

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

Wednesday October 09, 2019
10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
Shiprock Chapter
NM64, MP23 – Bldg. 5548, NM

ATTENDANCE:

Local & Tribal Governments:

Pueblo of Acoma	Vice Chair – Dave Deutsawe – absent; alternate Raymond Concho – present
Pueblo of Laguna	Gaylord Siow
Pueblo of Zuni	Royce Gchachu – absent
Navajo Nation	Eastern Navajo: Larry Joe Northern Navajo: Larry Joe
Ramah Navajo	Shane Lewis
Farmington MPO	Vacant at this time
City of Grants	Don Jaramillo - absent
City of Gallup	Stan Henderson, Alicia Santiago – absent
Village of Milan	Jack Moleres, Denise Baca – absent
Cibola County	Judy Horacek – absent, representative attending
McKinley County	Chair – Jeff Irving
San Juan County	Scott Martin, Nick Porell - absent

Technical Agencies:

Govt. to Govt. Liaison: **Neala Krueger**
DOT District 5: Steve Lopez - absent
DOT District 6: **JoAnn Garcia, Marticia Holliday**
DOT Tribal Liaison: Ron Shutiva - absent
DOT – Admin:

NWRTPO Administration:

Northwest Regional Planning Organization: **Robert Kuipers**

Guests:

- Elouise Johnson, Louise Gleason – Twin Lakes Chapter; Christine Sam, Richard Bowman – Mex. Springs Chapter; Julie Badonie – Tohatchi Chapter; Rhonda Herbert, Carissa Wood – Naschitti Chapter; Jerry Thomas Plng. Committee, Lloyd Begaye Veterans Org., Duane “Chili” Yazzie President – Shiprock Chapter; Margie Begay – Navajo DOT; Jeanette Backand – NMDOT

TOTAL ATTENDANCE: 5 Members, 1 alternate member, 3 NMDOT, 1 RTPO Staff, 12 guests – TOTAL: 22

- I. **Call to Order and Introductions:**.....Jeff Irving – RTPO Chair
 - Mr. Irving called the meeting to order at 10:20 am, welcomed those in attendance, and proceeded with introductions and approval of agenda and minutes. The meeting was hosted by Northern Navajo and Shiprock Chapter, with special thanks for coffee, snacks and lunch provided.
- II. **Review & Approval of Agenda:**.....Jeff Irving – RTPO Chair
 - Motion to Approve: Under lack of quorum Jeff Irving covered the agenda; all in favor, none opposed.
- III. **Approval and Review of Minutes for 8/14/19 meeting:**.....Jeff Irving – RTPO Chair
 - Motion to Approve: Under lack of quorum Jeff Irving covered the agenda, all in favor, none opposed.

ACTION ITEMS: none this meeting

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

IV. Annual Member Survey.....Robert Kuipers

BACKGROUND
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Why? On an annual basis the NWRTPO conducts a survey to gauge the quality of program services and consider new priorities going forward • Purpose. Staff seek to refine and improve RTPO management for local government transportation services and infrastructure development along with supporting cross-jurisdictional collaboration in the NWRTPO three county / four tribe region • Discussion/Finalization. Members will be provided the survey via hard copy and survey monkey
CURRENT WORK
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide survey options so members can complete and submit no later than 9/30/19
ANTICIPATED WORK
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff will summarize survey results and provide back to members and DOT staff in October
ATTACHMENTS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FFY2019 Member Survey Form
BUDGET IMPACT
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None.
ACTION ITEM
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • N/A. Based on member feedback, staff will consider and develop recommendations for FFY2020

Discussion: RTPO staff provided a summary of annual survey responses from 8 members who responded via Survey Monkey, and 2 members who responded directly - out of 14 members / alt. members who regularly attended meetings. This was one of the best member response ratios we've had in a while.

