

SUMMARY INDEX
SANTA FE MPO
TRANSPORTATION POLICY BOARD (TPB)

February 12, 2009

ITEM	ACTION TAKEN	PAGE(S)
1. Call to Order		1
2. Roll Call	Quorum present	1
3. Approval of Agenda	Approved	1
4. Approval of Minutes December 11, 2008	Approved	1
ELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR	Vice chair postponed	3
ACTION ITEM		
1. Approval of revised FY 2008-2009-UPWP	Approved	3
2. Approval of revised and restated JPA and SFMPO Boundary Change	Approved	3-6
INFORMATION/DISCUSSION		
a. Update on Continuation of Santa Fe Studies (I-25, NM599 and St. Francis Dr.)	John Quintana	6-7
b. Update on NM Rail Runner Express (MRCOG) Construction Projects	Discussed	7-9
c. Coordination of Transit Services for Rail Runner Express Passengers	Discussed	8-9
MATTERS FROM THE SFMPO TPB	None	9
MATTERS FROM MPO STAFF	Discussed	9
COMMUNICATIONS FROM NMDOT AND FHWA	None	9
OTHER MATTERS FROM THE PUBLIC	Previously discussed	9
ADJOURNMENT- Next scheduled meeting	Adjourned at 11:49 a.m. Thursday April 9, 2009	9-10
MPO-TPB	February 12, 2009	0

MINUTES OF THE
SANTA FE MPO
TRANSPORTATION POLICY BOARD

Thursday, February 12, 2009

CALL TO ORDER

A meeting of the Santa Fe MPO Transportation Policy Board was called to order by Commissioner Mike Anaya in the absence of Miguel Chavez, Chair, on this date at approximately 10:00 a.m. in the Santa Fe City Councilors Chambers at City Hall, 200 Lincoln, Santa Fe, New Mexico.

ROLL CALL

Roll call indicated the presence of a quorum as follows:

Members Present:

Miguel Chavez, Chair
Commissioner Mike Anaya
Mr. Robert Anaya
Councilor Robert Mora
Councilor Matthew Ortiz,
Commissioner Liz Stefanics
Commissioner Virginia Vigil

Members Absent:

Mayor Ron Coss

Staff Present:

Mark Tibbetts, MPO Coordinating Officer

Others Present:

Anna Hanson, Public citizen
David Quintana, NMDOT
Tom Romero, Santa Fe Community College
Carl Sommer, attorney
Charmaine Clair, Stenographer

APPROVAL of AGENDA

Commissioner Vigil moved to approve the agenda as presented. Commissioner Stefanics seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous voice vote.

Chair Chavez entered the meeting at this time.

APPROVAL of MINUTES: *December 11, 2008*

Commissioner Anaya moved to approve the minutes of December 11, 2008 as presented. Mr. Robert Anaya seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous voice vote.

ELECTION of CHAIR and VICE-CHAIR

Chair Chavez said the Vice Chair position would normally roll into the Chair position and nominated Commissioner Anaya as the Chair for the next six months.

Commissioner Stefanics moved to approve the nomination. Commissioner Vigil seconded the motion.

Chair Chavez said he would be willing to continue as Vice Chair and had discussed the matter with Councilor Ortiz who was Ok with that. He said he had discussed the position with Mayor Coss who showed no interest in the position.

Commissioner Vigil recommended in the practice of fairness that the board forestall the election of the vice chair until the next month's meeting.

The motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

ACTION ITEMS:

1. Approval of Revised FY 2008-09 UPWP

Mr. Mark Tibbets said the UPWP (Unified Plan Work Program) had been annually presented to the board had become more frequent because of changes in the funding amount from the federal government throughout the year. He said additional funds from the 5303 federal transit funds that had not been expended caused the change and the funds would have been lost if not used before September of 2009.

He said the MPO worked with Santa Fe Trails, the Park-and-Ride, the DOT, North Central RTD and the City of Santa Fe to produce a brochure to help passengers from the Rail Runner Express once they arrived in Santa Fe and had cost \$10,000 of the \$22,000 they had received.

He said the yearly UPWP would be sent out on April 9th and would be presented to the TCC for review and would give the TPB time for review.

Mr. Robert Anaya moved to approve the revised UPWP. Commissioner Mora seconded the motion. It passed by voice vote; Commissioner Vigil abstained.

2. Approval of revised and restated SFMPO Joint Powers Agreement (JPA) and SFMPO Boundary Change (*Exhibit 1*)

Mr. Tibbets said the revisions included the Tesuque Pueblo and the DOT as members of the policy board and changed the representation of the city and county from 4 and 4 to 3 and 3, setting the membership number at 8 and a language change that reinforced Tesuque Pueblo as a sovereign nation that wouldn't change in status when the document was signed.

