

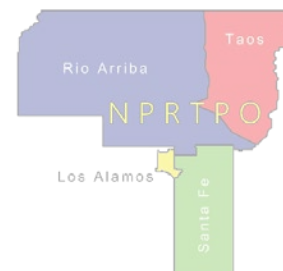


Meeting Minutes

Northern Pueblos Regional Transportation Planning Organization (NPRTPO)
Regular meeting hosted on February 6, 2023 (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 |
| 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 | Absent |
| Jason Silva | Taos County | Alternate | Present |
| Lou Baker | City of Española | Voting Member | Present |
| Elijah Mares | City of Española | Alternate | Present |
| 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 |
| | 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 |
| 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 | Absent |
| Lt. Governor Nat Herrera | Pueblo of Nambé | Alternate | Present |
| Sylvia Armijo | Picuris Pueblo | Voting Member | Present |
| | Picuris Pueblo | Alternate | Absent |
| Lillian Garcia | Pueblo of San Ildefonso | Voting Member | Present |
| Christy Ladd | 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 | 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 | Absent |
| Janay Chavarria | Pueblo of Pojoaque | Alternate | Absent |
| Anthony Mortillaro | NCRTD | Voting Member | Present |
| Bryce Gibson | NCRTD | Alternate | Present |



NCNMEDD/NPRTPO Staff

Paul Sittig Transportation Planner
 Kyla Danforth Transportation Intern

NMDOT Staff

Amanda Niño District 5 Local Government Road Fund Coordinator
 Shannon Glendenning Programs Unit Supervisor
 Ron Shutiva Tribal Liaison

Guests

Joe Fernandez Taos County Roads Supervisor
 Debra Baca Taos County Public Works
 Loren Bell Enchanted Circle Trails Association

I. Call Meeting to Order

Vice Chair Suzette Shije, Pueblo of Santa Clara, called the meeting to order at 10:04 AM.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

Jason Gonzales, Village of Questa, lead the pledge of allegiance.

III. Opening Prayer

Chair Lujan lead the opening prayer.

IV. Welcome and Introductions/Public Comments:

Chair Lujan asked if there were public comments. Christy Ladd introduced herself as the new alternative for the Pueblo of San Ildefonso.

V. Roll Call:

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

| Name | Entity | Voting Member or Alternate |
|---------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| Keith Wilson | Los Alamos County | Alternate |
| Brett Clavio | Santa Fe County | Alternate |
| Jason Silva | Taos County | Alternate |
| Lou Baker | City of Española | Voting Member |
| Patrick Nicholson | Village of Taos Ski Valley | Voting Member |
| Jason Gonzales | Village of Questa | Alternate |
| Kathryn Valdez | Jicarilla Apache Nation | Alternate |
| Lt. Gov. Nat Herrera | Nambé Pueblo | Alternate |
| Sylvia Armijo | Picuris Pueblo | Voting Member |
| Lillian Garcia | Pueblo of San Ildefonso | Voting Member |
| Sybil Cota | Ohkay Owingeh | Alternate |
| Suzette Shije, Vice Chair | Pueblo of Santa Clara | Voting Member |
| 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 if there were no requests for revisions.

Vice Chair Shije, Santa Clara Pueblo, made the motion to approve the agenda as presented. Seconded by Patrick Nicholson, Village of Taos Ski Valley.

Roll Call Vote:

| Name | Entity | Vote |
|---------------------------|----------------------------|-----------|
| Keith Wilson | Los Alamos County | Yes |
| Brett Clavio | Santa Fe County | Yes |
| Jason Silva | Taos County | Yes |
| Lou Baker | City of Española | Yes |
| Patrick Nicholson | Village of Taos Ski Valley | Yes |
| Jason Gonzales | Village of Questa | Yes |
| Kathryn Valdez | Jicarilla Apache Nation | Yes |
| Lt. Gov. Nat Herrera | Nambé Pueblo | Abstained |
| Sylvia Armijo | Picuris Pueblo | Yes |
| Lillian Garcia | Pueblo of San Ildefonso | Yes |
| Sybil Cota | Ohkay Owingeh | Yes |
| Suzette Shije, Vice Chair | Pueblo of Santa Clara | Yes |
| Vernon Lujan, Chair | Pueblo of Taos | Yes |
| Bryce Gibson | North Central RTD | Yes |

The motion passed with one abstention, all other present voting in the affirmative.

VII. Approval of the Minutes: January 11, Regular Meeting (SFBI and online)

Chair Lujan asked members to review the January 11, 2023, meeting minutes.

