



## Meeting Minutes

Northern Pueblos Regional Transportation Planning Organization (NPRTPO)  
Regular meeting hosted on May 4, 2022 (online).

### NPRTPO Voting Members and Alternates

Name	Entity	Title	Present/Absent
Eric Martinez	Los Alamos County	Voting Member	Absent
Eric Ulibarri	Los Alamos County	Alternate	Present
Keith Wilson	Los Alamos County	Alternate	Present
Napoleon Garcia	Rio Arriba County	Voting Member	Absent
Cathy Martinez	Rio Arriba County	Alternate	Absent
Robert Griego	Santa Fe County	Voting Member	Absent
Gary Brett Clavio	Santa Fe County	Alternate	Present
Candyce O'Donnell (Chair)	Taos County	Voting Member	Present
Jason Silva	Taos County	Alternate	Present
Muhammad A. Hussain	City of Española	Voting Member	Present
Elijah Mares	City of Española	Alternate	Absent
Patrick Nicholson	Village of Taos Ski Valley	Voting Member	Present
Anthony Martinez	Village of Taos Ski Valley	Alternate	Absent
John Avila	Village of Taos Ski Valley	Alternate	Absent
French Espinoza	Town of Taos	Voting Member	Present
Lynda Perry	Town of Taos	Alternate	Present
Linda Calhoun	Town of Red River	Voting Member	Present
Georgiana Rael	Town of Red River	Alternate	Present
Maggie Valdez	Village of Chama	Voting Member	Absent
Will Donohoe	Village of Chama	Alternate	Absent
Renee Martinez	Village of Questa	Voting Member	Absent
	Village of Questa	Alternate	Absent
Paul Castillo	Jicarilla Apache Nation	Voting Member	Absent
Kathryn Valdez	Jicarilla Apache Nation	Alternate	Present
Marcus Lopez	Pueblo of Nambé	Voting Member	Absent
Levi Valdez	Pueblo of Nambé	Alternate	Absent
Sylvia Armijo	Picuris Pueblo	Voting Member	Present
	Picuris Pueblo	Alternate	Absent
	Pueblo of San Ildefonso	Voting Member	Absent
Lillian Garcia	Pueblo of San Ildefonso	Alternate	Present
Christy Ladd	Ohkay Owingeh	Voting Member	Absent
Sybil Cota	Ohkay Owingeh	Alternate	Absent
Suzette Shije	Pueblo of Santa Clara	Voting Member	Present
	Pueblo of Santa Clara	Alternate	Absent
Vernon Lujan (Vice Chair)	Pueblo of Taos	Voting Member	Present
Reva Suazo	Pueblo of Taos	Alternate	Absent
Randy Vigil	Pueblo of Pojoaque	Voting Member	Present
Janay Chavarria	Pueblo of Pojoaque	Alternate	Absent
Anthony Mortillaro	NCRTD	Voting Member	Absent
Bryce Gibson	NCRTD	Alternate	Present



**NCNMEDD/NPRTPO Staff**

Christopher Madrid	Community Development Director
Paul Sittig	Transportation Planner
Kyla Danforth	Transportation Intern

**NMDOT Staff**

Ron Shutiva	NMDOT Tribal Liaison
Neala Krueger	NMDOT Urban & Regional Planner Supervisor
John Neunuebel	NMDOT Urban & Regional Planner
James Mexia	NMDOT District 5 Technical Support Engineer

**Guests**

AnJanette Brush	Taos County
Brent Jaramillo	Taos County
Colleen Whitehead	Jicarilla Apache Nation
Diahann Jacques	City of Española
Steven Trujillo	City of Española
Scott Eddings	Village of Taos Ski Valley

**I. Call Meeting to Order**

Chair Candyce O’Donnell, Taos County, called the meeting to order at 10:01 AM.

**II. Pledge of Allegiance**

Chair O’Donnell called on Brett Clavio, Santa Fe County, to lead the pledge of allegiance.

