



a program of

NORTHWEST NEW MEXICO COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

Northwest Regional Transportation Planning Organization (NWRTPO)

RTPO Joint Technical & Policy Committee Meeting

Wednesday, May 10, 2023

10:00 am

Virtual Meeting – Microsoft Teams

AGENDA

ROUTINE ITEMS:

Item #	Item	Presenter
I.	Call to Order and Introductions	Dorothy Claw, Chairman
II.	Action: Agenda	Dorothy Claw
III.	Action: Minutes – April 12, 2023 meeting	Dorothy Claw

ACTION ITEMS: none

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

Item #	Item	Presenter
IV.	Review & Discuss: Results from Project (PPF) Consultation Meetings – which projects can move forward with PPF's	Robert Kuipers
V.	Review & Discuss: Transportation Project Fund Progress against May 31 deadline for submission to NMDOT FTP website.	Robert Kuipers
VI.	Present: Cost Benefit Analysis	Ken Cooper – UNM LTAP

REPORTS: (10-minute limit)

Please submit Written Reports for inclusion in minutes

RTPO Program Report (<i>significant news only</i>)	Robert Kuipers
Local Member Reports (<i>significant news only</i>)	By Entity
New Mexico Department of Transportation Reports (<i>significant news only</i>)	RTPO Liaison (Neala Krueger) Tribal Liaison (Ron Shutiva) District 5 (James Mexia) District 6 (Bill Santiago, Michael Neely)

NEW BUSINESS/OPEN FLOOR: MEMBERS & GUESTS (5-minute limit)

ANNOUNCEMENTS & NEXT MEETING: Wednesday, June 14, 2023 – Gallup Eastside Fire Station, 3700 Churchrock Street, Gallup, NM (unless otherwise determined or virtual via MSTEams)

ADJOURNMENT

NWRTPO | Northwest Regional Transportation Planning Organization

Joint Policy & Technical Committee

NWRTPO Meeting Minutes

Wednesday April 12, 2023

10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Virtual meeting executed via Microsoft Teams

Due to COVID-19 Pandemic

ATTENDANCE:

Local & Tribal Governments	
Entity	Representative(s)
Pueblo of Acoma	Dennis Felipe Jr. – RTPO Vice-Chair
Pueblo of Laguna	Leonard Ludi
Pueblo of Zuni	Royce Gchachu, Roxanne Hughte
Navajo Nation	Margie Begay Priscilla Lee
Ramah Navajo	Dorothy Claw – RTPO Chairman
City of Grants	Don Jaramillo Shannon Devine
City of Gallup	Clyde Strain, Alicia Santiago
Village of Milan	Linda Cooke , Denise Baca, Felix Gonzales,
Cibola County	Kaci Bustos, Joseph Baca, Judy Horacek
McKinley County	Rodney Skersick, Yvonne Tso
San Juan County	Absent (Nick Porell)
Farmington Metropolitan Planning Organization - Ex-officio	Not in attendance

New Mexico Department of Transportation (NMDOT)	
Entity	Representative(s)
RTPO Liaison	Neala Krueger
District 5	James Mexia, Amanda Nino
District 6	Bill Santiago , Michael Neely, Clayton Garner
Tribal Liaison	Ron Shutiva
DOT Central Regional Design Office	James Sanchez, Juan Archuletta
Other NMDOT Staff / Guests	Emily Dossett - NMDOT

Northwest Regional Transportation Planning Organization	
Northwest NM Council of Governments	Robert Kuipers

Tally Sheet – Attendance & Quorum

Total Full Attendance:	Member Entities:	NMDOT	RTPO	Guests (Transit)	Full Attendance Norm:	
	12	Normally 4-5: DOT Liaison, Tribal Liaison, District 5 & 6 Representatives		varies	17 - 20	
Attendance – this meeting:	Member Attendance:	NMDOT Attendance:	Staff:	Guests:	Attendance % this meeting:	TOTAL:
	4	5	1		50%	10

ROUTINE ITEMS:

Item #	Item
I.	Call to Order and Introductions. The meeting was called to order at 10:10 am, Dennis Felipe welcomed those in attendance, and proceeded with introductions approval of agenda and minutes. The virtual meeting was conducted via Microsoft Teams, due to the COVID-19 pandemic.
II.	Agenda. RTPO Staff provided an overview of the day's agenda topics and Dennis Felipe – Vice Chair called for a motion: ACTION: Shannon Devine – City of Grants motioned; Linda Cooke – Village of Milan seconded adoption of the agenda. All in favor – motion carried.
S	Minutes (March, 2023). RTPO Staff provided time for review of minutes and there were no revisions requested, Dennise Felipe – Vice Chair called for a motion. ACTION: Linda Cooke – Village of Milan motioned; Shannon Devine – City of Grants seconded adoption of the minutes. All in favor – motion carried.

ACTION ITEMS: None

Discussion Items:

item #	Item	Presenter
IV.	Action: Project Feasibility Forms due – April 14	Robert Kuipers, NWRTPO
BACKGROUND		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Why? Every two years now COG admin. requires RTPO staff to completely clear the RTIPR and have RTPO members submit new projects, and resubmit projects already cited in the previous RTIPR. Purpose. This is to keep projects up to date, based on local government priorities. Discussion/Finalization. 		
CURRENT WORK		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Members to submit new and previous projects PFFs for each section of the RTIPR by April 14. 		
ANTICIPATED WORK		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Members to submit new and previous projects into RTIPR sections for forthcoming funding opportunities. If necessary, the COG / NWRTPO can extend submission deadlines. 		
ATTACHMENTS		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Current Project Feasibility Form and Transportation Project Fund Project Feasibility Form 		
BUDGET IMPACT		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> None 		
ACTION ITEM		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> N/A 		

Discussion:

- Robert Kuipers reminded that PFF's are due this Friday (!) and so far we only have PFF's in from McKinley County. Most of our members are working on getting PFF's in by this deadline. The main concern for RTPO staff is the Navajo Nation, as right now Margie Begay is their only representative, and in her high level position, she may not be able to meet this deadline. COG RTPO staff may have to work something out with NDOT to get their PFF's in on an extension!
- The meeting package included the regular PFF, and the Transportation Project Fund PFF.

Item #	Item	Presenter
V.	Present: Transportation Project Fund Progress	Robert Kuipers
BACKGROUND		
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Why? Project feasibility forms are due by April 14 – including TPF projects; and full TPF application packages are due May 31.• Purpose. Our RTPO members have done exceptionally well with the NM TPF fund in the past, and we hope to continue this opportunity which almost doubles the projects we can complete in each biennial RTIPR season – generally averaging between \$15 & 20 million.• Discussion/Finalization.		
CURRENT WORK		
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Get the TPF – PFFs in by Friday – April 14 !!!		
ANTICIPATED WORK		
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Finish the Complete 2024 TPF application packages by / before May 31 !!!		
ATTACHMENTS		
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• TPF guidance, and PFF		
BUDGET IMPACT		
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• None for the NWRTPO, but major funding for our member governments		
ACTION ITEM		
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• N/A		

Discussion:

- Robert (Bob) Kuipers covered the Transportation Project Fund for 2024 – **full applications are due May 31, 2023**. Bob covered what is required for a complete application package, and requested that RTPO members get their **full applications** to him (including resolutions) **by May 23**, so he can upload them to the NMDOT FTP website.
- Tribal entities can use their TTP funds for the 5% match, or request a hardship waiver.
- Our region has always done well in the past with this funding source from the State

Item #	Item	Presenter
VI.	Present: Vulnerable Road Users Summary Report	Robert Kuipers
BACKGROUND		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Why? It remains important to provide equal access including transportation for handicapped and elderly citizens, and RTPO's and DOT's can contribute and support developing infrastructure and services to accommodate these citizens. • Purpose. Raise RTPO members awareness and commitment to citizens who need assistance to access products and services. • Discussion/Finalization. Present summary information, and additional information for RTPO members to review and familiarize, in order to better serve our elderly and handicapped citizens. 		
CURRENT WORK		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None 		
ANTICIPATED WORK		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review and familiarize with this program and seek funding opportunities to execute recommended projects 		
ATTACHMENTS		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vulnerable Road Users guidance 		
BUDGET IMPACT		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None 		
ACTION ITEM		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • N/A 		

Discussion:

- Mr. Kuipers provided extensive guidance in this meeting package for Vulnerable Road Users funding; Neala Krueger also complimented the presentation by citing additional qualifying candidates for this funding – beyond just elderly and handicapped.
- Applications are encouraged to provide data driven safety analysis.
- States are required nationally to complete a VRU safety assessment by Nov. 15, 2023.
- This includes identifying high risk areas for safety for vulnerable citizens including location, functional classification, design speed, and high risk time of day.
- States are required and local governments are encouraged to ID high incidence areas for traffic injuries and deaths, and develop strategies to mitigate high risk locations.
- Recommend separating bike and pedestrian lanes from traffic lanes, and create pedestrian safety islands at street crossings.
- Encourage reviewing "Complete Streets Design" for safety improvements.
- A list of potential funding sources is provided in attached guidance.
- Staff included a copy of the full VRU guidance document (19 pages)

Item #	Item	Presenter
VII.	Reports, Updates, Announcements	Robert Kuipers
BACKGROUND		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Why? Update RTPO members on news, training, funding, and other items of special interest • Purpose. Keep RTPO members up to date on critical information from NWRTPO and NMDOT sources 		
Informational Items		
Regional News & Updates		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RTPO Monthly Report and Staff hours summary for February, 2023 • Member Reports 		
Member Special Reports:		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None this meeting 		
NMDOT Reports:		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • G to G Liaison: Neala Krueger • Tribal Liaison: Ron Shutiva • District 6: Bill Santiago & staff; District 5: James Mexia & Amanda Nino 		
News, Training & Funding Opportunities:		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>FHWA Planning, Environment & Realty Reports</u>: none • <u>NMDOT Govt. to Govt. Update</u>: 3/03/23, 3/23/23, 3/29/23 • <u>AASHTO Publications</u>: none • <u>NMDOT / UNM-LTAP</u>: Provides a very robust collection of training opportunities – staff forward news to members as it comes out from this source – reference at ltap.unm.edu – Online courses notice forwarded to members as LTAP emails come in. • <u>Title VI Training</u> is available to MPO's and RTPO's from Lisa Neie – Civil Rights Manager for FHWA New Mexico. These trainings can be customized to address member concerns and issues for their regions, if provided to her in advance. • <u>Email Change Notice from NMDOT</u>: All NMDOT staff emails have changed from @state.nm.us to @dot.nm.gov • <u>NHI Appraisal Courses 141053 & 141054</u>: These courses provide Right of Way training – 3/2/23 • <u>Tribal Transportation News</u>: 3/6/23 • <u>USDOT News and Funding Opportunities</u>: 3/6/23 • <u>March 6 Grant Advisory</u>: from Senator Heinrich – 3/6/23 • <u>Human Environment Digest</u>: news, training and funding – 3/9/23 • <u>NMDOT – FTP Applications</u>: Listing of TAP & CRP submissions from Shannon Glendenning – incl. 2 from our Mike Sage for Autonomous Commercial Truck & Mobility Complex and Commercial Truck Testing Technology Corridor Complex. • <u>Federal News on Forthcoming Funding Sources</u>: 3/15/23 • <u>LGRF Reminder from Bill Santiago</u>: 3/15/23 • <u>Electric Vehicle Charging Station Opportunities</u>: 3/30/23 		

Members please note: none of these documents will be included in the full meeting package due to the physical size and the electronic megabyte size going forward – all of the cited documents have already been emailed in advance of the RTPO monthly meeting to our NWRTPO members. Some of the citations are ongoing from month to month regarding ongoing training or funding opportunities.

- Robert Kuipers provided his monthly report for March.
- **2023 NM Transportation Project Fund: full applications are due by May 31**
- Members are reminded to stay on top of forthcoming funding opportunities; staff will do their best to keep members informed on opportunities along with submission deadlines.

- Mr. Kuipers also provided the staff hours summary for March, 2023, the second quarter expenditure report (January thru March), and the Public Notice for May, 2022 thru April, 2023 – indicating that our meetings will remain virtual due to COVID.

