



Meeting Minutes

Northern Pueblos Regional Transportation Planning Organization (NPRTPO)
Regular meeting hosted on October 6, 2021 (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	Absent
Keith Wilson	Los Alamos County	Alternate	Present
Napoleon Garcia	Rio Arriba County	Voting Member	Absent
Cathy Martinez	Rio Arriba County	Alternate	Joined late
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	Absent
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	Absent
Lynda Perry	Town of Taos	Alternate	Present
Linda Calhoun	Town of Red River	Voting Member	Present
Georgiana Rael	Town of Red River	Alternate	Absent
Maggie Valdez	Village of Chama	Voting Member	Absent
Will Donohoe	Village of Chama	Alternate	Absent
Renee Martinez	Village of Questa	Voting Member	Present
	Village of Questa	Alternate	Absent
Cevero W. Caramillo	Jicarilla Apache Nation	Voting Member	Absent
Truett Caramillo	Jicarilla Apache Nation	Alternate	Absent
Marcus Lopez	Pueblo of Nambé	Voting Member	Present
Levi Valdez	Pueblo of Nambé	Alternate	Absent
Sylvia Armijo	Picuris Pueblo	Voting Member	Absent
	Picuris Pueblo	Alternate	Absent
	Pueblo of San Ildefonso	Voting Member	Absent
Lillian Garcia	Pueblo of San Ildefonso	Alternate	Absent
Christy Ladd	Ohkay Owingeh	Voting Member	Present
Sybil Cota	Ohkay Owingeh	Alternate	Present
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	Present
Bryce Gibson	NCRTD	Alternate	Absent



NCNMEDD/NPRTPO Staff

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

NMDOT Staff

James Mexia	NMDOT Technical Support Engineer
Stephanie Medina	NMDOT LGRF Coordinator
Joseph Moriarty	NMDOT Planning Liaison
Ron Shutiva	NMDOT Tribal Liaison
Phillip Montoya	NMDOT Asset Management Bureau Chief
Marinda Kippert	NMDOT Capital Program and Investments Division Management Analyst
Alicia Maez	NMDOT Capital Program and Investments Division Management Analyst

Guests

Suzan Reagan	UNM
Brent Jaramillo	Taos County
Xavier Martinez	Town of Taos
Emma Polhemus	NCRTD
Debra Baca	Town of Taos
Diahann Jacquez	City of Española
Carl Colonius	Enchanted Circle Trails

I. Call Meeting to Order

Chairwoman O'Donnell, Taos County, called the meeting to order at 10:00 AM.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

Chairwoman O'Donnell called on Suzan Reagan, UNM, to lead the pledge of allegiance.

III. Opening Prayer

Chairwoman O'Donnell asked Vice Chair Lujan if he could suggest someone to lead the prayer. Mr. Lujan provided the opening prayer.

IV. Welcome and Introductions/Public Comments:

Chairwoman O'Donnell asked Paul Sittig, NCNMEDD, if there were any guests to welcome, and he identified Suzan Reagan, UNM Bureau of Business and Economic Research, and Phillip Montoya and Marinda Kippert, NMDOT Asset Management Bureau. Chairwoman O'Donnell asked if there were any other members of the public. Randy Vigil, Pueblo of Pojoaque, said he was participating after being away from the RTPO for a while. Chairwoman O'Donnell welcomed him back to the RTPO. Diahann Jacquez, grants and utilities manager for the City of Española, introduced herself.



V. Roll Call:

Chairwoman O’Donnell called on Paul Sittig, NCNMEDD, to conduct the roll call.

Name	Entity	Voting Member or Alternate
Keith Wilson	Los Alamos County	Alternate
Gary Brett Clavio	Santa Fe County	Alternate
Chairwoman Candyce O’Donnell	Taos County	Voting Member
Patrick Nicholson	Village of Taos Ski Valley	Voting Member
Lynda Perry	Town of Taos	Alternate
Linda Calhoun	Town of Red River	Voting Member
Renee Martinez	Village of Questa	Voting Member
Christy Ladd	Ohkay Owingeh	Voting Member
Sybil Cota	Ohkay Owingeh	Alternate
Suzette Shije	Pueblo of Santa Clara	Voting Member
Vice Chair Vernon Lujan	Pueblo of Taos	Voting Member
Randy Vigil	Pueblo of Pojoaque	Voting Member
Anthony Mortillaro	NCRTD	Voting Member
Bryce Gibson	NCRTD	Alternate

