



Meeting Minutes

Northern Pueblos Regional Transportation Planning Organization (NPRTPO)
 Regular meeting hosted on December 7, 2022 (North Central RTD meeting
 room in Española and 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	Joined late
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	Taos County	Voting Member	Present
Jason Silva	Taos County	Alternate	Present
	City of Española	Voting Member	Absent
Elijah Mares	City of Española	Alternate	Absent
Patrick Nicholson	Village of Taos Ski Valley	Voting Member	Absent
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	Absent
Linda Calhoun	Town of Red River	Voting Member	Absent
Georgiana Rael	Town of Red River	Alternate	Present
Maggie Valdez	Village of Chama	Voting Member	Absent
Will Donohoe	Village of Chama	Alternate	Absent
Dominic Martinez	Village of Questa	Voting Member	Absent
Jason Gonzalez	Village of Questa	Alternate	Present
Paul Castillo	Jicarilla Apache Nation	Voting Member	Absent
Kathryn Valdez	Jicarilla Apache Nation	Alternate	Present
Governor Nathaniel Porter	Pueblo of Nambé	Voting Member	Present
Lt. Governor Nat Herrera	Pueblo of Nambé	Alternate	Present
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
	Ohkay Owingeh	Voting Member	Absent
Sybil Cota	Ohkay Owingeh	Alternate	Present
Suzette Shije (Vice Chair)	Pueblo of Santa Clara	Voting Member	Absent
	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	Absent
Janay Chavarria	Pueblo of Pojoaque	Alternate	Absent
Anthony Mortillaro	NCRTD	Voting Member	Absent
Bryce Gibson	NCRTD	Alternate	Present



[Above: screenshot from the video, highlighting some of the safety concerns]

Mr. Smith noted that a nearby intersection had similar concerns regarding safety of access and there was a traffic fatality recently, with subsequent restriping to create additional space for vehicles to wait to turn onto that County Road.

Jason Gonzales, Village of Questa, noted there is another similar county road intersection on NM 522, towards Arroyo Hondo, which could be reviewed at the same time or similarly to this intersection.

Chair Lujan said that this matter could also be brought to the attention of Paul Brasher, NMDOT D5 District Engineer, as well as James Mexia, D5 Technical Support Engineer. Chair Lujan said they might have funding or resources to design passing and/or turning lanes, or school bus route funding. Mr. Thompson noted that the first mile of B007 was paved with school bus route funding, and that the biggest increase in traffic came from the BLM designation of B007 as the recreation area access road, particularly with rafting company buses.

Jason Silva, Taos County, said he was aware of some of the concerns and issues previously, and he appreciated hearing more from the residents' point of view. He said that the issues as he sees them extend from B023 to B007, which could benefit from widening and a deceleration lane. An additional consideration that Mr. Silva noted is that Taos Pueblo owns land along B007 at the intersection with NM 522, and that he would need to coordinate with the Pueblo on right of way, depending on what design options and alternatives are pursued.

Sylvia Armijo, Picuris Pueblo, asked for what the HOA was desiring at this point, whether it be a letter of support from the Northern Pueblos RPTO, or something else. Chair Lujan suggested starting with NMDOT District 5 and possibly legislative representatives like Mr. Gonzales or Ms. Ortez. Chair Lujan said that the RTPO could then provide a letter of



support. Mr. Thompson asked whether the RTPO itself requested funding, and Paul Sittig, NCNMEDD, clarified that NPRTPO is a public hearing body, and such an application would come from Taos County. Chair Lujan confirmed that Taos Pueblo would also be involved, due to land ownership.

V. Roll Call:

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

Name	Entity	Voting Member or Alternate
Brett Clavio	Santa Fe County	Alternate
Candyce O’Donnell	Taos County	Voting Member
Georgiana Rael	Town of Red River	Alternate
Jason Gonzales	Village of Questa	Alternate
Kathryn Valdez	Jicarilla Apache Nation	Alternate
Governor Nathaniel Porter	Nambé Pueblo	Voting Member
Sylvia Armijo	Picuris Pueblo	Alternate
Lillian Garcia	Pueblo of San Ildefonso	Alternate
Sybil Cota	Ohkay Owingeh	Alternate
Vernon Lujan, Chair	Pueblo of Taos	Voting Member
Bryce Gibson	North Central RTD	Alternate

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

VI. Approval of the Agenda:

Chair Lujan asked for a motion to approve the agenda.