Local Member Reports (<i>significant news only</i>)	By Entity
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New news in bold

Pueblo of Acoma

- **Gaylord Siow is now the Pueblo of Laguna Lt. Governor, so has resigned from his position in the Pueblo of Acoma. Dennis Felipe Jr. is now the primary RTPO representative for the Pueblo of Acoma; they are still looking for an alternate representative to the NWRTPO.**
- **The Mesa Hill Bridge project remains unfunded and ongoing as the #1 bridge project, but is fully designed and construction ready with support from NMDOT. The issue is just obtaining significant funding (around \$30 million) from USDOT with every round of major funding they provide. The Pueblo's PS&E and EA are complete; The Pueblo is working toward finalizing the cultural clearances and right of way with the BIA and finalizing land status with Tribal leadership. Pueblo is working on the SP36 and SP30 connector roads to this bridge, along with a right of way map for the bridge. Pueblo is pursuing funding from the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law and other funding sources to include FHWA and TTP Bridge Program funds. The Pueblo will utilize on-call engineering services to complete planning and design phases in order to move toward construction.**
- **SP30 – Pueblo Road LGRF Cooperative Agreement and Tribal Resolution have been signed by Pueblo leadership and sent to Bill Santiago at DOT District 6. Pueblo is seeking additional funding due to inflation; this project is in progress for design and reconstruction. Project is now complete and in close out**
- **SP38 Haaku Road Planning & Design: Project consists of a 12.3 mile corridor to Acoma's original village. Project is funded at \$2,900,000 for planning and design from the FY2023 Transportation Project Fund. The TPF cooperative agreement is finalized. Acoma will contact Clayton Garner at DOT Dist. 6 upon consultation selection for fund disbursement. Pueblo is ready to award a consultant.**
- **M-123 San Fidel Creek bridge: This bridge on SP34 – Fatima Hill Road has been funded at \$137,049 for design thru FHWA Tribal Transportation Bridge Program funding. Approved to move forward**
- **M-124 Acomita Lake bridge on SP34 – Fatima Hill Road: Project is funded at \$380,000 for design thru FHWA TTP Bridge Program funding and now approved to move forward. NM 124 extension to NM117 is on hold – funded for design thru Trans. Project Fund.**
- Tribal Admin. met with the Federal Highway Administration along with Ron Shutiva, providing information on TTP and FHWA; a powerpoint on challenges and opportunities with CMGC (*Construction Management / General Contractor*) funding, and discussion on ICIP training.
- **Acoma's Tribal Transportation Improvement Program (TTIP): FY2022 finalized.**
- **CMGC2 – 4 Projects are now complete and in close out.**
- **The Pueblo has received \$1.5 million from Senator Heinrich for the Acoma Business Park. Design of this park is now complete. Full project will run around \$35 million.**
- **NM124 Extension to NM117 has been partially funded thru the Transportation Project Fund which is our current #1 roadway priority. The Pueblo will collaborate with NMDOT Dist. 6 and has submitted an agreement and resolution for approval. The Pueblo is now waiting on an agreement to proceed from NMDOT Secretary Sandoval. It appears that unlike DOT Dist. 6 advice, the Pueblo will first have to execute design (funded at \$1 million) and cannot go directly to construction. This project is on hold due to archaeological sites.**
- **On call engineering services: RFP has been issued beginning January 2023 – selection process to take place in March, 2023. Three consulting agencies are now on board.**
- **SP302 is completing environmental assessment, and is in closeout for design with the BIA.**
- **Pueblo is seeking funding for design and full reconstruction of SP30 – Pueblo Road (10.6 miles).**
- **The Pueblo is working with DOT Dist. 6 to address drainage issues for the San Lorenzo Road (SP35); hoping DOT-6 will transfer this road to the Pueblo.**
- **The Pueblo has completed their update to their Long-Range Transportation Plan; the update is posted on Acoma's Community Development Office website.**
- **The Pueblo is also updating their Transportation Safety Plan at this time. The Pueblo was awarded TTP Safety Program funding at \$10,000 for this update and \$475,000 for SP30 Pueblo Road east end safety redesign.**

- **Thru distributing a survey at the local Food Pantry, the Pueblo has achieved a 41% response rate from the public for both transportation plans!**
- **Mainstreet Project: The Pueblo will add several projects to the CMGC suite to include projects for housing and economic development.** Preparing amendments to conduct engineering studies, land surveys, geotechnical studies, drainage analysis, right of way surveys and proforma.
- **The Pueblo's Local Govt. Road Fund projects were finalized with NMDOT – will issue an RFP in the near future**
- **Acoma is seeking "Sky City Scenic Byway" funding, and will pursue Pueblo Council approval to pursue grant funding next year; as well as a Tribal Council resolution for tribal byway designation. Neala Krueger will inform NMDOT – Beth Foreman to provide byway funding contact information.**
- **The Pueblo would like to invite local, county and other tribal entities within the Pueblo region to consider partnering for construction project funding, as bundling projects saves money, as the Pueblo has learned from CMGC (Construction Management / General Contractor) funding.**

Pueblo of Zuni

- **The Pueblo is working on drainage improvements along the NM53 corridor mp 15.5 to 19.5 – creating culverts and ponds.**
- **The Pueblo submitted an application to update their Transportation Safety Plan; and was awarded funding to update their Tribal Transportation Safety Plan in 2022; and conduct an RSA on NM53 from mp 13.5 to 18. Notice of award was received late yesterday – Feb. 7.**
- **NMDOT Contract #CN6101091 – Meridian Contracting working on drainage issues and retention ponds; this includes installing concrete box culverts. Asphalt paving will continue when weather permits.**
- **Have received FHWA Tribal Transportation Program funding for FFY22. – Prepping for construction in FY23.**
- **The Pueblo Transportation Dept. will be issuing two RFP's in the near future. One is to plan, design and construct a new transportation facility to include Ashiwi Transit; and the other is for planning, design and reconstruction of BIA Route 5 – Nutria Road.**
- **The Pueblo is under lock down with little administrative activity due to COVID-19 pandemic; the Pueblo has extended re-opening until sometime in the future, depending on how long COVID-19 persists.**
- **Bid packages for Shiwi Ts'ana Elementary School access and Z301 / NM53 intersection improvements were opened July 12 – with one bid submitted. Notice of award offered to Albuquerque Sparling Construction company for both projects combined.**
- **Zuni purchased a dump truck with FHWA Coronavirus funds.**
- **The Pueblo is looking to purchase a backup generator for the Andrew Othole Memorial Airport.**
- **Zuni Transportation Dept. submitted documents to the Governors Office to fund two historical and cultural sites of significance with related road improvement projects.**
- **US Dept. of Treasury set aside \$20 billion for Native American Tribes under American Rescue Plan. Zuni received it's first distribution – Road Dept. will submit road improvement project that leads to significant historical site for tourism**
- **Road maintenance projects continue related to flooding around the Pueblo.**
- **Royce is now also the Airport Manager. Receipt of FAA grant agreement for developing an Airport Master Plan for the Andrew Othole Memorial (AOM) Airport. The master plan will be developed by the Pueblo's airport consultant – Armstrong Consultant's, Inc.**
- **Erin Kenley, TTP Director and Brian Allen, TTP Fields Operation Manager – both from the Office of Tribal Transportation visited Zuni on August 10 and met with the Governor and Tribal Council on a number of issues. Discussed the tribal self-governance program within the US DOT and FHWA.**
- **The Pueblo continues to update its long-range transportation plan. The plan is now in final draft form and being put out on the Pueblo website and Facebook for public comment. The draft plan is awaiting recommendations for next steps on how to present to the public.**
- **The pedestrian trail project plan is now 100% complete – will move forward for FHWA approval.**
- **On-call A/E consultants are working on designs for Ruins Road, North/South Sandy Springs Road, Harker Circle, the intersection of Ojo Caliente/Pia Mesa and pedestrian trails. Ruins Road is now at 95% completion.**
- **Ongoing road maintenance around the Pueblo. This includes crews addressing mowing, culvert repairs, blading gravel or dirt roads, asphalt pothole repairs and vegetation control.**
- **Virtual Presentation meeting with NMDOT and WHPacific on the NM53 Drainage project being designed by WHPacific to make improvements from MP15.5 to 19, due to undersized culvert pipes and overtopping of flood waters on NM53 (also Zuni Mainstreet). First meeting was held on October 7.**

- There are demolition projects in the Pueblo for the Lemon Tree/Zuni Laundromat building and the old Zuni Water Dept. building.
- The Pueblo is undertaking construction of an RV Park.
- The Pueblo has worked with Ashiwi Transit and Gallup Express to extend transit service to the Ramah Navajo area.
- The Pueblo has engaged contractual on call engineering services for future transportation development.
- The Ashiwi transit system received a national award at the 2019 National RTAP (*Rural Transportation Assistance Program*) conference. **Ashiwi Transit received another award plaque for their service during the COVID pandemic.**
- Ashiwi Transit will resume when all safety precautionary measures have been installed on the transit vehicles. Local and Gallup services will resume on a limited basis, but only on demand or appointments. Extension to Ramah / Pinehill is temporarily on hold until further notice around COVID-19 concerns. Ashiwi Transit is now back in service. **Hope to resume transit discussions with the Ramah / Pinehill area soon.**

McKinley County

- **CR-19 improvements. CR19 – 18.6 miles of chip-sealing is now complete and striping is finished making this project almost complete; just 7 miles of fencing to go.**
- **The County's Local Government Road Fund projects for FFY2021 are now complete; working on certifications for 2022 projects at this time. LGRF Manuelito Canyon road alignment is now complete.**
- **The County Road Dept. has issued Purchase orders for a bridge on CR15 and a bridge on CR43; these bridges are now at 60% to completion.**
- The County had their ribbon cutting ceremony for Manuelito Canyon bridge replacement on September 10, 2021 – the event was well attended by State and regional legislative leaders along with President Jonathon Nez of the Navajo Nation.
- The County will benefit with \$23 million for improvements to the Carbon Coal Road intersection in Gamarco with US491, which leads to the developing Energy Logistics Park (and potential Inland Port). **This project is now complete!**
- The County has finished chip sealing Pine Haven road; will use remaining funds to finish improvements on Allison road.
- **Cousins Road and CR-1 will move into phase 2 repairs; Cousins road will get 4 miles of chip seal. Superman Canyon Road (CR43) and Old Church Rock Mine Bridge (CR15) are next projects on the list. The County Road Dept. has issued purchase orders for a bridge on CR15 and a bridge on CR43. Church Rock Mine Bridge is getting started at this time. The 2023 Transportation Project Fund has funded another Superman Canyon road – CR43 bridge at \$2,716,334.00.**
- **The County is realigning CR5 – Manuelito Canyon road – LGRF funds; has applied 4 miles of chip seal on CR6 – now waiting on rain delays. The alignment for this road is now complete.**
- Ongoing county-wide maintenance including blading, patching potholes, cleaning culverts, repairing bridges / guardrails, etc. The County has completed the ZMTP Milk Ranch Trail Head.

Gallup

- **Gallup Mainstreet Project** – Ground breaking May 13; construction commenced July 1. **Coal Avenue Commons** both MAP and Legislative Agreements have been executed by the State. The City is working with Wilson & Co. and NMDOT District 6 on the final PS&E. City Council approved Wilson & Co.'s professional engineering proposal for construction management. The Mainstreet grant resolution was approved by City Council for this project. Between MAP, State Legislative, Economic and City funding the Coal Avenue Commons project phase 1 is now complete with final walk thru executed 7/20/21. **The City has been funded for phase 2 from the NM Transportation Project Fund – and has been awarded \$3,500,000 from this fund to complete this project. The city commenced construction on May 2, starting with alley improvements. Intersection of Coal Ave. and 2nd Street is now complete with additional drainage structure. Phase 2 construction is now complete. First to Second street is now complete, working on 1st Street to Coal Avenue next.**
- **East Nizhoni and West Aztec improvements are currently in design phase – East Nizhoni received news from NMDOT Dist. 6 that the City was awarded MAP funding for East Nizhoni Ave - \$900,000. Phase 2 Nizhoni Blvd. and College Drive intersection construction began on 10/17/22 and is currently on Winter suspension. East Nizhoni was also awarded \$350,000 from the NM FFY2023 Transportation Project Fund. East Nizhoni phase 3 is out to bid – closing on 2/21/23 and is on the City Council agenda for construction award approval for March 14, 2023. West**

Aztec – meeting with property owner has been executed and now moving forward to complete design. Working on a West Aztec utility easement agreement and met with Dist. 6 staff on 2/28/23.

- **West Aztec drainage** legislative grant has been executed and engineering services have been awarded to begin design; notice of obligation has been submitted and approved by the state. **Property owner has submitted proposal to City for utility easement – now completed and moving to complete design.**
- **Local Govt. Road Fund** funded projects have completed mill and overlay for planned roads; received word from NMDOT Dist. 6 that the City was awarded funds for our next project. Working on close out paperwork and Coop letter of intent for 2023.
- The City has submitted a Letter of Intent for Coop funding.
- **West Logan street repairs** are being advertised
- **2nd and 3rd Street pedestrian safety improvements** RFP for design was awarded, along with 2nd and 3rd Street Quiet Zone awarded for design.
- **CDBG RFP** was awarded – working on paperwork for DFA approval. An Extension Request was sent to DFA; construction to commence in the Spring.
- **Federal Aviation Admin.** application for \$5 million has been submitted for our airport taxi-way and connectors. The City has been awarded and construction began on April 11, 2022. Construction is now complete and project in close out.

Milan

- The Village had a ribbon cutting ceremony for a new soccer complex and is improving a baseball field.
- Airport road is moving forward to phase 2 and 3 for bridge replacement and road repairs in April.
- There has been some flooding but no major problems. Sewer system improvements are in design including a lift station. Swimming pool and water system improvements are ongoing, as well as the baseball field.
- Cottonwood road is in design.
- Working toward street improvements for Willow Drive, Elkins Road, Motel Drive and Tiejien Street
- Various ongoing lighting projects
- Need to address repair for NM605 bridge
- Need to address a Mill Road and Rail crossing

Ramah

- Ramah is looking to draft an agreement with Cibola County for road maintenance.
- Ramah has submitted applications to repair / replace two bridges.
- Winter maintenance is ongoing.
- Condolences to the community for the loss of Shane Lewis, who accomplished significant transportation development on behalf of the Ramah Navajo community.
- Ramah Navajo has filled two positions after the departure of Shane Lewis with Dorothy Claw as primary transportation developer and Tom Martine as transportation assistant – these individuals are also the primary and alternative representatives to the NWRTPPO.
- **Ramah Navajo is updating their Long Range Transportation Plan at this time, and in the process of prioritizing projects. Public meeting took place January 3 . Ramah is also working on Administrative Policies and Procedures.**
- **BIA 175 is the next new project for Ramah Navajo – seeking funding at this time.**
- Working on signage for BIA 125 and 122.
- Ramah has applied to the MEGA grant for improvements to BIA 125 mp. 18 – 26
- Ramah received a safety grant for \$300,000 which will help supply new guard rails.
- Looking to reconstruct BIA 145 and BIA 195
- Completed PFF's for NM53 & BIA 125 intersection and Pine Hill school pedestrian ADA improvements.
- Some weather related road maintenance and repair going on at this time.
- **Ramah is developing RSA's for ten (10) intersections for NM53 and other tribal roads.**
- Dorothy and Tom are acclimating with ongoing Ramah transportation projects at this time and updating the Ramah Long Range Transportation Plan, completing an annual report, and looking for training opportunities.