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

VI. Approval of the Agenda:

Chairwoman O’Donnell, Taos County, asked for a motion to approve the agenda. Paul Sittig, NCNMEDD, asked to amend item XI to update the Census Data presenter as Suzan Reagan, Senior Program Manager, UNM Data Bank, swap this item (XI) with NMDOT Asset Management presentation (VIII), to allow the non-NMDOT guest presenter to go first. Chairwoman O’Donnell asked that instead the UNM Census Presentation and NMDOT Asset Management Bureau presentation be listed as Items VIII “a” and “b” respectively. Mr. Sittig also asked to clarify that the January 2022 meeting date would be on January 12th, as agreed upon by members in the September 1, 2021, meeting.

Motion to approve the agenda as amended was made by Patrick Nicholson, Village of Taos Ski Valley. Second from Keith Wilson, Los Alamos County.

Roll Call Vote:

Name	Entity	Vote
Keith Wilson	Los Alamos County	Yes
Gary Brett Clavio	Santa Fe County	Yes
Chairwoman Candyce O’Donnell	Taos County	Yes
Patrick Nicholson	Village of Taos Ski Valley	Yes
Lynda Perry	Town of Taos	Yes
Linda Calhoun	Town of Red River	Yes



Name	Entity	Vote
Renee Martinez	Village of Questa	Yes
Christy Ladd	Ohkay Owingeh	Yes
Suzette Shije	Pueblo of Santa Clara	Yes
Vice Chair Vernon Lujan	Pueblo of Taos	Yes
Randy Vigil	Pueblo of Pojoaque	Yes
Bryce Gibson	NCRTD	Yes

The motion passed unanimously.

VII. Approval of the Minutes: September 1, 2021, Regular Meeting in Taos

Chairwoman O'Donnell, Taos County, asked if everyone had a chance to review the meeting minutes, and if there were changes to the minutes. Chairwoman O'Donnell noted that per parliamentary rules, members did not have to abstain if they were not present at the meeting and could vote upon their review of the minutes or abstain if they chose. With no requests for changes to the minutes, Chairwoman O'Donnell asked for a motion to approve the minutes.

Motion was made by Renee Martinez, Village of Questa. Second from Keith Wilson, Los Alamos County.

Roll Call Vote:

Name	Entity	Vote
Keith Wilson	Los Alamos County	Yes
Gary Brett Clavio	Santa Fe County	Yes
Chairwoman Candyce O'Donnell	Taos County	Yes
Patrick Nicholson	Village of Taos Ski Valley	Yes
Lynda Perry	Town of Taos	Yes
Linda Calhoun	Town of Red River	Yes
Renee Martinez	Village of Questa	Yes
Christy Ladd	Ohkay Owingeh	Yes
Suzette Shije	Pueblo of Santa Clara	Yes
Vice Chair Vernon Lujan	Pueblo of Taos	Yes
Randy Vigil	Pueblo of Pojoaque	Yes
Bryce Gibson	NCRTD	Yes

The motion passed unanimously.

VIII a. Discussion: Census Data Presentation (Suzan Reagan, Senior Program Manager, UNM Data Bank)

Chairwoman O'Donnell, Taos County, welcomed Suzan Reagan, UNM Data Bank. Ms. Reagan presented Census Bureau 101, on the first data release of the 2020 Census for

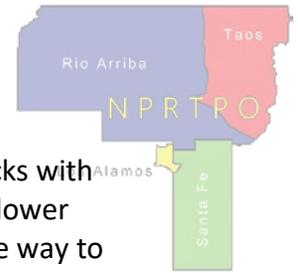


apportionment and redistricting, American Community Survey, and Commuting data sources. She also presented economic notes with a brief on COVID impact on employment, what's next (FORUNM or BBER Forecast), then questions and comments.

