

**SUMMARY OF ACTION
 SANTA FE MPO TRANSPORTATION POLICY BOARD
 CITY OF SANTA FE OFFICES@ MARKET STATION
 500 MARKET STREET, SUITE 200
 Thursday, May 26, 2016, 4:30 pm**

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**SANTA FE MPO TRANSPORTATION POLICY BOARD
CITY OF SANTA FE OFFICES@ MARKET STATION
500 MARKET STREET, SUITE 200
Thursday, May 26, 2016, 4:30 pm**

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting of the Santa Fe MPO Transportation Policy Board was called to order by Vice Chair Joseph Maestas at 4:35 pm on Thursday, May 26, 2016, at the City of Santa Fe Offices @ Market Station, 500 Market Street, Suite 200, Santa Fe, New Mexico.

2. ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT

Commissioner Henry Roybal, Chair
Councilor Joseph Maestas, Vice Chair
Tamara Haas, DOT
Commissioner Miguel Chavez
Councilor Ronald S. Trujillo
Councilor Signe I. Lindell

MEMBERS ABSENT

Commissioner Liz Stefanics
Commissioner Robert Anaya
Mayor Javier Gonzales
Governor Robert Mora, Tesuque Pueblo

OTHERS PRESENT

Paul Brasher, DOT
Donald Gallegos, SMART Transportation Division
Tim Rodgers, Santa Fe Conservation Trust
Lisa Martínez, Director, Santa Fe Land Use Department
Keith Wilson, Planner
Erik Aune, Planner
Elizabeth Martin, Stenographer

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mr. Wilson asked that item C (3) be moved to the first item under C.

MOTION A motion was made by Commissioner Chavez, seconded by Councilor Trujillo, to approve the agenda as amended.

VOTE The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES
April 28, 2015

MOTION A motion was made by Commissioner Chavez, seconded by Councilor Trujillo, to approve the minutes.

VOTE The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

5. MATTERS FROM THE PUBLIC

Mr. Gallegos said he is here today to ask for support for a Resolution on a proposed rule. We want to keep a minimum of two people on each train. FRA Class 1 Railroad wants one person on each train. They have a device now that will slow down or stop a train if an Engineer does not act. It does not really replace the Conductor. We do have accidents. We feel we need Conductors. It is unsafe to have one man on trains. Currently passenger trains have two people. We are talking about freight service trains. We don't currently have freight running through Santa Fe but it runs close enough to effect Santa Fe. In an emergency situation we run trains through here.

Commissioner Chavez asked is he looking for a letter or Resolution from MPO.

Chair Maestas asked do you have a draft Resolution.

Mr. Gallegos said yes we do and it can be forwarded to you.

Chair Maestas asked is this something we want to support.

Mr. Aune said Mr. Gallegos was in contact with him directly by phone. The timing is such that the proposed ruling has a deadline for comments by June 15th. Our next meeting is after June 15th so he invited him to speak to you directly today. An informal approach would be to direct staff to work with Donald to do a letter. Across the nation it is somewhat controversial There is a debate saying we need one person for cost savings and for safety we need two people.

Chair Maestas said there is no way we can take official action. The only option is maybe to send a letter. Maybe from the Chair or staff.

Mr. Aune said in the past we have done a letter from Mr. Tibbetts on behalf of the

MPO, if the issue does not have a political element.

Mr. Wilson said typically we look at the long range Transportation Plan. If the issue is addressed in plans we as staff write the letter of support and site where in the plan we speak of it. He is not sure we have anything in any of our plans right now to directly relate to this issue.

Mr. Aune said freight safety is a discussion and goal link to our plans. It is a relatively loose link.

Chair Maestas said maybe this falls sort of specific support but we could generally support anything that supports freight safety in populated areas.

Commissioner Chavez said it sounds similar to discussions we have had regarding the Santa Fe Chief. It might be wise to take a position. We could take this to the County Commission or City Council.

Ms. Haas said this a proposed rule making and the comment period is open. Anyone can provide a comment to that. Maybe MPO could provide the comment rather than the Board.

