

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

Wednesday June 10, 2020
 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
 Meeting executed via conference call
 Due to COVID-19 Pandemic

ATTENDANCE:

Local & Tribal Governments	
Entity	Representative(s)
Pueblo of Acoma	Dave Deutsawe (Chair); Raymond Concho Jr.
Pueblo of Laguna	Ray Lucero
Pueblo of Zuni	Royce Gchachu
Navajo Nation	Absent (Northern & Eastern Agencies)
Ramah Navajo	Shane Lewis
City of Grants	Mark Teshima
City of Gallup	Alicia Santiago
Village of Milan	absent
Cibola County	Judy Horacek
McKinley County	Rodney Skersick
San Juan County	absent
Farmington Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) – Ex-officio	Not in attendance

New Mexico Department of Transportation (NMDOT)	
Entity	Representative(s)
RTPO Liaison	Neala Krueger
District 5	James Mexia, Stephanie Medina
District 6	JoAnn Garcia, Bill Santiago – both absent
Tribal Liaison	Ron Shutiva - absent
Local Government Relations	Not in attendance

Regional Transportation Planning Organization	
Entity	Representative(s)
Northwest NM Council of Governments	Robert Kuipers

Tally Sheet – Attendance & Quorum

Members	NMDOT	RTPO	Guests
9	3	1	0
Member Entities	Attending	%	TOTAL:
12	9	75	13

ROUTINE ITEMS:

Item #	Item
I.	Call to Order and Introductions. The meeting was called to order at 10:20 am, Dave Deutsawe and Bob Kuipers 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. ACTION: Ray Lucero (Laguna) motioned and Dave Deutsawe (Acoma) seconded adoption of the agenda. All in favor – motion carried.
1Q	Minutes (March 11, 2020). Chairman provided time for review of minutes and no comments or revisions were made. ACTION: Judy Horacek motioned and Dave Deutsawe (Acoma) seconded adoption of the minutes. All in favor – motion carried.

ACTION ITEMS:

Item #	Item	Presenter
IV.	RTIPR Revision Process & Timeline (CY2020-21)	Robert Kuipers, Program Manager

BACKGROUND

- **Why?** Every two years (biennial basis) the NWRTPPO engages a Call for Projects process to invite new projects into the NWRTPPO 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 NWRTPPO members in a review of the proposed process going forward to qualify new projects for inclusion in the FFY2021 RTIPR for the NWRTPPO.
- **Discussion/Finalization.** **There will not be a Call for Projects in FFY2020:** the NWRTPPO will simply update the RTIPR.

CURRENT WORK

- RTPO members will discuss the **RTIPR revision process and timeline**. At this time members will simply vote to approve and authorize the revision process and timeline – which will seek to update the RTIPR by removing projects or project phases that have already been funded, and **simply insert new projects via PFF’s**. The NWRTPPO will not undertake the entire process recommended in the Call for projects, and simply add projects to the RTIPR via PFF’s – since funding is not anticipated until FFY2021.

ANTICIPATED WORK

- RTPO members to vote on approval and authorization of the FFY2020 – FFY2021 NWRTPPO RTIPR revision process, and set timelines for PFF submission and review at the June 10 meeting.

ATTACHMENTS

- NWRTPPO Call for Transportation Projects Guide.

BUDGET IMPACT

- None.

ACTION ITEM

- RTPO members will vote to approve and authorize the RTIPR Revision Process & Timeline
 Members unanimously approved the RTIPR Revision Process and Timeline as represented.

DISCUSSION/PRESENTATION ITEMS:

Item #	Item	Presenter
V.	Presentation: NMDOT Long Range Transportation Plan Update_2020	Robert Kuipers, Program Manager

BACKGROUND

- **Why?** Every five years the NMDOT conducts a major update to their Long Range Transportation Plan for the state.
- **Purpose.** It is strategically appropriate for NWRTPO members to be aware of the Statewide NMDOT LRTP update, as we generally conduct our Regional Transportation Plan major update at the same time, and try to some extent to coordinate / synchronize our priorities.
- **Discussion/Finalization.** Members will be provided a brief overview of NMDOT’s timeline and major components of their LRTP update, for consideration toward our own RTP update.

