
NWRTPO | Northwest Regional Transportation Planning Organization

Joint Policy & Technical Committee

NWRTPO Meeting Minutes

Wednesday December 12, 2018

10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Ramah Navajo Chapter

434 BIA Route 125, Pine Hill, NM

ATTENDANCE:

Local & Tribal Governments:

Pueblo of Acoma	Vice Chair – Dave Deutsawe
Pueblo of Laguna	Gaylord Siow for Ray Lucero
Pueblo of Zuni	Royce Gchachu
Navajo Nation	Eastern Navajo: Rosilyn Smith Northern Navajo: absent
Ramah Navajo	Shane Lewis
Farmington MPO	Vacant at this time
City of Grants	Don Jaramillo, Mark Teshima
City of Gallup	Alicia Santiago
Village of Milan	Absent
Cibola County	Absent
McKinley County	Chair – Jeff Irving
San Juan County	absent

Technical Agencies:

New Mexico Department of Transportation:	G-2-G Unit: Neala Krueger
	DOT District 5: Stephen Lopez
	DOT District 6: Marticia Holiday
	DOT Tribal Liaison: Ron Shutiva
	DOT – LTAP:
	DOT Admin:
Bureau of Indian Affairs	TTP:

NWRTPO Administration:

Northwest Regional Planning Organization: Robert Kuipers

Guests: There were approximately 10-12 guests throughout the day from Ramah Navajo Chapter – did not get their signatures on our attendance sheet

TOTAL ATTENDANCE: 6 Members, 3 alternate members, 4 NMDOT, 1 RTPO Staff, 10 guests – TOTAL: 24

- I. **Call to Order and Introductions:**....., NWRTPO staff – Bob Kuipers
 - Jeff Irving called the meeting to order at 10:00 am, welcomed those in attendance, and proceeded with introductions and approval of agenda and minutes. The meeting was hosted by Ramah Navajo Chapter with special thanks for coffee, snacks and lunch provided.
- II. **Review & Approval of Agenda:**.....Jeff Irving, Chair
 - Motion to Approve: Don Jaramillo – Grants; 2nd: Dave Deutsawe – Acoma; all in favor, none opposed.
- III. **Approval and Review of Minutes for July 11, 2018 meeting:**.....Jeff Irving
 - Motion to Approve: Shane Lewis – Ramah; 2nd: Don Jaramillo – Grants; all in favor, none opposed.
- IV. **NWRTPO Call for Projects Presentations:**.....Robert Kuipers

BACKGROUND
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Why: The NMDOT distributes federal funding for transportation maintenance and development to metropolitan and rural regions of the state. With limited funding available to rural areas, it is important to have a prioritized list of viable (qualified) projects for funding. • Purpose. The NWRTPO undertakes a new Regional Transportation Improvement Program Recommendations (RTIPR) list of projects that qualify for federal funding in two year cycles. • Discussion/Finalization. The NWRTPO will undertake this project qualification / prioritization process commencing in June, 2018 and completing in March, 2019 with an updated RTIPR.

WORK TO DATE
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An updated Call for Projects Guide has been developed to guide the NWRTPO members through the process for identifying qualified projects, and assessing their readiness for phased development, as well as competitiveness for funding. • In previous cycles, the NWRTPO has trimmed it’s RTIPR from \$350 million, with many projects that did not qualify for federal funding, down to \$65 million, with all projects listed qualifying for federal funding through the state. The actual documented need for our three county region of New Mexico is cited at \$777 million.

