

NORTHWEST NEW MEXICO COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

Northwest Regional Transportation Planning Organization (NWRTPO)

Joint Policy & Technical Committee

NWRTPO Meeting Minutes

Wednesday June 12, 2024

10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Virtual meeting executed via Microsoft Teams

ATTENDANCE:

Local & Tribal Governments	
Entity	Representative(s)
Pueblo of Acoma	Raymond Concho – RTPO Chair; Nadine Kowice
Pueblo of Laguna	Anne Oandasas, Star Cheromiah, Jollette Arrieta
Pueblo of Zuni	Royce Gchachu, Roxanne Hughte
Navajo Nation	Margie Begay, Priscilla Lee
Ramah Navajo	Michael Henio, Michael Eriacho
City of Grants	Shannon Devine, Nadine Jiron
City of Gallup	Clyde Strain, Alicia Santiago,
Village of Milan	Candi Williams, Denise Baca, Felix Gonzales,
Cibola County	Linda Cooke, Joseph Baca, Judy Horacek
McKinley County	Rodney Skersick, Yvonne Tso
San Juan County	Nick Porell
Farmington Metropolitan Planning Organization – Ex-officio	Nick Porell

New Mexico Department of Transportation (NMDOT)	
Entity	Representative(s)
RTPO Liaison	Sullivan Moore
District 5	James Mexia, Amanda Nino
District 6	Bill Santiago, Michael Neely, Kyle Slim
Tribal Liaison	Ron Shutiva
DOT Central Regional Design Office	James Sanchez, Juan Archuletta,
Other NMDOT Staff / Guests	Nathan Wagliardo, NMDOT Roadway Class. Manager Kristie Johnson, City of Gallup Brandon Howe, NWNMCOG

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

Tally Sheet – Attendance & Quorum

Total Full Attendance:	Member Entities:	NMDOT	RTPO	Full Attendance Norm:	Guests	
	11	4: DOT Liaison, Tribal Liaison, District 5 & 6 Representatives	1	16	varies	
Attendance – this meeting:	Member Attendance:	NMDOT Attendance:	Staff:	Attendance % this meeting:	Guest	Total Attendees
	8	3	1	1	3	16

ROUTINE ITEMS:

Item #	Item
I.	Call to Order and Introductions. The meeting was called to order at 10:06 am, Raymond Concho welcomed those in attendance, and proceeded with introductions approval of agenda and minutes. The virtual meeting was conducted via Microsoft Teams, due to the COVID-19 pandemic.
II.	Agenda: RTPO Staff provided an overview of the day’s agenda topics and Raymond Concho called for a motion: ACTION: Clyde Strain – Gallup motioned; Linda Cooke – Cibola seconded adoption of the agenda; all in favor – motion carried.
III.	Minutes (February 14, 2024): Chairman provided time for review of minutes and there were no revisions requested, Raymond Concho called for a motion. ACTION: Clyde Strain - Gallup motioned; Linda Cooke – Cibola seconded adoption of the minutes. All in favor – motion carried.

ACTION ITEMS:

item #	Item	Presenter
IV.	Action: Inquire if any members are interested in the Vice-Chair position and take a vote to elect.	Robert Kuipers, NWRTPO
BACKGROUND		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Why? Since Dorothy Claw has resigned, our former Vice Chair – Raymond Concho, has assumed the NWRTPO Chair position; we are now looking for a Vice Chair • Purpose. The Vice Chair helps run the meeting at any time when the RTPO Chair is not available, along with the NWNMCOG RTPO Coordinator • Discussion/Finalization. If any RTPO member is interested in assuming the Vice Chair position, or if more than one member is interested, we can take a vote to approve a new Vice Chair for the NWRTPO. 		
CURRENT WORK		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Asking our RTPO members to consider if they are interested in the Vice-Chair position. 		
ANTICIPATED WORK		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anticipate a vote at our June 12 meeting to appoint a new Vice Chair for the NWRTPO. 		
ATTACHMENTS		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None 		
BUDGET IMPACT		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None. 		
ACTION ITEM		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yes, this is an action item. 		

Discussion: No RTPO members were nominated and/or offered to accept the Vice-Chair position, so Raymond Concho tabled this decision until the next RTPO meeting.

Discussion Items:

item #	Item	Presenter
V.	Present: Statewide Functional Classification Review	Nathan Wagliardo – NMDOT Roadway Classification Manager
BACKGROUND		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Why? NMDOT to consider functional classification changes for statewide roadways • Purpose. Inform RTPO members about this opportunity • Discussion/Finalization. Presentation from Nathan Wagliardo – NMDOT Roadway Classification Manager. 		
CURRENT WORK		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NMDOT’s Technical Freight Planning Unit will be starting a 15 month window to solicit functional classification changes in the beginning of CY24 quarter 4. 		
ANTICIPATED WORK		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Before this time, they would like to meet with the RTPO’s to give a presentation and some space for questions on what all this will entail. They estimate this will take about 20 minutes. 		
ATTACHMENTS		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None 		
BUDGET IMPACT		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None. 		
ACTION ITEM		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • N/A. 		

Discussion:

- The functional classification update will include urban area boundaries expansion recently approved.
- Major corridors emphasize mobility; smaller corridors are for access.
- Covered corridor classifications – Interstate, Freeways, Principal Arterial, Minor Arterial, Major Collector, Minor Collector and Local Roads.
- Provided a statewide map showing road classifications.
- Provided a timeline and process for updating functional classification. Requests must come from the jurisdiction that owns the roadway, and must include public review.
- Functional Classification Change Form provided in the presentation including forms 1 and 2 (page 8 & 9); each and any road must include start and end points.
- Page 10 provides resource links.
- Page 11 provides contact information
- Robert Kuipers will forward the Functional Classification presentation to RTPO members after today’s meeting.

Item #	Item	Presenter
VI.	Present: 2025 NM Transportation Project Fund proposed projects	Robert Kuipers, NWRTPO
BACKGROUND		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Why? These are the new TPF projects proposed for our NWRTPO region for 2025 • Purpose. To discuss and make sure our members are aware that most of these projects are proposed to be executed in FFY 2025. • Discussion/Finalization. Make sure our members are prepared to execute these projects when approved to commence in 2025. 		
CURRENT WORK		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be aware of these forthcoming projects after approval for funding. 		
ANTICIPATED WORK		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preparation to execute the TPF projects approved for funding in 2025. 		
ATTACHMENTS		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Listing of proposed 2025 TPF projects. 		
BUDGET IMPACT		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None. 		
CTION ITEM		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • N/A. 		