V. LGTPF Funding Awards Process & Schedule:.....Robert Kuipers

BACKGROUND
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Why? Rural areas and small towns in New Mexico are suffering with deteriorating infrastructure, including transportation needs, with inadequate funding to even maintain what they have, never mind developing new infrastructure• Purpose. This fund was established by the state to address rural needs in the area of transportation, to compliment the Local Govt. Road Fund and help ensure that our small towns and rural areas can support local transportation infrastructure including that which does not qualify for federal funding.• Discussion/Finalization. NWRTPO members have pursued this opportunity with a short time frame.
CURRENT WORK
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• RTPO members have submitted applications to fund local projects thru this source. They can apply the funding to those cited in the RTIPR, or for other / new local roads or infrastructure, with justification for the local need. RTPO and DOT staff will clarify as needed the process going forward.
ANTICIPATED WORK
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• RTPO members have completed their applications, including PFF and PPF submissions, along with project maps, supporting resolutions or letters from their leadership. These have now been awarded funding based on NMDOT Transportation Commission selection at their August meeting. The statewide MPO's and RTPO's will await guidance for implementing projects as this funding rolls out.
ATTACHMENTS
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• LGTPF Awarded Projects from the Transportation Commission.
BUDGET IMPACT
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• This fund will add capacity for local priorities, including those that don't qualify for federal funding
ACTION ITEM
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• N/A.

Discussion:

- Staff announced that NMDOT will hold public hearings on the proposed rule making (governing the process and eligible recipients) for future LGTPF disbursements from the state. The hearing for our region will take place at NMDOT District 6 Auditorium on November 20, 1 – 3pm. All RTPO members with interest in LGTPF funding are encouraged to attend. This will allow the NMDOT to better standardize the process for future funding roll out from the state for LGTPF funding.
- There was considerable discussion on this year's anticipated roll out, with many Chapter recipients in the audience; it was announced that funding agreement contracts are now out to the local governments, and that the deadline to get them back to NMDOT would be the end of December, 2019.
- RTPO staff and DOT staff encouraged members to start considering and preparing for identification of projects for next year's LGTPF Call for Projects. In the future – project prioritization will be required of requesting local governments and the RTPO's.
- RTPO members need to "stay on their toes" to meet deadlines as this funding roles out. There were quite a number of guests at today's meeting from Navajo Chapters with interest in the roll out of this funding. Some extensive discussion followed around Chapters navigating the Navajo Nation 164 process, in order to get funding agreements signed and returned to NMDOT by or before the end of December.

VI. Reports, Updates & Announcements:

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 Report• RTPO Report• Member Reports
Member Special Reports: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• None submitted prior to the 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: Steve Lopez• DOT Planning Unit – Govt. to Govt. Weekly Updates
News, Training & Funding Opportunities: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <u>FHWA Office of Planning, Environment & Realty / Human Environment Digest</u>: Weeks of 8/11/19 and 8/25/19 – emailed to members as they came out• <u>Govt. to Govt. Updates</u>: Week of 8/20/19 – emailed to members as they came out.• <u>AASHTO Publications Updates</u>: Weeks of 8/15/19, 8/19/19, 8/23/19 and 8/30/19 – emailed as they came out.• Reference Section VIII – <u>Calendar and Announcements</u> for information on news, training and funding opportunities
New Business / Open Floor: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• None requested in advance of this meeting

A. RTPO Report – August 2019

- Reports attached for September RTPO report along with RWP Status Report. Of significance in the past month were the LGTPF Call for Projects which resulted in the provision of just over \$12 million in very equitably distributed amounts to most of our applying local governments within the RTPO and FMPO, with much appreciation to our new Transportation Commissioner Charles Lundstrom.
- FHWA Planning, Environment and Realty Reports, NMDOT Planning Govt. to Govt. Reports, and AASHTO Publication Updates are regularly forwarded to members as they come out.
- Shiprock Chapter President – Duane Yazzie provided a power-point presentation on the Shiprock region transportation priorities – especially bridge replacements.