ANTICIPATED WORK
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The NWRTPO will commence the RTIPR update in June of 2018. The process will run through March of 2019, with a) submission of Project Feasibility Forms (PFF) due July 31, which if approved as viable for federal \$, will follow with b) submission of Project Prospectus Forms (PPF) due Oct. 26 (replacing PIF’s). c) For projects that compete for prioritization, the NWRTPO hears and scores presentations on project need and readiness from each jurisdictional representative at the Dec. 12, 2018 meeting. d) The NWRTPO then drafts the RTIPR update, and approve / authorize it in collaboration with the DOT staff at the 2/13/19 meeting in Tohatchi. e) From there, each DOT District prioritizes projects from their participating RTPO’s for the DOT District RTIP – referred to as the “Zipper” because it blends projects from several RTPO’s – DOT Dist. 6 at 3/13/19 meeting; DOT Dist. 5 sometime thereafter. • Once projects are cited in the DOT District RTIP, they are within 4-5 years of getting funded, or may need to be re-authorized by the RTPO and DOT District for future funding.

ATTACHMENTS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FFY 19 – 20 NWNM Call for Transportation Projects Guide (and schedule) • TAP, RTP and CMAQ applications and guidance

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

ACTION ITEM
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Members heard presentations on projects competing for RTIPR prioritization, and evaluatively ranked them for positioning in the RTIPR at today’s meeting, according to the Call for Projects schedule.

Discussion:

- No CMAQ projects have been submitted from NWRTPO members. Most members have submitted their respective PPF's and TAP / RTP application packages by the NWRTPO internal Oct. 26 deadline. A few members needed extensions on project presentations but submitted on time for today's meeting.
- Each member with Roadway, Bridge, TAP and/or RTP projects competing for RTIPR prioritization had 15 minute power point presentations including member discussion and evaluative ranking (templates). This process took up most the time of the meeting.

V. Reports, Updates & Announcements:

BACKGROUND
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Why? Update RTPO members on news, training, funding, and other items of special interest • Purpose. Keep RTPO members up to date on critical information from NWRTPO, NMDOT and USDOT / FHWA sources.
Informational Items
<p>Regional News & Updates</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NMDOT Dist. 6 – Marticia Holiday presented on NMDOT District 6 priorities in a seriously fiscally constrained budget, and why (due to federal constraints) each District has limited funding for rural New Mexico county, municipal and tribal • RTPO Report for November • RTPO Regional Work Program Status Report • Annual Performance & Expenditure Report for the NWRTPO • Election of Officers: Jeff Irving and Dave Deutsawe offered to continue as RTPO leaders and members unanimously concurred • 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: Marticia Holliday; District 5: Steve Lopez • DOT Planning Unit – Govt. to Govt. Weekly Updates
<p>Training & Funding Opportunities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Funding Opportunities: Federal Lands Access Program (FLAP) Call for Projects – due Jan. 15, 2019; guidance application and related documents have been forwarded to RTPO members. • Training: Reference Regional News & Updates above
<p>New Business / Open Floor:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No requests in advance of this meeting.

A. DOT Dist. 6 Priorities Report: Marticia explained the fiscal constraints both DOT Dist. 6, and the statewide DOT are under given a strained federal budget, and the further impediment of having to continue for years to come, pay off the Rail Runner investment from south of Albuquerque to Santa Fe.

B. RTPO Report – November 2018

- Reports attached for November RTPO report along with RWP Status Report
- Robert Kuipers provided members copies of and briefly covered the NWRTPO APER report
- FHWA Planning, Environment and Realty Reports, NMDOT Planning Govt. to Govt. Reports, and AASHTO Publication Updates are forwarded to members as they come out.
- Jeff Irving and Dave Deutsawe offered to continue as RTPO leaders and members unanimously concurred

C. Local Member Reports & Updates:

Due to the length of the meeting around project presentations competing for RTIPR prioritization, members recommended that we forgo all member and DOT reports, accept for anything critical. Motion to end meeting “early” – Royce Gchachu – Pueblo of Zuni; 2nd – Don Jaramillo – City of Grants; all members and DOT staff present in favor; none opposed. Neala Krueger and Ron Shutiva requested to report two significant report items from NMDOT. Reference below.