Keith Wilson, Los Alamos County, joined the meeting during this item.

Brett Clavio, Santa Fe County, made the motion to approve the agenda as presented. Seconded by Jason Gonzales, Village of Questa. Chair Lujan asked for a roll call vote.

Roll Call Vote:

Name	Entity	Vote
Keith Wilson	Los Alamos County	Yes
Brett Clavio	Santa Fe County	Yes
Candyce O’Donnell	Taos County	Yes
Jason Gonzales	Village of Questa	Yes
Kathryn Valdez	Jicarilla Apache Nation	Yes
Governor Nathaniel Porter	Nambé Pueblo	Yes
Sylvia Armijo	Picuris Pueblo	Yes
Lillian Garcia	Pueblo of San Ildefonso	Yes
Sybil Cota	Ohkay Owingeh	Yes
Vernon Lujan, Chair	Pueblo of Taos	Yes
Bryce Gibson	North Central RTD	Yes



Except for the Town of Red River who did not reply to the roll call vote, the motion passed unanimously with all members present.

VII. Approval of the Minutes: September 7, 2022, Regular Meeting (online)

Chair Lujan asked members to review the September 7, 2022, meeting minutes. Candyce O’Donnell, Taos County, made a motion to approve the minutes with the revision on page 3, to read “Rio Chiquito Bridge” instead of “Rio Chiquita Bridge”.

Second by Brett Clavio, Santa Fe County, made a motion to accept the November minutes with the changes mentioned. Seconded by Jason Gonzales, Village of Questa.

Roll Call Vote:

Name	Entity	Vote
Keith Wilson	Los Alamos County	Yes
Brett Clavio	Santa Fe County	Yes
Candyce O’Donnell	Taos County	Yes
Jason Gonzales	Village of Questa	Yes
Kathryn Valdez	Jicarilla Apache Nation	Yes
Governor Nathaniel Porter	Nambé Pueblo	Yes
Sylvia Armijo	Picuris Pueblo	Yes
Lillian Garcia	Pueblo of San Ildefonso	Yes
Sybil Cota	Ohkay Owingeh	Yes
Vernon Lujan, Chair	Pueblo of Taos	Yes
Bryce Gibson	North Central RTD	Yes

Except for the Town of Red River who did not reply to the roll call vote, the motion passed unanimously with all members present.

VIII. Approval of the Minutes: November 2, 2022, Regular Meeting (online)

Chair Lujan asked members to review the November 2, 2022, meeting minutes. Sylvia Armijo, Picuris Pueblo, noted that on page 3, she’s listed as an alternate, which should be changed to voting member. Mr. Sittig confirmed that he would review the minutes and ensure she is accurately represented throughout.

Brett Clavio, Santa Fe County.

Roll Call Vote:

Name	Entity	Vote
Keith Wilson	Los Alamos County	Yes
Brett Clavio	Santa Fe County	Yes
Candyce O’Donnell	Taos County	Yes
Jason Gonzales	Village of Questa	Yes
Kathryn Valdez	Jicarilla Apache Nation	Yes
Governor Nathaniel Porter	Nambé Pueblo	Yes
Sylvia Armijo	Picuris Pueblo	Yes



Name	Entity	Vote
Lillian Garcia	Pueblo of San Ildefonso	Yes
Sybil Cota	Ohkay Owingeh	Yes
Vernon Lujan, Chair	Pueblo of Taos	Yes
Bryce Gibson	North Central RTD	Yes