Mr. Gallegos said we are having our train men do that.

Councilor Lindell said she has heard two to three minutes about this topic. She really knows nothing. She is not comfortable taking a stand on something that she has not enough information on and that she has not studied. She is not comfortable supporting a letter from this organization. We have no information other than a nice presentation from this gentleman.

Commissioner Chavez said he doesn't think anyone will argue on safety issues near our community. The opposing views are the costs.

Mr. Gallegos said this would be a cost to the railroads, not to the public.

Chair Maestas said we have a Council meeting on June 8th. But it would be more effective to enter some kind of informational comment. He agrees that he is not familiar enough with this issue and is happy to direct staff to make that determination. Not to make specific comments but on freight safety in general.

Commissioner Chavez said ok and he will offer that the County Commission meets next Tuesday and he will bring this up and see what interest there is at that level.

Chair Maestas said we have a committee process in Council. He asked staff to send the draft Resolution to City Councilors to see if they are inclined to sponsor.

Councilor Trujillo said Mr. Gallegos was at last night's meeting and was directed by the Mayor to discuss this with the City Manager. Let's see what happens with that discussion.

Mr. Gallegos said he will send the draft Resolution and draft letter to Mr. Aune and he can forward it to everyone.

6. PUBLIC HEARING

A. APPROVAL OF AMENDMENT 2 TO THE FFY2016-2021 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

Commissioner Roybal arrived at the meeting and took over as Chairman.

Mr. Wilson reviewed the Amendment 2 information in the packet. S100520 is the Interstate 25 pavement preservation from mile point 290 to 294 and S100510 is the installation of rail crossing gates and lights at the Alta Vista crossing for the Rail Trail.

Mr. Wilson said we held a public comment period from May 2, 2016 to May 16, 2016 and received no comments. The TCC has recommended approval.

Councilor Maestas asked what is the source of funds.

Ms. Haas said these are Federal highway funds.

Councilor Maestas said it is fantastic to get these funds. Can it get done.

Mr. Brasher said yes, we can get it done.

Commissioner Chavez asked what is the time line.

Mr. Brasher said it should be under construction by the end of 2017. It is about for miles.

Chair Roybal called the Public Hearing to order at 5:05 pm.

Tim Rogers. Mr. Rogers said he is the Trail Manager for the Santa Fe Conservation Trust. He worked with the MPO on the Bicycle Master Plan that was passed in 2012 and enjoys a continued working relationship with the MPO for the implementation of the program. His recommendations on the Bicycle Master Plan focused on the development of trails and bike lanes. Regarding the rail crossing lights and gates at Alta Vista included in this amendment, he supports this but the design is eliminating bike lanes on Alta Vista Street. The design includes putting in sharrows with

the thought that they are as good as bike lanes. They are not. He has made a recommendation for the crossing at El Cadesa, a one way street. The idea was rejected because there is no crossing gate at that location. He would like it to be reconsidered.

Mr. Rogers said regarding 1-25, sure there is a need. There is a stretch of Old Las Vegas highway where the Bicycle Master Plan recommends looking at a stretch to convert to two lanes with shoulders and bike lanes. If we were to re-stripe that 6/10 of a mile we would be able to create shoulders to accommodate bicycles and pedestrians. This would be a chance for District 5 to do something to get national recognition. It is a priority in the Bicycle Master Plan.

Chair Roybal thanked Mr. Rogers for his comments and asked if anyone else would like to speak.

There being no other members of the public who wanted to speak, Chair Roybal closed the Public Hearing at 5:12 pm.

MOTION A motion was made by Councilor Maestas, seconded by Commissioner Chavez, to approve Amendment 2.

VOTE The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

Commissioner Chavez said being sensitive to the public comments, are there any components presented that can be rolled into any of our policies.

Mr. Wilson said they are connected but not directly. The repaving work is strictly on the interstate and not related to the Old Las Vegas Highway.