- 2020 Apportionment Results – New Mexico did not change, but other states did.
 - Includes both resident and military populations who are overseas
 - Percent change from 2010-2020: 2.8%
 - Percent change from 2000-2010: 13.2%
- Redistricting data – 2020 Census population counts by
 - race,
 - Hispanic origin,
 - voting age and
 - housing unit data (called “Occupancy Status”)
- Redistricting Data for NM by County
 - Total population by county, and changes by county
 - Rural counties lost the most population; all NP counties grew:
 - Rio Arriba: 0.3% growth
 - Taos: 4.7% growth
 - Los Alamos: 8.2% growth
 - Santa Fe County: 7.4% growth
- New Mexico 2020 Redistricting – County/block Race/Ethnicity
- Where are the rest of the 2020 data?
 - Additional data products off the 2020 Census are coming in 2022!
 - Demographic Profiles
 - Demographic and Housing Characteristics
 - Potentially we could see less tables because of Differential Privacy
- Data Quality (?)
 - COVID Impact – New Mexico Self-response 58% in 2020 only a 2% drop from 60% in 2010; total population count close to what was expected
 - Census collection on Pueblos and Tribal lands may have been more impacted by travel restrictions during COVID
 - Privacy Protection through Differential Privacy
 - 2010 did household swapping.
 - Noise added to fuzzy confidential information.
 - Small rural areas most at risk for data looking not how it should.
 - Differential Privacy still being developed by U.S. Census Bureau.
- Count Question Resolution (CQR) or “we don’t believe that count!”
 - Letter to Tribal chairpersons and highest elected official in December 2021.
 - Quick turnaround; So as they need to respond ASAP.
 - Request review of official 2020 Census counts of population and housing, and to correct boundary, geocoding, and certain coverage issues.
 - A challenge is based on processing issues or incorrect geographic boundary or coding of housing units, not on the reported counts.



- Decennial Census vs American Community Survey (ACS)
 - Census:
 - A one-point-in-time snapshot of population and housing
 - Available for small areas
 - Current now but won't be updated until 2030
 - Limited topics with 100% data
 - Population – Sex, Age, Hispanic Origin, Race, Relationship to head of Household
 - Housing Data – Tenure (Owned or Rented)
 - Required for redistricting
 - ACS is an annual sampling of the entire US population
 - Most current data available w/ annual updates
 - Limited data for small areas
 - Lots more data topics (over 50 questions)
 - 1 yr. & 5 yr. estimates
 - Estimates may have large margins of error
- Data for Transportation
 - <https://www.census.gov/topics/employment/commuting.html>
 - ACS Commuting Flows most current 2015 ACS 5 year estimate (4 tables for all states)
 - data.census.gov – ACS 1 year and 5 year, Tables with Travel Time to Work, Drove Alone or..., Worked in or out of place of residence, Departure time, # of Vehicles.
 - Worked from home at Household Pulse Survey added Worked Onsite at a workplace in the last 7 days starting week 34 to 37.
 - Longitudinal Employer-Household Dynamics (LEHD)
 - <https://onthemap.ces.census.gov/> – most current data is 2018
 - Website allows selecting by very specific geographies
- Example of New Mexico travel data: Commuting to Work -Workers 16+
 - In 2019, 5% worked from home
- LEHD-Statewide 2018 All primary jobs – example of this data
 - 568,049 workers live and work in New Mexico
 - 33,159 workers live outside NM and commute in
 - 36,188 workers live in NM and commute out
- Covid and Transportation – % of Households by Income with Adult(s) who Switched to Telework Because of Coronavirus Pandemic
 - More than a third of U.S. households reported working from home more frequently than before the pandemic, but the percentage who made the switch varied widely across sociodemographic groups, per <https://www.census.gov/library/stories/2021/03/working-from-home-during-the-pandemic.html>
 - The higher the income, the more likely to switch to telework
 - 45% of NM workers still teleworking (Sept. 1 – Sept 13, 2021)



- **NM Economic Notes**
 - NM vs. US Employment from 1990 to Present – trend mostly tracks with national trend, with a more significant Great Recession dip and slower recovery, which was erased by COVID-19, and NM is only ¼ of the way to rebuild the employment from the pre-COVID high
 - Year over Year Change in NM Labor Force by Place – even losses in jobs statewide
 - Unemployment Insurance Claims declining from high in July 2020
 - Industry breakouts – Employment by Industry Annual 2020
 - Some industries with smaller employment have large economic impacts, like oil and gas
 - How is New Mexico Handling COVID? No industry is positive.
 - Eating and Drinking Sales were significantly impacted by COVID, but broader US Retail Sales are recovering
 - Increased NM field oil production presence
 - Currently about 75 drilling rigs operating in NM.
 - Around 15%-20% of all US drilling rigs are in New Mexico.
 - More than 10% of all US field oil production occurs in NM –up from about 4% in 2016.
 - NM accounts for around 5% of US gas production by volume.
 - 35-45% of NM general fund from oil and gas.
 - Move toward more “efficient” production, producing more with fewer employees in this field.
 - New Mexico Private Housing Building Permits, 1988 -Present
 - New housing permits per year haven’t returned even to 1980s levels of 6,000+ per year, closer to 5,000 per year, well below the 2005 peak of 14,112 permits in that year
 - Median Household Income – expecting increase in 2020 and into 2021 as those still employed worked more hours and earned more wages, on top of the stimulus checks
 - New Mexico Economic Forecast (FOR-UNM)
 - Updated quarterly, contact RaeAnn McKearnan at mckrae@unm.edu or 505 277-8300 to learn more
 - New Mexico Employment Forecast –Alternative Scenarios:
 - Baseline & Optimistic: return by second half of 2024
 - Pessimistic 1 (Delta variant continues, people don’t return to work): return by mid-2025
 - Pessimistic 2: still below pre-COVID levels by end of forecast (‘26)
 - New Mexico Income Forecast –Alternative Scenarios
 - All scenarios expect a dip in 2022 as people return to work, current employees don’t get stimulus check or extra wages from working extra hours, but all scenarios foresee growth in future.
- **NM Data Users Conference** Nov. 28-Dec. 3 – 15 sessions of an hour and 15 min.



