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MINUTES OF THE SANTA FÉ MPO TRANSPORTATION POLICY BOARD April 14, 2011

CALL TO ORDER

A regular meeting of the Santa Fé MPO Transportation Policy board was called to order on the above date by Commissioner Liz Stefanics in the absence of Chair David Coss at approximately 4:00 p.m. in the City Council Chambers at City Hall, 200 Lincoln Avenue, Santa Fé, New Mexico.

ROLL CALL

Roll call indicated the lack of a quorum as follows:

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Commissioner Robert Anaya, Santa Fé County Councilor Patti Bushee, City of Santa Fé Commissioner Liz Stefanics, Santa Fé County Mr. Ryan Suazo Hines, Tesuque Pueblo [arriving later]

MEMBERS EXCUSED:

Dep. Sec Kathenne Bender, NMDOT Mayor David Coss, City of Santa Fé, Chair Commissioner Virginia Vigil, Vice Chair Councilor Ron Trujillo, City of Santa Fé

STAFF PRESENT:

Mr. Mark Tibbetts, MPO Officer Mr. Keith Wilson, MPO Planner

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The Agenda was not considered because there was not a quorum present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

February 10, 2011

The minutes were not considered because there was not a quorum present

A. MATTERS FROM THE PUBLIC

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There were no matters from the public.

B. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION

1. Discussion of Revised Draft Amendment of 2010-2013 Transportation Improvement Program and Revised Draft of 2012-2015 Transportation Improvement Program

Mr. Wilson handed out the documents for this item and began with 2012-2015. This was a 4 year funding allocation plan. For the public participation, the TCC developed a plan and last year he put it out to county, city and state to identify possible projects. The first sheet listed all the projects that were submitted. The TCC prioritized all of the projects and he forwarded them to NMDOT District 5 for their consideration and to identify the funding needed.

The TIP was based on this prioritized list. There was some overlap on both TIPs. There was some flexibility for funding on it. What they put out in March for the 30 day public review was coming to an end. But he just got a request from District 5 to move some money around.

Commissioner Stefanics was confused. They had a 2010-2012 TIP and a 2013-2015 TIP. She asked if they had some changes.

Mr. Wilson agreed. They had to do some switching around of money. He shared both because some money from the former TIP was being moved to the new TIP.

Commissioner Stefanics asked if the 2010-2012 would end in September 30, 2011. Mr. Wilson agreed.

Mr. Wilson said to the list they provided, District 5 said they had enough remaining funds to fund the first two projects. The NE/SE Connector would be in FY 2012 if approved by this board. The other project had special funding for the last phase of Cerrillos from Camino Carlos Rey to St. Francis Drive. That would be funded over 3 years with \$11 million for FY 2013 at \$5 million for design and construction the following 3 years.

The other project identified in 2012, was for FY 2012-2013 and one change that happened to necessitate amendment was at the NM599/CR62 interchange. It was to be done in 2013 and was moved to 2012. It didn't change the schedule of the project. Essentially they had \$5.6 million in 2011 and moved it to 2012 to do the project at \$7.7 million. He knew it was confusing and hard to understand.

He would seek approval next month and it was essential to get a quorum.

Mr. Wilson referred to the handout on public comments. One gentleman came to the public meeting but no comments. He did provide some emails received so far. Mr. Fred Pearson gave a lot and felt the MPO should program for right of way and construction at this time. Mr. Wilson explained to him that the MPO could not program funds for any project that had not first been studied.

The second document was the current TIP (FY 2010-2012). And there were a few changes for shifting of funding including the 599/62 interchange. He pointed out that 2012 and 2013 were no longer in this document because they were now in the new one.

Looking at the statewide TIP there were a number of instances where the match changed slightly. When looking back they could make sure they had the right numbers.

The Park and Ride funding was on 6 of 8. This used Park and Ride funding. In conversations with DOT it was a statewide project so it didn't need to be in the Santa Fé MPO TIP.

The public comment period would go until May 9 and be considered at May 12 meeting.

Councilor Bushee noted that the Las Soleras station was up there second on the rail transit project list. She asked if this was in order of priority.

Mr. Wilson said it was not. You were looking at a list that had funding. The developer agreed to fund that. So that project was still in process as far as he knew.

Councilor Bushee considered the multi-modal center more important than the Sheridan terminal.

Mr. Wilson said that was in the Transportation Plan.

Councilor Bushee thought some of these projects might not get built. Las Soleras rises to the top and the Richards extension was still on the list.

Mr. Wilson clarified that they were on 2010.

Commissioner Stefanics asked at what point something could be removed for lack of action. She knew this document terminated at September 30, 2011 but she wondered about 2012-2015.

Mr. Wilson said if the funds were not spent in the federal fiscal year then the state would release the funding for something else.

Commissioner Stefanics asked at what point with Las Soleras with inaction this would be taken off the list.

Mr. Gallegos said Las Soleras was put into the TIP because it was regionally significant and supposedly funded with private funds so they would keep it on the list as long as parties were seeking from this board that it be left on.

Councilor Bushee asked about the St. Francis interchange.

Mr. Wilson explained that was for bridge improvements at the St. Francis interchange on page 5 of 8.

