

NWRTPO | Northwest Regional Transportation Planning Organization

Joint Policy & Technical Committee

NWRTPO Meeting Minutes

Wednesday April 14, 2021

10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Virtual meeting executed via Microsoft Teams

Due to COVID-19 Pandemic

ATTENDANCE:

Local & Tribal Governments	
Entity	Representative(s)
Pueblo of Acoma	Dave Deutsawe (Chair)
Pueblo of Laguna	Elroy Keetso , Sharon Hausam
Pueblo of Zuni	Royce Gchachu , Roxanne Hughte
Navajo Nation	Larry Joe, Marco Sells, Leanne Roy
Ramah Navajo	Dorothy Claw, Tom Martine
City of Grants	Don Jaramillo , Mark Teshima
City of Gallup	Clyde Strain, Alicia Santiago
Village of Milan	Sarah Austin , Denise Baca
Cibola County	Judy Horacek , Edward Salazar
McKinley County	Rodney Skersick , Donna Fambrough
San Juan County	Absent (Nick Porell)
Farmington Metropolitan Planning Organization - Ex-officio	Not in attendance

New Mexico Department of Transportation (NMDOT)	
Entity	Representative(s)
RTPO Liaison	Neala Krueger
District 5	Stephanie Medina , James Mexia
District 6	JoAnn Garcia , Bill Santiago
Tribal Liaison	Ron Shutiva
Other NMDOT Staff / Guests	Sky Tallman – NMDOT, Jason Grover - NMDOT, Ashley Martinez – Wilson & Co., Claudia Diaz – Wilson & Co., Gloria Parjas - Milan

Regional Transportation Planning Organization	
Entity	Representative(s)
Northwest NM Council of Governments	Robert Kuipers, Evan Williams, Brandon Howe

Tally Sheet – Attendance & Quorum

Total Full Attendance:	Member Entities:	NMDOT	RTPO	Guests	Full Attendance Norm:	
	12	Normally 4-5: DOT Liaison, Tribal Liaison, District 5 & 6 Representatives	1	varies	17 - 20	
Attendance – this meeting:	Member Attendance:	NMDOT Attendance:	Staff:	Guests:	Attendance % this meeting:	TOTAL:
	9	8	3	3	100%	23

ROUTINE ITEMS:

Item #	Item
I.	Call to Order and Introductions. The meeting was called to order at 10:06 am, Dave Duetsawe - Chairman welcomed those in attendance and proceeded with introductions and approval of agenda and minutes. The meeting was conducted via conference call, due to the COVID-19 pandemic.
II.	Agenda. RTPO Program Manager provided an overview of the day’s agenda topics and RTPO Chair called for a motion, 2 nd and vote. ACTION: Don Jaramillo - Grants motioned and Elroy Keetso - Laguna seconded adoption of the agenda. All in favor – motion carried.
III.	Minutes (March 10, 2021). Chairman provided time for review of minutes. ACTION: Don Jaramillo - Grants motioned and Judy Horacek – Cibola County seconded adoption of the agenda. All in favor – motion carried.

Discussion:

- One correction to the March 10 minutes – Gallup Report – change verbiage for East Nizhoni Blvd. that project is now in design, rather than construction.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

Item #	Item	Presenter
IV.	IV) Active Transportation Guide: Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP), and Recreational Trails Program (RTP)	Sky Tallman - NMDOT
BACKGROUND		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Why? NMDOT is issuing a Call for TAP and RTP Projects commencing May – September 2021 • Purpose. To fund and promote active transportation multi-modal options for both mobility, access options and health. • Discussion/Finalization. The NWRTPPO will discuss TAP and RTP applications at the April 14 meeting and receive guidance from Sky Tallman - NMDOT 		
CURRENT WORK		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sky Tallman – NMDOT will cover the program and schedule for 2021 		
ANTICIPATED WORK		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Members have been asked to submit their project choices via PFF’s between May – July, after which at a NWRTPPO meeting NMDOT staff will authorize projects to move forward based on qualification. • T/LPA submits application(s) to RTPO planner June – July 2021 • Non-Tribal members must submit Title VI and ADA Plans to NMDOT Coordinator by July 3 against a July 12 deadline. • RTPO Planner evaluates applications for eligibility and completeness August – Sept. and submits complete applications to NMDOT TAP/RTP Coordinator by October 1, 2021 • TAP/RTP Coordinator reviews applications for eligibility and completeness and prepares packages for rating and ranking by TAP Selection Committee and RTP Trails Advisory Board • TAP and RTP committees rate, rank, and recommend projects to NMDOT Dec. 2021 – Jan. 2022 • March 2022 NMDOT sends out award notifications. • April – May 2022 awarded entities attend orientation workshop or webinar for critical deadlines and federal process 		
ATTACHMENTS		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TAP and RTP Application & Program Guide / Active Transportation & Recreational Programs Application 		
BUDGET IMPACT		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None 		
ACTION ITEM		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No Action – Discussion Item 		

Discussion:

- May – October: Open Call for Projects
- July 12: ADA Transition Plans/Title VI reports to CCRB
 - Milan is non-compliant but has less than 50 employees and should be exempt
- Applications are run through RTPO
 - RTPO screens application prior to submission
- \$5,875,811 total funding for TAP
- \$1,588,144 total funding for RTP
- \$11,000,000 total funding for CMAQ
 - Actual programmable pot is contingent on MPO air quality compliance
 - \$3.5m available for this call for projects – FY2024 – 2025
- Elroy – Can RTP be used for trail maintenance
 - Sky – Yes that would be an allowable project to maintain trails
- Judy – How often does the ADA and Title VI need to be updated?
 - Sky – Once plans are adopted that are good and only need to be updated based on new requirements
 - Ron Shutiva – The state has a template for entities to use to develop plans
 - Sky – Tribal entities are exempt from this process
- Ron Shutiva – Navajo nation has a need for maintenance of dirt roads. Do any of these programs provide for this type of activity
 - Sky – Road Maintenance projects are typically not eligible for any of the 3 programs but I will take a closer look to provide final response.
- Brandon – What type of cash match are allowable
 - Sky – Cash and In-kind are allowable, Previous Funds are not
- Claudia – What types of projects are eligible? Plan and Design?
 - Sky – Yes design is an allowable expense (incl. PER, design, certifications) but if awarded design, construction needs to follow. Without construction in a timely manner, funds can be clawed back.

