NWRTPO | Northwest Regional Transportation Planning Organization

Joint Policy & Technical Committee NWRTPO Meeting Minutes

Wednesday January 12, 2022 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	Charles Riley, Gaylord Siow
Pueblo of Laguna	Elroy Keetso
Pueblo of Zuni	Royce Gchachu, Roxanne Hughte
Navajo Nation	Marco Sells, Margie Begay
Ramah Navajo	Dorothy Claw, Tom Martine
City of Grants	Don Jaramillo
City of Gallup	Clyde Strain, Alicia Santiago
Village of Milan	Denise Baca, Felix Gonzales, Linda Cooke
Cibola County	Edward Salazar, Judy Horacek
McKinley County	Rodney Skersick, Monique Becenti
San Juan County	Absent (Nick Porell)
Farmington Metropolitan Planning Organization - Ex-offico	Not in attendance

New Mexico Department of Transportation (NMDOT)		
Entity	Representative(s)	
RTPO Liaison	Neala Krueger	
District 5	Stephanie Medina, James Mexia	
District 6	Bill Santiago, Arif Kazmi, Michael Neely	
Tribal Liaison	Ron Shutiva	
DOT Central Regional Design Office	James Sanchez, Juan Archuletta	
Other NMDOT Staff / Guests	Nadine Kowice – Acoma, Raymond Concho - Acoma	

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	1	varies	17 - 20	
Attendance – this	Member Attendance:	NMDOT Attendance:	Staff:	Guests:	Attendance % this meeting:	TOTAL:
meeting:	13	4	1	2	100%- members	20

ROUTINE ITEMS:

Item#	Item
I.	Call to Order and Introductions. The meeting was called to order at 10:05 am, Bob Kuipers welcomed those in attendance, and Don Jaramillo proceeded with introductions and approval of agenda and minutes. The virtual meeting was conducted via Microsoft Teams, due to the COVID-19 pandemic.
II.	Agenda. RTPO Program Manager provided an overview of the day's agenda topics and RTPO Vice-Chair Don Jaramillo called for a motion: ACTION: Elroy Keetso – Laguna - motioned; Alicia Santiago - Gallup - seconded adoption of the agenda. All in favor – motion carried.
III.	Minutes (December 8, 2021). Vice-Chair provided time for review of minutes and there were no revisions requested, ACTION: Judy Horacek – Cibola County motioned; Alicia Santiago – Gallup seconded adoption of the minutes. All in favor – motion carried.

ACTION ITEMS:

Item #	Item	Presenter
IV.	Election of Officers	Robert Kuipers – RTPO Staff
BACKGROUND		

- Why? After years of strong leadership, our NWRTPO Chairman Mr. Dave Deutsawe from the Pueblo of Acoma has resigned from his position, with deep appreciation from NWRTPO staff and members, along with NMDOT staff.
- **Purpose.** NWRTPO members will elect a new NWRTPO Chairman at this meeting and perhaps a new Vice-Chair depending on the wishes and intent of our ongoing Vice Chair.
- **Discussion/Finalization.** Members will vote to approve and authorize a new NWRTPO Chairman and Vice-Chair.

CURRENT WORK

• Elections for a new NWRTPO Chairman, and perhaps a new Vice Chair depending on the wishes and intent of our current Vice Chair.

ANTICIPATED WORK

• NWRTPO regional leadership will be sustained by the election of new and/or ongoing officers.

ATTACHMENTS

None

BUDGET IMPACT

None

ACTION ITEM

• Members will vote, taking action to elect a new NWRTPO Chairman (and maybe a new Vice-Chair – depending on the wishes and intent of our current Vice Chair).