B. Local Member Reports & Updates:

1. Pueblo of Acoma:
 - CMGC – 2 Projects: (*request for proposals for this new bundle of projects was published 2/10/19*)
 - CMGC2-1 Transportation Office Complex – Design is complete. The old EDA building has been abated and demolished, and a new building will commence construction by the end of this month.
 - CMGC2-2 SP130 Veterans Blvd. – Design is complete. Have held stakeholder meetings with schools, service providers and the ACL Hospital to inform them of the construction schedule and traffic control plan. Construction is now 47% complete with paving beginning in October and completion anticipated for November.
 - CMGC2- 3 Baseball Fields – Design is complete; waiting on prairie dog removal before Notice to Proceed is approved and issued – now anticipated to delay construction until the Spring of 2020.
 - CMGC2-4 FEMA 4352 Large Projects (39) – 14 projects have been completed; work began in the southern regions of the Pueblo. All projects to be completed by June, 2020.

- The Pueblo is continuing on the update to their Long-Range Transportation Plan; anticipate completion by September, 2019; WH Pacific will do traffic analysis counts to contribute to the Pueblo's LRTP. The Pueblo is also updating their Transportation Safety Plan at this time.
 - FEMA 4352: Small Projects: Recovery work has begun; the POA Public Works / Utility Authority was awarded the small projects (64) at \$2.2 million capital investment. 35 projects have been completed; 30 projects remain – anticipating completion by March, 2020.
 - LGRF: The Pueblo has received its fully executed Cooperative Agreement.
 - LGTPF: The Pueblo received its cooperative agreements on Oct. 8 for the Veterans Blvd. project; a supporting resolution of local sponsorship will be undertaken in the Oct. 25 Tribal Council.
 - Capital Outlay: The Pueblo signed and returned all IGA's to NM Indian Affairs Dept. Waiting on release of funding to commence the work; the Pueblo will obligate it's 5% by the end of October.
 - BIA: The USDOT announced a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking to establish a Tribal Transportation Self-governance Program; the Pueblo will read, review and provide comments. The Pueblo will send representatives to the first consultation meeting in Albuquerque scheduled for October 21.
2. Pueblo of Zuni – absent this meeting, previous report as follows:
- 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., and tomorrow is the kickoff for the Master Plan development.
 - August 21 the Pueblo will meet with NMDOT for NM53 MP 16-18 repairs.
 - The Pueblo continues to update its long-range transportation plan.
 - Road crews continue demolishing the Zuni Senior Citizen facility, which was flooded, leading to condemnation of the facility due to mold and an unsafe facility.
 - Contacted the LTAP representative for heavy equipment training to take place October 28 – November 1, 2019
 - The Pueblo held a meeting with Cibola County for County Road 32.
3. McKinley County:
- The County is finishing their Local Govt. Road Fund projects including the Thoreau Town Site project, for which the County has rented a milling machine. Certifications are complete for all LGRF projects and the County is requesting an extension till Spring – 2020 to complete maintenance construction.
 - TIF: \$1.2 million awarded for 10 miles of Deer Springs Road improvement – project on hold until Spring of 2020 for Mexican Springs Chapter. NDOT is contributing Fuel Excise Tax funding. Funding will allow drainage improvements, five miles of gravel base improvement and three miles of chip-seal.
 - TIF: \$1.3 million awarded for 18 miles of CR19 road improvement – multiple Eastern Navajo Chapters; collaborating with NDOT for road repairs and renovation. NDOT is contributing Fuel Excise Tax funding. Project has commenced last month – hope to complete graveling before this Winter sets in.
 - The County is working on roads stabilization in the McGaffey areas.
 - Jeff has a new cell phone and members / staff can contact him at 505-879-1159.
4. Gallup – absent this meeting, previous report as follows:
- Veterans Cemetery Access Road: Construction completed 5/17/19; Dedication and Opening Ceremony occurred May 27 - Memorial Day, with attendance from Federal, State, and local dignitaries. The project is in close out with the contractor.
 - NMDOT presented the final Gallup Transportation Safety Plan to the City Council on August 13; where it was approved and authorized for implementation.
 - The East Nizhoni Blvd. Reconstruction project was awarded LGTPF funding.
 - NM118 watershed study – awaiting close out with NMDOT
 - The city approved and signed agreements and resolutions were forwarded to DOT Dist. 6 for execution related to:
 - MAP / COOP – Coal Avenue Commons project – Wilson & Co. has design at 90%; fully executed agreement was issued on July 19, 2019
 - Legislative appropriation: Coal Ave. Commons project and West Aztec Ave. drainage. Fully executed agreements were issued on July 10 for both projects. Wilson & Co. working on design for Coal Ave.