**III. Opening Prayer**

Chair O’Donnell asked Ron Shutiva, NMDOT Tribal Liaison, to lead the opening prayer.

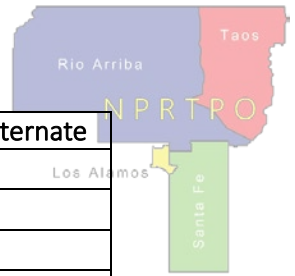
**IV. Welcome and Introductions/Public Comments:**

Chair O’Donnell welcomed everyone to the meeting and asked Paul Sittig, NCNMEDD, to welcome and identify new attendees. Mr. Sittig welcomed Colleen Whitehead, representing Jicarilla Apache Nation for their TPF presentation.

**V. Roll Call:**

Vice Chair Lujan called on Paul Sittig, NCNMEDD, to conduct the roll call.

Name	Entity	Voting Member or Alternate
Eric Ulibarri	Los Alamos County	Voting Member
Gary Brett Clavio	Santa Fe County	Alternate
Candyce O’Donnell, Chair	Taos County	Voting Member
Muhammad Hussain	City of Española	Voting Member
Patrick Nicholson	Village of Taos Ski Valley	Voting Member
French Espinoza	Town of Taos	Voting Member
Linda Calhoun	Town of Red River	Voting Member



Name	Entity	Voting Member or Alternate
Sylvia Armijo	Picuris Pueblo	Voting Member
Lillian Garcia	Pueblo of San Ildefonso	Alternate
Suzette Shije	Pueblo of Santa Clara	Voting Member
Randy Vigil	Pueblo of Pojoaque	Voting Member
Bryce Gibson	NCRTD	Alternate

Mr. Sittig confirmed that there was a quorum for the meeting.

**VI. Approval of the Agenda:**

Chair O’Donnell asked for a motion to approve the agenda.

Motion to approve the agenda as presented was made by Patrick Nicholson, Village of Taos Ski Valley. Segundo by Bret Clavio, Santa Fe County.

Roll Call Vote:

Name	Entity	Vote
Keith Wilson	Los Alamos County	Yes
Gary Brett Clavio	Santa Fe County	Yes
Candyce O’Donnell, Chair	Taos County	Yes
Muhammad Hussain	City of Española	Yes
Patrick Nicholson	Village of Taos Ski Valley	Yes
French Espinoza	Town of Taos	Yes
Linda Calhoun	Town of Red River	Yes
Sylvia Armijo	Picuris Pueblo	Yes
Lillian Garcia	Pueblo of San Ildefonso	Yes
Suzette Shije	Pueblo of Santa Clara	Yes
Randy Vigil	Pueblo of Pojoaque	Yes
Bryce Gibson	NCRTD	Yes

The motion passed unanimously with members present.

**VII. Approval of the Minutes: April 6, 2022, Regular Meeting (online)**

Chair O’Donnell asked Mr. Sittig to confirm the date of the meeting minutes, and he confirmed the date should be April 6, not March 2, as listed on the first page and in the footer. Chair O’Donnell asked everyone to take a moment to review the meeting minutes and asked for a motion to approve them.

Motion was made by Keith Wilson, Los Alamos County, to approve the minutes with the changes as noted. Second by Muhammad Hussain, City of Española.



Roll Call Vote:

Name	Entity	Vote
Keith Wilson	Los Alamos County	Yes
Gary Brett Clavio	Santa Fe County	Yes
Candyce O'Donnell, Chair	Taos County	Yes
Muhammad Hussain	City of Española	Yes
Patrick Nicholson	Village of Taos Ski Valley	Yes
French Espinoza	Town of Taos	Yes
Linda Calhoun	Town of Red River	Yes
Sylvia Armijo	Picuris Pueblo	Yes
Lillian Garcia	Pueblo of San Ildefonso	Yes
Suzette Shije	Pueblo of Santa Clara	Yes
Randy Vigil	Pueblo of Pojoaque	Yes
Bryce Gibson	NCRTD	Yes

The motion passed unanimously with members present.