Discussion: As it turned out, Don Jaramillo – our former Vice Chair did express his interest in taking on the NWRTPO Chairman position, and there were no other competing members. Only one RTPO member expressed interest in taking on the Vice-Chair position and that was Dorothy Claw of Ramah Navajo. As a result, with virtually no discussion from members – other than congratulations, elections were unanimously supported with no objections from members for:

- NWRTPO Chairman: Don Jaramillo City of Grants
- NWRTPO Vice Chair: Dorothy Claw Ramah Navajo
- Motion: Gaylord Siow Acoma, Second: Judy Horacek Cibola County, all in favor, none opposed

Item #	Item	Presenter
V.	Review and Approve Annual Administrative Documents	Robert Kuipers – RTPO Staff

BACKGROUND

- Why? The NWRTPO is an organization of transportation representatives from rural tribal, community and county governments, who formally represent the interests and intent of their respective jurisdictions for transportation development in collaboration with the NMDOT. These documents govern the function of the NWRTPO, to assure proper procedure and protocol, adequate public involvement, consideration toward multi-modal / equal access for all citizens, and fair representation of local rural governments in the pursuit of transportation resources and development of infrastructure.
- Purpose. Members will vote to approve and authorize these documents for the year ahead.
- **Discussion/Finalization.** These governing documents will guide the function and service of the NWRTPO going forward.

WORK TO DATE

 Most of these documents were updated during the course of FFY2020 - 2021, so members are already familiar with them.

ANTICIPATED WORK

• Members will consider approval and authorization of these governing documents for ongoing RTPO function and service for the year ahead at today's meeting.

ATTACHMENTS

• Open Meetings Act Resolution, Title VI Plan, Public Participation Plan, Bylaws, Member Roster

BUDGET IMPACT

none

ACTION ITEM

• action for approval and authorization of RTPO Governing Documents

- Staff reminded members that all of these documents were provided to our members in our December 8 meeting package so they would have a month to review. Staff then went thru our current meeting package to present all of these documents to our members and reminded them that they are available on our COG RTPO website.
- With virtually no discussion, having presented the four governing documents (excluding our member roster) our members voted unanimously to approve these documents for NWRTPO management for the year ahead. Staff will follow up with our new Chair – Don Jaramillo for his signature on the governing documents that provide for the Chairman's signature.
- Motion to approve and authorize by: Elroy Keetso Pueblo of Laguna
- Second: Denise Baca Village of Milan
- All in favor, none opposed

Item #	Item	Presenter
VI.	Call for Projects Guide and Timeline Amendment	Robert Kuipers – RTPO Staff

BACKGROUND

- Why? Our normal biennial Call for Projects undertakes project prioritization in November, but due to a busy year for NWRTPO staff and members it's taken a little longer this year.
- **Purpose.** Staff recommended prioritizing #1 Roadway projects for each submitting member government at this January 12 meeting.
- **Discussion/Finalization.** Staff will then finalize the RTIPR and send it out to our RTPO members for final approval and authorization at our February 9 meeting.

CURRENT WORK

Members will vote to approve this Call for Projects timeline amendment.

ANTICIPATED WORK

- Members will prioritize our respective member govt.'s #1 roadway projects based on today's presentations.
- Staff will finalize the RTIPR with prioritized Roadway projects based on presentations at today's meeting; members to approve & authorize the final RTIPR at our February 9 meeting.

ATTACHMENTS

- Our normal biennial Call for Projects timeline calling for project prioritization at our November meeting
- Our amended Call for Projects timeline calling for Roadway project prioritization at today's meeting.

BUDGET IMPACT

None

ACTION ITEM

• Action item to approve amending timeline for Roadway project prioritization which normally takes place in November.

- There was virtually no discussion for this item as all our members were aware of our ongoing process
 this biennial period, and the fact that the process was delayed a little. Nonetheless, members will
 prioritize seven (7) Roadway projects competing for prioritization and provide their resulting lists to
 COG RTPO staff by next week at latest so that we can finalize and authorize our FFY2022 RTIPR at our
 February 9 meeting.
- Motion to approve amended timeline to finalize our FFY2022 Call for Projects: Gaylord Siow –
 Acoma
- Second: Alicia Santiago Gallup
- Motion carried with unanimous support and none opposed

Discussion Items:

Item #	ltem	Presenter
VII.	Roadway Project Prioritization Presentations:	Robert Kuipers – RTPO Staff

BACKGROUND

- Why? Typically the NWRTPO prioritizes projects in the Roadway, Bridge, TAP, RTP and CMAQ sections of the RTIPR. This year we don't have too many competing projects in any section but the Roadway section; therefore we have asked our members to submit their #1 priority Roadway projects, which will compete via a standardized questionnaire and a Survey Monkey Evaluative Ranking Document for prioritization; all other Roadway project submissions will be listed below without priority.
- **Purpose.** To assure competitive opportunity for funding for each of our member government's top priority roadway projects.
- **Discussion/Finalization.** Members have submitted their top priority project in advance of our November 10 meeting and will present on their projects at today's meeting.

