

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 February 2,
6 2017 at 4:00 p.m. in Commission Chambers at Dona Ana County Government Building,
7 845 Motel Blvd., Las Cruces, New Mexico.
8

9 **MEMBERS PRESENT:** Bill Childress (BLM)
10 John Gwynne (DAC Flood Commission)
11 Jolene Herrera (NMDOT)
12 Aaron Chavarria proxy for Harold Love (NMDOT)
13 Debbi Lujan (Town of Mesilla)
14 Luis Marmolejo (DAC Planning)
15 Lily Sensiba (EBID)
16 Larry Shannon (Town of Mesilla)
17 Tony Trevino (CLC Public Works)
18

19 **MEMBERS ABSENT:** David Armijo (SCRTD)
20 Mike Bartholomew (CLC Transit)
21 Todd Gregory (LCPS)
22 Dale Harrell (NMSU)
23 Stephen Howie (EBID)
24 Soo Gyu Lee (CLC)
25 Daniel Sambrano - proxy for Rene Molina (DAC Eng.)
26

27 **STAFF PRESENT:** Tom Murphy (MPO Staff)
28 Andrew Wray (MPO Staff)
29 Michael McAdams (MPO Staff)
30 Dominic Loya (MPO)
31

32 **OTHERS PRESENT:** Becky Baum, RC Creations, LLC, Recording Secretary
33

34 **1. CALL TO ORDER (4:04 PM)**
35

36 Gwynne: Okay. Let's call to order the February 2, 2017 meeting of the Mesilla
37 Valley MPO Technical Advisory Committee.
38

39 **2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**
40

41 Gwynne: First of all do we have any comments or changes to the agenda?
42

43 Wray: No Mr. Chair.
44

45 Gwynne: Okay. I'll accept a motion to approve the agenda.
46

1 Childress: I make a motion to approve the agenda.

2

3 Herrera: Second.

4

5 Gwynne: All those in favor.

6

7 MOTION PASSES UNANIMOUSLY.

8

9 Gwynne: Opposed. None. So we're approved.

10

11 3. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

12

13 Gwynne: Moving forward. The next item on the agenda is election of officers. We
14 do this every January and so it's time to look for new officers. So is there
15 a procedure we need to follow Andrew?

16

17 Wray: Usually we open the floor for nominations for Chair first and then Vice-
18 Chair so.

19

20 Gwynne: Okay. So let's open the Chair for nominations for Chair. Wow, crickets.
21 So I'll make a nomination of Jolene Herrera. Reciprocal, right.

22

23 Childress: I second that.

24

25 Gwynne: Are there any other nominations?

26

27 Herrera: Can I make comments?

28

29 Gwynne: No.

30

31 Wray: The Chair said no.

32

33 Gwynne: Sure. Go ahead.

34

35 Herrera: I'm just wondering about, I guess not a conflict of interest but because
36 we're a funding agency for the MPO I don't know how the other Members
37 feel about that. Not that I'm trying to get out of it or anything, just wanting
38 input on this.

39

40 Gwynne: Did you practice this?

41

42 Herrera: A little bit.

43

44 Gwynne: Do any of the other Members have any issues at all with ...

45

46 Lujan: Wasn't Harold a ...

1
2 Gwynne: I believe Harold was at one point, wasn't he?
3
4 Herrera: I don't remember.
5
6 Gwynne: I don't hear any issues from any of the other Members.
7
8 Herrera: Okay.
9
10 Gwynne: Shall we vote? Let's vote then. All those in favor.
11
12 MOTION PASSES UNANIMOUSLY.
13
14 Gwynne: Opposed. We have a new Chair.
15
16 Wray: We usually have the outgoing Chair do the nominations for Vice-Chair as
17 well so.
18
19 Gwynne: Sure, we can do that. Do we have a nomination for Vice-Chair?
20
21 Herrera: I'd like to nominate Tony Trevino for Vice-Chair.
22
23 Childress: I second that.
24
25 Gwynne: Do we have any discussion? No. Okay let's vote then. All those in favor.
26
27 MOTION PASSES UNANIMOUSLY.
28
29 Gwynne: Opposed. We have a new Vice.
30
31 Herrera: Okay. So ...
32
33 Gwynne: So do we usually start at this very first meeting with the new Chair or do
34 we start at the next one?
35
36 Wray: Usually the outgoing Chair hands it off to the new Chair at this point.
37
38 Gwynne: Okay. I will be very glad to hand this over to you, Jolene. Thank you very
39 much.
40
41 Herrera: And thank you for serving as Chair. It's been a pleasure having you.
42
43 Gwynne: Wow. Thank you.
44
45 Herrera: Yeah. Until today.
46

1 **4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

2
3 **4.1 December 1, 2016**

4
5 Herrera: So the next item on the agenda is the approval of minutes for the
6 December 1, 2016 meeting. Does anybody have any comments or
7 changes? If not then I'll hear a motion for approval.

