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SFMPO-TCC MEETING
May 21, 2012**

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**MINUTES OF THE
SANTA FÉ MPO
TECHNICAL COORDINATING COMMITTEE
May 21, 2012**

CALL TO ORDER

A regular meeting of the Santa Fé MPO Technical Coordinating Committee was called to order on the above date by Chair John Romero at approximately 1:30 p.m. in the Councilors' Conference Room, City Hall, 200 Lincoln Avenue, Santa Fé, New Mexico.

ROLL CALL

Roll call indicated the presence of a quorum as follows:

MEMBERS PRESENT:

John Romero, Chair - City of Santa Fé
Tamara Baer – City of Santa Fé
Phil Gallegos – NMDOT District 5
Andrew Jandáček - Santa Fé County
Adam Leigland – Santa Fé County
Richard Macpherson – City of Santa Fé
Eric Martínez – City of Santa Fé
Tony Mortillaro – NCRTD

MEMBERS EXCUSED:

Jon Bulthuis – Santa Fé Trails
Penny Ellis-Green – Santa Fé County
Ryan Swazo-Hinds – Tesuque Pueblo

STAFF PRESENT:

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

OTHERS PRESENT:

Mr. Ray Matthews, NMDOT

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mr. Leigland moved to approve the agenda as presented. Ms. Baer seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous voice vote.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES -

A. April 9, 2012

Chair Romero said the minutes didn't cover the discussion on the Washington intersection adequately. The intersection improvements were state and federal and the Washington Street portion was funded by the City so the project was not just state and federal funding as the minutes implied. He said that was contradicted on page three where the minutes reported that Mr. Quintana said the funding was all state and federal.

Ms. Baer asked if they could approve the minutes with more clarification on that section. Chair Romero thought so.

Chair Romero said the amendment was that state and federal funds would be used for all the improvements on Paseo de Peralta and Washington up toward Artist Road. The CIP money would be used on Washington south of the intersection including the Washington intersection and Paseo de Peralta east of the intersection. It was put in the CIP Bond at Councilor Bushee's request.

Ms. Baer moved to approve the minutes of April 9, 2012 as amended. Mr. Martínez seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous voice vote.

B. May 7, 2012

Mr. Martínez requested a change on page 2, last paragraph where he said it was for bridges over Santa Fé River. He also said, "It was in the TIP's list of unfunded projects."

On page 5, third line should say "Mr. Martínez asked ..." (not said) and the title should be Land Use Administrator.

On page 5, Section d, fourth line where it said, "Mr. Martínez asked Mr. Morelli about the DOT update in July for October" - it was about the status of contracts for projects listed in the TIP if that would affect [funding]. Mr. Wilson said the question was whether the uncertainty of the reauthorization would affect the local projects in 2013.

Mr. Martínez moved to approve the minutes of May 7, 2012 as amended. Mr. Leigland seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous voice vote.

1. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

There were no communications from the public.

2. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION:

a. Review and Recommendation on the proposed amendments to the FFY 2012-2015 Transportation Improvement Program

Mr. Wilson said May 7 was the end of the public comment review and the TCC voted to recommend to the Policy Board the amendments to the TIP. Additional money for the Cerrillos Road/I-25 interchange and added money to the Santa Fé Rail Trail project from NM Central - those three amendments were to have been considered at the TPB meeting on May 10 but they had no quorum.

But on that same day, DOT District 5 got notified of an award of \$2.2 million for paving on I-25 that needed to be included in the June STIP. If the money was not obligated it would be lost. So MPO staff worked with the District 5 staff on how best to get this amendment into the June STIP amendment.

Because they only had a couple of weeks to reschedule TPB staff decided to release these 3 amendments and called this meeting to be able to add that amendment to the TIP in a public meeting.

So now they were re-releasing all four amendments for 30 days and would consider them in the June 25 TCC meeting and try to get a June date for TPB right after that. The STIP would get approved about that time. So that would allow the money to be available to the District for the project.

Mr. Gallegos explained this was an overlay from Old Pecos Trail to the Junction of 285 and I-25. This money came from the statewide distribution at the discretion of the Secretary. They were all preservation projects on state facilities.

Mr. Wilson said it was not under MPO control.

Mr. Gallegos said it affected both MPOs so they had to go through the process.

Mr. Leigland asked when the work would be done.

Mr. Gallegos said this would be done under a federal price agreement so it would be done in July right after it gets approved. They would coordinate traffic so it didn't cause a problem.

Ms. Baer asked if designation of funds for highways was at the Secretary level. Mr. Gallegos agreed.

Ms. Baer asked if the Secretary could have chosen to do bicycle trails instead.

Mr. Gallegos agreed but he wouldn't while interstate highways were falling apart.

Mr. Leigland moved to approve the release for public review. Mr. Martínez seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous voice vote.

3. MPO OFFICER REPORT

Mr. Tibbetts announced that Mr. Wilson would be at the traffic count conference in Dallas during the week of June 4th and he would be on vacation next week. Ms. Lucy Gantforma was coming as an intern from Santa Fé in graduate studies on urban planning at Cornell University and for ten weeks would work with archive traffic counts using Facebook. She also had transit experience so she might look at best practices in transit and pedestrian counting. She was a very capable independent type worker.

Mr. Mortillaro asked if she could draft an RFP for the NCRTD.