Discussion:

Robert Kuipers provided a brief overview of the Transportation Project Fund applications that were submitted to NMDOT for consideration. Mr. Kuipers indicated that the following entities had the following number of projects submitted to NMDOT:

- Grants (1)
- Acoma (1)
- Cibola County (1)
- Village of Milan (2)
- McKinley (1)
- Gallup (3)
- Whiterock Navajo Chapter (1)
- Smith Lake Navajo Chapter (2)

Total NWRTPO Transportation Project Fund request = \$21,165,708

Item #	Item	Presenter
VII.	Present: 2 nd & 3 rd Quarter Report Achievements January - May	Robert Kuipers, NWRTPPO
BACKGROUND		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Why? To inform and make our RTPO members aware of significant achievements from the 2nd Quarter (January – March) and the current quarter (April – May). These will also be presented tomorrow (June 13) for the statewide RTPO’s Roundtable meeting. • Purpose. Make our RTPO members aware of significant achievements in the past and present quarter. • Discussion/Finalization. Keep our members informed on significant actions and achievements for the NWRTPPO and our regional members and governments. 		
CURRENT WORK		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Present items of significance for our region that RTPO members have accomplished in the past and present quarters. 		
ANTICIPATED WORK		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to support the NWRTPPO to coordinate guidance and funding for multimodal transportation development in our region. 		
ATTACHMENTS		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Documentation of significant achievements for our region’s multimodal transportation. 		
BUDGET IMPACT		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None. 		
ACTION ITEM		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • N/A. 		

Discussion:

- Completed our RTPO annual Quality Assurance Review with Sullivan Moore of NMDOT, with no findings and a positive report.
- Reminded our RTPO members that NWRTPPO Orientation presentations are due this year (2024) especially for newly elected officials. Received a request and agreed to present this orientation on behalf of Village of Milan, at their June 20 Council meeting.
- Working with our COG team to update our nationally designated Trail of the Ancients Scenic Byway Corridor Management Plan, which runs thru McKinley, Cibola and San Juan Counties, and is part of a four state scenic byway – nationally designated in N.M., Colorado and Utah. Still waiting to get the Arizona TOA byway portion nationally designated. Also working to re-institute our TOA Byway Stewardship Council for the New Mexico portion of this four state byway. As a nationally designated byway, it brings major tourism funding to our region.
- Carrie House continues to build 200 miles of recreational trails in the Zuni Mountains of McKinley and Cibola Counties. As a result of the completed trails on the McKinley County side, we have hosted the national 24 hour mountain bike race finals on the McKinley trails three times, bringing in an average of 1.2 to 1.3 million dollars to the Gallup area three times in the past for food, gas, lodging and general shopping.
- Received and filed Bridge Repair / Replace resolutions from our regional Navajo Chapters in New Mexico, that will help Navajo DOT become more competitive for state & federal bridge funding. This includes a total of 35 bridges on behalf of 12 Navajo Chapters. (Baca, Bread Springs, Red Rock, Mexican Springs, Rock Springs, Church Rock, Manuelito, Pinedale, Chichiltah, Iyanbito, Twin Lakes, and Whitehorse.

- 2025 Transportation Project Fund applications: Submitted a total of eleven (11) projects totaling \$21,154,325 (\$20,076,609 from DOT, and \$1,077,716 for 5% local match), on behalf of City of Grants, Pueblo of Acoma, Cibola County, Village of Milan, McKinley County, City of Gallup, Navajo Whiterock Chapter and Smith Lake Chapter.
- Completed our 2024 RTIPR with a total of \$402,711,459 including projects for Roads, Bridges, Planning, TAP, RTP, FLAP, TPF and Transit. Interestingly this year, nothing for CMAQ or HSIP.

Item #	Item	Presenter
VIII.	Present: Progress with 2024 RTIPR Projects	Robert Kuipers, NWRTPO

BACKGROUND
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Why? To share information on what our priority projects are, and if funded how they are moving forward. • Purpose. General awareness of our regional priority projects. • Discussion/Finalization. Members are invited to share information on progress with their top priority projects.

CURRENT WORK
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mutual awareness of priority projects moving forward.

ANTICIPATED WORK
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to mutually support each-other for execution of priority multimodal transportation projects within our region.

ATTACHMENTS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2024 RTIPR

BUDGET IMPACT
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None.

ACTION ITEM
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • N/A.

Discussion:

Mr. Kuipers noted that no projects have commenced as of yet with funding related to our 2024 RTIPR. Members are seeking funds for projects included within the 2024 RTIPR. Mr. Kuipers also noted that the RTPO is awaiting decision on 3 PFFs from NMDOT District 6. These include projects from the City of Gallup. Mr. Kuipers indicated that if approved, those projects will be added to the RTIPR.

Item #	Item	Presenter
IX.	Reports, Updates, Announcements	Robert Kuipers
BACKGROUND		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Why? Update RTPO members on news, training, funding, and other items of special interest • Purpose. Keep RTPO members up to date on critical information from NWRTPO and NMDOT sources 		
Informational Items		
Regional News & Updates <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RTPO Monthly Report – May, 2024; Staff hours report thru May, 2024; Expenditure Report thru April, 2024; • 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: Sullivan Moore • Tribal Liaison: Ron Shutiva • District 6: Michael Neely / Bill Santiago / Kyle Slim; District 5: James Mexia / Amanda Nino 		
News, Training & Funding Opportunities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>FHWA Planning, Environment & Realty Reports</u>: none to date • <u>NMDOT Govt. to Govt. Update</u>: 2/26/24 • <u>AASHTO Publications</u>: none to date • <u>NMDOT / UNM-LTAP</u>: Provides a very robust collection of training opportunities – staff forward news to members as it comes out from this source – reference at ltap.unm.edu – Online courses notice forwarded to members as LTAP emails come in. • <u>Title VI Training</u> is available to MPO’s and RTPO’s from Lisa Neie – Civil Rights Manager for FHWA New Mexico. These trainings can be customized to address member concerns and issues for their regions, if provided to her in advance. • <u>Email Change Notice from NMDOT</u>: All NMDOT staff emails have changed from @state.nm.us to @dot.nm.gov • <u>NMDOT T/LPA Mandatory Training and Certification</u>: Sent to members 9/19/23, follow up on 10/17/23 and 10/26/23 Members who do not take this training will not qualify for federal funding!!! • <u>T/LPA Certification Online Extensions</u>: Member Govt.s are still able to set up this training by contacting NMDOT – Sullivan.moore@dot.nm.gov • <u>2024 New Mexico Transportation Annual Report</u>: 5/8/24 • <u>Human Environment Digest</u>: 5/9/24 • <u>Human Resource Presentation Skills</u>: 5/14/24 • <u>Grant Opportunities email</u>: 5/14/24, 5/29/24 • <u>New Mexico Grant Application Match Fund</u>: 5/22/24 • <u>Reminder for (new) Elected Leaders RTPO Orientation</u>: 5/29/24 		

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.