- COOP Agreement for FFY2020 was forwarded to NMDOT Dist. 6 although the supporting resolution was issued after the 7/23 City Council meeting.
5. Milan: absent this meeting – previous report as follows:
- Motel Drive project continues, obtained extension through October 12 – some blacktop failure is under review
 - Coop funded project for drainage behind Allsups – design complete, project out to bid for construction soon
 - Sand Street bridge in design
 - Mirabol Park design complete – Village is pursuing funding for both projects
 - Haystack project – Utility and parking for Elkins Park is out to bid
6. Ramah:
- BIA Projects Update:
 - BIA 125 mp 18 – 24.6 – received 100% design plans – submitting concurrence letter to FHWA.
 - BIA 125 MP O – 4.4 Received approval for updated cultural resources report to include a drainage pond and submitted a resolution for easement withdrawal; awaiting approval from NNHPO on the updated cultural report clearances.
 - BIA 195: submitted ROW documents to RN Realty Office
 - BIA 145 and BIA 113; Study reports will be completed soon with proposed alignments and costs to develop design documents; awaiting draft reports for review.
 - Submitted a resolution for Coop Agreement for Local Govt. Road Fund support – legal review from tribal officials completed and sent to NMDOT Dist. 6 for their legal review.
 - ADA Compliance Study has been received and reviewed – awaiting final document.
 - Assisting with RN Community Dev. Dept. for the Navajo Nation Rural Addressing Project.
 - Zuni Transit meeting in Window Rock to extend public transit services to the Ramah Navajo area.
 - 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.
7. Cibola County: temporary alt. rep. present with no report – previous report as follows:
- ZMTP RTP trail project is funded for FFY2019 construction – may have to wait until Spring of 2020.
 - CR-18B and CR1 road / bridge projects are current priorities. CR-18B awarded LGTPF funding.
 - Still catching up on last year's funded projects with reduced staff, along with past weather delays.
 - 60% encumbered on Capital Outlay projects.
 - The County is obtaining some additional heavy equipment for transportation at this time.
8. Grants: Not present this meeting previous report as follows:
- Riverwalk trail: Design at 100% from WHPacific, Bids opened May 3 and the project was awarded in June – ground breaking ceremony scheduled for Monday – Sept. 16.
 - 1st Street phase 2 Washington to Adams underway, design at 90%, working on utility / environmental / ROW and Railroad certifications; out to bid and anticipating phase 3 construction for June – Sept., 2019.
 - First Street phase 3 – Adams to Roosevelt: design at 100%, construction starts next week; added a pond and lift station on Geis Street for drainage; allotted \$1.6 million from 2019 state legislature.
 - 2nd Street phase 4 (Washington to Adams) and phase 5 (Adams to Roosevelt): phase 4 funded at \$1,640,573 from DOT; phase 5 the City is committing around \$1 million. Design at 100%, all cert.s and PS&E complete in May, 2019 – construction is now halfway complete.
 - 2nd Street Channel and Shared Loop drainage / trail project will include two bridges to the High School; these box culverts are now complete.
9. Pueblo of Laguna:
- 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.

