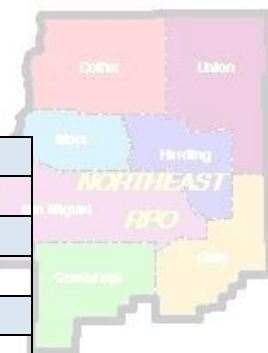




Regular Meeting Minutes  
 Northeast Regional Transportation Planning Organization (NERTPO)  
 Hosted by the Eastern Plains Council of Governments and  
 North Central New Mexico Economic Development District  
 ONLINE  
 October 27<sup>th</sup>, 2021  
 10:00 a.m.

**Meeting Attendees**

Present	Jason Phillips	City of Raton	Alternate
Present	Heather Dostie	City of Santa Rosa	Voting Member
Present	Bret E. Wier	Colfax County	Voting Member
Present	Robert Thompson	Colfax County	Alternate
Present	Gerald Garcia	San Miguel County	Alternate
Present	Samuel Blea	Town of Springer	Voting Member
Present	Shawn Jeffrey - Vice-Chair	Village of Cimarron	Voting Member
Present	Richard Cordova-Chair	Village of Eagle Nest	Voting Member
Present	Cynthia Lee	Village of San Jon	Voting Member
Present	Ralph Lopez	City of Tucumcari	Alternate
Present	Ferron Lucero	Town of Clayton	Voting Member
Present	Mary Berglund	Village of Eagle Nest	Alternate
Present	Sarah Arias	Town of Springer	Alternate
Present	Wanda Martinez	Mora County	Alternate
Present	Ken Flores	Guadalupe County	Alternate
Present	Ernest Sanchez	Town of Clayton	Alternate
Present	Karen Gates	Village of Maxwell	Voting Member
Present	Julie Kulhan	Village of Angel Fire	Alternate
Present	Monica Abeyta	Guadalupe County	Voting Member
Present	Arnold Lopez	San Miguel County	Voting Member
Absent	Jennifer Baca	Harding County	Voting Member
Absent	Clay Kiesling	Union County	Voting Member
Absent	Jay Mitchell	Village of Angel Fire	Voting Member
Absent	Daniel Gurule	City of Las Vegas	Voting Member
Absent	Larry Moore	Quay County	Voting Member
Absent	John N. Romero	Mora County	Voting Member
Absent	Pedro Laumbach	Harding County	Alternate
Absent	Matthew Baca	Village of Roy	Alternate
Absent	Danny Laumbach	Village of Roy	Voting Member
Absent	Scott Berry	City of Raton	Voting Member
Absent	Daniel Zamora	Quay County	Alternate
Absent	Vacant	City of Las Vegas	Alternate
Absent	Audrey Caufield	City of Santa Rosa	Alternate
Absent	Vicki Strand	City of Tucumcari	Voting Member



Absent	Angie Gonzales	Union County	Alternate
Absent	Renee Ledoux	Village of Cimarron	Alternate
Absent	Lee Dixon	Village of Des Moines	Voting Member
Absent	Scott Warner	Village of Des Moines	Alternate
Absent	Diane Brown	Village of Folsom	Voting Member
Absent	Mike Schoonover	Village of Folsom	Alternate
Absent	Lynn Wiseman	Village of Grenville	Alternate
Absent	Mignon Saddoris	Village of Grenville	Voting Member
Absent	Shannon Aikman	Village of House	Voting Member
Absent	Sherwin W. Martin	Village of House	Alternate
Absent	Russell Feerer	Village of Logan	Alternate
Absent	Scott Parnell	Village of Logan	Voting Member
Absent	Joanna Taylor	Village of Maxwell	Alternate
Absent	Connie Cook	Village of Mosquero	Alternate
Absent	Daniela Johnson	Village of Mosquero	Voting Member
Absent	Telesfor Benavidez	Village of Pecos	Voting Member
Absent	Vacant	Village of Pecos	Alternate
Absent	Wade Lane	Village of San Jon	Alternate
Absent	Laudente Quintana	Village of Wagon Mound	Voting Member
Absent	Nora Sanchez	Village of Wagon Mound	Alternate

## Planners, NMDOT, and State Agencies

Raul Rodriguez III – Eastern Plains Council of Governments (EPCOG)

Vincent Soule – Eastern Plains Council of Governments (EPCOG)

Paul Sittig– North Central NM Economic Development District (NCNMEDD)

Chris Madrid – North Central NM Economic Development District (NCNMEDD)

Kyla Danforth – North Central NM Economic Development District (NCNMEDD)

Samantha Sandoval – NMDOT LGRF Program Planner

John Herrera – NMDOT District 4 Assistant Engineer

Rebecca Martinez – City of Las Vegas

Clay Koontz – City of Santa Rosa Stantech Engineer



## I. Call to Order

The Meeting was called to order at 10:11 AM by Chairman Richard Cordova.

## II. Pledge of Allegiance/New Mexico State Flag

The Pledge of Allegiance and salute to the New Mexico State Flag were led by Vice-Chairwoman Shawn Jeffrey.

## III. Welcome

Chairman Richard Cordova welcomed everyone to the virtual meeting and allowed for introductions.

Individual introductions were conducted by all in attendance.