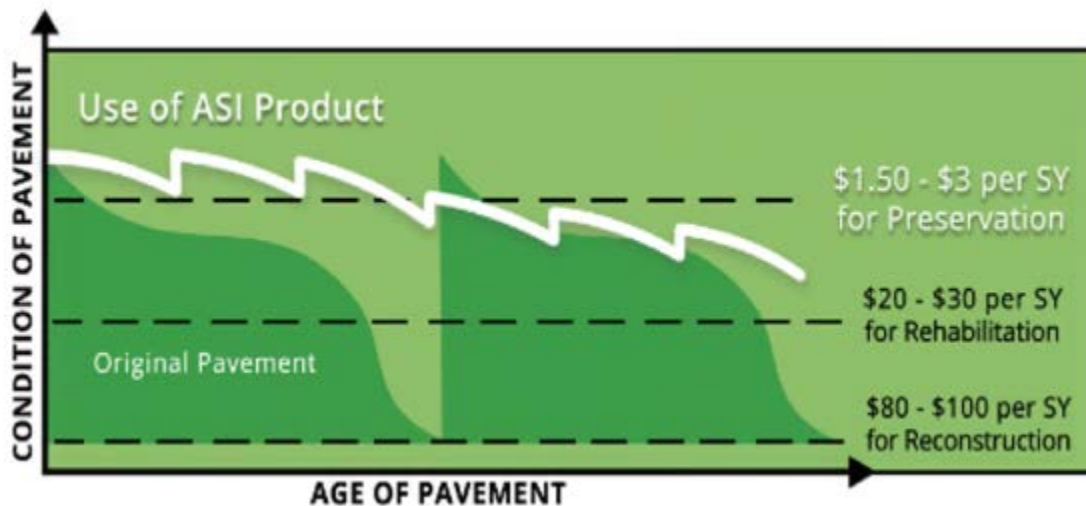
Except for the Town of Red River who did not reply to the roll call vote, the motion passed unanimously with all members present.

IX. Federal Agency Updates

Chair Lujan invited federal agency representatives to speak to the NPRTPO Board. Mr. Sittig stated that there were no federal agency representatives on the call and noted that Governor Shutiva also had to leave for another meeting.

X. Presentation: Overview of Road Maintenance Options (GM Emulsion)

Fred Marquez introduced the types of pavement distress as classified by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), and stressed the value of the right treatment at the right time to extend the life of infrastructure, displaying the following graph:



Mr. Marquez noted that while roads are designed with a 20-year lifespan, without proper maintenance, a road may fail more quickly and cost much more to replace. The white arcs indicate preservation and rehabilitation efforts. He displayed some examples of work done by GM Emulsion and presented an example of a HOA putting up 50% of the roadway improvement costs, with the City of Santa Fe providing the rest of the funding. Mr. Marquez also suggested contracting with vendors like themselves who have a New Mexico state general services price agreement, and some outfits like GM Emulsion can design and build road maintenance projects, depending on the project. Mr. Marquez also offered GM Emulsion’s services for project evaluation at no cost. He provided links to some resources, including [FHWA’s Distress Identification Manual for the Long-Term Pavement Performance Program](#) and [Pavement Interactive’s Pavement Distresses webpage](#).



The team at GM Emulsion who attended in person also introduced themselves: Gabriel Martinez, Michelle Martinez, Bruce Smith, and Eric Trujillo. They provided contact info:

Michelle Martinez, 505-471-9981, michelle@gmemulsion.com

Gabriel Martinez, 505-471-9981, gabriel@gmemulsion.com

Fred S. Marquez, 505-903-8504, fred@gmemulsion.com

Jason Gonzales, Village of Questa, asked if they could provide an estimated cost per mile for the different treatments and maintenance options. Fred Marquez noted that there are different factors in project costs, so there's no fixed price per mile. Gabriel Martinez said that chip seal is typically half the cost of the same amount of asphalt, approximately \$10 a square yard for chipseal, compared to about \$20 a square yard for asphalt. Full depth reclamation is a lot more work and cost. Mobilization and location of materials both factor into total project costs, too.

