

1 **MESILLA VALLEY METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION**
2 **BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN FACILITIES ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

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4 The following are minutes for the meeting of the Bicycle and Pedestrian Facilities
5 Advisory Committee of the Mesilla Valley Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO)
6 which was held August 21, 2017 at 5:00 p.m. in Commission Chambers at Dona Ana
7 County Government Building, 845 Motel Blvd., Las Cruces, New Mexico.
8

9 **MEMBERS PRESENT:** George Pearson, Chair (City of Las Cruces Citizen Rep)
10 Andrew Bencomo (Pedestrian Community Rep)
11 Ashleigh Curry (Town of Mesilla Citizen Rep)
12 Dona Devine (Bicycle Community Citizen Rep) (Arv.5:15)
13 Jolene Herrera (NMDOT) Jack Kirby (NMSU Staff Rep)
14 Polly Wagner proxy for Jack Kirby (NMSU)
15 James Nunez (City of Las Cruces Staff Rep)
16 Samuel Paz (Dona Ana County Rep)
17 Lance Shepan (Town of Mesilla Staff Rep)
18 Jess Waller (Bicycle Com. Rep.) (Arrived 5:03)
19

20 **MEMBERS ABSENT:** Mark Leisher (DAC Citizen Rep)
21

22 **STAFF PRESENT:** Tom Murphy (MPO)
23 Andrew Wray (MPO)
24 Michael McAdams (MPO)
25 Debra Fuller (MPO)
26

27 **OTHERS PRESENT:** Brian Byrd, CLC
28 Becky Baum, Recording Secretary, RC Creations, LLC
29

30 **1. CALL TO ORDER (5:00)**
31

32 Pearson: So my clock shows 5:00. I don't see anybody walking in so I'll go ahead
33 and call the meeting to order. This is the Bicycle and Pedestrian Facilities
34 Advisory Committee meeting to the Mesilla Valley MPO. We'll start with
35 some introductions. Start at the end, Jolene.
36

37 Herrera: Good afternoon. Jolene Herrera, NMDOT.
38

39 Shepan: Lance Shepan, Mesilla Marshal's Office.
40

41 Curry: Ashleigh Curry, Town of Mesilla Citizens Representative.
42

43 Wagner: My name's Polly Wagner, I'm with NMSU. I'm the proxy for Jack Kirby
44 today.
45

46 Paz: Samuel Paz, Dona Ana County.

1
2 Bencomo: Andrew Bencomo, Pedestrian Representative.

3
4 Nunez: James Nunez, City of Las Cruces Representative.

5
6 Pearson: I'm George Pearson, City of Las Cruces Citizen Representative.

7
8 **2. PUBLIC COMMENT**

9
10 Pearson: After the call to order we have on our agenda Public Comment. Do we
11 have any members of the public here that wish to comment? Not seeing
12 any.

13
14 **3. CONSENT AGENDA ***

15
16 Pearson: We'll move on to the consent agenda. We haven't done a consent agenda
17 before. So on our consent agenda I see approval of the agenda, approval
18 of the minutes, and the first action item, the MPO Public Participation Plan
19 approval. So unless there is an objection or comment, any member can
20 withdraw from the consent agenda an item and we can have further
21 discussion and a separate vote. Or I'll hear a motion to accept the
22 consent agenda and we'll move on.

23
24 Bencomo: So moved.

25
26 Shepan: Seconded.

27
28 Pearson: Okay, so we have a motion and a second to accept the consent agenda.
29 All in favor, "aye."

30
31 MOTION PASSES UNANIMOUSLY.

32
33 Pearson: Any opposed?

34
35 **4. * APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

36
37 **5. * APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

38 **5.1 July 17, 2018**

39
40 **6. ACTION ITEMS**

41
42 **6.1 * Mesilla Valley MPO Public Participation Plan**

43
44 **6.2 FY 18-23 Transportation Improvement Program Amendments**

45
46 Pearson: So that moves us down to item 6.2, we have some TIP amendments.

1
2 ANDREW WRAY GAVE HIS PRESENTATION.