- Registration is open at <https://bber.unm.edu/23rd-annual-nm-data-users-conference-2021>
- **Contact information:** Suzan Reagan, Program Manager BBER – Data Bank
 - (505) 277-3038 or sreagan@unm.edu
- **Geospatial and Population Studies (GPS)** – UNM group producing population forecasts – contact Jacqueline A. Miller, PhD, Senior Research Scientist, for more information at (505) 277-0091 or jmiller001@unm.edu
 - Jacqueline Miller can provide population forecasts for different regions

Vice Chair Vernon Lujan, Taos Pueblo, noted that the economic slump is also due to supply chain impacts, which may also be due to decreases in employment in related fields. Mr. Lujan asked about the forecasts related to those impacts. Ms. Reagan noted that this is why there are two pessimistic scenarios forecasted. She said she expected that supply chain issues won't be sorted but may recover and decline, bouncing around, which is factored into the forecasts.

Chairwoman Candyce O'Donnell asked why rural areas might have lost population. Ms. Reagan said that there are two things going on: natural increase (births minus deaths), and many of our rural counties have an older population, fewer births and more deaths. Natural increase is declining there. And there is a worldwide trend, not just in New Mexico or rural communities, that millennials or younger people are choosing to have children later in life, and have fewer children, which mean fewer babies. The second item is net migration, in-migration and out-migration, and people are leaving rural counties to urban areas for jobs. There is the caveat that COVID-19 has seen people deciding to work from home in rural communities. By July 2020, some people were trying to move out of apartments and into housing, an anecdote of people buying rural land to build dream homes.

VIII b. Discussion: Asset Management Presentation (Marinda Kippert, NMDOT Asset Management Bureau)

Ms. Kippert presented on NMDOT's Transportation Asset Management Program (TAMP) Project Evaluation Process. This process utilizes different standardized data inputs to assist NMDOT staff to prioritize projects along different prioritization areas. This process uses an internal NMDOT tool called EGIS to develop a Conditions Analysis Report (CAR) form for individual NMDOT projects.

Initial data is entered by NMDOT District staff, who share that information with Asset Management Bureau staff to complete the data entry. This is a streamlined, standardized prioritization. The data evaluation is based on the currently available data and is updated as new data is available. For example, new crash data is being processed and will be utilized soon.



Criteria to prioritize projects includes 15 items in 5 categories:

Mobility

1. **Annual Average Daily Traffic (AADT)**, averaged for all project road segments (*this information, as well as freight AADT, may be available in [NMDOT's public MS2 Transportation Data Management System](#)*)
2. **AADT Per Lane**, where there are multiple lanes
 - **Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT)**, calculating the total amount of driving that occurs along the project area [information item only, for further project consideration]
3. **Average Freight AADT and Percentage of Freight Traffic in Total AADT**
4. **Functional Classification**, which can relate to roadway design, speed, and capacity (*NMDOT has a [Functional Classification map available to the public](#)*)

Conditions

1. **Pavement Condition Rating (PCR)**, scaled from 1 (worst) to 100 (best), as determined by the Pavement Management and Design Bureau, categorized in three categories – good, fair, and poor
2. **Recommended preservation treatment**, from the Pavement Management System (PMS) that NMDOT uses to consider recommended treatments
3. **Bridge Condition Rating (BCR)**, with a scale of 0 (worst) to 9 (best), grouped into good, fair, and poor condition categories