XI. Action: Approval of NPRTPO Transit Ranking

Paul Sittig, NCNMEDD, provided a review of the previous rating efforts, and proposed the ranking for members to review and approve. Mr. Sittig noted that in the range of possible scores, 12-15 was considered "high" and all applications were ranked "high."

Section 5311: Criteria

1. Rural Planning, Regional Coordination
2. Regional Need and System Justification
3. Level of Marketing, Public Served

Section 5311: Application Ranking (Score)

1. (13.53) North Central Regional Transit District
2. (13.27) Atomic City Transit, Los Alamos
3. (13.00) PoPay Messenger, Ohkay Owingeh
4. (12.67) Miners Transit, Red River

Section 5310: Criteria

1. Planning and Coordination
2. Regional Need and Justification
3. Maintenance, Safety, and ADA

Section 5310: Application Ranking (Score)

1. (13.33) Atomic City Transit, Los Alamos

Jason Gonzales, Village of Questa, made the motion to approve the rankings as presented. Brett Clavio, Santa Fe County, seconded the motion.



Roll Call Vote:

Name	Entity	Vote
Keith Wilson	Los Alamos County	Yes
Candyce O’Donnell	Taos County	Yes
Georgiana Rael	Town of Red River	Yes
Jason Gonzales	Village of Questa	Yes
Kathryn Valdez	Jicarilla Apache Nation	Yes
Governor Nathaniel Porter	Nambé Pueblo	Yes
Sylvia Armijo	Picuris Pueblo	Yes
Lillian Garcia	Pueblo of San Ildefonso	Yes
Sybil Cota	Ohkay Owingeh	Yes
Vernon Lujan, Chair	Pueblo of Taos	Yes
Bryce Gibson	North Central RTD	Yes

The motion passed unanimously with all members present.

Chair Lujan congratulated the transit agencies on their rankings and stated his appreciation for the services provided to community members by the transit agencies.

XII. Presentation: NMDOT TAP, RTP Motorized, Carbon Reduction Program (CRP)

Paul Sittig, NCMEDD, stated that NMDOT staff were unable to attend, and he said he would present on their behalf. Mr. Sittig noted that NMDOT recently issued a new call for applications for Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP), Recreational Trails Program (RTP) – Motorized Only, and the new Carbon Reduction Program (CRP). Mr. Sittig noted that TAP and RTP-Motorized funds were not allocated in the previous call for projects, while CRP funding is a new federal funding opportunity.

Funding by program:

FFY 2024 Transportation Alternatives Program

- Population 50,00 to 200,000: \$550,019
- Population 5,000 to 49,999: \$783,634
- Population less than 5,000: \$1,650,289
- Available for any area (flexible funding): \$809,485

FFY 2024 RTP-Motorized Only: \$304,786 total, statewide

Carbon Reduction Program (additional funding is available to major metropolitan areas)

- Population 5,000 to 49,999: \$1,964,463
- Population less than 5,000: \$2,176,8388
- Available for any area (flexible funding): \$4,885,946



A partial list of TAP Eligible Projects:

- Planning, design and construction of bicycle and pedestrian facilities
- Safe Routes to School:
 - Bike/ped infrastructure
 - Education, coordinators, etc.
 - Under IJJA expanded to K-12
- Construction of scenic overlooks and turnouts
- Community improvement and environmental mitigation activities related to transportation
- Plans

A partial list of RTP Motorized Eligible Projects:

- Maintenance & restoration of existing trails
- Development & maintenance of trail-side & trailhead facilities
- Planning, design & construction of new trails
- Lease of trail construction and maintenance equipment
- Educational programs

A partial list of CRP Eligible Projects:

- Various Bicycle and Pedestrian facilities (see next slide)
- Public transportation projects including electric vehicle charging stations
- Infrastructure-based intelligent transportation systems
- Replacing streetlights with energy-efficient alternatives
- Projects improving traffic flow including roundabouts
- Deployment of alternative fuel vehicles and diesel engine retrofits
- Other projects that reduce on-road CO2 over the project's lifecycle including mode-shift projects in the ROW (demonstration & prior approval required)

In-kind contributions are available as an option for meeting the local match. However, in-kind contributions must be approved by the NMDOT prior to execution of the funding agreement (outlined in T/LPA Handbook Chapter 2 - Agreements) and should be discussed at the feasibility meeting.