**VIII. Action/Approval: Letters of Support for NCRTD applications for Section 5339(b) and Low or No Emission Grant Programs**

Chair O'Donnell asked Bryce Gibson, NCRTD, to provide a summary on the projects that NCRTD was looking to have NPRTPO support with letters of support, which the District asked NPRTPO to provide letters of support in April for the federal RAISE grant, and before that, for Section 5339b for the Jim West Center renovations and in-vehicle air filtration improvements.

- The first Section 5339(b) request – in Española, there are two project elements:
  - Renovations to and expansion of the administrative offices at the Jim West Center, which NCRTD has occupied for a decade; in that time, services and staffing has increased, outgrowing the space. NCRTD is in the process of constructing a maintenance facility behind the main building, freeing up space that is currently used for parts storage and vehicle repairs. These spaces would be renovated, and an addition added to the front of the building, allowing for many more years of operation and growth at this location.
  - NCRTD would also like to develop an on-site park-and-ride facility, to include restrooms, a covered waiting area, passenger information kiosks, vehicle charging infrastructure for commuters and NCRTD's new EV fleet.
- The second Section 5339(b) request – NCRTD would like to install HEPA air filtration systems onboard each NCRTD transit vehicle to benefit both the safety of the bus operators and the traveling public.
- Low or No Emission Grant – in Taos County, NCRTD is looking to take over some of the Taos Ski Valley shuttle service, augmenting NCRTD's current seasonal service, and expand to year-round transit to provide opportunities for recreation



along NM-150 between the Town of Taos and Taos Ski Valley. This would require purchasing four additional vehicles, and NCRTD is looking to convert its fleet to zero emission vehicles, which would also require charging infrastructure for the new electric buses.

Chair O’Donnell asked Mr. Gibson when they might hear back about the grant awards and he said that would be in August 2022. Chair O’Donnell asked members if they had questions. Bret Clavio, Santa Fe County, asked what would happen to the current transit center in Española. Mr. Gibson said NCRD would continue to serve it but in a more limited capacity, with the new park and ride facility serving as a regional hub.

Chair O’Donnell asked for a motion to approve the three letters. Bret Clavio, Santa Fe County, made the motion. Muhammad Hussain, City of Española, seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote:

Name	Entity	Vote
Keith Wilson	Los Alamos County	Yes
Gary Brett Clavio	Santa Fe County	Yes
Candyce O’Donnell, Chair	Taos County	Yes
Muhammad Hussain	City of Española	Yes
Patrick Nicholson	Village of Taos Ski Valley	Yes
French Espinoza	Town of Taos	Yes
Linda Calhoun	Town of Red River	Yes
Sylvia Armijo	Picuris Pueblo	Yes
Lillian Garcia	Pueblo of San Ildefonso	Yes
Suzette Shije	Pueblo of Santa Clara	Yes
Vernon Lujan	Pueblo of Taos	Yes
Randy Vigil	Pueblo of Pojoaque	Yes
Bryce Gibson	NCRTD	Yes

Vernon Lujan, Taos Pueblo, joined the meeting during this item. The motion passed unanimously with members present.

**IX. Presentations: FY 2023 Transportation Project Fund (TPF) Rating and Ranking**

Chair O’Donnell opened the item and asked for a volunteer to keep time to ensure the presentations were five minutes long at most. Christopher Madrid, NCNMEDD, offered to assist in that role. Mr. Sittig provided an introduction to the members’ presentations, noting that this was the annual rating and ranking of Transportation Project Fund (TPF). Mr. Sittig noted that there were 14 applications, and after the presentations, he would send out a Google Forms link to members to submit their ratings. Mr. Sittig said that he’d add points for attendance and a point to the Taos County Rio Chiquita Bridge project as the sole priority bridge project application this year.



