



# Transportation Priorities Plan



MESILLA VALLEY METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION  
ORGANIZACIÓN DE PLANIFICACIÓN METROPOLITANA DEL VALLE DE MESILLA

Federal regulations require that the Metropolitan Transportation Plan demonstrate that the region is able maintain and operate the transportation system. Chapter 6 examines the details of all costs (federal, state, local, and private) associated with building, maintaining, and operating the transportation system.

## Projects included for projection Interchanges and Grade Separation

These items are grouped together because of the significant justification required to develop a project on Interstate ROW, and because they require a high level of coordination with the NMDOT and FHWA. New access or modification to existing interchanges on the Interstate Highway system require that an eight part Interchange Justification Report (IJR) is reviewed and approved by the FHWA. Several interchange and grade separation projects were mentioned throughout the public input process. Transport 2040 recommends studying these further but does not recommend construction of Engler or Brazitos prior to the horizon year (2040).

Project list:  
Engler Interchange at I-25- Requires IJR. Engler grade separation project allotted for future interchange geometry.  
Arrowhead Interchange at I-10. Requires IJR. I-10/ I-25 IJR considered possible future interchange at Arrowhead. A new IJR will be required for further study of Arrowhead.  
Brazitos Interchange at I-10. Requires IJR. Potential location identified during I-10 widening (2010).

## Intersections

During public input various improvements to thoroughfare intersections were recommended. MPO staff will prioritize other intersections based on crash rate analyses of thoroughfare intersections.

Project list organized by Status:  
Safety Improvements at El Paseo and Idaho  
Adapt intersection striping for bicycle use per NACTO guidelines  
Triviz grade separation at University. Preliminary design developed as part of I-25/ University Ave. interchange redesign.

## Existing Thoroughfare Improvements

In many cases, the public mentioned that existing roadways needed improvements. For example, funding for ITS enhancements was mentioned as an important part of improving overall traffic flow. The projects below are in line with the MPO goals to preserve and enhance the existing system.

Project list:  
El Paseo Complete Street implementation  
ITS Signal Coordination Plan for City of Las Cruces  
Idaho Road Diet (El Paseo to Solano)

## New Thoroughfare Connections

The Future Roadway Map shows the roadway connections needed to maintain a well operating transportation system. The MPO does not endorse any expansion projects until the region's maintenance status is improved, many thoroughfares are constructed by private funds and the Major Thoroughfare Plan provides a framework for their alignments.

Project list:  
Missouri/ Roadrunner extension to Sonoma Ranch  
Sonoma Ranch Study Area  
Triviz underpass at University  
West Mesa Corridor Study

## Pedestrian Improvements

A variety of pedestrian safety and connectivity concerns and proposed improvements were brought up during the public input process. These were organized into Intersections, Signage and Striping Corridors, and Districts/Areas.

Project list:  
Sidewalk assessment in outlying Mesilla areas  
Sidewalk assessments for Transportation Asset and Safety Management Plan (TASM)  
Sidewalk improvements leading to ZTrans bus stops on East Mesa  
Sidewalk improvements leading to RoadRUNNER bus stops  
Pedestrian crossings along University Avenue

## Bicycle Improvements

A variety of bicycle safety and connectivity concerns were brought up during the public input process. These were organized into Corridors and Intersections.

Project list:  
Hadley Bicycle Boulevard  
Locate potential areas for protected bike lanes  
Boutz bike lanes (El Paseo to Valley)  
Reroute State Bicycle Route 7 off US 70 from