- NM 124 Trail- Paraje to the Kawaika Center, a bike/ped path: Construction is 100% complete. Contractor is completing final punch list items for project close out. NMDOT mistakenly assigned this project to Pueblo of Acoma, causing progress reporting problems to Laguna, which is now mitigated with an extension. The construction contractor is completing additional punch list items FHWA and NMDOT want addressed around safety issues to complete the project.
- NM 124 Trail- Encinal Road to St. Rd. 279, a bike/ped path: The Construction Management services firm selected is Bohannon Huston Inc. Contract documents for construction bidding is complete, project was advertised for bids and the Pueblo received concurrence from FHWA on 9/3 to accept its recommendation of award. Upon final approval from the Tribal Council, the contract can be awarded.
- L26 Rainfall Road from Cubero Wash to Seama bridge M108: Notice to proceed was issued to Sierra Valley Construction; construction now in progress at 15% complete.
- M137 bridge at Laguna to Laguna Subdivision: Construction is complete. Closing out project with the BIA.
- Mill, Overlay, Striping & Enhancements Project: for L503 Veterans Memorial Rd, L200 Postal Road and L245 Raindrop Road. Construction is complete and the Pueblo is closing out the project.
- BIA Road Maintenance Striping Project: Routes-L22 Casa Blanca Road, L500 Central Park Rd, L200 Twin Lakes Rd, L200 Old Bridge Rd, L200 Porkchop Hill Rd and L200 Elizabeth Bender Rd. The project was awarded – L500 roads to begin soon; L22 and L200 roads to commence in October.
- NM 124 Roundabout: The repairs to the roundabout are being coordinated by NMDOT, no start date has been determined.
- L24 Rainfall Road: design changed to two phases, Ph-1 Road & Trail and Ph-2 Conc Box Underpass, design is in progress and **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 Pagueate Wash Bridge: PER In progress
- M108 San Jose River Bridge-Seama: PS&E complete and ROW amendments approved; pending items include EA, FONSI and NOI. The Engineer of Record will update Estimate, for submission to BIA for construction funding.
- L248 Bluejay Road and L248 Blue Star Loop: RFP published, proposals received and reviewed. Award recommendation will be presented to the Tribal Council for approval.
- Planning and Design Request for Proposal: RFP for design services published for L248 Bluejay Road and L248 Blue Star Loop, proposals were received and reviewed; recommended award to design firm is complete and will be presented to Tribal Council for approval.
- The Pueblo's Safety Plan is completed.

10. Northern Navajo:

- NMDOT Safety Projects:
 - 1. Hwy 64 Grant BUILD application was submitted on July 15, 2019 for highway reconstruction. Pending on announcement of Awards.
 - 2. Shiprock Chapter/Navajo DOT in coordination with NMDOT on safety project at Hwy 64 west of Hwy 491/64 intersection. Project on NM NWRTPO List. NM STIP 2023.
 - 3. Beclabito Chapter/NDOT on safety project on Hwy 64 at MP 3.0-3.5 for street lighting. In planning stage with NMDOT Dist. 5.
 - 4. TseDaaKaan Chapter/NDOT safety project to improve Hwy 64 & N5031 Intersection. Project on NM NWRTPO list. Application was updated and submitted for HSIP funding. NM STIP 2021.
 - 5. San Juan Chapter Bridge project connecting N36 to Hwy 64 near Hogback. The feasibility studies were completed by contractor, Wilson & Company. This project would involve coordination with NM DOT and NM State Representative State Representative, Anthony Allison and other State Legislatures to obtain additional funding for preliminary engineering studies and clearances and design.
 - 6. Upperfruitland Chapter Safety Project at Hwy 371 & N36 Intersection for improvement. This Project was awarded through NM Capital Outlay fund to start on Design and Construction. Wilson & Company is assigned to complete the design which Navajo Nation will fund as match. Navajo Gaming assisted with advocacy of funding request. Assigned San Juan County, NM as lead agency to implement the project.

- 7. Sheep Springs Chapter is working on safety project to improve intersection at Hwy 491/134, to reduce traffic crashes and pedestrian cross walks. Pending with NMDOT District 6.
- There is growing public concern about speeding semi-trucks in Shiprock
- Road Safety Audit funding awarded to Twin Lakes, Mexican Springs and Tohatchi Chapters through the LGTPF funding opportunity from the State of New Mexico.
- Local Govt. Road Fund awards to Navajo Chapter Projects as follows:
 - Sheep Springs Chapter awarded \$50K for improvements to N5002
 - Gadihii-Tokoi Chapter awarded \$200K for improvements to N571
 - Preliminary planning in progress for a number of school bus routes around Little Water Chapter awarded \$60K for improvements – including TR4925, TR5313, N5016, N5005, and N5092.