Item #	Item	Presenter
V.	Congestion Mitigation / Air Quality (CMAQ) Program Guidance	Sky Tallman - NMDOT
BACKGROUND		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Why? NMDOT is issuing a Call for CMAQ Projects commencing May – September 2021 • Purpose. To fund and promote CMAQ Applications on behalf of our interested non-metropolitan regional member governments. • Discussion/Finalization. The NWRTPPO will discuss CMAQ applications at the April 14 meeting and receive guidance from Sky Tallman – NMDOT. 		
CURRENT WORK		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sky Tallman – NMDOT will cover the program and schedule for 2021 		
ANTICIPATED WORK		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Members have been asked to submit their project choices via PFF’s between May – July, after which NMDOT District staff will authorize projects to move forward based on qualification. • T/LPA submits application(s) to RTPO planner July - September 2021 • Non-Tribal members must submit Title VI and ADA Plans to NMDOT Coordinator by July 3 against a July 12 deadline. • RTPO Planner evaluates applications for eligibility and completeness October - November and submits complete applications to NMDOT FTP Website by November 19, 2021 • NMDOT CMAQ Coordinator reviews applications for eligibility and completeness and prepares packages for CMAQ Selection Committee November – December 2021 • NMDOT CMAQ committee rate, ranks, and selects projects for funding January - February 2022 • March 2022 NMDOT sends out award letters and forms entities must sign and return to confirm acceptance of federal funding and local match commitment. • April – May 2022 awarded entities attend orientation workshop or webinar for critical deadlines and federal process 		

ATTACHMENTS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CMAQ Application & Program Guide / CMAQ Application
BUDGET IMPACT
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> None
ACTION ITEM
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> N/A

Discussion:

- The main focus is on air quality
- There should be \$ Eleven million available statewide on an annual basis – most of which will go to metropolitan areas that are out of compliance for air quality
- Qualifying projects include projects that reduce motorized vehicle use / roundabout intersections / multi-modal options (bike and pedestrian) / transit / car pooling / and electronic vehicles
- Application scoring factors for TAP / RTP / CMAQ include: Planning, Narrative, Consistency, Alignment, and Impact.

Item #	Item	Presenter
VI.	Transportation Project Fund (TPF)	Robert Kuipers - NWRTPO
BACKGROUND		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Why? NMDOT is issuing a Transportation Project Fund (TPF) Call for Projects commencing April – August 2021 Purpose. Prepare for this project funding opportunity which requires a minimum 5% local match. Discussion/Finalization. The NWRTPO will finalize a list of TPF projects at the April 14 meeting. 		
CURRENT WORK		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NWRTPO staff requested and gathered priority projects for TPF funds - one from each member government for inclusion in our RTIPR pending qualification. 		
ANTICIPATED WORK		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Members have been asked to submit one project choice by April 7 for our April 14 meeting where RTPO staff will include projects in our RTIPR for consideration to move forward based on qualification. Members may choose projects not funded in the first round of LGTPF projects, or projects already listed in our current RTIPR from other federal source categories but cannot add new projects which haven't already been vetted by the RTPO. With a short application timeframe of April – August members are advised to gear up for efficient development of required documentation as NMDOT guidance is issued. While this state funded opportunity is less restrictive than federal funding, it remains best if Non-Tribal members have approved local Title VI and ADA Plans in place. Staff will forward the TPF Guidance provided from the NMDOT as soon as it becomes available. 		
ATTACHMENTS		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Guidance for TPF Call for Projects provided thus far 		
BUDGET IMPACT		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> None 		
ACTION ITEM		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Members will vote to approve projects submitted for consideration, for inclusion in our RTIPR in Agenda Item #VIII. 		

New Mexico Transportation Project Fund - 2021 Applications for the NWRTPO

- 1) **Cibola County:** County Road 1 (Marquez Road) – Preliminary Engineering and Design (incl. ROW, clearances / easements) to plan, design and construct road, bridge, and drainage improvements – 4.1 miles east of CR1 intersection with NM-279 - requested amount: **\$500,000**.
- 2) **McKinley County:** County Road 43-A (Superman Canyon Road) – Superman Canyon IV – design and construct bridges 3, 4 and 4A on Superman Canyon Road – requested amount: **\$2,000,000**
- 3) **City of Gallup:** Coal Avenue Commons: reconstruct Coal Avenue from 1st to 2nd Street including the 2nd Street intersection and the downtown walkway – requested amount: **\$3,500,000**
- 4) **City of Grants:** Roosevelt Avenue Bridge Replacement – to complete design and construct the replacement of Roosevelt Bridge including additional drainage improvements and below grade trail connection to Grants Arroyo Trail – requested amount: **\$2,200,000**
- 5) **Village of Milan:** Airport Road: Street reconstruction with drainage improvements to prevent future flooding – requested amount: **\$2,750,000**
- 7) **Northern Navajo:** US64 / Beclabito Chapter Road intersection: Intersection safety improvements to provide PER, ROW and design thru construction to add street lighting – requested amount: **\$900,000**
- 8) **Pueblo of Acoma:** NM 124 Realignment: NM124 realignment and NM124 / US I-40 underpass to NM 117 – preliminary engineering and design (including clearances) – requested amount: **\$1,000,000**
- 9) **Pueblo of Laguna:** L24 – Rainfall Road I-40 Concrete Box Underpass – expand the underpass for safe traffic, pedestrian and bike interface and egress – requested amount: **\$2,000,000**
- 10) **Ramah Navajo:** NM53 / BIA Rt. 125 intersection and BIA 125 improvements – Intersection and BIA125 road reconstruction improvements to 2 miles south of intersection, including shoulder improvements and deceleration / acceleration lanes at intersections – requested amount: **\$1,573,000**

NWRTPO Total: \$16,423,000

Discussion: (further guidance)

