

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

Wednesday July 08, 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	Larry Joe (Northern & Eastern Agencies)
Ramah Navajo	absent
City of Grants	Don Jaramillo
City of Gallup	Alicia Santiago
Village of Milan	absent
Cibola County	Judy Horacek
McKinley County	Absent (<i>due to conflicting meeting</i>)
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	Stephanie Medina
District 6	absent
Tribal Liaison	Ron Shutiva
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
8	3	1	0
Member Entities	Attending	%	TOTAL:
12	7	58	12

ROUTINE ITEMS:

Item #	Item
I.	Call to Order and Introductions. The meeting was called to order at 10:15 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: Dave Deutsawe (Acoma) motioned and Don Jaramillo (Grants) seconded adoption of the agenda. All in favor – motion carried.
III.	Minutes (March 11, 2020). Chairman provided time for review of minutes and no comments or revisions were made. ACTION: Judy Horacek (Cibola) motioned and Ray Lucero (Laguna) seconded adoption of the minutes. All in favor – motion carried.

ACTION ITEMS:

Item #	Item	Presenter
IV.	No action items this meeting.	Robert Kuipers, Program Manager

DISCUSSION/PRESENTATION ITEMS:

Item #	Item	Presenter
V.	Presentation: 2020 NWRTPO Quality Assurance Review Report	Neala Krueger – NMDOT Liaison
BACKGROUND		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Why? RTPO staff are responsible for managing NWRTPO meeting agendas, minutes, governing documents, financial investments, public awareness and access, member govt. participation, staff/member training investments, funding opportunities and monitoring / reporting for our region’s development and maintenance of transportation infrastructure and services. • Purpose. To assure the NWRTPO provides efficient and effective collaboration and service to our region’s participating governments, for the development and maintenance of transportation infrastructure and services • Discussion/Finalization. RTPO members and their respective local governments will have a better understanding of how the NWRTPO helps serve transportation development, services and maintenance in a manner that equitably distributes resources on behalf of all our member governments, and promotes cross-jurisdictional collaboration for regional transportation priorities. 		
CURRENT WORK		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Report on the NWRTPO QAR review for FFY2019 – FFY2020 cycle 		
ANTICIPATED WORK		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The annual QAR reviews and assures that the NWRTPO responsibly and equitably helps our regional local governments access resources and develop / maintain infrastructure and services based on vetted local and regional transportation priorities. 		
ATTACHMENTS		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2019 – 2020 QAR Review document 		
BUDGET IMPACT		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None 		
ACTION ITEM		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • N/A 		

Ms. Krueger provided an overview of the annual NWRTPO QAR process, and praised the NWRTPO for exemplary performance related to obtaining funding and executing projects. She indicated that the recent

corrective action period has been properly completed and is no longer an issue for the NWRTP. There was only one minor finding in the 2019 QAR which pertained to signed resolutions being posted on the NWNMCOG – RTPO website. *(As a result staff have already executed posting FFY2019 resolutions to the website.)* There was also a minor finding in the Audit report, which pertained to having a Chief Procurement Officer in place – as a result Admin. Asst. Martina Whitmore engaged training and was certified as procurement officer for the COG in February, 2020.

Item #	Topic	Presenter
VI.	Update & Discuss: NWRTP Regional Transportation Plan Update – process, outline & schedule	Robert Kuipers
BACKGROUND		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Why? The NWRTP makes minor updates to its Regional Transportation Plan every year; but every 5 years the NWRTP undertakes a more major update to its RTP in sync. with NMDOT’s LRTP update. • Purpose. This year the NWRTP 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 govt. 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 govt. jurisdiction’s priorities for Appendix 2 – Public Outreach Report, which cites forthcoming priorities for both our region (p.85) and our respective NWRTP 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 NWRTP Regional Transportation Plan Update. • General Schedule for NWRTP Regional Transportation Plan Update. 		
BUDGET IMPACT		ACTION ITEM
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • N/A

Discussion:

Staff covered a 1) Quick Summary one page guide to our 2020 LRTP update and 2) a two page more comprehensive summary of the update process, and page numbers for every section of our current Regional (long-range) Transportation Plan to be updated. Staff emphasized for members to particularly update their project priorities as cited in our RTIPR, or based on their respective jurisdictional leaders priorities for future development in appendix #2 -pp. 84-103 which provides the public outreach report, but also highlights the transportation priorities for each of our participating member governments.

