

Meeting Minutes
 Northeast Regional Transportation Planning Organization (NERTPO)
 Village of Angel Fire
 Angel Fire Community Bldg, 15 CS Ranch Rd, Angel Fire 87710
 November 19th, 2025
 10:00 a.m.



Meeting Attendees

Present/Absent	Name	Entity	Voting/Alternate
Present	Jason Phillips	City of Raton	Alternate
Present	Ralph Lopez	City of Tucumcari	Voting Member
Present	Mishon Peay	City of Tucumcari	Alternate
Present	Rebecca Benavidez	Guadalupe County	Voting Member
Present	Victoria Villareal	Harding County	Voting Member
Present	John N. Romero	Mora County	Voting Member
Present	Ferron Lucero - Vice-Chair	Town of Clayton	Voting Member
Present	Clay Kiesling	Union County	Voting Member
Present	Julie Kulhan	Village of Angel Fire	Alternate
Present	Shawn Jeffrey - Chairwoman	Village of Cimarron	Voting Member
Present	Ferron Lucero - Vice-Chair	Village of Eagle Nest	Alternate
Present	Shawn Jeffrey	Village of Maxwell	Alternate
Present	Dallas Baker	Village of Mosquero	Voting Member
Present	Cynthia Lee	Village of San Jon	Voting Member
Absent	Danny Gurule	City of Las Vegas	Voting Member
Absent	Arnold Lopez	City of Las Vegas	Alternate
Absent	Scott Berry	City of Raton	Voting Member
Absent	Ken Flores	City of Santa Rosa	Voting Member
Absent	Heather Dostie	City of Santa Rosa	Alternate
Absent	Glen Stevens	Colfax County	Alternate
Absent	Bret E. Wier	Colfax County	Voting Member
Absent	Rudy Tenorio	Guadalupe County	Alternate
Absent	Daniela Hammer	Harding County	Alternate
Absent	Monica Mondragon	Mora County	Alternate
Present	Stephen Salas	Quay County	Voting Member
Absent	Daniel Zamora	Quay County	Alternate
Absent	Martin Aguilar	San Miguel County	Alternate
Absent	Benito Romero	San Miguel County	Voting Member
Absent	Ernest Sanchez	Town of Clayton	Alternate
Absent	Jennifer Portillos	Town of Springer	Voting Member
Absent	Vacant	Town of Springer	Alternate
Absent	Rachel Farnum	Union County	Alternate
Absent	Morris Madrid	Village of Angel Fire	Voting Member

Absent	Renee Ledoux	Village of Cimarron	Alternate
Absent	Jonathan Valdez	Village of Des Moines	Voting Member
Absent	Jordan Wingo	Village of Des Moines	Alternate
Absent	Jamie Archuleta	Village of Eagle Nest	Voting Member
Absent	Alice Adams	Village of Folsom	Voting Member
Absent	Amanda Boggs	Village of Folsom	Alternate
Absent	Mignon Saddoris	Village of Grenville	Voting Member
Absent	Lynn Wiseman	Village of Grenville	Alternate
Absent	Tomi Miller	Village of House	Voting Member
Absent	Steve Foust	Village of House	Alternate
Absent	Rodney Paris	Village of Logan	Voting Member
Absent	Jai Courtney	Village of Logan	Alternate
Absent	Carala Taylor	Village of Maxwell	Voting Member
Absent	Barbara June Melton	Village of Mosquero	Alternate
Absent	Telesfor Benavidez	Village of Pecos	Voting Member
Absent	Vacant	Village of Pecos	Alternate
Absent	Danny Laumbach	Village of Roy	Voting Member
Absent	Clayton Moore	Village of Roy	Alternate
Absent	Wade Lane	Village of San Jon	Alternate
Absent	Andres Martinez	Village of Wagon Mound	Voting Member
Absent	Colleen Engelhardt	Village of Wagon Mound	Alternate

Julie Surina, EPCOG
 Patrick Million, NCNMEDD
 Aiden Beining, NCNMEDD
 Felicity Fonseca, NCNMEDD
 Monica Duran, NMDOT
 John Herrera, NMDOT
 Alison Gillette, NMDOT
 Anjelica Trujillo, NMDOT
 Vijay Ummadi, NMDOT
 Thomas Anderson, Dreamtree
 Scott Zunker, City of Las Vegas
 Jessica Guthrie, Golden Spread
 Heidi Briscoe, Colfax County Road Dept
 Marcelino Roybal, Meadow City Express
 Eva Lawrence, Golden Spread
 John David Salazar, San Miguel County
 Jennifer Romero, Mora County
 Elizabeth Pino, Guest

I. Call to Order

The Meeting was called to order at 10:03 am by Chairwoman Shawn Jeffrey

II. Pledge of Allegiance/New Mexico State Flag

The Pledge of Allegiance and the salute to the New Mexico State Flag was led by Chairwoman Shawn Jeffrey

III. Welcome

Chair Jeffrey welcomed the attendees and opened the floor for introductions.