Multi-modal

1. **New Mexico Bicycle Plan Tier** (*from the NM Bike Plan, [available online](#)*)
2. **Shoulder Width**, which provide both safe space for vehicles to pull out of travel lanes, as well as bicyclists to travel (*online in [Roadway Bicycle Guideline Map](#)*)

Safety

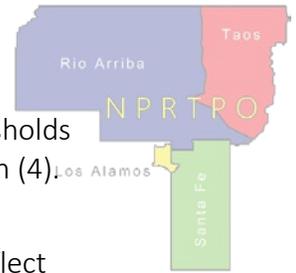
1. **Total Crashes in Project Area Over Latest 5-Year Period** (*[available from UNM](#)*)
 - a. The total number of fatalities is also noted as an informational item
2. **Total Crashes per Mile**, to normalize the crash frequency between projects of different lengths
3. **Crashes per Million VMT**, another way to normalize crash values

Economic Development

1. **Recreation Site Access**, noting adjacency to Major (state parks, national parks and monuments, national wildlife refuges, and ski areas) and Minor Recreation Sites (other areas used for outdoor recreation, such as national forest lands) (*this information can be determined from Google Maps and other sources*)
2. **Projected Population Change for Affected Counties** (*available from [UNM Geospatial and Population Studies \[GPS\]](#)*)
3. **Reference in Local Plan(s)**, including local plans or transportation studies conducted within the last 8 years, MPO/RTPO long-range plans, or comp plans

Other Considerations

- **Emergency events** [for information only]



Projects evaluated with CAR forms are run through pre-determined scoring thresholds that are broken into four categories: Low (1), Medium (2), High (3), and Very High (4).

Project scoring coefficients are used to ensure that project evaluation criteria reflect transportation goals established by the NMDOT, and to reduce any bias towards urban roadways based on volumes only. The NMDOT Evaluation Steering Committee (ESC) determined that safety and pavement conditions should be weighted most heavily.

Established Coefficients* (2020)	MAX POINTS	BASELINE SHARE	WEIGHTING SHARE	COEFFICIENT
Safety	8	15%	27.4%	1.85
Pavement Conditions	8	15%	28.4%	1.92
General Mobility	12	22%	12.8%	0.58
Freight Mobility	8	15%	11.4%	0.77
Multi-Modal Mobility	8	15%	9.0%	0.61
Economic Development	10	19%	11.0%	0.59
TOTAL	54	100%	100%	

*Coefficients established by NMDOT TAMP Executive Steering Committee

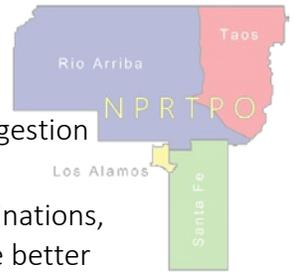
SCORING CRITERIA	RAW SCORE	COEFFICIENT	ADJ. SCORE	POINTS BY CRITERIA
Safety	Crashes per Mile	1.85	3.70	5.5
	Crashes per 1M VMT	1.85	1.85	
Pavement Conditions	PCR	1.92	13.42	13.4
	BCR	1.92	0.00	
General Mobility	Functional Classification	0.58	2.30	4.6
	AADT	0.58	1.15	
	AADT per Lane	0.58	1.15	
Freight	Freight AADT	0.77	1.54	3.8
	Freight Percentage	0.77	2.31	
Multi-Modal	NM Bike Plan Tier	0.61	0.00	2.4
	Shoulder Width	0.61	2.43	
Economic Dev.	Recreation Site Access	0.59	0.00	0.6
	Referenced in Local Plan	0.59	0.00	
	Population Change	0.59	0.59	
TOTAL	27	-	30*	-

Apply Scoring Coefficients to Produce Final Score for Project Ranking

To determine the final, adjusted score for project ranking, multiply the raw project scores with the coinciding scoring coefficient.

*The raw adjusted project score (29.9) is rounded to the nearest whole number.

This evaluation process could be applied statewide or within a specific region, such as an NMDOT District, MPO, or RTPPO. The evaluation process also supports decisions based on



the three general types of funding allocation categories: asset management, congestion mitigation, and local/regional government.

Vice Chair Lujan asked about the designation of major and minor recreation destinations, and whether NMDOT was considering improving access to these areas to provide better access for first responders, as climate change produces more extreme weather events. He noted that some recreational routes, like those roads to ski areas, though other recreational areas do not have similar levels of access, and he asked if there was any coordination with US Forest Service or State Forestry to improve roads for good access for firefighters. Alicia Maez, NMDOT, noted that a road providing access to a recreational site will give a project some extra points in the selection process for existing roadways, and is not structured to evaluate new roadways.