CURRENT WORK

- Members will be encouraged to familiarize with NMDOT’s LRTP update, and complete the related survey **so that our region’s interests can be represented** in the statewide LRTP.

ANTICIPATED WORK

- Members will be asked to consider and contribute to our own Regional Transportation Plan update to be developed “in sync.” with the state LRTP timelines – anticipating completion in September or October.

ATTACHMENTS

- Initial Announcement and Guidance for the State LRTP update.

BUDGET IMPACT

- None

ACTION ITEM

- N/A

Discussion:

Neala Krueger presented on the status and process for the NMDOT statewide Long Range Transportation Plan update entitled the New Mexico 2045 Transportation Plan. Members are encouraged to complete the survey available on the NMDOT website, so our region can have our interests and priorities incorporated – where appropriate. There will be stakeholder meetings most likely the weeks of July 7 and July 13.



Item #	Topic	Presenter
VI.	Update: NWRTPO Regional Transportation Plan Update – process, outline & schedule	Robert Kuipers, Program Manager

BACKGROUND
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Why? The NWRTPO makes minor updates to its Regional Transportation Plan every year; but every 5 years the NWRTPO undertakes a more major update to its RTP in sync. with NMDOT’s LRTP update. • Purpose. This year the NWRTPO will undertake a more significant update to our Regional Transportation Plan, and try to some extent to coordinate / synchronize our priorities with those represented within the NM-LRTP update that have appeal or utility within our region. • Discussion/Finalization. Members will be provided 1) a concise summary and 2) a more detailed summary outlining the process and schedule for our RTP update.

CURRENT WORK
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Members will be encouraged to familiarize with our Regional Transportation Plan on the NWNM Council of Governments website, and consider what interests their respective regional gov. jurisdiction may have for inclusion in our more significant RTP update this year.

ANTICIPATED WORK
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Members will be asked to consider and contribute toward updating our RTP this year to insure that their respective interests are represented in the final document – anticipating completion in September or October, 2020. • Members will be particularly asked to update their gov. jurisdiction’s priorities for <u>Appendix 2 – Public Outreach Report</u>, which cites forthcoming priorities for both our region (p.85) and our respective NWRTPO Member Governments pp. 86 – 103. It will be important for our respective members to execute update recommendations for this section within specified timelines; those who do not respond will be left out. These new priorities can reflect both current RTIPR project priorities, as well as new prioritized directions or interests that participating member governments wish to pursue for multi-modal transportation maintenance or development.

ATTACHMENTS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quick Summary – FFY2020 NWRTPO Regional Transportation Plan Update. • General Schedule for NWRTPO Regional Transportation Plan Update.

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

Discussion:

RTPO staff indicated that with little funding available from the state until FFY2021 for local projects, we will execute a much simpler process which will only entail submission of Project Feasibility Forms (PFF’s) to incorporate new projects or phases into our RTIPR update this year. Guidance and schedule is provided in this meeting package. Members are asked to review our current RTIPR, to recommend removal of projects or project phases that have been already fully funded.

Item #	Topic	Presenter
VII.	REPORTS: (10 minute limit due to virtual meeting)	RTPO & DOT staff, RTPO members

