



METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

SERVING LAS CRUCES, DOÑA ANA COUNTY, AND MESILLA

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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 **January 7, 2016 at 4:00 p.m.** in the **Doña Ana County Commission Chambers, 845 Motel**, 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. **ELECTION OF OFFICERS** _____ **Chair**
4. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES** _____ **Chair**
 - 4.1. December 3, 2015 _____
5. **PUBLIC COMMENT** _____ **Chair**
6. **ACTION ITEMS** _____
 - 6.1. University Ave. Study Corridor _____ **MPO Staff**
7. **DISCUSSION ITEMS** _____
 - 7.1. Unified Planning Work Program Presentation _____ **MPO Staff**
8. **COMMITTEE and STAFF COMMENTS** _____
 - 8.1. City of Las Cruces, Doña Ana County, Town of Mesilla, Las Cruces Public Schools, RoadRUNNER Transit, and SCRTD Project Updates _____ **Jurisdictional Staff**
 - 8.2. NMDOT Projects Update _____ **NMDOT Staff**
 - 8.3. MPO Staff Projects Update _____ **MPO Staff**
9. **PUBLIC COMMENT** _____ **Chair**
10. **ADJOURNMENT** _____ **Chair**

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 December 3,
6 2015 at 4:00 p.m. in Council Chambers at City Hall, 700 N. Main Street, Las Cruces,
7 New Mexico.
8
9

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 Willie Roman (CLC Transportation)
16 John Gwynne (DAC Flood Commission)
17 Rene Molina (DAC Engineering)
18 Stephen Howie (EBID)
19 David Armijo (SCRTD)
20 Richard Hanway (LCPS)
21 Soogyu Lee (CLC)
22

23 **MEMBERS ABSENT:** Jolene Herrera (NMDOT)
24

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

29 **OTHERS PRESENT:** Becky Baum, RC Creations, LLC, Recording Secretary
30

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

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

38 Harrell: Dale Harrell, NMSU.
39

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

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

44 Grijalva: Louis Grijalva, City of Las Cruces Public Works.
45

46 Molina: Rene Molina, Dona Ana County Engineering.

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

18 **2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

19
20 Love: Next we'll, next we'll go with the Approval of the Agenda. Do I hear a
21 motion?
22
23 Grijalva: Make a motion to approve the, the agenda as written.
24
25 Shannon: Second.
26
27 Love: Motioned and second. All in favor?
28
29 ALL AYE.
30
31 Love: Agenda approved.
32

33 **3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

34
35 **3.1 November 5, 2015**

36
37 Love: Item number three, Approval of the Minutes.
38
39 Harrell: I approve that we approve the minutes.
40
41 Love: Do I hear a second?
42
43 Gwynne: Second.
44
45 Love: Motioned and second. All in favor?
46

1 ALL AYE.

2

3 Love: Minutes approved.

4

5 **4. PUBLIC COMMENT**

6

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

8

9 **5. DISCUSSION ITEMS**

10

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

12

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

15

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

28

29 Denise Weston gave her presentation.

30

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

33

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

38

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

41

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

46

1 Hanway: My concern is, is right now we have a lot of congestion right there when
2 the school is letting out and it's actually throwing our routes off timing
3 cause there, there's no relief for the cars or the buses to get off the right-
4 of-way. So are they looking into doing any type of cutout for the school or
5 anything like that?
6

7 Weston: No.
8

9 Hanway: Because right, right now it, it, it's pretty bad.
10

11 Weston: Now the school as I understand it, as we were working with them through
12 this process, they actually have some planning underway to do some of
13 their own management of traffic on their land separate from this study. So
14 at this time the, the right-of-way in that area is the right-of-way that's
15 established and that's how that roadway would function. Now I think that
16 it's worth considering, I don't know that if you would need a bus pullout as
17 you make your stop to the west. You're saying that's not necessarily the
18 problem, the problem is just getting through that traffic.
19

20 Hanway: Right.
21

22 Weston: Right.
23

24 Hanway: I wouldn't necessarily recommend a bus cutout for the buses but more for
25 the, the traffic that's going to the school. They have a lot of ...
26

27 Weston: Yeah.
28

29 Hanway: Of parents that, that go and pick up their children there and, and they're ...
30

31 Weston: Right.
32

33 Hanway: Parking just on the right-of-way. So ...
34

35 Weston: Right. Well, and that's why we're trying to provide the pedestrian and
36 bicycle facilities in hope that maybe some of those people will get out of
37 their cars but it is very trick, tricky because the right-of-way just isn't there
38 to provide enough space for on-street parking and we are trying to work
39 with the school so at the end when these improvements come out there
40 could be some recommendations on traffic management but other than
41 that it's very hard during those pickup and drop-off times to design a
42 roadway that can handle those number of cars for that short period of
43 time.
44

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

26
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?
43

44 **6.3 MPO Staff Projects Update**
45

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.

Chairperson



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MESILLA VALLEY METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE DISCUSSION FORM FOR THE MEETING OF JANUARY 7, 2016

AGENDA ITEM:

6.1 University Avenue Study Corridor

ACTION REQUESTED:

Review and recommendation for approval to the MPO Policy Committee

DISCUSSION:

Over the past year, MPO Staff in cooperation with the hired consultant, Bohannon-Huston, have been working on a University Avenue Study Corridor.

There are two alternatives recommended by the Study for further examination. These alternatives will be discussed in the presentation.



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**MESILLA VALLEY METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION
TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE
DISCUSSION FORM FOR THE MEETING OF JANUARY 7, 2016**

AGENDA ITEM:

7.1 Unified Planning Work Program Presentation

DISCUSSION:

MPO Staff will present on the upcoming update to the Unified Planning Work Program.



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AGENDA ITEM:

8.1 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.

DISCUSSION:

Jurisdiction staffs will discuss updates to their recent projects.



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DISCUSSION FORM FOR THE MEETING OF JANUARY 7, 2016**

AGENDA ITEM:

8.2 NMDOT Projects Update.

DISCUSSION:

Update from NMDOT Staff regarding current projects.



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DISCUSSION FORM FOR THE MEETING OF JANUARY 7, 2016**

AGENDA ITEM:

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

DISCUSSION:

Update from MPO Staff regarding current projects.