He said the TCC make up had been changed to mirror staff levels for information that would be passed on to elected officials and board members and the most significant change was the boundary change.

Mr. Tibbetts said the blue planning line on the map was based on a model for 5 miles outside of the city and when the *transit analysis zones (taz)* in the red sections were looked at, the metropolitan area (yellow line) defined by the proposed boundary worked more closely with the taz to determine how it would be populated and the land would be used within the taz.

He said this was being used for the quarter study and the planning boundary would be more inclusive and consistent and presented an opportunity to preserve areas of the planning boundary and look at the growth areas in the county and how the model operated. He said a definition of the planning area boundary should include those areas expected to urbanize over the next 20 years and would be helpful if the public transit and the road planning worked with a coordinated effort.

Councilor Ortiz entered the meeting at this time

Commissioner Vigil said she wanted to make sure the discussions wouldn't have a disconnect with governing bodies who took on similar initiatives. She said the Regional Planning Authority (RPA) would undertake the Regional Transit District tax and asked how the two bodies would coordinate their efforts.

Mr. Tibbetts said he wasn't clear on what the RPA intended in the short and long term. He said in the short term they would distribute the gross receipts tax revenues and there would possibly be routes determined for the Santa Fe Trails for service coordination. He said that RPA was the day to day service levels operation and the MPO was more the funding, funds distribution, the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and the bigger picture of what could be developed in public transportation.

Commissioner Vigil asked if it was fair to assume when the MPO looked at service delivery they looked at federal dollars and not RTD dollars.

Mr. Tibbetts said it could be inclusive because TIP included more than federal funding. He said the prioritization of funds made available to the metropolitan area would show they had been developed through a level of public participation with a tangible methodology.

Commissioner Vigil asked if any of the board members would share their understanding of the process.

Chair Chavez said the RPA had been set up to do two things-the first to develop a plan for the five mile area and the second was for a recommended annexation strategy in the plan; and the JPA had been amended at least 5 times. He suggested that the RPA do a presentation for the MPO so they understood more clearly the RPA's intentions for the future and for the RPA to better understand the MPO's process and implications and where there was overlap.

Commissioner Vigil said that was her concern and the dots would need to be connected. She said she was the chair of the RPA and the focus was service delivery and the service agreement through the RTD dollars. She said there could be duplication of services and efforts and should be discussed and Mary Helen Follingstad had been a part of proceedings and should be there. She said she didn't want to move

forward until the efforts of both bodies was clarified and assurance that they moved in the same direction and met the needs of the citizens' transportation.

She said Santa Fe County had undertaken a sustainable growth plan and the majority of the map Mr. Tibbetts presented was in the El Centro Management Plan and the planners at Santa Fe County should be included in that. She said with the layers that existed there should be a clear scope and boundary of purpose to avoid each other's efforts being overstepped.

Mr. Tibbetts said he had attended a meeting of the transportation portion of the general plan updates for the county and the boundary map and changes were reviewed and said the coordination was in place and would be continued.

Chair Chavez said the question of services and staff time had been raised and he said that Mr. Tibbetts and Mr. Bulthuis had been attending both the MPO and the RPA meetings to become familiar with the dynamics of both entities.

Mr. Tibbetts said that he and Mary Helen Follingstad, Josette Lucero and Jon Bulthuis were the TCC voting members and they had discussed the need for coordination for public transit services within the region.

Councilor Mora said in reference to page 5, Budget Funding, he didn't recall a contribution that had been made in the last year.

Mr. Tibbetts said nothing had been settled and a specific requirement of ratio of payment was left out of the language. He said it was there because the city funded over 100% of the requirement and were the sole contributor to the local match and at least two other staff members for MPO were needed and had been an issue in the federal revenue. He said formula that distributed funding to everyone in the state was being looked at.

Councilor Mora assumed when the contributions were determined everyone involved would be affected and said as long as the governing council was informed there wouldn't be a problem.

Chair Chavez said that additional information for the project summary could be provided if the Board needed.

Mr. Robert Anaya asked if it was the formal conclusion of the DOT on the JPA with the department.

Mr. Tibbetts said it had been done in a different sense; the document had been approved as to form from the DOT as a partner of the MPO. He said as a sitting member they would have a different status and the document would have to be reviewed by each of the local government entities and might need to be signed by the governor.

Councilor Ortiz moved to approve the revised JPA and boundary change. Commissioner Stefanics seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous voice vote.