Reports cited below are from our November meeting, as most of these projects and activities are ongoing. New written reports turned in from Pueblo of Acoma and Ramah Navajo are attached.

1. Pueblo of Acoma:

- CMGC – 2 Projects:
 - CMGC-10 Transportation Office Complex – request for proposal is under review at FHWA – working with FHWA David Cremer on environmental clearances.
 - CMGC-11 SP130 Veterans Blvd. – Request for Proposal is under review at FHWA - working with FHWA David Cremer on environmental clearances.
 - CMGC-12 SP32 Pinsbaari Drive Trail - Request for Proposal is under review at FHWA - working with FHWA David Cremer on environmental clearances.
 - CMGC-13 Baseball Fields - Request for Proposal is under review at FHWA – consultant completing biological, cultural and environmental clearances.
 - CMGC-14 FEMA 4352 Large Projects – Request for Proposal is under review at FHWA; projects are shovel ready.
- BIA Legacy Projects:
 - SP302, GE Pino Roads – PS&E is ready for three road phases.
- Mesa Hill Road – applied for BUILD grant to fund construction, application at \$25 million for the Mesa Hill bridge project. A new grant is now available from USDOT entitled “**National significant Federal Lands and Tribal Projects Fund**” – **this will support larger tribal projects** and may be the next application for Mesa Hill Bridge. Dec. 17 first round of funds; June 2019 second round; October 2019 third round.
- The Pueblo is continuing an update to their Long Range Transportation Plan this month.
- Pinsbaari corridor study is now complete and has been accepted by the NM Econ. Dev. dept. and the N.M. Finance Authority.
- Turn-out and Overlook project is now complete and working on close out documentation with NMDOT.
- FEMA 4352:
 - Small Projects: pre-construction meeting will be held Oct. 3 with the Pueblo’s Public Works / Utility Authority Office – 64 projects.
 - Large Projects: Our request for proposal is under review at FHWA – 39 projects.
- **Dave Deutsawe has been nominated to the Every Day Counts national steering committee**
- To find Every Day Counts information, go to FHWA – EDC-5 website

2. Pueblo of Zuni:

- Not present this meeting

3. McKinley County:

- Johnson Road Project: Chip Seal application is being conducted, as weather permits.
- TIF: \$1.2 million awarded for 10 miles of Deer Springs Road improvement – Mexican Springs Chapter
- TIF: \$1.3 million awarded for 18 miles of CR19 road improvement – multiple Eastern Navajo Chapters
- The County is chip sealing local roads with LGRF funds – still awaiting funding
- The County is slowly backing away from maintenance on roads that do not have County ROW

4. **Gallup: not present this meeting, report from last meeting:**
 - In final closeout for NM118 and Allison Bridge projects with NMDOT District 6 and Santa Fe.
 - CDBG Sky City IV – reconstruction on Vista Avenue CDBG project – construction is ongoing
 - COOP project: completed maintenance of city streets; project in close out with NMDOT-6.
 - Veterans Cemetery access road to be reconstructed soon.

5. **Milan:**
 - Motel Drive project continues, obtained extension through October 12
 - Coop funded project for drainage behind Allsup's is at 90% design
 - Sand Street bridge in design
 - Mirabol Park – pursuing funding, hope to start in December or January

6. **Ramah:**
 - BIA Projects Update: BIA 125 mp 18 – 24.6; Submitted a resolution for a pond design to capture water run off for BIA 125 mp 0 – 4.4 last month, acquired approval for pond design this month.
 - Continuing to coordinate with Navajo Nation Historic Preservation Office for both BIA 125 projects. BIA 145 and 113 projects are being evaluated for best feasible alignment.
 - Ramah area leaders met with Eastern Navajo Land Commission regarding their collective opposition to relinquishing 638 status to mainland Navajo oversight for their region.
 - Attended the National Tribal Transportation Conference in Oklahoma City, Sept. 24-28, 2018.
 - Coordinating with TTPSF to expend safety funds for 10 Road Safety Audits.
 - Bi-monthly meeting with TTP Coordinator for project and maintenance updates.
 - RNDOT received TTP safety funds for ten (10) road safety audits.
 - Ongoing general maintenance for area roads, cattle guards and signage, blading and shaping, pot holes and base course patching (incl. school bus routes). Cleaning and replacing roadway signs. Field fence repairs, post replacements and gate repairs.