CURRENT WORK

Members to complete scoring document on Survey Monkey for top priority roadway projects subsequent to presentations today. Presentations will be in the order of the Scoring Questionnaire –
1) Cibola, 2) Grants, 3) Milan, 4) Acoma, 5) Gallup, 6) Northern Navajo, 7) Ramah Navajo.

ANTICIPATED WORK

• RTPO members will prioritize via Survey Monkey document after our January RTPO meeting for final prioritization.

ATTACHMENTS

- Roadway Project Prioritization Questionnaire
- Survey Monkey Prioritization Document
- 2022 RTIPR Guide

BUDGET IMPACT

None

ACTION ITEM

• Top priority Roadway projects will be prioritized based on RTPO members Survey Monkey ranking and submission of ranking forms in advance of our February 09, 2022 meeting.

- Roadway projects competing for prioritization were presented as ordered below There was minimal
 discussion for each presentation, as members have already reviewed the PFF's, PPF's and
 questionnaires for these seven roadway projects competing for prioritization. All other Roadway
 projects will be cited below these without prioritization.
- Presenting RTPO members were asked to keep their presentations to 5 10 minutes.
- Members have been asked to complete prioritization <u>with only one prioritization Survey Monkey</u> <u>document from each NWRTPO member government prioritizing these projects from 1 - 7</u>.
 Presentations today were as follows:
- Cibola County Judy Horacek: CR24 Elkins Road (project shared by Grants, Milan and Cibola County under Cibola County lead).
- Pueblo of Acoma Raymond Concho: Extend NM124
- City of Gallup Clyde Strain: East Nizhoni Blvd.
- City of Grants Don Jaramillo: Nimitz Drive
- Village of Milan Linda Cooke: Motel Drive
- Northern Navajo: NM371 / N5 highway intersection (no presenter available)
- Ramah Navajo Dorothy Claw: NM53 / BIA125 intersection

Subsequent to this meeting, staff sent a Survey Monkey prioritization ranking document to RTPO members requesting that they submit one document ranking these seven projects per each member government — ie no member government will be allowed to submit more than one ranking document prioritizing these projects from one to seven.

Item#	Item	Presenter	
VIII.	Present RTIPR Draft	Robert Kuipers – RTPO Staff	
	BACKGROUND		
1	 Why? Every two years the NWRTPO updates our Regional Transportation Improvement Program Recommendations (RTIPR) document which cites all our projects proposed for funding 		
• 1	Purpose. RTPO members to review and provide comments for any fir	nal edits	
•	Discussion/Finalization. Prepare to finalize and authorize at our Febr	uary meeting.	
CURRENT WORK			
•	Members to review the RTIPR and make sure that all project citations are correct.		
	ANTICIPATED WORK		
•	 Final approval and authorization of our FFY2022 RTIPR at our February 9, 2022 meeting. 		
	ATTACHMENTS		
•	FFY2022 Draft RTIPR		
	BUDGET IMPACT		
•	None		
	ACTION ITEM		
•	N/A		

- The RTIPR Document is included in the hard copy meeting package, but is much too large to include electronically for presentation in this virtual meeting. Nonetheless, RTPO members are already quite familiar with the FFY2022 RTIPR as it has been in development since April of 2021.
- Staff reminded members that they can view the FFY2022 RTIPR on the COG RTPO website.
- Once the seven Roadway projects are prioritized in the RTIPR Roadway section, staff will email the final FFY2022 RTIPR to RTPO members to finalize and authorize at our February 9 virtual meeting.

