

NWRTPO | Northwest Regional Transportation Planning Organization
 Joint Policy & Technical Committee
 NWRTPO Meeting Minutes

Wednesday February 9, 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, Raymond Concho ,
Pueblo of Zuni	Royce Gchachu , Roxanne Hughte
Navajo Nation	Edwin Begay, 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-officio	Not in attendance

New Mexico Department of Transportation (NMDOT)	
Entity	Representative(s)
RTPO Liaison	Neala Krueger ,
District 5	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	Gavin Lujan, Cymantha Higgins, Mindi Macias, Yulia Trujillo, Leo Marquez, Wyman Thomas – NMDOT; Leland Cerno – Acoma, Leonard Ludi – Laguna, Mindi Macias – McKinley

Northwest Regional Transportation Planning Organization	
Northwest NM Council of Governments	Robert Kuipers, Brandon Howe

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 meeting:	Member Attendance:	NMDOT Attendance:	Staff:	Guests:	Attendance % this meeting:	TOTAL:
	10	10	2	4	100%-members	26

ROUTINE ITEMS:

Item #	Item
I.	Call to Order and Introductions. The meeting was called to order at 10:10 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 Chair Don Jaramillo called for a motion: ACTION: Gaylord Siow – Pueblo of Acoma - motioned; Alicia Santiago – Gallup - seconded adoption of the agenda. All in favor – motion carried.
III.	Minutes (January 12, 2022). RTPO Chairman provided time for review of minutes and there were no revisions requested, ACTION: Elroy Keetso – Pueblo of Laguna motioned; Alicia Santiago – Gallup seconded adoption of the minutes. All in favor – motion carried.

ACTION ITEMS:

Item #	Item	Presenter
IV.	Approve: FFY2022 RTIPR	Robert Kuipers – RTPO Staff
BACKGROUND		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Why? Every two years the NWRTPPO updates our biennial RTIPR – removing completed projects and submitting new projects through a nine month review process. • Purpose. The RTIPR supports our participating member governments for ongoing transportation maintenance and development within our region. • Discussion/Finalization. Members will be informed on Roadway prioritization and be able to review the final FFY2022 RTIPR. 		
CURRENT WORK		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Members to approve and authorize the final FFY2022 RTIPR. 		
ANTICIPATED WORK		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Members to work with NMDOT District staff to promote moving our region’s top priority projects into the NMDOT STIP for future / forthcoming funding. 		
ATTACHMENTS		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FFY2022 RTIPR <i>Regional Transportation Improvement Program Recommendations</i> 		
BUDGET IMPACT		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None at this time, but major potential funding for future projects in our region. 		
ACTION ITEM		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Members will approve and authorize our FFY2022 RTIPR for potential funding thru NMDOT. 		

Discussion:

- Robert Kuipers covered both the condensed representation of the RTIPR in the meeting agenda packet, but also covered the actual RTIPR for each section. There were no questions or discussion among RTPO members as they have been engaged in the entire process.
- **Motion: Royce Gchachu – Pueblo of Zuni, Second: Gaylord Siow – Pueblo of Acoma, all in favor, none opposed**

Item #	Item	Presenter
V.	Approve: Regional Work Program Revision and Administrative Budget Amendment	Robert Kuipers – RTPO Staff
BACKGROUND		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Why? NMDOT is supporting a study to create a public transit transfer station in Gallup, supporting regional transit mobility for Navajo Transit, Gallup Express and Zuni Ashiwi Transit, which requires a supporting citation in our Regional Work Program. We are also supporting and administrative budget amendment to our Regional Work Program. • Purpose. Align our Regional Work Program to support this Transit Transfer Station in Gallup, and inform members on our administrative financial amendment to the RWP budget. • Discussion/Finalization. Staff to present at our February 9 RTPO meeting. 		
CURRENT WORK		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff to present the RWP Revision supporting the public transit transfer station, and inform RTPO members on a minor RWP budget amendment 		
ANTICIPATED WORK		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RTPO members will be aware of RWP budget amendment, and transit transfer station opportunity in Gallup. 		
ATTACHMENTS		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FFY2021 – 2022 Regional Work Program – revision #1 with language in red – pp. 4 and 6. • RTPO Regional Work Program administrative amendment moving funds from Personnel to Contractual 		
BUDGET IMPACT		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None 		
ACTION ITEM		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Members to approve the Regional Work Program revision and be aware of administrative amendment 		

