

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 March 3, 2016
6 at 4:00 p.m. in Commission Chambers at Doña Ana County Government Building, 845
7 Motel Blvd., Las Cruces, New Mexico.

8
9 **MEMBERS PRESENT:** John Gwynne (DAC Flood Commission)
10 Mike Bartholomew (CLC Transit)
11 Larry Shannon (Town of Mesilla)
12 Harold Love (NMDOT)
13 Jolene Herrera (NMDOT)
14 Debbi Lujan (Town of Mesilla)
15 Tony Trevino (CLC Public Works)
16 SooGyu Lee (CLC)
17 Stephen Howie (EBID)
18 Bill Childress (BLM)
19 Luis Marmolejo (DAC)

20
21 **MEMBERS ABSENT:** David Armijo (SCR TD)
22 Dale Harrell (NMSU)
23 Rene Molina (DAC)

24
25 **STAFF PRESENT:** Tom Murphy (MPO Staff)
26 Andrew Wray (MPO Staff)
27 Michael McAdams (MPO Staff)
28 Zach Tarachi (MPO Staff)

29
30 **OTHERS PRESENT:** Aaron Sussman, Bohannan Huston
31 Kristen Woods, Bohannan Huston
32 Becky Baum, RC Creations, LLC, Recording Secretary

33
34 **1. CALL TO ORDER (4:00 p.m.)**

35
36 Gwynne: Good afternoon. We're ready to get, get this meeting started and call to
37 order the Mesilla Valley Metropolitan Planning Organization Technical
38 Advisory Committee meeting for April the 3rd, March the 3rd 2016. Sorry,
39 I'm ahead of myself.

40
41 Wray: I missed a month.

42
43 Gwynne: Yeah, right. So first of all the first order of business is let's do a roll call;
44 start at the far, let's start down here with Jolene and move around to my
45 right.

1 Herrera: Good afternoon. Jolene Herrera, NMDOT.
2
3 Lee: SooGyu Lee, City of Las Cruces.
4
5 Childress: Bill Childress, Bureau of Land Management.
6
7 Marmolejo: Luis Marmolejo, Doña Ana County Planning.
8
9 Love: Harold Love, New Mexico DOT.
10
11 Lujan: Debbi Lujan, Town of Mesilla.
12
13 Wray: You're not on.
14
15 Shannon: Larry Shannon, Town of Mesilla.
16
17 Gwynne: John Gwynne, Doña Ana County Flood Commission.
18
19 Trevino: Tony Trevino, City of Las Cruces Public Works.
20
21 Bartholomew: Mike Bartholomew, City of Las Cruces RoadRUNNER Transit.
22
23 Howie: Stephen Howie, Elephant Butte Irrigation District.
24
25 Gwynne: Very good. I wanted to make just a real quick announcement before we
26 move real in, into the agenda. Soo I believe you're now the representative
27 for the Roads Department for the City, is that correct?
28
29 Lee: Yes, correct.
30
31 Gwynne: Okay. So would you pronounce your name for me because I'm not, I'm
32 not good at it.
33
34 Lee: Soo, S-O-O.
35
36 Gwynne: No, the, the whole name, Soo ...
37
38 Lee: Whole name is SooGyu, that's my first name.
39
40 Gwynne: SooGyu Lee, right?
41
42 Lee: Yes, correct.
43
44 Gwynne: Okay. Thank you very much. I just wanted to make sure it was
45 pronounced.
46

1
2 **2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

3
4 Gwynne: Okay, so let's move on to Approval of the Agenda. Has everyone had a
5 chance to have a look at the agenda? Are there any revisions at this
6 point?
7

8 Love: Yes. On page two the, the proxy for Jolene Herrera is Aaron Chavarria
9 not Eric Chavarria.

10
11 Wray: Thanks.

12
13 Gwynne: Oh, you're talking about the, the minutes. We'll, we'll get to that ...

14
15 Love: Yes. What are you talking about?