Item#	Topic	Presenter
IX.	Reports, Updates & Announcements	Robert Kuipers - NWRTPO

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

- Regional Work Program Status Reports
- RTPO Monthly Report
- Member Reports
- Staff are requesting NWRTPO members who have not yet completed the annual member survey to please get this done via Survey Monkey, or just completing the copy submitted from staff, with assurances of complete confidentiality.

Member Special Reports:

None this meeting

NMDOT Reports:

- G to G Liaison: Neala Krueger
- Tribal Liaison: Ron Shutiva
- District 6: JoAnn Garcia & staff; District 5: James Mexia, Stephanie Medina

News, Training & Funding Opportunities:

- FHWA Planning, Environment & Realty Reports: Human Environment Digest 12/9/21
- NMDOT Govt. to Govt. Update: 1/03/22
- AASHTO Publications: 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 <u>ltap.unm.edu</u> <u>Online courses notice</u> 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.
- UNM LTAP Training Opportunities: 12/1/21
- Truck Parking Development Handbook workshop: 12/2/21
- Infrastructure Funding: 12/13/21
- January 6 State Transportation Commission Meeting announcement: 12/15/21
- FHWA Truck Parking Handbook workshop: 12/21/21
- <u>Land of Enchantment Clean Cities Newsletter</u>: 12/27/21
- Tribal Participation for NMDOT Freight Plan update: 12/27/21
- NMDOT receives \$170 million from House Bill 2: 12/27/21

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.

- Staff provided the December staff hours report and the November expenditure report. The expenditure reports
 are generally a month behind, because our contracted financial organization for the NWNM Council of
 Governments generally don't get these reports out until later in each month.
- Staff reminded members that the NWRTPO received \$19,485,577 in Transportation Project Funds from the NMDOT Transportation Commission this year with the total for the NWRTPO and FMPO at \$22,4156,160
- FFY2022 RTIPR is almost complete pending prioritization of seven Roadway projects the review of which took place at this meeting. This year the NWRTPO and FMPO leveraged a total of \$22,415,160 for 18 Transportation Project Fund projects.
- Carrie House continues building rec. trails in the Zuni Mountains and our TOA Byway is now nationally designated. Commercial trucking opportunities are arising for our region.

Local Member Reports (significant news only)	By Entity
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New news in bold

Pueblo of Acoma

- The Mesa Hill Bridge project remains unfunded and ongoing.
- CMGC2 1: Construction of new office for Transportation and other Departments is underway anticipated completion has been delayed by COVID-19. At this time building construction is complete.
- CMGC2-2 SP130 Veterans Blvd. and Arrowhead Road projects are now complete.
- CMGC2-3. Baseball Fields improvement is now complete.
- Gaylord Siow is now the new Project Manager for the Pueblo of Acoma.
- CMGC2 4 Projects are now complete: (request for proposals for this new bundle of projects was published 2/10/19)
- The Pueblo is now doing construction to increase its water irrigation system.
- Acoma Business Park is commencing design. The Pueblo is also developing parking lots for some of their outdoor parks.
- NM124 Extension to NM117 has been fully funded thru the Transportation Project Fund which is our current #1 priority.
- Haaku Road SP38 is a new priority for the Pueblo for design and reconstruction to improve the corridor to the Sky City Pueblo and Pueblo Museum and Visitor Center hope to undertake design in 2022.
- FEMA 4352 Large Projects All FEMA Large projects have been completed (104 projects!) \$13 million a year ahead of time; the Pueblo is now addressing finishing the small projects and only has one to go.
- The Pueblo has completed their update to their <u>Long-Range Transportation Plan</u>; WH Pacific will do traffic analysis counts to contribute to the Pueblo's LRTP. To mitigate COVID 19 delays, the Pueblo has developed a survey for public input which is also available on Survey Monkey.
- The Pueblo is also updating their <u>Transportation Safety Plan</u> at this time. Public involvement meetings are postponed due to COVID-19, which will delay completion dates for these plans; however, thru distributing a survey at the local Food Pantry, the Pueblo has achieved a 41% response rate from the public for both transportation plans!
- **FEMA 4352**: Small Projects: Recovery work has begun; the POA Public Works / Utility Authority was awarded the small projects (65) at \$2.2 million capital investment. 45 projects have been completed; 22 projects remain. All projects have been completed at this time.
- 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.