Chair O'Donnell asked members if they wanted to rate after seeing all presentations or view five applications at a time before rating. Linda Calhoun, Town of Red River, said she'd like to see all before rating. Patrick Nicholson, Village of Taos Ski Valley, and Keith Wilson Los Alamos County, agreed with this sentiment.

Presentations:

1. **Española - NM 583/ Fairview Corridor Safety Improvements**
  - a. Total request: \$5,250,000
  - b. Project scope: 2 miles, from MCCurdy to US84/285, to implement Corridor Safety Improvement Plan authored by NMDOT and Wilson & Co
  - c. Question from James Mexia, NMDOT: was federal funding used previously? Muhammad Hussain, Española, said funding was from NMDOT for the design phase
2. **Jicarilla Apache Nation - Medicine Way paving/improvements extension**
  - a. Total request: \$775,000
  - b. Project Scope: Extend Medicine Way and connect to North Mundo Drive in Dulce, NM, to construct roadway with curb, gutter, sidewalks, drainage, signage, and utility work
  - c. Question from Chair O'Donnell: how many houses are served? Colleen Whitehead, Jicarilla Apache Nation, replied that there are 40-50 people in the adjacent townhomes
3. **Los Alamos - Loma Linda Dr., La Tierra Rd., La Mirada Cir. reconstruction & ADA**
  - a. Total request: \$2,410,000
  - b. Project scope: Full roadway reconstruction of Loma Linda subdivision (Loma Linda Dr., La Tierra Rd., La Miranda Cir.), total of 0.48 mile, including complete road reconstruction with improved curb, gutter, and sidewalk where appropriate (including ADA improvements)
4. **Los Alamos - Rose Street reconstruction & ADA improvements**
  - a. Total request: \$2,500,000
  - b. Project scope: Full roadway reconstruction of Rose Street from Central Ave. to Peach St. (0.3 mile), including drainage, curb, gutter, and sidewalk where appropriate (including ADA improvements)
  - c. Question from Chair O'Donnell: why is the project cost so high for such small distances? Keith Wilson replied that this is only construction, with design being done in-house, but the cost of reconstruction and adjacent improvements has significantly increased
5. **NCRTD - improve four bus stops on NM-68 near Alcalde**
  - a. Total request: \$426,161.88
  - b. Project scope: upgrade four bus stops along NM-68 in Rio Arriba County north of Alcalde. The project will include the design, construction, and construction management of bus pull offs, shelters, waste receptacles, and ADA-compliant boarding areas.
  - c. Question from Chair O'Donnell: are these new stops? Bryce Gibson stated that these are existing stops with roadside signage only at this time.



6. **Red River - High Street reconstruction with water & wastewater utilities**
  - a. Total request: \$8,000,000
  - b. Project scope: Planning, design, construction, and construction management for reconstruction of High Street from Jay Hawk Trail to Heartbreak Trail (approx. 7,442 linear feet) with drainage and utility improvements
  - c. Question from Chair O'Donnell: is there separate funding for water lines? Georgiana Rael stated that this budget would include water line improvements, though Red River is also pursuing other funding for the water lines, and has different scenarios with phasing if funded elsewhere
7. **Santa Clara Pueblo - Puye Road design and erosion repair**
  - a. Total request: \$500,000
  - b. Project scope: design and repair Route #601 Puye Road with drainage repairs and guardrail replacement to address erosion on the south embankment near the edge of the pavement, approx. 0.2 mile
8. **Taos County - Rio Chiquito Bridge 7760 replacement**
  - a. Total request: \$1,000,000
  - b. Project scope: Replace existing bridge, rated "poor" in NMDOT's bridge inventory, with new one-lane bridge, 0.05 mi
9. **Taos County - Leo Valencia Road phase 2 repaving, slope stabilization, drainage**
  - a. Total request: \$1,000,000
  - b. Project scope: Construction of bank stabilization and roadway/ intersection paving and drainage, starting at intersection of NM-150 and Lee's Road and continuing approx. 0.15 mile
  - c. Question from Patrick Nicholson on how this project relates to and how funding might be provided as part of the Taos Clean Energy Corridor. Chair O'Donnell said that the County would work to clarify this.
  - d. Comment from James Mexia: will have to talk later with the County to confirm design and clearances, particularly relating to off-site runoff
10. **Taos County - Blueberry Hill Road repaving and reconstruction**
  - a. Total request: \$11,000,000
    - i. Currently funded: \$ 1,833,712 (LGRF, Capital Outlay, and County)
    - ii. Phasing: could be split into two parts, with Phase 1 being \$5m
  - b. Project scope: repaving and reconstruction of Blueberry Hill Road, from US-64 to NM-240 (4.8 miles), with signing, striping and roadway intersection improvements
11. **Taos County - Tom Holder Road design**
  - a. Total request: \$210,000
  - b. Project scope: Design for reconstruction/ widening, from Cuchilla Road to NM-240
12. **Taos Pueblo - Lucero Road FY 2022 TPF short-fall funding**
  - a. Total request: \$985,421.68
  - b. Project scope: Supplement the FY 2022 TPF award for \$ 3,811,138 (total), to construct road improvements including drainage, and curb, gutter, and



