

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

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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 June 7, 2018
6 at 4:00 p.m. in Commission Chambers at Dona Ana County Government Building, 845
7 Motel Blvd., Las Cruces, New Mexico.

8
9 in the City of Las Cruces Council Chambers, 700 N. Main, Las Cruces, New Mexico.

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11
12 **MEMBERS PRESENT:** David Armijo (SCRTD)
13 Mike Bartholomew (CLC Transit) (arrived 4:09)
14 Bill Childress (BLM)
15 Michael Garza (DAC Flood Commission)
16 Dale Harrell (NMSU)
17 Jolene Herrera (NMDOT)
18 Harold Love (NMDOT)
19 Hector Tarrazas, (CLC)
20 Jennifer Yoder (CLC)

21
22 **MEMBERS ABSENT:** Sean Barham (LCPS)
23 Ana Donohue (EBID)
24 Debbie Lujan (Town of Mesilla)
25 Rene Molina (DAC Eng.)
26 Luis Marmolejo (DAC Planning)
27 Larry Shannon (Town of Mesilla)

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

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

34
35 **1. CALL TO ORDER (4:00 PM)**

36
37 Love: Okay, it's a little after 4:00 so we'll go ahead and get started with the June
38 7th meeting of the Mesilla Valley Metropolitan Planning Organization
39 Technical Advisory Committee meeting. We'll start with roll call starting
40 with my far left.

41
42 Bartholomew: Mike Bartholomew, City of Las Cruces RoadRUNNER Transit.

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44 Terrazas: Hector Terrazas, City of Las Cruces Traffic Engineer.

45
46 Herrera: Jolene Herrera, NMDOT Planning.

- 1
2 Garza: Michael Garza, Dona Ana County Flood Commission.
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4 Yoder: Jennifer Yoder, City of Las Cruces Public Works.
5
6 Childress: Bill Childress, Bureau of Land Management.
7
8 Armijo: David Armijo, South Central Regional Transit District.
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10 Harrell: Dale Harrell, New Mexico State University.
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12 Love: And I'm Harold Love, NMDOT.

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14 **2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

- 15
16 Love: Next item approval of the agenda. Looking for a motion. Are there any
17 amendments to the agenda, corrections? Go ahead.
18
19 Murphy: Staff would like to pull item 5.1.
20
21 Love: Any other?
22
23 Herrera: Move to approve as amended.
24
25 Love: Do I hear a second?
26
27 Garza: Second.
28
29 Love: All those in favor.

30
31 MOTION PASSES UNANIMOUSLY.

- 32
33 Love: Any "nays?"
34

35 **3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

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37 **3.1 May 3, 2018**

- 38
39 Love: Next item is approval of the minutes. Are there any corrections?
40
41 Garza: I just had one correction on page 2 of the minutes, line number 8, it says
42 "Gonzales," I believe that was me speaking so it should read "Garza."
43
44 Love: Any other amendments or corrections? Looking for a motion.
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46 Garza: Motion to approve the minutes with that minor change.

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Herrera: Second.

Love: All in favor.

MOTION PASSES UNANIMOUSLY.

Love: Motion approved.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT

Love: Item number four, public comments. Seeing none.

5. DISCUSSION ITEMS

5.1 New Mexico Local Technical Assistance Program
CANCELLED AS PER THE APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

5.2 Roundabout Facility Presentation

Love: We will move to discussion items and we'll drop down to 5.2, roundabout facility presentation.

MICHAEL MCADAMS GAVE HIS PRESENTATION.

Love: I have a question.

McAdams: Yes.

Love: Is the City planning on any more roundabouts in the area?

McAdams: I don't work for the City, I'm not aware of any. I guess the City representative probably tell you that.

Bartholomew: I had a question too. The roundabout near City Hall, are there any standards for how these are designed for larger vehicles like public transit vehicles? Because I know we have difficulty maintaining the lanes going into the roundabout and I know that's a factor for large semi-trucks too because you can definitely see the curb tires on the curb trying to stay in their lane going around that corner.

