

1                   **MESILLA VALLEY METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION**  
2                   **TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

3  
4 The following are minutes for the meeting of the Technical Advisory Committee of the  
5 Mesilla Valley Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) which was held October 6,  
6 2016 at 4:00 p.m. at City Hall, Council Chambers, 700 N. Main St., Las Cruces, New  
7 Mexico.  
8

9 **MEMBERS PRESENT:** David Armijo (SCR TD)  
10 Richard Hanway proxy for Mike Bartholomew (CLC Transit)  
11 Jennifer Montoya proxy for Bill Childress (BLM)  
12 John Gwynne (DAC Flood Commission)  
13 Dale Harrell (NMSU)  
14 Jolene Herrera (NMDOT)  
15 Soo Gyu Lee (CLC)  
16 Harold Love (NMDOT)  
17 Tony Trevino (CLC Public Works)  
18

19 **MEMBERS ABSENT:** Todd Gregory (LCPS)  
20 Stephen Howie (EBID)  
21 Debbi Lujan (Town of Mesilla)  
22 Luis Marmolejo (DAC Planning)  
23 Rene Molina (DAC Eng.)  
24 Larry Shannon (Town of Mesilla)  
25

26 **STAFF PRESENT:** Tom Murphy (MPO Staff)  
27 Andrew Wray (MPO Staff)  
28 Michael McAdams (MPO Staff)  
29 Dominic Loya (MPO Staff)  
30

31 **OTHERS PRESENT:** Armando Morales, CLC Community Development  
32 Becky Baum, RC Creations, LLC, Recording Secretary  
33

34 **1. CALL TO ORDER (4:02 p.m.)**  
35

36 Gwynne: Good afternoon. It is 4:02 in the afternoon on October 6, 2016. Let's get  
37 started with the Mesilla Valley, Mesilla Valley Metropolitan Planning  
38 Organization Technical Advisory Committee. Do we have a quorum?  
39

40 Wray: Yes Mr. Chair.  
41

42 Gwynne: Thank you very much.  
43  
44  
45  
46

1 **2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

2  
3 Gwynne: So the first order of business is to approve the agenda. Are, are, is there  
4 any changes to the agenda?

5  
6 Wray: No Mr. Chair.

7  
8 Gwynne: Any comments? I'll take a motion.

9  
10 Herrera: Move to approve.

11  
12 Love: Second.

13  
14 Trevino: Second. You got it.

15  
16 Gwynne: We have a motion and a, and a second. All those in favor.

17  
18 MOTION PASSES UNANIMOUSLY.

19  
20 Gwynne: Any opposed? Motion carries.

21  
22 **3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

23  
24 **3.1 August 4, 2016**

25  
26 Gwynne: Next order of business is approval of the minutes of the August 4, 2016  
27 minutes. Has everyone had a chance to review those minutes? Are there  
28 any questions, comments, changes? Let's get a motion for approval of the  
29 minutes.

30  
31 Love: So moved.

32  
33 Trevino: Second.

34  
35 Gwynne: We have a motion and second. All those in favor.

36  
37 MOTION PASSES UNANIMOUSLY.

38  
39 Gwynne: Opposed? Seeing none, motion carries.

40  
41 **4. PUBLIC COMMENT**

42  
43 Gwynne: Next order of business is Public Comment. Do we have any public? Do  
44 we have any comments? Seeing none.

1 **5. DISCUSSION ITEMS**

2  
3 **5.1 Crash Analysis Presentation**

4  
5 Gwynne: We'll move on. And so we move on to Discussion Items and Andrew I  
6 believe that's you.

7  
8 ANDREW WRAY GAVE HIS PRESENTATION.

9  
10 Gwynne: Do any of the Committee Members have questions?

11  
12 Love: Andrew does any of you guys's data include types of crashes at these  
13 intersections?

14  
15 Wray: The types of crashes that we looked at was only property damage only,  
16 injury and fatality. That's, that's another area of expansion that I believe  
17 we've actually already started work on, on analyzing specific crash types.

18  
19 Gwynne: Thank you. Anyone else?

20  
21 Herrera: Mr. Chair.

22  
23 Gwynne: Yes.

24  
25 Herrera: I think Andrew if I could clarify Harold's question a little. I think he was  
26 talking more about like rear-ends, side swipe, that kind of ...

27  
28 Wray: That's, that's what I meant.

29  
30 Herrera: Okay.

31  
32 Wray: That's, we're starting that level of analysis now.

33  
34 Herrera: Okay, so you just got the basic ...

35  
36 Wray: Yeah.

37  
38 Herrera: Type of crash and now you're narrowing it down.

39  
40 Wray: Just, basically I guess the outcome of the crash ...

41  
42 Herrera: Okay.

43  
44 Wray: If there's property damage only, injury, etc.