Significant news only due to virtual meeting

<p>RTPO Program Report (<i>significant news only</i>)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff provided the monthly report for May which includes announcements on training and funding opportunities, and other transportation news from the recent past or near future. Staff provided the monthly work hours and budget expenditures summary for May. • FHWA Planning, Environment and Realty Reports, NMDOT Planning Government to Government Reports, and AASHTO Publication Updates are regularly forwarded to members as they come out. 	Robert Kuipers, Program Manager
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	
<p>Regional News & Updates</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regional Work Program Status Report • RTPO Report • Member Reports 	
<p>Member Special Reports:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None submitted prior to the meeting 	
<p>NMDOT Reports:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • G to G Liaison: Neala Krueger • Tribal Liaison: Ron Shutiva • District 6: JoAnn Garcia & staff; District 5: vacant at this time 	
<p>News, Training & Funding Opportunities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>FHWA Planning, Environment & Realty Reports: 5/14, 5/28</u> • <u>NMDOT Govt. to Govt. Update: 5/11</u> • <u>AASHTO Publications: 5/11, 5/19, 5/29</u> • <u>NMDOT / UNM-LTAP</u>: Provides a very robust collection of training opportunities – staff forward news to members as it comes out from this source – reference at ltap.unm.edu • Notice of <u>Updated NMDOT Policy & Procedures Manual (PPM)</u> available on DOT website • <u>Tribal COVID-19 Grant and Tribal Transportation Program (TTP) NOFO</u> funding opportunity • <u>NM-E.D.D. Outdoor Equity Fund</u> • <u>NMDOT 2024 Transportation Plan (Long Range Transportation Plan major update)</u> • <u>CARES Act Grant</u> Application opportunity • <u>Tribal Planning & Pedestrian Safety webinar: 6/23, 1:00pm – 2:15 pm</u> for our time zone • <u>ROUTES – “Rural Opportunities to Use Transportation for Economic Success</u>: USDOT Secretary Elaine Chao announced this new funding source supporting rural transportation needs in America. • <u>US DOT announces \$321.4 million in “Nationally Significant Federal Lands and Tribal Projects”</u>: (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 • <u>Title VI Training</u> is available to MPO’s and RTPO’s from Lisa Neie – Civil Rights Manager for FHWA New Mexico. These trainings can be customized to address member concerns and issues for their regions, if provided to her in advance. Based on training length, we could provide it at one of our meetings. • <u>USDOT 2020 BUILD Grant</u>: funding for large / expensive projects • <u>Tran-SET Conference rescheduled for Sept. 1-2, 2020</u> 	

RTPO Program Report – (Significant News Only):	Robert Kuipers – RTPO Program Manager
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- Staff provided the monthly report for May which includes announcements on training and funding opportunities, and other transportation news from the recent past or near future. Staff provided the monthly work hours and budget expenditures summary for May.
- FHWA Planning, Environment and Realty Reports, NMDOT Planning Government to Government Reports, and AASHTO Publication Updates are regularly forwarded to members as they come out.

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

Pueblo of Acoma

- Pueblo concluded project development on March 17 related to the COVID-19 pandemic; will resume project development in May, if the Pandemic subsides. **Pueblo of Acoma remained closed thru June 2; contractors are now two months behind due to COVID-19 pandemic.**
- CMGC – 4 Projects: *(request for proposals for this new bundle of projects was published 2/10/19)*
- CMGC2-1 Transportation Office Complex – Design is complete. Construction for the new building has commenced.
- 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 – construction will commence in 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.
- All CMGC-2 Projects have been shut down due to COVID-19 precautions.
- The Pueblo is continuing on the update to their Long-Range Transportation Plan; 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. Public involvement meetings are postponed due to COVID-19, which will delay completion dates for these 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; 20 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.
- 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. These would include engineering studies, NEPA, infrastructure development and engineers estimates, and renderings for each area.

Pueblo of Zuni

- 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.
- The Pueblo continues to update its long-range transportation plan.
- **Ongoing road maintenance around the Pueblo.**
- The Pueblo has worked with Ashiwi Transit and Gallup Express to extend transit service to the Ramah Navajo area.
- The Pueblo has engaged contractual on call engineering services for future transportation development.
- The Ashiwi transit system received a national award at the 2019 National RTAP (*Rural Transportation Assistance Program*) conference.

McKinley County

- **The County is finishing their Local Government Road Fund projects including the Thoreau Town Site project at \$776K for cold mix overlay, for which the County has rented a milling machine.** Certifications are complete for all LGRF projects and the County is requesting an extension till Spring – 2020 to complete maintenance construction which will include **paving for CR-1 in Mentmore.**
- 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 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.
- 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 completed gravelling Allison road is currently providing base course and chipseal for the Pine Haven road.**

Gallup

- **NOO's have been processed for the Gallup Mainstreet Project – construction anticipated to commence July 1.**
- **Nizhoni and W. Aztec improvements are currently in design.**
- 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. Project is ongoing at this time.
- The East Nizhoni Blvd. Reconstruction project was awarded LGTPF funding – the contract with NMDOT was executed by the City and the State, with the electronic copy received; awaiting the original signature.
- 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.

