

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

The following are minutes for the meeting of the Technical Advisory Committee of the Mesilla Valley Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) which was held April 5, 2018 at 4:00 p.m. in Commission Chambers at Dona Ana County Government Building, 845 Motel Blvd., Las Cruces, New Mexico.

MEMBERS PRESENT: David Armijo (SCRTD)
Jennifer Montoya proxy Bill Childress (BLM)
Michael Garza (DAC Flood Commission)
Soo Gyu Lee (CLC)
Dale Harrell (NMSU) (Arrived 4:17)
Jolene Herrera (NMDOT)
Harold Love (NMDOT)
Debbie Lujan (Town of Mesilla)
Rene Molina (DAC Eng.)
Jennifer Yoder (City of Las Cruces)
Larry Shannon (Town of Mesilla)

MEMBERS ABSENT: Mike Bartholomew (RoadRUNNER Transit)
Sean Barham (LCPS)
Ana R. Donohue (EBID)
Luis Marmolejo (DAC Planning)

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

OTHERS PRESENT: Becky Baum, RC Creations, LLC, Recording Secretary

1. CALL TO ORDER (4:00 PM)

Love: Okay we'll go ahead and call the April 5, 2018 meeting of the Technical Advisory Committee to order. Let's start by having a roll call, starting with my far right.

Lee: Soo Gyu Lee, City of Las Cruces.

Armijo: David Armijo, SCRTD.

Molina: Rene Molina, Dona Ana County Engineering.

Herrera: Jolene Herrera, NMDOT Planning.

1 Montoya: Jennifer Montoya, Bureau of Land Management, proxy for Bill Childress.
2
3 Garza: Michael Garza, Dona Ana County Flood Commission.
4
5 Yoder: Jennifer Yoder, City of Las Cruces.
6
7 Love And I'm Harold Love, I'm Chairman of the Committee. Oh we have, go
8 ahead.
9
10 Shannon: Larry Shannon, Town of Mesilla.
11
12 Lujan: Debbie Lujan, Town of Mesilla.
13
14 Love: Thank you.
15
16 Wray: Mr. Chair.
17
18 Love: Yes.
19
20 Wray: It should be noted that Jennifer Yoder is now permanent appointee from
21 the City of Las Cruces to replace Tony Trevino.
22
23 Love: So noted.
24

25 **2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

26
27 Love: Next we'll go to approval of the agenda. Everybody have a chance to look
28 at it. I'm looking for a motion.
29
30 Herrera: Move to approve the agenda.
31
32 Garza: Second.
33
34 Love: All in favor.
35

36 MOTION PASSES UNANIMOUSLY.
37

38 **3. ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

39
40 Love: Next item, election of officers.
41
42 Wray: Thank you Mr. Chair. Ms. Lily Sensiba was elected as the Vice-Chair of
43 this Committee back in January. She has subsequently left EBID and thus
44 her position here on the TAC, and so we need to have another election to
45 elect a new Vice-Chair for the TAC for the remainder of this year.
46

1 Love: I guess we start by looking for nominations. Hearing crickets, I will go out,
2 I nominate Rene Molina to be Vice-Chair.
3
4 Molina: You know I certainly appreciate the nomination, but at this point in time I'm
5 down two staff, so it's just, I can't do it right now. I apologize. I'm sorry.
6 Thank you though.
7
8 Love: Okay, give it another try. Michael Garza.
9
10 Garza: Sure, why not.
11
12 Love: Any other nominations? We go for a vote.
13
14 Wray: Yes.
15
16 Love: Okay. All in favor of Michael Garza being Vice-Chair, say "aye."
17
18 MOTION PASSES UNANIMOUSLY.
19
20 Love: Those opposed? Okay motion passes. Thank you Michael.
21
22 Garza: No problem.
23
24 **4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
25
26 **4.1 February 7, 2017**
27
28 Love: Next item is approval of the minutes. Do I hear a motion?
29
30 Shannon: I just have two corrections. On the members present you have Debbi
31 Lujan and it's Debbie with a D-E-B-B-I-E. And then when you have Jack
32 Younter proxy for Debbie Lujan, his last name is Y-O-U-N-K-E-R.
33
34 Love: Okay, look for a motion to approve the minutes with those corrections.
35
36 Herrera: So moved.
37
38 Montoya: Second.
39
40 Love: All in favor say "aye."
41
42 MOTION PASSES UNANIMOUSLY.
43
44 Love: Those opposed? Motion carries.
45
46 **5. PUBLIC COMMENT**

1
2 Love: Next item, public comment. Seeing none.