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

Pueblo of Acoma

- **TLPA Training – Gallup August 16 – 17:** Raymond Concho and Dennis Felipe attended this mandatory training in Gallup on behalf of the Pueblo of Acoma. Pueblo of Acoma is updating their ICIP at this time and their economic development plan is at 95% completion.
- **MESA HILL BRIDGE PROJECT:** The project PS&E and EA are complete. The Pueblo is working towards finalizing the cultural clearances and right-of-way with the BIA. In addition, finalizing the land status with Tribal Leadership. Upon completion of pending items, the Pueblo will apply for Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) Tribal Transportation Program (TTP) Bridge Program Funds. The Pueblo plans to utilize the On-Call Engineering Services to complete the planning and design phase to move forward with construction. The Pueblo has completed Preliminary Engineering for this project and currently has a contractor working to get design up to date. The Federal Highway Admin. Bridge Program will fund design. The Pueblo is working on archaeological clearances and has been approved for full funding. The Pueblo is updating the environmental assessment, implementing a data recovery plan, and performing value engineering on design plans. Preparing RFP for the data recovery implementation. Upon reception of funding the **Pueblo will use WH Pacific contractor for construction. Acoma was awarded \$3.25 million for Mesa Hill Bridge project! WH Pacific is updating design plans and environment assessment. A contract was awarded to the N.M. Office of Archeological Services to implement the data recovery plan.**
- **ON-CALL ENGINEERING SERVICES:** Contract approval in progress – will engage WH Pacific, Wilson & Co. and Sauder Miller engineering firms.
- **EXTEND TRANSIT SERVICES:** The Pueblo is now approved to coordinate transit with Laguna. No progress recently.
- **LGRF:** The Pueblo has executed an extension for Local Govt. Road Fund projects.
- **SP30 – PUEBLO ROAD MAINTENANCE:** LGRF Cooperative Agreement and Tribal Resolution have been signed by Pueblo leadership and sent to Bill Santiago at DOT District 6. Acoma continues to move forward with the project which has completed planning & design; the Pueblo has received a grant extension for SP30 maintenance. Notice to proceed will be issued to Wilson & Co. FY22 LGRF Cooperative Agreement and Tribal Supporting Resolution signed by Pueblo leadership has been sent to Bill Santiago of NMDOT Dist. 6. NMDOT approved extension to Dec. 2024. **The project has now been completed by Acoma Public Works and Utility Authority. Close out documents will be submitted to the NMDOT District 6 Office.**
- **SP38 HAAK’U ROAD PLANNING & DESIGN (PS&E):** Project consists of a 12.3-mile-long corridor to Acoma’s original Village at the mesa. Project funded for \$2,900,000 for planning and design improvements from the FY2023 NM Transportation Project Fund (TPF). The TPF Cooperative Agreement finalized. Finalizing contract to issue NTP for fund issuance from NMDOT. The Pueblo awarded WH Pacific Engineering for design of this corridor and this project is in progress- **now at 35%. The 35 % design plan documents were reviewed on June 5, 2024. Public meetings were conducted and a third public meeting is scheduled for July, 2024. The Pueblo will apply for 2024 RAISE funding for phase 1 at \$24 million; total cost - \$71 million. The Pueblo hopes to complete the project by December, 2024.**
- **M123 BRIDGE (SAN FIDEL CREEK BRIDGE ON SP34 FATIMA HILL ROAD) REPAIR/REPLACEMENT:** Project funded \$137,049 for design through FHWA Tribal Transportation Program Bridge Program Funding. To move forward using on-call services. **This project is currently in design. In progress with Souder Miller; scoping completed and Preliminary engineering report to be complete by the end of December.**
- **M124 BRIDGE (ACOMITA LAKE BRIDGE ON SP34 FATIMA HILL ROAD) REPAIR/REPLACEMENT:** Project funded \$380,000 for design through FHWA Tribal Transportation Program Bridge Program Funding. **In progress with Souder Miller & Associates – scoping completed; Preliminary engineering report to be complete by the end of December.**

- **SAFETY PROGRAM:** Awarded FHWA TTP Safety Program Funding of \$10,000 to update Transportation Safety Plan and \$475,000 for SP30 Pueblo Rd. East End (Between NM124 & I-40) Safety Re-Design. **Maps will be updated by WH Pacific.**
- **SP30 PUEBLO RD. (ENTIRE ROUTE I-40 WEST):** FHWA TTP funded \$475,000 for planning and design. Looking toward reconstruction of SP30 – Pueblo Road (10.6 miles). Project is now in design with TTP funds. **Kick off meeting was in the second week of January 2024 – contract is with Wilson & Co. Traffic Count and design now in progress.** Denied FY23 TPF funds. **The Pueblo is seeking funding for design and reconstruction for the 10.6 miles of SP30 Pueblo Road. Applications were denied for FY23 NMDOT TPF funds and 2024 NM Tribal Infrastructure Fund. A FY2025 NMDOT TPF application was submitted and is pending approval(?).**
- **Transportation Safety Plan:** Maps will be updated with WH Pacific; training manual is completed.
- **SKY CITY SCENIC BYWAY:** Pending Tribal Council resolution for Tribal byway designation.. May need help from the RTPO for the Corridor Management Plan.
- **FR4011P/SP35 SAN LORENZO ROAD:** Official notification to NMDOT Dist. 6 to discuss state-owned route drainage issues.
- **PROJECT BUNDLING:** Acoma would like to invite local, county and other tribal entities within the region to consider partnering for construction project funding, as bundling projects saves money, as Acoma has learned from the CMGC (Construction Management / General Contractor) funding.
- **ALTERNATIVE REPRESENTATIVES:** In process of selecting alternate representative.
- **LONG RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLAN:** 2022 Update Issued and posted on Acoma’s Community Development Office website; **project is now complete.**
- **ACOMA BUSINESS PARK:** Design 100% Complete. Construction UNFUNDED at an estimated \$35 million. A Broadband Network Operations Center will be designed and constructed on the Business Park.
- **NM124 EXTENSION TO NM117:** Project on hold. Design funded through the Transportation Project Fund. A meeting with NMDOT was conducted to determine the next steps.

