MESILLA VALLEY METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION
TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

AGENDA

The following is the agenda for the Mesilla Valley Metropolitan Planning Organization's (MPO) Technical Advisory Committee meeting to be held on December 3, 2015 at 4:00 p.m. in the City of Las Cruces Council Chambers, 700 N. Main Street, Las Cruces, New Mexico. Meeting packets are available on the Mesilla Valley MPO website.

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1. CALL TO ORDER __________________________________________________ Chair
2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA ___________________________________________ Chair
3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES ____________________________________________ Chair
   3.1. November 5, 2015 ____________________________________________
4. PUBLIC COMMENT ________________________________________________ Chair
5. DISCUSSION ITEMS ______________________________________________ Bohannan-Huston Staff
   5.1. University Ave. Study Corridor Presentation ___________ Jurisdictional Staff
6. COMMITTEE and STAFF COMMENTS _________________________________
   6.1. City of Las Cruces, Doña Ana County, Town of Mesilla, Las Cruces Public Schools, RoadRUNNER Transit, and SCRTD Project Updates ________ Jurisdictional Staff
   6.2. NMDOT Projects update ________________________________________ NMDOT Staff
   6.3. MPO Staff Projects Update _____________________________________ MPO Staff
7. PUBLIC COMMENT ________________________________________________ Chair
8. ADJOURNMENT___________________________________________________ Chair
The following are minutes for the meeting of the Technical Advisory Committee of the
Mesilla Valley Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) which was held November 5,
2015 at 4:00 p.m. in Council Chambers at City Hall, 700 N. Main Street, Las Cruces,
New Mexico.

MEMBERS PRESENT:  Mike Bartholomew (CLC Transit) (arrived 4:14)
                    Louis Grijalva (CLC Public Works)
                    Jolene Herrera (NMDOT)
                    Larry Shannon (Town of Mesilla)
                    Harold Love (NMDOT)
                    Dale Harrell (NMSU)
                    Debbi Lujan (Town of Mesilla)
                    Willie Roman (CLC Transportation)
                    Todd Gregory (LCPS)
                    John Gwynne (DAC Flood Commission)
                    Rene Molina (DAC Engineering)
                    Stephen Howie (EBID)

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

OTHERS PRESENT:    Soogyu Lee (CLC)
                    Becky Baum, RC Creations, LLC, Recording Secretary

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

Love:  Okay we'll go ahead and get started. I guess we can get started with a, a
        roll call starting with my far left.

Herrera:  Jolene Herrera, NMDOT.

Molina:  Rene Molina, Dona Ana County.

Gregory:  Todd Gregory, Las Cruces Public Schools.

Love:  Harold Love, New Mexico Department of Transportation.

Gwynne:  John Gwynne, Dona Ana County Flood Commission.

Grijalva:  Louis Grijalva, City of Las Cruces Public Works Department.
Roman: Willie Roman, Street and Traffic Operations, City of Las Cruces.

Howie: Stephen Howie, Elephant Butte Irrigation District.

Lujan: Debbie Lujan, Town of Mesilla.

Shannon: Larry Shannon, Town of Mesilla.

Harrell: Dale Harrell, University of New Mexico State University. Sorry, got it wrong there.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Love: Next we're looking for approval of the agenda. Do I hear a motion?

Gwynne: So moved.

Herrera: Second.

Love: Moved and second. All in favor.

MOTION PASSES UNANIMOUSLY.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

3.1 October 5, 2015

Love: Next is approval of the minutes. Do I hear a motion?

Lujan: Motion.

Grijalva: Second.

Love: Moved and second. All in favor.

MOTION PASSES UNANIMOUSLY.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT

Love: Public comments. Do we have anybody in the, for public comment? Seeing none.
5. DISCUSSION ITEMS

5.1 Tribal/Local Public Agency Process Monitoring Presentation

Love: We'll move on to the number five discussion item.

Wray: Thank you Mr. Chair.

Andrew Wray gave his presentation.

Herrera: Mr. Chair. Not a question but a comment I guess to follow-up with Andrew's presentation. What we're going to really be looking for is things like certifications: Are you working on them? Have you submitted them to the Bureaus? Are you having any issues with responses back? Things that could potentially hold up your project: If you're purchasing right-of-way are you following the Uniform Act? All of those types of things is what we'll be interested in receiving reports on, so just so you have some idea of what we'll be looking for.

Love: And if I understand right this is going to start at the November 5th meeting?