Pueblo of Zuni

- 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 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 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.

McKinley County

- Pending projects for the County include CR-19 improvements. CR19 18.6 miles is at 60%, with gravel and chip seal scheduled for next summer.
- Deer Springs Road for base course is now complete for Mexican Springs Chapter.
- Woodview Road 1.5 miles of Chipseal in Prewitt is now complete. Hillcrest and Bowman Roads are also complete.
- The County is finishing their Local Government Road Fund projects including the Thoreau Town Site project at \$776K for cold mix overlay, for which the County has rented a milling machine. Certifications are complete for all LGRF projects and the County is requesting an extension till Spring 2020 to complete maintenance construction. Brasier Asphalt Co. has completed contract work on Thoreau Townsite roads. The County is waiting to complete this project by fog sealing the roads with the last of this funding.
- County Road #1 chipseal is now complete.
- 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 Gamerco with US491, which leads to the developing Energy Logistics Park (and potential Inland Port).
- The County has finished chip sealing Pine Haven road; will use remaining funds to finish improvements on Allison road.
- Coal Basin Road and CR-6 are now complete.
- Cousins Road and CR-1 will move into phase 2 repairs. Superman Canyon Road and Old Church Rock Mine Bridge are next projects on the list.
- 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.

- East Nizhoni and West Aztec improvements are currently in design phase East Nizhoni design at 75%; West Aztec is at 60% design received news from NMDOT Dist. 6 that the City was awarded MAP funding for East Nizhoni Ave \$900,000. W. 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. 2nd phase for East Nizoni will be the College Drive and Nizhoni intersection.
- 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.
- The City has submitted a Letter of Intent for Coop funding.
- Federal Aviation Admin. application for \$5 million has been submitted for our airport taxi-way and connectors. The City has been awarded and construction will begin in the Spring of 2022.

Milan

No report yet for this meeting – as the new village manager just quit.

Ramah

- 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 NWRTPO.
- BIA 175 is the next new project for Ramah Navajo seeking funding at this time.
- Working on signage for BIA 125 and 122.
- 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.
- 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.
 - o 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 is building an emergency bypass at this time for the CR-5 Moquino bridge.
- 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.
- 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 will determine the award at their January 14 meeting. CR18-B will commence soon drainage work is at 8%.
- 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.
- 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 and is currently at 45%**. Final PS&E was scheduled for this August and project letting is scheduled for September. Total project stands at \$6.2 million. **Anticipated completion around mid February, 2022.**
- 2nd street bridge out to bid for construction to commence in July 2nd Street Channel project is now complete.
- 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 is coming in for the Anderman to Sage St. portion.
- Lobo Canyon and Roosevelt intersection improvements are underway and ongoing. Roosevelt Bridge is at 60% design.

Pueblo of Laguna

- 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.
- Gaylord Siow and Sharon Hausam have left the Pueblo, so Elroy Keetso is now the only NWRTPO representative for the Pueblo.
- 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.
- <u>L26 Rainfall Road from Cubero Wash to Seama bridge M108</u>: **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.
- 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.
- <u>L24 Rainfall Road</u>: 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!
- <u>L26 Deer Dancer Road</u>: at 100% design, working on ROW amendments and E.A.
- <u>L243 Acorn Road design</u>: completed 100% design and PS&E review from the BIA. Construction pending funding.
- 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.
- <u>L248 Bluejay Road and L248 Blue Star Loop:</u> Design is in progress now at 30%. PER report is now in progress to include ROW review.
- <u>Pueblo's Safety Plan</u>: 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

