MESILLA VALLEY METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION
TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The following are minutes for the meeting of the Technical Advisory Committee of the Mesilla Valley Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) which was held April 2, 2015 at 4:00 p.m. in Commission Chambers at Dona Ana County Government Building, 845 Motel Blvd., Las Cruces, New Mexico.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mike Bartholomew (CLC Transit)
Louis Grijalva (CLC Public Works)
Jolene Herrera (NMDOT)
Harold Love (NMDOT)
Rene Molina (DAC Engineering)
Greg Walke (NMSU)
Luis Marmolejo (DAC)
Bill Childress (BLM)
John Gwynne (DA Flood Commission)
Willie Roman (CLC Transportation)
Todd Gregory (Proxy for Larry Altamirano)

MEMBERS ABSENT: Larry Altamirano (LCPS)
John Knopp (Town of Mesilla)
Debbi Lujan (Town of Mesilla)
Jesus Morales (EBID)

STAFF PRESENT: Tom Murphy (MPO Staff)
Andrew Wray (MPO Staff)
Michael McAdams (MPO Staff)
Sharon Nebbia (MPO Staff)

OTHERS PRESENT: Becky Baum, RC Creations, LLC, Recording Secretary

1. CALL TO ORDER (4:07 p.m.)

Bartholomew: Okay. I’d like to call to order the April 2nd, 2015 meeting of the Mesilla Valley Metropolitan Planning Organization Technical Advisory Committee. We’ll start by doing a call, call to, call to order. I’d like to have every Committee Member please state your name and the organization you’re with and as you make comments throughout the meeting, if you would please state your name for the, for the record so that the transcriptionist will know who’s speaking. And I’ll start down at the table in front of me here.

Love: Harold Love, New Mexico DOT.

Herrera: Good afternoon. Jolene Herrera, NMDOT.
Roman: Willie Roman, City of Las Cruces.
Grijalva: Louis Grijalva, City of Las Cruces Public Works.
Molina: Rene Molina, Dona Ana County Engineering.
Gwynne: John Gwynne, Dona Ana County Flood Commission.
Bartholomew: Mike Bartholomew, City of Las Cruces Roadrunner Transit.
Walke: Greg Walke, New Mexico State University.
Childress: Bill Childress, Bureau of Land Management.
Gregory: Todd Gregory, Las Cruces Public Schools.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Bartholomew: Thank you. The first item is approval of the agenda. Is there any corrections, Tom to the agenda today?

Murphy: No corrections.

Bartholomew: Could I have a motion to accept the agenda if there's no other corrections from the committee?

Walke: So moved.

Gwynne: Second.

Bartholomew: It's been moved and seconded. All in favor please say "aye."

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

3.1 February 5, 2015

Bartholomew: Next is the approval of the minutes from February 5th, 2015 and any corrections required on the minutes that are, or anybody caught if they read them? Do I have a motion to accept the minutes?

Walke: I move that we accept the minutes.

Gwynne: Second.
Bartholomew: It's been moved and seconded. All in favor please say "aye."

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT

Bartholomew: Is there any public, doesn't look like anybody, excuse me, anybody from the public is here for comment.

5. DISCUSSION ITEMS

5.1 Metropolitan Transportation Plan Update

Bartholomew: And I'll move on to the first discussion, first and only discussion item: the Metropolitan Transportation Plan Update.

Murphy: Great. Thank you, Mr. Chair. What we're doing today is we're rolling out the, the draft for the Metropolitan Transportation Plan, the, the updated Transport 2040. What this begins is the, of, we're going to hold it open for a 45-day public comment period starting from this, from this meeting, from this advertised public meeting. We're also going to, we haven't set the schedule yet but we'll also be going out to some public, individual public meetings as well. Once the comment period closes we'll, we'll revise and, and correct based on any, anything we hear during that period and then hopefully bring this document back to you for your recommended approval by your June, by your June meeting. With that I'm going to go ahead and jump into the presentation.