- The statewide amount available for FFY2021 has been expanded from \$40 million to \$120 million
- Project Feasibility Forms (PFF's) and applications are **due by May 30 (!)**
- More guidance is anticipated to be forthcoming next week.
- Along with the PFF and application, members should include a letter signed by your respective government leader (whether mayor, commissioner, manager, tribal president or Council member) indicating intent to apply for TPF funding, and citing the project.
- PFF's must also be signed by your by your DOT District Executive Engineer for San Juan County – DOT District 5 – Paul Brasher; for DOT District 6 – Larry Maynard. (**Pay attention to the next bullet!**)
- Members are encouraged to send their PFF's and applications well in advance of the May 30 deadline to Robert Kuipers – RTPO manager, who can execute obtaining these signatures on behalf of our members – all at the same time, rather than shooting individual PFF's one a different time to the DOT District Executive Engineer which causes confusion and potential loss of projects.
- The **PFF and application must be consistent with projects already cited in our current FFY2021 RTIPR**, members cannot randomly submit new projects that have not been vetted through the RTPO.
- We will not prioritize our projects – we will allow NMDOT District 5 and 6 staff / administration to make prioritization decisions for project submissions for funding.
- Each member government applying for TPF funds **MUST HAVE CURRENT TITLE VI AND ADA COMPLIANCE DOCUMENTS FILED WITH THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO (!)** in order to apply for this funding. Members are encouraged / instructed to check with your respective government leadership to ensure these are in place so you don't waste time on an application that can't be funded!
- Member governments can apply for a hardship waiver if they can't provide the required 5% funding match; but your project will be more competitive is construction ready, and you have the match available.

ACTION ITEMS:

Item #	Item	Presenter
VII.	Review and Approve: NWRTPO Call for Transportation Projects Guide	Robert Kuipers - NWRTPO
BACKGROUND		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Why? Every two years (biennial basis) the NWRTPO engages a Call for Projects process to invite new projects into the NWRTPO RTIPR for our local municipal, tribal and county member governments. This process engages a series of document forms and meetings to assure that proposed new projects are both local / regional priorities and qualify for state and federal funding. • Purpose. To engage the NWRTPO members in a review of the proposed process going forward to qualify new projects for inclusion in the FFY2022 RTIPR for the NWRTPO. • Discussion/Finalization. RTPO members will vote at our May 14 meeting to approve and authorize the NWRTPO Call for Projects related to documentation submission and meeting dates which typically should commence in May-June 2021 and conclude with a finalized RTIPR for the NWRTPO in February, and the DOT District Office RTIP (Zipper) in March 2022. 		
CURRENT WORK		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RTPO members will review the Call for Projects process, and schedule for the FFY2022 RTIPR, and vote to approve and authorize the NWRTPO Call for Projects, perhaps with any recommended edits. 		
ANTICIPATED WORK		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RTPO members to vote on approval and authorization of the FFY2021 – FFY2022 NWRTPO Call for Projects Process and requirements at the April 14 meeting. 		
ATTACHMENTS		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NWRTPO Call for Transportation Projects Guide. 		
BUDGET IMPACT		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None. 		
ACTION ITEM		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Members to vote for approval and authorization for FFY2021 – 2022 NWRTPO Call for Projects Guide; Motion – Elroy Keetso - Laguna, 2nd – Donald Jaramillo – Grants; all in favor, none opposed. 		

Discussion:

- Evan – RTPO staff has worked hard to integrate state timelines in our own call for projects process
 - This call is for all transportation projects but is a requirement for TAP, RTP, or CMAQ
 - Applicants have to submit via the appointed RTPO member to the RTPO Coordinator
- RTIPR will be cleared; **PFF’s and applications are due May 30.**

RTPO Voting Documentation

4/14/21 Meeting – VII) Review & Approve – Call For Transportation Projects Guide - 2021

RTPO Members	Yes	No	Abstain
Cibola – Judy Horacek, Edward Salazar	X		
McKinley – Rodney Skersick, Donna Fambrough	X		
San Juan – Nick Porell			
Gallup – Clyde Strain, Alicia Santiago	x		
Grants – Don Jaramillo – Vice Chair, Mark Teshima	X		
Milan – Sarah Austin, Denise Baca	X		
Northern Navajo – Larry Joe, Leanne Roy			
Eastern Navajo – Marco Sells, Leanne Roy			
Pueblo of Acoma – Dave Deutsawe - Chair	x		
Pueblo of Laguna – Elroy Keetso, Sharon Hausam	x		
Pueblo of Zuni – Royce Gchachu, Roxann Hughte			
Ramah Navajo – Dorothy Claw, Tom Martine			
Total in favor:	7		
Total Abstain:	0		

Item #	Item	Presenter
VIII.	Review and Approve: NM Transportation Project Fund List	Robert Kuipers - NWRTPO
BACKGROUND		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Why? NMDOT is issuing a Transportation Project Fund (TPF) Call for Projects commencing April – August 2021 • Purpose. Prepare for this project funding opportunity which requires a minimum 5% local match. • Discussion/Finalization. The NWRTPO will finalize a list of TPF projects at the April 14 meeting. 		
CURRENT WORK		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NWRTPO staff requested and gathered priority projects for TPF funds - one from each member government for inclusion in our RTIPR pending qualification. 		
ANTICIPATED WORK		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Members have been asked to submit one project choice by April 7 for our April 14 meeting where RTPO staff will include projects in our RTIPR for consideration to move forward based on qualification. • Members may choose projects not funded in the first round of LGTPF projects, or projects already listed in our current RTIPR from other federal source categories, but cannot add new projects which haven't already been vetted by the RTPO. • With a short application timeframe of April – August members are advised to gear up for efficient development of required documentation as NMDOT guidance is issued. • While this state funded opportunity is less restrictive than federal funding, it remains best if Non-Tribal members have approved local Title VI and ADA Plans in place. • Staff will forward the TPF Guidance provided from the NMDOT as soon as it becomes available. 		
ATTACHMENTS		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Guidance for TPF Call for Projects provided thus far • List of proposed projects from NWRTPO members for FFY2021 - 2022 		
BUDGET IMPACT		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None 		
ACTION ITEM		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Members to vote for approval and authorization for NWRTPO Transportation Project Fund List; Motion – Elroy Keetso - Laguna, 2nd – Alicia Santiago - Gallup; all in favor, none opposed. 		

Discussion:

- Evan – try to position RTPO for success / Due in a month, recommended in June / Projects are disbursement (October)
- District 6 Commissioner Lundstrom sent letter to T/LPAs indicating the TPF and need for quick and seamless turnaround
- RTPO staff reached out to members to develop TPF list for this upcoming cycle
- Should be \$40M annually from NMDOT to program in future years
- Dave Duetsawe – How much money is left and how many projects are still open from the last call for TPF.
 - Ron Shutiva – Reached out to Clarrisa this morning for a status report and I noticed that many of the Navajo TPF projects have not begun their projects. It is important to spend this money before seeking additional funds.