3
4 Pearson: Okay. Under the first one, wasn't there a project there? Is that an existing
5 project that's getting moved?
6

7 Wray: Yes Mr. Chair. That is absolutely correct. This has been a project I have
8 to say of some long standing within the MPO TIP. It's been there ever
9 since I've been in this position. There have been issues with it, it's
10 continually gotten moved down the road and this is another phase of it
11 moving down the road. But I believe everyone is confident that this
12 particular moving-down is going to ultimately complete the project.
13

14 Pearson: Okay. And the US-70 project, that's essentially Phase 4 I think of that
15 continuation, the beginning, we had a public meeting on part of it but this
16 part would've had to be done anyways. It doesn't really impact future
17 decisions for the rest of that project. Is that right?
18

19 Herrera: Yes, that's right. The LC00270 project, the fourth one on the list is the one
20 with the public meetings. So that's the planning and design phase and the
21 LC00271 is to basically continue the right turn going up to Camino Del
22 Rex from Solano/Spitz/Three Crosses and to widen the bridge and do
23 some roadway reconstruction in the medians and upgrade ADA.
24

25 Pearson: So the decisions from that public meeting, those are still some time down
26 the road?
27

28 Herrera: Right, and we're still coordinating with the City on that and I imagine that
29 there will be some of that discussion in the upcoming long-range plan that
30 the MPO is going to be working on next year.
31

32 Pearson: Okay. Any committee members have questions/comments? Hearing
33 none, I'll hear a motion to accept the amendments as presented.
34

35 Curry: I'll put forth a motion to accept the amendments as presented.
36

37 Herrera: I second.
38

39 Pearson: We have a motion and a second to accept the TIP amendments as
40 presented. All in favor, "aye."
41

42 MOTION PASSES UNANIMOUSLY.
43

44 Pearson: Any opposed? That passes.
45

1 **6.3 Metropolitan Transportation Plan Amendment - Removal of**
2 **Segments from the Truck Route Map**

3
4 Pearson: And we're on to the next item, modification to the MPO Truck Route Map.

5
6 TOM MURPHY GAVE HIS PRESENTATION.

7
8 Curry: Mr. Chair, Mr. Murphy. May I ask a question?

9
10 Murphy: Yes.

11
12 Curry: What's considered a truck? Is it a weight? Is it number of wheels?

13
14 Murphy: I believe it's six wheels or greater and not to include transit buses.

15
16 TOM MURPHY CONTINUED HIS PRESENTATION.

17
18 Pearson: Okay. Were there any comments at the TAC on any changes or anything
19 done to this?

20
21 Murphy: No, they did not have any comments.

22
23 Pearson: Okay. Can you go back to the map part? Okay I was noticing Court
24 between Mesilla and Melendres. Does that need to be taken off also?
25 Because otherwise it's a road to no place, or is there a business right
26 there that would be accessed? That's what it is probably.

27
28 Murphy: It may be a connection to Melendres or it may be some business
29 properties on there. We can certainly ...

30
31 Pearson: Annex is in there, no annex is further, no annex is south.

32
33 Wray: Mr. Chair. That may have something to do with the proximity to the
34 railroad. Giving the trucks an opportunity to connect to the freight might
35 be a possibility because I know that they do, there is some ...

36
37 Pearson: There used to be a rail crossing there and they took out the rail crossing,
38 so that's probably left over from the rail crossing I bet.

39
40 Wray: It could be but I do know from anecdotal personal observation that there is
41 still some onloading and offloading. It may not be permitted by the City
42 and so it might need to be looked into but it does take place in that area
43 there kind of between or south of where the railroad museum is.

44
45 Pearson: Right. And I know the neighborhood complains about the general area of
46 Melendres and Amador and in particular on Miranda. So there are

1 deliveries at CenturyLink I believe in that area, and truck traffic comes out
2 on Miranda so anything, maybe the City can take note and anything they
3 can do to try to prevent that. The neighborhood will continue to complain
4 about that. The other thing, when I was looking at the map before on the
5 key there were some numbered items and I couldn't figure out what the
6 key was referencing and I don't know if you can tell from this rendition of it.

7
8 Murphy: Yes, and it's, be hard and you may have to squint on that. Okay the
9 numbers deal with the roadway classification whether it's a freeway, a
10 principal arterial, minor arterial, collector, ramp, local.

11
12 Pearson: Right. And I don't think that's defined on this map so maybe that's
13 something new.

14
15 Murphy: I think that's information on this map. Those are actually defined on the
16 MPO's Functional Classification Map.