Commissioner Chavez said please take the comments from the public and route them where appropriate.

7. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION

A. RESPONSE TO PROPOSED REORGANIZATION OF MPO PROGRAM

Mr. Aune said at the April 28th Board meeting the Board gave direction to Mr. Tibbetts to do a letter to the City Manager regarding the proposed restructuring and reorganization of the MPO. The letter was completed and sent. We had a meeting with the Federal Highway Department and the DOT to talk about the JPA in place that prescribes the process for potential reorganization. The Federal government preference is to make sure the integrity of programmatic elements in the work plan not be

jeopardized or impacted in any negative manner by any reorganization. We would prefer to have factual communication. Mr. Tibbetts met with Lisa Martínez after that.

Commissioner Chavez said we have a memo in the packet that summarizes that information and the changes. Is that current.

Councilor Lindell said she had not seen this. We did pass the City budget and with that the organizational change last night.

Commissioner Chavez said so in your budget structure is included the organizational changes and you agree to the settlement in the memo about location.

Councilor Trujillo said we have not had that discussion.

Commissioner Chavez asked funding for staff and office space is that part of the budget.

Councilor Trujillo said yes, we want you to stand separately.

Mr. Wilson said it is more about ensuring that the MPO is a stand alone and not buried somewhere or consumed within a Department. The Board expressed that this location gives the MPO more of a stand alone entity feel.

Commissioner Chavez said it is an issue of function of the MPO and autonomy. It is in their mission to do that.

Councilor Trujillo said based on this memo and what it says it seems likely they will remain here.

Chair Roybal asked Lisa Martínez to address the Board.

Ms. Martínez said thank you for opportunity. She has been working closely with Keith Wilson. This reorganization is new to all of us. The budget has been approved and the revised organizational chart moves MPO under the Land Use Department. Now it is time to decide how to move forward. There is no intention of changing programmatic requirements unless something comes from the Federal Government on areas to address. Regarding the physical location, we are limited on space. We hoped to do a remodel but due to budget cuts we not able to do that so she doesn't see any reason why staff could not remain in this building. In an ideal world it would be nice to have all the functions of Land Use in one place but at this point it may be best to keep staff here. We understand the importance of maintaining autonomy and independence. Her conversation with Mark was an introductory meeting. She told him she is meeting with the City Manager and decided to wait until Mark comes back from vacation to talk about what comes next.

Councilor Lindell said she is new to this Board. In terms of organizational structure if MPO is under Land Use, how many people work for MPO.

Mr. Wilson said three.

Councilor Lindell asked is there a Director. Lisa will be the Supervisor and oversee that workload.

Ms. Martínez said yes.

Commissioner Chavez said a lot of what MPO does is under the Joint Powers Agreement.

Mr. Wilson said the Federal regulations and the Joint Powers Agreement.

Commissioner Chavez said there are certain things they are directed to do.

Ms. Haas said from the DOT perspective the JPA established the MPO and interactions. If the City makes any changes or updates then the Board must be updated. We need to know so we can report that the MPO is still functioning as they are supposed to do. All three entities need to be communicating. Several years ago the Santa Fe MPO almost lost its Federal certification. The Feds do provide some funding. One of the concerns is making sure that when Keith works part time to help Transit that he does not change that time to MPO. When we looked at a draft of their programming planning we have to make sure that all the activities are eligible.

Ms. Martínez said it would be helpful if she had copy of the JPA so she can sort through it and make sure she understands it.

Mr. Wilson said he will send that.

Chair Roybal asked how long will it take to get an update on this.

Ms. Martínez said she will have an update at your next meeting.

**B. CALL FOR PROJECTS FOR THE FFY2018 AND FFY 2019
TRANSPORTATION ALTERNATIVES PROGRAM (TAP) AND
RECREATIONAL TRAILS PROGRAM (RTP)**

Mr. Aune said this is just informational for you. On May 12th we did a call for

projects. We presented this to the TCC this past Monday. We will be looking at putting together a meeting for potential projects on June 7th to discuss details and possibilities. Then there will be a series of distinct deadlines for the process. We are looking for projects.