11. Eastern Navajo:

- 2019 Road Projects from N.M. Capital Outlay:
 - C6193360 D3360 Navajo Nation CR 9 IMPROVE ROCK SPRINGS CHP
 - C6193361 D3361 Navajo Nation NAVAJO RTS 52 & 98 IMPROVE NAHODISHGISH CHP
 - C6193362 D3362 Navajo Nation RED WILLOW RD IMPROVE MARIANO LAKE CHP
 - C6193363 D3363 Navajo Nation W TSAYATOH & SUNSET VALLEY ROADS TSAYATOH CHP
 - C6193372 D3372 Navajo Nation TSE DE TAH SPRING RD SURVEY
 - C6193373 D3373 Navajo Nation RED LAKE CHP ROAD DRAIN & UTLTY IMPROVE
- Bread Springs (Baahaali) Chapter awarded LGTPF funding at \$281.5 K to construct their waste transfer station access road.
- Ongoing attention from Eastern Navajo for the NM118 corridor between Rehoboth and Church Rock, around both traffic safety, road capacity expansion, economic development opportunities, and multi-modal safety options. Also a watershed study has been conducted for the NM118 corridor between Church Rock and Iyanbito to address and mitigate periodic and costly flooding of I-40 and NM118, leaving up to a foot or more of sediment on the roads, for which the DOT has to take emergency fix measures to clear these roads as quickly as possible. Wilson & Co. is working with NDOT to design roadway lighting along this corridor, and Navajo Gaming Enterprise and Church Rock Chapter have secured capital outlay funding to fund this lighting project
- Rock Springs Chapter has been awarded capital outlay funding to design improvements to the Chee Dodge School access road and intersection safety improvements.

12) San Juan County: (previous report)

- The Glade Run Trails received funding from the state.

C) State DOT Reports:

1. Planning / Govt. to Govt. Unit Liaison – Neala Krueger:

- The final RSA report for the 2nd and 3rd Street rail crossings for Gallup is complete. District 6, Planning, and Stakeholders have an electronic copy of the Final RSA.
- Gallup Transportation Safety Plan was approved and adopted by the City Council at their August 13 meeting. NMDOT priorities/study efforts are:
 - I-40 at US-491 (Phase A/B) in approx. FFY 2020.
 - NM-118/Route 66 Corridor (Phase A/B) in approx. FFY 2021.
 - I-40 Pedestrian Deterrent (RSA) in two years.
- Reminder that the Annual Performance & Expenditure Report draft is due Nov. 15 and final due Nov. 30.
- The NMDOT Legal Team is in the process of drafting a Rule for the LGTPF funding with the intention to provide more guidance and help streamline the application process should funding be appropriated in future years.
- Local Government Transportation Project Fund Program: Clarissa Martinez, NMDOT Project Oversight Division (POD), provided feedback on the 30 day agreement turnaround time that was in the emergency rule. There was extensive discussion at the September NWRTPO meeting concerning the 30 day window.

- Per POD, T/LPAs will need to be within the 30 day window to abide by the emergency rule. **However, as long as the T/LPA is actively working to get the signatures needed and informing their District Coordinator of the status, additional time will be allowed (December 30, 2019 is final deadline).**
- Clarissa requested a correction to the permanent rule that is in process now
 - LGTPF Rulemaking: Joint MPO/RTPO Conference Call: To discuss the proposed rulemaking a joint MPO/RTPO conference call has been scheduled for Thursday, October 31, 2019 from 10 am to 11 am.
 - NWRTPO should keep their RTIPR up-to-date for shovel-ready projects. RTIPR should also include ranked projects for LGTPF Projects.
 - RTPO – Regional Transportation Plan update should be underway
- RTPOs are not responsible for Performance Measure Targets
- Recommended to have goals but not targets
 - The T/LPA Handbook Training replaces the old “Cradle to Grave” training offered by the NMDOT. The new T/LPA Handbook exclusively focuses on the Federal Aid Highway Program grant programs. Here is the link to the T/LPA Handbook:
https://dot.state.nm.us/content/dam/nmdot/TLPA/TLPA_Handbook_Final_Version_3-4-2019.pdf
There is a comment form on page iii of the handbook, we would like to hear from the RTPOs on how to improve the T/LPA Handbook and trainings.
- State funding training will be conducted as handbooks are updated. The Capital Outlook Handbook update is underway.
 - The Recreation Trail Program will be moved to the new Outdoor Recreation Division within the New Mexico’s Economic Development Department. NMDOT will keep the RTPO and T/LPAs updated through the transition.
 - US 491 (MP 37 to MP 54) RSA
- Shannon Glendenning, NMDOT Bicycle, Pedestrian, Equestrian Coordinator will be the lead on this RSA and I will also be involved. Close coordination with the Navajo Nation reps, Marlinda Littleman and Larry Joe.
- The study area includes the following communities and intersections identified for pedestrian safety issues field reviews:
- § Newcomb
 - US 491/ Indian Service Route 19B
 - Indian Service Route 19B/ School Access Road
 - Newcomb Elementary/Middle/High School
- § Intermediate Intersection
 - US 491/ Indian Service Route 5002
- § Sheep Springs
 - US 491 & Old Highway (Residential Neighborhood Access Rd (MP 47.5)
 - US 491/ NM 134
 - US 491/ Indian Service Route 5007
- § Naschitti
 - Naschitti Elementary School
 - MP 38.0 to Indian Service Route 692
- As statewide RTPOs consider Regional Transportation Plan updates during FFY2019 – 2020, be looking for major opportunities to include in your plans that may incorporate economic, better multi-mobility, traffic congestion, and better planned community benefits.