17
18 Pearson: Okay. Maybe do a reference to, I don't know, that's just, I couldn't figure
19 out what that meant.

20
21 Murphy: Right, yes. The top of that column says Road Classification and I suppose
22 we could be clearer that it references the Functional Classification Map.

23
24 Pearson: Right. Is it arterial, is it major collector, whatever, I didn't know what those
25 were.

26
27 Murphy: We could improve the legend on that.

28
29 Pearson: Okay. Any other Committee Members have comments on this?

30
31 Curry: Mr. Chair, Mr. Murphy. Again just a quick question. On that second, the
32 zoomed-in map, those numbers are, did you say per day?

33
34 Murphy: Yes.

35
36 Curry: Okay. Thanks. So there's a huge number on Picacho and kind of North
37 Main right there, like four times as much as anything else. So that's in
38 front of City Hall there.

39
40 Murphy: Yes, that section also has the largest number of total traffic with 8,266
41 vehicles per day. So it's one of those percentage, think somewhere we're
42 going to, that one just has the percentages of the major ones from last
43 planning period. But yes, while that 480 number does stand out relative to
44 the other numbers on that table, that particular section of roadway has
45 more traffic overall so I believe as a percentage it's comparable.

1 Curry: Okay, thanks.
2
3 Nunez: Mr. Chair.
4
5 Pearson: Yes.
6
7 Nunez: I was just, did you, does anyone know, right there at Brown and
8 Melendres just to the north, close to El Prado is El Paso Electric. Or is it
9 EBID? EBID may be in there also, but I'm not sure about their trucks and
10 their sizes. I don't know if that's been analyzed or if they need to get
11 access to their yard in there.
12
13 Curry: I believe they are, EBID's more like El Molino, between El Molino and
14 Amador
15
16 Nunez: Still, wherever it is. It's close to that. It's on Melendres, correct?
17
18 Wray: Correct.
19
20 Nunez: So at any rate, how would they get out? But anyway just something we
21 might want to look at. And then I believe, because our family actually
22 owns land right there where you have that branch going from Court to,
23 from on Court Street from Melendres to North Mesilla and I was assuming
24 maybe you had that in there so they could branch between the two.
25 Because there's only homes in that little purple stretch you have there at
26 any rate. And then I know that towards Melendres and south of May
27 between Mesilla Street, I know there's a couple of, like that electrical
28 supply house. I think they had some pretty big trucks going back in there
29 too, but any rate those, I'm not sure what we're trying to accomplish here
30 for sure or how they're going to police it or whatever. But by putting this
31 signage up and stuff, I'm sure will restrict how they're going to supply
32 goods to the downtown now, is that correct? Is their ultimate goal?
33
34 Murphy: Mr. Chair, Mr. Nunez. Let me just kind of run through all of that. I think
35 thanks for your help on Court Avenue that that's probably mainly a
36 connector. We could probably absolve that as well. As for the EBID
37 question, to my knowledge they don't operate the kind of trucks that are
38 prohibited, the 18-wheelers and then the like. Most of their equipment is
39 designed to work on the ditch banks and those are certainly smaller than
40 what the prohibition would entail. Finally I think this is something that's
41 really set up in the City's Traffic Code of how to enforce it. I would say
42 that really what the MPO's trying to do is produce a map that's reflective of
43 the decisions that the local entities have made. If we shoot back out on
44 the major truck route map, there's only one other prohibited one and that's
45 Dripping Springs and Baylor Canyon Road. The County did that
46 prohibition by resolution I believe, and we haven't got the specific answer