RTPO Voting Documentation

4/14/21 Meeting – VIII) Review & Approve – NM Transportation Project Fund List

RTPO Members	Yes	No	Abstain
Cibola – Judy Horacek, Edward Salazar	X		
McKinley – Rodney Skersick, Donna Fambrough	X		
San Juan – Nick Porell			
Gallup – Clyde Strain, Alicia Santiago	X		
Grants – Don Jaramillo – Vice Chair, Mark Teshima	X		
Milan – Sarah Austin, Denise Baca	X		
Northern Navajo – Larry Joe, Leanne Roy			
Eastern Navajo – Marco Sells, Leanne Roy			
Pueblo of Acoma – Dave Deutsawe - Chair	X		
Pueblo of Laguna – Elroy Keetso, Sharon Hausam	X		
Pueblo of Zuni – Royce Gchachu, Roxann Hughte			
Ramah Navajo – Dorothy Claw, Tom Martine			
Total in favor:	7		
Total Abstain:	0		

Item #	Item	Presenter
IX.	Review and Approve: NWRTPO Meeting Schedule, May 2021 – April, 2022	Robert Kuipers - NWRTPO
BACKGROUND		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Why? On an annual basis the RTPO agrees to and authorizes a meeting schedule (second Wednesday of each month) from May of the current year thru April of the following year. • Purpose. Schedule and publish for the public annual RTPO monthly meetings. • Discussion/Finalization. RTPO members will vote to approve and authorize our NWRTPO meeting schedule for May, 2021 thru April 2022 		
CURRENT WORK		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff will present the Annual meeting schedule for RTPO members approval and authorization 		
ANTICIPATED WORK		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Each of our 12 member governments will take turns hosting a meeting on a monthly basis throughout the year. Each year Northern and Eastern Navajo trade off on hosting a meeting – as our March meeting is always hosted at NMDOT District 6 to finalize the D-6 RTIP document based on projects from McKinley and Cibola Counties – NWRTPO, Sandoval County – MRRTPO and Catron County – SWRTPO. 		
ATTACHMENTS		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proposed annual meeting schedule for FFY2021 - 2022 		
BUDGET IMPACT		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None 		
ACTION ITEM		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Members to approve and authorize the NWRTPO Meeting Schedule for FFY2021 – May thru FFY2022 – April; motion – Don Jaramillo – Grants, 2nd – Judy Horacek – Cibola; all in favor, none opposed. 		

Discussion:

- Elroy – Just to be clear, we are approving locations now but meetings will remain virtual until pandemic restrictions for meetings are lifted
 - Evan – Yes, because we publish one notice with all meetings for the year. By doing this, it allows for some cost savings. All meetings will remain virtual for now.
- Elroy – What is required of a hosting entity?
 - Robert – just securing the location and provide snacks, coffee and lunch. However, lunch is not a requirement for the host.

RTPO Voting Documentation

4/14/21 Meeting – IX) Review & Approve – NWRTPO Meeting Schedule

RTPO Members	Yes	No	Abstain
Cibola – Judy Horacek, Edward Salazar	X		
McKinley – Rodney Skersick, Donna Fambrough	X		
San Juan – Nick Porell			
Gallup – Clyde Strain, Alicia Santiago	X		
Grants – Don Jaramillo – Vice Chair, Mark Teshima	X		
Milan – Sarah Austin, Denise Baca	X		
Northern Navajo – Larry Joe, Leanne Roy			
Eastern Navajo – Marco Sells, Leanne Roy			
Pueblo of Acoma – Dave Deutsawe - Chair	X		
Pueblo of Laguna – Elroy Keetso, Sharon Hausam	X		
Pueblo of Zuni – Royce Gchachu, Roxann Hughte			
Ramah Navajo – Dorothy Claw, Tom Martine			
Total in favor:	7		
Total Abstain:	0		

Item #	Topic	Presenter
X.	RTPO Staff, Member and DOT Reports	Robert Kuipers - NWRTPO
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: staff provided the staff hours summary and expenditure summary reports for March, 2021. • RTPO Report; staff provided the February monthly report in the meeting package. • 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: James Mexia, Stephanie Medina 		
News, Training & Funding Opportunities:		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FHWA Planning, Environment & Realty Reports: 3/29/21, 4/9/21 • NMDOT Govt. to Govt. Update: no reports • AASHTO Publications: no reports • NMDOT / UNM-LTAP: Provides a very robust collection of training opportunities – staff forward news to members as it comes out from this source – reference at ltap.unm.edu – Online courses notice forwarded to members as LTAP emails come in • 3/3 – NM Functional Classification Change Guide and Change Request Form • 3/3 – Funding & Training Opportunities: American Indian / Alaska Native Tourism Association (AIANTA) • 3/4 – Every Day Counts News • 3/4 – INFRA Grant News: Infrastructure For Rebuilding America • 3/12 – NMDOT Spring Traffic Safety Campaigns • 3/12 – Local Government Road Fund: March 15 deadline and Clearance Certification information • 3/17 – NADO News: National Association of Development Organizations • 3/29 – T&I Member Designated Project Requests: funding opportunity • Title VI Training is available to MPO's and RTPO's from Lisa Neie – Civil Rights Manager for FHWA New Mexico. These trainings can be customized to address member concerns and issues for their regions, if provided to her in advance. Based on training length, we could provide it at one of our meetings. 		

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.

RTPO Staff Reports:

RTPO staff provided the staff hours and budget expenditure reports for March, and the April monthly report. Of significance in the April monthly report (primarily on March news and activities) are the following:

- Jessica Griffin – NMDOT Planning Division Director is now Chair of the AASHTO (national) Multimodal Task Force!
- **The Trail of the Ancients Scenic Byway – portions thru all three counties have now been designated as a National Scenic Byway – anticipated to have significant impacts on tourism to our region!!**
- The Navajo Nation is commencing development of 80 miles of recreational trails in the Chuska Mountains, which will complement the 200 miles of rec. trails being developed in the Zuni Mountain Range, along with Pueblo of Laguna's development of bike / ped trails between all 7 Pueblo Villages.
- **Staff informed RTPO members that they will be submitting an informal amendment request to NMDOT Liaison Neala Krueger to add hours to Long Range Planning from Other Activities in our Regional Work Program, due to the more extensive update to our Regional Transportation Plan undertaken in FFY2020 – 2021.**