- Acting executive director for Ramah Navajo Chapter's 638 Grants & Contract Programs issued a memorandum for employees to return back to work and follow CDC guidelines within each Chapter program RNDOT is back in operation and continues to maintain roadways.
- BIA Projects Update:
 - BIA 125 mp 18 – 24.6 – received approved design exception report for this project from FHWA and will move to finalize the project. BIA 125 MP 0 – 4.4 received approval from NNHPO on the updated Cultural Report document and Categorical Exclusion. Awaiting ROW documents for BIA 195 in Ramah Band Land to RN Realty Office. BIA 113 and 145 received final report and will review final documents with tribal officials
 - BIA 195: submitted ROW documents to RN Realty Office; **more focus on this road going forward.**
 - BIA 145 and BIA 113: Received draft report for BIA 145 and BIA 113. **More focus on BIA 145 going forward.**
- RNDOT Transportation Technician is vacant and will advertise for the position.
- Submitted grant applications for the NOFO on Tribal Transportation Program Safety Funds.
- BIA 125 striping project is complete; **BIA 125 mp 0-4 and mp12 – 24.6 are now construction ready.**
- NMDOT LGRF received all certifications and submitted a letter of disbursement. Awaiting on contractor to return signed Notice of Award for BIA 125 striping project.
- Cancelled Transportation Committee Meetings until COVID-19 Restrictions are lifted.
- Submitted road signs replacement maintenance project for 2021 LGRF cycle.
- NMDOT LGRF received some certifications and will coordinate with Utility providers. Received ROW certification and submitted letter requesting disbursement.
- Assisting with RN Community Development Department for the Navajo Nation Rural Addressing Project.
- Ongoing general maintenance for area roads, cattle guards and signage, blading and shaping, potholes and base course patching (incl. school bus routes). Cleaning and replacing roadway signs. Field fence repairs, post replacements and gate repairs.
- **Ramah Navajo has submitted a BUILD Grant application.**

Cibola County

- Cibola County has hired a new Road Superintendent by the name of Ed Salazar.
- The County is doing "blade and shape" maintenance on 84.7 miles of 14 County Roads; and a variety of other maintenance (cattle guards / culverts / sign repair / tree trimming & weed control / mowing / pot-hole patching / and minor road repairs) for 24 county roads.
- **The County has completed an emergency bypass at this time for the CR-5 Moquino bridge, and is awaiting TPF 2023 funding to repair the bridge in the future.**
- **The county continues undertaking flood damage repairs**
- **The county is working on chip sealing a variety of roads at this time.**
- **The County has commenced development of the Zuni Mountains Quartz Hill Trail.**
- ZMTP RTP trail project is funded for FFY2020 construction – working with McKinley County for trails development beginning with the Quartz Hill Trail Head. Construction will likely not proceed until FFY2021 Spring & Summer for the Cibola portion of the Zuni Mountain Recreational Trails. **Cibola County has now been cleared to be the fiscal agent for this project and will no longer need McKinley County's assistance; trail development and construction is commencing.** Cibola, COG and NMDOT staff had a virtual internal planning meeting on Jan. 19 at 9am with Arnold from the Forest Service to discuss updated scope of work for this project. **The County has commenced work on the Trail Head project and has submitted an extension request to JoAnn Garcia at NMDOT.**
- Cibola County has submitted an RFP due March 23 for a new public safety building, and will conduct a pre-proposal meeting; six (6) construction firms have responded thus far.
- CR-18B and CR1 road / bridge projects are current priorities. CR-18B awarded LGTPF funding – LGTPF contract is complete and submitted. CR18-B – RFP closed Friday – 12/4 and are currently reviewing applications – much appreciation to JoAnn Garcia from NMDOT District 6. Two firms responded to the RFP and the Cibola Commission determined the award at their January 14 meeting. **CR18-B has commenced ROW work; drainage work is ongoing and construction for CR18-B bridge to commence in August or Sept. ; CR-1 has issued an RFP to Engineering Firms.**
- **CR-57 A is having a culvert replaced, and the County is starting on cattle guard replacements, as well as removing sand on various roads related to wind conditions.**
- Coop projects will begin soon.
- Ongoing County wide maintenance for County and Forest Roads.

Grants

- The City recently had a ribbon cutting ceremony for the pedestrian bridge on 2nd Street. **The bridge and channel are almost completed. 2nd Street Shared Path Loop has been awarded \$1.1 million in TAP funding.**
- Riverwalk trail: Design at 100% from WHPacific, Project is on hold for the time being.
- First Street phase 2 – Adams to Roosevelt: design at 100%; added a pond and lift station on Geis Street for drainage; allotted \$1.8 million from 2019 state legislature for **final phase 3 from Washington to Roosevelt which was recently awarded is now complete.** Final PS&E was scheduled for this August and project letting is scheduled for September. Total project stands at \$6.2 million. **Striping is now complete; anticipated completion coming soon. Roosevelt Bridge is now in construction.**
- 2nd street bridge out to bid for construction to commence in July – **2nd Street Channel project is now complete for Jefferson Ave. to the Rio San Jose.**
- Washington bridge replacement over 2nd Street through LGTPF funding will include a walking opportunity for High School students; project construction is underway – commenced in June. **Funding was awarded at \$750,000 for the Anderman to Sage St. portion from NM CDBG funds.**
- Lobo Canyon and Roosevelt intersection improvements are underway and ongoing. **Roosevelt Bridge is at 100% design and going out to bid soon.**

Pueblo of Laguna

- Leonard Ludi is now the primary representative for Laguna; as Elroy Keetso has taken a job at NM Indian Affairs.
- The Pueblo remains under COVID restrictions, and is looking for a transportation specialist – no other major news now.
- The Pueblo remains closed to the public, and administration is closed until the COVID-19 Pandemic resides. For I-40 MP 111 – 117 exists are closed to the Pueblo. Access NM124 via I-40 MP108 and 117 exits.
- Gaylord informed COG RTPO staff that the Pueblo has six official villages – not seven – staff will execute this correction going forward.
- The Pueblo is consulting with the MRRTPO for Laguna Pueblo lands within their jurisdiction.
- The Pueblo is pursuing an FHWA grant to develop a Pueblo-wide (all Villages / roads) Safety Plan and will be seeking data sources identifying various crash incidents, and high crash incident locations; may need assistance from the RTPO or DOT with analyzing crash data. The Pueblo has a number of State Routes, where high speeds impact upon more fatal crashes.
- NM124 Bike and Pedestrian Trail – Paraje to the Kawaika Center project is complete – working with NMDOT for close out.
- NM124 Bike and Pedestrian Trail Encinal Road to State Road 279 is complete and in close out.
- NM124 Rio San Jose to Roundabout bike & ped path: Design is complete. PS&E checklist is complete – project planned to be let February – March, 2021. **NM 124 design is complete, anticipating construction in Spring of 2022.**
- L26 Rainfall Road from Cubero Wash to Seama bridge M108: **Construction has been completed**, including a bike & ped. trail. Final audits in progress and **project is in close-out.**
- M137 bridge at Laguna Subdivision: **Construction complete and project in close out with BIA.**
- Mill, Overlay, Striping & Enhancement Projects: Construction is complete for L503 – Veterans Memorial Road, L200 Postal Postal Road and L245 Raindrop Road. **The Pueblo is developing the next phase on four BIA routes: LGRF/BIA Road Maintenance Striping Projects – phase 2 & 3: Phase 2 – L500 Mountain Ash Loop and L500 Central Park Road; Phase 3 – L540 Veterans Memorial Road and L200 Elizabeth Bender Road. No bids were received so the Pueblo is working with NMDOT to sole-source these projects.**
- Local Govt. Road Fund: projects will go out for construction bids soon.
- LGRF / BIA Road Maintenance Mill, Overlay & Striping Projects: Phase 2 & 3: Phase 2 – the Pueblo is working on the next phase for four BIA routes: phase 2 for L500 Mountain Ash Loop and Central Park roads. Phase 3 for L540 – Veterans Memorial Road and L200 Elizabeth Bender Road. **Contract amendments submitted and received. Local Govt. Road Fund and trail projects to commence soon.**
- NM 124 Roundabout: The repairs to the roundabout are being coordinated by NMDOT, no start date has been determined. **NM124 Road Diet has received an extension and is in final design for Rio San Jose to the Roundabout (6100764 project control no.) – this includes a bike and pedestrian addition.**

- **L24 Rainfall Road:** design changed to two phases, **Ph-1 Road & Trail at final 100% design, and in ROW review. The Concrete Box Underpass is now eliminated, and DOT Dist. 6 proposes to build an I-40 bridge over L24 road.** Construction funded for \$1.9 million from the LGTPF fund!
- **L26 Deer Dancer Road:** **at 100% design, working on ROW amendments and E.A.**
- **L243 Acorn Road design:** completed 100% design and PS&E review from the BIA. **Construction to begin in the Spring.**
- **M154 Paguate Wash Bridge:** **PER is complete – design phase will commence later this year.**
- **M108 San Jose River Bridge-Seama:** **PS&E, and ROW complete; EA, FONSI and NOI are in progress. Bridge is now at 100% design.**
- **L248 Bluejay Road and L248 Blue Star Loop:** **Design is in progress now at 30%. PER report is now in progress to include ROW review.**
- **Pueblo's Safety Plan:** **Plan is now complete – close out letter sent to BIA.**
- **NMDOT I-40 Safety Project:** The Pueblo met with NMDOT on March 3. **Design is at 100%; Construction by MSCI is ongoing on the east bound lanes from MM112 – 116..**
- The Pueblo has completed L26 Rainfall Road along with two trail projects.

Navajo Nation – Northern Agency

- **New Navajo Nation Leadership in Administrative and Legislative branches. Garrett Silversmith will remain in charge of NDOT.**
- **NDOT has completed \$170 million in projects in the past seven (7) years.**
- **NDOT will be meeting with the Hopi leaders on mutual road projects sometime soon.**
- **Navajo DOT is updating their Long Range Transportation Plan at this time.**
- **Local Govt. Road Fund projects will commence implementation soon for both Eastern and Northern Navajo.** Priscilla Lee – NDOT is working on extensions for FFY2019 projects. 2018 projects are complete at this time.
- **Northern and Eastern – currently updating regional road routes to present on Feb. 22 to the Navajo Council. Also updating Chapters on BIA Road Inventory to help fund 15 mile regional routes maintenance.**

Navajo Nation – Eastern Navajo

- **Edwin Begay is the Senior Planner for Eastern Navajo indicated that NDOT is now updating Chapter routes and will follow up with Chapters for resolutions and inventory training.**
- Emergency repair work is ongoing for road repairs related to heavy Monsoon rainfall. Busy fixing Chapter access roads – primarily in Arizona and now in New Mexico.
- **Recently Arlando Teller – USDOT met with Anthony Dimas and Billy Moore to discuss Navajo roads.**
- Working on TTIP projects across the Navajo Nation.
- Providing Chapters technical assistance for ingress and egress – including the BIA and NM / AZ DOT. The BIA will provide road inventory training to NDOT.
- **Navajo Transit is now under Navajo DOT.**
- NDOT is also gearing up for school bus route improvements and asking route maps from the various Navajo Nation schools. **NDOT is completing School Bus Route mapping at this time. There is currently much concern around school bus routes and bridges which buses cannot cross.**
- **Transportation Project Fund project application was approved by DOT for the west Tsayatoh Road in Eastern Navajo at \$2,450,000.**
- NDOT is meeting with Chapters around regional priorities and funding; **Iyanbito bridge request remains a priority around significant rail crossing delays (especially around emergency response concerns).**
- There are concerns with overgrazing, along with dust storms and sand on roadways – NDOT will present to NM Indian Affairs on these concerns.
- For both Northern and Eastern Navajo there have been major road washouts due to flooding, which NDOT is addressing as best they can. NDOT staff will also be undertaking BIA Road Inventory training.
- **NDOT is asking Chapters for new projects, and follow up with Chapters on Capital Outlay.**
- **At this time, the Navajo DOT has no representatives to the NWRTPO other than Margie Begay – they are working to identify new representatives for Northern, Eastern and Ft. Defiance Agencies.**

Proposed New Roadway Lighting Projects have no Planning, Designing or Construction funding, but the respective Chapters will be seeking funds to begin Road Safety Assessments, Design, and Construction: All these projects will be added to RTIPR for future funding of the projects.

- Smith Lake Chapter- Seeking RSA studies and street lighting at Hwy 371 & N49
- Crownpoint Chapter- Seeking RSA studies and street lighting at N9 & Hwy 371 intersection
- Becenti Chapter- Seeking RSA studies & Street lighting at Highway 371 & N9
- Coyote Canyon Chapter- Street lighting at Intersections of Highway 491 and N9, Milepost 15-15.5
- Whiterock Chapter- Seeking RSA & Street lighting at Highway 371 & store junction, chapter access roads
- Standing Rock Chapter- Seeking RSA & Street lighting at N9 & Chapter access road intersection.
- Little Water Chapter (Eastern)- Seeking RSA & Street lighting at Highway 371 and N7119
- Mexican Springs Chapter- Completing RSA, and seeking street lighting at Highway 491 & N30
- Naschitti Chapter- Completing RSA, and seeking street lighting at Highway 491 & Bus turnaround MP 32
- Tohatchi Chapter- Completing RSA and seeking street lighting at Highway 491 Milepost 22-24
- Twin Lakes Chapter- Completing RSA, and seeking street lighting at Highway 491 & Chapter access road/school access road, Milepost 13 – 13.5 and other lighting at Highway 491 & Giant store/Johnson road, Milepost 9.8 – 10.3

**New Mexico Department of Transportation Reports
(significant news only)**

RTPO Liaison (Neala Krueger)
Tribal Liaison (Ron Shutiva)
District 5 (James Mexia, Stephanie Medina)
District 6 (JoAnn Garcia; Bill Santiago)

Multimodal Planning & Programs Bureau – Neala Krueger

- **Quality Assurance Reviews:** are forthcoming against a May 31 deadline
- **Transit & Rail Public Transportation Survey** was issued in the March 3 Govt. to Govt. Update – encouraging RTPO members to review and respond.
- **Upcoming news & funding:** FHWA Urban Area Boundaries, and USDOT Safe Streets for All funding is forthcoming
- **DOT Construction & Civil Rights Bureau** reminds that **ADA Transition Plans and Title VI Plans are due Sept., 15, 2023.**
- **DOT Statewide Public Transit Study** will be held April 18 at the El Morro Event Center in Gallup – 6:30pm.