Mr. Gallegos said that portion of I-25 was identified as WIPP route and they had WIPP money and

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chose to use it there. They usually got about \$16 million annually for WIPP projects.

Mr. Gallegos added that the 599/62 interchange and St. Francis and the one down south were all eligible. So the District chose St. Francis at I-25.

Councilor Bushee asked what they were looking for at South Capital.

Mr. Wilson said that was submitted by Rio Metro because there was insufficient access for disabled. So it was primarily improvements for station access. These would be on a holding list for possible funds in the future.

Councilor Bushee thought Guadalupe already had bridge funds.

Mr. Gallegos said the DOT was still formulating the state TIP and wouldn't finish until May. There was \$27 million district wide and the district was huge so they tried to balance with Santa Fé, Farmington and 3 RPOs.

Councilor Bushee asked what Old Las Vegas CVC was.

Mr. Wilson said it was a culvert for arroyos. The bridge projects were coupled with two bridges together for efficiency and contract ease.

Commissioner Anaya asked for a snapshot in this one-page summary of projects that were approved and built. He would have some other suggestions after visiting with staff regarding the race track, Highway 14 and trails intersecting Commissioner Stefanic's district and his district.

2. Presentations from the MPO Sponsored Worcester Polytechnic Institute (WPI) Teams

Mr. Tibbetts said the MPO staff had been working with WPI a little last year and more this year. They would update the Board on the progress of their projects and provide an overview of what they were intending to do.

Mr. Hines arrived at this time.

Commissioner Stefanics welcomed them and assumed it was all volunteer.

TPI members explained how the program worked for them and introduced themselves.

a. Mobility Team

The Mobility Team shared their PPT. The team talked to the way they could overcome the disparity in software platforms. Everyone had their own standard.

Councilor Bushee asked what agent based modeling was.

The Team said it was a simulation tool for traffic. This was a tool that could simulate down to the individual car and was used to predict future flows.

Mr. Wilson clarified that each entity did its own kind of traffic counting and this would provide a centralized system for the MPO to use. It would benefit all agencies to have that and would make it simple to find information. Staff got data from variety of locations and they would fill in the rest with this modeling system.

b. Miles Team

The Miles Team introduced themselves and shared a PPT of their work which focused on trails connections. They got information from all public transportation options. For travel demand they focused on Santa Fé Trails. Routes 2, 4 and 6. They were the busiest routes and had the most connections. Out of their work they would provide recommendations for increasing indership and create a new proposed schedule to better use the Santa Fé Trail system.

Commissioner Stefanics pointed out the disconnect with times of intersection of the various transit systems.

Councilor Bushee asked if there was an app people could use.

The Team said there was. They were looking at Google Transit and Google maps. So yes.

Commissioner Anaya thanked them for the information. Sometimes those things get overlooked by government.

Councilor Bushee commented that a lot of the city's old benches were metal and hot or cold.

The Team said they had been using the buses quite a bit. They thought they might meet with the artist who was designing the new bus stops. There would also be teams coming to Santa Fé later on.

c. Paths Team

d. Lights Team

Mr. Tibbetts explained that these last two teams presented at TCC but were not available at this meeting. There were a total of six teams and the MPO sponsored four of them. Their work could show amenities on the trails to help those who used them. They were here a limited time but the MPO hoped to build on what they have achieved and use it in developing other plans.

He noted that the Lights Team was working with energy efficiency and safety in lighting at intersections and recommended replacing high pressure sodium with LED lights. They were analyzing crash data from over one hundred intersections. Mr. John Orr was their sponsor/chaperone.

Mr. Orr said he was a professor at WPI. He provided an overview of the program where they brought their technology and applied it to real problems. It was a great learning experience. They had 20 such projects around the world. It was not a college exchange program but one where students went to communities.

Councilor Bushee asked how Santa Fé connected with WPI.

Mr. Wilson said WPI partnered with the Santa Fé Complex and MPO staff saw it as an opportunity to help the MPO to get what was needed. Afterward they would identify projects for the future.

Mr. Wilson said the May meeting would be at the Santa Fé Complex.

Commissioner Stefanics invited them to sit in on a City Council meeting and County Commission meeting.

C. MATTERS FROM THE SFMPO TRANSPORTATION POLICY BOARD

Commissioner Anaya asked what could be done about scheduling of meetings to get a quorum.

Commissioner Stefanics said it was by setting a standard meeting time and get it on everyone's calendars.

D. MATTERS FROM THE MPO STAFF

Mr. Wilson emphasized that May 12 was a very important meeting.

Commissioner Stefanics agreed. They had to vote on the plan at that meeting. It might help to get commitments now.

Mr. Wilson said staff worked to get a commitment and later that would evaporate.

Commissioner Stefanics said she would be here May 12.

Councilor Bushee wasn't sure.

Mr. Tibbetts said they would have a special meeting if necessary.

Commissioner Stefanics asked if members could attend by phone. Mr. Tibbetts said no.

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E. COMMUNICATIONS FROM NMDOT AND FHWA

There were no communications from NMDOT and FHWA.

F. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 5:20 p.m.

Approved by:

Liz Stefanics, Chair pro tem

Submitted by:

Carl Boaz, Stenographer &