Wray: It's the, this is November 5th.

Love: I mean December, yeah.

Wray: December, actually I don't remember what the date is but the, at the December TAC. So at the end of this month I'll be sending out e-mails to, to all the, the jurisdictions that have projects and asking for updates on them.

Love: Any other questions or comments?

6. COMMITTEE AND STAFF COMMENTS

6.1 City of Las Cruces, Dona Ana County, Town of Mesilla, Las Cruces Public Schools, RoadRUNNER Transit, SCRTD Project Updates

Love: Okay we'll move on to item number six, Committee and Staff Comments.

Wray: We don't really have any. Oh, yes. For a MPO staff perspective at the December meeting we're going to be bringing the University Study Corridor project before this Committee asking them to recommend approval to the Policy Committee. Also, please mark on your calendars December the second we're going to be having a public meeting regarding the Missouri project. That's going to be at the Farm and Ranch Museum
but we don't have a specific time yet so please be watching for that. We
hope to have that completely finalized in the very near future. And that's
all for MPO staff updates.

Love: Are we looking to receive updates from the other entities?

Wray: Yes, please.

Love: City of Las Cruces.

Grijalva: Testing. Mr. Chairman. Just a quick update on the control number
LC00130 which is the El Paseo Safety Road Project. We have opened
bids and we have sent the bids and the recommendation award to South
Region Design. We received a notification today that we were good to
move forward with the contract so we'll be getting all paperwork on our
side to, to sign the contracts and move forward with that project.

Update on LC00190 which is the Las Cruces Dam Trails Project. We
opened bids last month. We've already sent that to South Region Design
to get the recommendation for a contract award. We haven't received
notification yet so we're still waiting on, on them to, to review all the bids
and, and make sure that we got every, all the proper paperwork submitted.
And that'll be all.

Love: Dona Ana County.

Molina: Mr. Chair. On Dona Ana County G100030, that's Dripping Springs and
Baylor Canyon, that's out to bid right now. Bids close towards the middle
of December.

LC00110, that's Camino Real and Dona Ana School Road intersection.
Preliminary right-of-way take mapping has been submitted to DOT for
review, awaiting response and the plans are at, also submitted to DOT for
review. That's all I've got. Thanks.

Love: Town of Mesilla.

Lujan: Mr. Chair. We don't have anything. Thank you.

Love: Las Cruces Public Schools.

Gregory: We're still doing weekly/monthly walking programs but our main focus so
far this go around is our classroom lesson plans on how to walk safely and
cross streets at, at our elementary schools right now. That's what's
keeping us busy right now is trying to get into those classrooms and get
them done at each school.
Bartholomew: Sorry I, I joined a little late today. I really don't have much other than to, the, I believe a month ago I mentioned that the MPO had completed the short-range service plan for transit and we'd like to bring that to Council for adoption but the Department, Transportation Department Director right now is working with the City Administration to see if we can find some funding to implement it before, before, so we can bring the whole package to City Council.

6.2 University Ave. Study Corridor Update, Missouri Ave. Study Corridor Update, Short Range Transit Plan Update

- SEE ABOVE. NOTHING DISCUSSED

6.3 NMDOT Projects Update

Love: NMDOT project updates. Jolene, did you have anything?

Herrera: Sure. I can take care of that. The first project, I-10 mill and inlay mile post 146 to 164.3 has a December bid opening so we're not doing anything with that right now except waiting for bids to open.

The I-10 bridge replacement at Union, they're scheduled to do a deck placement on Ramp E on November 7th which is this Saturday so look for something from our District 1 office on that.

Bartholomew: Is that going to affect Union underneath?

Herrera: Probably. I'm not sure exactly how though I haven't talked to the project manager but I'll make sure to get you ...

Bartholomew: Cause we have a bus route that goes on Union underneath there.

Herrera: Right, okay. I'll, I'll talk to our, who's taking care of our PIO duties right now and make sure to get you something.

The next project is the Missouri Bridge I-25 project. That's on schedule, well it's actually a couple months ahead of schedule. They're moving very well on that and traffic control seems to be really good. We haven't had any issues there.

Bartholomew: Is there a estimated opening time for Don, Don Roser? We're getting a lot of questions about that.
Herrera: Yeah and last time I asked that we were told indefinitely until they get the work completed and so I don't think that that date has been nailed down any more than that unfortunately. Sorry about that.