Chairwoman O'Donnell asked that the NMDOT staff return to provide a training on specific roadways identified by NPRTPO members, to help determine how local and tribal roadways might rank for funding consideration in processes like the state Transportation Project Fund (TPF) application selection. Phillip Montoya, NMDOT, clarified that the CAR form is only for NMDOT-owned roadways, and does not encompass locally owned roads. Chairwoman O'Donnell asked whether this would provide data for major roads and bridges within local and tribal communities, and Mr. Montoya confirmed that is true.

Chairwoman O'Donnell asked whether members would like to take a short break. Keith Wilson, Los Alamos County, noted that he has a conflicting meeting shortly. Paul Sittig, NCNMEDD, stated that he could present the slide deck on behalf of Mr. Wilson and Los Alamos County. Chairwoman O'Donnell asked whether Mr. Wilson could rate applications at a later time, and Mr. Sittig noted that it projects must be rated and ranked to be included in the Northern Pueblos Regional Transportation Improvement Program Recommendations (NP RTIPR) to be considered for TAP, RTP, or CMAQ funding at this time. Mr. Sittig noted that members could opt to have an additional rating and ranking at a later date, but an iteration of the rating and ranking must be done today to update the RTIPR.

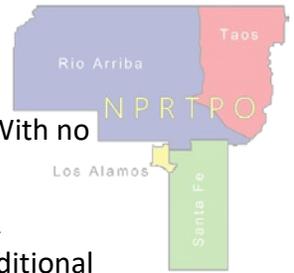
Vice Chair Lujan asked if Mr. Wilson could present within 5 minutes, and Mr. Wilson confirmed that he could. Chairwoman O'Donnell asked if there was a motion to move Item X up in the agenda.

Keith Wilson, Los Alamos County, made the motion to move up Item X. Vernon Lujan, Taos Pueblo, seconded the motion. Chairwoman O'Donnell asked for a voice vote or show of hands to indicate favor in the motion. All presented voted in favor.

IX. Action/Approval: Federal Funding (TAP, RTP, and CMAQ) rating and ranking

Chairwoman O'Donnell noted that Jason Silva would be voting for Taos County.

Keith Wilson presented the Los Alamos County TAP/CMAQ Applications for White Rock NM4 Crossing and Multi-Use Trail in Piñon Park, to connect a new subdivision with downtown White Rock, elementary school, library, and other destinations and



amenities. The project request also includes ADA and drainage improvements. With no questions, NCRTD was up.

Bryce Gibson presented the TAP application for Phases IX and X of NCRTD's ADA Transition Plan implementation, to improve 25 bus stops, which may include additional access improvements and/or digital signage. Only 40 of the 500+ NCRTD bus stops are ADA Accessible. While the specific locations to improve have not yet been identified, the ADA Transition Plan provides a framework to prioritize facility improvements. With no questions, the final presentation was up.

Carl Colonius presented on behalf of the Town of Red River for the Questa to Red River Trail, a partnership between the two communities as well as the Carson National Forest, Chevron mine, and participation from Amigos Bravos, Trout Unlimited, and a good number of community members. It is a multi-use sustainable trail between the two communities, and connect to other trail networks in the region. The project scope is to complete the engineering and clearances for this project, which will utilize a decommissioned pipeline alignment in part for the trail path. Match funding comes from Capital Outlay that has been awarded for the project. James Mexia, NMDOT, asked about the "OHV" alignment on the vicinity map. Mr. Colonius noted that this is in reference to the existing "off highway vehicle" motorized vehicle path on the north side of NM-38, and the proposed trail is a non-motorized trail on the south side of the highway.

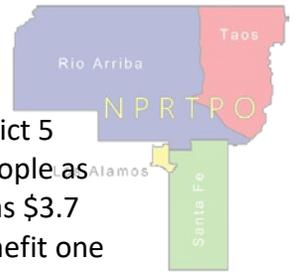
Mr. Sittig distributed the rating link to members via the video chat feature, similar to the Transportation Project Fund (TPF) rating.