Paul Sittig, NCNMEDD, noted that he did not capture that Lillian Garcia was the voting member and was Christy Ladd the alternate for the Pueblo of San Ildefonso.

Jason Silva, Taos County, made a motion to accept the minutes as revised. Seconded by Keith Wilson, Los Alamos County.

Roll Call Vote:

| Name | Entity | Vote |
|-------------------|----------------------------|-----------|
| Keith Wilson | Los Alamos County | Yes |
| Brett Clavio | Santa Fe County | Yes |
| Jason Silva | Taos County | Yes |
| Lou Baker | City of Española | Abstained |
| Patrick Nicholson | Village of Taos Ski Valley | Yes |
| Jason Gonzales | Village of Questa | Yes |



| Name | Entity | Vote |
|---------------------------|-------------------------|-----------|
| Kathryn Valdez | Jicarilla Apache Nation | Yes |
| Lt. Gov. Nat Herrera | Nambé Pueblo | Abstained |
| Sylvia Armijo | Picuris Pueblo | Abstained |
| Lillian Garcia | Pueblo of San Ildefonso | Yes |
| Sybil Cota | Ohkay Owingeh | Yes |
| Suzette Shije, Vice Chair | Pueblo of Santa Clara | Yes |
| Vernon Lujan, Chair | Pueblo of Taos | Yes |
| Bryce Gibson | North Central RTD | Yes |

The motion passed with three abstentions, all other present voting in the affirmative.

VIII. Federal Agency Updates

Mr. Sittig noted that there were no federal agency representatives present.

IX. Action: RAISE Grant letters of support

Paul Sittig stated that for the current federal call for the RAISE Grant, there were three projects in development whose agencies were looking for letters of support from NPRTPO. Mr. Sittig called on Bryce Gibson, NCRTD, to describe his agency’s two applications.

Mr. Gibson noted that NCRTD was applying for funds for an expansion of their battery electric bus fleet, following successful funding from the Federal Transit Administration for two battery electric buses that are expected to be delivered in 2024. NCRTD has been in conversation with Taos Ski Valley, Inc., to provide additional services on the 341 Taos Ski Valley “Green” Route to support employee needs in a contract with Taos Ski Valley, Inc. This RAISE Grant application is for four battery electric buses, depot chargers and two en-route chargers, expanded electrical capacity, expanded parking capacity at the future Taos maintenance facility, workforce training, project management, and technical support, as well as improvements to two bus stops on the route. The total project cost is \$11.4 million.

NCRTD’s second application is for a remodel and expansion of the Jim West Regional Transit Center and the construction of a Park and Ride facility, to support NCRTD’s continued expansion. The Park and Ride amenities would include restrooms, real-time arrival displays, covered waiting areas, enhanced security provisions, and electric vehicle charging infrastructure for vehicles owned by both NCNMEDD and commuters. It is expected that this project will grow ridership by enhancing the competitiveness of public transit and improving the passenger experience. The total cost is \$11.6 million.

Mr. Sittig presented the letters of support that he had drafted for the members’ review and consideration, and asked Patrick Nicholson, Village of Taos Ski Valley, to speak on his application.



Mr. Nicholson said that the Twining Road is the principal route connecting the Kachina Basin, Wheel Peak trailhead and Williams Lake trailhead, and the Village core. The project had been presented to NMDOT for consideration of state Transportation Project Fund (TPF) funding but had not been approved to date. The project consists of extensive reconstruction, reducing the steep grade in a portion to approximately 13%, drainage improvements to reduce sediment loading into the Rio Hondo and Lake Fork Stream, which eventually feed into the Rio Grande, safety enhancements including guard rails and lighting at key intersections. The project is 1.1 mile in length, and is split into two parts, with the first section including curb, gutter, and sidewalk, with the second section being more rural in nature. Mr. Sittig noted that he had distributed an initial draft letter of support in advance of the meeting and presented a revised version from Mr. Nicholson for consideration. Mr. Nicholson added that the project had received two rounds of funding and design would be complete by mid-summer.

Mr. Sittig noted that Taos County had withdrawn their interest in applying for RAISE Grants. Jason Silva, Taos County, elaborated that the two projects are still in the planning phase and were not currently ready to apply for RAISE Grants.