McAdams: Mr. Chairman, Mr. Bartholomew. As you see with the truck apron is one way to do that, you just widen the area around the circle and that will accommodate large vehicles, trucks and buses included.

1 Bartholomew: So should there be a standard for how they're designed to
2 accommodate?
3

4 McAdams: There are standards of how roundabouts should be designed and that
5 should be through AASHTO or NACTO also has it. There are several
6 sources for that. So I'm not criticizing when I say it would be better if that
7 roundabout at the City was wider and had some accommodation for trucks
8 and wider vehicles.
9

10 Love: Any other questions or comments? Thank you.
11

12 McAdams: Thank you.
13

14 **6. COMMITTEE AND STAFF COMMENTS**

15 16 **6.1 City of Las Cruces, Dona Ana County, Town of Mesilla, Las Cruces 17 Public Schools, RoadRUNNER Transit, SCRTD Project Updates** 18

19 Love: Moving onto item number 6.1, committee comments and staff comments.
20 City of Las Cruces do you have anything?
21

22 Yoder: Well Hector can also speak for his side, but from Public Works
23 Department we're still working on the Main Street and we're hoping to bid
24 that within the next six months. We also have the Palmer Subdivision
25 which we're concerned about the conflicts of it maybe with NMDOT and
26 the Valley Drive when they start doing traffic control and shutdown there,
27 that we'd like to make sure is coordinated, but other than that those are
28 the only projects.
29

30 Love: Dona Ana County, do we have a representative? Not seeing one. Town
31 of Mesilla, do we have? No. Las Cruces Public Schools. No.
32 RoadRUNNER Transit.
33

34 Bartholomew: With RoadRUNNER, in May our City Council approved our Fiscal Year
35 '19 budget which includes funding to extend our weekday service for our
36 core eight routes that we have until 10:30 at night from ending currently at
37 7:00 at night. We anticipate implementing that sometime in the latter half
38 of this calendar year when we get the staff in place and trained for that.
39 We're also, I think I mentioned it last month too, but we're applying for two
40 different Federal grant sources right now. We're going to be applying for
41 Build Grant for our maintenance and operations center out on Westgate
42 off of Motel Boulevard area. And we're also applying for funding for three
43 additional electric buses under the State of Good Repair Grant which has
44 to be submitted this month I believe. So we're working on those two right
45 now.
46

1 Love: Very good. South Central RTD.
2
3 Armijo: Thank you. I guess for us we're working on a number of projects. We
4 were able to continue getting some Federal funds from our current 5311
5 Rural Grant and also for the 5310, we picked up another bus. We're still
6 looking at services that could go north into Sierra County, but given the
7 timeline of the grants and getting the bus and so on and so forth, it might
8 be well into next fiscal year before any of that would occur, but we're
9 working very actively with the members up in Sierra County, we think
10 that's a good possibility that that could happen maybe by mid fiscal year of
11 next year.
12 In addition to that and those funds, we have shifted a lot of our
13 transportation into Anthony and are now looking more and more of
14 operating our services as kind of a hub there. Our ridership continues to
15 grow, I guess for this fiscal year we're up estimated an extra 10,000 rides
16 from last year, so we're about 160% from last year, we figure about 55-
17 60%, so the numbers are continuing to go up, still a long ways to go.
18 Obviously ridership still kind of low for a small service, but it's a rural
19 service and we have to look at it from that standpoint. I think having more
20 connections going into Sierra and continuing to make connections into El
21 Paso County should be helpful to it in the future.
22 We're now continuing to expand our summer services, we're
23 actually doing some work with Gadsden School District and through both
24 their Chaparral services and on into Santa Teresa so that that'll be
25 interesting. We actually had one bus last week that we were doing a
26 special service to New Mexico State University that I think we had 35
27 riders on the bus, so we had a few standees for the first time. We're going
28 to make sure we get the photos of that, ensure that the Commissioners
29 since they wanted to make sure we could provide information on buses
30 that are empty, so we don't have those, but we have some that are full, but
31 we'll go from there. It's an interesting evolution as we move into our
32 second year. No other questions. I think that's my report. Thank you.
33
34 Love: Good.
35
36 Bartholomew: Mr. Chair. I have one other. Another City staff member reminded me
37 that we are actually having a fare free week this week for around the
38 dumps the pump week that American Public Transit Association has and
39 that's going to be the week of the 18th, it'll be Monday through Saturday.
40 So if you've never tried RoadRUNNER Transit and want to try it for free,
41 that's a great week to give it a try. And we're going to be having some
42 promotions where we'll be giving out bus passes to customers, have some
43 little stickers for about dumps the pump and everything we'll be passing
44 out as well.
45
46 Love: Seeing that we have NMSU in the house, do we have any comments?