X. Discussion: Transportation Project Fund project selection (NMDOT District 5)

Chairwoman O'Donnell, Taos County, asked James Mexia, NMDOT Technical Support Engineer, to speak on the District's project selection process. Mr. Mexia noted that the intent was to equitably distribute funding. He also noted that the CAR form was not used in the District's prioritization of local and tribal projects, as not all data was available for the local projects, and the project focuses and weighting was not applicable to requests. Mr. Mexia noted he was not sure how application rating and ranking was done by the NMDOT general office or by the State Transportation Commission.

Mr. Mexia also noted that District 5 was given just over \$20 million dollars to consider for these requests, and the Northern Pueblos communities were recipients of the majority of the monies the District had available for the requests.

Chairwoman O'Donnell noted that the request for this presentation was brought by Taos Ski Valley, and she called upon Patrick Nicholson, Village of Taos Ski Valley, to ask questions. Mr. Nicholson asked if Mr. Mexia could share their prioritization or process, if the NPRTPO ranking criteria was not considered by the District. Mr. Mexia stated that the goal was to distribute the funds to as many entities as possible, and use equity distribution rather than equality distribution. Not everyone was going to be able to be funded, given the budget of some of the applications. Mr. Mexia noted that the Taos Ski



Valley project was requesting about \$5 million, which would be 25% of the District 5 funds, and was hard for the District to justify when it may not effect as many people as some of the other projects. Mr. Nicholson clarified that the total project cost was \$3.7 million, and it was phased with this phase totaling \$1.2 million, and it would benefit one of the largest tourist destination areas in the state. Mr. Mexia noted that the District was concerned that the phasing was split in such a way that phased construction could result in the first phase of groundwork being impacted or eroded by winter or spring weather before the subsequent phase of work could be completed, thus increasing the total project cost.

Joe Moriarty, NMDOT, noted that District 5 also has to split their funding allocation between three RTPOs and two MPOs. Mr. Mexia noted within that context, Northern Pueblos members received the majority of the District's allocation. Ron Shutiva, NMDOT, stressed the value of phasing projects in a way that would make applications more competitive. Mr. Shutiva also noted the value in including projects on ICIPs. He also stated that entities should re-consider their project cost evaluations, as final bids have been coming in well above estimates.

Lynda Perry, Town of Taos, asked if Mr. Mexia could speak to the Camino de Medio application not getting funded. Mr. Mexia said that Blueberry Hill was selected for funding from a connectivity standpoint. Chairwoman O'Donnell noted that the Town of Taos was not awarded for Blueberry Hill, but the Pilar Bridge, and asked if it would be better to focus on replacing the bridge on Camino de Medio. Ms. Perry thanked the Chairwoman for the clarification and confirmed that the Town was looking for any feedback before they applied again. Mr. Mexia asked if there were right-of-way issues for the road, and Ms. Perry confirmed that there are. Mr. Mexia stressed that ROW is an area of uncertainty, and that ROW needs to be confirmed before a right-of-way clearance is issued or environmental review is signed off, which means this is a delay concern from the District's point of view. Chairwoman O'Donnell asked if right-of-way acquisition and condemnation is an approved expense for TPF. Mr. Shutiva confirmed that acquisition of ROW is an allowable expense in the TPF call for projects. Mr. Mexia pointed out that the condemnation process is long and drawn out. He also apologized for thinking that Blueberry Hill was funded, as this was a project that District 5 did suggest for funding, though Chairwoman O'Donnell noted that ROW acquisition make be an issue with Blueberry Hill also. She summarized the next step for the Town of Taos to confirm which landowners are open to ROW acquisition. Mr. Mexia noted that ROW confirmations are part of the design process, with ROW approvals overlaid on the construction footprint.

XI. Regional Transportation Plan Update (RTPO Staff)

Chairwoman O'Donnell asked Mr. Sittig if the Census Data Presentation was already completed, or if this was another presentation. Mr. Sittig stated that this was covered by and large, but he could update members on the progress on the Regional Transportation Plan. Chairwoman O'Donnell asked Mr. Sittig if the item could be

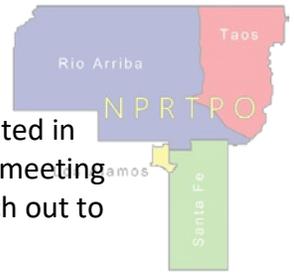


postponed to the next meeting, and he confirmed it could. Chairwoman O'Donnell asked for a motion to postpone this item.

Mayor Linda Calhoun, Town of Red River made the motion. Renee Martinez, Village of Questa seconded the motion. Chairwoman O'Donnell asked for a voice vote or show of hands to postpone the item. All indicated aye.