TOM MURPHY GAVE HIS PRESENTATION.

Bartholomew: Any questions from the committee? I had a question on the, on the, the length of the public comment period. I noticed in the, in the action item it says 30-day. Did I hear you say 45-day?

Murphy: I apologize. I forgot to double-check on the, with our Public Participation Manual where we, we set the, the time frame for how long we need to have the, such documents out for public review but those are minimum so since I'm, I, if I misstated I'm going to stick by it and we'll have 45 days.

Bartholomew: Okay. Other comments from the Committee?

Childress: You may have said it but when does the 45 days start?

Murphy: Today.
Childress: Thank you.

Bartholomew: Other Comments? Could you go back to the previous slide from that presentation? I was just going to make a comment too on the investment and, and, and walking and biking facilities being low-cost improvements but they can also be low-cost ways to enhance the, the one, right above it with public transit, two, to have good access to those nodes so it makes that part of it more efficient too.

Murphy: That, that’s absolutely correct and I’m going to steal it, steal that the next time I give this presentation.

Bartholomew: Okay. Any other comments from the Committee? So after the meeting you, we, you, we’re free then to look at the, the maps that you have here today?

Murphy: Absolutely and as always any of you are free to contact staff at any time to, to give your thoughts on it. However after, and I didn’t calculate what day the 45th day is but after, after that we close shop and, and revise it but, but from now and the next month and a half please feel free to, to share with staff any thoughts you have on it.

Bartholomew: Okay. Thank you, Tom. Seeing no other discussion on item number five.

6. COMMITTEE AND STAFF COMMENTS

Bartholomew: We can move on to Committee and Staff Comments. Any comments from Committee members?

Herrera: Mr. Chair.

Bartholomew: Ms. Herrera,

Herrera: I just wanted to make an announcement. The TAP and Rec Trails Awards were announced today and Las Cruces Public Schools did receive an award for their Safe Routes to School Program coordinator for both Fiscal Years 2016 and 2017, so congratulations to the Las Cruces Public Schools.

Bartholomew: Congratulations.

Gregory: Thank you very much and it’s been very successful so we’re going to keep plugging away at it so ... 

Herrera: Thank you.
Bartholomew: I, I have a question of the, the DOT if, is there, do you have an update on when, what we're looking at for the North Main project? Right now I get asked that all the time by my drivers.

Love: We were just in a meeting this morning and the end of June is what we're looking at.

Bartholomew: The end of June.

Love: Yes.

Bartholomew: Okay, is that a slight delay from the original, cause I, I ...

Love: I believe it is, yes.

Bartholomew: Thought we were talking about May or something before, okay.

Love: The, the utilities really got tedious with the utility construction so that's kind of what, what delayed the project so ...

Bartholomew: Okay. And I'd also like to, to make note of that we're bringing, from our Transit section in the City bringing a resolution on Monday to the City in support of Stand Up for Transportation Day which the American Public Transit Association has been organizing across the country and basically it's just to get commitments and, and people thinking about urging your congressional representatives to, to authorize a long-term funding bill which will ease in planning not only public transportation but all modes of transportation and there's a, a great need in, in urging our congressional representatives to come up with a long-term funding bill. Any other comments from staff members, or how about staff members, rather than Committee?

Murphy: Just one, introduce the, the newest MPO staff member. Our new Planning Technician Sharon Nebbia. She started with us a little, about a month, about a month ago and she'll running the, the traffic count program and is going to be the, the main data person as far as assembling, assembling all the good stuff that we get.

Bartholomew: Very good. Welcome.

7. PUBLIC COMMENT

Bartholomew: And again, again I don't really see any members of the public here so I assume there's no public comment.
8. ADJOURNMENT (4:32 p.m.)

Bartholomew: Which brings us to adjournment, if somebody would like to so move?

Herrera: So moved.

Love: Second.

Bartholomew: It’s been moved and seconded. All in favor please say “aye.” Thank you.

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[Signature]

Chairperson