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

Pueblo of Acoma

- **Road construction in general will commence again in May.**
- CMGC2 – 1: Construction of new office for Transportation and other Departments is underway – anticipated completion has been delayed by COVID-19. **At this time building construction is complete and administration has moved in.**
- CMGC2-2 SP130 Veterans Blvd. – Project is complete.
- CMGC2- 3 Baseball Fields – Design is complete; waiting on prairie dog removal before Notice to Proceed is approved and issued. **Baseball Fields improvement is now in progress – at 90% completion.**
- CMGC2 – 4 Projects: (*request for proposals for this new bundle of projects was published 2/10/19*)
- The Pueblo is now doing construction to increase its water irrigation system.
- FEMA 4352 Large Projects All FEMA Large projects have been completed (104 projects!) - \$13 million a year ahead of time; the Pueblo is now addressing finishing the small projects and only has one to go.
- **The Pueblo has completed the update to their Long-Range Transportation Plan; WH Pacific did traffic analysis counts to contribute to the Pueblo’s LRTP. To mitigate COVID 19 delays, the Pueblo has developed a survey for public input which is also available on Survey Monkey. **The Pueblo is also updating their Transportation Safety Plan at this time. Thru distributing a survey at the local Food Pantry, the Pueblo has achieved a 41% response rate from the public for both transportation plans!****
- FEMA 4352: Small Projects: Recovery work has begun; the POA Public Works / Utility Authority was awarded the small projects (65) at \$2.2 million capital investment. 45 projects have been completed; 22 projects remain. The work was scheduled for completion by March 2020 but due to COVID-19 the completion date is pending a re-start, at which time a new completion date will be established.
- **Arrowhead Drive to start next week – accelerated construction to be done in May.**
- Capital Outlay: The Pueblo has proposed a restart date of May 18 to resume work.
- Mainstreet Project: The Pueblo will add several projects to the CMGC suite to include projects for housing and economic development. Preparing amendments to conduct engineering studies, land surveys, geotechnical studies, drainage analysis, right of way surveys and proforma.
- Business Development Project – Completed PER, to start design in the coming months (90 day to complete)

Pueblo of Zuni

- **The Zuni Tribal organization returned back to work in tribal offices on March 15, 2021. Zuni Tribal employees will continue practicing the set for CDC guidelines. Local I.H.S. still continues to administer the Pfizer/Maderno vaccine to local community members 16 years and over, Zuni and/or non-Zuni. Visitation by appointment only into the Zuni Tribal offices.**
- **Zuni checkpoints on NM53 still being enforced.**
- 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 airport is now undertaking asphalt pavement preservation. The project will consist of crack sealing, asphalt sealing and re-striping of the airport runway Armstrong Consultants are the lead designers.**
- **Two road reconstruction projects are going out to bid later this month (April). 301 East / NM53 intersection reconstruction adding excel and decel lanes to NM53, and right-in / right-out only lanes at Shiwi Ts’Ana Elementary School entrance on NM53. Both projects designed by WH Pacific.**
- **Final draft for the Pueblo’s long-range transportation plan will be scheduled; date and time still undetermined.**
- **The Pueblo received it’s full Tribal Transportation Program (TTP) Funds for fiscal year 2021 three weeks ago. Funds included the Highway Infrastructure Program (HIP) and Coronavirus Response & Relief Supplemental Funding made available thru Public Law 116-260. Additional funds will help to purchase new heavy equipment.**
- Virtual Presentation meeting with NMDOT and WHPacific on the NM53 Drainage project being designed by by WHPacific to make improvements from MP15.5 to 19, due to undersized culvert pipes and overtopping of flood waters on NM53. **Public Law 93-638 Contract No. CTM70T72124, Gallup Cut-Off Drainage Improvement Project will commence May 3, 202. Zuni received a Notice to Proceed and contract extension. Force account crew ready to commence on this last of the 638 contract with the BIA.**

- The Pueblo has worked with Ashiwi Transit and Gallup Express to extend transit service to the Ramah Navajo area. **At this time the Pueblo is waiting on Ramah Chapter officials or the Navajo Nation on when to finalize agreements, so that Ashiwi Transit can commence ridership to/from the Ramah / Pine Hill area. Future potential services into Navajo New Lands south of Sanders, AZ. Preliminary discussion with NMDOT and ADOT has commenced.**
- The Pueblo has engaged contractual on call engineering services for future transportation development.
- **Ashiwi Transit is operating at less than full capacity with appointments to reserve seating to and from Gallup.**
- **Preliminary planning to construct a new facility to house the Tribal Roads and Ashiwi Transit offices at 068 – 301 North Highway.**

McKinley County

- The County has completed their funded projects for 2019 and has only one project to complete funded for 2020.
- **Pending projects for the County include CR-19 and Deer Springs Road, along with Woodview Road in Prewitt to spend down FFY 2020 funds.**
- Purchase orders for chips (sealing) for Pillowcrest Road have been obtained. Working on getting a list of culverts needed for Bowman Road. Work to progress as weather permits.
- TIF: \$1.3 million awarded for 18 miles of CR19 gravel and chip-seal road improvement – multiple Eastern Navajo Chapters; collaborating with NDOT for road repairs and renovation. NDOT is contributing Fuel Excise Tax funding. Project has commenced, but completion anticipated until this coming summer around weather issues. **CR19 will continue commencing July 1, 2021.**
- The County will contract out their LGTPF project for Manuelito Canyon bridge replacement and road improvements.
- The County will benefit with \$23 million for improvements to the Carbon Coal Road intersection in Gamerco with US491, which leads to the developing Energy Logistics Park (and potential Inland Port).
- The County has finished chip sealing Pine Haven road; will use remaining funds to finish improvements on Allison road.
- Ongoing county-wide maintenance including blading, patching potholes, cleaning culverts, repairing bridges / guardrails, etc.
- **The county will soon commence rehabilitation for Coal Basin Road and County Road 6.**

Gallup

- **Gallup Mainstreet Project** – Ground breaking May 13; construction commenced July 1. Coal Avenue Commons both MAP and Legislative Agreements have been executed by the State. The City is working with Wilson & Co. and NMDOT District 6 on the final PS&E. City Council approved Wilson & Co.'s professional engineering proposal for construction management. The Mainstreet grant resolution was approved by City Council for this project. **Between MAP, State Legislative, Economic and City funding the Coal Avenue Commons project is now 54% complete, has had it's first concrete pour, and is ongoing.**
- **Nizhoni and W. Aztec improvements are currently in design phase- Nizhoni at 30% design, and the City has submitted a MAP application.**
- W. Aztec drainage legislative grant has been executed and engineering services have been awarded to begin design; notice of obligation has been submitted and approved by the state. **Design in progress at this time.**
- **Local Govt. Road Fund funded projects will commence when weather allows.**
- **The City is submitting a Letter of Intent for Coop funding, as well as a MAP application.**
- **West Logan Avenue – CDBG project still in project set-up stage – will commence soon with \$1 million available.**
- **The City will be conducting mill and overlay for a number of local roads in May.**

Milan – absent this meeting

Minimal reports for the time being – as the village has a brand new manager who is also the new primary representative to the NWRTPPO by the name of Sarah Austin, who needs more time to learn where the village is with regard to transportation priorities.