Milan (not present this meeting)

No report submitted this month.

Ramah

- Acting executive director for Ramah Navajo Chapter's 638 Grants & Contract Programs issued extension shelter in place memorandum restricting travel, purchasing and reducing staff to essential employees.
- BIA Projects Update:
 - BIA 125 mp 18 – 24.6 – received 100% design plans – submitting concurrence letter to FHWA and received approval to move forward and finalize project.
 - 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; received approval from NNHPO on the updated cultural report and categorical exclusion.
 - BIA 195: submitted ROW documents to RN Realty Office
 - BIA 145 and BIA 113: Received draft report for BIA 145 and BIA 113.
- 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.

Cibola County

- ZMTP RTP trail project is funded for FFY2020 construction – working with McKinley County for trails development beginning with the Quartz Hill Trail Head.
- CR-18B and CR1 road / bridge projects are current priorities. CR-18B awarded LGTPF funding – LGTPF contract is complete and submitted.
- Coop projects will begin soon.
- **Ongoing County wide maintenance for County and Forest Roads.**

Grants

- Riverwalk trail: Design at 100% from WHPacific, Project is on hold for the time being.

- First Street phase 3 – 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 from Washington to Roosevelt – anticipate construction late summer of 2020. Anticipate bidding in July and construction to commence in September. Total project stands at \$6.2 million.
- 2nd Street – construction is now complete. 2nd street bridge out to bid for construction in June.
- **Washington bridge replacement over 2nd Street through LGTPF funding will include a walking opportunity for High School students – out to bid in June; construction anticipated for this summer, but currently shut down around COVID-19 restrictions.**
- Lobo Canyon and Roosevelt intersection improvements are underway

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- Encinal Road to St. Rd. 279, a bike/ped path: The Construction Management services firm selected is Bohannon Huston Inc. Construction NTP was issued in January. Construction is at 17% complete. Desert Fox Paving has cleared and grubbed the first half of the trail and working on subgrade. Completion date is set for September per approved construction schedule.
- **L26 Rainfall Road from Cubero Wash to Seama bridge M108: Construction has been completed, including a bike & ped. trail.**
- 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; Pueblo is closing out these projects at this time.
- LGFR / BIA Road Maintenance Striping Projects: Phase 2 & 3: Phase 2 – working on ITS certs. for L500 Mountain Ash Loop and Central Park roads. Phase 3 – working on NMDOT certs for L540 – Veterans Memorial Road and L200 Elizabeth Bender Road. Construction to commence this summer for both phases.
- 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 95% 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 Paguate Wash Bridge: PER In progress – draft report has been submitted to the Pueblo and BIA.
- M108 San Jose River Bridge-Seama: PS&E complete and ROW amendments approved; pending items include EA, FONSI and NOI.
- L248 Bluejay Road and L248 Blue Star Loop: RFP published, proposals received, reviewed and awarded. A kick off meeting will be held in March.
- Pueblo's Safety Plan: Phase 1 is complete and the Pueblo is intending to apply for additional planning funds to continue plan development.
- NMDOT I-40 Safety Project: The Pueblo met with NMDOT on March 3. Design is at 90%; NMDOT hopes to let the project this summer.

Navajo Nation – Northern Agency (not present for this meeting)

- NMDOT Safety Projects:
 - Shiprock Chapter/Navajo DOT in coordination with NMDOT are working on a school zone safety project at Hwy 64 west of Hwy 491/64 intersection. Project on NM NWRTPO List – programmed for funding on NM STIP for construction in 2023. Beyond this, DOT District 5 is working for intersection safety improvements with Beclabito, Gadiahii, Tsedaakaan and Shiprock chapters for US64 up to the Arizona state line.
 - Beclabito Chapter/NDOT on safety project on Hwy 64 at MP 3.0-3.5 for street lighting. In planning stage with NMDOT District 5. The Chapter was awarded NM Capital Outlay funding for a helipad landing facility.
 - TseDaaKaan Chapter/NDOT safety project to improve Hwy 64 & N5031 Intersection. Project on NM NWRTPO list. Application was updated and submitted for HSIP funding. Earmarked for construction in NM STIP 2021.