7. **Cibola County: not present this meeting – report from last month:**
 - ZMTP RTP trail project is funded for FFY2019 construction.
 - ICIP approved for the County
 - Capital Outlay awarded for road maintenance and new Sherriff vehicles
 - WH Pacific helping to identify data gaps

8. **Grants:**
 - Riverwalk trail: Right of Way certification coming from NMDOT; construction to follow
 - 1st Street next phase at 30% design; 2nd Street at 100% design and fully funded for construction.
 - The next major project will Roosevelt Road and Bridge.

9. **Pueblo of Laguna: not present this meeting – report from last month:**
 - a) **Pueblo of Laguna Road & Bridge Projects:**
 - L26 Rainfall Road & Trail design- completing PS&E, EA and other project documents. Trail redesign to start soon.
 - L24 Rainfall Road design changed to two phases, Ph-1 Road & Trail and Ph-2 Conc Box Underpass, Design Change Order in progress.
 - L26 Deer Dancer Road at 90% working on ROW amendments.
 - L243 Acorn Road designs, completed 60% design awaiting comments from design team
 - M137 San Jose River Bridge Replacement project, project is in progress. The west bound lane, is complete and is handling traffic. The work is shifted to the east bound portion of the bridge.
 - M154 Paguete Wash Bridge PER Request for Engineering Services, was bid, reviewed and awarded to a local Engineering firm. Kick off meeting planned for this month.
 - M108 San Jose River Bridge-Seama, PS&E complete, pending ROW amendments approval from the Tribal Council. Will require ROW amendments that include L26 Rainfall Road.
 - TTP Routes Mill, Overlay, Striping and Enhancements project is bid, with bids due 9-12-18.
 - Planning and Design Request for Proposal activities for L248 Bluejay Road and L248 Blue Star Loop, are still planned for this month.
 - The Pueblo's Safety Plan is near completion, pending final comments on draft document.
 - b) **TIF projects:**
 - NM124 & L22 Casa Blanca Rd Intersection PER is complete, will be forwarded to NMDOT District 6.

- Interstate 40-108 Interchange Corridor Study in progress, at 60%.
- c) NMDOT Road Projects, on the Pueblo of Laguna:
 - TAP- Trails, Bay Tree Rd to L22 Casa Blanca road, has been bid, awarded with construction started.
- d) TIGER
 - Trails, from Encinal Rd. to 279 (CN 6100763), is finalizing CM options and will bid.

10. Northern Navajo: Report provided via email

- Shiprock Airport runway is being rehabilitated (repair work)
- Rehabilitation work continues on US64 in Shiprock; working with NMDOT and Wilson Co. for improvements to US64, Shiprock to AZ state line
- N571 – Gadihii-Tokoi Chapter submitted LGRF application for this road – awarded \$200K for gravel and chip-seal improvements. Now stuck in N.N. 164 review process.
- Public hearings are being / will be taking place in Shiprock and Crownpoint regarding a new bridge over the San Juan River to Hogback Chapter on N368.
- N5004 - Sheep Springs Chapter awarded \$50K from LGRF for gravel / stabilization improvements

11. Eastern Navajo:

- Right of Way has been a challenge for Chapters to address related to road development
- BIA is assisting with maintenance work for N474 from Hwy 197 to Sandoval County line on behalf of Ojo Encino
- Assisting area Chapters with project development from state or NDOT sources
- Eastern Navajo has six projects proposed for the upcoming RTIPR.