1 of how the City does it but we believe that the City's delegated that
2 authority to the Traffic Engineer. So our aim here is really to reflect the
3 reality of what each government has done. So I don't think that we view
4 this map as any kind of recommendation to anybody, it's merely providing
5 information to the public about what exists.
6
7 Nunez: All right, thanks. To follow up real quick, excuse me, is there going to be
8 changing of signage or anything, like I mentioned, or do you know, or do
9 we know yet?
10
11 Murphy: I do not know. As we said, the signage is already out there on Melendres.
12 The City came to us with the request to make this change so I would, I
13 imagine that they want to wait till we go through this process before they
14 change any signage on Main, Church, and Water.
15
16 Bencomo: Mr. Chair.
17
18 Pearson: Andrew.
19
20 Bencomo: I have a question. So trucks are considered six wheels or larger. Are
21 these restrictions for all trucks or are they for trucks over six wheels?
22 Because a lot of the signage out there is for, it says "trucks over six
23 wheels." So technically you could have a six-wheel truck and if it's larger
24 than that then you can't have it. So what are the restrictions so I'm clear?
25
26 Murphy: As I understand it through the City's Traffic Engineer it is over six wheels
27 and the reasoning behind it is the weight and the wear and tear on the
28 roadways.
29
30 Bencomo: Correct.
31
32 Murphy: And then also the ambiance for the residents.
33
34 Bencomo: Correct, and that's the reason I asked because the weight limitations for
35 six wheels and then over six wheels. So if it says over six wheels then
36 you could have six-wheel trucks on those roads, correct?
37
38 Murphy: I would believe so, yes.
39
40 Bencomo: Okay. So then El Paso Electric trucks are for the most part six wheels.
41 So I think ...
42
43 Murphy: Okay.
44

1 Bencomo: Some of those concerns are valid that we're bringing up, that there's
2 businesses there. But it may not even affect 99% of them because they
3 are six wheels, not over.
4
5 Murphy: Right. And then our truck numbers that's what we measure, the four axles
6 or more.
7
8 Bencomo: Okay, thank you.
9
10 Pearson: Any other comments? So we're going to do a recommendation to do
11 something about that piece on Court, or is that staff going to look at that
12 still?
13
14 Murphy: That's up to the Committee, like we could handle it either way. You could
15 make a recommendation with a proposed amendment that would strike
16 Court from there and I don't see anyone that would have any problem with
17 that.
18
19 Pearson: Yes, because it just looks, seems wrong. And so I guess I'd hear a motion
20 to approve the map with that little piece of Court struck out. Or somebody
21 could make a motion just to approve the map the way it is.
22
23 Nunez: I'll make the motion as you first mentioned it.
24
25 Pearson: Do we have a second?
26
27 Bencomo: Mr. Chair. Just so I'm clear, there's got to be an amendment to what we're
28 doing, so what was your motion including the amendment?
29
30 Pearson: That little piece of Court that sticks out between Mesilla and Melendres,
31 remove that also.
32
33 Bencomo: Okay. So you're making a motion to approve this with the change of
34 removing that piece of roadway, is that correct? Just so I'm clear.
35
36 Pearson: That's what I'm asking for is, that's what the motion on the table that has
37 not been seconded yet.
38
39 Bencomo: Okay, thank you. Now it's clear.
40
41 Pearson: So I don't hear a second.
42
43 Bencomo: I will second that.
44

1 Pearson: Okay. So we have a motion and a second to approve the map with an
2 additional amendment to remove the piece on West Court. All in favor,
3 "aye."
4

5 MOTION PASSES UNANIMOUSLY.
6

7 Pearson: Any opposed? Hearing none, that motion passes. And of course the
8 Policy Committee at their discretion can do what they wish.
9

10 Murphy: Yes.
11

12 **6.4 Mesilla Valley MPO Title VI Plan** 13

14 Pearson: Okay, we're up to 6.4, the Mesilla Valley MPO Title VI Plan.
15

16 ANDREW WRAY GAVE HIS PRESENTATION.
17

18 Pearson: Okay. When I was looking at the English version of this form, which I don't
19 have in front of me, but I have notes about it. In section two it says, are
20 you filing, if you check yes, it comes down and asks "are you filing the
21 complaint against" this person that it lists. But it seems to me that it
22 should be "are you filing on behalf" of that person.
23

24 Wray: That is a very good notice there, Mr. Chair. We will amend that language
25 so that that becomes clearer.
26

27 Pearson: And then I can't comment on the Spanish version of that.
28

29 Wray: Our translator just translated what we gave to her so I assume that will
30 need to be amended. We will make sure that gets done.
31

32 Pearson: Okay. In section three it lists race, color, national origin as a reason for
33 discrimination. In the document further up there is a list of authorities that
34 also includes, talks about discrimination according to sex, age and
35 disability. Should those categories also be part of this form?
36

37 Wray: Yes Mr. Chair, I would think so. We will ensure that is added as well.
38

39 Pearson: I don't know if there are any other additional categories or if that's
40 sufficient. Any member comments?
41