The next I-10 pavement preservation project, mile post 133 to 146 that's from Jackrabbit interchange to the I-10/I-25 interchange. I believe the pre-con was last week and that one has a mandatory completion date of November 2016 but we do have notes in there that the contractor will not work in the vicinity of Union at the same time as that work is going on just so there's not conflicting traffic control.

The Valley Drive reconstruction project is still in the design phase and that one is scheduled to open bids summer of 2017. And the next two are railroad crossing projects and they're on schedule is what I heard from the Rail Bureau. I'm not exactly sure what that means but if there's any specific questions I can get those answered. And that's all.

Love: Any other comments or questions on the project updates?

7. PUBLIC COMMENT

Love: Let's see, item number seven, public comment. Seeing none.

8. ADJOURNMENT (4:22 p.m.)

Love: We'll move to adjournment. Do I hear a motion?

Bartholomew: I move we adjourn.

Herrera: I second.

Love: All in favor.

MOTION PASSES UNANIMOUSLY.

Love: We are adjourned.

Chairperson
MESILLA VALLEY METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION
TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE
DISCUSSION FORM FOR THE MEETING OF DECEMBER 3, 2015

AGENDA ITEM:
6.2 University Avenue Study Corridor Presentation

DISCUSSION:
Bohannan-Huston staff will present regarding the ongoing work on the University Avenue Study Corridor.

This meeting will be the kickoff of the final public comment period before the plan is brought before the Policy Committee for adoption.
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

A. PROJECT HISTORY

The University Boulevard Corridor Study – Phase A is being led by the Mesilla Valley Metropolitan Planning Organization (MVMPO). However, the project corridor crosses through both the jurisdiction of the City of Las Cruces and the Town of Mesilla and the roadway corridor is maintained and owned by the New Mexico Department of Transportation (NMDOT). All four agencies have been key stakeholders in the planning process. In addition, the funding is being provided through planning funds distributed by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA); therefore, the project development process will follow the NMDOT Location Study Procedures (2000).

B. PURPOSE AND NEED

The purpose and need for the University Boulevard Corridor Study is based on physical deficiencies, safety concerns, lack of bicycle/pedestrian facilities, and potential for economic development. The Purpose of the project is to provide an enhanced multi-modal transportation corridor along University Boulevard between Main Street and Avenida de Mesilla.

Physical deficiencies and safety concerns are based on the potential for pedestrian, bicycle and vehicular conflicts due to lack of adequate multi-modal facilities along the corridor. There are currently no bicycle or pedestrian facilities within the study corridor, nor adequate shoulders. Another need for this project is to enhance the potential economic development opportunities as a result of completing the city-wide bicycle loop and continuing to improve the connection from the Town of Mesilla to the Las Cruces Convention Center.

C. PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

In compliance with the NMDOT Location Study Procedures, a Public Involvement Plan (PIP) was prepared for the project. As defined in the PIP, there were 2 public meetings held during Phase A to present and discuss proposed alternatives. In addition, there have been two Project Team meetings to discuss issues and develop alternatives. The Project Team included the MVMPO, City of Las Cruces, Town of Mesilla, the NMDOT, Las Cruces Public Schools, and the Elephant Butte Irrigation District.
D. ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED

Six separate typical sections were evaluated for the initial alternatives analysis:

- Typical Section A – 38’ section with curb and gutter, 2-5’ bike lanes and 12’ driving lanes.
- Typical Section B – 43’ section with curb and gutter, 12’ driving lanes, and a 10’ multi-use trail on one side.
- Typical Section C – 50.5’ section with a 6’ sidewalk, curb and gutter, 12’ driving lanes and 10’ multi-use trail.
- Typical Section D – 46’ section with curb and gutter, 5’ bike lanes, 12’ driving lanes, and a 6’ sidewalk on one side.
- Typical Section E – 48’ section with curb and gutter, 12’ driving lanes, 5’ bike lane on one side, and a 10’ multi-use trail on one side.
- Typical Section F – 60.5’ section with a 6’ sidewalk, curb and gutter, 2-5’ bike lanes, 12’ driving lanes, and a 10’ multi-use trail.
E. RECOMMENDATIONS

At the conclusion of the University Boulevard Corridor Study - Phase A, the recommended alternatives include two typical sections which both meet the need and purpose of the project but allow for flexibility in ROW availability. Typical Section F was part of the original set of alternatives considered, and requires approximately 60.5 feet of ROW. It includes 2-driving lanes, in-road bicycle lanes, curb and gutter, and pedestrian facilities on both sides. Pedestrian facilities include a sidewalk on the north side and a multi-use path on the south side. Given the ROW limitations within the majority of the corridor, Typical Section G was also developed and recommended as a baseline for the entire corridor. It includes 2-driving lanes, in-road bicycle lanes, curb and gutter, and sidewalks on both sides. The minimal ROW need of 44 feet, makes this typical section feasible in almost all locations; there may need to be some ROW/easement acquisition west of Zia Middle School.

