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Santa Fe
MPO-Transportation Policy Board
April 12, 2007**

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MINUTES OF THE
SFMPO TRANSPORTATION POLICY BOARD

Thursday April 12, 2007

CALL TO ORDER

A meeting of the SFMPO Transportation Policy Board was called to order on the above date at approximately 3:25 p.m. by Commissioner Jack Sullivan, Chair, in City Council Chambers, 200 Lincoln Avenue, Santa Fe, New Mexico.

ROLL CALL

Roll Call indicated the presence of a quorum as follows:

Members Present:

Commissioner Jack Sullivan Chair
Commissioner Michael Anaya
Councilor Miguel Chávez, Vice Chair
Commissioner Virginia Vigil

Members Absent:

Mayor David Coss
Councilor Matthew Ortíz

Others Present:

Mr. Mark Tibbetts
Mr. Ron Shutiva, Native American Liaison
Mr. Brian Degani, NMDOT
Mr. Shabih Rizvi, County Transportation Director
Ms. Gail Ryba, New Mexico Bicycle Coalition

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Commissioner Vigil moved to approve the Agenda as published. Councilor Chávez seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous voiced vote.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES 2/08/07

Commissioner Vigil moved for approval of the minutes of February 8, 2007 as submitted. Commissioner Anaya seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous voice vote.

A. ACTION ITEMS

1. Public Participation Plan

Mr. Tibbetts presented the Plan and said it described how the public participates in the process and how stakeholders could have input. He said these documents were to be publicly viewed.

He noted they had one in place in 2004 but this one was in compliance with the federal funding bill, SAFETEA-LU and spells out cooperation with tribal governments and other government entities to make sure the policies do not conflict. He said it also needed to be in compliance with Homeland Security on safety. The last page was a matrix that showed the process.

Councilor Chávez asked if this was replacing an outdated plan of 2004. You also mentioned that there were stakeholders that have been identified as obvious participants. He asked who those stakeholders were and had they changed between 2004 and now.

Mr. Tibbetts explained that they have always been identified but never specified as much as now.

Councilor Chávez asked if the had a deadline.

Mr. Tibbetts agreed and said if not met, they would not certify the MPO or allow the MPO to get federal funds..

Councilor Chávez moved for approval. Commissioner Vigil seconded the motion.

Chair Sullivan asked if this required a public hearing.

Mr. Tibbetts said the public hearing was in the TCC, which was noticed as well as this meeting. He said it was also on the website.

Chair Sullivan asked for public comment. There was none.

Chair Sullivan commented that the packets should be ready ten days prior to the meeting and Board members should get them free.

Mr. Tibbetts the cost was for the public to get copies.

Chair Sullivan said there was another section where public could get copies. He asked that staff work it over so it was clear.

Chair Sullivan said if someone wanted to know about this meeting, could they get the information at the City Clerk's office.

Mr. Tibbetts agreed.

Chair Sullivan referred to page 9, fourth bullet that said the Policy Board would review and take action on the corridor plan. He asked for any other comments.

Councilor Chávez asked if staff was attached to any language about what was to be done after review of corridor plans.

Mr. Tibbetts clarified that if the Board does not adopt, it doesn't go into effect.

Councilor Chávez said it was "adopt" that the Board should do then.

Chair Sullivan asked if they just wanted it rubber stamped without review.

Councilor Chávez said the Participation Plan doesn't stop here.

Mr. Tibbetts said it could be spelled out, but the way the Policy Board operates, it does review and adopt.

Councilor Chávez suggested it should then be put it in as review and adopt.

Chair Sullivan said they would review and take action and if the Board did not like it the Board could send it back.

Councilor Chávez asked if he was questioning the public's participation in the process.

Chair Sullivan said no. He thought the public should participate in reviewing and changing it if necessary.

Commissioner Vigil asked if there any problem with the proposed language by

Chair Sullivan.

Mr. Tibbetts said no that he was okay with it. This was to notify the public of the authority of the Board. Reviewing and taking action would not change the definition. He wasn't sure how the DOT feels about it so he asked Mr. Degani here.

Mr. Degani said this information was taken originally from the Public Involvement Plan and it was a responsibility for the TPB to review those plans. It could be review and take action or remanded back to the TCC for further changes..

Commissioner Vigil said she understood that would be included in taking action.

Mr. Degani agreed.

The motion, as amended with Chair Sullivan's language that "the Board review and take action" passed by unanimous voice vote.

2. Amended UPWP FY 07 and draft UPWP FY 2008

Mr. Tibbetts commented on the UPWP briefly. He explained that it was color coded with revision highlighted. He said there were not many changes and most of the ones made were to be in compliance with SAFETEA-LU. Pages 15, 16. The rest were pretty much the same. He said some of the changes were the TIP document being 4 years; not 7 years. Annual listing of projects, projects completed, including bicycle and pedestrian facilities. There were now 8 planning factors; not 7. (Safety, and security). There was more emphasis on public transit element. Last page was a budget summary. And timeline to accomplish.

