



Meeting Minutes [DRAFT]

Northern Pueblos Regional Transportation Planning Organization (NPRTPO)
 Regular meeting hosted on January 10, 2024 Online

NPRTPO Voting Members and Alternates

Name	Entity	Title	Present/Absent
Eric Ulibarri	Los Alamos County	Voting Member	Absent
Keith Wilson	Los Alamos County	Alternate	Present
Dennis Gallegos	Rio Arriba County	Voting Member	Present
Christine Bustos	Rio Arriba County	Alternate	Joined late
Gary Brett Clavio	Santa Fe County	Voting Member	Present
	Santa Fe County	Alternate	Absent
	Taos County	Voting Member	Absent
Jason Silva	Taos County	Alternate	Present
Elijah Mares	City of Española	Voting Member	Absent
Daniel Fresquez	City of Española	Alternate	Absent
Patrick Nicholson	Village of Taos Ski Valley	Voting Member	Joined Late
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
	Town of Taos	Alternate	Absent
Linda Calhoun	Town of Red River	Voting Member	Absent
Georgiana Rael	Town of Red River	Alternate	Absent
Maggie Valdez	Village of Chama	Voting Member	Absent
Will Donohoe	Village of Chama	Alternate	Absent
Jason Gonzalez	Village of Questa	Voting Member	Absent
Jacob LaFore	Village of Questa	Alternate	Present
Paul Castillo	Jicarilla Apache Nation	Voting Member	Absent
Kathryn Valdez	Jicarilla Apache Nation	Alternate	Absent
John Vigil	Pueblo of Nambé	Voting Member	Present
	Pueblo of Nambé	Alternate	Absent
Sylvia Armijo	Picuris Pueblo	Voting Member	Present
	Picuris Pueblo	Alternate	Absent
Raymond Martinez	Pueblo of San Ildefonso	Voting Member	Absent
Adam Martinez	Pueblo of San Ildefonso	Alternate	Absent
Benny Lujan	Ohkay Owingeh	Voting Member	Absent
Lucia Sanchez	Ohkay Owingeh	Alternate	Present
Suzette Shije (Vice Chair)	Pueblo of Santa Clara	Voting Member	Present
	Pueblo of Santa Clara	Alternate	Absent
Vernon Lujan (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 Staff

Paul Sittig	Transportation Planner
Felicity Fonseca	Community Development Director
Neusa McWilliams	GIS Planner

NMDOT Staff and Federal Partners

Avery Frank	Community Planner Federal Highway Administration
Corwyn Henry	BIA Southwest
Amanda Niño	District 5 Local Government Road Fund Coordinator
Angelica Trujillo	NMDOT CMAQ/CRP Coordinator

Guests

Anna Brunson	North Central RTD
Debra Chavez	Taos County
Brent Jaramillo	Taos County
Joe Fernandez	Taos County
Loren Bell	Enchanted Circle Trail Association

I. Call Meeting to Order

Chair Vernon Lujan, Taos Pueblo, called the meeting to order at 10:01 AM.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

Chair Vernon Lujan, Taos Pueblo led the pledge of allegiance.

III. Opening Prayer

Chair Lujan provided an opening prayer.

IV. Welcome and Introductions/Public Comments:

Chair Lujan asked if there were any public comments. Hearing none, he moved on.

V. Roll Call:

Name	Entity	Voting Member or Alternate
Keith Wilson	Los Alamos County	Alternate
Dennis Gallegos	Rio Arriba County	Voting Member
Christine Bustos	Rio Arriba County	Alternate
Brett Clavio	Santa Fe County	Voting Member
Jason Silva	Taos County	Alternate
Jacob LaFore	Village of Questa	Alternate
John Vigil	Pueblo of Nambé	Voting Member
Sylvia Armijo	Picuris Pueblo	Voting Member
Lucia Sanchez	Ohkay Owingeh	Alternate
Patrick Nicholson	Village of Taos Ski Valley	Voting Member



Suzette Shije, Vice Chair	Pueblo of Santa Clara	Voting Member
Vernon Lujan	Taos Pueblo	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:

Paul Sittig proposed to postpone Item IX Scoping for Pueblo of Nambé Improvements Project on the agenda to the February meeting. Keith Wilson, Los Alamos County, moved to approve the change to the agenda, Lucia Sanchez, Ohkay Owingeh, seconded.

Chair Lujan asked for a voice vote. The motion passed with all present voting in the affirmative.

VII. Approval of the Minutes: December 6, Regular Meeting

Chair Lujan asked members to review the meeting minutes for December 6, 2023, and asked if there were any edits. Paul Sittig had amended the minutes prior to the meeting. Keith Wilson moved to approve minutes from December 6, 2023, Jason Silva, Taos County, seconded.

