

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

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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 December 3,  
6 2015 at 4:00 p.m. in Council Chambers at City Hall, 700 N. Main Street, Las Cruces,  
7 New Mexico.  
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10 **MEMBERS PRESENT:**   Louis Grijalva (CLC Public Works)  
11                               Larry Shannon (Town of Mesilla)  
12                               Harold Love (NMDOT)  
13                               Dale Harrell (NMSU)  
14                               Debbi Lujan (Town of Mesilla)  
15                               John Gwynne (DAC Flood Commission)  
16                               Rene Molina (DAC Engineering)  
17                               Stephen Howie (EBID)  
18                               David Armijo (SCRTD)  
19                               Richard Hanway (RoadRUNNER Transit)  
20                               Soogyu Lee (CLC)

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22 **MEMBERS ABSENT:**    Jolene Herrera (NMDOT)  
23                               Mike Bartholomew (RoadRUNNER Transit)

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25 **STAFF PRESENT:**       Tom Murphy (MPO Staff)  
26                               Andrew Wray (MPO Staff)  
27                               Michael McAdams (MPO Staff)

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29 **OTHERS PRESENT:**     Becky Baum, RC Creations, LLC, Recording Secretary  
30                               Willie Roman (CLC)

31  
32 **1.     CALL TO ORDER (4:04 p.m.)**

33  
34 Love:            Okay. We'll go ahead and get started. This is the Mesilla Valley  
35 Metropolitan Planning Organization Technical Advisory Committee for  
36 December 3rd, 19, 19, no, 2015. Geez. Yeah, no kidding. We'll go  
37 ahead and start with the roll call starting with my far right.  
38

39 Harrell:          Dale Harrell, NMSU.

40  
41 Howie:           Stephen Howie, Elephant Butte Irrigation District.

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43 Lee:             Soogyu Lee, City of Las Cruces Transportation.

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45 Grijalva:        Louis Grijalva, City of Las Cruces Public Works.  
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1 Molina: Rene Molina, Dona Ana County Engineering.  
2  
3 Gwynne: John Gwynne, Dona Ana County Flood Commission.  
4  
5 Lujan: Debbi Lujan, Town of Mesilla.  
6  
7 Shannon: Larry Shannon, Town of Mesilla.  
8  
9 Hanway: Richard Hanway, City of Las Cruces RoadRUNNER Transit.  
10  
11 Armijo: And good afternoon. David Armijo, I'm the new Executive Director for the  
12 South Central RTD. Hello.  
13  
14 Childress: Bill Childress, Bureau of Land Management.  
15  
16 Love: And I'm Harold Love with New Mexico Department of Transportation and I  
17 am your Chairman for today.  
18

19 **2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

20  
21 Love: Next we'll, next we'll go with the Approval of the Agenda. Do I hear a  
22 motion?  
23  
24 Grijalva: Make a motion to approve the, the agenda as written.  
25  
26 Shannon: Second.  
27  
28 Love: Motioned and second. All in favor?  
29  
30 ALL AYE.  
31  
32 Love: Agenda approved.  
33

34 **3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

35  
36 **3.1 November 5, 2015**

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38 Love: Item number three, Approval of the Minutes.  
39  
40 Harrell: I approve that we approve the minutes.  
41  
42 Love: Do I hear a second?  
43  
44 Gwynne: Second.  
45  
46 Love: Motioned and second. All in favor?

1  
2 ALL AYE.

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4 Love: Minutes approved.

5  
6 **4. PUBLIC COMMENT**

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8 Love: Item number four, Public Comments. Not seeing any.

9  
10 **5. DISCUSSION ITEMS**

11  
12 **5.1 University Ave. Study Corridor Presentation**

13  
14 Love: We'll move on to our item number five, Discussion Items, Presentation on  
15 the University Avenue Study Corridor present.

16  
17 Murphy: Thank you Mr. Chair. This afternoon we have Denise Weston with  
18 Bohannan Huston to give a update on the University Avenue Study  
19 Corridor that we've been working on in the past few months. We spoken  
20 about here before, what, we've completed the second round of public  
21 involvement. We're in the process of finalizing the, the draft Phase A  
22 report. We had originally hoped to get it to you at this meeting but we're  
23 not quite there yet so we'll get it, get it to you in January. We're, I guess  
24 the, the, the first draft there is being passed out, out to you, course don't  
25 expect you to comment on it and we're not asking for approval today but  
26 Denise is here to kind of give, give a rundown and a wrap-up of the, of the  
27 project and then we'll come back next month and ask for a  
28 recommendation.