IV. Approval of Agenda

Motion to approve the agenda as presented: Chairwoman Shawn Jeffrey

1st Motion- Julie Kulhan, Angel Fire

2nd- Dallas Baker, Mosquero

There being no opposition, MOTION CARRIES

V. Approval of Minutes – October 29th

Motion to approve the minutes as presented: Shawn Jeffrey

1st Motion- Dallas Baker, Mosquero

2nd- Julie Kulhun, Angel Fire

There being no opposition, MOTION CARRIES

VI. Presentation- Target Zero- Amy Whitfield, Special Director, NMDOT

- New Mexico has the **highest rate** of pedestrian fatalities in the nation, according to the Governor's Highway Safety Association, with 99 pedestrians killed in 2023 alone. Third consecutive year we've held this top ranking.
- **3rd in the nation** for crash fatalities according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's Fatality Analysis Reporting System.
- Forbes Advisor Study ranked New Mexico as the state with **the worst drivers** in January 2025.
- **Most dangerous** state to drive in by Everly Life Road Safety Index Report.
- Ranked **38th in the Nation** in Highway Performance and Cost-Effectiveness by Reason Foundation.

Target Zero is a transformative initiative that will coordinate all the transportation safety work currently underway and sharpen the department's focus on safety in all our work. Target Zero visions a transportation system where every journey is completed safely, with zero driving-related deaths.

Key Principles of Target Zero in New Mexico

- Safety and Human Life First: NMDOT's efforts under Target Zero prioritize the safety and well-being of individuals using New Mexico's transportation system.
- Data-Driven Approach: Target Zero in New Mexico relies on accurate data, analysis, and the strategies outlined in the Target Zero 2050 Implementation Plan to identify risks, implement effective measures, and track progress toward the zero-fatality goal.
- Equity: Ensuring that safety improvements benefit all communities across New Mexico, with a focus on historically underserved or high-risk areas and road users, is a central tenet of Target Zero.
- Accountability: NMDOT, along with other stakeholders, is accountable for their roles in implementing Target Zero strategies and creating safer roadways throughout the state.



Questions:

Felicty Fonseca asked is anyone in the NERTPO region should be aware of hotspots?

Amy Whitfield answered, Yes, but obviously the big ones are in Albuquerque and Santa Fe area.

Shawn Jeffrey asked, When asking for entrances moved, is this something NMDOT is paying for? Ms Whitfield answered that NMDOT Road Safety Audits will be paid for.

Patrick Million asked, if we hear there is a problem intersection should we tell you?

Ms Whitfield replied with yes, but there are other ways to get a Road Safety audit.



VII. Presentation – Vijay Ummadi, Rural Transit Program Manager, NMDOT

Vijay Ummadi of NMDOT began a brief set of announcements. He reminded the group that involvement in the RTPD and its rating and ranking process are crucial to the development of regional projects. This gives the public the opportunity to see what is being done locally and share their input and potentially collaborate.

NMDOT announced its FY26 federal transit grant awards on May 28th, 2025. These results are available on the transit and rail section of the Transit Bureau website. These funds are available for the FY26 fiscal year October 1st, 2025 – September 30th, 2026.

The 5310 Transportation project category includes projects that provide enhanced mobility for seniors and the differently abled.

5311 projects assist with admin and operating expenses of rural transit projects.

The transportation project criteria being examined by NMDOT include:

- Ridership
- Total admin cost
- Cost per passenger
- Cost per mile
- Rating and ranking
- Percent award expenditure

The committee examines these three elements in a transportation project presentation:

- Rural public planning and coordination
- Regional need and justification for the system
- Level of marketing of transit system

VIII. Presentation- FY26 Transit Rating and Ranking

- Golden Spread- 5310 & 5311

5310

Project(s)				
Line Item	Year	Description	Stimulus	Net Project Cost
111215	2027	Buy Replacement - Vans		\$97,312.95

Budget Request Summary				
Budget Category	Net Project Cost	Total FTA Portion of Net Project Cost (max. allowed)	Total Minimum Required Local Match	Additional Local Funds
Capital	\$97,312.95	\$77,850.36	\$19,462.59	\$0.00
Less 20.00% Local Match				
Total	\$97,312.95	\$77,850.36	\$19,462.59	\$0.00

Budget Summary				
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5311

Project(s)

Line Item	Year	Description	Stimulus	Net Project Cost
117900	2027	Project Administration - Project Administration		\$191,535.00
300901	2027	Operating Assistance up to 50% Federal Share- Rural		\$359,310.00
111215	2027	Buy Replacement - Vans		\$94,017.95

Budget Request Summary

Budget Category	Net Project Cost	Total FTA Portion of Net Project Cost (max. allowed)	Total Minimum Required Local Match	Additional Local Funds
Administration Less 20.00% Local Match	\$191,535.00	\$153,228.00	\$38,307.00	\$0.00
Capital Less 20.00% Local Match	\$94,017.95	\$75,214.36	\$18,803.59	\$0.00
Operating Less 50.00% Local Match	\$359,310.00	\$179,655.00	\$179,655.00	\$0.00
Total	\$644,862.95	\$408,097.36	\$236,765.59	\$0.00

Budget Summary

Questions: Shawn Jeffrey asked what are you wanting to purchase? Eva Lawrence said they were wanting smaller vans which are better on gas and better for wheelchairs.