Pueblo of Zuni

- **The Pueblo is working on drainage improvements along the NM53 corridor mp 15.5 to 19.5 – creating culverts and ponds.**
- **The Pueblo submitted an application to update their Transportation Safety Plan; and was awarded funding to update their Tribal Transportation Safety Plan in 2022; and conduct an RSA on NM53 from mp 13.5 to 18. Notice of award was received Feb. 7.**
- **NMDOT Contract #CN6101091 – Meridian Contracting working on drainage issues and retention ponds; this includes installing concrete box culverts. Asphalt paving will continue when weather permits.**
- **The Pueblo Transportation Dept. will be issuing two RFP’s in the near future. One is to plan, design and construct a new transportation facility to include Ashiwi Transit; and the other is for planning, design and reconstruction of BIA Route 5 – Nutria Road.**
- **Like many other governments, the Pueblo is having trouble finding contractors.**
- **The Pueblo is looking for reconstruction for Sandy Springs Road.**
- **Zuni purchased a dump truck with FHWA Coronavirus funds.**
- **Royce is the Airport Manager. Receipt of FAA grant agreement for developing an Airport Master Plan for the Andrew Othole Memorial (AOM) Airport. The master plan was developed by the Pueblo’s airport consultant – Armstrong Consultant’s, Inc.**
- **The pedestrian trail project plan is now 100% complete – will move forward for FHWA approval.**
- **The Pueblo has worked with Ashiwi Transit and Gallup Express to extend transit service to the Ramah Navajo area.**

McKinley County

- **CR-19 improvements. CR19 – 18.6 miles of chip-sealing is now complete and striping is finished making this project almost complete; just 7 miles of fencing to go.**
- **The County’s Local Government Road Fund projects for FFY2021 are now complete; working on certifications for 2022 projects at this time. LGRF Manuelito Canyon road alignment is now complete.**
- **The County Road Dept. has issued Purchase orders for a bridge on CR15 and a bridge on CR43; these bridges are now at 60% to completion.**
- **CR27, CR61 and CR5 have completed chipseal.**
- **The County is working on design for 10 bridges. These are 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 Gamarco with US491, which leads to the developing Energy Logistics Park (and potential Inland Port). This project is now complete! Industrial Park construction has begun. Now working on Mentmore road extension.**
- **The County has finished chip sealing Pine Haven road; will use remaining funds to finish improvements on Allison road.**
- **Cousins Road and CR-1 will move into phase 2 repairs; Cousins road will get 4 miles of chip seal. CR-1 has completed 3 miles of chip-seal. Superman Canyon Road (CR43) and Old Church Rock Mine Bridge (CR15) are next projects on the list. The County Road Dept. has issued purchase orders for a bridge on CR15 and a bridge on CR43. Church Rock Mine Bridge is getting started at this time. Kit Carson Bridge is in construction. The 2023 Transportation Project Fund has funded another Superman Canyon road – CR43 bridge at \$2,716,334.00. Superman Canyon Bridge is now complete.**
- **The County is realigning CR5 – Manuelito Canyon road – LGRF funds; has applied 4 miles of chip seal on CR-6. The alignment for this road is now complete.**
- **Ongoing county-wide maintenance including blading, patching potholes, cleaning culverts, repairing bridges / guardrails, etc. The County has completed the ZMTP Milk Ranch Trail Head.**

Gallup

- **Gallup Mainstreet Project – Coal Avenue Commons: The City has been funded for phase 2 from the NM Transportation Project Fund – and has been awarded \$3,500,000 from this fund to complete this project. The city commenced construction on May 2, starting with alley improvements. Intersection of Coal Ave. and 2nd Street is now complete with additional drainage structure. **Phase 2 construction is now complete and working on close out paperwork. First to Second street is now complete. Gallup was awarded for best practice for the Coal Avenue project at the Infrastructure Conference in Las Cruces. Phase III construction is ongoing; phase IV awarded TPF funding and grant was accepted by City Council – waiting on executed grant agreement.****
- **East Nizhoni and West Aztec improvements are currently in design phase – East Nizhoni received news from NMDOT Dist. 6 that the City was awarded MAP funding for East Nizhoni Ave - \$900,000. Phase 2 Nizhoni Blvd. and College Drive intersection construction began on 10/17/22 and is now complete and in close-out. East Nizhoni was also awarded \$350,000 from the NM FFY2023 Transportation Project Fund. **East Nizhoni phase 3 construction is ongoing. A Transportation Project Fund from NMDOT application for phase 4 was submitted on May 31, 2023 and has been funded at \$2 million, and approved by the City Council. Also awarded FY25 Municipal Arterial Project Funding. Aztec Ave. recently experienced some water damage, now under repair.****
- **West Aztec drainage legislative grant has been executed and engineering services have been awarded to begin design; notice of obligation has been submitted and approved by the state. **Property owner has submitted proposal to City for utility easement – design is now ongoing.****