- **Mirabal Park -complete, including baseball fields**
- **Airport Road being prioritized and has been submitted for MAP and will be submitted for TPF**

Ramah

- Condolences to the community for the loss of Shane Lewis, who accomplished significant transportation development on behalf of the Ramah Navajo community.
- Ramah Navajo has filled two positions after the departure of Shane Lewis with Dorothy Claw as primary transportation developer and Tom Martine as transportation assistant – these individuals are also the primary and alternative representatives to the NWRTPO.
- 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
 - BIA 145 and BIA 113: Received draft report for BIA 145 and BIA 113.
- 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.
- 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.
- **No Report for April.**

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.
- 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 will commence soon. 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. **At the April 1 Special meeting the County Commission awarded the trail construction RFP to Reineke Construction. The County, Reineke and USDA Forest Service staff met on April 13 to discuss project expectations, goals, forest closure protocol and other project items.**
- 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 12/4 **and a contract award has been issued to an engineering firm; the County is now waiting on the firm's response via signed contract, after which notice to proceed will be issued, followed by approval from NMDOT.**
- Ongoing County wide maintenance for County and Forest Roads including repairs to signs, cattle guards, clearing foliage, and pot hole repairs.

Grants

- 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 – project will soon commence at \$6 million**. Final PS&E is scheduled for this August and project letting is scheduled for September. Total project stands at \$6.2 million.
- 2nd street bridge out to bid for construction to commence in July – delay due to COVID-19 pandemic.
- Washington bridge replacement over 2nd Street through LGTPF funding will include a walking opportunity for High School students; project construction is underway. **Washington Ave. drainage project from Sage to Adams streets will commence with MAP funds at \$200K.**
- Lobo Canyon and Roosevelt intersection improvements are underway.

Pueblo of Laguna

- **The Pueblo remains closed to the public, and administration is closed until the COVID-19 Pandemic resides.**
- The Pueblo is pursuing an FHWA grant to develop a Pueblo-wide (all Villages / roads) Safety Plan and will be seeking data sources identifying various crash incidents, and high crash incident locations; may need assistance from the RTPO or DOT with analyzing crash data. The Pueblo has a number of State Routes, where high speeds impact upon more fatal crashes.
- NM 124 Trail- Encinal Road to St. Rd. 279, a bike/ped path: The Construction Management services firm selected is Bohannan Huston Inc. Construction NTP was issued in January. **Construction is now complete**. Desert Fox Paving is working on close out documents to be completed by March, 2021 and as-builts.
- 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
- 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. Projects at 90% design, construction anticipated in March.**
- 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 recieved. Local Govt. Road Fund and trail projects to commence soon.**
- NM 124 Roundabout: The repairs to the roundabout are being coordinated by NMDOT, no start date has been determined. **NM124 Road Diet has received an extension and is in final design.**
- L24 Rainfall Road: design changed to two phases, **Ph-1 Road & Trail at 60% design, and Ph-2 Conc Box Underpass at 30% design**. Construction funded for \$1.9 million from the LGTPF fund!
- L26 Deer Dancer Road: at 95% design, working on ROW amendments and E.A. **ROW and design modifications are underway.**
- L243 Acorn Road design: completed 100% design and PS&E review from the BIA. Construction pending funding.
- M154 Paguete Wash Bridge: **PER is complete** – draft report has been submitted to the Pueblo and BIA.
- M108 San Jose River Bridge-Seama: **PS&E, EA, FONSI and NOI are in progress. Bridge is now at 100% design.**
- L248 Bluejay Road and L248 Blue Star Loop: **Design is in progress now at 90%**. PER is expected by end of January 2021.
- Pueblo's Safety Plan: **Phase 1 is complete and the Pueblo is intending to apply for upcoming FY Safety Planning Funds.**
- NMDOT I-40 Safety Project: The Pueblo met with NMDOT on March 3. **Design is at 100%; NMDOT hopes to let the project the summer of 2021.**
- The Pueblo has completed L26 Rainfall Road along with two trail projects.
- The Pueblo is undertaking a lot of striping projects right now.
- Working on 2021 LGRF project submission.