42 Herrera: Mr. Chair.
43

44 Pearson: Yes.
45

1 Herrera: I just have one comment. I also noticed the section two wording so I'm
2 glad you brought that up. And then the only other comment I have is just
3 to make sure that the name on the form of who they can contact is
4 updated should there be a change prior to the next three-year update
5 cycle. And then I guess one more question. The translator who provided
6 the Spanish version, is that person an employee of the City?
7

8 Wray: Mr. Chair, Ms. Herrera. Yes she is.
9

10 Herrera: Okay. That's probably okay, but what we've been told by the Federal
11 Highway Administration is that there could be bias perceived that way. So
12 if you're going to bring translators with you to meetings make sure that
13 they're third party translators, is what we were told. I think for this
14 purpose, this is fine because it's just a direct translation.
15

16 Wray: Mr. Chair, Ms. Herrera. We were cognizant of that when we selected the
17 translator. Our interpretation which perhaps was erroneous that since she
18 is not an MPO employee that she would count as being outside our
19 organization. Just to cite El Paso MPO as an example, somebody coming
20 in from the City of El Paso would very clearly not be an MPO employee.
21 That was where we approached this, the conversation we had internally
22 regarding this.
23

24 Herrera: Yes, and that's okay. Just because in writing it's a direct translation and
25 there's not really sort of any way to bias that but just to make sure that
26 when you're at the meetings and stuff and it's, I'm only bringing it up
27 because we've been told that specifically because we also have a lot of
28 staff that speaks Spanish. But just to avoid bias like that.
29

30 Murphy: Mr. Chair, Ms. Herrera. And just to set your mind at ease, we do use
31 outside contractors for public meeting translations.
32

33 Herrera: Perfect, thank you.
34

35 Pearson: Any other comments? Hearing none, this is a discussion item, so we'll
36 move onto the next one. MPO Update.
37

38 Wray: Mr. Chair. That was actually an action item.
39

40 Pearson: Oh, was it? I'm sorry.
41

42 Wray: We need a motion either to table or move forward.
43

44 Pearson: So I'll hear a motion to approve the, well we had, do we need to mention
45 amendments or just note the comments?
46

1 Wray: Yes Mr. Chair. I would suggest that the motion be phrased as to move to
2 approve including the amendments to the Title VI Complaint Form as
3 discussed.
4

5 Pearson: Somebody want to make that motion?
6

7 Curry: I'll make that motion.
8

9 Nunez: Second.
10

11 Pearson: So we have a motion and a second to recommend the MPO Title VI Plan
12 as amended with the amendments suggested. All in favor, "aye."
13

14 MOTION PASSES UNANIMOUSLY.
15

16 Pearson: Any opposed?
17

18 **7. COMMITTEE AND STAFF COMMENTS** 19

20 **7.1 MPO Staff Update** 21

22 Pearson: Okay, so now MPO Update.
23

24 Wray: Thank you Mr. Chair. First of all MPO Staff late last week sent out an
25 open call for projects for CMAQ money, Congestion Mitigation Air Quality
26 Funds. This is non-mandatory funds that are available for the
27 jurisdictions. It has different requirements than the TAP application
28 although the process overall is going to be very similar. There is a project
29 feasibility meeting that is required of any applying jurisdiction but any
30 eligible project has to specifically demonstrate a congestion, mitigation, or
31 air quality benefit as part of a successful application. The application
32 period is going to run up until November 30th, was that what we, I
33 apologize. I should have had that information to hand and I did not. But
34 late November I believe is the deadline for that particular application.
35 Alongside that, also be advised that the deadline for the TAP and RTP
36 application is coming up at the end of September. We have had one
37 project feasibility meeting with one of our jurisdictions already. We're
38 going to have another within a separate jurisdiction tomorrow. So if there
39 are any other jurisdictions that are interested you really need to get the
40 form in to us now. You're basically out of time.

41 So moving on I'd also like to take the opportunity to introduce Ms.
42 Debra Fuller. She is our new Senior Planning Technician replacing Mr.
43 Loya and we're very glad to have her on board.

44 And I believe that is everything. Oh yes, the Volkswagen
45 settlement. Very recently the State of New Mexico received \$18 million
46 from the Volkswagen settlement. That \$18 million was the New Mexico

1 portion of that money. A conglomeration of various agencies within New
2 Mexico State government have been tasked with overseeing the
3 distribution of that money. There is a very quickly approaching deadline at
4 the end of September for the applications to be submitted to the State.
5 This does not in any way go through the MPO process. It goes directly to
6 the State so I would advise anyone to consult the webpage on the State
7 site and I can send that link to everyone on the Committee. It was in the
8 MPO newsletter a couple of months ago.