Item #	Topic	Presenter
VII.	Review & Discuss: RTIPR Revision Process and Timeline:	Robert Kuipers
BACKGROUND		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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 discussion on progress with Project Feasibility Forms to qualify new projects for inclusion in the FFY2021 RTIPR for the NWRTPPO. • Discussion/Finalization. There will not be a formal Call for Projects in FFY2020: the NWRTPPO will simply update the RTIPR with PFF's for new projects or phases due at our October 14 meeting. 		
CURRENT WORK		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RTPO members will discuss the RTIPR revision process and timeline. At this time members will simply discuss progress with updating the RTIPR by removing projects or project phases that have already been funded, and adding new projects or phases 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		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RTPO members will discuss progress with eliminating funded projects or phases in the current RTIPR, and inserting new projects or phases via PFF's for the FFY2020 – FFY2021 NWRTPPO RTIPR revision. 		
ATTACHMENTS		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RTIPR Revision Timeline 		
BUDGET IMPACT		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None. 		
ACTION ITEM		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No action needed 		

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. Members may add new phases or projects into the RTIPR revision against an October 14 RTPO meeting deadline.

Item #	Topic	Presenter
VIII.	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 June 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 summary for June – Expenditure report not yet available due to end of COG fiscal year. 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
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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
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<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
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<p>News, Training & Funding Opportunities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>FHWA Planning, Environment & Realty Reports</u>: 6/11, 6/24, 6/25 and 6/25 (two reports – same day) <u>NMDOT Govt. to Govt. Update</u>: 6/8/20 <u>AASHTO Publications</u>: 5/29, 6/9 and 6/19 <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>Rural Road Safety Center Training Opportunities</u>: sent to members 6/18 <u>NMDOT 2024 Transportation Plan (Long Range Transportation Plan major update)</u> <u>NHI Training Opportunities</u>: sent to members 6/24 <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>Tran-SET Conference rescheduled for Sept. 1-2, 2020</u>

Local Member Reports (<i>significant news only</i>)	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; resumed project development on May 17. Pueblo of Acoma remained closed thru June 2; contractors are now two months behind due to COVID-19 pandemic. **The Pueblo will not reopen until August 3 – and only if the pandemic resides.**
- **CMGC2 – 1: Construction of new office for Transportation and other Departments is underway – anticipate completion in September**
- 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.
- CMGC2 – 4 Projects: (*request for proposals for this new bundle of projects was published 2/10/19*)
- FEMA 4352 Large Projects (39) – 38 projects have been completed; work began in the southern regions of the Pueblo, just a few more to go.
- 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. **To mitigate COVID 19 delays, the Pueblo has developed a survey for public input.** 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; 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.**
- 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

- **The Pueblo is under lock down with little administrative activity due to COVID-19 pandemic.**
- 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 Gamercio 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. **Coal Avenue Commons project will commence ground breaking on May 13 – there will be a related celebration on that day.**
- 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.
- 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 (not present this meeting – previous report as follows:

- 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 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 – commenced in June.**
- 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 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.
- LGRF / 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 Paguete 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

- **Larry Joe requests COG RTPPO Manager to help him include US491 RSA recommendations Naschitti to Newcomb as proposed projects in our 2020 RTIPR revision.**
- 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

- **The Contract for L.G.T.P.F. RSA's is out to bid for the participating District 14 communities of Mexican Springs, Tohatchi and Twin Lakes Chapters.**
- 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

- 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 providing a virtual stakeholder workshop scheduled for July 14 from 10am to 12 noon:**
<https://www.gotomeet.me/HighStreet1/nm-2045-virtual-meeting/> / **Access Code: 748-240-3311 / Dial In No.: +1-872-240-3311**
- 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 reminding all RTPO members to be sure to check that their Capital Outlay, T.I.F. and L.G.R.F. projects are active and on track, because if no action has been initiated for too long a time it is highly probable that the State will retract the funding – due to the significant reduction in tax revenues related to the significantly negative impact of COVID-19 on tax revenues from the private sector!**
- **Ron indicated that there will be another tribal stakeholder workshop for the NM 2045 Long Range Transportation Plan on July 22.**
- **Ron indicated that the Laguna I-40 improvement project is moving forward from Exit 112 to 117.**
- **A report will be forthcoming for the NM118 Iyanbito area drainage study on July 29.**
- 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.
- 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.
- 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 – James Mexia, Stephanie Medina

- 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 (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, August 12 meeting, 2020 to be held at the Laguna Public Works Dept. – I-40 Exit 114 to NM124 Roundabout, then east on old Rt. 66 to L55 Rodeo Road, then north to first parking lot on left; **in the event COVID-19 restrictions are not lifted, the meeting will revert to virtual via conference call.**

ADJOURNMENT (12:00 noon)

ACTION: *Alicia Santiago* – (Gallup) moved and *Judy Horacek* (Cibola) seconded for adjournment Motion carried by acclamation.

MEETING ACTIONS:

RTPO Members:

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

RTPO Staff:

- *RTPO Orientation Video:* Produce and distribute a video for members and governing bodies.

NMDOT Staff:

- *T/LPA Handbook Training:* Is it possible to have an abbreviated training at the next meeting or to video this training so that all NWRTPO members can access it. (Jolene Herrera)
- *New Mexico Transportation Plan Update:* Info. provided above for July 14 Virtual Stakeholder workshop. ***This meeting conducted in virtual conf. call mode due to COVID-19 restrictions.***