Discussion:

- Staff discussed and covered the administrative addition to the Regional Work Program to support NMDOT Transit & Rail Division in special initiatives including at this time support for a feasibility study to develop a transit transfer station in Gallup partially funded by NMDOT Transit & Rail for Navajo Transit, Zuni Ashiwi Transit, and Gallup Express.
- Staff also presented an administrative budget amendment to our Regional Work Program transferring \$728.16 from Personnel to Contractual – already approved by NMDOT, with appreciation to our Liaison, Neala Krueger.

- **Motion: Judy Horacek – Cibola County, Second: Elroy Keetso – Pueblo of Laguna, all in favor, none opposed**

Discussion Items:

Item #	Item	Presenter
VI.	Present: LGRF Guidance – FFY2022 and 2023 Transportation Project Fund	Bill Santiago – NMDOT Robert Kuipers – RTPO Staff
BACKGROUND		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Why? LGRF is a biennial opportunity for our rural local governments to fund transportation projects without functional classification limitations. The Transportation Project Fund is from the State of New Mexico with no functional classification limitations as well with application packages due for the FFY2023 cycle due by May 31, 2022. • Purpose. Make our members aware of these opportunities and process for this FFY2022 / FY2023 Call for Projects. • Discussion/Finalization. Members are encouraged to apply for these funding opportunities which are not limited by functional classification. 		
CURRENT WORK		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review the guidance for project submissions which include: a) LGRF: project location & map, scope of work, cost estimate, project justification, project certification for public road serving the community, county (and school districts) and letter of intent from governing body. b) TPF: cover letter, ID project category, PFF, Resolution of Local Govt. Sponsorship, map of project, and Right of Way if needed. 		
ANTICIPATED WORK		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project must meet NMDOT design and construction standards, be ADA compliant, address all required clearances, and engage an approved NM engineering firm. 		
ATTACHMENTS		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NMDOT guidance and regulatory requirements. 		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 		
ACTION ITEM		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • N/A 		

Discussion:

- **RTPO MEMBERS: PAY CLOSE ATTENTION TO THIS GUIDANCE DUE TO LIMITED TIMEFRAME:**
- Bill Santiago covered Local Government Road Fund guidance asking for complete project submission by March 15, 2022. Application packages must include:
 Local Govt. Entity letter to DOT District (5 or 6) Engineer requesting for and including:
 - Location of the proposed project including route designation and termini
 - Scope of work to be performed
 - Project cost estimate (State – 75% / Local Match 25%)
 - Justification for project construction
 - Certification the project is part of the public roadway network serving the tribal, municipal, county public and/or school districts
 - Letter from the Governing Body supporting the project
 - A supporting resolution from the local government: a) adopting the project, b) verifying priority with the local gov., c) exact scope of work, d) route designation, e) termini, f) project cost estimate (state 75% / local 25%) g) project number (*from DOT*), and h) Control Number (*from DOT*)
 - All projects must comply with local, state, and federal regulations (incl. ADA compliance) for design from a certified NM Engineering Firm, and construction per NMDOT specifications for Highway & Bridge Construction.
 - Compliance with design standards and prioritization around public needs is the local gov't's. responsibility