NMDOT Tribal Liaison – Ron Shutiva

- Ron participated in Indian Day at the Legislature in Santa Fe on February 3.
- Ron is trying to meet with new tribal legislators and engage with DOT District staff.
- There is concern around litter and trash along I-40 intersection within the Pueblo of Laguna area.
- A corridor study is under consideration for I-40 from Arizona to Albuquerque – this will include consideration toward developing three lanes for this highway in each direction, given the truck freight traffic. **Virtual Public meeting will take place April 25 at 6:00 pm.**
- Ron continues to work on engaging tribes around state corridors and is seeking help from regional media.
- Justin Reese is the new Cabinet Secretary for NMDOT.
- There will be a session on I-40 improvements with NDOT.
- Ron recommends phasing projects due to increasing costs
- House Memorial 13 is executed for a study on the Ramah area Wolf Sanctuary Road for improvements.
- NM 118 drainage study request from Mark Freeland – Navajo Tribal Council.
- Iyanbito Chapter is requesting a bridge over the BNSF Rail Line. (Another consideration would be extending a paved road west to the Church Rock bridge – might cost less).
- Ron is considering setting up quarterly tribal meetings with the DOT Districts, with consideration toward priority tribal projects.
- Ron reminds members to submit monthly reports for their Capital Outlay and Tribal Infrastructure projects.

- **There are drainage concerns for Rt. 66 – adjacent to I-40 at the Ft. Wingate bridge.**
- Ron reminded members to pay attention to the “Buy America” guidelines. Our region did well for this round of TPF funds.
- Ron reminded members to stay on top of funding opportunities – with \$ billions forthcoming – remember to prepare for environmental requirements (which are time consuming) for this funding.
- **Shiprock Bridge replacement is being sought by Rep. Charles-Newton and under consideration with the Feds and Daryl Bradley from NDOT. Shiprock Chapter supports this project (but not critical at this time).**
- **Ron is now on the LTAP Board.**
- **Hoping to push for NM64 projects and NM491 north of Shiprock projects; along with the Hogback rockslide mitigation on US491.**
- **Concern that the NDOT is not involved with the NM I-40 studies.**
- **There’s a new Indian Highway Safety Grant out from the BIA.**
- Reminding members to keep on top of deadlines for ICIP, TIF, and LGRF.
- **Transportation Project Fund: better to phase then have a shortfall on funding for proposed projects.**
- A national broadband project is establishing a broadband corridor along I-40, and will involve tribal discussion with Pueblos of Laguna and Acoma and Navajo Nation.
- **Ron is encouraging tribal members to pursue bridge funding.**
- **Ron reminds tribal members to pursue support and related letters of support from state and national legislators.**
- NM118 drainage analysis project is finally in progress as the Navajo Council is working on agreements with the local governments in the region of the study between Churchrock and Iyanbito; **need coordination with NDOT.**
- Ron reported on the NM118 drainage analysis that took place between the Iyanbito and Ft. Wingate I-40 intersections at previous meetings. Ron indicated he feels that NM118 drainage issues remain unresolved to this day (in spite of two studies!) and the Navajo Nation DOT remains non-responsive!

NMDOT District 5 – James Mexia, Amanda Nino

- WHPacific is being contracted for a study on needed road and intersection improvements on US 64 – MP 0 – 20 (which includes the Shiprock School Zone). This project will be divided into two phases funded separately and referencing the District 5 HSIP plan for 2021 including a) primary / major Chapter or community intersections from Shiprock to the Arizona border and b) the Shiprock School Zone.
- The NM371 and N36 intersection near Northern Edge Casino is at 60% design; need ROW clearance / easement from NDOT.
- D-5 staff are managing project proposals for the 2021 Local Government Road Fund, and have received awards from the DOT General Office in Santa Fe for the next fiscal year.
- **Work is pending for NDOT Capital Outlay and N.O.O. – Please contact DOT District 5 SOON!!! Remember that Capital Outlay requires monthly report updates. Amanda encouraged RTPO members to provide Capital Outlay (CPMS) updates or the funding can be reverted.**
- **Watch out for funding deadlines! – Local Govt Road Fund agreements are due June 30 – close out previous projects by June 30, 2023. Get your Transportation Project Fund agreements in!**

NMDOT District 6 – Bill Santiago, Michael Neely, Clayton Garner

- **DOT District 6 Office is still under renovation – nonetheless, DOT 6 staff will resume full time office work starting January 1, 2023.**
- **With a lot of local govt. turnover including RTPO members, staff training may be needed to bring new staff with transportation focus up to speed.**
- **Bill reminded RTPO members that all NMDOT staff have new emails as: dot.nm.gov**
- **Bill reminded that MAP and LGRF agreements are due – amendments are due 60 days in advance!**
- **Clayton Garner echoed Amanda Nino’s comments from Dist. 5 encouraging RTPO members to undertake CPMS updates for Capital Outlay projects so as to retain their funding.**
- **Local Govt. Road Fund – as Stephanie from District 5 mentioned, the 5 certifications are also required before LGRF projects are considered construction ready. Keep District 6 informed on progress – the time is now critical to request an extension amendment as previously funded LGRF cycle is in close out! Extension requests are due by October 31 (including a resolution)! The new LGRF call for projects has a March 15 deadline.**

- **Bill Santiago encourages RTPO members to pay attention to application deadlines around forthcoming funding. Also, be aware of staff changes at NDOT, NMDOT, and local governments.**
- The **FY2023 Transportation Project Fund applications must include a supporting resolution**. DOT District 6 has provided a template. Request a match waiver ASAP – due end of September.
- **Get signed agreements to DOT Dist. 6 soon, including supporting resolutions.**
- **Keep DOT District 6 staff informed on progress for the Transportation Project Fund. 5 certifications takes time – try to get these executed during this Winter season so you are construction ready in the Spring!!**
- **Bill reminded RTPO members that the MAP funding proposals will be due soon.**
- Mike Neely is on board with NMDOT District 6 to assist the RTPO's participating in the District 6 region – include Mr. Neely on all communication.
- Mr. Clayton Garner will fill JoAnn Garcia's former position at the District. Reminding members to remind others that traffic safety is important in construction areas.
- Lisa Vega is now the Director for DOT District 6, as Larry Maynard has retired.
- For Local Government Road Fund projects – the District needs certifications for all projects – many RTPO members are not following LGRF guidance for project development and are trying to close out projects without having reported progress to the DOT or following what the program requires – this could jeopardize funding.

Reminder: NMDOT will have a new email: [staff member@dot.nm.gov](mailto:staff_member@dot.nm.gov).

NEW BUSINESS/OPEN FLOOR: MEMBERS & GUESTS (5-minute limit) - None

ANNOUNCEMENTS & NEXT MEETING: No announcements – **next meeting May 10, 2023 – virtual meeting via Microsoft Teams**

ADJOURNMENT (11:30 pm) Shannon Devine – City of Grants motioned; and Linda Cooke – Village of Milan seconded for adjournment - motion carried by acclamation.

MEETING ACTIONS:

Staff:

- **Transportation Project Fund Internal Deadlines:** Implementation – complete – all proposed projects have been approved and are now authorized to move forward. **A new TPF Call for Projects has been issued for FFY2023. RTPO members have completed 2023 TPF application packages, staff have submitted to NMDOT and seven (7) projects were approved to move forward for the NWRTPO (Grants, Acoma, McKinley, Gallup, Cibola, Milan, Eastern Navajo).**

MEMBERS:

- **Members are encouraged to review your respective sections in these minutes and report to RTPO staff on which portions / bullet sentences can be eliminated as no longer pertinent or completed, as these sections make the minutes incredibly lengthy!!**
- **NMDOT:** Remind Staff and RTPO Members of impending deadlines for various projects and deliverables.



a program of
NORTHWEST NEW MEXICO COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

**Northwest Regional Transportation Planning Organization
(NWRTPO)**

**Agenda Item #IV: Project Feasibility Forms approved to
move forward with Project Prospectus Forms**

Subject: Remind RTPO members that PPF's will be due August 31, 2023

Prepared for: April 12 meeting

Date:

BACKGROUND

- **Why?** Every two years now COG admin. requires RTPO staff to completely clear the RTIPR and have RTPO members submit new projects, and resubmit projects already cited in the previous RTIPR.
- **Purpose.** This is to keep projects up to date, based on local government priorities.
- **Discussion/Finalization.**

CURRENT WORK

- Members to submit new and previous project PPFs, based on approved PPF's for each section of the RTIPR

ANTICIPATED WORK

- Members to submit new and previous project PPF's for various RTIPR sections for forthcoming funding opportunities.

ATTACHMENTS

- Current Project Prospectus Form

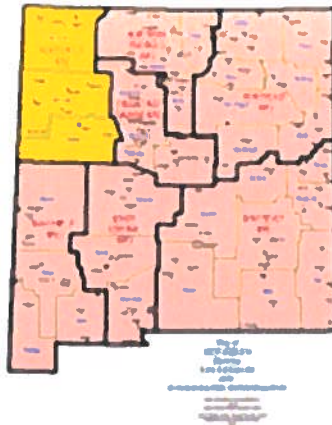
BUDGET IMPACT

- None

ACTION ITEM

- N/A

NORTHWEST REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLANNING ORGANIZATION (NWRTPO)



Northwest New Mexico Call for Transportation Projects Guide

NWRTPO PROJECT SUBMISSION SCHEDULE & PROCESS

February 2023



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Northwest New Mexico Call for Transportation Projects Guide

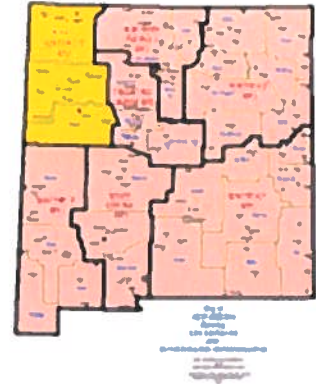
Items Included:

- **Description and Overview of the Call for Transportation Projects**
- **RTIPR Background and Process**
- **Program Matrix of Example and Possible Sources**
- **Timeline of the Process**
- **Eligibility and NWRTPO Members by Jurisdiction**
- **Sample of Project Feasibility Form**

Call for Transportation Projects

Description and Overview.

The Northwest Regional Transportation Planning Organization (NWRTPO) is assisting the NM Department of Transportation (NMDOT) in a comprehensive call for transportation projects. Transportation projects can include all modes and methods of travel including roads, bridges, trails, scenic byways, rail, air, transit, etc. The process for collecting new projects will start with the submission of a Project Feasibility Form (PFF). The general public, stakeholders, or non-NWRTPO entities will need to gain permission from their appropriate jurisdiction and the PFF must be submitted by the NWRTPO member representing that jurisdiction on the Committee. A list of these members is provide in this package.



All projects, even projects currently listed in our Regional Transportation Improvement Program Recommendation (RTIPR), **will need** to submit a PFF. The RTPO is trying to clear this list to remove outdated project information and provide consultations on the feasibility of the projects.

To find out if your project is on the RTIPR, please feel free to contact our office at 505-722-4327 – and ask for Robert Kuipers.

Further, the NWRTPO and NMDOT are looking for projects that will advance our region’s long-range transportation plan – contact the NWRTPO – same number above.

Additional information on the NWRTPO can also be found on this webpage.

In this guidance is a list of examples and possible project sourcing and programs to help showcase what types of projects are possible and are suitable to be submitted with a Project Feasibility Form.

Many of the available funding sources will place value on projects that are supported by Comprehensive Plans, Transportation Plans and Studies (Regional, State, and Tribal), Infrastructure Capital Improvement Plans, and those that went through the Project Feasibility Form process. For specific, Transportation Alternative Program (TAP) and Recreational Trails Program (RTP) Carbon Reduction Program (CRP) and Congestion Mitigation / Air Quality (CMAQ) projects, we would encourage you to look at the supplemental guidance found in NMDOT’s “Active Transportation and Recreational Programs Guide”, which can be accessed from the NMDOT [website](#).

Information for any and all state or federally funding projects for the State of New Mexico can be found on the NMDOT website – under “[Business Support](#)” – “[T/LPA Documents And Information](#)” – then scroll down to review all the options; including general guidance in the TLPA (“Tribal / Local Public Agency Handbook”).

NOTE: Submitting a PFF does not guarantee funding from any of these sources, and additional information will be required and in some cases a separate grant application may needed.



Background:

One of the main purposes of this “Call for Transportation Projects” guidance is to populate and prioritize our region’s RTIPR. The Regional Transportation Improvement Program Recommendations (RTIPR) process varies around New Mexico and the document serves different purposes in each Regional Transportation Planning Organization (RTPO) area. As part of the implementation of the New Mexico 2045 Plan (2045 Plan), and its associated performance measures and targets, the New Mexico Department of Transportation (NMDOT) is undertaking an effort to standardize the RTIPR process around the state. A standardized process will ensure the RTIPR is helpful to both the RTPO and the NMDOT in determining which projects receive funding.

In coming years, NMDOT will program a significant portion of its federal funding by selecting projects based upon project evaluation criteria and prioritization processes. Projects will score highly when they positively contribute to NMDOT meeting its federally-mandated performance targets. (Please see the NMDOT Planning summary of MAP-21, FAST Act and Final Planning Rule for more information on the performance management and target requirements.)