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2 DALE HARRELL REPLIED NO OFF MICROPHONE.

3
4 Love: Okay.

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6 **6.2 NMDOT Projects Update**

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8 Love: With that we'll move onto NMDOT project updates.

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10 Herrera: Thank you Mr. Chair. I have one project to report on today that's still
11 actively under construction. It's the Solano/Three Crosses, they're
12 finalizing the last punch list items and we hope to be done with that in the
13 next three to four weeks, probably more like four, but we're hoping for
14 three. So be careful out there, we have some lane drops right now and
15 we'll be shifting traffic control frequently to take care of those items.

16 The second big project that you're all probably wondering about is
17 Valley Drive. The contractor will start work on that June 25th is what the
18 project manager told me earlier this week. So we're going to start with the
19 intersection of Picacho and Valley Drive, that will be the first phase of the
20 project. I think the contract time is 400 or so days, so it's going to take just
21 over a year to complete the project. We'll be moving in phases going from
22 Picacho towards Avenida de Mesilla. And that's all I have. Are there any
23 questions?

24
25 Bartholomew: I had a question on the Picacho/Valley Drive area, is the traffic still going
26 to be maintained through the intersection during this, when it starts on the
27 25th?

28
29 Herrera: Yes, it will be maintained. We'll have barrels and so it will be slow moving
30 but we will not close that intersection.

31
32 Bartholomew: Thank you.

33
34 Yoder: Is there any way to get the City of Las Cruces a set of your traffic control
35 plans so we can make sure that the people in the subdivision at Picacho
36 and Valley have acces between our shutdown roads and yours?

37
38 Herrera: Sure. If you give me your card I can give it to our project manager and
39 have him coordinate with you directly, it would easier then maybe, kind of
40 in between

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42 Yoder: Okay. Thank you.

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44 Love: Any other questions?

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46 **6.3 MPO Staff Projects Update**

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Love: We'll move on to MPO staff update.

McAdams: We have several. One is the bike repair station has been installed at the Move-It and we're monitoring right now. There is Facebook and we've had also monthly newsletter about describing that. We're happy and we hope that will be a model for other bike repair stations around the City.

Last week we went to the MPO Quarterly, staff did, and we had update on some of the *(inaudible)* management. We'll keep you on track and how it's revised and what is necessary for the TAC to do.

We have the TAP projects will be coming up pretty soon, *(inaudible)* schedules and we'll put those out as soon as possible. Next July there is no meeting for the TAC and the August meeting will be at City Hall for the TAC. I think that's it.

7. PUBLIC COMMENT

Love: Public comment. Seeing none.

8. ADJOURNMENT (4:26 PM)

Love: Looking for a motion to adjourn.


Bartholomew: So moved.

Herrera: Second.

Love: All in favor.

MOTION PASSES UNANIMOUSLY.

Love: We're adjourned.



Chairperson