- **Local Govt. Road Fund funded projects have completed mill and overlay for planned roads; received word from NMDOT Dist. 6 that the City was awarded funds for our next project. Working on close out paperwork and completed Coop letter of intent for 2023. Public Works is now working on the Coop mill and overlay project and these projects were completed in July for Bradley, Silva, Maloney and Adams streets.**
- The City has submitted a Letter of Intent for Coop funding.
- **West Logan CDBG street repairs are being advertised.** Working on paperwork for DFA approval. An extension request was sent to DFA; construction commenced on May 1, 2023 and is now in completion. Contractor is working on punch list items. **Now working on close out.**
- **2nd and 3rd Street pedestrian safety improvements RFP for design was awarded, along with 2nd and 3rd Street Quiet Zone awarded for design – this project is ongoing.**
- **CDBG RFP was awarded – working on paperwork for DFA approval. An Extension Request was sent to DFA; construction commenced on May 1, 2023 and is ongoing. Final walk-thru is scheduled for October 16.**
- **Federal Aviation Admin. application for \$5 million has been submitted for our airport taxi-way and connectors. The City has been awarded and construction began on April 11, 2022. Construction is now complete and project in close out.**
- **Downtown Alleyway Coal phase 2 between 2nd and 3rd street – construction & construction management were awarded by City Council. Contractor started work on 1/29/24 and project is ongoing. Final walk-through completed on 4/24/24.**
- **Airport Runway – anticipate more construction for July – August, 2024; airport terminal building is almost complete.**
- **LGRF Mill & Overlay – COOP Streets only: 5/21/24 - Began milling Camino Ranchero plus cul-de-sac and Camino Del Sol; 5/28 – paved Camino Ranchero; 6/11 paved Camino Del Sol**
- **Previous Planning:**
 - **District 1:**
 - Maloney Ave. from McKinley Drive to High Street
 - West Adams Ave. from Strong Drive to west dead end
 - **District 2:**
 - Canyon de Chelly Lane from Ciniza Drive to cul-de-sac
 - McBride Circle from Jay Street to cul-de-sac
 - Marcella Circle
 - Rocky View Circle
 - **District 3:**
 - Piano Ave from Caesar Drive to westside concrete pan
 - Piano Ave from eastside concrete pan to Martinelli Drive
 - **District 4:**
 - Bradley Street from Aztec Ave to US Highway 66 (NM118)
 - Silva Street from North Hwy 491 to dead end

Milan

- **Airport Road phase 1 is complete and can be traveled on now. Airport road phase 2 and 3 bids are out and due back on January 9 for bridge replacement and road repairs – funding sources include Water Trust Board, TPF and MAP.**
- There has been some flooding but no major problems. Sewer system improvements are in design including a lift station via the Clean Water State Revolving Fund. Swimming pool and water system improvements are ongoing to include well houses improvements and upgrading storage tanks.
- **Working on a new lift station on Stanley Drive, and Stanley Bridge is a TPF project with \$3 million funded; currently waiting – Wilson & Co has a task order to start the design process.**

- **Mill Road has been awarded \$2.7 million in EDA funding and requesting \$1 million more from CDC.**
- **Cottonwood road is at 90% design, and seeking funding for this project.**
- **Working toward street improvements for Stanley, Willow/Pinon Drive, Elkins Road, Motel Drive and Tiejien Street. Supporting a county wide safety plan.**
- Various ongoing lighting projects
- Need to address repair for NM605 bridge
- Need to address a Mill Road and Rail crossing

Ramah

- **Working to complete transportation and other projects right now and prep. for Winter.**
- **Hard to find contractors therefore most projects are on hold at this time – other than routine maintenance.**
- **Ramah is looking to draft an agreement with Cibola County for road maintenance.**
- **Ramah has submitted applications to repair / replace two bridges.**
- **Ramah continues work on road maintenance, cattle guards, blading dirt roads, potholes, fencing and areas needing re-construction.**
- **Ramah Navajo received \$21,424,232 (!) to improve 6.5 miles of BIA Rt. 125, including bike and ped infrastructure!**
- 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.
- **Ramah Navajo is updating their Long Range Transportation Plan at this time, and in the process of prioritizing projects. Public meeting took place January 3 . Ramah is also working on Administrative Policies and Procedures.**
- **BIA 175 is the next new project for Ramah Navajo – seeking funding at this time.**
- **Working on signage for BIA 125 and 122.**
- **Ramah has applied to the MEGA grant for improvements to BIA 125 mp. 18 – 26**
- **Ramah received a safety grant for \$300,000 which will help supply new guard rails.**
- **Looking to reconstruct BIA 145 and BIA 195**
- Completed PFF's for NM53 & BIA 125 intersection and Pine Hill school pedestrian ADA improvements.
- Some weather related road maintenance and repair going on at this time.
- **Ramah is developing RSA's for ten (10) intersections for NM53 and other tribal roads.**
- Dorothy and Tom are acclimating with ongoing Ramah transportation projects at this time and updating the Ramah Long Range Transportation Plan, completing an annual report, and looking for training opportunities.
- Acting executive director for Ramah Navajo Chapter's 638 Grants & Contract Programs issued a memorandum for employees to return back to work and follow CDC guidelines within each Chapter program RNDOT is back in operation and continues to maintain roadways.
- BIA Projects Update:
 - BIA 125 mp 18 – 24.6 – received approved design exception report for this project from FHWA and will move to finalize the project. BIA 125 MP 0 – 4.4 received approval from NNHPO on the updated Cultural Report document and Categorical Exclusion. Awaiting ROW documents for BIA 195 in Ramah Band Land to RN Realty Office. BIA 113 and 145 received final report and will review final documents with tribal officials
 - BIA 195: submitted ROW documents to RN Realty Office; **more focus on this road going forward.**
 - BIA 145 and BIA 113: Received draft report for BIA 145 and BIA 113. **More focus on BIA 145 going forward.**

- RNDOT Transportation Technician is vacant and will advertise for the position.
- Submitted grant applications for the NOFO on Tribal Transportation Program Safety Funds.
- BIA 125 striping project is complete; **BIA 125 mp 0-4 and mp12 – 24.6 are now construction ready.**
- NMDOT LGRF received all certifications and submitted a letter of disbursement. Awaiting on contractor to return signed Notice of Award for BIA 125 striping project.
- Cancelled Transportation Committee Meetings until COVID-19 Restrictions are lifted.
- Submitted road signs replacement maintenance project for 2021 LGRF cycle.
- NMDOT LGRF received some certifications and will coordinate with Utility providers. Received ROW certification and submitted letter requesting disbursement.
- Assisting with RN Community Development Department for the Navajo Nation Rural Addressing Project.
- Ongoing general maintenance for area roads, cattle guards and signage, blading and shaping, potholes and base course patching (incl. school bus routes). Cleaning and replacing roadway signs. Field fence repairs, post replacements and gate repairs.
- **Ramah Navajo has submitted a BUILD Grant application.**