16
17 Gwynne: When, approving the ...

18
19 Love: Oh. The agenda.

20
21 Gwynne: Agenda first.

22
23 Love: Okay. I'm ahead of myself.

24
25 Gwynne: You're ahead of yourself. Very good. So if there are no changes to the
26 agenda I'd, I'll take a motion to approve the agenda.
27

28 Herrera: Mr. Chair. Move to approve the agenda.

29
30 Bartholomew: Second.

31
32 Gwynne: It's been motioned by Jolene Herrera and seconded by Mike
33 Bartholomew. All those in favor?
34

35 MOTION PASSES UNANIMOUSLY.

36
37 Gwynne: So pass unanimously.
38

39 **3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

40
41 **3.1 February 4, 2016**

42
43 Gwynne: Now let's move on to the Approval of the Minutes. Harold you said on
44 page two, that's Aaron Chavarria.

45
46 Love: Correct.

1
2 Gwynne: Okay. Are there any other changes to the minutes? Okay. I'll accept a
3 motion to accept the minutes as, as amended.
4

5 Bartholomew: I, I move we accept the minutes of February 4th.
6

7 Trevino: Second.
8

9 Gwynne: All those in favor?
10

11 MOTION PASSES UNANIMOUSLY.
12

13 **4. PUBLIC COMMENT**
14

15 Gwynne: Okay. Let's move into Public Comment. Is there any comments from the
16 public? Seeing none.
17

18 **5. DISCUSSION ITEMS**
19

20 **5.1 Presentation on the Missouri Ave./Roadrunner Pkwy. Study Corridor**
21

22 Gwynne: Let's move into our Item five, the Discussion Items. So are, are we
23 moving into the presentation for Missouri Avenue?
24

25 Wray: Yes, thank you Mr. Chair. MPO staff is pleased to have Aaron Sussman
26 and Kristen Woods from Bohannon Huston and they will be presenting on
27 this item.
28

29 Gwynne: Okay. Thank you.
30

31 AARON SUSSMAN GAVE THE PRESENTATION.
32

33 Marmolejo: Chair.
34

35 Gwynne: Yes sir.
36

37 Marmolejo: I have a quick question but it's directed to BLM. I'm just curious as to land
38 disposals. Have you guys already talked about land disposals around
39 these areas?
40

41 Childress: Beat me to the punch. I was going to bring up the fact we have not made
42 any decisions on disposal or retention of these public lands for future
43 development. The lands right now are in a retention situation. These are,
44 most of these lands were withdrawn or revoked back to us, the BLM.
45 They were NASA withdrawn lands and as such no decisions have been
46 made for disposal of these lands. Those decisions will be made through

1 the Tri-County Resource Management Plan. So I think that has to be
2 taken into full consideration on you know what is, what kind of decision
3 you make here because there, it, there's a great possibility we will retain
4 those lands for open space. The community adjacent to these lands are
5 very supportive of retaining these lands in open space and so that is one
6 of the alternatives that we're addressing in our Resource Management
7 Plan.

8
9 Gwynne: Yes. Mike.

10
11 Bartholomew: Oh. Actually I think my question was answered and I was wondering
12 what the, if it was likely going to be, be retained as open space and, and
13 that would make a, probably an important decision on, on how to proceed
14 or what kind of alignment to use and everything through there. Cause I,
15 and, as, as, as somebody who actually lives in that neighborhood to I, I
16 very much know that it's used by ATVs, motorcycles, it's a humongous
17 dog park and there's a, people walk, hike and everything through there.

18
19 Gwynne: Other comments/questions from the Committee?

20
21 Trevino: I'm fairly new over here. Can you explain, tell me what AdobeHenge, is it
22 a residential development, is it a subdivision, or what is that, bring me up
23 to speed please.

24
25 Sussman: Sure. I'm probably not the best person to speak to AdobeHenge but I did
26 bring some flyers on AdobeHenge in case other individuals have that
27 question. Can I pass those out? All right.