45  
46 Herrera: Okay. Great. Thanks.

1  
2 Harrell: Mr. Chairman. I'd like to ask Harold a question. He's with NMDOT and I  
3 was wondering if NMDOT has plans to adopt the Federal Guidelines for  
4 this or have you all even discussed it yet?  
5

6 Herrera: If I could answer that. Because the performance measures are primarily  
7 being sent out of the Planning Division which I'm part of, so we just got the  
8 Federal Rules, the final Federal Rules from FHWA a couple of months  
9 ago, so we're still dissecting them. We are updating our State Highway  
10 Safety Plan right now, so we're still sort of in the process. We don't have  
11 a choice on whether or not to adopt the Federal Highways Performance  
12 Measures, it's, it's a shall, not a, right, so we will be meeting their  
13 performance measures but the really important part for us is to set targets.  
14 And so I think that's something that the MPO and the, the DOT are gonna  
15 have to work on together. We need to make sure that we're setting good  
16 targets but also obtainable targets.  
17

18 Gwynne: Very good. Any other questions? Okay. Andrew thank you.  
19

## 20 **5.2 Missouri Ave. Study Corridor Presentation**

21  
22 Gwynne: The next item on the list is the Missouri Avenue Corridor Study.  
23

24 ANDREW WRAY GAVE HIS PRESENTATION.  
25

26 Gwynne: Are there questions from the Committee?  
27

28 Herrera: Mr., Mr. Chair.  
29

30 Gwynne: Yes.  
31

32 Herrera: Andrew, in those two scenarios that you just said, does that include just  
33 the non-motorized path?  
34

35 Wray: One of them is the non-motorized, the other recommended for further  
36 study is a full, full roadway facility, motorized and non-motorized.  
37

38 Herrera: Okay. So those are being handled separately still.  
39

40 Wray: Those are, those are two discrete ...  
41

42 Herrera: Okay.  
43

44 Wray: Recommendations. Yes.  
45

46 Herrera: Okay. Thank you.

1  
2 Gwynne: Other questions? Andrew the comments that are being collected, are  
3 those being digitized or is there some place where the public can see  
4 those?  
5  
6 Wray: Those, those will be included as part of the final report, yes.  
7  
8 Gwynne: Okay. Very good.  
9  
10 Wray: Yes.  
11  
12 Gwynne: Thank you.  
13  
14 Wray: And again this Committee, we will, staff will be bringing the, the final report  
15 to this Committee next month for your recommendation to the Policy  
16 Committee.  
17  
18 Gwynne: Okay. Very good.  
19

## 20 **6. COMMITTEE AND STAFF COMMENTS**

### 21 22 **7.1 City of Las Cruces, Dona Ana County, Town of Mesilla, Las Cruces 23 Public Schools, RoadRUNNER Transit, SCR TD Project Updates**

24  
25 Gwynne: Let's move on to the next topic which is Committee and Staff Comments.  
26 City of Las Cruces.  
27  
28 Trevino: We just have the two projects still going on, the Las Cruces Dam Trails  
29 which is as of this past week, not under water any more so we can  
30 actually get back on it; falling a little bit behind schedule but still looking  
31 good. The El Paso safety project is on schedule and getting toward the  
32 end of construction. So that's also looking good. That's it. Thanks.  
33  
34 Gwynne: Okay. Dona Ana County's absent. Town of Mesilla. Absent. Las Cruces  
35 Public Schools. Absent too. RoadRUNNER Transit.  
36  
37 Hanway: Yes, I would like to let everyone know that we have been going forward  
38 with our new routes. We're looking at doing some other studies and  
39 possibly splitting one of the routes here shortly. Take to Council see what  
40 they had to say about it. We're also bringing in a, a demo all electric  
41 vehicle that's a, it's a bus out of California and we're gonna be putting it on  
42 route on October 12th through the 18th, so if you guys get a chance come  
43 and see it, take a ride in it, see what you think.  
44  
45 Gwynne: Very good. Thank you. Regional Transit District.  
46

1 Armijo: Will we have a tow truck available for that electric bus or do we have a  
2 separate plug in? Large extension cord, something?  
3

4 Hanway: They're, they're actually bringing a, a generator, it's on a trailer. So  
5 they've got it covered.  
6

7 Armijo: I'm not totally wrong. It'll be following. Okay. Good. That'll, that'll be very  
8 exciting. I'm looking forward to that so you should get a little press on that  
9 deal. But be careful what you ask for. I've done every form of  
10 transportation including fuel cells. I was watching a presentation  
11 yesterday with Charlie Rose with the head of Toyota and he was really big  
12 on the fuel cells. One of the most interesting comments ... I'll get to my  
13 presentation in a minute if I may ... on alternative fuels is that I guess  
14 we're down now nationwide to 2.5% of cars that are actually on some form  
15 of alternative fuel from 4%, so in fact we're actually seeing the  
16 marketplace contract because of this low fuel cost of this thing called  
17 gasoline/diesel, whatever. So it's good that we're still looking at it cause I  
18 think we need to look long term, but kudos to (*inaudible*) for doing what  
19 they're doing.