2. NMDOT Tribal Liaison – Ron Shutiva (not present this meeting previous report as follows):

- Ron reported on the NM118 drainage analysis going on around and between the Iyanbito and Ft. Wingate I-40 intersections. Need follow up on NM118 drainage study – Vincent Steiner is the lead Engineer for Bohannon Huston. Ron indicated that stronger participation and response is needed from the Navajo Nation. This is retained from the August report so Navajo Nation members can pay attention / be reminded.
- Ron continues to look for funding opportunities from State and Federal sources. Ron reminded RTPO members that data is increasingly needed to justify transportation funding requests.
- Ron’s office is now within the executive state DOT office – no longer at the Planning Division.

- Tribal Safety Summit will take place Nov. 21 – 22, 2019, at the Institute of American Indian Arts – 83 Avan Nu Po Road, Santa Fe, NM. Presently gaining statewide concerns to address from the Tribes. Major foci will include DUI, speeding and cross jurisdictional collaboration around cooperative agreements.
 - There was some discussion during Ron's presentation around TIF (*Tribal Infrastructure Fund*) from the Indian Affairs Dept. vs. DOT funding from the Transportation Dept. Ron reminded members that these are two separate departments within the state, and each has its own policy regarding funding disbursement and management.
3. DOT District 5 – Steve Lopez (not present this meeting, previous report as follows):
- 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 in the Dist. 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.
 - The District is looking at the need to replace the aging Shiprock San Juan River bridge.
4. DOT District 6 – JoAnn Garcia, Marticia Holliday:
- For Local Govt. 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 Dist. 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!

VII. New Business / Open Floor – Members & Guests:

- Members of the public attending the meeting expressed concern about critical safety issues in the US64 Shiprock School Zone corridor.
- Another citizen from the Shiprock area expressed concern about two areas US64 northeast of Shiprock where there are large boulders along a) the hogback curve and b) the cliffs north east of the power plant intersection. In both locations, these multi-ton boulders are almost ready to fall on the road, due to ongoing erosion.
- Many of the Navajo Chapter leaders were present to hear the latest news on the LGTPF funding.