Chair Lujan asked for a voice vote. The motion passed with all present voting in the affirmative.

VIII. Federal and State Agency Updates

Federal Updates

Avery Frank, Community Planner Federal Highway Administration, gave updates:

- the Green House Gas Performance Measure Rule went into effect January 8, 2024;
- On January 18, 2024 the MUTCD (Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices) will take effect.

Corwyn Henry, BIA Southwest Region, Division of Transportation, announced that:

- for Pueblos the official FY 23 road inventory went out to tribes for review, they will be waiting for a response from the tribes.
- FY 24 TPA (Tribal Priority Allocation) Road Maintenance notices went out last week or the week before;
- FY 24 TTP (Tribal Transportation Program) funding, continuing resolution notifications will come out next week or the week following, no other funding notices.
- Corwyn Henry, BIA, shared another funding announcement, FHSTP safety funds application is now open and closes January 16, 2024.



Chair Lujan asked if there was a closing date on FY TTP (Tribal Transportation Program) funds. Mr. Henry replied that FY 2023 annual reports were due December 31, 2023, the system is currently open for adjustments or corrections till January 31, 2024.

BIA SW Region: Marlene Kelly was hired as the new regional engineer, she is returning to the SW from the Eastern region.

NMDOT Updates:

Angelica Trujillo, CMAQ/CRP Coordinator, gave the govt. to govt. updates.

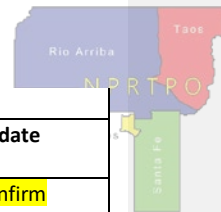
- Neala Krueger is no longer with NMDOT, please reach out to Shannon Glendenning with questions; she is the temporary liaison.
- Work Program amendment 5 has been approved by FHWA for FFY 2023-24;
- NMED is soliciting input from partners by February 1, 2024 for the Climate Pollution Reduction Grant.
- National Center for Rural Road Safety trainings are available.
- NOFO is open for federal Bridge Investment Program project grants and planning grants.
- On December 19, 2023 the final rule adopting MUTCD. This MUTCD has updates regarding safety for pedestrians and cyclists.
- US DOT has a navigator and technical assistance resources.
- OMA training and IPRA trainings are upcoming.

IX. Presentation/Discussion: Rec. Trails Program Funding Call, Schedule.

Paul Sittig presented on NMDOT Recreational Trails Program for all modes. The schedule for this is as follows. This program comes with the opportunity for RTPO planners, NMDOT, and site leads, to make site visits to potential projects. This is federal funding coming from NMDOT so there is a match requirement. Paul Sittig called for discussion of timelines and due dates. Felicity asked if any members were planning to apply. Keith Wilson said LAC may apply.

Paul clarified that PFFs and PPFs are the same forms that are used in other programs. He encouraged members to do their best in preparing the PFFs and PPFs as drafts to understand the scope of potential projects.

Month	Year	Activity
Dec. 20	2023	RTPO staff send call for projects, distribute checklist, resources to members
Jan. 10	2024	Regular NPRTPO meeting, RTPO staff to present this federal funding call
Feb. 2	2024	PFFs, PPFs, and Applications due to RTPO planners
Feb. 7	2024	Regular NPRTPO meeting
Feb. 9	2024	RTPO planner schedules PFF meetings with RTPO staff, NMDOT liaison, District, Enviro., NMDOT TLPA Coordinator, and responsible charge



March 1	2024	NMDOT District 5 returns PFFs with comments
March 6	2024	Regular NPRTPO meeting, rating and ranking applications, update RTIPR
March 25	2024	Complete applications due to RTPO planner, RTPO planners confirm completeness, including ADA and Title VI Compliance
March 29	2024	Deadline for RTPO planners to upload complete applications to NMDOT's FTP site <i>Late or incomplete applications will not be accepted</i>

Felicity suggested a presentation from Jemez Pueblo on how they have utilized a variety of funding sources to plan and fund health and wellness trails. Chair Lujan asked if Felicity could line up that presentation for the February meeting.

Neusa McWilliams, NCNMEDD's new GIS planner, introduced herself to the group. Chair Lujan welcomed Neusa.

X. Presentation: RTPO 101

Paul Sittig gave an overview of Regional Transportation Planning. The powerpoint was shared after the meeting, and is attached as a supplement to these meeting minutes.

Jason Silva, Taos County, asked who questions should be posed to as this was Paul Sittig's last day. Paul indicated that future questions should be posed to Felicity Fonseca, felicityf@ncnmedd.com or 505-356-9098.

XI. Discussion: 2024 NPRTPO Meeting Dates and Topics

Mr. Sittig presented his proposed calendar of dates and topics, which is copied below and on the RTPO NM webpage.