- 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.
- 2021 LGRF projects include a) Two Grey Hills N-192 repairs project is finalizing scope of work; b) preliminary engineering for Crown Point Chapter cemetery road.
- Larry has put in a PFF for improving with chip seal the Shiprock Farm Road, along with a Transportation Project Fund application to the state for the same project. This project has been approved by DOT District 5, and has been awarded funding from the DOT Transportation Project Fund at \$1,200,000.
- Two Grey Hills Chapter was awarded LGRF 2021 funding for N192 roadway and culvert improvements.
- Navajo DOT continues development for their Long Range Transportation Plan for 2021.
- Two Grey Hills road is getting drainage improvements.
- Navajo DOT has appointed Marco Sells to fill an administrative position for Eastern Navajo finally bringing Larry Joe some relief! Marco will have his hands full, as he is also the Chinle, AZ Transportation Planner.
- Karen Bedonie has been re-assigned and a new Planning Director by the name of Leanne Roy is on board for NDOT.
- NDOT is working with Sandoval County on inventory to transfer County Roads to the Navajo Nation going forward.

- Shiprock High School Safety corridor project is earmarked for **2023 NMDOT STIP** for three lane road widening construction. Will remain on RTIP.
- TseDaaKaan Chapter (Hogback) N5031/Hwy 64 Safety intersection improvement is earmarked for 2021 NMDOT STIP for construction.
- N36/Hwy 371 intersection improvement (Upperfruitland Chapter)- This project was funded through NM State Capital Outlay. The project is led by San Juan County, NM. The Design layout of the intersection was completed by Wilson & Company. . NMDOT and Navajo Nation finalizing the MOU, which will allow for the State beginning working on construction of the project. Project needs additional funding to be completed.
- **Newcomb Chapter** working on <u>N5007 Low Water Crossing</u> using the State, and Tribal match fund to complete this low water crossing project. Project Manager, Donald Jackson, worked on the design and it is determined it would need realignment of the road. Therefore, the realignment of the road was submitted to BIA for review and approval. Pending for final review and approval.
- Beclabito Chapter- was awarded of NM Capital Outlay for Helipad for aircraft landing facility. Land withdrawal is in the works with Project Manager assigned. Will need to complete the preliminary studies and design before the construction of the project.
- US 64 Study Improvement Plan- NMDOT officials recently met with local chapters (Beclabito, Gadiahii, Tsedaakaan, Shiprock) on the review and conditions of the highway and improvement plan process is for this 20 plus miles Hogback to AZ Stateline. Project still Planning stage but improvements anticipated in the near future executed by NMDOT District 5. It will need to remain on the RTIP List for future road improvement, which includes road reconstruction, and bridges replacements.
- Bahali Chapter 2019 LGTPF project is now complete.
- Priscilla Lee is working to complete 2019 LGTPF RSA's for Mexican Springs, Twin Lakes and Tohatchi Chapters in Ft. Defiance Agency by the June 30, 2022 deadline.
- LGRF projects for Gadiahi, Beclabito and Iyanbito Chapters are now complete.
- Hwy 64 Shiprock Bridge Replacement- public hearing took place November 14, 2019 at Shiprock Chapter. Design plans has started on this project with NMDOT, it will remain the RTIP.
- San Juan-Hogback Bridge has completed the feasibility studies for a new bridge. Road alignment is still pending, and it would full preliminary studies and design of the project. San Juan Chapter is seeking additional funding for this project. Project will remain on the RTIP.
- Shiprock Chapter- is seeking Road Safety Audit on Hwy 491, milepost 89-90. Navajo DOT staff is working on this project using the Navajo Sihasin Fund for RSA. Updates- NMDOT contracted to complete the survey and assessment of the US Highway 491 North of Shiprock. Project will remain on the RTIP for future improvement planning, designing, and construction.
- Burnham Chapter- is seeking funding for RSA and N5/Hwy intersection improvement. Chapter is submitting a Letter of Intent through Local Government Road Fund on March 15, 2020. Project did not any funding but it will remain the RTIP for road studies, design and construction.
- Beclabito Chapter/Hwy 64 Improvement Plan- is continuing seeking funding for street lighting along Hwy 64 store, NHA Housing, Chapter house within the corridor. This project is added to NMDOT planning and design with when construction fund becomes available. Project will remain on the RTIP for future funding.
- Newcomb Chapter- is seeking funding for Street Lighting along Hwy 491 & N5001, RSA was completed 2017 when the chapter contracted with a company that completed the studies. Project will remain on the RTIP.
- Sanostee Chapter is seeking funding to construct new drainage structure at the intersection of Hwy 491 & N34. Recommending for Transportation Project Fund 2021 list. A studies was completed 2018 by Dibble Engineering. Project will remain on the RTIP List.
- Sanostee Chapter- is seeking funding for School Zone safety RSA and maintenance on route N34 on pavement road. Chapter is working on submitting to District 5 for studies and safety improvement at the school zone. Project will remain on the RTIP List.
- A Road Safety Audit was conducted by Lee Engineering on US491 for Newcomb, Naschitti and Sheep Springs intersections in 2019 NDOT will be considering recommendations for these intersections based on this RSA.