VIII. Review Calendar & Announcements:

- FHWA Office of Planning, Environment & Realty / Human Environment Digest: Weeks of 9/03/19, 9/09/19, 9/23/19, and 9/25/19 – emailed to members as they came out
- Govt. to Govt. Updates: Week of 9/09/19 – emailed to members as they came out.
- AASHTO Publications Updates: Weeks of 9/05/19, 9/12/19, 9/20/19 and 9/20/19 (*two separate reports on the same date*) – emailed as they came out.
- LGTPF Awards Public Notice: RTPO staff provided a public notice template sent to members on August 20, with another reminder on August 27 – to thank our Governor and State Legislators via newspaper or radio. **The only members who sent a copy of public notice to this effect was Mr. Siow of the Pueblo of Laguna and Mr. Jaramillo of the City of Grants (!!) The total award from the state to our region was over \$12 million dollars (!!!!) – that's almost three times what our region receives from the federal government on a biennial basis! It's not too late at this point for any of us to still get a public notice appreciating our state leaders, for providing this funding opportunity!** Staff also understand that some of you may indeed have gotten out a public notice, but please send staff a copy (via email), so we can have a record of our appreciation for the northwest part of the state in which we all reside!
- NMDOT / UNM-LTAP: Provides a very robust collection of training opportunities – staff forward news to members as it comes out from this source – reference at ltap.unm.edu
- Tribal Safety Summit: November 21-22, 2019; Institute of American Indian Arts – 83 Avon Nu Po Rd., Santa Fe.
- TTAP Safety Training Oct. 15 – 18: BIA Southwest Regional Office – 1001 Indian School Road, Albuquerque
- Transportation Research Board Webinar: Understanding and using Census Data for Tribal Transportation – October 17 3:00 – 4:30 pm Mountain Time.

- Annual RTPO Member Survey: As of September 30, eight RTPO members have responded on Survey Monkey, and two other members responded directly via email to the hard copy survey emailed out. That's 10 out of 14 members who regularly attended meetings – the best response we've had in years!
- US DOT announces \$321.4 million in "Nationally Significant Federal Lands and Tribal Projects": (NSFLTP) this funding will support maintenance repair or new construction for roads and bridges serving tribal or federal lands. <https://www.transportation.gov/briefing-room/fhwa1519>
- National Association of Development Organizations (NADO) Impact Award: The NWNMCOG will receive an "Impact Award" from NADO at the 2019 NADO Annual Training Conference, for the ongoing development of recreational trails in the Zuni Mountains of McKinley and Cibola Counties; this is the only award to New Mexico.

IX. Next Meetings:

- **Nov. 13:** Milan Parks & Recreation Office, 409 Airport Road, Milan, NM
- **Dec. 11:** Ramah Chapter, 434 BIA Rt. 125 off NM53 intersection, Pine Hill, NM
- **Jan. 8:** Cibola Convention Center, 515 High Street, Grants, NM

X. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 2:30pm; all in favor - none opposed. Appreciation to Northern Navajo DOT and Shiprock Chapter for refreshments and lunch!

MEETING ACTIONS:

RTPO Members:

- With a broad and fair distribution of funding to most of our local governments for the LGTPF *Local Government Transportation Project Fund* Grant Opportunity; **members are requested to: a) credit and thank your jurisdiction's state legislative representatives (House & Senate) – in writing from your top leaders, b) plan and gear up to execute the projects effectively and efficiently within timelines as funding becomes available, c) issue a press release for each funded project that appreciates the state administration for the funding, and summarizes the transportation and other benefits it will provide to citizens of the surrounding region.**
- **Follow up with your respective NMDOT Districts on LGRF projects, as DOT District 6 is discovering that many of our local governments have serious deficiencies in the required process for executing the projects, which could jeopardize their funding.**

RTPO Staff:

- Assist as needed on process, information, or DOT guidance for Local Government Transportation Project Fund (LGTPF); follow up with members on progress, provide Special Call for Projects Guide to RTPO members.
- Ongoing: Distribute the schedule developed that provides annual or multi-year deadlines for all RTPO deliverables including reports – quarterly and annual, RTIPR Call for Projects cycle, Regional Work Program updates or amendments, and governing document updates (*Bylaws, Open Meetings Act Resolution, Title VI Plan, Public Participation Plan, Official Membership Roster*)
- Continue to update the Reg. Trans. Plan tracker instrument and pursue relevant information.
- Maintain appointment forms as members transition.
- Keep an eye on federal funding for public transportation, and inform our regional 5310 & 5311 providers and RTPO members of any pending changes

NMDOT Staff:

- Continue to press for LTAP "cradle to grave" comprehensive project development training.
- Assist in arranging a presentation on the new HSIP process.
- Continue to assist with information on the latest Transportation Bill, and the NMDOT Funding Formula.
- Technical assistance with locating data sets for RTP performance measures.



Thanks to Northern Navajo and Shiprock Chapter for hospitality