3
4 **6. DISCUSSION ITEMS**

5
6 **6.1 Public Participation Plan Update Presentation**

7
8 Love: Move to item number six, discussion items.

9
10 Wray: Thank you Mr. Chair. Mr. Michael McAdams will present.

11
12 MICHAEL MCADAMS GAVE HIS PRESENTATION.

13
14 Love: Any comments?

15
16 Armijo: I was going to say, having done some recent public outreach, this looks
17 pretty good. It's a big challenge out there. Communication in the county
18 is increasingly difficult whether you're using social media or different
19 processes. But I think this is a good start. Good luck to you.

20
21 Love: Any one else? Then we'll move on to item 7.2 ...

22
23 Herrera: Mr. Chair. Sorry, I just have one comment. I think we need to look at the
24 TIP and STIP development timeline on here again with the e-STIP and
25 just how the time is shortened between some of these steps.

26
27 McAdams: Okay.

28
29 Herrera: I haven't looked at it fully yet but I'll work with the staff on that just to make
30 sure everything's correct. Thanks.

31
32 McAdams: Thank you.

33
34 Love: Anything else?

35
36 **6.2 Destino 2045 Comment Period**

37
38 Love: Then we'll move onto 6.2, Destino 2045 comment period.

39
40 ANDREW WRAY GAVE HIS PRESENTATION.

41
42 Armijo: If I may, I've actually made the final report available to these folks and I sit
43 on their committee. They've had a lot of meetings scheduled and a lot of
44 meetings cancelled so I believe TTI is the one that's the contractor for this
45 project that's supporting the work that they're doing on it unless I'm
46 incorrect on that.

1
2 Wray: I don't know.

3
4 Armijo: Because they did have outreach meetings. I attended one in Vinton and
5 some other places last year. So I'm not sure. I will certainly make another
6 effort on behalf of my board to have them include the report that we did
7 last June and see what we can do to get that into the plan. I am hoping
8 it's just an oversight.

9
10 Love: Any other comments?

11
12 Herrera: Mr. Chair. So I need to go back and look through some of the sections of
13 the Destino 2045 in reference to transit because I think it's important that
14 this MPO emphasize the connection between the two MPOs and that
15 there's one kind of single travel shed between the two areas and I feel like
16 sometimes people in the El Paso MPO area forget that they're connected
17 to Las Cruces and that there's a lot of people between the two larger cities
18 that need to travel between them. And so I'll take a look at that and if
19 those comments specifically aren't in there then I'll probably ask to add
20 some of that language. And then also as the DOT liaison I'll be submitting
21 those comments as well, separate from the MPO.

22
23 Wray: Monday is the deadline for comments.

24
25 Herrera: I'll be doing that tomorrow.

26
27 Love: Any other comments?

28
29 **7. COMMITTEE AND STAFF COMMENTS**

30
31 **7.1 City of Las Cruces, Dona Ana County, Town of Mesilla, Las Cruces**
32 **Public Schools, RoadRUNNER Transit, SCRTD Project Updates**

33
34 Love: Okay, then we'll move on to item number seven, committee and staff
35 comments. We'll start with 7.1, anything from City of Las Cruces?

36
37 Yoder: No I don't have any comments.

38
39 Love: Dona Ana County.

40
41 Molina: So we're working on Soledad Canyon. Still we're at 90% on design and
42 we'll be moving forward to construction September/October of this year.
43 Thanks.

44
45 Love: I have a question.