Role of the RTP:

As part of the 2045 Plan planning process, each RTPO developed a Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) that is consistent with the statewide 2045 Plan and defines the specific goals of the RTPO region. Every transportation project in a region should be consistent with the related RTP; therefore, the RTIPR should be developed accordingly. If a project is not consistent with the applicable RTP, it should not be recommended for funding in the RTIPR. Further, the projects in the RTIPR should be ranked according to the regional project prioritization process that prioritizes projects based on the extent to which they meet the regional goals in the applicable RTP and the state goals in the 2045 Plan.

Role of the PFF:

All Tribal/Local Public Agency (T/LPA)-lead projects submitted for funding via the RTIPR must first complete the Project Feasibility Form (PFF) and be approved as “feasible” by the NMDOT District representative. If approved, the project can be prioritized through the RTPO project prioritization process to appear on the RTIPR with its appropriate ranking. Projects that are not deemed feasible through the PFF process should not be rated and ranked and should not appear on the RTPO’s RTIPR.

There are several simple criteria’s that the PFF are evaluated against:

- (1) Project aligns with RTP goals and National Performance measures, and specifically will move the needle on measures and targets identified in the RTP and New Mexico Transportation Plan;

- (2) Project is functionally classified or qualifies for an FHWA program;
- (3) Project is technically feasible, based on engineer review; and
- (4) Requesting entity has the capacity to take on or manage Federal funding.

Role of the Prioritization Process:

Based upon the regional goals articulated in the NMDOT RTP, and the statewide goals in the 2045 Plan, each RTPO will create a project prioritization process. This is the process that will be used to rate and rank the projects in each RTPO's RTIPR.

The standardized project prioritization process to score and rank projects included in the applicable RTIPR must be consistent with the NMDOT 2045 Long Range Multimodal Transportation Plan and each RTPO's RTP. Examples for creating a prioritization process can be found in the Active Transportation and Recreational Programs Guide (see sections on "application scoring factors" and "application scoring matrix") and the Project Prioritization Process for Small Urban Areas developed and used by the Mid Region Metropolitan Planning Organization.

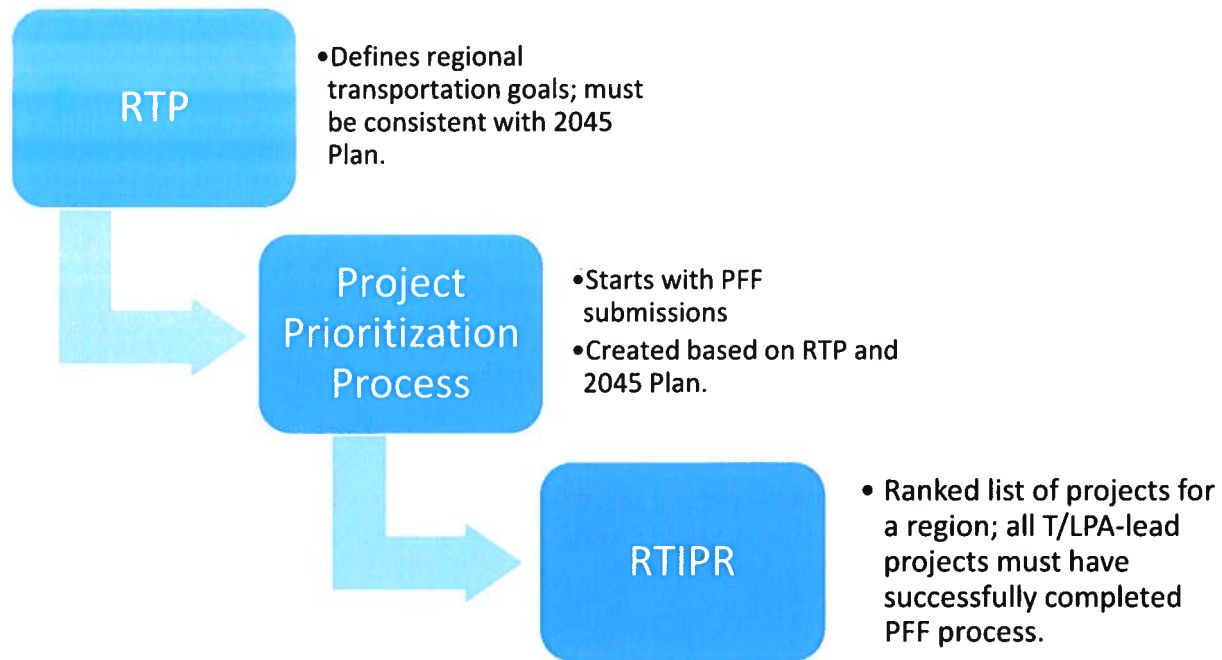
Role of the RTIPR:

The RTIPR should include both NMDOT-lead and T/LPA-lead projects.

The RTPOs will issue a call for projects according to their individual application cycles. Following submittal of all T/LPA projects (with an approved PFF) to the RTPO planner, the RTPO planner will coordinate a rating and ranking process with the RTPO board. The RTPO board will utilize the adopted criteria to rate and rank projects based on project characteristics and the extent to which they meet the articulated goals of the RTP and 2045 Plan. The resulting ranked list of projects is considered the RTIPR. The RTIPR is then submitted to the District and used for consideration by the state in developing the State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP). For the NWRTPO not all sections of the RTIPR are prioritized; in most cases for the biennial development of the RTIPR the only sections that are prioritized for each member government's top priority projects are the following sections: Roadway, Transportation Alternative Program (TAP), Recreational Trails Program (RTP), Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP), and N.M. Transportation Project Fund (TPF).

All projects on the RTIPR should be confirmed with the sponsoring agency on a bi-annual basis in coordination with NMDOT's call for RTP, TAP and other projects, to ensure that the sponsoring agency still wants to pursue funding for that project.

Simple Process Flowchart:



Northwest RTPO Prioritization Process:

The Prioritization Process is intended to assist local and tribal (T/LPA) entities, as well as, the RTPO Policy & Technical Committee in aligning proposed projects with the established vision, mission and goals that are highlighted in the State and Regional Transportation Plans.

Projects which are proposed to be included in the RTPO's Regional Transportation Improvement Program Recommendations (RTIPR) will be evaluated and ranked based on data, studies and qualitative factors consistent with regional priorities and federal areas of emphasis.

The Prioritization Process is a tool developed that will be incorporated as part of the Northwest RTP Update at the recommendation of NMDOT following its review of the RTPO's decision-making processes. Project prioritization methodologies, and similar tools, are widely used in regional transportation and many other settings. These tools may differ in their complexity and their use of quantitative and qualitative evaluation, including cost-benefit analyses and numeric thresholds for measured standards. Our Prioritization Process is intended to be refined and recalibrated over time through its use and re-evaluation. In particular, as the data collection capacity of the RTPO grows, more numeric comparisons can be employed. Our Prioritization Process is intended to help formalize the review of projects, further align project selection with established goals, allow for flexibility in comparisons, and enhance the transparency of the decision-making process.

N.M. Transportation Project Fund: The State of New Mexico has generated its own "Transportation Project Fund" in order to support rural areas and smaller towns in our state for local and regional transportation priorities which due to functional classification do not qualify for federal funding. This fund supports small towns and rural areas for transportation infrastructure which while not qualified for federal funding, represent local or regional priorities for mobility and strategic economic or community development. These projects are now also prioritized within the NWRTPO – RTIPR.

STEP 1: Project Feasibility Form. Projects will be submitted in response to this “Call for Transportation Projects” guidance and begin as Project Feasibility Forms (PFFs). PFF will be submitted as per the timeline established in this Call for Transportation Projects guidance, and thence distributed to NMDOT, District staff, Regional Design staff, and RTPO staff for review. A mandatory PFF consultation meeting will be held with the RTPO local entities and NMDOT Districts 5 and 6 to discuss proposed projects, and come to a go- or no-go decision by the District Engineer or his/her designee for retention in the RTIPR. RTPO staff will provide a PFF Consultation Report back to the entities outlining information including suggestions on alternative funding sources and technical assistance providers.

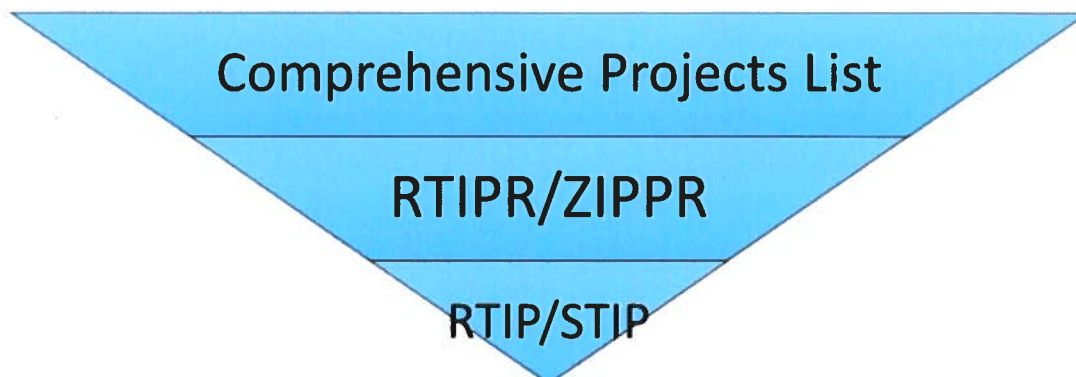
STEP 2: Project Prospectus Form. Projects that are approved to move forward will then need to submit a Project Prospectus Form (PPF) and other application documents depending on the funding program. These documents are again distributed to NMDOT, District staff, Regional Design staff, and RTPO staff for review, as well as RTPO members.

STEP 3: Project Presentations. Entities will decide which projects they want to present for scoring. Project presentations are developed by each entity and are presented at the *December* monthly meeting. Entities can request assistance from the RTPO staff, especially in terms of, data and maps. At this meeting, the RTPO Policy & Technical Committee members will evaluate each project and presentation, using the scoring criteria. **A copy of the scoring criteria for Roadway/Bridges and Active Transportation & Recreational Programs can also be provided.**

STEP 4: RTIPR Approval Process. RTPO will collect and compile each member scoring criteria form, and this will be the basis for the draft RTIPR presented to the RTPO Policy & Technical Committee in *January*. RTPO members can discuss prioritization of projects, especially those that receive similar scores, and based on consensus members may make modifications to the scoring, findings and project ranking. Their discussion will be brought back in the form of a recommendation to the RTPO Policy & Technical Committee in *February 2023*, which will further review the project ranking and vote to establish the RTIPR.








STEP 5: ZIPPR. Since our RTPO region overlaps with several different NMDOT Districts and RTPO regions, our staff works collaboratively with other RTPOs to create a unified RTIPR that then goes to the appropriate District office as a recommended list.

STEP 6: Regional Transportation Improvement Program Recommendations (RTIPR). Ultimately, the Regional Transportation Improvement Program list is finalized and submitted by the District office; these are fiscally constrained projects that are seeking funding and get incorporated into the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) as available funding permits, based on regional priorities as indicated in the RTIPR.



PROGRAM	DESCRIPTION	EXAMPLES OF ELIGIBLE OPPORTUNITIES
Bicycle, Pedestrian, Equestrian Program (BPE)	Provides development of bicycle, walking, and horse trails – often alongside traffic corridors	Bicycle lanes, multi-use trails, “share the road” roadway designations, bicycle facilities, etc.
Federal Lands Access Program (FLAP)	Formerly known as Public Lands Highway, this program provides funding for projects that focus on access, mobility, safety, connectivity, economic development, and natural resource protection in Federal lands http://flh.fhwa.dot.gov/programs/flap/	Projects that mitigate a known safety issue; parking or rest areas; provision for pedestrians and bicycles; provides facilities for alternative modes; connects to additional routes serving Federal lands; operation and maintenance of transit facilities; or improves roadway surface and/or bridge condition(s).
Federal Lands Transportation Program (FLTP)	The FLTP complements the Federal Lands Access Program. Where the Access Program provides funds for State and local roads that access the Federal estate, the FLTP focuses on the transportation infrastructure owned and maintained by Federal lands management agencies. http://flh.fhwa.dot.gov/programs/fltp/	
Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP)	Assists agencies with studying hazardous traffic conditions and funding stand-alone engineering type safety improvements to transportation facilities or non-construction traffic safety enforcement, education, or emergency medical services related programs to reduce risks of future severe crashes http://safety.fhwa.dot.gov/hsip/	Proposed road safety audits, site-specific safety projects, multi-location system wide safety projects, and/or transportation safety programs on state highways and bridges
Long-Range, Federal Lands, and/or Tribal Transportation Planning & Studies	Provides funding for planning-related projects that emphasize long-range time frames	Long-range transportation planning, bicycle-pedestrian plans, corridor plans, or “complete streets” studies
Transportation Alternative Program (TAP)	Formerly known as Transportation Enhancements, this program combines several funding programs and seeks projects that expand travel choices and improve the transportation experience for all users by integrating modes and improving the cultural, historic and environmental aspects of our transportation infrastructure http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/map21/guidance/guidetap.cfm	Planning, design, and construction of on-road and off-road trail facilities, construction of turnouts, overlooks, and viewing areas, historic preservation of transportation facilities, removal of outdoor advertising, recreation trail program projects, scenic byway program projects, and safe routes to school program projects, etc.
Congestion Mitigation & Air Quality (CMAQ) Program	This program provides \$2.5 billion or more per year thru 2026 to reduce vehicle carbon emissions thru reduced traffic congestion, alternate vehicle propulsion, or transit	This program primarily relates to metropolitan areas.