Navajo Nation – Northern Agency

- Local Govt. Road Fund projects will commence implementation soon for both Eastern and Northern Navajo.
- Larry Joe requests COG RTPO Manager to help him include US491 RSA recommendations Naschitti to Newcomb as proposed projects in our 2020 RTIPR revision.
- Navajo DOT continues development for their Long Range Transportation Plan for 2021
- Navajo DOT has appointed Marco Sells to fill an administrative position for Eastern Navajo finally bringing Larry Joe some relief! Marco will have his hands full, as he is also the Chinle, AZ Transportation Planner.
- Karen Bedonie has been re-assigned and a new Planning Director by the name of Leanne Roy is on board for NDOT.
- NDOT is working with Sandoval County on inventory to transfer County Roads to the Navajo Nation going forward.
- Shiprock High School Safety corridor project is earmarked for 2023 NMDOT STIP for three land road widening construction. Will remain on RTIP.
- TseDaaKaan Chapter (Hogback) N5031/Hwy 64 Safety intersection improvement is earmarked for 2021 NMDOT STIP for construction. Final review with local residents. Take off the list, when project is completed.
- N36/Hwy 371 intersection improvement(Upperfruitland Chapter)- This project was funded through NM State Capital Outlay. The project is led by San Juan County, NM. The Design layout of the intersection was completed by Wilson & Company. . NMDOT and Navajo Nation finalizing the MOU, which will allow for the State beginning working on construction of the project. Project need of additional funding to complete the project. Project will on RTIP.
- Local Government Road Fund 2019- Project funded to work on preliminary studies at Littlewater community of Sanostee Chapter. Completed SAS 164 Review, the Project Manager will begin working with the chapter on layout plans for the project. Project will remain on RTIP for future funding of road improvements.
- Local Government Road Fund 2018- Gadiahii-Tokoi Chapter was awarded for road improvement on route N571 for one mile chip seal. The project has been completed.
- Local Government Road Fund 2018- Sheep Springs Chapter was awarded for road improvement on route N5002 for one-mile road graveling. The project is ready for construction. Will be taken off the list once the project is completed.
- Newcomb Chapter- working on N5007 Low Water Crossing using the State, and Tribal match fund to complete this low water crossing project. Project Manager, Donald Jackson, worked on the design and it is determined it would need realignment of the road. Therefore, the realignment of the road was submitted to BIA for review and approval. Pending for final review and approval.
- Beclabito Chapter- was awarded of NM Capital Outlay for Helipad for aircraft landing facility. Land withdrawal is in the works with Project Manager assigned. Will need to complete the preliminary studies and design before the construction of the project.
- Road Safety Audit- this is new project at Newcomb, Naschitti, and Sheep Springs. Lee Engineering worked with local chapter officials and schools to complete the RSA on November 4-5, 2019. Waiting on the reports or studies. Reports were made available. We will add the recommendations list to RTIP for future funding of the projects.
- US 64 Study Improvement Plan- NMDOT officials recently met with local chapters (Beclabito, Gadiahii, TseDaaKaan, Shiprock) on the review and conditions of the highway and improvement plan process is for this 20 plus miles Hogback to AZ Stateline. Project still Planning stage. It will need to remain on the RTIP List for future road improvement, which includes road reconstruction, and bridges replacements.
- Hwy 64 Shiprock Bridge Replacement- public hearing is set for November 14, 2019 at Shiprock Chapter. Design plans has started on this project with NMDOT, it will remain the RTIP.
- San Juan-Hogback Bridge has completed the feasibility studies for a new bridge. Road alignment is still pending, and it would full preliminary studies and design of the project. San Juan Chapter is seeking additional funding for this project. Project will remain on the RTIP.
- Pueblo of Zuni is commencing bike and pedestrian studies.
- Shiprock Chapter- is seeking Road Safety Audit on Hwy 491, milepost 89-90. Navajo DOT staff is working on this project using the Navajo Sihasin Fund for RSA. Updates- NMDOT contracted to complete the survey and assessment of the US Highway 491 North of Shiprock. Project will remain on the RTIP for future improvement planning, designing, and construction.

- Burnham Chapter- is seeking funding for RSA and N5/Hwy intersection improvement. Chapter is submitting a Letter of Intent through Local Government Road Fund on March 15, 2020. Project did not any funding but it will remain the RTIP for road studies, design and construction.
- Beclabito Chapter/Hwy 64 Improvement Plan- is continuing seeking funding for street lighting along Hwy 64 store, NHA Housing, Chapter house within the corridor. This project is added to NMDOT planning and design with when construction fund becomes available.. Project will remain on the RTIP for future funding.
- Newcomb Chapter- is seeking funding for Street Lighting along Hwy 491 & N5001, RSA was completed 2017 when the chapter contracted with a company that completed the studies. Project will remain on the RTIP.
- Sanostee Chapter – is seeking funding to construct new drainage structure at the intersection of Hwy 491 & N34. Recommending for Transportation Project Fund 2021 list. A studies was completed 2018 by Dibble Engineering. Project will remain on the RTIP List.
- Sanostee Chapter- is seeking funding for School Zone safety RSA and maintenance on route N34 on pavement road. Chapter is working on submitting to District 5 for studies and safety improvement at the school zone. Project will remain on the RTIP List.
- **No report for April 14 meeting**

Navajo Nation – Eastern Navajo

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

Proposed New Roadway Lighting Projects have no Planning, Designing or Construction funding, but the respective Chapters will be seeking funds to begin Road Safety Assessments, Design, and Construction: All these projects will be added to RTIP 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 Intersection of jphighway 491 and N9, Milepost 15-15.5
- Whiterock Chapters- 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
- **No report for April 14 meeting.**

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

- **The NWRTPO annual Quality Assurance Review is forthcoming on April 28 – 10:00 am.**
- Nonmetropolitan Consultation Survey closed on Tuesday, January 19 – with appreciation for a strong regional response from the NWRTPO members. **The Survey is now complete, and the strongest response (30%) was from the NWRTPO region.**
- An RSA for the area around the I-40 / US491 intersection and west of this intersection in Gallup RSA is in progress. Numerous pedestrian injuries and fatalities have occurred in recent years. A virtual stakeholder meeting was held on January 28, 2021. **A final report is pending and should be released soon.**
- **April or May 2021 TAP/RTP/CMAQ call for projects is coming.**
- **The NMDOT Long Range Transportation Plan website/portal is available at <https://newmexico2045plan.com/> . This project is still in progress and will be for some time yet.**
- **Keep an eye on Govt. to Govt. updates.**
- The New Mexico LTAP center provides technical assistance and trainings to support workforce development with the aim of helping local governments and municipalities across New Mexico meet their transportation needs. <https://ltap.unm.edu/>
- The US491 RSA is now complete with potential for HSIP funding in FFY 2022. This RSA comprised Naschitti, Newcomb, and Sheep Springs Chapters. District 6 is responsible for applying for HSIP funding.
- **\$90m has been programmed. (?)**

NMDOT Tribal Liaison – Ron Shutiva

- Ron is working on updating Tribal contact lists based on recent election related changes at this time – anything that RTPO members can do to help facilitate this will expediate completing these updates. **Ron indicated that the tribal list is now complete.**
- The Navajo Nation is having issues with development of and industrial park along the NM118 corridor between Rehoboth and Churchrock. The Navajo Economic Development Dept. is now working with NMDOT Dist. 6 toward an industrial park on NM118 between Rehoboth and Churchrock.
- Ron is now on the LTAP Board.
- There's a new Indian Highway Safety Grant out from the BIA.
- There was a teleconference meeting on March 24 for Church Rock bridge repairs.
- Reminding members to keep on top of deadlines for ICIP, TIF, and LGRF.
- **Due to Chapter turnover it might be good to consider an orientation to the NWRTPO for Navajo Chapters – including transportation funding opportunities – easiest would be at the Eastern, Northern and Ft. Defiance Agency meetings.**
- **Navajo Nation needs to follow up on funded projects with DOT District 5 and 6.**
- A national broadband project is establishing a broadband corridor along I-40, and will involve tribal discussion with Pueblos of Laguna and Acoma and Navajo Nation.
- NMDOT needs an update from Pueblo of Laguna for progress on Rainfall Road from the Local Govt. Road Fund.