- Marco Sells the new manager for Eastern Navajo indicated that a Virtual Navajo Nation Transportation Summit is in development to be announced sometime in the near future.
- Lary Joe indicated that Sandoval County will be transitioning many of rural their roads to Navajo DOT oversight and ownership
- Transportation Project Fund project application was approved by DOT for the west Tsayatoh Road in Eastern Navajo at \$2,450,000.
- Crownpoint Chapter has awarded LGRF 2021 funding for their cemetery access road.
- Rock Springs Chapter- CR-9 road improvement. Will be added to RTIP for future road improvement
- Nahodishgish Chapter- N53 & 98 road improvement. Will be added to RTIP for road improvement.
- Manuelito Chapter- Sunset Valley road Chip Sealing. Will be added to RTIP
- Manuelito Chapter- Tse De Tah Spring road improvement Chip Sealing. Will be addit to RTIP
- Rock Springs Chapter- Chee Dodge Elementary School Access Improvement Improving turning lanes and street lighting. Will be added to RTIP.
- Church Rock Chapter- NM Highway 118 Improve Street lighting for safety corridor. Project will be completed with NM Capital Out funds.
- Crownpoint Chapter- street lighting project in progress to complete soon.
- Baahaali Chapter- transfer access road improvement- Project completed in 2020 with 2019 Transportation Project Fund award.
- Mexican Chapter- Road Safety Audit, project in progress on contracting out to complete the RSA studies. Will be added to RTIP for construction project.
- Twin Lakes Chapter- Road Safety Audit, project in progress on contracting out to complete the RSA studies. Will be added to RTIP for construction project.
- Tohatchi Chapter- Road Safety Audit, project progress on contracting out to complete the RSA studies. Will be added to RTIP for construction project.
- Iyanbito Chapter- Received Local Government Road Fund, it would need more funding to complete the road improvements. Will be added to RTIP for road improvement Chip Sealing.
- Iyanbito Chapter- I-40 -Project is seeking funding for drainage improvement and overpass studies, design and construction to provide safe entering and existing I-40. Will be added to RTIP.
- Mariano Lake Chapter- Red Willow road in progress to complete the road improvement.

<u>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.</u>

- 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	RTPO Liaison (Neala Krueger)
(significant news only)	Tribal Liaison (Ron Shutiva)
	District 5 (James Mexia, Stephanie Medina)
	District 6 (JoAnn Garcia; Bill Santiago)
Multimodal Planning & Programs Bureau – Neala Krueger	

- Rosa Kozub is now the Planning Division Director; Joseph Moriority is the new Freight & Tech. Planning Supervisor, JoAnn Garcia is the new Multi-modal TAP/RTP Coordinator.
- Joe Moriarity is creating a "Freight Working Group" for the new NM Freight Plan and is seeking Pueblo / Native American participation - requesting consideration to participate from Navajo, Acoma, Laguna, and Zuni.
- The NMDOT website has been updated, and a NMDOT Freight Plan update is underway.
- The NMDOT 2045 Long Range Transportation Plan is now finalized and available on the NMDOT website.
- A new Pedestrian Safety Action Plan was adopted to commence implementation soon find it on the NMDOT website.
- The New Mexico LTAP center provides technical assistance and trainings to support workforce development with the aim of helping local governments and municipalities across New Mexico meet their transportation needs. https://ltap.unm.edu/
- A new Functional Classification Guide update has been completed now available on the DOT website.