Examples of in-kind matches include:

- Donations of funds, materials, services,
- Agency force account,
- Right-of-way acquisition, and
- Utility relocation.



The local match may also be fulfilled through a combination of cash and in-kind contributions. All in-kind contributions must be quantified, tracked, and reported throughout the project just as matching funds would be.

All 5 certifications (Environmental, ROW, Utilities, Railroad, ITS) are required when:

- The Project has Federal Funding in ANY phase.
- The Project required Federal Actions, i.e.; ROW acquisition of Federal Lands, etc.
- The Project is within or crosses NMDOT Right-of-Way.

The projects that are funded with 100% State and Local funds are also required to get all 5 Certifications when the following conditions are met:

- The Project required Federal Actions, i.e.; ROW acquisition of Federal Lands, etc.
- The Project is within or crosses NMDOT Right-of-Way.
- They Project is funded with LGRF, MAP, CAP, Capital Outlay and the agreement is executed for State Fiscal Year 2020/2021 or Prior.

Projects that are funded with the state Transportation Project Fund (TPF) funds and DO NOT meet the conditions above will not be required to obtain the 5 certifications. The local entity will be required to consult with NMDOT Environmental section in order to determine the local entities level of effort to comply with Federal/State/and Local laws.

Mr. Sittig noted that while NPRTRPO has previously set their own RTIPR scoring criteria, NMDOT also has their own scoring criteria for the different programs.

NMDOT TAP & RTP Scoring Criteria:

- Planning (6 points)
- Economic Vitality (3 points)
- Safety and Security (3 points)
- Accessibility and Mobility through Integration and Connectivity (3 points)
- Protection and Enhancement of the Environment
 - Promote environmental, energy conservation and reduce green-house gas emissions (3 points)
 - Improve quality-of-life for residents (3 points)
 - Achieve community's land-use goals (3 points)
- Efficient System Management (3 points)
- System Preservation (3 points)
- Equity (3 points)

Total: maximum of 33 points



NMDOT CRP Scoring Criteria:

- Planning (3 points)
- Public Involvement (3 points)
- Climate Change and Sustainability (6 points)
- Safety (3 points)
- Complete Streets & Accessibility (3 points)
- Connectivity (3 points)
- Equity (3 points)

Total: maximum of 24 points

Penalties:

- Coherence and Quality (up to -6 points)
- Inactive Projects (-1 point per inactive project)
- Missing Attachments (-1 point per component, or application is dismissed if missing critical components)

Mr. Sittig presented a schedule he devised for NPRTPO, to meet NMDOT's fixed deadline of March 10, 2023, for RTPO staff to submit final, ranked applications.

Jan. 11, 2023 - Regular NPRTPO meeting, discuss rating and ranking

Jan. 16, 2023 - PFFs, PPFs, and Applications due to RTPO planner

Jan. 18, 2023 - RTPO planner schedules PFF meetings with RTPO staff, NMDOT liaison, District, Enviro., NMDOT TLPA Coordinator, and responsible charge

Feb. 1, 2023 - Regular NPRTPO meeting, review and approve rating and ranking structure

Feb. 24, 2023 - Deadline for District 5 to return signed PFFs to RTPO staff

March 1, 2023 - Regular NPRTPO meeting, rating and ranking applications, update RTIPR

March 3, 2023 - Complete applications due to RTPO planner, RTPO planner confirms completeness

March 10, 2023 - Applicants must have Title VI and ADA Plans/ Policies approved by NMDOT Title VI and ADA Coordinator before final application submittal

March 10, 2023 - Deadline for RTPO planners to upload complete applications to NMDOT's FTP site

Brett Clavio, Santa Fe County, noted that some entities had not received funding in prior years, and asked about more equitable distribution of funds. Mr. Sittig noted that the RTPO is the first body to rate and rank projects, before submittal of applications to



NMDOT, where there will be subsequent selection committees for each program. Chair Lujan stressed the importance of the application submittal deadline of January 16. Candyce O’Donnell also stressed the criticality of the ADA and Title VI plans, as are required for local public agencies (Tribes are exempt but encouraged).