- 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, Anthony Allison and other State Legislatures to obtain additional funding for preliminary engineering studies and clearances and design.
- Upper Fruitlan 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 – construction to begin in summer - 2020.
- 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.
- Lee Engineering is providing a safety audit for Newcomb, Naschitti and Sheep Springs.
- Hwy 64 Shiprock Bridge replacement – a public hearing is set for Nov. 14 at the Shiprock Chapter
- Burnham Chapter is proposing for N5 hwy. intersection improvements.
- Newcomb Chapter is working on a low water crossing project funded through state and tribal funds – needing BIA approval for a road realignment; and pushing for street lighting along Hwy 491.
- Sanostee Chapter is also pushing for street lighting along US491.
- Road Safety Audit funding awarded to Twin Lakes, Mexican Springs and Tohatchi Chapters through the LGTPF funding opportunity from the State of New Mexico.
- San Juan – Hogback Bridge have completed feasibility studies for a new bridge.
- Shiprock Chapter is seeking a road safety audit for US491 mp. 89 – 90
- Burnham Chapter is seeking a road safety audit and N-5 / Chapter intersection improvement
- Newcomb Chapter is seeking funding for street lights along the US491 and N5001 intersection
- Sanostee Chapter is seeking funding to construct drainage infrastructure for the intersection of US491 and N-34, as well as a school zone RSA on N34
- Local Government Road Fund awards to Navajo Chapter Projects as follows:
 - Sheep Springs Chapter awarded \$50K for improvements to N5002
 - Gadihii-Tokoi Chapter awarded \$200K for chip-seal 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.

Navajo Nation – Eastern Navajo

- Bread Springs (Baahaali) Chapter awarded LGTPF funding at \$281.5 K to construct their waste transfer station access road.
- Twin Lakes, Tohatchi and Mexican Springs Chapters were awarded LGTPF funding for Road Safety Audits on US491 intersections serving these chapters.
- McKinley County has an MOU in place with the Navajo Nation (who contribute \$400,000 annually to the county for maintenance of primary Navajo Chapter roads.
- 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 on behalf of 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.
- Navajo DOT looking at another Transportation Symposium coming up March 31 through April 2, 2020 at the Farmington Convention Center; the Tribe is looking for trainers from the New Mexico side, with focus on best practices and safety. **This conference has now been cancelled.**
- Navajo DOT is also considering providing quarterly TTAP trainings at the NDOT facility in Tse Bonito.
- NDOT is having meetings with Eastern Navajo Chapter areas for transportation needs
 - Crownpoint Chapter is seeking funding for NM371 and N-9 intersection improvements
 - Standing Rock Chapter is seeking funding for an RSA on N-9

- White Rock Chapter is seeking funding for an RSA on NM371
- Smith Lake Chapter is seeking funding for an RSA and street lighting for the NM371 and N49 intersection
- NDOT is updating their agreements with Counties in NM, AZ and Utah at this time.
- NDOT completed a safety plan for the Arizona Counties side of the Navajo Nation – hope to do the same on the NM side for Northern Navajo, Eastern Navajo, and the New Mexico side of Ft. Defiance Agency.