XII. NMDOT Updates

- A. James Mexia, NMDOT Technical Support Engineer, said he didn't have any additional items and deferred to Stephanie Medina, NMDOT LGRF Coordinator. Ms. Medina asked the City of Española, Taos Ski Valley, and Santa Fe County that their LGRF and MAP Co-Ops are due by the end of October, no exceptions. If they are not received approved and with a resolution, their funding will be lost. Brett Clavio, Santa Fe County, asked Ms. Medina for her County contacts, and she said she was working with P.J. and Gabriella.
- B. Joe Moriarty, NMDOT Planning Liaison, provided financial housekeeping notes that Federal Fiscal Year 2021 Quarter 4 Work Plan amendments were approved by Federal Highway Administration on September 29. FHWA approval finalizes the NPRTPO budget amendment that was submitted on August 4, so RTPO staff may proceed with budget revisions. Federal Fiscal Year 2022 started October 1, 2021, and the NMDOT issued a Notice to Proceed for RTPO activities on September 30, and from an FHWA perspective, the Northern Pueblos RTPO is good to go financially for FFY 2022. The 2020 Census may require the NMDOT to adjust urban area boundaries throughout the state, which may affect some MPO and RTPO boundaries and planning activities. According to FHWA, the Census will publish a federal register notice announcing qualifying urban areas based on the 2020 Census in the Spring or Summer of 2022. NMDOT is closely monitoring the Census activity related to RTPOs and MPOs, and while NMDOT does not anticipate any changes in the northern part of the state, Roswell is on the cusp of being an urban area. NMDOT will update RTPO members and staff as they learn more.
- C. Ron Shutiva, NMDOT Tribal Liaison, noted that the Transportation Project Fund agreements should be going out soon, if they have not yet been received. Make sure you do your due diligence when processing those projects. For those who received funding in the last go-round, you have seven to eight months to complete those projects. Mr. Shutiva also noted that the New Mexico Indian Affairs Department and FEMA was reaching out to Tribal entities to support them with concerns they have with COVID recovery on their Pueblos and Tribes. Only three Tribes put in for that assistance, including Picuris Pueblo, Acoma Pueblo, and Santo Domingo Pueblo. FEMA are gathering the resources from national agencies to assist the Tribes with some of the needs they have. Mr.



Shutiva also confirmed that January 6 was the Kings Day, not July 6 as noted in the prior meeting's minutes. He confirmed that there was no conflicting meeting on January 12. Chairwoman O'Donnell asked Mr. Shutiva if he could reach out to Picuris Pueblo and encourage them to attend the RTPO meetings.

- D. LTAP Board – Ron Shutiva noted that he is also a member of the LTAP advisory board, but they haven't met recently, and entities can reach out to [LTAP](#) (UNM LTAP website) to schedule trainings.

XIII. Member Input on Training and Presentations for NPRTPO

Chairwoman O'Donnell asked that there be no more than one presentation per meeting, and they be 15 to 20 minutes. She also asked that the Census and Asset Management presenters return for follow-up meetings. Chairwoman O'Donnell asked for any additional comments or questions, and there were none.

XIII. NPRTPO Planner/Program Manager Updates and Announcements

Paul Sittig, NCNMEDD, presented the updated Northern Pueblos RTIPR, which had previously included a trail and pedestrian facility from Ohkay Owingeh. Mr. Sittig stated that he had reached out to Ohkay Owingeh earlier that morning and was informed that this project had received other funding and should be removed from the NP RTIPR. The Town of Red River "Questa to Red River" trail was the top ranked, with an average of 34 points or a total of 374 points. The second-ranked project was the NCRTD ADA improvements to existing bus stops, receiving an average of 33.45 points or a total of 368 points. The third-ranked project was the bike/ped trail and highway crossing from Los Alamos County, with an average of 33.18 points or a total of 364 points. Chairwoman O'Donnell asked to confirm that this is federal funding, which Mr. Sittig confirmed. Chairwoman O'Donnell noted that the projects could be disqualified if the entities were not current with their ADA and Title VI plans. Mr. Sittig stated he had confirmed that all three entities were current and up-to-date as part of his application review. Chairwoman O'Donnell stated that the members had seen the results and did not need to vote on the item.

XIV. New Business

Chairwoman O'Donnell asked that members be polled to see if they wanted to meet in person or online for the November meeting, and she confirmed that the following meeting date was January 12, 2022.

XV. Adjourn

Chairwoman O'Donnell, Taos County, adjourned the meeting at 1:08 PM.