9
10 Pearson: Right.

11
12 Wray: I believe now that concludes MPO staff comments.

13
14 Pearson: Okay. I did mention that to Mr. Bartholomew and it did sound like the City
15 would do something about that. So maybe the City can remind them. The
16 CMAQ money, that's new for this area. Right?

17
18 Wray: Yes. That is brand-new. It's a new opportunity.

19
20 Pearson: Have you heard any interest from entities?

21
22 Wray: We have had a few nibbles.

23
24 Pearson: Okay.

25 26 **7.2 Local Projects update**

27
28 Pearson: Okay. Local projects updates. Start with the City I guess.

29
30 Nunez: We have a few things in design. Right now we have the HAWK system,
31 we're going to add right there on University by the McDonald's by Garcia
32 Hall right there. That should be completed, the design and bid it out in a
33 couple months here and then maybe build it over the holidays.

34 And then we have, I know that, let's see, we also have South Main
35 that they're doing the design on right, and I mentioned that and I'd sent a
36 proxy last month to discuss that a little bit.

37 And then we have, current construction we have overlay on a
38 number of projects like, you may have seen those on Solano and Lohman,
39 Missouri and Boutz. Right now they're up on Candlelight and Fairway and
40 they're going to do Don Roser, a section there on Idaho and Third Street,
41 and North Virginia Street.

42 And then we have, they're doing the construction on, north on
43 Roadrunner. It's coming along. I think they got a lot of the drainage
44 systems in. That's just a few projects that I have. Yes.

1 Pearson: On the Missouri one, that might be an opportunity to narrow the lane, the
2 inside lane line and make the outside lane a little bit wider. I'm not quite
3 sure of that piece.
4

5 Nunez: Let me see where it's listed, from Durazno to Solano, just a little bit east of
6 Solano so it ...
7

8 Pearson: It's not that much space there, yes.
9

10 Nunez: It's not that much of a section but I can look at that. Were you thinking of
11 up higher to the east on Missouri, or where specifically? Because
12 Durazno's pretty close right there kind of heading towards Las Cruces
13 High School when it switches to ...
14

15 Pearson: Yes. I thought it went all the way down to El Paseo maybe, but actually
16 Durazno might be where, because if we could get more of a 14-foot
17 outside lane there, that would help for bicyclists. Because further up on
18 Missouri it's designated as a bicycle route and Missouri's not a great road,
19 and so what I remember is that they did try to make the outside lane a little
20 bit wider so if this is an opportunity to do some of that that's, it's an
21 opportunity that should be taken. Because typically the contractor will put
22 back the lane lines exactly where they were but if we can, if it's an
23 opportunity to move a foot or even half a foot, that can be beneficial to
24 bicyclists.
25

26 Nunez: All right. I'll take note to the ones that restripe it which would be the, Soo
27 Gyu Lee's crew.
28

29 Pearson: Okay. And another project that it was actually a TAP project that I haven't
30 heard about for a while, the trail project behind the Las Cruces Dam. Has
31 that ever been closed out?
32

33 Nunez: Last time I checked that was a very long time ago and it had not been.
34 But I don't have the answer but I can look into it.
35

36 Pearson: Okay. I was ...
37

38 Herrera: Mr. Chair.
39

40 Pearson: Yes.
41

42 Herrera: I do have the answer to that. It has not been closed out. It's actually on
43 our inactive obligations list right now along with another of the trail
44 projects. So the City will probably be receiving a letter about that this
45 week.
46