28
29 Childress: If I may, once again we are addressing an application by the Farm and
30 Ranch Museum and the partnership with the artist to develop, construct
31 the AdobeHenge on public lands. No decisions have been made on that,
32 however under their application they would acquire most of the lands
33 leading up to the southern edge of Missouri Road. That would be under
34 their application to convert it from BLM land, Bureau of Land Management
35 land, to lands managed by State Parks.

36
37 Gwynne: Any other questions? One of the things that ...

38
39 Bartholomew: I, I, oh, I'm sorry.

40
41 Gwynne: Yes, go ahead Mike.

42
43 Bartholomew: Oh, I just had a question on the, in the MTP there's a, a minor art, I guess
44 it is, a minor arterial that kind of comes like if you extend it out from Paseo
45 de Onate all across, I noticed all the alignments don't really quite line up
46 with that where you have the various scenarios with Roadrunner and

1 Missouri, some of them as minor arterials as, I was just wondering is there
2 a name for that or is there a, is there going to be some kind of connection
3 going across?
4

5 Murphy: Those are future, future collector alignments I think first identified in the
6 2010 MTP. They're, they're a, at this point unnamed. The intention is for
7 them not to, to directly line up in the case of the collectors cause we do
8 not want to have facilities that had long, over, over a, a mile or two-mile
9 runs that, where they would take on the characteristics of a minor arterial.
10

11 Bartholomew: Okay. Cause I just noticed it was been marked as a minor arterial on the,
12 on the map.
13

14 Murphy: I will have to double-check that.
15

16 Bartholomew: Okay.
17

18 Murphy: Then, but the ...
19

20 Bartholomew: That's, that's ...
21

22 Murphy: I think it does, you know you, in that case ...
23

24 Bartholomew: From, from Porter Road, I ...
25

26 Murphy: It's supposed to proceed onward to the east ...
27

28 Bartholomew: Okay.
29

30 Murphy: And if we had a zoomed-out map that would, that would show up better.
31 But it, again it would still be unnamed at this point.
32

33 Bartholomew: Okay.
34

35 Gwynne: Any other questions? I have a, I have a couple of comments and, and
36 maybe a little question too as, as we lead into this. One of the things and
37 you kind of alluded to it in your presentation is that you're going to be
38 doing a limited amount of engineering as you go through this study. Some
39 of the costs involved with any of these alternatives is going to be based on
40 some of the infrastructure that you have to put in place obviously. And so
41 the question in my mind is, is how much are you going to do as an
42 example to figure out if, how large of culverts you're going to have to put
43 in, those sorts of things? So that's kind of a question, how deep are you
44 going to go?
45

1 Sussman: That's a very good question. Fortunately Bohannon Huston worked on
2 some of the drainage analysis for Centennial High School so we are able
3 to draw from a lot of the resources developed through that planning effort
4 and so that should give us a good starting point to understand the
5 magnitude of, of topographical challenges associated with different
6 alignments. So if we need to do some additional surveying, that's certainly
7 a possibility. What I mean by that, by when I talk about sort of a limited
8 engineering, we're certainly not going to go into full design.
9

10 Gwynne: Sure.

11

12 Sussman: But fortunately that's a very good starting point for us and, and if you're
13 interested the next time that we present to this Committee we can discuss
14 the results of that study in more detail.
15

16 Gwynne: Always interested to know how, how much information you have to go on
17 when we go into these studies. Any other questions?
18

19 Lee: Chair.

20

21 Gwynne: Yes.
22

23 Lee: I have a question about the, any, do you have any kind of traffic study
24 because of, you know the Missouri and the Roadrunner Parkway is one of
25 the major street, we have a problem. Specifically on Lohman and
26 Roadrunner Parkway we have a big issue. So is any consideration when
27 you determined the, you know the path or the, you know when you
28 determine the, the any alternative because you never put it under any kind
29 of, the traffic impact on your metrics. Cause I believe that's one of the big,
30 you know the key factor.
31