29  
30 Denise Weston gave her presentation.

31  
32 Gwynne: Mr. Chair. Denise just one question. Is, is there a City bus that goes  
33 through this on this route?

34  
35 Weston: There is. And there's actually a transit stop. There, it would be identified  
36 in one of the front maps in the plan. There's a transit stop on the north  
37 side near that neighborhood on the west end, there's an existing stop  
38 there. Yes.

39  
40 Gwynne: Okay. So that would be taken into the, the pedestrian facilities on the  
41 side. Would there be a, a bench or, or a stop plan?

42  
43 Weston: Right now there isn't actually a stop plan for that location. There's just a  
44 place where it stops. But that's a good question. I, I, and I've been  
45 communicating with Mike a little on that. Maybe we can follow up a little  
46 more closely on what your expectations are for that area.

1  
2 Hanway: My concern is, is right now we have a lot of congestion right there when  
3 the school is letting out and it's actually throwing our routes off timing  
4 cause there, there's no relief for the cars or the buses to get off the right-  
5 of-way. So are they looking into doing any type of cutout for the school or  
6 anything like that?  
7  
8 Weston: No.  
9  
10 Hanway: Because right, right now it, it, it's pretty bad.  
11  
12 Weston: Now the school as I understand it, as we were working with them through  
13 this process, they actually have some planning underway to do some of  
14 their own management of traffic on their land separate from this study. So  
15 at this time the, the right-of-way in that area is the right-of-way that's  
16 established and that's how that roadway would function. Now I think that  
17 it's worth considering, I don't know that if you would need a bus pullout as  
18 you make your stop to the west. You're saying that's not necessarily the  
19 problem, the problem is just getting through that traffic.  
20  
21 Hanway: Right.  
22  
23 Weston: Right.  
24  
25 Hanway: I wouldn't necessarily recommend a bus cutout for the buses but more for  
26 the, the traffic that's going to the school. They have a lot of ...  
27  
28 Weston: Yeah.  
29  
30 Hanway: Of parents that, that go and pick up their children there and, and they're ...  
31  
32 Weston: Right.  
33  
34 Hanway: Parking just on the right-of-way. So ...  
35  
36 Weston: Right. Well, and that's why we're trying to provide the pedestrian and  
37 bicycle facilities in hope that maybe some of those people will get out of  
38 their cars but it is very trick, tricky because the right-of-way just isn't there  
39 to provide enough space for on-street parking and we are trying to work  
40 with the school so at the end when these improvements come out there  
41 could be some recommendations on traffic management but other than  
42 that it's very hard during those pickup and drop-off times to design a  
43 roadway that can handle those number of cars for that short period of  
44 time.  
45

1 Hanway: I, I agree. And as far as the school though if they're going to, if they're  
2 willing to do a study is this something that you guys would incorporate with  
3 them?  
4  
5 Weston: Oh absolutely. I think that they are working, if I may, correct they, they,  
6 they were at the, one of the last meetings and they're looking at just some  
7 other internal queuing of cars to get some of them off the street when  
8 they're dropping off or picking up. Right.  
9  
10 Hanway: Thank you.  
11  
12 Weston: And as a comment I'll note that perhaps I can get a status update in the  
13 final report on what their, their status is of any improvements they might  
14 have and it, the answer may be, "At this time we're not doing anything,"  
15 but I'll make sure there's a status update in there, in the report.  
16  
17 Hanway: Okay. Thank you.  
18  
19 Love: Any other comments? Thank you Denise.  
20  
21 Weston: All right. Thank you.  
22

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

### 24 25 **6.1 City of Las Cruces, Dona Ana County, Town of Mesilla, Las Cruces** 26 **Public Schools, RoadRUNNER Transit, SCRTD Project Updates**