PROGRAM	DESCRIPTION	EXAMPLES OF ELIGIBLE OPPORTUNITIES
Safe Routes to School Program (SRTS)	SRTS funding supports infrastructure development to create or improve safety features for school related traffic or pedestrians. <u>Now funded from TAP pool of funding.</u>	<p>Sidewalk improvements, traffic calming and speed reduction improvements, pedestrian and bicycle crossing improvements, on-street and off-street bicycle facilities, traffic diversion improvements, public awareness campaigns, traffic education and enforcement, student sessions on bicycle and pedestrian safety, and funding for training, volunteers, and managers of SRTS programs</p> 
Recreational Trails Program	Provides funding for motorized and non-motorized trails and supporting infrastructure. Currently, there is a separate program other than the TAP pool.	<p>Motorized vehicle parks and facilities, hiking trails, urban trails, joint use trails and facilities.</p> 
Federal Transit Administration Section 5310	Provides Federal funding for seniors and individuals to serve the transportation needs of elderly persons and persons with disabilities who reside in "small urban areas"	<p>Para-transit services, or flexible route bus services in small urban areas</p> 
Federal Transit Administration Section 5311	The rural program that is formula based and provides funding to states for the purpose of supporting public transportation in rural areas, with population of less than 50,000. Funding for capital, operating, and administrative expenses for public transportation projects that meet the needs of rural communities.	<p>Examples of eligible activities include: capital projects; operating costs of equipment and facilities for use in public transportation; and the acquisition of public transportation services, including service agreements with private providers of public transportation services.</p> 
Special Studies	Additional studies not mentioned in other programs, such as special traffic studies	<p>Traffic studies, corridor studies, bicycle/pedestrian count studies, etc.</p> 
Roadways & Bridges	Projects that are determined to be functional classified can be prioritized through the STIP and receive funding	<p>Roadway improvements, lane expansion, widening, interchange development and bridge replacement</p> 
Federal Aviation Admin. Airport Improvement Program	Provides grants to public agencies — and, in some cases, to private owners and entities -- for the planning and development of public-use airports that are included in the National Plan of Integrated Airport Systems (NPIAS). http://www.faa.gov/airports/aip/	
N.M. Transportation Project Fund	This fund from the State of New Mexico supports the state's rural areas / small towns for transportation projects which don't qualify for federal funding, but represent priorities for economic / community growth.	<p>This fund from the state supports local / regional transportation priorities for rural / small town areas.</p>
BIL PROGAMS	Following are Programs funded thru the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law	
RAISE Grant (Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity)	This federal funding source provides larger multi-million \$ amounts for big projects that have local and regional impact – a total of \$1.5 billion is available for 2023	<p>Half of this funding goes to urban areas and half goes to rural areas; including \$15 million to areas of persistent poverty or historically disadvantage communities.</p>

Reconnecting Communities Program	This federal program is designed to mitigate transportation infrastructure that creates barriers to access, mobility or economic development due to grade separations, design factors or high speeds – etc.	This program provides technical assistance to address community transportation barriers with \$198 million available for planning or construction in 2023.
Railroad Crossing Elimination Program	This program provides \$500 million per year to eliminate at grade rail crossings thru the use of a bridge or underpass – or providing other roadway options.	This program seeks to improve safety and mobility for the transport of people or products around rail road crossings. Eligible entities include states, tribes, communities, and MPO's.
Carbon Reduction Program	This program supports projects that reduce carbon emissions from transportation infrastructure or traffic alternatives, with \$1.258 billion available in 2023	The objective of this program is to reduce transportation emissions.
Bridge Formula Program	This program provides funding to replace, rehabilitate, preserve, protect and construct highway bridges	This program provides \$5.5 billion per year thru 2026
Bridge Investment Program	This program provides \$12.5 billion to improve bridge and culvert condition, safety, efficiency and reliability	
Buses and Bus Facilities Program	This program provides over \$600 million a year to replace, rehabilitate or purchase new buses of public transit facilities.	
National Electric Vehicle Program	Appears this program provides up to \$1 billion a year thru 2026 to establish electric vehicle charging stations and provision of electric vehicle network infrastructure	
Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A)	\$1 billion a year thru 2026 for roadway safety improvement projects, or developing a comprehensive safety action plan – to reduce death and serious injury.	
Surface Transportation Block Grant	Provides \$14+ billion a year thru 2026 for multimodal transportation development primarily in urban areas	
Tribal Transportation Program	Provides up to almost \$3 billion for tribal transportation projects	

NWRTPO Timeline

Call for Transportation Projects

February 2023 - March 2024:

Task	Timeframe/Due Date	Responsible Party
NWNM RTPO approves and releases Call for Projects Guide	February 8, 2023	NWRTPO
Announcement of NMDOT FFY2024 Transportation Project Fund Call for Projects	February, 2023	NWRTPO
Technical Assistance, Contact the NWRTPO to set up a time and place with District staff.	Feb. 8 – April 14 2023	NWRTPO and DOT Staff
Project Feasibility Forms (PFF) Due on or before: (Must be submitted by appropriate RTPO Member)	April 14, 2023	NWRTPO Members
PFF Review and set up Consultations:	April 17 - 28	
Mandatory Project Consultation Meetings between RTPO Member, Local Entity Representative/Official, RTPO staff, DOT Liaison, and District Staff. Meeting Report due 5 working days after.	May 1 – May 5	All agencies
Based on decision and recommendation by District staff, RTPO Member will be directed to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prepare and submit a Project Prospectus Form (PPF) for inclusion and prioritization in the Regional Transportation Improvement Program Recommendations (RTIPR), or • Detail other options for projects and/or funding 	May 5 forward	District and RTPO Staff
Technical Assistance and TPF Application Review – contact RTPO for TPF assistance (505-722-4327)	May 8 - 31	RTPO staff and members
Transportation Project Fund application deadline RTPO staff to submit TPF applications to NMDOT FTP website (earlier the better!)	May 31	NWRTPO & District Staff
Technical Assistance and PPF review: Contact the NWRTPO for application assistance	June - August	RTPO staff and members
Project Prospectus Forms (PPF) due to RTPO	August 31, 2023	RTPO Members
Project prioritization for RTIPR sections based on RTPO members consensus (<i>primarily roadway, safety, and TPF top priority projects</i>)	Sept. 13, 2023	
Draft RTIPR	Nov. - Dec., 2023	NWRTPO Staff
Final RTIPR is approved by NWRTPO Committee	January, 2024	NWRTPO Members
District 6 RTIPR (“zipper”) Meeting to finalize recommendations and priorities for inclusion into the NMDOT STIP - NMDOT Dist. 6 – 1919 Pinon Drive, Milan (including Catron and Sandoval Counties)	March 10 @ 10AM	District Staff, NWRTPO Members

Eligible Entities for Transportation Funds

- Local & Tribal Governments
- Regional Transportation Authorities
- State & Federal Natural Resource or Public Land Agencies
- Transit Agencies
- School Districts, Local Education Agencies or Schools

Ineligible Entities

- Nonprofits as direct grant recipients. Nonprofits are eligible to partner with any eligible entity, if state or local requirements permit.
- Businesses & Individuals; though these may partner with an eligible entity project sponsor to carry out a project.

For municipal, County, and tribal government entities interested in applying for a project, please inform, coordinate, and involve the following Northwest Regional Transportation Planning Organization (NWRTPO) representatives for your respective jurisdiction. Other entities or individuals are encouraged to do the same. Below are the jurisdictions that the NWRTPO will be considering applications from for this "Call for Projects". For more information, feel free to contact Robert Kuipers, RTPO Program Manager (505) 905-4384; rkuipers@nwnmcog.org

NWRTPO Members	
Cibola County	Edward Salazar, Judy Horacek – County Administration; Edward.Salazar@co.cibola.nm.us 505-285-2573 jphoracek@co.cibola.nm.us 505-285-2557 / Road Dept. 285-2570
McKinley County	Rodney Skersick – Road Maintenance Supervisor 505-722-2303; Rodney.Skersick@co.mckinley.nm.us
San Juan County (Non-MPO)	Nick Porell – 505-334-4530 nporell@sjcounty.net
Gallup	Clyde Strain, Public Works Director; Alicia Santiago 505-863-1290 cstrain@gallupnm.gov / asantiago@gallupnm.gov
Grants	Don Jaramillo, City Manager - 505-287-7927 manager@grantsnm.gov projects@grantsnm.gov Shannon Devine - 505-290-3722 specialprojects@grantsnm.gov
Milan	Linda Cooke, Village Manager - 505-285-6694; manager@villageofmilan.com / Denise Baca – Village Clerk – milanclerk@villageofmilan.com
Navajo Nation – Northern Agency	Edwin Begay, Senior Planner – (need phone contact), Margie Begay – 505-371-8312 ebegay@navajodot.org / mbegay@navajodot.org
Navajo Nation – Eastern Agency	Edwin Begay, Senior Planner, Margie Begay – same as above
Ramah Navajo	Dorothy Claw – RTPO Chair DorothyClaw@ramahnavajo.org
Pueblo of Acoma	Dennis Felipe Jr. – RTPO Vice-Chair 505-552-5139 (need email)
Pueblo of Laguna	Leonard Ludi – lludi@pol-nsn.gov 505-552-1201 Public Works
Pueblo of Zuni	Royce Gchachu, Transportation Program Manager 505-782-7116; royce.gchachu@ashiwi.org / Roxann Hughte Roxann.Hughte@ashiwi.org

If you are located in the Farmington MSA (of the Cities Farmington, Bloomfield, and Aztec), please contact the Farmington MPO, to discuss projects and process with them directly. Contact Information: (505) 599-1392)



T/LPA PROJECT FEASIBILITY FORM (PFF)

For assistance, contact Robert Kuipers, RTPO/MPO Planner, at (505) 722-4327 or rkuipers@nwnmcoq.org

GENERAL INFORMATION

Preparation Date: _____ Project Title: _____

Requesting T/LPA: _____ Governing Body Approval:
YES ___ NO ___ PENDING ___

Person in Responsible Charge: _____ Phone: _____

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Project Type (Circle/boldface/underline all that apply):

ROADWAY TRANSPORTATION ALTERNATIVE BRIDGE SAFETY OTHER

If you chose "OTHER" please clarify here:

Route Number and/or Street Name: _____

Project Termini: _____ Beginning Mile point _____ Ending Mile point _____

Total length of proposed project: _____

Project Phases to be included in request (Circle/boldface/underline all that apply):

PRELIMINARY ENGINEERING CONSTRUCTION CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT & TESTING

PLANNING FACTORS

National Planning Factors

Goals to be addressed (circle/boldface/underline all that apply):

*Support Economic Vitality | Increase Safety for Motorized and Non-Motorized Users |
Increase Security for Motorized and Non-Motorized Users | Increase Accessibility and Mobility for People and
Freight | Protect and Enhance Environment, Energy Conservation, Quality of Life |
Enhance Integration and Connectivity | Promote System Management and Operation |
Emphasize System Preservation | Enhance Travel and Tourism |
Improve System Resiliency, Reliability and Reduce or Mitigate Stormwater Impacts*

Justification of how this project meets or addresses the goals circled above (use additional pages if necessary):

Begin typing here. Box will expand as needed.

New Mexico Climate Change Goals

Goals to be addressed (circle/boldface/underline all that apply):

Please describe how this project addresses the goals selected above (use additional pages if necessary):

Begin typing here. Box will expand as needed.

PROJECT COSTS

Column A			Column B	
<div style="text-align: center;">If project is <u>not</u> phased, complete column A only.</div> <div style="text-align: center;">If project is phased, list the amount of funding being currently requested in Column A and complete Column B.</div>			Total Phases No. (1, 2, 3, I, II, III, etc.):	
			The amount below represents the cost of the entire project and will be greater than Column A.	
Project Cost: \$			Total Project Cost: \$	
Percentage Estimates:			Phased projects are usually large and divided into parts or phases. If you wish to supply any additional information, list comments here:	
Total Local Match	%	\$		
Total Federal Share	%	\$		
	100%			

DISTRICT REVIEW:				
By:	Date:	Recommended:	Yes	No
T/LPA REVIEW:				
By:	Date:	Recommended:	Yes	No

Type district comments here. Box will expand as needed.

Topics to discuss during PFF meetings:

- Is the Tribal/Local Public Agency (T/LPA) familiar with the NMDOT T/LPA Handbook? Has the person in responsible charge attended one of the T/LPA Handbook trainings?
- The Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 requires public agencies with more than 50 employees to create a transition plan to achieve program accessibility requirements. (Except tribal entities)
 - Does the LPA have an approved plan on file with the NMDOT?
 - If the LPA has fewer than 50 employees, has NMDOT received an official letter listing employee names and positions (to include part time employees but not elected officials)?
 - If the LPA has fewer than 50 employees, has NMDOT received an official letter listing employee names and positions (to include part time employees but not elected officials)?

- LPAs with fewer than 50 employees still need an ADA policy. Does the LPA have an ADA policy?
- Does the LPA have an approved Title VI plan on file with the NMDOT? (Tribal entities are not required to have a Title VI plan).
- Is this project included in any other planning documents? (Comprehensive Plan, ICIP, etc.)
- Is the project within NMDOT ROW? If so, does the district support the project?
 - Are agreements necessary for maintenance and operations? (Lighting agreements, landscaping, etc.)
- Is there a need for proprietary items or brand-specific items on this project? If so, Public Interest Finding/certification is required and should be discussed.
- Does the T/LPA have the minimum match required for the project? Is the T/LPA using in kind match: entity furnished items/labor/materials/equipment? This needs to be approved up front and written into the agreement.
- The T/LPA needs to understand the reimbursement process and be prepared to pay all costs up front. The T/LPA must follow district instructions for submitting invoices for reimbursement.
 - Does the T/LPA have the capability to pay all costs up front?
 - Does the T/LPA have the capability to adhere to 90 day project closeout process?
- Certified testing is required during construction and is eligible for reimbursement.
 - Has the T/LPA included funding for testing in the consultant management estimate above or does the T/LPA have certified employees that can provide materials testing?
- Does the T/LPA know the Buy America requirements for steel and iron?
 - **NOT the same as Buy American, this is not reimbursable or allowed on federal projects**
- The T/LPA must follow the NMDOT specifications as outlined in the “Specs for Highway and Bridge Construction” unless the appropriate NMDOT Design Center grants permission prior to design for the T/LPA to use other specs.
- Does the T/LPA have maintenance and operations costs accounted for?
- Does the T/LPA have a good track record for responsible use/tracking of federal funds? Have they met closeout deadlines? Have they successfully completed other federally funded projects in a timely manner?
- Has the T/LPA had any issues with design/construction in the past?
- Does the T/LPA have major audit findings that would prevent them from being a responsible fiscal agent?