C. UPDATE ON TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (TIP) PROJECTS

Mr. Wilson said he asked that this item be moved up because Paul Brasher has to leave early. In your packet is the TIP update and a new one has just been passed out. One of the projects discussed last month was the status of NE and SE connector projects. He has had meetings with the County and the District on this project. We are in the process of re-engaging a meeting to get resolution on the outstanding issues relating to that project.

Mr. Brasher said he summarized that well. Phase AB was completed in October 2015. In December of 2015 the County offered that they would complete the construction. The State has not fully agreed to it. We are rethinking it. We will generate a rewrite of the MOU and get together with the County to work together on how we can design and construct and maintain. The MOU is being rewritten and then we will resume discussion over this.

Chair Roybal asked what is the time frame.

Mr. Brasher said we will be approaching the County over the next couple of weeks. At DOT we are reviewing the utilities and technical. We will see how much work has been done and how much is left to be done.

Councilor Maestas said regarding S100340, the Pedestrian ADA Improvements, the Road Exchange Agreements are very old and there is not a robust process to update them. Has that been fully updated and have all obligations been met by the City to take over this road. The condition of the pavement on St Michaels Drive is one big rumble strip.

Mr. Brasher said those details are being worked on. We recognized that road is in tough shape. The DOT is in favor of a road exchange. The City is not that interested in taking it over in its present condition. There are still lingering issues. Part of Cerrillos is in a similar situation. If we have a meeting of the minds it is a question of what we are willing to do to refurbish the road. The City has a Master Plan for the redevelopment of the St. Michaels corridor.

Councilor Maestas asked does the policy Board ever delve into road exchanges. What are the implications if the City takes over the road. It is on the National Highway System now. He would like to find an appropriate discussion point on these types of

issues. There are implications and consequences.

Mr. Brasher said your comments are well taken. These things are coming to terms and need to be dealt with. The condition of the road is a fundamental question.

Councilor Maestas said on Cerrillos road there were some generous comments made by DOT.

Mr. Wilson said they are all under one main road exchange agreement. Pre 599. We just went through a review on the National Highway System. There is specific criteria.

Mr. Brasher said he will make a point to offer to come back in a month and give you a status update on these items. Then you can decide the extent it effects your decisions.

Councilor Maestas said with the Federal Highway Agreement they are on the hook to maintain those roads. There is a bigger issue to look at. There was an internal legal opinion back when.

Mr. Wilson said Cerrillos Road is under reconstruction and everything is moving along well according to the Project Engineer. Starting Monday night they will be closing down Cerrillos Road to one lane in each direction. Osage road will have no access to Cerrillos. They are putting in a giant storm drain pipe and will do 24 hour-a-day work program and be finished by June 17th.

Mr. Wilson said the diverging diamond construction on 1-25 and Cerrillos is moving along on schedule.

Mr. Brasher said we are hanging girders now and you will see substantial progress after that. We are on schedule. We have an extensive public outreach program and should be finished by November.

Chair Roybal thanked Mr. Brasher. Our next meeting is June 23rd. Can we schedule you then Mr. Brasher.

Mr. Brasher said he would be pleased to do that.

8. MATTERS FROM THE MPO STAFF

None

9. MATTERS FROM THE SFMPO TRANSPORTATION POLICY BOARD

Councilor Lindell asked is it typical that we don't receive a packet until we come to the meeting.

Mr. Wilson said it is usually one week prior.

10. MATTERS FROM NMDOT AND FHWA

Commissioner Chavez said he would like a copy of the JPA as well.

Mr. Wilson said he will send the link. It is on the website.

11. ADJOURNMENT - NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING JUNE 23, 2016

MOTION A motion was made by Commissioner Chavez, seconded by Councilor Trujillo, to adjourn the meeting.

VOTE The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

The meeting adjourned at 5:55 pm.

Commissioner Henry Roybal, Chair



Elizabeth Martin, Stenographer