water retention vaults for flood control and safety on a 1.286-mile roadway segment

**13. Town of Taos - Camino del Medio**

- a. Total request: \$3,972,000
  - i. Previously funded: \$1,900,444 for design, right-of-way survey, land acquisition, and construction (MAP funding, not utilized yet)
- b. Project scope: Improve 1.85 miles of Camino del Medio from NM-240 to Chamisa Road, to address drainage and intersection safety
- c. Comment from James Mexia: consider changing MAP funding from construction to design, the Town will meet with him to discuss further

**14. Taos Ski Valley - Twining Road**

- a. Total request: \$7,837,188
  - i. Additional funding: \$1,505,564.17 from Taos Ski Valley TIDD
- b. Project scope: Reconstruct and realign approx. one mile of Twining Road from NE corner of Skier Parking Lot to Zap's Road

Paul Sittig provided a link to a Google Forms document online where members could submit their ratings for each project. Once received, Mr. Sittig would include a point for any NMDOT priority bridges and meeting attendance. He would then distribute the preliminary ranked list of projects to members via email, with the final ranking being confirmed by members at the June 1, 2022, regular NPRTPO meeting.

**X. New Business**

A. Upcoming meeting locations and topics

**June 1** – online, topics TBD

**July 6** – online, topics TBD

B. Other items from NPRTPO members or the public

Chair O'Donnell asked if anyone had additional questions or comments, and Ron Shutiva, NMDOT, noted that Michael Sandoval retired from the position of NMDOT Cabinet Secretary, with Justin Reese, Deputy Secretary, stepping in as the Acting Cabinet Secretary. Mr. Shutiva also noted that the annual State Tribal Leaders Summit would take place on June 1 and 2 at the Sandia Casino Resort, with State Cabinet Secretaries also being in attendance. Chair O'Donnell asked if the next NPRTPO meeting should be rescheduled, but Mr. Shutiva said that would be up to the Tribes if their governors wanted transportation planners to attend, and the session would start in the afternoon of June 1.

Chair O'Donnell reiterated the timeline for TPF:

- **May 31** – deadline for RTPO staff to submit complete TPF applications to NMDOT
- **July 1** – submitted to the Cabinet Secretary for review and project selection





- **August 1** – the Cabinet Secretary will submit the recommended project list to the State Transportation Commission
- **August 18** – State Transportation Commission reviews and approves projects, selection and rejection letters sent out to entities
- **September 1** – agreements drafted by NMDOT and sent out for signatures
- **November 30, 2022** – deadline to execute FY 2023 TPF agreements

#### XVIII. Adjourn

Chair O'Donnell adjourned the meeting at 1:26 PM.