Cibola County

- Cibola County has hired a new Road Superintendent by the name of Ed Salazar.
- The County is doing “blade and shape” maintenance on 84.7 miles of 14 County Roads; and a variety of other maintenance (cattle guards / culverts / sign repair / tree trimming & weed control / mowing / pot-hole patching / and minor road repairs) for 24 county roads.
- **The county has submitted documents for disbursement of the FY23 Co-Op funding. Projects will start in April. Working on clearances for FY24 Co-Op funding and letters of intent for FY25 Co-Op funding.**
- **The County has completed an emergency bypass at this time for the CR-5 Moquino bridge, and is awaiting TPF 2023 funding to repair the bridge in the future.**
- **The county continues undertaking flood damage repairs**
- **The county is working on chip sealing a variety of roads at this time.**
- **The County has commenced development of the Zuni Mountains Quartz Hill Trail.**
- ZMTP RTP trail project is funded for FFY2020 construction – working with McKinley County for trails development beginning with the Quartz Hill Trail Head. Construction will likely not proceed until FFY2021 Spring & Summer for the Cibola portion of the Zuni Mountain Recreational Trails. **Cibola County has now been cleared to be the fiscal agent for this project and will no longer need McKinley County’s assistance; trail development and construction is commencing.** Cibola, COG and NMDOT staff had a virtual internal planning meeting on Jan. 19 at 9am with Arnold from the Forest Service to discuss updated scope of work for this project. **The County has commenced work on the Trail Head project and has submitted an extension request to JoAnn Garcia at NMDOT.**
- Cibola County has submitted an RFP due March 23 for a new public safety building, and will conduct a pre-proposal meeting; six (6) construction firms have responded thus far.
- CR-18B and CR1 road / bridge projects are current priorities. CR-18B awarded LGTPF funding – LGTPF contract is complete and submitted. CR18-B – RFP closed Friday – 12/4 and are currently reviewing applications – much appreciation to JoAnn Garcia from NMDOT District 6. Two firms responded to the RFP and the Cibola Commission determined the award at their January 14 meeting. **CR18-B has commenced ROW work; drainage work is ongoing and construction for CR18-B bridge to commence in August or Sept. ; CR-1 has issued an RFP to Engineering Firms.**
- **CR-57 A is having a culvert replaced, and the County is starting on cattle guard replacements, as well as removing sand on various roads related to wind conditions.**
- Ongoing County wide maintenance for County and Forest Roads.

Grants

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

Pueblo of Laguna

- **Anne Oandasan is now the primary representative for Laguna; and Star Cheremiah is the secondary rep.**
- **Major personnel transitions are ongoing.**
- **Laguna is looking to complete projects right now with a lot of turn-over pressure. This includes bike and pedestrian and roadway projects. The Pueblo is also looking to update striping on area roadways.**
- **The Pueblo remains under COVID restrictions, and is looking for a transportation specialist.**
- **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 RTPPO staff that the Pueblo has six official villages – not seven – staff will execute this correction going forward.
- **The Pueblo is consulting with the MRRTPO for Laguna Pueblo lands within their jurisdiction.**
- **The Pueblo is constructing a new fire station for Paraje Village – including L22 Casa Blanca Road & I-40 connections. The Pueblo is also addressing pot-holes and road improvements for L22 Casa Blanca Road with design services from Wilson & Co.**
- 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 RTPPO or DOT with analyzing crash data. The Pueblo has a number of State Routes, where high speeds impact upon more fatal crashes.
- NM124 Bike and Pedestrian Trail – Paraje to the Kawaika Center project is complete – working with NMDOT for close out.
- NM124 Bike and Pedestrian Trail Encinal Road to State Road 279 is complete and in close out.
- NM124 Rio San Jose to Roundabout bike & ped path: Design is complete. PS&E checklist is complete – project planned to be let February – March, 2021. **NM 124 design is complete, anticipating construction in Spring of 2022.**
- L26 Rainfall Road from Cubero Wash to Seama bridge M108: **Construction has been completed**, including a bike & ped. trail. Final audits in progress **and project is in close-out.**

- **M137 bridge at Laguna Subdivision: Construction complete and project in close out with BIA.**
- **Mill, Overlay, Striping & Enhancement Projects: Construction is complete for L503 – Veterans Memorial Road, L200 Postal Postal Road and L245 Raindrop Road. The Pueblo is developing the next phase on four BIA routes: LGRF/BIA Road Maintenance Striping Projects – phase 2 & 3: Phase 2 – L500 Mountain Ash Loop and L500 Central Park Road; Phase 3 – L540 Veterans Memorial Road and L200 Elizabeth Bender Road. No bids were received so the Pueblo is working with NMDOT to sole-source these projects or they will lose funding by the end of 2023.**
- **Local Govt. Road Fund: projects will go out for construction bids soon.**
- **LGRF / BIA Road Maintenance Mill, Overlay & Striping Projects: Phase 2 & 3: Phase 2 – the Pueblo is working on the next phase for four BIA routes: phase 2 for L500 Mountain Ash Loop and Central Park roads. Phase 3 for L540 – Veterans Memorial Road and L200 Elizabeth Bender Road. Contract amendments submitted and received. Local Govt. Road Fund and trail projects to commence soon.**
- **NM 124 Roundabout: The repairs to the roundabout are being coordinated by NMDOT, no start date has been determined. NM124 Road Diet has received an extension and is in final design for Rio San Jose to the Roundabout (6100764 project control no.) – this includes a bike and pedestrian addition.**
- **NM124 to L22 Bike & Pedestrian Trail: Pueblo is under contract with Universal Constructors for completion of this project – bids are due September, 2023.**
- **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! Contract is extended to December 31, 2023. Pueblo will develop a first draft MOU for review and approval by NMDOT and BIA.**
- **L26 Deer Dancer Road: at 100% design, working on ROW amendments and E.A.**
- **L243 Acorn Road design: completed 100% design and PS&E review from the BIA. Construction to begin by the end of 2023.**
- **M154 Paguete Wash Bridge: PER is complete – design phase has commenced with Horrocks Engineering and is currently at 60%.**
- **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 and almost at 100%. PER report is now in progress to include ROW review. Additional work to address drainage and ROW for Blue Star Loop. Bluejay Road is ready for construction bid process.**
- **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

- **New Navajo Nation Leadership in Administrative and Legislative branches. Garrett Silversmith will remain in charge of NDOT.**
- **NDOT has completed \$170 million in projects in the past seven (7) years.**
- **NDOT will be meeting with the Hopi leaders on mutual road projects sometime soon.**
- **Navajo DOT is updating their Long Range Transportation Plan at this time.**
- **Local Govt. Road Fund projects will commence implementation soon for both Eastern and Northern Navajo. Priscilla Lee – NDOT is working on extensions for FFY2019 projects. 2018 projects are complete at this time.**
- **Northern and Eastern – currently updating regional road routes to present on Feb. 22 to the Navajo Council. Also updating Chapters on BIA Road Inventory to help fund 15 mile regional routes maintenance.**
- **NDOT has completed 1st Quarter Report; working with chapters for projects.**