1 Pearson: Okay.
2
3 Bencomo: Mr. Chair.
4
5 Pearson: Yes.
6
7 Bencomo: I have a question about that. What does that mean? I'm mincing words
8 maybe.
9
10 Herrera: It basically means that the Federal Highway Administration and the
11 NMDOT have the right to resend any money that has not been paid out to
12 the City because those projects have been inactive and open for so long.
13 That's what the letter will say.
14
15 Bencomo: Okay. So it's the ones behind the Las Cruces Dam and what's the other
16 one?
17
18 Herrera: I don't remember right now what the other one was off the top of my head.
19
20 Bencomo: Okay.
21
22 Herrera: But there were definitely the two most recent trail projects.
23
24 Bencomo: Okay. So we can maybe put some pressure somewhere on the City
25 because we're trying to pass the GO Bond to do other trails and now we're
26 doing this.
27
28 Herrera: Right.
29
30 Bencomo: Not good. Bad optics. Thanks.
31
32 Pearson: And the new applications are trail projects also.
33
34 Herrera: Right. And actually we've added a clause into the TAP Rec Trails Guide
35 that for every inactive project the entity loses five points on their
36 application.
37
38 Nunez: Well I don't know the specifics but I can look into it. But the other part of
39 that, just so we don't start making assumptions here, I don't know. Maybe
40 we're all wrong, maybe we're all wet here, I don't know. But I do recall
41 from many moons ago is that there were some issues behind the dam,
42 right, with some drainage, like I think there were some bad rains that
43 topped some of the trail, right, so it made it, hindered some of the
44 construction and such. But I don't know. If somebody wants to elaborate I
45 mean I'll certainly take this back to my superiors and see what happened

1 or where we're at. Maybe we're in a good place. I do not know. Maybe
2 next month we can discuss it some more.

3
4 Pearson: Okay. County.

5
6 Paz: Soledad Canyon project's out to bid. I believed the construction has been
7 shifted a bit into early 2019.

8
9 Pearson: Okay. NMSU have anything to report on projects?

10
11 Wagner: We do not. I was not given anything to report on.

12
13 Pearson: Okay. Thank you. Mesilla.

14
15 Shepan: No comment.

16
17 **7.3 NMDOT Projects update**

18
19 Pearson: So we're at NMDOT.

20
21 Herrera: Thank you Mr. Chair. Just one update. The Valley Drive project is moving
22 right along. There have been some issues with the City utilities portion of
23 the project which is the part that we're doing now but we are working
24 through those issues and it doesn't look like we're going to be behind very
25 much at all and we'll probably catch up to where we should've been in
26 other phases of the project. So just while you're driving through there be
27 careful, obey speed limits, and watch for changing traffic control.

28
29 Pearson: Okay. Somebody told me that the project construction day lengthened
30 and extended. Is that, was that a fake rumor or is that ...

31
32 Herrera: That is a fake rumor.

33
34 Pearson: Okay.

35
36 Herrera: Yes. We have a contract time with the contractor and unless something
37 crazy happens we don't intend to change that contract time.

38
39 Pearson: Okay.

40
41 Herrera: I guess the other, sorry Mr. Chair. The other update I have is the
42 University project. That one is also moving along. We're in the final
43 stages of acquiring the right-of-way that we need and really it's just the
44 temporary construction permits so that process moves along faster and
45 we are looking to move the letting on that one back a couple of months is
46 what I understand from upper management, to December.

1
2 Pearson: Okay. I did happen to look at the newmexicoroads.com which is
3 supposed to show all the NMDOT projects and looking on the map, it
4 looks like Valley Drive isn't under construction in the part that it's actually
5 under construction. I think the map, I think the length of the construction is
6 the right, but it starts past Brown Road or something instead of up at
7 Picacho.

8
9 Herrera: Okay. I'll look into that and make sure it gets updated.

10
11 Pearson: And the other question I have that you may or may not know about is the
12 bike/ped position up at the state level, I believe that there's been a
13 permanent assignment or position announcement. Is that true?

14
15 Herrera: Yes. That is Shannon Glendenning. I believe many of you have met her
16 through the Bicycle Plan update, so she is our Bike/Ped Coordinator.

17
18 Pearson: Which leads to my next question. Is there any update on the Bike Plan?

19
20 Herrera: There is actually. She gave an update this morning so the final sort of
21 internal comments have been given back to the consultant. So they will
22 be going through those one last time, kind of making the updates and then
23 it will go out for a 45-day public comment, I believe at the end of, or the
24 middle of September. I don't have a date for you. But it should be soon.

25
26 Pearson: Thank you.

27 28 **7.4 Committee Members Update**

29
30 Pearson: Any further comments by Committee Members?

31
32 Curry: Yes. I have a few questions and comments. So for Mr. Nunez, I just
33 wanted to see, I had a question from Mesilla Park Elementary about the
34 project on Harrelson that's closed Union. Do you have any idea on how
35 long Union will be closed? Do you know anything about that project?