He said the 06-07 went to the end of June and the plan must address all the items by the end of June. Next year's was basically a repeat of this.

Councilor Chávez asked what they needed to do to be current.

Mr. Tibbetts replied that approving this one and then approving the next year's this month would bring them current.

Commissioner Vigil moved to approve. Councilor Chávez seconded the motion.

There were no speakers from the public regarding this item.

Councilor Chávez observed that compliance with Open Meetings Act required a

published agenda and this was not noticed as a public hearing on the agenda.

Chair Sullivan agreed but thought it a good idea to keep the Feds happy.

The motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

Chair Sullivan said next was the 07-08 UPWP.

Mr. Tibbetts said there were a few changes. The budget was slightly increased. Planning funds, even though the net amount was the same.

Basically, he said, the total funding was unchanged. The only other change was the expansion of the MPO and relooking at the planning area boundary. He said one of the issues in the review as to invite Tesuque into the MPO. Also, there were questions about us not being part of the RPA. The MPO was supposed to show the area we expect to urbanize in the next 20 years. So, during this next year, they needed to review the whole planning area and update the model for the corridor studies. Deal with congestion, etc. In the interim, under direction of FHWA, to invite Tesuque Pueblo into this MPO. So that was in our work program. He said the letter has been drafted to Tesuque but not yet delivered. Earl Samuel was their designated contact person. So we have started our consultation process. Other than that, it was the same as the 06-07.

Councilor Chávez saw a slight difference; a slight increase in the budget. The numbers were just a little higher. He asked if they were approving the budget.

Chair Sullivan said he didn't think they could approve the budget except as proposed budget because they could not allocate funds.

Mr. Tibbetts said the discrepancy was based on 2000 census. The numbers were updated and affect this funding. It was called the Census Transportation Funding Package and New Mexico's apportioned amount was about \$37,000. DOT pays half MPO's pay the rest.

Councilor Chávez asked if they were also approving a draft budget.

Mr. Tibbetts said it was not so much approving the amount but the breakdown of how these tasks were being accomplished. He added that the City now over matches so they only needed to show the required minimum now.

Chair Sullivan referred to page 7 under the MPO Office where it talked about the persons involved. He noted that for quite some time now the County has expressed interest that one of the MPO persons be a county employee and wondered where they

were with that request.

Mr. Tibbetts said he thought that RFP was out.

Mr. Degani said that was correct. The RFP went through a review. It was now out for advertisement on that RFP and he believed it would be up for bids in a couple of weeks.

Chair Sullivan said they really did need to do a better job between city and county and the statement on page 8 was not a totally accurate statement.

Mr. Tibbetts explained that he was directed by DOT to put it in this way. It was true that those parts of county outside the MPO did work through the RTD.

Councilor Chávez said the other overlap would be the NCRTD on whose Board Commissioner Anaya and he were members.

Chair Sullivan agreed

Mr. Degani said the intent was to meet the SAFETEA-LU requirements. So that MPOs throughout New Mexico could coordinate with them. It was for coordination of projects rather than doing things piecemeal.

Commissioner Vigil moved to approve with amendments. Councilor Chávez seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous voice vote.

3. FY 2008-2013 SFMPO TIP

Mr. Tibbetts presented the report. He said it would be given to DOT and ultimately to FHWA. They were basically for the next TIP which would be developed two years from now. He said they used to leave them in a section of unfunded but they could amend this as they went. He said it had GRIP II in there also.

He said there was one project from the City, to do Airport Road with raised medians from Cerrillos down to San Felipe. He said the Airport Road safety improvement was a new project. We cannot put it in 08 because safety projects go through a different process. The deadline for them was in March. It was either 90/10 or 100 percent state funded.

Commissioner Vigil asked for further clarification and didn't recall having any input in this. She asked if they were specifically for transportation purposes.

Mr. Tibbetts said that for fiscal 08-09, they only had high priority projects. He said they wouldn't see any of the enhancement projects until 2012-13. This was basically the same TIP as in 2005.

Commissioner Vigil asked where the Railyard was financially.

Mr. Tibbetts said there were two more years' funding. \$275,00 each of federal money and a required \$75K match.

Commissioner Vigil said she was willing to approve this but given the fact that the County now has a Transportation Director, the County has not been well represented. She felt they needed to amend it for a more equitable distribution with the County and could think of several projects in her district.

Mr. Tibbetts said he sent out these announcements to both County and City land use people and all the TCC. He added that he would make sure to be more in touch with Shabih Rizvi on it.