1 Molina: Go ahead.
2
3 Love: Have you guys gotten started on Airport Road?
4
5 Molina: We have a pre con next week on Wednesday.
6
7 Love: Thank you. Town of Mesilla.
8
9 Lujan: No comment.
10
11 Love: Las Cruces Public Schools is not here. RoadRUNNER Transit is not
12 present. South Central RTD.
13
14 Armijo: No comment.
15

16 7.2 NMDOT Projects Update

17

18 Love: Move on to item 7.2 New Mexico DOT project updates. I will be
19 presenting the updates today. Let's see, the Valley Drive project, the
20 project has been bid, there's been a preliminary notices of award and
21 they're looking to actually start construction in June of this year.
22 New Mexico 136, Tortugas Drive is completed. New Mexico 320,
23 Thorpe Road project is completed.
24 The Spitz/Solano/Main project is looking to be substantially
25 completed at the end of April of this year.
26 Seventeenth Street/Picacho signal is completed. The St. Augustin
27 Pass widening on US-70 is completed.
28 And future projects that are on the radar, I-25/University
29 interchange is looking at October of this year letting. Project on US-70
30 doing guardrail between the Pass and Otero County line, that is looking for
31 a May letting. Any questions?
32
33 Molina: Two questions. On Valley who's the contractor?
34
35 Love: I believe it's AUI.
36
37 Molina: Second question, I got a call from a resident, they had an interesting, the
38 survey work that was taking place on the Hatch Bridge over I-25, so I
39 actually routed them to DOT, but do you guys have any idea on what's
40 happening and maybe a timeframe that way maybe I could provide more
41 info.
42
43 Love: We're looking at doing some work in and around that interchange, the
44 interchange itself, and also there's a section of roadway that was done as
45 the Sharp Project, what am I looking for, not experiment ... research,
46 thank you. A research project that was done like 20 years ago and so the

1 research project is done but that section of roadway if you've ever driven
2 it, it's (*hand signal of bumpy*) and so we're looking at coming in, taking
3 basically all that research stuff out and fixing it. So that's part of the
4 project.
5
6 Molina: Thank you very much.
7
8 Love: Any other questions.
9
10 Lee: Mr. Chair, I have a question.
11
12 Love: Yes.
13
14 Lee: Do you have any update for the project on Lohman between Solano and I-
15 25 and US-70?
16
17 Love: The Main Street project yes. The study has been completed and we just
18 got copies of the final. I don't know if you'd be interested in getting a copy
19 of the final.
20
21 Lee: Yes please.
22
23 Love: We'll get that to you. And now as a department we're basically looking
24 through the study and determining what kind of project we want to develop
25 out of it.
26
27 Lee: Thank you.
28
29 Love: Anything else?
30
31 Montoya: Mr. Chair you said you had two projects on US-70, what was the first one?
32
33 Love: There's a guardrail project on US-70 out toward Alamogordo.
34
35 Montoya: And you had one you mentioned before that.
36
37 Love: The Spitz/Solano/Main project. The widening.
38
39 Montoya: Widening.
40
41 Love: Oh yes, that's the one.
42
43 Montoya: And where will that take place?
44
45 Love: The one that's currently going on, or future project?
46

1 Montoya: Whichever one you mentioned first on your list?
2
3 Love: That's the one that the intersection Spitz/Solano/Main. And that project
4 will be completed this month.
5
6 Montoya: Okay. Thank you.
7
8 Yoder: Mr. Chair I have a question.
9
10 Love: Yes.
11
12 Yoder: When do you expect the Valley project to start?
13
14 Love: June.
15
16 Yoder: In June. And you guys are aware that the City has a big project going on
17 the southeast corner of the Picacho/Valley intersection that involves
18 Second Street, Third Street, Fourth Street, Sixth Street, and Brown Lane.
19 We're going to try and get Second Street open before you guys start and
20 we're hoping that will happen, but between our project and yours we're
21 going to have limited accessibility to that back neighborhood.
22
23 Love: Yes, a lot of coordination will be needed as usual.
24
25 Yoder: Thank you.
26
27 Love: Anything else?
28
29 **7.3 MPO Staff Projects Update**
30
31 Love: With that we'll move on to item 7.3, MPO Staff updates.
32
33 Wray: Staff does not have any updates.
34
35 Love: Okay.
36
37 **8. PUBLIC COMMENT**
38
39 Love: Item number eight, public comment. Seeing none.
40
41 **9. ADJOURNMENT (4:58 PM)**
42
43 Love: We'll move to adjournment. Looking for a motion.
44
45 Armijo: Move.
46

1 Lee Second.

2
3 Love: Moved and seconded. All in favor.

4
5 MOTION PASSES UNANIMOUSLY.

6
7 Love: We are adjourned.

8
9
10
11
12
13 Chairperson

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink is written over a horizontal line. The signature is cursive and appears to be the name of the Chairperson. The line extends across the width of the signature.