Mr. Tibbetts said maybe. They had about six items for her to consider in the UPWP. In June they would close out the UPWP. They also got word from Rudolfo at FHWA that this MPO would be under financial review in June and he was trying to get it moved to the end of July because of all the things going on in June including a quarterly MPO meeting in Farmington.

They would probably review the Public Participation Plan. Las Cruces went through it and he believed Farmington did too. All of them would eventually be reviewed.

Mr. Leigland asked how they were paying for the intern.

Mr. Tibbetts said it got complicated because she was not working for the City. The MPO was sharing a grant with Cornell University 50/50. The MPO share of \$1,800 they would take out of their open category for consultant services.

Mr. Leigland asked if it was the same with WPI. Mr. Tibbetts agreed.

Mr. Tibbetts explained that they were under pressure to spend out the allocation. They had negotiated a floor not entirely based on population to keep the Santa Fe MPO in place so they had sufficient funding for staff.

There were also unobligated and redistributed funds that come out of the blue and they were expected to spend it in the year. They were presently running a surplus and over the next two years expected to spend it down with transit components. He thought they were okay financially but couldn't spend it too wildly.

They were thinking of taking on additional staff and by fall should know. It would have to be a competent planner hopefully with MPO experience.

Mr. Leigland asked how they found interns.

Mr. Wilson said WPI had partnered with the City through Santa Fé Complex.

Mr. Tibbetts said they were not actively soliciting them.

Mr. Leigland said the County was looking for some.

Mr. Wilson had the new Bikeways/Trails Map with him and offered a copy of each of those present.

Mr. Tibbetts reported that Cañoncito went back to public review because of additional options. They now had an option to abandon the interchange and just rebuild the culvert. At the public meeting two Saturdays ago the preference was to expand the ramps and replace the culvert at that location. So they would either close it or do the improvements. It would make the cost more manageable.

The I-25/Cerrillos Road project was still forming and there was no third alternative yet. It was still either diverging diamond or traditional diamond with a roundabout being considered. There were some assumptions that one alternative would be preferred over the other but it was still a work in progress.

Mr. Gallegos said they were getting close to choosing a third alternative. He was interested in input from City and County.

Chair Romero apologized that he could not meet at the last one.

Mr. Gallegos said they would have to have another meeting. The project would carry forward until they had the third alternative. Both of those projects were funded for 2013 so they had to get this done in the summer. It was a contract for final design. It had to have final approval from Washington DC.

4. COMMUNICATIONS FROM TCC MEMBERS

Mr. Leigland said the County was looking at doing work with traffic calming and right now focusing on Agua Fria south of Henry Lynch which carried about 10,000 vehicles/day. He asked if the City wanted to be involved. They wouldn't spend a lot. They wanted to make it more of a gateway with treatments maybe like medians, bulb outs, etc.

Mr. Tibbetts suggested a roundabout right there by the school.

Mr. Martínez said people avoided Rufina because they couldn't easily get back to Agua Fria.

Chair Romero said the City was going to extend Henry Lynch to Alameda.

Mr. Tibbetts thought if they wanted a gateway that a roundabout could have a symbolic structure for entrance to Agua Fria similar to what DOT was doing at the 62 overpass with some public art and also would be a great traffic calming device. That way people could get to Rufina.

He had also suggested Rufina and López Lane also as a possible roundabout location. That intersection had been on our Long Range Plan for ten years.

Mr. Martínez said they needed to provide better emergency response time to arterials.

Mr. Leigland said they were not sure what they could achieve and were considering a temporary bulb outs.

Mr. Wilson said bulb outs would cause concerns from bicyclists. He asked if it was more uphill on one side. Mr. Leigland agreed. They were thinking of having a bicycle lane in one direction.

Mr. Wilson pointed out that on the downhill side, bicyclists could maintain the speed. In the MP you would approve the bike lane on the uphill side because of slower speeds.

Chair Romero said on Cordova BTAC made the City do both directions.

Ms. Baer noted that at the Airport Road project there was overlay zoning and the discussion came up about how people get through on buses. It took two hours by bus to get to SFCC.

It was suggested that the City look at mini taxis - either private or public - not the size of a bus but to transport people to bus stops on certain locations. It might be worth keeping in mind. It should be something at minimum cost and that people knew was coming often and they could wave it down and get off anywhere along that route.

Mr. Tibbetts asked if it would be like the Santa Fé Pickup model. Ms. Baer agreed. It could even be with a car.

Chair Romero related that it didn't take that long for her daughter to get to SFCC from Ortiz.

Mr. Wilson said the WPI students came up with minor alterations to some schedules because some routes missed connections by about 2 minutes.

Ms. Baer said it was just an idea.

Mr. Jandáček asked Mr. Gallegos if he had a schedule for the 599/62 interchange construction.

Mr. Gallegos agreed to check on it. He said they were on schedule. There were some drainage issues while building the ramps. He hoped to have CR 62 traffic back by fall.

Mr. Jandáček said they needed to coordinate that with Agua Fria traffic calming.

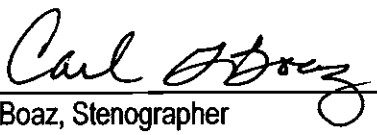
5. ADJOURN - Next TCC Meeting: Monday, June 25, 2012

The meeting was adjourned at 2:20 p.m.

Approved by:


John Romero, Chair

Submitted by:


Carl Boaz, Stenographer