Navajo Nation – Eastern Navajo

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

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

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

New Mexico Department of Transportation Reports <i>(significant news only)</i>	RTPO Liaison (Sullivan Moore) Tribal Liaison (Ron Shutiva) District 5 (James Mexia, Amanda Nino) District 6 (Michael Neely, Bill Santiago, Kyle Slim)
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Multimodal Planning & Programs Bureau – Sullivan Moore

- Sullivan Moore joined NMDOT’s Multimodal Planning and Programs Bureau as a Govt to Govt Planning Liaison on August 21. He is now the primary liaison assigned to NWRTPO as Neala Krueger has resigned
- Sullivan Moore is the Govt to Govt Planning Liaison assigned to NWRTPO. Sullivan can be reached at Sullivan.Moore@dot.nm.gov or 505-467-9392.
- On Friday 9/29, Sullivan Moore sent NWRTPO a Notice to Proceed (NTP) for FFY24 funding for their Regional Work Program.
- **Freight Advisory Committee meeting on March 26:** This will present an analysis of the recently completed Truck Parking Survey and look at trends around the state. If you have not received an invitation and you would like to attend, please reach out to Nathan Wagliardo, Freight Planner at Nathan.wagliardo@dot.nm.gov. NMDOT Truck Parking Geographic Survey and Analysis Project has developed a simple geographic survey tool to help ID truck parking locations where truck parking may be needed in New Mexico. The Program manager for this project is Joe Moriarty. We would appreciate help in IDing undesignated truck parking, new and forthcoming truck parking and where truck parking is needed. Use the following link:
<https://experience.arcgis.com/experience/a019ee64705b498281ef8bd5c60226ca/page/Page/>
- **New T/LPA Certification in-person trainings:** will take place in Albuquerque July 17 and 18; for more questions contact Danny Sandoval at danny.sandoval@dot.nm.us .
- **NOFO:** National Park Foundation, and National Park Service’s “Enhancing and Protecting America’s Rivers and Trails” RFP.
 - Focus on collaborative conservation, ecosystem resiliency and stewardship, enhancing visitor experience, and future-proofing rivers and trails.
 - Open to NPS entities and partners who administer, manage, and support national scenic trails, national historic trails, national recreational trails, and wild and scenic rivers.
 - Applications are due by July 15 at 11:59 pm EST.
 - **For more information, please attend an informational call on 6/13 – tomorrow !! at 9am MT or on 6/18 at 1pm MT (Zoom Link)**
- **Route 66 Centennial Commission call for submissions for projects:** Rt. 66 turns 100 in 2026 and the commission is looking for projects in four priority areas: Commemorative & Publications / Infrastructure / Events & Celebrations / International & National Marketing. For further questions please visit their website at: [U.S. Route 66 Centennial Commission Official Website \(route66-centennial.com\)](http://U.S.Route66CentennialCommissionOfficialWebsite(route66-centennial.com)), or contact the commission at route66commission@gmail.com.
- **NOFO: Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) USDOT:** FFY24 is now open for applications. This program aims to help local and Tribal initiatives to prevent deaths and serious injuries. There are multiple deadlines depending on the type of grant. For Planning & Demonstration grants, there are three (3) deadlines: April 4, May 16, and August 29. For more information please visit this site: [Safe Streets and Roads for All \(SS4A\) Grant Program I US Department of Transportation](http://SafeStreetsandRoadsforAll(SS4A)GrantProgramIUSDepartmentofTransportation).
- There are once again in-person trainings for the Open Meetings Act and the Public Record Act. To request a training, please contact the NM Attorney General’s Office. The request form can be found at [Open Meetings Act – New Mexico Department of Justice \(nmdot.gov\)](http://OpenMeetingsAct-NewMexicoDepartmentofJustice(nmdot.gov)). Currently one is scheduled for 6/26 in Las Cruces.

NMDOT Tribal Liaison – Ron Shutiva

- **SW-TTAP (Tribal Transportation Assistance Program) will provide training March 12-14 at Twin Arrows.**
- Ron is trying to meet with new tribal legislators and engage with DOT District staff.
- Ron encourages RTPO members to apply for NMDOT Transportation Project Funding.
- **Ron reminds members to follow up on Transportation Project Fund and Capital Outlay.**
- **Ron appreciates DOT Dist. 6 work on the I-40 corridor study.**
- Reference Neala’s announcement around T/LPA Handbook training. Ron will push more opportunities for Tribes.
- There is concern around litter and trash along I-40 intersection within the Pueblo of Laguna area.
- A corridor study is under consideration for I-40 from Arizona to Albuquerque – this will include consideration toward developing three lanes for this highway in each direction, given the truck freight traffic. Virtual Public meeting took place April 25 at 6:00 pm. Ron will be following up with Tribal entities for recommendations.
- Ron continues to work on engaging tribes around state corridors and is seeking help from regional media.
- Justin Reese is the new Cabinet Secretary for NMDOT.
- There will be a session on I-40 improvements with NDOT.
- Ron recommends phasing projects due to increasing costs
- House Memorial 13 is executed for a study on the Ramah area Wolf Sanctuary Road for improvements.
- NM 118 drainage study request from Mark Freeland – Navajo Tribal Council.
- Iyanbito Chapter is requesting a bridge over the BNSF Rail Line. (Another consideration would be extending a paved road west to the Church Rock bridge – might cost less).
- **Ron is considering setting up quarterly tribal meetings with the DOT Districts, with consideration toward priority tribal projects.**
- **Ron reminds members to submit monthly reports for their Capital Outlay and Tribal Infrastructure projects.**
- **There are drainage concerns for Rt. 66 – adjacent to I-40 at the Ft. Wingate bridge.**
- Ron reminded members to pay attention to the “Buy America” guidelines. Our region did well for this round of TPF funds.
- Ron reminded members to stay on top of funding opportunities – with \$ billions forthcoming – remember to prepare for environmental requirements (which are time consuming) for this funding.
- Shiprock Bridge replacement is being sought by Rep. Charles-Newton and under consideration with the Feds and Daryl Bradley from NDOT. Shiprock Chapter supports this project (but not critical at this time).
- **Ron is now on the LTAP Board.**
- Hoping to push for NM64 projects and NM491 north of Shiprock projects; along with the Hogback rockslide mitigation on US491.
- An NM264 Corridor session is forthcoming for Yatahey to Window Rock.
- **Concern that the NDOT is not involved with the NM I-40 studies.**
- **There’s a new Indian Highway Safety Grant out from the BIA.**
- Reminding members to keep on top of deadlines for ICIP, TIF, and LGRF.
- **Transportation Project Fund: better to phase then have a shortfall on funding for proposed projects.**
- A national broadband project is establishing a broadband corridor along I-40, and will involve tribal discussion with Pueblos of Laguna and Acoma and Navajo Nation.
- **Ron is encouraging tribal members to pursue bridge funding.**
- **Ron reminds tribal members to pursue support and related letters of support from state and national legislators.**
- NM118 drainage analysis project is finally in progress as the Navajo Council is working on agreements with the local governments in the region of the study between Churchrock and Iyanbito; **need coordination with NDOT.**