Bryce Gibson, NCRD, asked about TAP program funding for this year. Mr. Sittig shared that NMDOT was able to program TAP with existing applications, which means no, there will not be a TAP call this year.

Commented [FF1]: I didn't understand the answer here. Is this the correct interpretation?

Date	Event
Feb. 7, 2024	Funding, including TPF, updates; FFY 2023-24 RWP Amendment
March 6, 2024	Rating and ranking fed. projects, updating NP RTIPR
April 3, 2024	ICIP Training/Refresher; TPF Update
May 1, 2024	FY 2025 TPF Presentations, rating and ranking
June 7, 2024	Approve FY 2025 TPF ranking; FFY 2025-26 RWP; amend FFY 23-24 RWP?
July 10, 2024	Project Management Training?
Aug. 7, 2024	Grant Writing Presentation?
Sept. 4, 2024	TBD
Oct. 2, 2024	Election of officers, re-adopt bylaws, pass Open Meeting Act resolution
Nov. 6, 2024	Public Transit Rating & Ranking
Dec. 4, 2024	Cancel?

Commented [FF2]: June 5 is the first Wednesday of the month, but June 7 is listed in Paul's calendar that he shared at the January meeting. Do one of you know which date is correct?



XII. NMDOT Updates from District 5, Planning, Tribal Liaison, and LTAP Board

Angelica Trujillo, NMDOT, will forward questions to Amanda Niño or Ron Shutiva, who weren't present at the meeting. There is a call for projects for the New Year-these projects are state funding (MAP, etc.) which go straight to the district and doesn't involve the RTPO.

Sylvia from Picuris Pueblo asked a question about Peñasco District NMDOT and their staffing/funding related to plowing of the roads. There were concerns and discussion around road conditions and road safety in the Taos/Peñasco area during recent snow events.

Angelica Trujillo, NMDOT, responded that Amanda Niño asked Sylvia to provide her with the locations of the areas and she would pass on the info to the proper patrols. Chair Lujan shared that a few years ago NMDOT shut down District 5 Rinconada patrol, and he thought that was a bad idea, as that is a very important stretch for Taos residents. Angelica Trujillo suggested to contact Amanda Niño in relationship to patrol areas and concerns. Chair Lujan asked if Mr. Brasher is in charge of District 5 and Angelica affirmed that he is. Correspondence can also be addressed to Mr. Brasher with Amanda cc'ed.

Jason Silva, Taos County, said some roadways are in Taos County inventory, and he wanted to create safe travel for everyone. He asked to communicate with him regarding any ways they can help.

XIII. NPRTP Planner/Program Manager Updates and Announcements

January 10 is Paul Sittig's last meeting with the group. Felicity Fonseca and Neusa McWilliams are the new contacts for the NPRTP. Mr. Sittig noted that [the U.S. DOT has opened the call for Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity \(RAISE\) grant applications](#); the application is due 2/28. RAISE is a good opportunity for larger projects. NCNMEDD has free on-call engineering support to provide to its member entities.

Patrick Nicholson, Taos Ski Valley, asked for another letter of support for a \$13 million Twining Road Project. He requests support of NCNMEDD in preparing the application. Chair Lujan offered letters of support to applicants, given sufficient time.

Bryce Gibson, NCRTD, announced they are also planning to submit a RAISE application, and requested letters of support from the RTPO.

Chair Lujan and Jason Silva announced that Taos Pueblo and Taos County are also interested in applying for RAISE. NCNMEDD will reach out to see how we can assist.

Chair Lujan said that as long as Taos Pueblo receives a summary of the project in sufficient time, the Pueblo can offer letters of support.

XIV. New Business

- A. Upcoming meeting locations and topics
February 7 – NCNMEDD to host in Santa Fe.



March 6-Taos County, to be confirmed.

April 3, 2024- Location: TBD; Topics: ICIP Training/Refresher; TPF Update

B. Other items from NPRTPO members or the public

Jason Silva, Taos County, asked Chair Lujan about new appointments in Taos Pueblo. He would like to reach out and meet new governors, war chief, and set up a working relationship moving forward. Chair Lujan said he would arrange a meeting. Chair Lujan announced that most of the pueblos did appoint new tribal governors and war chiefs, so he suggested to reach out and find out who new governors are. Chair Lujan will share the NM Indian Affairs Department list of new governors as soon as it is released.

XV. Adjourn

Chair Lujan asked for any final comments. Hearing none, he called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Patrick Nicholson, Village of Taos Ski Valley, made the motion, with Jason Silva, second. Chair Lujan adjourned the meeting at 11:20 PM.