- Robert Kuipers – NMDOT Transportation Project Fund:
- **RTPO MEMBERS: PAY CLOSE ATTENTION TO THIS GUIDANCE DUE TO LIMITED TIMEFRAME:**
 - Although we have approved the “final” RTIPR at this meeting, we will still add projects from our participating member governments as the FFY2023 TPF Call for projects was just announced. **Staff will need PFF’s (as discussed at today’s meeting) as soon as possible – NMDOT staff are asking applying governments to use the FFY2022 Transportation Project Fund PFF. RTPO members can choose a project from anywhere in our current RTIPR but please get your single top priority TPF – PFF to staff as soon as possible, so we can add these to our current RTIPR – making them more competitive. Since we will present our final FFY2022 RTIPR at our March 9 meeting – staff need JUST THE PFF as soon as possible.**
 - Beyond the PFF the **complete application packages are due to NMDOT May 31, 2022 – 5:00pm.**
 - While the state normally provides \$40 million statewide, we anticipate the Legislature will add \$60 million raising the amount to around \$100 million for the FFY2023 go round.
 - We are **recommending that our members apply for their top priority TPF project with a limit ask of \$3 million or less.** Smaller (less costly) projects will be more competitive than expensive projects.
 - As in previous years the **TPF section for FFY2023 will only cite your top priority projects (one per member govt.);** all other proposed projects will be cited below – most likely for the next round.
 - **Only those projects already cited in our RTIPR are eligible – as they have gone thru the entire PFF and PPF review process. WE WILL NOT ACCEPT NEW PROJECTS!!**
 - **AGAIN: get your PFF’s to RTPO staff ASAP;** the rest of the required documents should be submitted to staff – for submission to NMDOT well in advance of the May 31 deadline.
 - Member governments can request a waiver for the 5% match requirement.

Item #	Item	Presenter
VII.	Discuss: Regional NMDOT Broadband Initiative	Gavin Lujan - NMDOT
BACKGROUND		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Why? Broadband development is becoming a national priority as a communication option when other methods (phone, TV, radio) fail for various reasons. • Purpose. NMDOT is participating in the development of this option and working to help provide statewide access. • Discussion/Finalization. Mr. Lujan will present NMDOT’s contribution for developing this communication option, and any challenges – such as mountainous / valley areas. 		
CURRENT WORK		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NM DOT is beginning participation for development of this communication option. 		
ANTICIPATED WORK		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development of broadband towers across our state. 		
TTACHMENTS		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wikipedia Broadband Overview 		
BUDGET IMPACT		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None 		
ACTION ITEM		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • N/A 		

Discussion:

- Included in the Broadband Team for NMDOT are Leo Marquez, Yulia Trujillo, and Cymantha Higgins.
- Gavin provided a power-point covering NMDOT’s intent and efforts around statewide broadband; staff will send a copy of this power-point presentation to RTPO members.
- Fiber optics will help monitor autonomous vehicles

- There will be collaboration with other state agencies around broadband development
- Ultimately the project will require inter-governmental agency and cross-jurisdictional collaboration
- Project will involve mapping the state as to where we can best provide broadband links
- NMDOT will be looking for relevant data from various regions and jurisdictions within the state.

Item #	Item	Presenter
VIII.	Present: NM Legislative Session Report	Brandon Howe - NWNM Council of Governments
BACKGROUND		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Why? Each year the NM Legislative Session generates new laws / regulation, funding, and opportunities for statewide municipal, tribal and county development. Some of these opportunities for new infrastructure or governing regulation address transportation needs. • Purpose. Inform our NWRTPO members on behalf of their respective governments on the issues and opportunities being addressed and related progress. • Discussion/Finalization. RTPO members will be informed on the progress of this legislative session, and the impacts it may have in the multimodal transportation arena for our region. 		
CURRENT WORK		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On behalf of its members and the region, COG provides legislative technical assistance including staffing during the Session currently being provided by Planner Brandon Howe. • An initial list of transportation bills have been identified and are actively being tracked as well priorities, such as funding and spending bills. 		
ANTICIPATED WORK		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A final report of outcomes will be produced after the Session and sent to the RTPO members for their use. 		
ATTACHMENTS		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Legislative Bill Trackers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Transportation: https://www.nmlegis.gov/MyRoundhouse/View_Shared_Locator?shareID=em3v4qho7c ○ Priority: https://www.nmlegis.gov/MyRoundhouse/View_Shared_Locator?shareID=rxjuu6mr6s 		
BUDGET IMPACT		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None 		
ACTION ITEM		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • N/A 		

Discussion:

- This year’s legislative session was a short 30 day session.
- A lot of discussion / negotiation around the State budget.
- Capital Outlay had a January 13 deadline – COG staff supported our region’s Capital Outlay requests, and helped inform our regional governments on project status for this session.
- New one-time appropriations:
 - \$5 million for airport upgrades (\$1.5 million for Grants)
 - Additional \$60 million for the Transportation Project Fund
 - \$10 million for State, Tribal and Local bridges
 - \$25 million – rural infrastructure accelerator grant program (mainly I-40 & I-10)
 - Additional funding for statewide rest area improvements
 - Additional funding for CMGC projects (*Construction Management / General Contractor*)
- More information forthcoming after the end of this session.