- Meadow City- 5311

Project(s)

Line Item	Year	Description	Stimulus	Net Project Cost
117900	2027	Project Administration - Project Administration		\$157,280.00
300901	2027	Operating Assistance up to 50% Federal Share- Rural		\$549,593.75

Budget Request Summary

Budget Category	Net Project Cost	Total FTA Portion of Net Project Cost (max. allowed)	Total Minimum Required Local Match	Additional Local Funds
Administration Less 20.00% Local Match	\$157,280.00	\$125,824.00	\$31,456.00	\$0.00
Operating Less 50.00% Local Match	\$549,593.75	\$274,796.88	\$274,796.88	\$0.00
Total	\$706,873.75	\$400,620.88	\$306,252.88	\$0.00

Budget Summary

The discussion was brought up about expanding more into Mora County.

- Dreamtree-

The Dreamtree Project from Taos gave a presentation on their transit ask. They were not a part of the rating and ranking for NERTPO but they presented as their service affected the NERTPO region:

Dream Tree 5310 Project

Thomas Anderson of Dream Tree Project presented their FY2027 Application for their Vehicle Expansion 5310 Project. The presentation covered the following:

- Their primary focus is transit support for young adults in transitional living programs
- This is a 24/7 on-demand transportation service
- Their transit service saw 5,845 trips taken throughout 2024. They would like this number to quadruple in the coming years
- Many who use these services have experience childhood trauma, developmental disabilities, etc.
- Homelessness rates in Northern NM are substantially higher than the National average

- Dream Tree has housing for young adults across Rio Arriba, Taos, Colfax and San Miguel counties
- Dream Tree coordinates transportation through existing providers
- It provides connections to other transit modes (Blue Bus, Santa Fe Trails, Rail Runner, etc.)
- In addition to transportation, some riders receive one-on-one accompaniment
- Issues to be addressed by 5310 Funding:
 - Some vital services lie outside of transit coverage
 - Minors may not right the buses alone
 - Medicaid accepting facilities are often too far a journey
- Dream Tree is looking to expand to Española, Raton and Las Vegas
- Funding will go towards three AWD SUV's
- Approach ensures flexibility and accessibility across the region
- Transportation should feel supportive and non-institutional
- Requested Federal amount: \$120,000 Local Match: \$30,000



IX. NERTPO Planners/Program Managers Reports - (NERTPO Planners)

Julie Surina thanked everyone for their presentations. She mentioned the Transportation and Paving Conference January 6-8. Also mentioned that Transportation Day is January 29th during the Legislative session and urged members to talk to their legislators about road funds. Capital Outlay is due Dec 12th and please reach out to your COG if needing any help.

Patrick Million reminded members of the Trails+ and Outdoor Equity opportunities with ORD. He echoed the announcement of the Paving Conference and also announced an opportunity with GEICO.

Discussion: NMDOT District IV Update (District IV Engineer and NMDOT Staff-

John Herrera said TPF and LGRF requests will be approved tomorrow (Nov 20). Agreements terming out in December, please reach out to get resolved. Solicitation for LGRF should go out in January 2026. As always, reach out to him if you need assistance or have questions.

Alison Gillette of NMDOT began her updates:

Discussion: Project Status Update (Local Government Members)

Angel Fire- water tank has been set in. Funding remains for County Club resurface. Eagle Nest- Almost finished with no name trail.

New Business

- General Comments and Announcements from NERTPO members and Public Comments
Chairwoman Jeffrey brought up questions about having monthly meetings. Rodney Paris and Stephan Salas spoke up about changing the monthly meetings to something different, perhaps on a as needed basis. This has been tabled for a discussion item on the January agenda.
- Suggested agenda items for upcoming meetings
Begin to discuss TPF. Discuss legislative session
- Meeting Location Amendments

December- NO MEETING

January 28- Santa Fe

February 25- TBD

XIV. Adjournment

With there being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned by Chairwoman Shawn Jeffrey at 11:28 A.M.

1st Motion- Julie Kulhan, Angel Fire

2nd- Dallas Baker, Mosquero



APPROVED BY:

NERTPO Committee Chair/Vice Chair

Date

ATTESTED BY:

NERTPO EPCOG Program Manager

Date

ATTESTED BY:

NERTPO NCNMEDD Program Manager

Date