32 Sussman: Sure. That's a, that's a very good question. That's something I did not
33 discuss as part of our next steps but that is part of our next steps, to
34 consider those traffic impacts to at least some degree to look at the long-
35 range forecasting that's associated with the 2040 Metropolitan
36 Transportation Plan. So that is something that we'll consider and that's
37 obviously part of the purpose and need in, in, in a sort of a general sense
38 is creating that, that transportation network connectivity so that there are,
39 there is maybe less strain on some of the individual intersections.
40

41 Herrera: Mr. Chair.

42

43 Gwynne: Yes.
44

45 Herrera: I had a question more for the City staff. I know at the initial kickoff meeting
46 that we had the City staff that was there didn't really seem to think that this

1 was a high priority because it's basically adding lane miles to the inventory
2 that you already have. Do you know if that's still the same stance that the
3 City has?
4

5 Trevino: I think it hasn't changed much and mainly due to the fact that this is all in
6 Doña Ana County. So all these roads are all being constructed within the
7 County and nothing really within the City besides that northern part of
8 Roadrunner so.
9

10 Herrera: Okay. With that being said Mr. Chair can I ask the same question of the
11 County?
12

13 Gwynne: Sure.
14

15 Marmolejo: Can you repeat the question please?
16

17 Herrera: Just, what kind of commitment does the County have to pursuing funding
18 for a project and whatever the alignment you know is, just ...
19

20 Marmolejo: Yes ma'am. No, I, you know I don't really, I, I haven't really, in it, all the
21 staff meetings that I've been with, with Engineering not, this has never
22 come up before. You know obviously anything that would be dedicated to
23 County would have to come up to County standards but I have not seen
24 anything at all regarding county right-of-way issues in, in this area or
25 anywhere outside to that matter.
26

27 Herrera: Thank you.
28

29 Gwynne: Thank you very much. Appreciate your presentation.
30

31 Sussman: Thank you again and if you have questions or comments or something
32 occurs to you at a later point in time please again feel free to e-mail us
33 and I'm sure we'll follow up with all of you shortly.
34

35 Gwynne: Thanks Aaron.
36

37 Sussman: Thank you.
38

39 **5.2 Presentation on the Multi-Use Trail Loop**

40
41 Gwynne: Next item on our agenda is the presentation by staff on multiuse trails.
42 Andrew.
43

44 ANDREW WRAY GAVE HIS PRESENTATION.
45

46 Marmolejo: I have a, Chair.

1
2 Gwynne: Yeah.
3
4 Marmolejo: Just a, quickly you, you, you talked about earlier about the County
5 retaining or, or getting a special use permit from, from EBID but if I look at
6 the Llorona Trail as, as the existing and I'm assuming that they, that, that it
7 was acquired through the IBWC people within, within the, the river
8 boundaries if you will and then it comes out of IBWC and then it goes into
9 the Municipality of, of Mesilla and it continues and it, and it comes out at
10 Calle del Norte which is also within the Mesilla boundary if you will and
11 then you have that yellow you know black-dashed portion and you come
12 back down here to the Union Trail and that goes in and out of the Mesilla
13 area also as well and what, where specifically are you talking about for
14 this particular setup that the County would have to acquire an SUP?
15
16 Wray: The, the question would be for these laterals down here, specifically this
17 portion on the northern leg goes up into the County and for this use of
18 EBID laterals, EBID staff stated that the County and the Town would need
19 to obtain special use permits for, for that purpose.
20
21 Marmolejo: Just to, yeah just to be a heads-up, the County and EBID have been at it
22 for years now on SUPs, for years, at, at least ten years that I know of for
23 acquiring SUPs on, on their property and it has to do with, what do you
24 call it, somebody's liability or something like that so I would take that into
25 consideration. We just cannot come to agreement on what EBID requires
26 of Doña Ana County when it comes to liability. It's very problematic. I, I, I
27 would recommend that if you can stay away, if you can stay away from,
28 from EBID features in the County for proposed trail you might get tripped
29 up between the County and EBID coming to some agreement.
30
31 Wray: Thank you.
32
33 Gwynne: Other questions from the Committee?
34
35 Herrera: Mr. Chair.
36
37 Gwynne: Yes, Jolene.
38
39 Herrera: I don't have a question but I guess I just wanted to give a little more
40 information about what Andrew's talking about as far as the TAP call for
41 projects. For those of you that don't know TAP is Transportation
42 Alternatives Program so it's a funding source that we can use for, or that
43 local governments can use for things like ADA upgrades, pedestrian
44 facilities, bike facilities, those types of things. One caveat I guess to that
45 is that it is for transportation purposes, not so much for recreation so if
46 we're looking for more of a recreational trail we also have a program for