C) State DOT Reports:

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

- **Statewide, there were 38 TAP applications submitted, and 14 RTP applications submitted.**
- **Report still relevant from last month below:**
- The NMDOT continues developing a community wide safety plan for Gallup; Stakeholder and public meetings were held September 11 and 12, with support from Wilson & Co.; because Neala is helping facilitate these meetings, she is unable to attend today's RTPO meeting.

2. NMDOT Tribal Liaison – Ron Shutiva:

- **Ron is pursuing a statewide Tribal Safety Summit, to take place in the Spring of 2019; he has generated a Survey Monkey and dropbox for tribal recommendations, and anticipates possibly reporting results by December 14.**
- **Relevant information from last report provided below:**
- LTPA Handbook is being updated; in internal NMDOT review at this time, thereafter will go out for MPO / RTPO review. DOT will deliver training sessions for the handbook in each DOT District in the Spring of 2019.
- DOT is undertaking it's Long Range Transportation Plan update, and most MPO's and RTPO's will undertake major updates in sync – usually done every four years. The NWRTPO makes minor updates to its Regional Transportation Plan every year.
- Notice to Proceed from NMFHWA Office is complete for all RTPO's statewide
- NMDOT has a new HSIP Coordinator – Mohamad Tahat; and the new TAP Coordinator is Maggie Moore.
- Ron is participating in meeting between the Interim Transportation Infrastructure Subcommittee and the Indian Affairs Dept. committee. Looking to craft stronger inter-department collaboration with stronger focus on tribal lands.

3. DOT District 5 – Steve Lopez:

- No new news of significance for this meeting.

4. DOT District 6 – Marticia Holiday – previous November meeting report:

- Thanks to all local governments for getting their LGRF agreements in on time! We are waiting on request for reimbursements from local governments.
- Remember – if your project is supposed to end in December and you anticipate problems – get your amendments / extension request in by October or early December.
- Waiting on documents from Acoma for closing out the Turn-out project.

VIII. **New Business / Open Floor – Members & Guests:** No new business presented.

IX. **Review Calendar & Announcements**

- FHWA Office of Planning, Environment & Realty Report: weeks of 11/18/18, 11/28/18, 11/29/18 and 12/2/18
- NMDOT Govt. to Govt. Updates: week of 11/26/18
- AASHTO Publications: weeks of 11/16/18, 11/21/18, and 11/29/18
- Federal Lands Access Program (FLAP): Guidance emailed to members a number of times; applications due January 15.
- TC3 / P3 Training Website: a new resource that seems to feature training that can be partially custom designed around innovative approaches and creative alternatives (emailed last month – part of Sept. meeting package).

X. **Next Meetings:**

- **January 9:** Cibola County Convention Center, 515 High Street, Grants, N.M.
- **February 13:** Tohatchi Chapter – 1 St. Mary’s Road / Indian Service Rt. 108 off US491, Tohatchi
- **March 13:** NMDOT District 6 Office – 1919 Pinon Drive, Milan, NM

XI. **Adjournment**

At 2:30PM, motion for meeting to adjourn by Royce Gchachu – Pueblo of Zuni, seconded by Don Jaramillo - Grants; passed by consensus, none opposed.

MEETING ACTIONS:

RTPO Members:

- Give consideration to the FLAP grant opportunity Call for Projects (*Federal Lands Access Program*) – applications due January 15, 2019
- “Dot your i’s and cross your t’s” – members encouraged to double check all their projects to ensure all required documentation is available – including any required supporting resolutions from your respective governments.