Ultimately, Typical Section G is recommended for the entire corridor. Then, in some locations where ROW (or easements) may be required from the Elephant Butte Irrigation District there is an opportunity to expand the typical section to look more like Typical Section F with a multi-use path on the south side. (Figures of Typical Section F and G attached.)
University Boulevard Corridor Study
Recommended Alternatives for Corridor

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Typical Section F

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60.5'
AGENDA ITEM:
6.1 City of Las Cruces, Doña Ana County, Town of Mesilla, Las Cruces Public Schools, RoadRUNNER Transit, and South Central Regional Transit District (SCRTD) Project Updates. Updates have been requested from the entities. The responses from the entities are included below.

ACTION REQUESTED:
Updates from the Jurisdictions regarding current projects

DISCUSSION:

City of Las Cruces Current Projects:
LC00130 – El Paseo HSIP Project
The City is waiting on NMDOT to approval the right of way acquisition process before awarding the contract

LC00190 – Las Cruces Dam Trail Project
The City is waiting on NMDOT on the approval of the recommendation of award

Doña Ana County Current Projects:
G100030 – Reconstruction of Dripping Springs and Baylor Canyon Road Project
This project was out for bids. Bid opening was Nov 19, 2015 and an award will be made to the apparent low bidder with construction to follow.

LC00110 – Design and Construction for Intersection Realignment: El Camino Real at Doña Ana School Road Project
ROW mapping and legal descriptions were sent to NMDOT for their review. NMDOT has submitted the documents to their legal group in Santa Fe.

Town of Mesilla
No current projects
Las Cruces Public Schools
LC00170 – Safe Routes to School Coordinator Position

SRTS’s focus during the months of November and December is on classroom education. The Coalition continues to meet monthly to work collaboratively on bicycle and pedestrian issues as they relate to children and school. The SRTS Action Plan Committee is working on updating the plan.

RoadRUNNER Transit
TL00010 – Operations

Congress has not yet appropriated FFY16 Section 5307 funds. 10/12ths of FFY15 Section 5307 funds were obligated in September 2015 for use in the RoadRUNNER’s FY16 budget. The remaining 2/12ths will be obligated when the TrAMs grant management system is operational in the next few months and will be applied to project number TL00013. The total grant awards going to operations are $1,220,645 FTA funds and $1,200,645 local match funds for a total of $2,401,290. We intend to expend the operating scope of this grant by 6/30/16.

TL00013 – Support Equipment

Congress has not yet appropriated FFT16 Section 5307 funds. 10/12ths of FFY15 Section 5307 funds were obligated in September 2015 for use in the RoadRUNNER’s FY16 budget. The remaining 2/12ths will be obligated when the TrAMs grant management system is operational in the next few months and will be applied to project number TL00013. The amount of FFY15 Section 5307 funds that were obligated for this project is $393,998 FTA, $70,412 local, total $464,410. The full amount of the unobligated FFY15 Section 5307 funds will be obligated to this project: $391,997 FTA, $56,446 local match, for a total of $376,443. The intent is to order two heavy duty transit buses once this final amount had been obligated and incorporated in the City’s budget.
AGENDA ITEM:
6.2 NMDOT Projects Update. Updates were requested from NMDOT Staff. The responses from NMDOT have been included below.

ACTION REQUESTED:
Update from NMDOT regarding current projects

DISCUSSION:
1100820 – West Mesa Road Study
Waiting for Noticed to Proceed to be issued for Phase B study

LC00120 – US 70 Intersection with Spitz/Solano/Three Crosses
Scheduled for June 2016 Letting

LC00240 – US 70 through San Augustine Pass
Waiting for award of RFP design

LC00250 – University Interchange
RFP pending for design

LC00270 – US 70 Safety and Capacity Study
Waiting for award of RFP study
AGENDA ITEM:
6.2 University Ave. Study Corridor Update, Missouri Ave. Study Corridor Update, Short Range Transit Plan Update

DISCUSSION:
Update from MPO Staff regarding current projects.