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NORTHWEST NEW MEXICO COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

**Northwest Regional Transportation Planning Organization
(NWRTPO)**

Agenda Item #V: Transportation Project Fund

Subject: Application Packets due to NMDOT FTP Website May 31

Prepared for: Discussion in this meeting on TPF priorities

Date: 4/27/23

BACKGROUND

- **Why?** The NWRTPO has acquired significant funding from the NMDOT TPF source in past years, and managed projects well within specified timelines.
- **Purpose.** We are asking our members to repeat this pattern with available funding for TPF projects this year, with full application packages due to the NMDOT FTP website by May 31.
- **Discussion/Finalization.** Discuss TPF priorities for our members and encourage completing and submitting application packages by the May 31 deadline.

CURRENT WORK

- Complete TPF application packages and submit by May 31.

ANTICIPATED WORK

- Continue to execute TPF funded projects within specified deadlines

ATTACHMENTS

- NMDOT Transportation Project Fund guidance

BUDGET IMPACT

- None – however this NMDOT funding source has significantly increased the amount of projects the NWRTPO is able to complete in annual or biennial cycles for our region.

ACTION ITEM

- N/A



New Mexico DEPARTMENT OF
TRANSPORTATION
MOBILITY FOR EVERYONE

January 18, 2023

RE: Transportation Project Fund (TPF) Call for Projects

Metropolitan and Regional Transportation Planning Organizations:

The Project Oversight Division is soliciting applications for the Department's Transportation Project Fund (TPF) for fiscal year 2024. Local and tribal governments in New Mexico are eligible to apply for state funded grants. Eligible projects are in the following categories: (1) environmental and other studies; (2) planning; (3) design; (4) construction; and (5) acquisition of rights of way necessary for the development of transportation infrastructure, which includes highways, streets, roadways, bridges, crossing structures and parking facilities, including all areas for vehicular, transit, bicycle or pedestrian use for travel, ingress, egress and parking.

The Metropolitan or Regional Transportation Planning Organizations (MPO/RTPO) will use the following criteria to prioritize their planning-area projects; the District office will also use the criteria to rank projects from their District.

Project Prioritization Criteria:

1. Planning: Is this project identified as a priority on a local or regional planning or programming document? Is this project consistent with local or regional plans?
2. Project readiness: If awarded, will the applicant be able to start spending the money within 3 months from receiving the fully executed project agreement?
3. Priority Bridge: Is this project addressing a bridge on the Statewide Bridge Priority List for Replacement / Rehabilitation? (contact Jeff Vigil at Jeff.Vigil@dot.nm.gov or (505)490-2699 for verification of bridge status)
4. Phasing:
 - a. Is this project part of a phased project previously funded with other state funds (e.g. Local Government Road Fund, Municipal Arterial Program, Capital Outlay, State Road Fund etc.)?
 - b. Is this project part of a phased project previously funded with TPF? If so, what year?
5. Additional criteria identified by the MPO or RTPO

The application package shall include the following:

1. Cover letter application including: (1) brief overview of project; (2) whether the potential grantee intends to apply for hardship (match waiver); (3) the timeframe in which the potential grantee is prepared to spend the grant funds, if received (project readiness); (4) verification that funding requested will be enough to complete the phase of work submitted, and (5) whether the project falls into category (a) or (b):
 - a) Project is located on or within locally-owned right-of-way and the project does not include federal funds; or
 - b) Project is located within or on NMDOT owned right-of-way or is an NHS route and/or may include federal funds;
2. Project must fall into one or more of the following categories, including: (1) environmental and other studies; (2) planning; (3) design; (4) construction; and (5) acquisition of rights of way necessary for the development of transportation infrastructure, and includes highways, streets, roadways, bridges, crossing structures, parking facilities, including all areas for vehicular, transit, bicycle or pedestrian use for travel, ingress, egress and parking. Please be sure to clearly identify the phase of work the funding will be used for (i.e. planning, design, construction, etc.);

Michelle Lujan Grisham
Governor

Ricky Serna
Cabinet Secretary

Commissioners

Jennifer Sandoval
Commissioner, Vice-Chairman
District 1

Bruce Ellis
Commissioner
District 2

Hilma E. Chynoweth
Commissioner
District 3

Walter G. Adams
Commissioner, Chairman
District 4

Thomas C. Taylor
Commissioner
District 5

Charles Lundstrom
Commissioner, Secretary
District 6

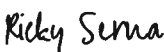
3. Project Feasibility Form (PFF) signed by District representative if the project does not have a signed PFF, then the potential grantee must work with the District on the PFF;
4. Resolution of Sponsorship from their governing body, indicating the availability of the 5% match. Alternatively, the potential grantee may submit an official letter signed by the potential grantee's chief executive or official with budget authority, indicating the availability of the 5% match;
5. Map of project location including mile posts; and
6. **Required if local entity does not own the right of way**; A letter of support or letter of authorization from owners of the project right-of-way. This includes getting a letter from the NMDOT District if the project is partially or fully within NMDOT right-of-way.

Complete applications must be submitted through NMDOT's FTP site <https://grader.dot.nm.gov/public/folder/d139gTIGE2XRPJDius4w/FY24%20TPF%20Applications> no later than close of business May 31, 2023. All incomplete applications will be returned to the local entity for submission the following year. Projects will be selected and approved by the State Transportation Committee by September 1, 2023. Selection letters will be mailed out within the first week of September.

If you have any questions regarding funding or agreements please contact Clarissa Martinez, 505.699.9946 or Clarissa.Martinez@dot.nm.gov or Sean Sandoval, 505.660.6102 or Sean.Sandoval@dot.nm.gov. George Dodge Jr. our Local Government Relations Director is also available for all other inquiries at George.Dodge@dot.nm.gov or 505-470-4095.

Sincerely,

DocuSigned by:


5910E8A6255842F...

Ricky Serna
Cabinet Secretary

Xc: NMDOT District Engineers
District Coordinators
Clarissa Martinez, State Funded Grant Manager
Sean Sandoval, Project Oversight Director
George Dodge Jr., Local Government Relations Director
David Quintana, Chief Engineer

Transportation Project Fund Application Checklist

All applications submitted for TPF funding must contain the elements outlined in these guidelines. The following checklist has been prepared to assist in ensuring that the application is complete prior to submission:

- ☐ Complete Project Application with the following required documentation
 - Cover Letter including.
 - a brief overview of the project
 - whether the potential grantee intends to apply for hardship (match waiver)
 - timeframe in which the potential grantee is prepared to spend the grant funds
 - verification that funding requested will be enough to complete the phase of work submitted
 - whether the project falls into category (a) or (b): (a)Project is located on or within locally owned right-of-way and the project does not include federal funds; or (b)Project is located within or on NMDOT owned right-of-way or is an NHS route
 - Project Feasibility Form (PFF)
 - Resolution of Sponsorship from their governing body, indicating the availability of the 5% match. Alternatively, the potential grantee may submit an official letter signed by the potential grantee's CFO.
 - chief executive or official with budget authority, indicating the availability of the 5% match
 - Map of project location including mile posts
 - **Required if local entity does not own the right of way:** A letter of support or authorization from owners of the project right-of-way. This includes getting a letter from the NMDOT District if the project is partially or fully within NMDOT right-of-way
- ☐ Coordinate Application Review with NMDOT District and obtain signatures and documents
 - PFF
 - ROW Letter of Support or Authorization from District Engineer (if applicable)
- ☐ Submit Application packet to MPO/RTPO for review and ranking process¹
- ☐ MPO/RTPO completes ranking and fills out excel ranking sheet
- ☐ MPO/RTPO submits completed application packets and excel ranking sheet to the FTP site for NMDOT

¹ If MPO/RTPO chooses not to rank a letter stating they are deferring ranking must be submitted to NMDOT



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NORTHWEST NEW MEXICO COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

**Northwest Regional Transportation Planning Organization
(NWRTPO)**

**Agenda Item #VI: Cost Benefit Analysis – Ken Cooper,
UNM-LTAP**

Subject: Engage RTPO members to understand Cost Benefit Analysis
for transportation development

Prepared for: UNM-LTAP presentation for our May 10 meeting

Date: April 27, 2023

BACKGROUND

- **Why?** Cost Benefit Analysis helps to maximize the application of funding to projects in a manner that is efficient, effective, and saves money by reducing costs
- **Purpose.** Inform RTPO members on the use of this process
- **Discussion/Finalization.** Presentation from **Ken Cooper of UNM LTAP**

CURRENT WORK

- Members can consider the use of Cost Benefit Analysis for more cost efficient and effective development of transportation projects.

ANTICIPATED WORK

- Members can consider using cost benefit analysis to help make transportation projects more cost efficient and effective.

ATTACHMENTS

- Some guidance on the Cost Benefit Analysis process.

BUDGET IMPACT

- None – Cost Benefit Analysis can reduce the cost of executing transportation projects

ACTION ITEM

- N/A

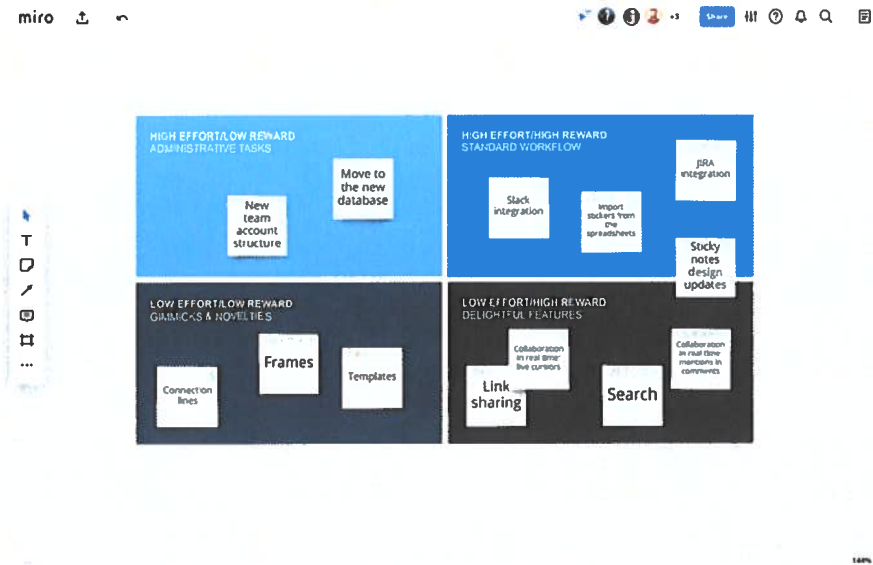
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About the Cost Benefit Analysis template

What is a cost benefit analysis?

Every business decision comes with potential rewards, as well as potential risks. Your decision might expand the business, introduce a new product, or tap into a new supply chain, but it also might cost the organization precious time, money, or social capital. Without a systematic way of analyzing costs and benefits, you may find making decisions an arduous task.

Cost benefit analysis (CBA) is an analytical tool that helps your team assess the pros and cons of moving forward with a business proposal. This technique helps you decide the best course of action to take with a new project by analyzing each option.

When to use a cost benefit analysis

You can use a CBA to compare completed or potential processes, or to

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Cost-Benefit Analysis Template

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That's why it's crucial to approach decisions in a systematic, methodical way.

A cost benefit analysis allows you to weigh the potential costs of a decision without having to actually incur those costs. It helps your team decide whether the benefits outweigh the costs. If you have no choice but to incur costs, the analysis can provide an estimate for the time it will take to repay those costs.

Perform your own cost benefit analysis

Miro's whiteboard tool is the perfect canvas to create and share your team's cost benefit analysis. Get started by selecting this Cost Benefit Analysis Template. Then, follow these steps:

Step 1: Brainstorm costs and benefits. Make a list of each. Try to think of unexpected costs or benefits that your team might not have immediately anticipated. Once you have a list of costs and benefits, think about whether those costs and benefits are likely to change or grow over time.

Step 2: Figure out the monetary value of the costs. Will you need to hire employees? Train them? Will you experience a decrease in productivity while new hires get up to speed? If you introduce a new feature, will your system experience an outage that impacts your customers

Step 3: Now assign a monetary value to the benefits. Do your best to estimate potential revenue, but don't confine yourself to cash. Think about "soft" benefits like positive word-of-mouth, employee satisfaction, or environmental preservation.

Step 4: Compare your costs and benefits. Which seems greater? How long would it take to repay any costs?

Related Templates



Stakeholder Analysis Template



Sailboat Template



Disney Creative Strategy Template

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HOW TO DO A COST-BENEFIT ANALYSIS & WHY IT'S IMPORTANT



05 SEP 2019

Tim Stobierski |  Contributors

 Business Analytics, Business Essentials, CORE, Finance

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Are you unsure whether a particular decision is the best one for your business? Are you questioning whether a proposed project will be worth the effort and resources that will go into making it a success? Are you considering making a change to your business, marketing, or sales strategy, knowing that it might have repercussions throughout your organization?

The way that many businesses, organizations, and entrepreneurs answer these, and other, questions is through business analytics—specifically, by conducting a cost-benefit analysis.


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WHAT IS A COST-BENEFIT ANALYSIS?

A **cost-benefit analysis** is the process of comparing the projected or estimated costs and benefits (or opportunities) associated with a project decision to determine whether it makes sense from a business perspective.

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Generally speaking, cost-benefit analysis involves tallying up all costs of a project or decision and subtracting that amount from the total projected benefits of the project or decision. (Sometimes, this value is represented as a ratio.)