Commissioner Vigil said they were proud of the transportation projects, especially the Eldorado one and hoped this would be on a future agenda.

Chair Sullivan asked if on each of these projects, there was a bus or the proposed rail link.

Mr. Tibbetts said he checked several times with Santa Fe Trails and they confirmed that it was for improvement of the rail link. He said the park and ride service was with All Aboard America. And this one, like Española, was administered through NCRTD, so they were not in the MPO.

Mr. Degani confirmed that it was a separate funding category.

Chair Sullivan said it was funded this year with \$80,000 federal and matching money from County funds.

Mr. Degani said it was not in the TIP.

Mr. Tibbetts thought there should be some reference to it.

Mr. Degani agreed and said they could put it in the TIP.

Councilor Chávez moved to approve the amended SFMPO TIP. Commissioner Anaya seconded the motion.

Mr. Degani explained that there would be additional amendments throughout the year such as GRIP II projects.

Mr. Tibbetts agreed and said it would probably be amended four times during the year.

Councilor Chávez amended his motion to add the G Line language. Second by Commissioner Anaya.

Commissioner Vigil noted there were several projects in this regard; the Santa Fe River Trail Corridor was considering bike trails down to New Mexico 599, the Agua Fria Phase II or III for Bike Trails that was at the EZA, the Silver road Extension and the South Meadows Extension.

Mr. Tibbetts said if it was not in here, they would put it in.

Mr. Degani said there were applications and other materials on GRIP II and emails would go out tomorrow to announce the May 15th deadline. Possibly by June he would know which Grip II projects would be funded.

The motion to approve, including Eldorado and Commissioner Vigil's list and the Grip II projects, passed by unanimous voice vote.

4. MTP Amendment: Rail Runner-Albuquerque to Santa Fe Alignment

Mr. Tibbetts reminded the Board that this was a process voted on Feb 8th and would be put in the MTP long range plan with a map attached. He said that further studies would determine any station locations and other development. He said the map showed potential sites brought up by the public or developers and no study of these locations has started. He said the only two addressed were at the Railyard and DOT site at Alta Vista. He said that over the next several months they would get into it.

Commissioner Vigil was concerned that some of the current parking sites were unsafe and she didn't see that as part of the bullet points. She asked if it was possible to add further study of safety of parking sites.

Mr. Chris Blewett said they would address that both now and in the future.

Commissioner Vigil moved to approve the MTP Amendment to the Albuquerque to Santa Fe Alignment. Councilor Chávez seconded the motion.

Chair Sullivan had concerns about the station locations.

The motion passed by majority voice vote with all voting yes except Chair Sullivan who voted against.

B. MATTERS FROM THE SFMPO TRANSPORTATION POLICY BOARD

Chair Sullivan said the Board had received a recommendation to include Tesuque in the Santa Fe MPO but this Board never took any action on it. He wasn't sure how to deal with it but now had a letter inviting Governor Dorame to have Tesuque become a member. He asked the Board what to do.

Councilor Chávez suggested they could poll the other the other members.

Mr. Tibbetts said the letter was an offer to be a member and participate.

Chair Sullivan suggested they show it to the Governor unsigned, share the draft and see if they need it changed. He asked Mr. Tibbetts to do that.

Mr. Degani read a memo from FHWA on coordination with Native American entities.

C. COMMUNICATIONS FROM NMDOT AND FHWA

None.

D. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE FLOOR

Ms. Gail Ryba from the Bike Coalition of New Mexico said she came to address several bike issues on safety to address back to DOT. She noted there was a tendency to just build bike paths but you could see in the TIP they were far out in the future.

She said that the perception of fear was important to consider. Some of the recent actions were related to safety and gave the jurisdictions only 9 days to respond with a well thought out proposal. This past year, they drafted a comprehensive safety policy. Bikes were not a priority and New Mexico has a bike crash record about twice the national average so the Board needed to put money toward it. She noted there was a proposal to buy helmets but that was only a band aid. She said she was asking this Board to help to leverage some of the funding that was available.

Chair Sullivan said they could put this on the agenda for next meeting and have you put a written proposal together for the Board.

Ms. Ryba said she would. She said she could bring the data from DOT also.

Ms. Ryba also praised Mr. Rizvi for his efforts and shared some ways the problems were being corrected.

Her second request would be that County and City jointly hire a bike/pedestrian planner.

Chair Sullivan thought that sounded like a good thing to include in the makeup of the MPO and it was a good time to be thinking about that. He thanked Ms. Ryba for bringing it to the Board.


E. ADJOURNMENT

Having completed the agenda and with no further business to come to the Board, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 5:15 p.m.

Approved by:

Jack Sullivan, Chair

Submitted by:



Carl Boaz, Stenographer