8
9 Gwynne: I move that we approve the minutes as presented.

10
11 Trevino: Second.

12
13 Herrera: Okay. We have a motion and a second. All in favor.

14
15 MOTION PASSES UNANIMOUSLY.

16
17 Herrera: Any opposed. Motion carries.

18
19 **5. PUBLIC COMMENT**

20
21 Herrera: Now time for public comment. Do we have any ... we don't have any
22 public so probably no comments.

23
24 **6. ACTION ITEMS**

25
26 **6.1 Amendments to the 2016-2021 Transportation Improvement Program**

27
28 Herrera: Let's move on to the action items. Action item 6.1 are the amendments to
29 the 2016-2021 Transportation Improvement Program and I believe that's
30 going to be presented by MPO staff.

31
32 Wray: Thank you Madam Chair. On page 10 of the packet we have one of the
33 amendments being requested. This is to the Valley Drive project. The
34 City of Las Cruces has contributed funding for utilities work along the
35 project as they would like to do utilities at the same time that NMDOT is
36 doing the construction of the road. It's also my understanding that
37 NMDOT has a floor amendment that they would like to offer so I'll hand
38 the floor back to the Chair.

39
40 Herrera: Thanks Andrew. Yes, so after I submitted the information for this TIP
41 amendment we received some news on the funding that we have for 2018
42 and we need to move one of the projects that was programmed in the TIP
43 back a year. I believe you all received a handout for the updated
44 spreadsheet. That's control number LC00300. It's a pavement
45 preservation on US-70 from Elks to Del Rey and we need to move that
46 back one fiscal year to FY2019.

1
2 Shannon: Yes. Got a question about the amendments, Jolene. On the sheet that
3 we just received, LC00160, the termini shows that it's Picacho to Avenida
4 de Mesilla. Yet on page 10 it shows the termini as Valley Drive from
5 Picacho to the City limits. So it looks like unless you're talking about City
6 limits to the south, those two descriptions don't jive.
7
8 Herrera: Yeah I see that. The description on page 10 is a little bit off. The one on
9 the spreadsheet is, those are the true termini of the project.
10
11 Wray: Madam Chair. Staff apologizes for that. That error should've been
12 corrected previously and I forgot, so sorry. I'll make sure and do that
13 tomorrow.
14
15 Shannon: So then the two termini are going to be the same then.
16
17 Herrera: Yes sir. And it will be, this sheet for the Policy Committee will be updated
18 to show what you have on the spreadsheet that was handed out by staff.
19
20 Shannon: Excellent. Thank you.
21
22 Herrera: Welcome. So do I have a motion with the floor amendment?
23
24 Shannon: I'd like to make a motion to approve as stated, as amended.
25
26 Herrera: Thank you. Do I have a second?
27
28 Trevino: Second.
29
30 Herrera: It's been moved and seconded. All in favor.

31
32 MOTION PASSES UNANIMOUSLY.
33

34 Herrera: Any opposed. Motion carries.
35

36 **6.2 Amendments to the 2017-2018 Unified Planning Work Program**
37

38 Herrera: The next item, 6.2 are amendments to the 2017-2018 Unified Planning
39 Work Program.
40

41 Murphy: Thank you Madam Chair. We received notification from NMDOT Transit
42 and Rail that we're going to be having a substantial carryover amount of
43 our FY16 monies and we needed to amend the UPWP to reflect that and
44 we're going to be adding a project into that, or we'll be adding a couple of
45 things that we'll be proposing to spend that money on. First, we're
46 proposing to spend in the neighborhood of \$25,000 depending on bid