36
37 Nunez: I don't recall. I think I estimated that a number of months back and I think
38 my estimate was pretty accurate. Is that the same project?

39
40 Curry: Well currently Union Avenue is closed.

41
42 Nunez: Okay.

43
44 Curry: And so it was kind of a surprise to the Mesilla Park. It's always good to
45 know these things, especially that first week of school and lots of traffic is
46 coming and going. So they just asked me to touch base and see if we

1 could find out. I don't know who the project manager is. Maybe you could
2 send me the project manager's name for that project. And then second to
3 that same school is a resurfacing project. I just drove by there today and
4 saw that Bell Street between Linden and Bowman is being resurfaced and
5 that's the starting point for one of the walking school buses for Mesilla
6 Park. So it'd also just be good to know timing-wise so we can
7 communicate that. So that was one question. The other question was for
8 Mr. Wray. The feasibility doesn't apply to the Safe Routes to School
9 position but I think you told me that because I'm a ...

10
11 Wray: Mr. Chair, Ms. Curry. Yes. That is correct. The feasibility meeting does
12 not apply only to the SRTS position, though if LCPS has another project in
13 mind they need to get their PFF to us ASAP.

14
15 Curry: Okay. I believe it is only the Safe Routes to School position that'll be up
16 for question. And then I just wanted to ask one more question. I did meet
17 with some concerned folks at Lynn Middle School and I don't know if
18 anybody heard anything about a child being hit near Lynn Middle School
19 at a crosswalk. Did that come across anybody's radar? Okay. So yes,
20 one of the questions we had talked to the City Engineer about, a possible,
21 I just want to keep it on the radar for us is maybe looking at Walnut as a
22 possible road diet, putting in some bike lanes or something like that
23 between Lohman and kind of as it curves down in front of Lynn. It's a
24 really wide road and people speed a lot on it and it just seems like it would
25 be a really great opportunity to put in some bike lanes or at least a road
26 diet along there. So I just wanted to mention it on record so that we have
27 that to consider.

28 And then I did have an update from the Town of Mesilla. I did
29 speak to David Lujan and they have got three, they don't have to do
30 official RFPs for their TAP-funded bike path on Calle del Norte as far as
31 she said but they've got three bids out and so they've got, they're waiting
32 to hear back on three bids for that particular project. She's left her position
33 as of the 31st of August so we'll find out from Cynthia there. She'll kind of
34 keep us in the loop. So as that project progresses I'd like us to be kept in
35 the loop as the Mesilla Representative for that so I'll report back what we
36 hear. She said the first year is just design and then the second year will
37 be implementation. I think there's an \$83,000 match that she said she's
38 hoping to get from state representatives and senators so they've put out
39 kind of a request for assistance with that. So that's the update that I know
40 of on that Calle del Norte city loop trail piece that we are waiting on.

41
42 Herrera: Mr. Chair. Can you please have somebody from the Town of Mesilla
43 contact me about that project? I'm a little concerned about them saying
44 that they don't need to go to RFP. There's funding limits and different
45 regulations tied to that. So we just need to make sure that they're going
46 down the right path on that.

1
2 Curry: Ms. Herrera. I would suggest at this time that they have, she told me that
3 they're five people short in the Public Works area. It might be best just to
4 contact the Mayor directly.
5

6 Herrera: Okay. Will do.
7

8 Curry: Thanks.
9

10 Pearson: Any other Members?
11

12 **8. PUBLIC COMMENT**
13

14 Pearson: So we're at public comment now. We have any member of the public that
15 wishes to make a comment? Seeing none.
16

17 **9. ADJOURNMENT (5:52)**
18

19 Pearson: I'll hear a motion to adjourn.
20

21 Curry: I'll put forth a motion to adjourn.
22

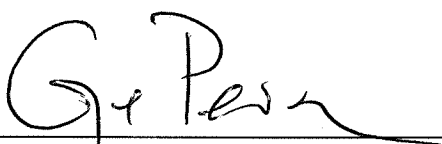
23 Pearson: Do we have a second?
24

25 Bencomo: Second.
26

27 Pearson: All in favor, "aye."
28

29 MOTION APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.
30

31 Pearson: We're adjourned. Thank you.
32
33

34 
35 _____
36 Chairperson
37