1 that. The call for projects will be released at the same time as the TAP
2 call for projects so really whenever the sponsor agencies are submitting
3 their applications look closely at what the, the intended use of the path I
4 guess will be and apply to the funding source that's most appropriate.
5

6 Gwynne: Very good.
7

8 Herrera: As far as deadlines go we haven't set them in stone yet. The TAP guide
9 and the Rec Trails guide are still under review. They are to be released I
10 believe by the end of March and we're hoping to have applications through
11 the MPO processes by April, I'm sorry, by August of 2016. What we're
12 looking at as far as funding years is design of projects in fiscal year 2018
13 and construction in fiscal year 2019. So that would be the funding that
14 you'd be applying for.
15

16 Gwynne: Okay. Thank you very much, Jolene.
17

18 Herrera: Thanks.
19

20 Gwynne: Any other questions from the Committee? Okay. Thank you.
21

22 Wray: Thank you.
23

24 **6. COMMITTEE AND STAFF COMMENTS**

25 26 **6.1 City of Las Cruces, Doña Ana County, Town of Mesilla, Las Cruces 27 Public Schools, RoadRUNNER Transit, SCRTD Project Updates** 28

29 Gwynne: Okay. Let's move on to our next item. We have updates from the various
30 member entities. City of Las Cruces.
31

32 Trevino: The Las Cruces Dam Trails, LC00190, we have the preconstruction
33 meeting scheduled for tomorrow so hopefully we'll begin construction
34 within the next month or so. So that'll include the 3.2 miles of trails behind
35 the Las Cruces Dam.

36 The El Paso Safety Project, LC00130, had the pre-con on Tuesday
37 actually so that's in the same boat, hopefully within the next three to four
38 weeks we'll begin construction.

39 Just a little kind of heads-up since the, the La Llorona Trail came up
40 earlier the, which is LC00180 which is the pervious concrete pavement
41 from the Outfall Channel Trail to La Llorona Park. That is complete for
42 construction and the finalizing of the closeout docs are being done right
43 now. That is all I have.
44

45 Gwynne: Okay. Doña Ana County.
46

1 Marmolejo: I don't have anything to report.
2
3 Gwynne: Okay. Town of Mesilla.
4
5 Shannon: We have nothing.
6
7 Gwynne: Okay. Las Cruces Public Schools.
8
9 Wray: Not present.
10
11 Gwynne: Not present. RoadRUNNER Transit.
12
13 Bartholomew: I have nothing above the report that's in the, before you on the agenda
14 already.
15
16 Gwynne: Okay. Thank you. Regional Transit District.
17
18 Wray: Not present.
19
20 Gwynne: Not present. Okay. Very good.
21
22 **6.2 NMDOT Projects Update**
23
24 Gwynne: DOT.
25
26 Herrera: Mr. Chair. It looks like I'm going to be doing the update this month.
27 Harold's looking at me. I'll run quickly down the list of projects that are
28 under construction now in the area.
29 North Main is done. Yay. Everybody's doing ...
30
31 Gwynne: Finally. Right.
32
33 Herrera: A happy dance now. Finally it's done.
34 The Missouri project is moving right along. We were supposed to,
35 or the contractor was thinking they were going to be done by the end of
36 March but there were some delays on delivery of beams and different
37 things so they're looking at end of April I believe for completion of that
38 project which is still I guess sooner than expected.
39 The Union Avenue bridge project is also on schedule. They only
40 had 240 working days and so they should be wrapping up that
41 construction probably here in the next couple of months. In the meantime
42 there's a lot of traffic control on I-10 right now with that and the pavement
43 preservations going on so please as you're traveling through that area be
44 very careful and mind the speed limits.
45 There's also the pavement preservation on I-10 through Las Cruces
46 as well as on the other side of I-10/I-25 interchange to the Texas state