- NM118 drainage analysis project is finally in progress as the Navajo Council is working on agreements with the local governments in the region of the study between Churchrock and Iyanbito; **need coordination with NDOT.**
- Ron indicated that the Laguna I-40 improvement project is moving forward from Exit 112 to 117.
- Ron is concerned about improvements needed for the US64 Shiprock School Zone corridor – NDOT is non-responsive, and support and input is needed from NDOT before the state moves forward with safety improvements.
- I-40 Safety projects are coming to the Laguna Acoma area, including the exit 114 bridge.
- The Pueblo Cultural Center in Albuquerque has a “Pueblo Relief Fund” available, and around \$300K has already been distributed. Go to PuebloReliefFund.org.
- 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, Stephanie Medina

- **No new news for this month.**
- 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
- 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.
- The District is looking at the need to replace the aging Shiprock San Juan River bridge.
- 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.
- D-5 staff are reminding local governments that Coop Projects are due by December, 2020.

NMDOT District 6 - JoAnn Garcia, Bill Santiago

- **Local Govt. Road Fund – tomorrow is the deadline. Extend contracts before June. (Bill S.) Reference more details below.**
- **For the Transportation Project Fund – DOT-6 is waiting for project reports from Cibola County.**
- **JoAnn Garcia reminded members to check up on their Capital Outlay projects and update them in the CPMS (Capital Project Monitoring System), to make sure their projects are submitted and up to date, with the required minimal 5% match.**
- For Local Government Road Fund projects – the District needs certifications for all projects – many RTPO members are not following LGRF guidance for project development and are trying to close out projects without having reported progress to the DOT or following what the program requires – this could jeopardize funding, and DOT District 6 urges follow up with their staff. Have contractors apply to be on the State list as pre-qualified contractors. Using a non-state-qualified contractor could also jeopardize project funding!
- Members are encouraged to follow up with NMDOT District 6 – JoAnn Garcia regarding their LGTPF projects.
- **LGRF – tomorrow is deadline for submission to project oversight division.**
 - **7 entities did not participate so funding got shifted around.**
 - **Dollar amounts will be provided to entities to be incorporated into local resolutions.**
- **Driveway Permits – Jason Grover expressed the needs for local entities to consult with NMDOT when considering subdividing plots of land next to NMDOT highway facilities due to driveway access and permitting processes. Too many subdivisions have been proposed without proper consultation with NMDOT and issues with driveway and access have risen. These are required and enforced by New Mexico state statutes!**

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

- Evan Williams – the COG and the RTPO will be available to all RTPO members to assist with project development strategies, funding review and application preparation if needed.

ANNOUNCEMENTS & NEXT MEETING: No announcements – **next meeting May 12, 2021 – virtual meeting via Microsoft Teams**

ADJOURNMENT (12:30 pm) Elroy Keetso, Pueblo of Laguna moved and Rodney Skersick, McKinley County seconded for adjournment. Motion carried by acclamation.

MEETING ACTIONS:

RTPO Members:

- **Review Program Guides** - send to members as soon as they are published.
 - Active Transportation & Recreational Programs Guide
 - CMAQ Guide
 - Transportation Project Fund Guide
- **Apply for Transportation Project Fund applications by May 30th.**
 - **Letter**
 - **Project Feasibility Form**
- **Transportation Funding (All Sources)** - Call COG/RTPO for any support and technical assistance concerning funding.
- **Call for Transportation Projects Guide** - once published inform all community stakeholders that might have transportation projects and funnel them into the RTPO process as desired by the T/LPA.
- **Review Key State Legislation** - such as reported by Ron Shutiva
 - [SB377](#)
 - [HB285](#)
 - [HB2](#)

RTPO Staff:

- **Minutes** - make the approved amendments to the minutes and re-post to website.
- **TAP/RTP/CMAQ Presentation** - send a copy to members with the minutes and post to website.
- **ADA/Title VI Plans** - need to review compliance especially Village of Milan (are they exempt because they have less than 50 people) - Sky Tallman.
 - **If needed, get template and a copy of another T/LPA ADA Transition Plan - July 12**
- **Training** - post T/LPA Handbook recordings online
 - Members get links to train themselves.
 - Post the link or video on your RTPO webpage.
- **RTPO Orientation** - need to get confirmation on sitting through the YouTube presentation (RTPO staff will offer in-person orientation once restrictions are lifted)
- **Video Recording of Meeting** - split out Sky Tallman presentation if possible, send copies to Transportation Commission, publish and post (BH/EW to attend)
- **Call for Transportation Projects Guide**
 - **Update BUILD/INFRA to the new program "Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity – RAISE - done**
 - **Space between TPF - done**
 - **Update Timeline with RTPO meeting locations - done**
 - **Call Neala/Clarissa Martinez (POD) to see if there is a more current PFF - attach to end of the packet**
- **Program Guides** - send to members as soon as they are published.
 - Active Transportation & Recreational Programs Guide
 - CMAQ Guide
 - Transportation Project Fund Guide
- **May Agenda** - add presentation from Jason Grover.
- **RTPO Schedule:**
 - Remove conference number (participate via Microsoft Teams all meeting information is posted on the website) - **Done**
 - Location from Eastern Agency - need to finalize before publishing. **Established location at NWNMCOG.**

- **Transportation Projects Fund List**
 - Finalize and send to Transportation Commissioners and District staff
- **RTIPR** - update RTIPR with project information reported by T/LPA in their monthly reports on projects listed in the RTIPR.

NMDOT Staff:

- **Quality Assurance Review** - April 28 for NWRTPPO Program (internal) - Neala
- **Presentation** - Jason Grover (see email based on short presentation today)
- **ZIPPER Meeting (District 6)** - April 30 (concerning Catron County and Sandoval projects)
- **Review Program Guides** - send to RTPO as soon as they are published.
 - Active Transportation & Recreational Programs Guide
 - CMAQ Guide
 - Transportation Project Fund Guide