Keith Wilson, Los Alamos County, asked which years are being funded. Mr. Sittig confirmed that TAP and RTP Motorized are for FFY 2024 but said that it is likely that CRP is for FFY 2024-2026, but he would confirm this with NMDOT and loop back with members. *[Update: TAP and RTP-Motorized are for FFY 2024; CRP is FFY 2024-26]*

Application checklist:

- **Cover Page**
- **Table of contents**
- **Project Feasibility Form (PFF)** signed by District representative
- **Project Prospectus Form (PPF)** – see Appendix I
- **CRP/TAP/RTP (Motorized) Application** – see Appendix I
- **Buy America Acknowledgement**
- **Resolution of Sponsorship** indicating 1) proof of match, 2) budget to pay all project costs up front (funding is by reimbursement), and 3) acknowledgement of maintenance responsibility – see Appendix IX; *alternatively*, an official letter signed by the entity’s chief executive or official with budget authority, indicating all of the same, may be submitted in lieu of a resolution.
- **Letter(s) of support regarding right(s)-of-way** from all entities whose right-of-way/jurisdiction comes into contact with the project; this requirement only applies when a project is not located entirely within the jurisdiction of the T/LPA. The letter(s) must also address which entity will take on the maintenance responsibility of the proposed project.
- **Basic map of project location** (not required for non-infrastructure projects)
- **Any additional documentation** in support of scoring factors. For planning documents, include only the cover sheet and relevant pages. Highlight or indicate any relevant information.

On the application checklist, Mr. Sittig noted that the Buy America Acknowledgement is a new element. He asked Bryce Gibson, NCRD, to speak to his experience with this requirement. Mr. Gibson said that is relatively simple, requiring a signature on the acknowledgement, and that your contractors are aware of and can comply with the Buy America standards for materials. Chair Lujan noted that the new Buy America requirements expanded from steel to all materials, including signage that may include pressed materials.

Mr. Gibson asked if there is any guidance on how much might be awarded for CRP. Mr. Sittig said he wasn’t sure about this and would ask NMDOT and follow up.



XIII. Discussion: CY 2023 Meeting Dates, Topics

Paul Sittig, NCNMEDD, noted that given the time in the meeting, he would bring the item back next month.

XIV. NMDOT Updates

District 5 – Amanda Niño, NMDOT, reminded everyone of the time extension deadline of December 9, 2022, and Dec. 31, 2022, to close out projects.

Mr. Sittig noted that neither Planning nor the Tribal Liaison were able to attend, and they had not provided him with any updates for the members.

XV. NPRTPO Planner/Program Manager Updates and Announcements

Mr. Sittig said he had no major updates beyond the call for TAP, RTP Motorized, and CRP funding.

XV. Member Input on Training and Presentations for NPRTPO

Chair Lujan asked the members if they had any requests for presentations or trainings. Jason Gonzalez, Village of Questa, asked for more in-person meeting attendance, and looked forward to meeting members. Chair Lujan said he would continue to encourage that but noted that there are increased cases of COVID-19, RSV, and the flu, which may make members more hesitant to attend in person. Lt. Governor Herrera, Nambé Pueblo, said that Zoom meetings provided him more flexibility to attend.

XVI. New Business

- A. Upcoming meeting locations and topics
 - Jan. 11, 2023** – Santa Fe Business Incubator; CY 2023 meeting topic scheduling, NPRTPO Bylaws
 - February 1, 2023** – Location TBD; Topics TBD
- B. Other items from NPRTPO members or the public

No additional items were raised.

XVII. Adjourn

Chair Lujan asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Jason Gonzales, Village of Questa, made the motion, and Lt. Governor Herrera, Nambé Pueblo, seconded it. The meeting was adjourned at 12:31 PM.