20 I had just three points that I wanted to make, our service now is  
21 approaching the first almost six months, actually our first four, four months  
22 where we crossed this, by this July we had our first 100 days of service  
23 and so what I wanted to report by July 1st is that we had a 100 days of  
24 service without an accident, without a road call, and we're still maintaining  
25 on-time performance of about 95%. Now that's easier to do when you  
26 don't have as much ridership as you would like, but ridership in that same  
27 time period between what we do on our four directly operated routes and  
28 the Z-Trans was about 10,000 rides. So covering quite a bit of miles  
29 cause we have much longer trips, but the service is doing very well. We  
30 actually began our revenue service on July 1st after about a four month  
31 break in time period and of course a great time to do it is in the summer  
32 when ridership has kind of dropped a little bit, so we didn't lose too much  
33 on that. The numbers have really jumped up since September, up a little  
34 over 10% compared to the previous month.

35 I wanted to also say that, that, so the ridership's doing very well,  
36 we're moving right along. We did a service change on September 18th  
37 and one of the things we're now learning from the system is as people  
38 come in to Las Cruces or go out, unless they make their connection at the  
39 MOVEit Center with RoadRUNNER or Z-Trans or whatever else, or even  
40 the Gold Line, they're really no other stops and so we've been working  
41 diligently with RoadRUNNER, we're sharing about three stops I think with  
42 you right now and shelters, including we moved our stop outside of the  
43 County building to the outside area and ridership has picked up as a  
44 result. So I mean part of the, the interest that people have our students,  
45 our student ridership has really grown. With the service change on July  
46 18th we actually were able to cut the runs and add four more trips using,

1 really leaning on the non-revenue hours and stuff that we had and we're  
2 actually able to run more service for the same amount with the same  
3 number of buses. So that's helping us grow the ridership a little bit and we  
4 also realized that now we have 10 trips on the red line, so we have more  
5 peak hour trips on our red line that goes from Las Cruces to Anthony and  
6 back and so we're finding that two inbound trips are the two number one  
7 trips on the system coming in from Anthony through New Mexico State  
8 University and the Las Cruces MOVEit Center, so we're, we're picking up  
9 quite a bit so it's clearly outbound trips at seven o'clock in the morning  
10 were fine, but it's the, it's the earlier seven o'clock coming in and the eight  
11 o'clock right after it, those two trips that are bringing the most ridership,  
12 and the late trip at night. So clearly having more peak hour service, I  
13 mean these are all things we know in transit. If you can put more  
14 frequency of service, more people are gonna ride. It just gets much more  
15 attracted to it. If you can put shelters and, and stops and schedules that  
16 make sense, things are gonna go better. In fact if you have a chance  
17 outside I did put a few stops, schedules out there. Our new schedules are  
18 a little bit better than before, we're still breaking in, through that process  
19 but at least in the new schedules, the red and the blue actually has a route  
20 map, so you can actually see where your stop is. And the next generation  
21 of schedules which we'll have out soon will be a little bit better.

22 Then lastly I wanted to mention that we do have a workshop next  
23 Tuesday for anybody who's interested in learning a little bit more about  
24 what's going on. We'll be at the County Center from nine o'clock until  
25 noon. I don't think it'll go that long but we'll have a discussion on  
26 connecting communities and it'll be a nice update on where we are with  
27 the bus system, what are some of the activities and things that are going  
28 on with that, what does it mean for the County. We'll also talk about the  
29 fact that as of October 1st we started generating federal funding from two  
30 sources; we now have a 5311 grant and we have a 5310 grant out of, out  
31 of El Paso. The 5310 grant is gonna be delayed about 90 days as we  
32 inform them because we're waiting on the next bus to come in. And what  
33 that grant will do on our purple line from Anthony to Sunland Park, it'll be a  
34 flex service and so actually the route deviate and so we're gonna wait a  
35 little bit longer until we get that other bus in there and that way we'll have a  
36 little more service to be able to do that, plus it gives me some time to train  
37 the, my contractor.