Mr. Sittig said he stood for any questions or revisions to the letters, or if there were none, he would appreciate a vote of approval, to be followed by Chair Lujan’s signature on the letters. Mr. Silva made a motion to approve the letters as presented unless there is a reason for us to prioritize projects. Mr. Sittig clarified that there was no need for the RTPO to prioritize in this call for projects. Chair Lujan seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote:

| Name | Entity | Vote |
|---------------------------|----------------------------|------|
| Keith Wilson | Los Alamos County | Yes |
| Brett Clavio | Santa Fe County | Yes |
| Jason Silva | Taos County | Yes |
| Lou Baker | City of Española | Yes |
| Patrick Nicholson | Village of Taos Ski Valley | Yes |
| Jason Gonzales | Village of Questa | Yes |
| Kathryn Valdez | Jicarilla Apache Nation | Yes |
| Lt. Gov. Nat Herrera | Nambé Pueblo | Yes |
| Sylvia Armijo | Picuris Pueblo | Yes |
| Lillian Garcia | Pueblo of San Ildefonso | Yes |
| Sybil Cota | Ohkay Owingeh | Yes |
| Suzette Shije, Vice Chair | Pueblo of Santa Clara | Yes |
| Vernon Lujan, Chair | Pueblo of Taos | Yes |
| Bryce Gibson | North Central RTD | Yes |

The motion passed unanimously.



X. Discussion: TAP, RTP-Motorized Only, CRP FFY 2024+ Call Update

Paul Sittig, NCNMEDD, presented an overview the three calls for funding out from NMDOT, being the Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP), Recreational Trails Program (RTP) – Motorized Only, and the new federal program, Carbon Reduction Program (CRP). Mr. Sittig noted that TAP and RTP calls were for FFY 2024, and CRP was for FFYs 2024-26. To date, Mr. Sittig noted that he had received five applications, all broad or systemic applications, which wouldn't have site visits from the District, though District 5 staff would still review the applications for general feasibility.

The next step is that at the March regular NPRTPO, when applicants would present their projects for rating and ranking, which would lead to the projects being added to the Northern Pueblos RPTO Regional Transportation Improvement Program Recommendations (RTIPR). This information is included in the application submittal to NMDOT by March 10 by RTPO staff, then in March and April the projects reviewed and prioritized for funding, with award letters going out in April. The projects are added to the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) in May and June, with public review of the STIP through September. Federal funding would be available in October 2023, the start of Federal Fiscal Year 2024. Mr. Sittig noted that the state and federal project prioritization was reviewed by NPRTPO members in the January meeting, where members opted to keep the criteria as-is.

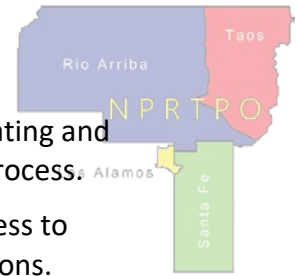
Mr. Sittig summarized the project applications:

- Los Alamos County applied for Bluetooth travel time sensors, funding for a Bicycle/Pedestrian Plan, and to upgrade existing streetlights to high efficiency LEDs, a new eligible project type under CRP;
- NCRTD applied for Blue Bus Park and Ride Final Design and Construction, and North Central RTD ADA Transition Plan Update.

Vice Chair Shije noted that the Pueblo of Santa Clara received the executed agreement for FFY 2023 TPF, but NMDOT said that federal Tribal Transportation Program (TTP) funding was not eligible for a match though NMDOT had previously said it was possible to use as match. Mr. Sittig said that TTP should be eligible as it was approved at a high level at NMDOT. Ron Shutiva, NMDOT, confirmed that the Tribes are allowed to use TTP as match, and offered to discuss further with others at NMDOT to clarify and confirm this. Chair Lujan said that Taos Pueblo had also planned to use TTP to match TPF. In the chat, Amanda Niño said she was the one who had recently stated TTP was not eligible for match, and Mr. Sittig said he would work to clarify this after the meeting. *[Note: Mr. Sittig referred Ms. Niño to the TPF FAQ from the prior year, which states "Tribal Entities may use Tribal Transportation Funds as their match, but this must be disclosed on the application. It is not the department's responsibility to verify the requirements for the Tribal Transportation funds are followed."]*

XI. FY 2024 TPF schedule, process

Paul Sittig presented the NPRTPO schedule for the FY 2024 Transportation Project Fund (TPF) call:



February 6, 2023 - NPRTPO meeting where members reviewed and approved rating and ranking criteria, the NPRTPO schedule, and TPF application requirements and process.

March 1, 2023 - NPRTPO meeting where members discuss TPF application process to date, review any new materials from NMDOT, and ask D5 and RTPO staff questions.

March 20, 2023 - Deadline for entities to submit PFFs to RTPO staff, who will track submittals & forward them to D5 staff.