1 line. Both of those are going on right now simultaneously. It's the same
2 contractor. So again just be careful as you're driving through there.
3 Those projects are scheduled to be pretty short. One's, the one through I-
4 10 will be done by November 2016. The next phase, the six-lane should
5 be done a few months after that.

6 And that's really the major construction projects we have going on.
7 We provided an update of projects that are in the design and planning
8 phase in the packet so you can look at that and if there's any questions I'd
9 be happy to answer those.

10
11 Gwynne: Are there any questions? Luis.

12
13 Marmolejo: Chair I just have a comment that, and it's to my DOT colleagues. And I'm,
14 I didn't get to the part about any future projects but O'Hara Road, I mean I
15 went through it the other day and it's really, really a lot of traffic. Is there
16 anything in the horizon and I'm assuming it's a DOT right-of-way. Is there
17 anything long-range horizon on widening, widening it because it, I went
18 through there the other day. I'm like, "Wow, this has really taken off."

19
20 Herrera: Yes. Actually we do have a project ongoing right now that's through the El
21 Paso MPO, obviously it's in their boundaries so that's why you don't see it
22 here.

23
24 Marmolejo: Okay.

25
26 Herrera: But it's a safety and a capacity study ...

27
28 Marmolejo: Okay.

29
30 Herrera: For all of 213 and all of 404 to include the interchange at 404 and I-10.

31
32 Marmolejo: Okay.

33
34 Herrera: And so we just barely started that. We haven't even had the kickoff
35 meeting. We're still in negotiations for that project but we're looking at
36 about one year for the Phase A/B report on that.

37
38 Marmolejo: Good. Thank you. Cause it's just a lot of traffic on that road. Thank you.

39
40 Gwynne: Any other questions?

41
42 **6.3 MPO Staff Projects Update**

43
44 Gwynne: Okay. The next item is updates from the MPO staff.
45

1 Tarachi after the meeting for those. Other than, yeah him. Him in the
2 black shirt.

3 Other than that we are going to be hopefully hosting a public
4 meeting, I don't recall if Bohannon Huston staff mentioned this but
5 hopefully at the end of March we'll be hosting another public meeting
6 regarding the Missouri project but we'll keep everyone posted regarding
7 that. Is, oh I can say March, I can say March 30th. So we're targeting
8 March 30th. Is there anything else this month? I think that's it.

9
10 Gwynne: Will, will you be sending out invites for that meeting?

11
12 Wray: Yes. Yes.

13
14 Gwynne: Okay. Thank you.

15
16 Wray: Yes, most definitely.

17
18 Gwynne: Okay. Thank you Andrew.

19
20 **7. PUBLIC COMMENT**

21
22 Gwynne: Are there any public comments? Seeing no public.

23
24 **8. ADJOURNMENT (4:52 p.m.)**

25
26 Gwynne: Let's move on. I'll stand for a motion for adjournment.

27
28 Bartholomew: So moved that we adjourn.

29
30 Gwynne: All in ...

31
32 Herrera: Second.

33
34 Gwynne: All in favor?

35
36 MOTION PASSES UNANIMOUSLY.

37
38 Gwynne: Thank you very much.

39
40
41
42
43
44
45 _____
Chairperson