New Mexico Department of Transportation Reports <i>(significant news only)</i>	RTPO Liaison (Neala Krueger) Tribal Liaison (Ron Shutiva) District 5 (James Mexia, Stephanie Medina) District 6 (JoAnn Garcia; Bill Santiago)
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New news in bold

Multimodal Planning & Programs Bureau – Neala Krueger

- **NMDOT is reviewing NWRTPO’s FFY2021-2022 Regional Work Program and will provide feedback (if any) by June 15th ; the final RWP is due to NMDOT on July 1st.**
- **Lee Engineering emailed stakeholders the final US-491 Road Safety Audit Report and appendix on June 2nd. This RSA comprised Naschitti, Newcomb, and Sheep Springs communities and was funded via HSIP. Any further questions, response letters, or letters of support can be directed to Neala Krueger (neala.krueger@state.nm.us). Feedback from the Navajo Chapters is still pending.**
- **The NMDOT Long Range Transportation Plan website/portal is available at <https://newmexico2045plan.com/>. Please complete the survey. Also, share your feedback, thoughts, and ideas through the “Contact Us” form. In light of COVID-19, stakeholder workshops will be conducted this summer through a virtual, webinar format. NMDOT is currently looking to schedule the workshops during the weeks of July 13 or July 20.**
- **NMDOT sent NWRTPO staff the Quality Assurance Review (QAR) report results on May 27. The QAR noted that NWRTPO staff and committee is high performing and deserving of commendation on their work products, outputs, innovation and collaboration.**
- **NMDOT Planning is undertaking a Pedestrian Safety Action Plan. A public survey and input map is available at: <https://nmpedplan.altaplanning.cloud/#/>**

NMDOT Tribal Liaison – Ron Shutiva

- 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.
- Ron has sent out statewide Tribal Contacts for 2020 and put them on the DOT website.
- Ron now has an office in Albuquerque along with an office in Santa Fe.
- I-40 Safety projects are coming to the Laguna Acoma area, including the exit 114 bridge.
- Many tribes benefited from the recent LGTPF funding opportunity – which is now called the Transportation Project Fund from the State of New Mexico. New funding from this source not anticipated until FFY2021.
- Ron brought up Tribal Lands funding and ROUTES funding now available.
- A Road Dust webinar is forthcoming. COVID-19 webinars are available from the NM Governor.
- 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!**
- Ron shared concern regarding the lack of an NDOT Eastern Navajo representative – they are putting a lot of pressure on Larry Joe!

NMDOT District 5

- 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.
- **New Reports from James Mexia and Stephanie Medina:**
- **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 drafting Coop Agreements at this time to get out to local governments.**

NMDOT District 6 (not present this meeting)

- JoAnn Garcia reminded members to check up on their Capital Outlay projects in the CPM 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.
- Bill Santiago reminded members that Local Government Road Fund projects have been submitted to Santa Fe – once approved, the District will draft agreements for local governments. LGTPF funding is going out to local governments.

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

- None this meeting.

ANNOUNCEMENTS & NEXT MEETING: Wednesday, July 8, 2020 to be held at the **San Juan Fire Operations Center at 209 S. Oliver Drive in Aztec**; **in the event COVID-19 restrictions are not lifted, the meeting will revert to virtual via conference call.**

ADJOURNMENT: Dave Deutsawe (Acoma) moved and Alicia Santiago (Gallup) seconded approval of this formal amendment. Motion carried by acclamation.

MEETING ACTIONS:

RTPO Members:

- *RTPO Meeting Schedule:* Review and confirm RTPO Meeting Schedule and confirm in advance if meetings cannot be held in person due to COVID-19 restrictions.

RTPO Staff:

- *Annual Agenda Meeting Guide:* Finalize and distribute to members for review and comment at next meeting.
- *Retirement:* Thank Stan Henderson for his years of service to the RTPO and region.
- *RTPO Orientation Video:* Produce and distribute a video for members and governing bodies.
- RTPO staff will be updating our *Regional (long-range) Transportation Plan* this year with completion anticipated for FFY2020 4th quarter, or FFY2021 1st quarter.

NMDOT Staff:

- *T/LPA Handbook Training:* This training has already been announced and provided throughout the state for the Handbook update – some of our RTPO members have attended already. Is it possible to have an abbreviated training at an upcoming meeting or to video this training so that all NWRTPO members can access it. (Jolene Herrera) RTPO staff will follow up with Ms. Herrera on this.
- *New Mexico Transportation Plan Update:* Members can review the plan's roll out schedule and status at the project website: <https://newmexico2045plan.com/>

This meeting was conducted via conference call, due to the COVID-19 Pandemic.