Item #	Topic	Presenter
IX.	Reports, Updates & Announcements	Robert Kuipers – NWRTPO RTPO Members, NMDOT Staff
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"> • Regional Work Program Status Reports • Next Annual Meeting Schedule and Public Notice: May, 2022 thru April, 2023 • RTPO Monthly Report • 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: JoAnn Garcia & staff; District 5: James Mexia, Stephanie Medina 		
News, Training & Funding Opportunities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>FHWA Planning, Environment & Realty Reports</u>: none for the past month • <u>NMDOT Govt. to Govt. Update</u>: 1/17/22, 1/24/22 • <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>UNM LTAP Training Opportunities</u>: No news for this past month • <u>Biden / Harris Rural Stakeholders Infrastructure Funding Update</u>: 1/14/21 • <u>FY22/23 Local Govt. Road Fund Program</u>: 1/24/22 • <u>Wildlife Corridor Action Plan News Release</u>: 1/25/22 • <u>FFY2023 Transportation Project Fund Call for Projects</u>: 1/31/22 		

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.

Discussion:

- RK provided Staff time investment and expenditure reports for the NWRTPO Work Program, along with the monthly staff activity report. Of significance is the recent FFY2023 Transportation Project Fund call for projects, and resumed focus on our nationally designated Trail of the Ancients Scenic Byway as well as our Geo-tourism Website.
- RK also reminded members that we will need to update our annual meeting schedule for May, 2022 thru April, 2023 by / before the end of April; recommending we keep it the same (whether we have virtual meetings or not) as all the locations are ADA compliant, and the only change for this annual period is moving Navajo Nation's turn from Northern to an Eastern Navajo location.

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

Pueblo of Acoma

- **The Mesa Hill Bridge project remains unfunded and ongoing, 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.**
- CMGC2 – 1: Construction of new office for Transportation and other Departments is now 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.
- 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. The Pueblo has submitted a TPF request for \$2,900,000 for design of road improvements for the FFY2023 round of this funding.**
- **The Pueblo is working with DOT Dist. 6 to address drainage issues for the San Lorenzo Road**
- 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 Long-Range Transportation Plan; 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 Transportation Safety Plan 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 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's Local Government Road Fund projects for FFY2021 are now complete; working on certifications for 2022 projects at this time.**
- 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 and out to bid soon.** 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 Nizhoni 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 Village has a new manager.

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.**
 - 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 determined the award at their January 14 meeting. **CR18-B has commenced ROW work; drainage work is ongoing; CR-1 has issued an RFP to Engineering Firms.**
- 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. **Striping is now complete; 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 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 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 NWRTPPO representative for the Pueblo.**
- **The Pueblo is consulting with the MRRTPPO 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 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.**
- 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 pending funding.
- M154 Paguete 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 on-going 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 **N5007 Low Water Crossing** 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.**

Navajo Nation – Eastern Navajo

- **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.

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)
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Multimodal Planning & Programs Bureau – Neala Krueger

- **Rosa Kozub is now the Multimodal Planning & Programs Bureau Chief; Jessica Griffin is the Planning Division Chief; Joseph Moriarity 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. There will be a Freight Committee meeting on Feb. 24.**
- **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 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 is working with area Chapters for improvements on the US491 corridor from Shiprock to Colorado border.

NMDOT District 5 – James Mexia

- Stephanie reminded of the five certifications required before projects are considered construction ready.
- 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 – Mike Neely, 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 undertook interviews in late December. 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

ANNOUNCEMENTS & NEXT MEETING: No announcements – **next meeting March 9, 2022 – virtual meeting via Microsoft Teams**

ADJOURNMENT (11:55 am) Elroy Keetso – Pueblo of Laguna – motioned; and Alicia Santiago – City of Gallup seconded for adjournment Motion carried by acclamation.

MEETING ACTIONS:

Staff:

- **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. A new TPF Call for Projects has been issued for FFY2023.**

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. **Only 7 members responded!**
- **Statewide Transportation Plan 2045 update** – members encouraged to review

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