INFORMATION/DISCUSSION

a. Update on continuation of Santa Fe Studies (I-25, NM599 and St. Francis Dr) (NMDOT)

Mr. Dave Quintana from the NMDOT said a public kickoff meeting had been held in January. He gave a breakdown of the proposed presentations as follows:

- The April 9 Policy Board Meeting he would provide a report of the issues and concerns and the alternatives that would be considered as a result of the stakeholder meetings for the I-25 and the St. Francis Drive Corridor Studies.
- On June 11 the I-25 preliminary evaluation report and alternatives screened would be presented with recommendations and the policy board would be asked for input on the recommended alternative for NM 599 and the I-25 Corridor study.
- In July or August, the St. Francis Drive Corridor Study alternatives would be presented and input from the policy board would be requested.
- By the end of summer the Three-quarter Studies would have an idea of the alternatives for Phase A and the preliminary recommendations for alternatives for the studies.
- In December the alternatives analysis should be finalized and would look to the board for the recommended preferred alternatives to carry into the next year. All three studies would be evaluated to ensure they worked together and there were no adverse effects on one another and how the technical coordination of the studies affected one another would be reviewed.

He said these would be placed on the agenda for the upcoming meetings as Action Items and they would look to the board for guidance and further recommendations and analysis.

He said completion of the studies was anticipated by this time next year and the MPO and the Transportation Policy Board would have a plan document that could be utilized and would include the studies, the long-range plans and the five-year TIP. He said the corridor studies would be concluded before the environmental studies to ensure it addressed the concerns and issues from the state and was within the MPO boundaries.

Councilor Ortiz said 3 impact analyses had been done by the city because of the concerns raised by the residents and he wanted to be sure the engineers and technical staff would coordinate their efforts on 599. He said on the I-25 corridor there were cited noise impacts along that area that had a direct impact on the train as it entered the city and he asked that the studies include impact and screening options. He said the St. Francis Drive studies had a plan for a transit oriented development (TOD) and asked that be coordinated with the developer as part of that process as well.

Mr. Quintana said that members of the TIP coordinating committee were a part of the project management team and the Public Works and Engineering Divisions and the impact on the Northwest quadrant would be evaluated.

Commissioner Stefanics asked if potential interchanges would be addressed on the I-25 corridor.

Mr. Quintana said it would be based on the impact on the corridor of the plans that existed.

Chair Chavez asked if there would be at-grade intersections.

Mr. Quintana said the intent had been to develop a priority plan that would address the 13 accesses and the study would develop a plan to look at signalization and eventually at full interchanges.

Commissioner Vigil asked if any of the residents from the Northwest quadrant had been in contact with him.

Mr. Quintana said the department received a letter from the neighborhood association stating a resolution had included the association as part of the task force and he had given the details to Jeannette Walter, the project coordinator to include them.

b. Update on NM Rail Runner Express (MRCOG) construction projects

Mr. Tibbetts said the only information he had was that 599 would be starting.

Commissioner Stefanics said a letter had been received from the Santa Fe Community College that requested Richards Avenue be considered as a train stop and included in the feasibility planning analysis.

Councilor Ortiz said City Council was aware of the request and the board had adopted a decision for the train stop to be on the Las Solares property. He said if a request for reconsideration of the decision was being made by the community college, a motion could be made and it could be discussed.

Commissioner Stefanics said in the motion for approval of the Las Solares location had been a condition that the state complex be built and there be a written commitment and asked if that had progressed.

Councilor Ortiz said it had been fully discussed and the board's recommendation of the location had been settled as a result of the debate and he had recommended another letter be secured. He said if one or more of those conditions fell through, there could be another decision.

Commissioner Stefanics was concerned that the condition for a state complex to be built was still in question, with the state's financial dilemma.

Mr. Carl Sommer said he had been involved in the planning and asked to address the issue. He said the Capital Planning Commission had approved it but it had been dropped by the legislature. He said funding wasn't new, it was a shift of lease payments to finance the construction and a consolidation that allowed the

New Mexico Financing Authority to build, loan and lease back to the state and it was currently moving through the legislature.

Commissioner Stefanics said she was aware of where it was in the legislature and that nothing had been decided and she asked if it would be brought back to the committee for discussion when a decision was made.

Chair said it had been understood that it would be revisited.

Ms. Anna Hanson, Oshara Village and said she lived in the city and a decision hadn't been made about the Capital Complex but Oshara Village and the community college requested that Richards Avenue be added to the amendment for consideration of the preferred site with Las Solares (Exhibit 2). She said the DOT had held many public hearings where a preference had been stated for Richards Avenue and it should at least be considered after constituent and government concerns had been overruled.

She said a site on the east side of Richards Avenue had been developed by the DOT and either side would serve all of the community, not just a part. She added that roundabouts were needed along Governor Miles to the community college to help the traffic flow and that Richards Avenue should be revisited by the commission and opened all the way to Cerrillos Road.

Chair Chavez said that Richards Avenue had been discussed and had been a part of the mix and he said to extend Richards Avenue to Cerrillos Road required an interchange. He said her points were duly noted.