1 pricing for some software that would aid us in the dissemination of data
2 collected by the automated passenger counters that we've installed on two
3 RoadRUNNER Transit buses. The second item that we are planning on
4 spending the carryover amount would be joining in with the City of Las
5 Cruces on their Active Transportation Plan. So we'd be adding
6 approximately \$32,000-\$33,000 onto that effort of securing a contractor
7 who will then evaluate the area's deficiencies and develop a plan for
8 correcting the deficiencies along bicycle and pedestrian standpoint. And
9 with our money in there we're going to be requiring a distinct focus of
10 those deficiencies, how they relate to transit stops. And then we're also
11 making one other change. This is mainly to do with staff time, on page 21
12 of the packet. We're going to be discontinuing efforts to enhance the
13 Coordinated Human Services Transportation Action Plan. There currently
14 exists a larger plan for the Council of Governments region which includes
15 our area and the El Paso MPO area. The aim was to dive down deeper
16 into that, get a more nuanced document that was fitting in the area.
17 However, our initial outreach to stakeholders found very little interest in
18 developing such a plan so we're removing that as a work item in our
19 UPWP. And then on page 23 has essentially the adjustment of the
20 funding amounts to reflect the additional \$66,910 and plus the
21 approximately \$16,000 local match. And with that I'll stand for any
22 questions.

23
24 Herrera: Thanks Tom. Are there any questions? If not I'll hear a motion for
25 approval.

26
27 Gwynne: Motion to approve as submitted.

28
29 Herrera: Is there a second?

30
31 Childress: I second it.

32
33 Herrera: Okay. There's been a motion and a second. All in favor.

34
35 MOTION PASSES UNANIMOUSLY.

36
37 Herrera: Any opposed. Motion carries.

38
39 **7. COMMITTEE AND STAFF COMMENTS**

40
41 **7.1 City of Las Cruces, Dona Ana County, Town of Mesilla, Las Cruces**
42 **Public Schools, RoadRUNNER Transit, SCRTD Project Updates**

43
44 Herrera: Let's move on to Committee and staff comments. Let's start with the
45 jurisdictions and then we'll move on to MPO staff and then other
46 Committee comments. So let's start with the City of Las Cruces.

1
2 Trevino: The Las Cruces Dam Trails, LC00190 is at a standstill, or not at a
3 standstill. We're awaiting additional approval for some change orders due
4 to some erosion that's occurring along the trail in some areas. So once
5 that gets going we'll be able to get construction back on track and finish it
6 up, so hopefully within the next couple months we'll be done with that one.
7 That's all I have.
8
9 Herrera: Thank you. Dona Ana County. Any updates?
10
11 Marmolejo: Sure. Yes ma'am. Good afternoon. Yeah, actually a note officially today,
12 the 2nd, if you're all familiar with the Las Cruces Extraterritorial Zone, it's
13 gone. There's no more ETZ. All the subdivisions have been shifted over
14 to the Community Development Department so as far as agency reviews, I
15 know the Town of Mesilla if there's something nearby you all, you would
16 be a reviewing agency and Las Cruces Public Schools would be a
17 reviewing agency, City of Las Cruces would be a reviewing agency, so
18 depending on where that subdivision is you all would be receiving agency
19 review requests from us. So that's it for the ETZ. MPO too as well.
20 Thank you.
21
22 Gwynne: As part of that it also puts into effect the County's Unified Development
23 Code. So that's all part of the Viva Dona Ana process that's been going
24 on for quite some time, so today's the effective date.
25
26 Herrera: Okay.
27
28 Trevino: Okay, if there is a subdivision within that three-limit boundary, City of Las
29 Cruces will still get a review?
30
31 Marmolejo: That's correct. Yes sir.
32
33 Trevino: And then who would be the deciding factor if there's kind of a conflict in
34 comments regarding some of the ...
35
36 Marmolejo: Typically what happens with subdivisions, we send the review out and if
37 there's a comment issue we would do like a DRC as well. So there'll be a
38 chance like if you all have a comment as an issue we would move, if it
39 can't be resolved we would go to DRC and then DRC would make a
40 recommendation on the next step to the Planning and Zoning
41 Commission.
42
43 Trevino: Thank you.
44
45 Herrera: Any other questions/comments? No. Town of Mesilla do you have any
46 updates?

1
2 Shannon: No.
3
4 Herrera: Okay. We don't have anyone from Las Cruces Public Schools or
5 RoadRUNNER Transit or South Central RTD. Does BLM have any
6 comments?
7
8 Childress: No, we don't have any updates. Thank you.
9
10 Herrera: Okay.