27  
28 Love: Okay. Moving on to item number six, Committee and Staff Comments.  
29  
30 Murphy: Mr. Chair. I guess at this point of the agenda we'd, if any of the, the  
31 Members want to give updates on projects that their agencies are working  
32 on that they, they feel is a, worth sharing so we hear, like to hear from the  
33 Committee.  
34  
35 Love: We'll go, we'll go down the list. City of Las Cruces, anything?  
36  
37 Grijalva: Mr. Chairman. This is in regards to the LC00130, the El Paseo Safety  
38 road project. We're in the process of trying to get a right-of-way  
39 certification I guess cleared before we can actually award the, the, the  
40 project to a local contractor. So as soon as we, we get that all squared  
41 away then we can move forward with the, the awarding of that contract.  
42 LC00190 which is the Las Cruces Dam Trails Project, we have  
43 given an initial recommendation of award to a local contractor. NMDOT  
44 and FHWA did review all the bids and documents and, and, and  
45 suggested that they didn't have all the proper documentation and so we're  
46 going to a, another bidder that had submitted a bid on the project. So

1 we're in the process of writing the recommendation of award letter.  
2 Hopefully we can get NMDOT's concurrence and move forward with the  
3 contract award.  
4

5 Love: Thank you. Dona Ana County.  
6

7 Molina: Thank you. The project that I did want to give a little bit of input or  
8 information on is the Dripping Springs, Dripping Springs/Baylor Canyon  
9 Roadway Project that was out to bid. The lowest bidder is, is Mountain  
10 States Construction and we're looking at moving forward with them.  
11 We've got a pre-con that's coming up in the next two weeks and looking at  
12 construction starting in mid to late January. So keep, be on the lookout for  
13 that and the, the project will, will be there. Try to, we don't see too many  
14 issues but we'll be starting that project. Thanks.  
15

16 Love: Town of Mesilla I see you don't have any current projects. We have  
17 representative from Las Cruces Public Schools? No, okay.  
18 RoadRUNNER Transit.  
19

20 Hanway: Well I, Mr. Chair. Like to welcome the South Central RTD into the  
21 Intermodal Center. We finally got the MOA signed today so they will be  
22 starting with us hopefully on Monday, correct? That's it.  
23

## 24 6.2 NMDOT Projects Update

25

26 Love: Okay. And DOT projects are pretty much what's, what's in the packet  
27 here, (*inaudible*) a road study, we're just waiting for the notice to proceed  
28 for, to do the Phase B. The Phase B involves coming up with some  
29 recommended alternatives, alignment alternatives as part of the study.

30 Let's see. US 70 intersection with Spitz, Solano, and Three  
31 Crosses, that project is still scheduled to be let in June.

32 US 70 through San Augustin Pass, that RFP has been awarded.  
33 I'm not aware who got the award, I was just told that it has been awarded  
34 to a contract, or to a consultant for design so, and that project involves  
35 widening US 70 through the San Augustin Pass to include, to be able to  
36 put a bike lane through and connect, and have connectivity on both sides  
37 of the pass.

38 US 70 interchange, waiting for the award for that RFP. The US 70  
39 Safety and Capacity Study, that's a, a study to look at six-laning US 70  
40 from Solano all the way to I-10, to I-25. And that one has also been  
41 awarded but I, I, I'm not aware of who actually received the award. But it  
42 should be coming out soon. Any questions, any, any other discussion?  
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## 44 6.3 MPO Staff Projects Update

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46 SEE BELOW UNDER ADJOURNMENT.

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**7. PUBLIC COMMENT**

Love: Okay, next item, Public Comment. Seeing none.

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

Love: We'll move over, looking for a motion to adjourn.

Murphy: Actually Mr. Chair.

Love: Yes.

Murphy: I think we skipped over the MPO Staff Project Update.

Love: Yes we did.

Murphy: I'll, I promise. I know, it, it sounds like you're anxious to get out of here so I will be quick. I will not reduce Denise's update on the University Avenue project.

The Missouri Avenue Study Corridor, we had a public meeting last night at the Farm and Ranch Museum. It was fairly well-attended. People were interested in it. There was no real angst with, with any of the things that were being looked at so it looks like people, people are in favor of study and they were out there wanting to learn.

On the short-range Transit Plan update, we're still working with City administration. We need to get funded the transition costs, moving bus shelters, updating AVLs, things of that, things of that nature. Since there was a City of election since we last had it we are, we are, we're also working with the administration to schedule another work session on it in front of the Council so that they can, so that we can fully inform the, the new members and bring them up to speed on things that have happened since we last met with them. And so with that I'll answer any questions.

Love: Any questions? Thank you Tom. Okay. Now I look for a motion to adjourn. Nobody wants to go?

Murphy: No one wants to leave.

Shannon: I make a motion to adjourn.

Love: Do I see a second?

Lujan: I second.

Love: All in favor?

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ALL AYE.

Love: We are adjourned.

  
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Chairperson