Councilor Ortiz said this had been an information item and was unsure logistically what could and could not be done. He encouraged it be put on the agenda as an action item for discussion if the commission wanted to consider it.

Tom Romero, Santa Fe Community College, said on behalf of the Governing Board of the Santa Fe Community College and he was there to present the resolution as an information item and to ask that the issue be considered at the next meeting. He said the resolution asked for the Richards Avenue site to be included in the feasibility study and there were no negative issues to Las Soleras. He said that the college had been and would continue to be, involved in the transit and corridor studies and had encouraged alternative means of transportation and because the Los Solares site was selected as the preferred site, it seemed to eliminate further consideration of Richards Avenue.

He said the governing board asked that it be considered and from the college's standpoint, time was important, the current access to the college was poor and the college could use the support that a transit stop could provide.

Chair Chavez said all of it had been discussed and decisions had been made, partly due to the public and private funds financing that had been offered.

Commissioner Stefanics requested the topic be put on next month's agenda for an update.

Mr. Tibbetts said he had received letters from Anna Hansen and Mission of Light at Viejo and had explained the next step would be that the DOT and that the Mid-Region Council, who operated the train, would have to decide the best location for the platform. He said the best location for station and the TOD had been discussed and the feasibility study hadn't been heard and the best place for the platform would be the final determination.

He said Mr. Romero had mentioned it be kept on the property to be in line with the direction of the MPO and see if there was room to the west of Richards; it was the *east side* that had been compared against Las Soleras and the common point should be looked at for the best location.

Mr. Robert Anaya said there should be a historical snapshot of how the decision had been made and asked how the board would handle the question of the issue procedurally if brought back for consideration.

Councilor Ortiz said they would have that information for next week.

c. Coordination of Transit Services for Rail Runner Express Passengers To and From Stations.

Councilor Ortiz said this had been one of the first things discussed with the RPA and could be an area of overlap in jurisdiction and responsibilities in terms of how the money could be accessed and a plan would ensure the money would be spent within the rules. He said it was an area of joint responsibility.

Chair Chavez said he was interested in the discussion because of the Santa Fe Pickup and said it was funded by the Parking Division Fund. He said it was not coordinated and was not sustainable and should be.

Mr. Tibbetts said it should definitely be discussed in the group and with the RPA as far as the gross receipts tax (GRT) distribution.

Councilor Ortiz said one of the things to be determined as a collective group would be who would take the responsibility and the lead to ensure the resources from the North Regional Council came to the city and county. He said the state had promised a percentage of new money on the increment of approved tax would go to the city and county specifically for that coordination.

Chair Chavez said it was misleading as to how the route was included and where the funding source came from; the funding, the programming and the sustainability should be clarified. He said there were too many layers and it was fragmented.

Councilor Ortiz said that was a function of the MPO and not the RPA; the MPO was charged with the task. He said it was meant to be a start and it would be incumbent upon them to explore it more seriously. He said the next phase was to determine how the services could be expanded and how there could be regional connections to the rail runner to the north and south of the city and how to ensure service would be there next year and would be sustained.

Councilor Mora said he saw the main problem as the various organizations had the same level of authority and there was no hierarchy.

Councilor Mora said the work thus far had been to get the train operational and because of the agreement and the allocation there were issues and the GRT money had not been incorporated. He said it was a work in progress and from the department's perspective they would work together to ensure it was clear and precise.

C. MATTERS FROM THE SFMPO TRANSPORTATION POLICY BOARD

There was nothing that had not been discussed.

D. MATTERS FROM MPO STAFF

Mr. Tibbetts said MPO had updates of their long range transportation plans (MTP) last done in 2005, that included all of the proposed projects in transit, pedestrian, road constructions, enhancements and improvements. He said it was on line and the first of several required public meetings had been held last month. He said information had been gathered at the meetings for the MTP to ensure all of it would work together and that they were not on separate tracks. He said all of the information Mr. Quintana would take to the MPO would also be presented to the TCC.

Mr. Tibbetts said the senior planner had been hired and the required signatures from the city were being obtained.

E. COMMUNICATIONS FROM NMDOT AND FHWA

None

F. OTHER MATTERS FROM THE PUBLIC

Covered in the discussion.

Chair Chavez contact information sheet (exhibit 3) changes had been made regarding phone numbers and there was a new Meeting Schedule for 2009 (exhibit 4). He said meeting time had moved from 10 a.m. to afternoon and asked board to look at conflicts.

ADJOURN:

Councilor Ortiz moved to adjourn. Commissioner Stefanics seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous voice vote.

Next scheduled meeting is *10:00 a.m.--Thursday, April 9, 2009*

Having no further business to conduct the meeting was adjourned at 11:49 p.m.

Approved by:

Miguel Chavez, Chair

Submitted by:

Charmaine Clair

Charmaine Clair, Stenographer