NMDOT Tribal Liaison – Ron Shutiva

- Ron reminded our members that 2019 LGTPF funded project completions are due June 30, 2022.
- Ron indicated that the 2021 Transportation Project Fund awarded a total of \$41 million to tribal entities statewide. Ron reminded members to pay attention to the "Buy America" guidelines. Our region did well for this round of TPF funds.
- Ron is supporting Shiprock projects for US64 working on Right of Way issues.
- Ron indicated that Pueblo of Acoma may need to phase the NM124 project around required certifications.
- Ron asked how the Navajo RSA's are coming along with the 2018 LGTPF deadline of June 30, 2022 coming up for Twin Lakes, Mexican Springs, and Tohatchi Chapters.
- Ron is collaborating with UNM LTAP for funding opportunities good training is forthcoming.
- The Navajo Nation is having issues with development of and industrial park along the NM118 corridor between Rehoboth and Churchrock. The Navajo Economic Development Dept. is now working with NMDOT Dist. 6 toward an industrial park on NM118 between Rehoboth and Churchrock.
- Ron is now on the LTAP Board.
- 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.
- NMDOT needs an update from Pueblo of Laguna for progress on Rainfall Road from the Local Govt. Road Fund.
- 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 indicated that the Laguna I-40 improvement project is moving forward from Exit 112 to 117.
- Ron is concerned about improvements needed for the US64 Shiprock School Zone corridor NDOT is non-responsive, and support and input is needed from NDOT before the state moves forward with safety improvements.
- I-40 Safety projects are coming to the Laguna Acoma area, including the exit 114 bridge.
- Ron reported on the NM118 drainage analysis that took place between the lyanbito 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 is working with area Chapters for improvements on the US491 corridor from Shiprock to Colroado border.

NMDOT District 5 – James Mexia, Stephanie Medina

- Stephanie reminded of the five certifications required before projects are considered construction ready.
- . Stephanie concurred with Bill Santiago of DOT Dist. 6 regarding the impending deadline (Dec. 31) for LGRF projects
- 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.

NMDOT District 6 - JoAnn Garcia, **Bill Santiago**, Arif Kazmi

- 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!
- A new LGRF call for projects has been issued, with a March 15 deadline for letters of intent.
- 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!!
- 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. Neely indicated that DOT District 6 is looking to fill JoAnn Garcia's former position at the District, and 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, and DOT District 6 urges follow up with their staff. Have contractors apply to be on the State list as pre-qualified contractors. Using a non-state-qualified contractor could also jeopardize project funding!

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

ANNOUCEMENTS & NEXT MEETING: No announcements – next meeting February 9, 2021 – virtual meeting via Microsoft Teams

ADJOURNMENT (11:50 am) Judy Horacek – Cibola County – motioned; and Elroy Keetso – Pueblo of Laguna seconded for adjournment Motion carried by acclamation.

MEETING ACTIONS:

Staff:

- Staff are requesting NWRTPO members who have not yet completed the annual member survey to please get
 this done via Survey Monkey, or just completing the copy submitted from staff, with assurances of complete
 confidentiality.
- **Orientations:** RTPO Orientations for Local Government Policy Board meetings were completed in August thru September, 2021.
- Website: update all important documents page and update Meeting schedule on Meetings page complete
- Program Guides: post to website and circulate complete
- Transportation Project Fund Internal Deadlines: Implementation complete all proposed projects have been approved and are now authorized to move forward.

MEMBERS:

- Orientations: complete
- 2019 LGTPF awarded projects: due for completion by June 30, 2022
- Annual RTPO Member Survey: sent to members 9/14/21; Survey Monkey Link sent to members 9/29/21 asking members to complete these for review at our November or December meeting.
- Statewide Transportation Plan 2045 update members encouraged to review

NMDOT: Remind Staff and RTPO Members of impending deadlines for various projects and deliverables.