If the projected benefits outweigh the costs, you could argue that the decision is a good one to make. If, on the other hand, the costs outweigh the benefits, then a company may want to rethink the decision or project.

There are enormous economic benefits to running these kinds of analyses before making significant organizational decisions. By doing analyses, you can parse out critical information, such as your organization's [value chain](#) or a [project's ROI](#).

Cost-benefit analysis is a form of [data-driven decision-making](#) most often utilized in business, both at [established companies and startups](#). The basic principles and framework can be applied to virtually any decision-making process, whether business-related or otherwise.

***Related:** [5 Business Analytics Skills for Professionals](#)*

STEPS OF A COST-BENEFIT ANALYSIS

1. Establish a Framework for Your Analysis

For your analysis to be as accurate as possible, you must first establish the framework within which you're conducting it. What, exactly, this framework looks like will depend on the specifics of your organization.

Identify the goals and objectives you're trying to address with the proposal. What do you need to accomplish to consider the endeavor a success? This can help you identify and understand your costs and benefits, and will be critical in interpreting the results of your analysis.

Similarly, decide what metric you'll be using to measure and compare the benefits and costs. To accurately compare the two, both your costs and benefits should be measured in the same "common currency." This doesn't need to be an actual currency, but it does frequently involve assigning a dollar amount to each potential cost and benefit.

2. Identify Your Costs and Benefits

Your next step is to sit down and compile two separate lists: One of all of the projected costs, and the other of the expected benefits of the proposed project or action.

When tallying costs, you'll likely begin with **direct costs**, which include expenses directly related to the production or development of a product or service (or the implementation of a project or business decision). Labor costs, manufacturing costs, materials costs, and inventory costs are all examples of direct costs.

But it's also important to go beyond the obvious. There are a few additional costs you must account for:

- **Indirect costs:** These are typically fixed expenses, such as utilities and rent, that contribute to the overhead of conducting business.
- **Intangible costs:** These are any current and future costs that are difficult to measure and quantify. Examples may include decreases in productivity levels while a new business process is rolled out, or reduced customer satisfaction after a change in customer service processes that leads to fewer repeat buys.
- **Opportunity costs:** This refers to lost benefits, or opportunities, that arise when a business pursues one product or strategy over another.

Once those individual costs are identified, it's equally important to understand the possible benefits of the proposed decision or project. Some of those benefits include:

- **Direct:** Increased revenue and sales generated from a new product
- **Indirect:** Increased customer interest in your business or brand
- **Intangible:** Improved employee morale

- **Competitive:** Being a first-mover within an industry or vertical

3. Assign a Dollar Amount or Value to Each Cost and Benefit

Once you've compiled exhaustive lists of all costs and benefits, you must establish the appropriate monetary units by assigning a dollar amount to each one. If you don't give all the costs and benefits a value, then it will be difficult to compare them accurately.

Direct costs and benefits will be the easiest to assign a dollar amount to. Indirect and intangible costs and benefits, on the other hand, can be challenging to quantify. That does not mean you shouldn't try, though; there are many software options and methodologies available for assigning these less-than-obvious values.

4. Tally the Total Value of Benefits and Costs and Compare

Once every cost and benefit has a dollar amount next to it, you can tally up each list and compare the two.

If total benefits outnumber total costs, then there is a business case for you to proceed with the project or decision. If total costs outnumber total benefits, then you may want to reconsider the proposal.

Beyond simply looking at how the total costs and benefits compare, you should also return to the framework established in step one. Does the analysis show you reaching the goals you've identified as markers for success, or does it show you falling short?

If the costs outweigh the benefits, ask yourself if there are alternatives to the proposal you haven't considered. Additionally, you may be able to identify cost reductions that will allow you to reach your goals more affordably while still being effective.

***Related:** [Finance vs. Accounting: What's the Difference?](#)*

PROS AND CONS OF COST-BENEFIT ANALYSIS

There are many positive reasons a business or organization might choose to leverage cost-benefit analysis as a part of their decision-making process. There are also several potential disadvantages and limitations that should be considered before relying entirely on a cost-benefit analysis.

Advantages of Cost-Benefit Analysis

A Data-Driven Approach

Cost-benefit analysis allows an individual or organization to evaluate a decision or potential project free of biases. As such, it offers an agnostic and evidence-based evaluation of your options, which can help your business become more data-driven and logical.

Makes Decisions Simpler

Business decisions are often complex by nature. By reducing a decision to costs versus benefits, the cost-benefit analysis can make this dilemma less complex.

Uncovers Hidden Costs and Benefits

Cost-benefit analysis forces you to outline every potential cost and benefit associated with a project, which can uncover less-than-obvious factors like indirect or intangible costs.

Limitations of Cost-Benefit Analysis

Difficult to Predict All Variables

While cost-benefit analysis can help you outline the projected costs and benefits associated with a business decision, it's challenging to predict all the factors that may impact the outcome. Changes in market demand, material costs, and the global business environment are unpredictable—especially in the long term.

Incorrect Data Can Skew Results

If you're relying on incomplete or inaccurate data to finish your cost-benefit analysis, the results of the analysis will follow suit.

Better Suited to Short- and Mid-Length Projects

For projects or business decisions that involve longer timeframes, cost-benefit analysis has a greater potential of missing the mark for several reasons. For one, it's typically more difficult to make accurate predictions the further into the future you go. It's also possible that long-term forecasts won't accurately account for variables such as inflation, which can impact the overall accuracy of the analysis.

Removes the Human Element

While a desire to make a profit drives most companies, there are other, non-monetary reasons an organization might decide to pursue a project or decision. In these cases, it can be difficult to reconcile moral or "human" perspectives with the business case.



In the end, cost-benefit analysis shouldn't be the only business analytics tool or strategy you use in determining how to move your organization into the future. Cost-benefit analysis isn't the only type of economic analysis you can do to assess your business's economic state, but a single option at your disposal.

Do you want to take your career to the next level? Download our free [Guide to Advancing Your Career with Essential Business Skills](#) to learn how enhancing your business knowledge can help you make an impact on your organization and be competitive in the job market.

This post was updated on July 12, 2022. It was originally published on September 5, 2019.



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Northwest Regional Transportation Planning Organization (NWRTPO)

Agenda Item #VII: Reports, Updates & Announcements

Subject: Discussion / Presentation Items

Prepared by: Robert Kuipers, NWRTPO

Date: 5/3/23

BACKGROUND

- **Why?** Update RTPO members on news, training, funding, and other items of special interest
- **Purpose.** Keep RTPO members up to date on critical information from NWRTPO and NMDOT sources

Informational Items

Regional News & Updates

- RTPO Monthly Report, Staff hours report for April, 2023
- Member Reports

Member Special Reports:

- None this meeting

NMDOT Reports:

- G to G Liaison: Neala Krueger
- Tribal Liaison: Ron Shutiva
- District 6: Bill Santiago & staff; District 5: James Mexia or Amanda Nino

News, Training & Funding Opportunities:

- FHWA Planning, Environment & Realty Reports: none
- NMDOT Govt. to Govt. Update: 4/06/23
- AASHTO Publications: none
- NMDOT / UNM-LTAP: Provides a very robust collection of training opportunities – staff forward news to members as it comes out from this source – reference at ltap.unm.edu – **Online courses notice** forwarded to members as LTAP emails come in.
- Title VI Training is available to MPO's and RTPO's from Lisa Neie – Civil Rights Manager for FHWA New Mexico. These trainings can be customized to address member concerns and issues for their regions, if provided to her in advance.
- Email Change Notice from NMDOT: All NMDOT staff emails have changed from @state.nm.us to @dot.nm.gov
- April 24 Weekly Grant Advisory: April 24, 2023
- Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) Webinars: April 24 – May 2
- Notes from Public Transit Stakeholder & Community Engagement Meeting: April 18, 2023 – El Morro Event Center
- Notes from Quarterly Statewide RTPO Meeting: April 17, 2023
- I-40 Corridor Study – AZ state line to Albuquerque: provided by Parametrix Engineering – April 25, 2023 – 6:30pm
- SS4A funding NOFO - July 10 submission deadline: April 10, 2023

Members please note: none of these documents will be included in the full meeting package due to the physical size and the electronic megabyte size going forward – all of the cited documents have already been emailed in advance of the RTPO monthly meeting to our NWRTPO members. Some of the citations are ongoing from month to month regarding ongoing training or funding opportunities.



A PROGRAM OF Northwest New Mexico Council of Governments

NWRTPO | Northwest Regional Transportation Planning Organization

Monthly Report – April 2023

- A. 2023-2024 NWRTPO RTIPR Update:** This past year (FFY2021 – 2022) the NWRTPO executed a full Call for Projects which extended from April, 2021 thru March 2022. RTPO members submitted 53 project PFF's and PPF's for our 2021 – 2022 RTIPR update, 49 of which were presented and reviewed by DOT District 6 staff on June 29-30; 4 projects for Northern Navajo were reviewed by DOT District 5. The 2022 RTIPR has a total of \$175,686,550.00 for Roadway, Bridge, Planning, TAP, RTP, FLAP, HSIP, TPF and Transit projects. **The 2023 NWRTPO RTIPR Call for Projects Update commenced in February, 2023 to give our members a head-start; we are encouraging our members to consider and commence developing their priorities for the 2024 round of Transportation Project Fund (TPF) opportunity – full applications due May 31; the 2023-2024 Call for Projects will be completed in March of 2024, with the DOT Dist. 5 & 6 RTIP's. Project Feasibility Forms were reviewed by DOT District 5 and 6 on May 2 at the DOT District 6 Office in Milan.**
- B. NMDOT Transportation Project Fund:** **A new 2024 TPF call for projects was issued with a deadline of May 31, 2023 for project submissions; staff are reminding RTPO members to submit their full applications via the FTP website by/before this deadline.** In 2022 staff cited eight (8) projects proposed from seven (7) of our member governments in our 2022 RTIPR. On August 18, 2022 the NM Transportation Commission awarded seven (7) proposed projects from the NWRTPO, and three (3) projects from the Farmington MPO at a total of \$19,747,334 for our three county region.
- C. MAP funding:** City of Grants is executed their turn to pursue 2024 Municipal Arterial Funding, and submitted their application by the March 15, 2023 deadline.
- D. GIS Data Gathering, Trails Development, Mapping and Compiling Work:** COG staff Carrie House continues to provide technical assistance and GIS mapping for development of 200 new miles of recreational trails in the Zuni Mountains in McKinley and Cibola Counties during FFY18 – FFY22; and continues contributing GIS mapping for regional transportation infrastructure. The NWCOG was the only New Mexico recipient of a NADO Impact Award for the ongoing development of 200 miles of recreational trails in the Zuni Mountains of McKinley and Cibola Counties. The Navajo Nation will soon be developing 80 miles of recreational trails in the Chuska Mountain range, complimenting the rec. trails being developed in the Zuni Mtns. The Pueblo of Laguna is developing bike and pedestrian trails connecting all six of their Pueblo Villages.
- E. Trail of the Ancients Scenic Byway is Nationally Designated:** President Trump signed the "Reviving America's Scenic Byways Act of 2019" into law re-establishing the Scenic Byway Program. This provided the NWRTPO the opportunity to undertake a demanding process to pursue national designation for parts of our New Mexico TOA byway portion. RTPO and COG staff submitted the 2020 application for national designation for portions of our New Mexico Trail of the Ancients Scenic Byway. The entire TOA byway corridor is shared by Counties in the 4-Corners region of Utah, Arizona, New Mexico and Colorado; the Utah and Colorado corridors are already nationally designated. **We received news that major portions of our New Mexico corridor are now designated as a National Byway corridor!** With the return of the federal Scenic Byway Program after a multi-year period when the program went away, **we are reconstructing the TOA Byway Council for New Mexico, and undertaking the challenging responsibility shared by participating counties to monitor and improve the national corridor, along with stronger participation in funding the byway, in collaboration with NMDOT staff. Staff submitted an application to update our Corridor Management Plan as the first rendition was done in November, 2008. This was recently awarded for funding in 2024.**
- F. Major Funding from Federal Sources:** The Federal Govt. and USDOT is providing funding for transportation development in billions of dollars – far beyond anything we've ever seen before, in some cases with short application timeframes. Members are encouraged to become familiar with these opportunities and take advantage of them.
- G. News, Training and Funding Opportunities:** The following training and funding opportunities have recently emerged:
- FHWA Planning, Environment & Realty Reports: none
 - NMDOT Govt. to Govt. Update: 4/06/23
 - AASHTO Publications: none
 - NMDOT / UNM-LTAP: Provides a very robust collection of training opportunities – staff forward news to members as it comes out from this source – reference at ltap.unm.edu – **Online courses notice** forwarded to members as LTAP emails come in.
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 - SS4A funding NOFO – Julv 10 Submission deadline: April 10, 2023

RTPO APER Budgeted Staff Hours Summary FFY2022

April Monthly Report											
Function	Budgeted Hours	Q1	Q2	Apr-22	May-22	Jun-22	Q3	Q4	Total Actual hours	Balance	Percentage budgeted differs from actuals*
1	325	67.00	77.50	38.50	0.00	0.00	38.50	0.00	183.00	142.00	-43.69%
2	75	1.50	31.50	16.50	0.00	0.00	16.50	0.00	49.50	25.50	-34.00%
3	600	78.00	130.50	56.00	0.00	0.00	56.00	0.00	264.50	335.50	-55.92%
4	300	24.00	81.00	22.50	0.00	0.00	22.50	0.00	127.50	172.50	-57.50%
5	425	88.50	143.00	13.00	0.00	0.00	13.00	0.00	244.50	180.50	-42.47%
6	375	102.00	80.50	41.00	0.00	0.00	41.00	0.00	223.50	151.50	-40.40%
TOTAL	2100	361.00	544.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	187.50	0.00	1092.50	1007.50	-47.98%
*if budgeted hours differ from actual hours by more than 20% in any function, provide a narrative explanation below											