38 And I guess last on this is that our contractor changed on July 1st  
39 when we began generating revenue that we do use STS now instead of  
40 Las Cruces Shuttle. They operate out of, where their school bus operation  
41 out at 17th Street. It's been a great opportunity for us because they're  
42 able to bring in the various federal requirements like drug testing and  
43 having a service for that and being able to randomly respond to the things  
44 and, and whatnot and they're using a similar (*inaudible*) to that, so that's,  
45 that's really helped the service and helped us move much more quickly  
46 into that next generation of where we're going with that. And I think that

1 pretty much concludes what I had to say. But at any rate check out our  
2 website. We're getting a lot of activity on our Facebook page and so again  
3 we're still in the, we're still taking baby steps but I think we're, we're  
4 starting, we've moved from crawling to walking really fast. So you know  
5 how kids are you know they get a, they get away from you a little bit so.  
6 But things are going very well. It's really good to have the partnership with  
7 RoadRUNNER. We hope to do a little bit better on the El Paso side. I  
8 guess that's the last thing I should say, we just got our USDOT licensing in  
9 this week and so we expect in the, in the next 45 days that we would in  
10 fact adjust our southern routes, the turquoise and the purple to be able to  
11 have the opportunity to go into Texas, but most likely the West Side  
12 Transit Center where there's about 12 routes out there by Rincon Circle,  
13 and I think that's gonna go very well. I, I road the 83 line which Sunland  
14 Park operates through, through Sun Metro and that goes into downtown El  
15 Paso and it's, it's quite a bit of difference when you're able to connect to  
16 other transit operations and systems so I think that's gonna work very well.  
17 The Sunland Park stop is moving to the front of the casino cause they're  
18 getting much more activity cause they have the, the new hotel coming in  
19 soon. So a lot of things going on and that concludes my report. Thank  
20 you.

21  
22 Gwynne: Very good. Thank you very much.

## 23 24 **7.2 NMDOT Projects Update**

25  
26 Gwynne: Next on the list is DOT.

27  
28 Love: Jolene.

29  
30 Herrera: Thank you Mr. Chair. I did provide written comments in the packet. I don't  
31 know if you still wanted me to go over them or if anybody has any specific  
32 questions on any projects? We don't have any construction going on in  
33 the area, if you can believe it or not. No more orange barrels for now.  
34 Mostly just studies and things that are on the letting schedule for  
35 upcoming months. So there will be construction in spring.

36  
37 Gwynne: Is that when Main Street's scheduled to start?

38  
39 Herrera: Yes sir. So that one actually lets November 18th, so January, we should  
40 have construction out there probably mid-spring, early summer of next  
41 year.

42  
43 Gwynne: Okay. Is there any questions about any projects that anyone else would  
44 like to ask questions about from the DOT?  
45  
46



1           **7.3 MPO Staff Projects Update**

2  
3 Gwynne: All right. Next item on the list is staff updates.

4  
5 Wray: Thank you Mr. Chair. I do need to take this opportunity to urge the, the  
6 TAC Members to make sure that you are responding to my requests for  
7 written reports or for written updates on the projects. This is something  
8 that NMDOT is requiring of us as things proceed onward and we have to  
9 get more into performance measures there may indeed be more required  
10 of the jurisdictions that want to remain eligible for federal funding. So at  
11 the very least please continue to provide the written updates. If not, we  
12 may have to ask for something a little bit more stringent even, even before  
13 it's absolutely necessary for us to do so. So please do respond to my  
14 requests for the updates.

15           Other than that on that note I'll be contacting everyone who  
16 currently has a project in our TIP for the annual listing of obligated projects  
17 for, for the past fiscal year, for fiscal year 2016. I'll be doing that within the  
18 next couple of days, so please be on the lookout for, for that request as  
19 well. And also we are going to be sending out the TIP call for projects for  
20 the upcoming TIP sometime within the next week or so, anticipating that  
21 the deadline is probably going to be in December since that's customary.  
22 But please be on the look out for that, that'll be coming out in the very near  
23 future. I also want to introduce our new acting planning, planning tech,  
24 Dominic Loya. He's come over to us from Long Range Planning and  
25 we're hoping that he'll be with us for a little while. And that concludes my  
26 comments.

27  
28 Gwynne: Dominic well, welcome on Board.

29  
30 **7. PUBLIC COMMENT**

31  
32 Gwynne: Are there any public comments? Seeing, seeing none. Yes.

33  
34 Harrell: I have one. This is just general information for anybody who's interested  
35 in motorcycles Mr. Chairman. STORM Electric Vehicles has a new  
36 electric motorcycle that's touring the world. It will be over at the cotton gin  
37 on College Drive on 10/13, about four o'clock and they'll be recharging  
38 their batteries until the next morning, 10/14 at nine they leave and they're  
39 heading for Odessa, Texas (*Ozona, Texas*). So if anybody's interested in  
40 electric motorcycles these things are pretty exciting. You can go on the  
41 STORM site and see it. Electric vehicles.

42  
43 Gwynne: Interesting. Very good.

1 **8. ADJOURNMENT (4:30 p.m.)**

2

3

4 Gwynne: With that I believe we are adjourned. Thank you very much everyone.

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

Chairperson

A handwritten signature in cursive script, written in black ink, positioned above a horizontal line. The signature is partially obscured by the line and the text 'Chairperson' to its left.