## Trail Improvements

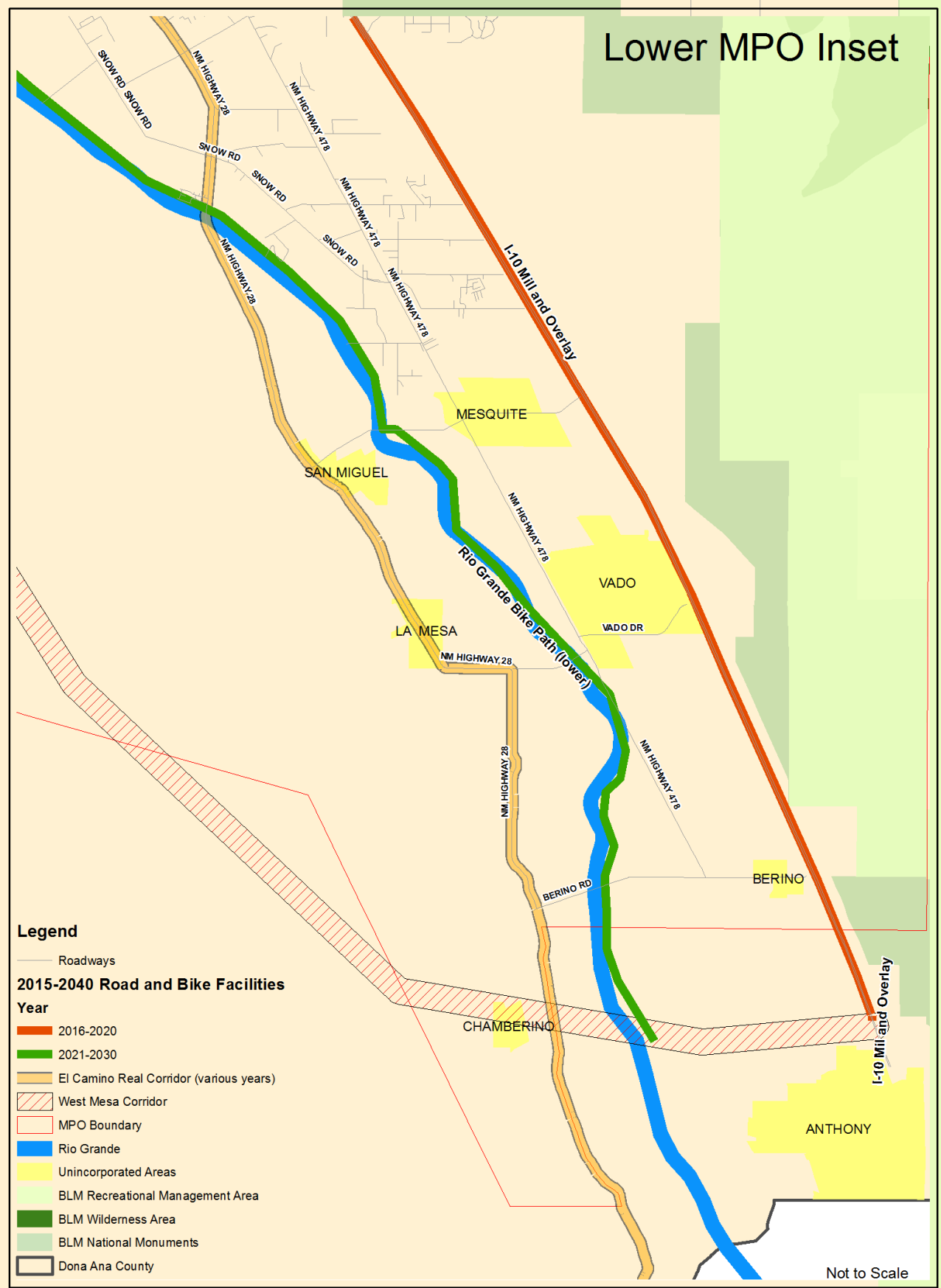
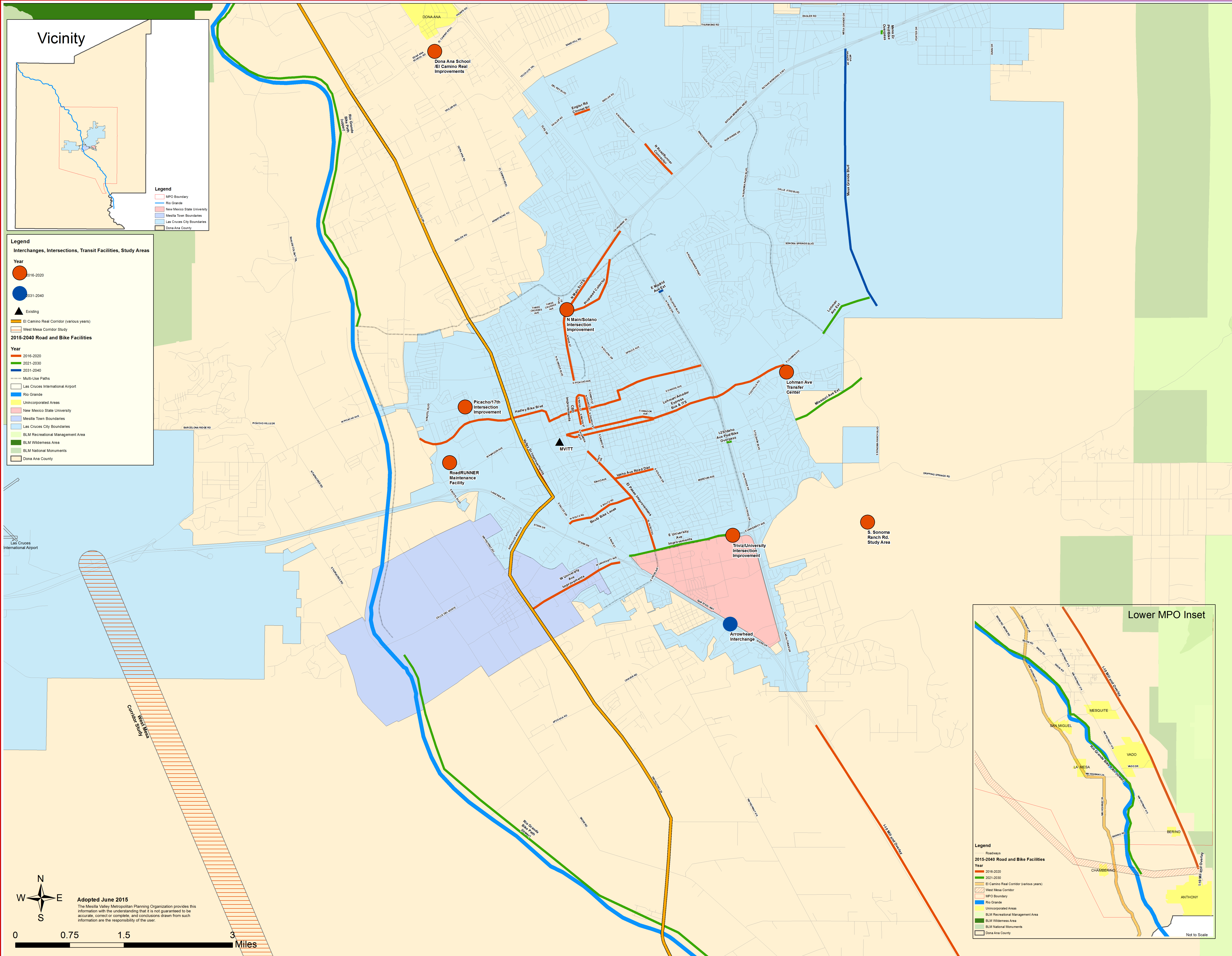
The trail system priorities consist of first a central loop system and then an extended loop and spoke system. These loop systems connect some important destinations and neighborhoods to provide a complete network around the City of Las Cruces and into Doña Ana County and Mesilla. A trail connection may include a roadway or multi-use path.

Project list:  
Rio Grande Trail (Sunland Park to Albuquerque)

## Public Transportation Service

A variety of public transportation planning efforts have been completed or are underway, including a 5 year Transit Strategic Plan for the City of Las Cruces, a Coordinated Mobility Action Plan for Human Services transportation (CMAP) for Doña Ana County, the Service and Financial plan for the South Central Regional Transit District (SCRTD), and the development of a long range Transit Plan for the City of Las Cruces.

Project lists organized by Status:  
Relocate Mesilla Valley Mall transfer point  
Implement findings of Short Range Transit Plan



# Transport 2040

Regional Transportation Planning for the Mesilla Valley  
Planificación de Transportación Regional para el Valle de Mesilla