11 **7.2 NMDOT Projects Update**

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13
14 Herrera: Let's move on to NMDOT project updates.
15
16 Chavarria: We're going to be starting here pretty soon this week is 1100570 which is
17 a pavement preservation just on the other side of Organ Pass to the
18 County line. That's going to be 80 weather working days, so about four
19 months. LC00120 which is the US-70/Spitz/Solano intersection, it's been
20 bid. We're waiting to award that project but should be starting this
21 summer sometime. And just south of us we have two small bridges over
22 EBID laterals on New Mexico 28 and New Mexico 186 and those projects
23 should be completed March of this year. And that's all I have for ongoing
24 projects right now.
25
26 Herrera: I want to add some of the projects that are coming up soon or are in the
27 final design stages. The first one is LC00240, that's the shoulder widening
28 project from Organ to basically the White Sands exit. That one is going to
29 production in February so we're doing final documents now. The PS&E
30 here is in a couple of weeks and that one's on schedule. Everything looks
31 good. So you should start seeing cones out there probably late summer
32 on that one. The other big one is Valley Drive. We kind of talked about it
33 a little bit but that one is still scheduled for a May let date and we're on
34 schedule for that. So those are the two other big ones in the area that are
35 upcoming this fiscal year. Next fiscal year we have the University/I-25
36 interchange project so we're rebuilding the bridges, basically reconfiguring
37 that entire interchange. That's a really big \$25 million project but that's not
38 scheduled to let until October of 2018. So we have a while on that one.
39 But we'll be doing more updates as we get closer. Anything else, Aaron?
40
41 Chavarria: Yeah. I got one more. US-70 and 17th Street. It bid last month so we
42 should see, that's a signalization at that intersection so we should see
43 some work begin there this summer. Thank you.
44
45 Herrera: Any questions? Okay.
46

1 **7.3 MPO Staff Projects Update**

2
3 Herrera: MPO staff. Any updates?

4
5 Wray: Thank you Madam Chair. We do have one. The TIP call for projects has
6 been extended until February 24th. A situation arose with RoadRUNNER
7 Transit where it was advantageous for us to extend the deadline. So we
8 are still accepting, I believe everyone should've received the call for
9 projects extension letter. But the 24th is going to have to be the final
10 deadline. We will not be able to extend it any further beyond that point.
11 And that's our only update.

12
13 Herrera: Thank you. Any of the other Members have anything?

14
15 Childress: I did want to mention that it's not within the boundaries of the MPO but we
16 are getting closer to the approval process for the south road leading up to
17 Spaceport, that right-of-way. Decision record will be signed probably
18 tomorrow on the NEPA work and then hopefully we'll be in a position to
19 afford a offer of right-of-way to the County. Thank you.

20
21 McAdams: Madam Chairman. I'd like to add something for Roadrunner.

22
23 Herrera: Sure.

24
25 McAdams: On the 17th and the 25th there were public hearings at the Mesilla Valley
26 Transit Center which we discussed some revisions of routes. There'll be a
27 really revision to present Route A going to the Mesilla Valley Mall, and the
28 other on Picacho and minor revisions to two other routes. So I would
29 appreciate your attention to those bits and this are being reported in our
30 monthly newsletter as well.

31
32 Herrera: Okay. Thank you.

33
34 **8. PUBLIC COMMENT**

35
36 Herrera: Still we don't have any public so I guess no public comment.

37
38 **9. ADJOURNMENT (4:25 PM)**

39
40 Herrera: So I'll take a motion for adjournment.

41
42 Gwynne: So moved.

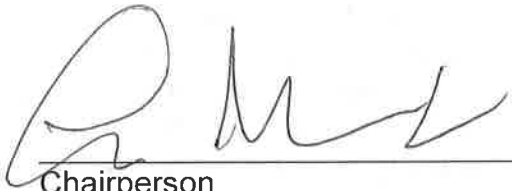
43
44 Trevino: Second.

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46 Herrera: All in favor.

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MOTION PASSES UNANIMOUSLY.

Herrera: We are adjourned.

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a large, stylized initial 'R' followed by a series of connected, cursive letters that appear to be 'M', 'S', and 'H'. The signature is written above a horizontal line.

Chairperson