- Ron reported on the NM118 drainage analysis that took place between the Iyanbito and Ft. Wingate I-40 intersections at previous meetings. Ron indicated he feels that NM118 drainage issues remain unresolved to this day (in spite of two studies!) and the Navajo Nation DOT remains non-responsive!

NMDOT District 5 – James Mexia, **Amanda Nino**

- **Local Govt. Road Fund proposals for the next round of funding are due by March 15! Requires a letter of intent, a cost estimate and a map location, Transportation Project Fund applications should be submitted by May 31, 2024.**
- WHPacific is being contracted for a study on needed road and intersection improvements on US 64 – MP 0 – 20 (which includes the Shiprock School Zone). This project will be divided into two phases funded separately and referencing the District 5 HSIP plan for 2021 including a) primary / major Chapter or community intersections from Shiprock to the Arizona border and b) the Shiprock School Zone.
- The NM371 and N36 intersection near Northern Edge Casino is at 60% design; need ROW clearance / easement from NDOT.
- D-5 staff are managing project proposals for the 2021 Local Government Road Fund, and have received awards from the DOT General Office in Santa Fe for the next fiscal year.
- **Work is pending for NDOT Capital Outlay and N.O.O. – Please contact DOT District 5 SOON!!! Remember that Capital Outlay requires monthly report updates. Amanda encouraged RTPO members to provide Capital Outlay (CPMS) updates or the funding can be reverted; and pay attention to Capital Outlay reauthorizations.**
- **D-5 is awaiting LGRF and MAP agreements. Time extensions for LGRF are due October 31 !!!**
- **Watch out for funding deadlines!**

NMDOT District 6 – Mike Neely, **Bill Santiago, Kyle Slim**

- **Submit TPF applications by May 31.**
- **Local Govt. Road Fund proposals for the next round of funding are due by March 15! Requires a letter of intent, a cost estimate and a map location. Only 6 applications so far!!**
- DOT 6 has five Capital Outlay project agreements with the Navajo Nation at this time.
- McKinley County has three LGRF projects ready for close-out.
- D-6 must receive project close out or amendment notices by December 31.
- Local Govt. Road Fund Call for Project proposals are due by March 15, 2024.
- Close out documents for LGRF and TPF have a May 31, 2024 deadline.
- NWRTPO members can use a resolution offered from DOT District 6 for Transportation Project Fund projects.
- **With a lot of local govt. turnover including RTPO members, staff training may be needed to bring new staff with transportation focus up to speed.**
- **Michael Neely indicated that Clayton Garner’s departure is now replaced with Mr. Kyle Slim.**
- **Bill reminded RTPO members that all NMDOT staff have new emails as: dot.nm.gov**
- Bill reminded that MAP and LGRF agreements are due by October 31 (!!) – amendments are due 60 days in advance! LGRF new agreements were sent out; match waiver requests are due by July 31 – packets must include supporting resolution. **Bill indicated that LGRF agreements got done on time.**
- **Interviews are underway to replace Clayton Garner who has left DOT Dist. 6.**
- **Local Govt. Road Fund** – as Stephanie from District 5 mentioned, the 5 certifications are also required before LGRF projects are considered construction ready. Keep District 6 informed on progress – the time is now critical to request an extension amendment as previously funded LGRF cycle is in close out! Extension requests are due by October 31 (including a resolution)! **The new LGRF call for projects has a March 15 deadline. Next cycle is coming soon!!**
- **Bill Santiago encourages RTPO members to pay attention to application deadlines around forthcoming funding. Also, be aware of staff changes at NDOT, NMDOT, and local governments.**

- The **FY2023 Transportation Project Fund applications must include a supporting resolution**. DOT District 6 has provided a template. Request a match waiver ASAP – due end of September. **For 2023 – 2024 TPF agreements – just waiting on Cibola County.**
- **Get signed agreements to DOT Dist. 6 soon, including supporting resolutions.**
- **Keep DOT District 6 staff informed on progress for the Transportation Project Fund. 5 certifications takes time – try to get these executed during this Winter season so you are construction ready in the Spring!!**
- **Bill reminded RTPO members that the MAP funding proposals will be due soon.**
- Mike Neely is on board with NMDOT District 6 to assist the RTPO’s participating in the District 6 region – include Mr. Neely on all communication.
- Mr. Clayton Garner will fill JoAnn Garcia’s former position at the District. Reminding members to remind others that traffic safety is important in construction areas.
- Lisa Vega is now the Director for DOT District 6, as Larry Maynard has retired.
- For Local Government Road Fund projects – the District needs certifications for all projects – many RTPO members are not following LGRF guidance for project development and are trying to close out projects without having reported progress to the DOT or following what the program requires – this could jeopardize funding.

Reminder: NMDOT will have a new email: staff member@dot.nm.gov.

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS & NEXT MEETING: No announcements – **next meeting July 10, 2024 – virtual meeting via Microsoft Teams.**

ADJOURNMENT (Raymond Concho called for adjournment at 11:45 am) Alicia Santiago – City of Gallup motioned; and Linda Cooke – Cibola County seconded for adjournment - motion carried by acclamation.

MEETING ACTIONS:

Staff:

- RTPO to reach out to RTPO members to seek nominations for Vice-Chair.
- RTPO to examine NM Match Fund and identify potential use to support transportation projects.
- RTPO to seek agenda for Transportation Commission Meeting to see if Transportation Project Fund decisions will be made.

MEMBERS:

- Members to compile written reports and send to the RTPO prior to the meeting for inclusion into meeting minutes.
- **NMDOT:** Remind Staff and RTPO Members of impending deadlines for various projects and deliverables.