April 5, 2023 - Regular NPRTPO meeting, discuss TPF applications, review TPF process.

April 25, 2023 - District to return reviewed and signed PFFs to entities.

May 3, 2023 - NPRTPO meeting for Rating and Ranking only.

May 31, 2023 - RTPO staff upload application packets and final NPRTPO rated and ranked project list, to NMDOT FTP.

Mr. Sittig noted a few differences from federal calls, including the prohibition on soft or in-kind matches and for prior or future federal funds to be used on the project (with the exception of TTP). He said that the recurring base funding is \$40 million statewide and that this is likely to increase significantly as it had in years past with support from the legislature. He said he would distribute and present additional information and is available to help develop projects with members.

XII. Northern Pueblos Regional Transportation Plan

Kyla Danforth, NCNMEDD, presented an overview of the long-range transportation plan and updates from the prior version presented. The table of contents:

Part I – Introduction: Mission Statement, Regional Overview, and Title VI Compliance

Part II – Current Conditions: County Overview, Commuting, Crash, and DUI Data

Part III – Transportation System Overview

Part IV – Community Input: Public Outreach, Goals, Objectives, Performance Measures, and Strategies

Part V – Funding Sources and Revenue Streams, and projects in the region

Appendix: Survey Results, Inflow/Outflow Report, and Crash Maps

Sylvia Armijo, Picuris Pueblo, asked if there was a list of acronyms. Ms. Danforth said she could include that. Chair Lujan asked if there was a target date of release, and Mr. Sittig noted that today's presentation was to solicit input and pursue feedback to present a final version in the next meeting. Chair Lujan asked for a deadline to receive feedback, and Mr. Sittig said Friday, February 24 would be the cutoff date to receive feedback.

Brett Clavio, Santa Fe County, noted that he is working on a similar plan for Santa Fe County. He suggested including programs to categorize projects in the region, as he is doing for the County, such as bridge, complete streets, and safety programs. Ron



Shutiva, NMDOT, suggested splitting such a list into projects with NMDOT and those with the Tribes.

XII. NMDOT Updates

District 5 – Amanda Niño stated she had no updates at this time.

Planning – Shannon Glendenning shared updates on deadlines, including the Tribal Transportation Program Safety Funds application deadline was extended to March 9. She noted that the FFY 2022 awards included a number of projects for Tribes in New Mexico, and that the same process will be in place for FFY 2026 funds. Ms. Glendenning also highlighted [the webinar on preparing to apply for discretionary federal grants](#) [Note: this is the slides from the Feb. 8, 2023 presentation]. She also said to reach out to herself and JoAnn Garcia (Shannon.Glendenning@dot.nm.gov , 505-231-4300 ; JoAnn.Garcia2@dot.nm.gov , 505-372-8358) with questions on TAP, RTP, or CRP. She also noted that there is a new ADA/Title VI Program Coordinator, Isabel Benavidez, (Isabel.Benavidez@dot.nm.gov , 505-469-6131), who is distributing her records of ADA and Title VI compliance.

Tribal Liaison – Ron Shutiva said he was in a meeting with Indian Affairs, New Mexico legislators, and Tribal leadership, including President Velarde from the Jicarilla Apache Nation, who shared his concerns such as NM-64 from Dulce to Farmington. Mr. Shutiva suggested quarterly updates or meetings with NMDOT to raise issues and concerns, such as the availability of millings for road maintenance. Mr. Shutiva also offered to set up government to government meetings between any Tribe and the Cabinet Secretary. Chair Lujan noted that Governor Lujan Grisham appointed a new Cabinet Secretary to the Department of Indian Affairs, former Governor James Mountain from San Ildefonso Pueblo.

LTAP – Ron Shutiva noted that there were no updates beyond new trainings.

XV. NPRTPO Planner/Program Manager Updates and Announcements

Mr. Sittig said was coordinating calls for projects, wrapping up the RTP, and planning for next major undertakings once the RTP is done.

XVI. Member Input on Training and Presentations for NPRTPO

Chair Lujan asked the members if they had any additional training or presentation requests. Hearing none, he moved onto the next topic.



XVI. New Business

A. Upcoming meeting locations and topics

March 1, 2023 – Santa Fe County offered to host; members discussed holding a potluck lunch, to be coordinated later; NP RTP finalization

March 5, 2023 – Red River; NMDOT Env Intro; LTAP Grant Writing training

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. Lt. Gov. Nat Herrera, Nambé Pueblo, made the motion, and Brett Clavio, Santa Fe County, seconded it. The meeting was adjourned at 11:17 AM.