but he didn't know if there was a deadline for connecting Beckner Road between Cerrillos Road and Richards.

Ms. Cobau said they were working on it now.

Mr. Liming thought most of what they were grading would work west to east.

Ms. Cobau said it was to get to the hospital.

Mr. Smith related that in their first development plan they had to convince the Planning Commission of the proper sequencing of the project.

Mr. Jandáček excused himself from the meeting.

Ms. Cobau said there were 20 acres on the northwest corner of Richards and I-25 that were reserved for the Richards interchange so that would reduce costs of the ROW.

Mr. Wilson thought they probably just needed to show the time bounds of these 20 projects and stretch out the rest.

Mr. Tibbetts said sometimes it was easier to figure out which ones should rise to the top to be in the next five years. That would help in prioritizing to decide which ones should be done first. Cerrillos Road needed to get done quickly.

Mr. Liming clarified that they could begin on the second page that began three years out and was based on \$7.5 million annually.

Mr. Wilson shared a few comments on the priorities.

Mr. Tibbetts said the State would not like it if they just put the I-25 safety on hold. It was federally funded. The State also wanted the Old Pecos Trail on-ramp lane extension done quickly.

Mr. Liming agreed the state could put pressure on where they wanted the money to go.

Mr. Tibbetts said that was why staff wanted Phil Griego to be present. They needed some feedback from DOT. We were trying to sell each of these as a connection with the corridor studies.

Mr. Eric Martínez said the more they pushed Cerrillos project out, the more it would cost.

Mr. Tibbetts asked members to identify any that could be put into the medium range list.

Mr. Eric Martínez identified St. Francis access management and St. Francis Pedestrian intersection improvements as two of them. He wondered what pedestrian improvements there would be.

Mr. Wilson said he just lumped them all together.

Mr. Tibbetts thought maybe they could use a red arrow to allow pedestrians to cross.

Mr. Morelli said signal timing to give pedestrians more time was best. The standard was 3.5' per second now.

Mr. Eric Martínez suggested those two St. Francis projects could be done operationally.

Mr. Morelli said it was safety as well as operational - especially at Cordova.

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Ms. Cobau said to do it right it would have to go far back to the east. She added that, on Zia, the way the Rail runner was handled was sad. They could have done a sub grade instead but that was the DOT's fault.

Mr. Tibbetts remembered they talked about doing that at Siringo.

Mr. Morelli pushed for consideration of the goals again. He said the Santa Fe MPO had no way to prioritize pedestrian crossings there. Zia was important as a railroad stop but so was Cordova. They had no way to prioritize those.

Mr. Tibbetts said they stated on the MTP that all of the pedestrian crossings of St. Francis were high priority and should be done.

Mr. Liming didn't want to try to prioritize the pedestrian crossings of St. Francis at each intersection in the MTP.

Mr. Wilson said they didn't have the time or money to do those details.

Ms. Cobau said there was nothing planned on Santa Fe Trail. The level of service from the liquor store to the Round House was bad and there was no bike trail there.

Mr. Morelli left the meeting at this time.

Mr. Liming asked if staff wanted the TCC to verify what should go forward to the MTP. Mr. Wilson agreed.

Mr. Liming thought they looked good.

Ms. Cobau agreed. But if they could not improve Old Pecos Trail coming to Peralta, she would question doing the improvements at the interstate.

Mr. Tibbetts talked briefly about Old Pecos Trail.

Mr. Eric Martínez said there was a list from lots of public involvement. The City was looking at other improvements but they were small so they were not part of this list. He was thinking about whether they should move things around.

Mr. Liming felt there was a lot more in this list and a lot more detail. They could do detail on the first five years. But the priorities were listed and he thought the TCC should just go forward with them.

Mr. Wilson said they would do either a five year or a 10 year and show the fiscal constraints.

Mr. Liming thought that sounded good.

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The Committee had a brief discussion on the hierarchy schedules.

Mr. Tibbetts asked once again for members to identify what projects could be postponed.

Ms. Cobau thought maybe there should be intersections where pedestrian traffic was discouraged.

Mr. Wilson asked if they wanted to meet next Monday.

Mr. Liming asked if the decisions would be done in chunks.

Mr. Tibbetts said they would start emailing out the proposals. The whole idea with them was to be more inclusive.

Ms. Cobau thought the map looked good and very comprehensive.

Mr. Liming assumed that at some point staff just needed to send something out and ask the members to respond.

Mr. Tibbetts suggested that if there were projects the County was going to fund, staff needed to know about it and the same was true for the City CIP too.

Mr. Liming said it might be difficult to get match for \$7.5 million out of CIP.

Mr. Robert Martínez noted that on 2019, it appeared the construction would cost more then. As a public document, it would come back to bite the MPO.

Mr. Tibbetts said they would not show the program year to the public.

Mr. Robert Martínez asked when they would know how much federal funding they would be getting.

Mr. Tibbetts said they we just had to go by the estimate given.

Mr. Liming thought it depended on the district office.

The Commission had more discussion on packaging

Ms. Cobau excused herself from the meeting at this time.

Mr. Eric Martínez thought maybe they just needed to write it down and send it to the members and have the County do the same thing and then staff would have a way to make the adjustments.

Mr. Tibbetts said they would make a recommendation but it was a political decision. Staff tried to

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promote the most important ones.

Mr. Liming said the Committee trusted what staff had done. He favored keeping it generalized.

Mr. Tibbetts said it would help to have their input statements. Maybe they could do the district projects over several years instead of one. They had been passive in the past and could no longer do that.

Mr. Smith asked about the issue of intermodal balancing and separate funding for bicycles, etc.

Mr. Tibbetts explained that there were other grants available like for replacement of buses. Bikeways was an issue.

Mr. Wilson agreed and clarified that they were only working on road ways right now. The \$7.5 million was pretty much just for roadway projects.

Mr. Tibbetts added that Complete Streets did require all modes of transportation and the State rule was 10% for enhancement. So they would have to rely on Complete Streets provisions. Sometimes they could even get recreation money. Then there were always impact fees.

# 3. MPO OFFICER REPORT

The MPO Officer had nothing further to report.

# 4. COMMUNICATIONS FROM TCC MEMBERS

There were no communications from TCC Members.

# 5. ADJOURN - Next TCC Meeting - Monday, April 12, 2010

Having completed the agenda and with no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 3:15 p.m.

Approved by:

Mark Tibbetts for John Romero, Chair

Submitted by:

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Carl Boaz, Stenographer