RTPO Staff:

- Distribute the schedule developed that provides annual or multi-year deadlines for all RTPO deliverables including reports – quarterly and annual, RTIPR Call for Projects cycle, Regional Work Program updates or amendments, and governing document updates (*Bylaws, Open Meetings Act Resolution, Title VI Plan, Public Participation Plan, Official Membership Roster*)
- Continue to update the Reg. Trans. Plan tracker instrument and pursue relevant information.
- Maintain appointment forms as members transition.
- Keep members informed on the FLAP (Federal Lands Access Program) funding opportunity – 1/15/19
- Keep an eye on federal funding for public transportation, and inform our regional 5310 & 5311 providers and RTPO members of any pending changes
- Continue collaborating with Northern Pueblos RTPO for development of the RISTRA / Panoramic real-time / transparent project development status website.

NMDOT Staff:

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



Thanks to Ramah Navajo Chapter for hospitality



P.O. Box 309
Acoma, New Mexico 87034

Pueblo of Acoma
Community Development Office

Telephone: (505) 552-5190
Fax: (505) 552-5198

December 2018
Activity Report

CMGC2 Projects-

1. CMGC-10 Transportation Office Complex – NEPA work is completed. Categorical Exclusion received.
2. CMGC-11 SP130 Veterans Blvd – NEPA work is completed. Categorical Exclusion received.
3. CMGC-12 SP32 Pinsbaari Drive Trail- NEPA work is completed. Categorical Exclusion received.
4. CMGC-13 Baseball Fields- NEPA work completed. CDO working with Reality to complete the Grant of Easements and ROW.
5. CMGC-14 FEMA 4352 Large Projects- Ready for recovery

BIA Legacy Projects-

1. SP302 GE Pino Roads- All documentation has been submitted to the BIA SWRO Division of Transportation for their PS&E review.
2. Mesa Hill Road- PS&E completed. Applied to several funding mechanism for construction.

Long Range Transportation Plan-

1. Update will be complete by December 31, 2018.

Pinsbaari Drive Corridor Development Study-

1. The plan is complete and has been accepted by the New Mexico Economic Department and New Mexico Finance Authority.
2. Our office has begun meeting to discuss our next steps to begin implementing the plan.

FEMA 4352-

1. Small Projects- Recovery work has begun. The POA Public Works/Utility Authority was awarded the small projects (64) at \$2.2M. Capital investment.
2. Large Projects- Recovery work will begin in the first quarter of 2019.

TTP-

1. Keychain reporting due December 31, 2018.
2. EDC-5



Ramah Navajo Department of Transportation

A Division of PL 93-638 Grants and Contracts

HCR 61 Box 13, Ramah New Mexico 87321-9601 * Office (505) 775-3264 Fax (505) 775-7103

MEMO: NWRTPO Update for the meeting on December 12, 2018

Location: Ramah Chapter House, Mt. View, NM

Status Report:

Planning & Design Side:

- 1) BIA Projects Update: Submitted request to move forward with Cultural Report for project BIA 125 MP 18.1-24.6 and continuing to coordinate with Navajo Nation Historic Preservation Office for BIA 125 MP 0.0-4.4. Reviewing comments from the BIA 145 & 113 Realignment Studies public information meeting. Coordinating with Navajo Nation Land Department for surveying/environmental field work regarding BIA 125 MP 0-4.4 Pond Design.
- 2) Prepare for winter season by ordering material, grader blades, and maintenance salt spreaders.
- 3) Held our normal Transportation Committee Meeting.

Operations & Maintenance Side:

General maintenance activities ongoing for paved, base coursed (graveled) and earth surface roadways. Submitted Memo for RNDOT's Standby/On-Call schedule for snow storms. Shaping and blading earth & gravel roads to address recent snow storms. Scheduling service for the John Deere motor grader will be held until January. Cattle guard maintenance & repair. Replacing route signs and cleaning graffiti off signs. Field fence repairs with post and H-Brace replacement. Gate repairs.

Events

- Christmas Day, December 25, 2018 - All RNC offices will be closed. Merry Christmas!
- Ramah Chapter Meeting, December 19, 2018, Ramah Chapter House at 10 AM.
- Transportation Committee meeting December 17, 2018 at Ramah Chapter House at 3 PM.