## IV. Approval of Agenda

Chairman Richard Cordova opened the review and approval of the agenda.  
 Motion to approve the agenda as presented: Shawn Jeffrey, Village of Cimarron  
 Second: Karen Gates, Village of Maxwell

Roll call:

Entity	Representative	Vote
Colfax County	Bret E. Wier	Yes
Guadalupe County	Ken Flores	Yes
Mora County	Wanda Martinez	Yes
San Miguel County	Gerald Garcia	Yes
Village of Cimarron	Shawn Jeffrey	Yes
Town of Clayton	Ferron Lucero	Yes
Village of Eagle Nest	Mary Berglund	Yes
City of Raton	Jason Phillips	Yes
Village of San Jon	Cynthia Lee	Yes
Village of Angel Fire	Julie Kulhan	Yes
City of Santa Rosa	Heather Dostie	Yes
Town of Springer	Samuel Blea	Yes
Village of Eagle Nest	Richard Cordova	Yes
Village of Maxwell	Karen Gates	Yes

Cities of Las Vegas, Tucumcari, Villages of House, Des Moines, Mosquero, Pecos, Folsom, Grenville, Logan, Roy, Quay County, Harding County, Union County, and the Village of Wagon Mound were absent. Motion carries.

**V. Approval of Minutes** (September Meeting-EPCOG and NCNMEDD virtual)



Chairman Richard Cordova opened the review and approval of the previous monthly meeting. With no comments provided, the Chairman moved for a motion.

Motion to approve the minutes as presented by Jason Phillips, City of Raton  
Second: Cynthia Lee, Village of San Jon

Roll call:

Entity	Representative	Vote
Colfax County	Bret E. Wier	Yes
Guadalupe County	Ken Flores	Yes
Mora County	Wanda Martinez	Yes
San Miguel County	Gerald Garcia	Yes
Village of Cimarron	Shawn Jeffrey	Yes
Town of Clayton	Ferron Lucero	Yes
Village of Eagle Nest	Mary Berglund	Yes
City of Raton	Jason Phillips	Yes
Village of San Jon	Cynthia Lee	Yes
Village of Angel Fire	Julie Kulhan	Yes
City of Santa Rosa	Heather Dostie	Yes
Town of Springer	Samuel Blea	Yes
Village of Eagle Nest	Richard Cordova	Yes
Village of Maxwell	Karen Gates	Yes

Cities of Las Vegas, Tucumcari, Villages of House, Des Moines, Mosquero, Pecos, Folsom, Grenville, Logan, Roy, Quay County, Harding County, Union County, and the Village of Wagon Mound were absent.

With all present voting in the affirmative, motion carries.

**VI. Discussion: EPCOG Amendment FFY 2021 Q4** (Raul Rodriguez III, EPCOG)

Raul Rodriguez III, EPCOG, updated the membership concerning the EPCOG formal Amendment request FFY 2021 Q4. Mr. Rodriguez III advised that the amendment request will have to be resubmitted and voted on for approval by membership during the next regular meeting scheduled for November 30<sup>th</sup>. The Amendment will include the same information with added carryforward amount into FFY 2022. Meetings have been attended with NERTPO Government Planning Liaison, Joe Moriarty and Government to Government Planning Division Unit Supervisor, Rosa Kozub to ensure that EPCOG will perform necessary actions to submit and attain approval for formal Amendment request FFY 2021 Q4. Mr. Rodriguez III suggest an action/approval item on the proceeding regular meeting agenda for membership to vote and approve the formal amendment request.



## **VII. Discussion: Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) Update – (NERTPO Planners)**

Paul Sittig and Raul Rodriguez III updated the membership that planners have made significant progress updating the NERTPO Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) along with NCNMEDD Transportation Intern, Kyla Danforth. Mr. Sittig suggested that attention should be focused to complete the sections that are incomplete and presented a table of contents with incomplete sections highlighted for membership to view.

Mr. Sittig informed membership that the circled item on the table of contents has been drafted by Mr. Rodriguez III and consists of funding and revenue streams at both the state and federal levels for transportation infrastructure impacting the NERTPO region and member therein.

Mr. Sittig proposed questions to membership pertaining to usage, membership's favorite sections, and membership's opinions about what a successful RTP may look like so the updates that are supported in the current plan do not mirror the previous 2040 plan. If there is information in the former plan that is essential such as priorities, leverages of funds, also multi-member regional planning and project development.

Mr. Sittig advised membership that 2020 decennial census data per county has been released and will be an outstanding tool to fill in gaps and use crash maps in the RTP document. Would NERTPO be interested in attending focus group meetings to help develop the new plan. Planners will update the membership about progress in the November regular meeting to discuss revisions, with a focus on implementation. Regardless of focus group attendance, planners project to have the plan completed in early 2022.

Chairman Cordova stated inclusion of regional projects and benefits thereof should be included into the updated RTP. Commissioner Weir agrees and believes that there should not be a subcommittee but include this issue on the agenda monthly to update the plan. Mr. Weir also commended the RTPO and the Chairman on our continued efforts to ensure that the NERTPO region continues to receive the largest amount of state funding in all 7 NMDOT state districts. Chairman Cordova instructed NERTPO Planners to include this agenda item for proceeding meetings with a target finishing time of 4-6 months although there is no NMDOT hard deadline.

## **VIII. Discussion: TAP, RTP and CMAQ timelines and updates – (NERTPO Planners)**

Raul Rodriguez III updated members that the end of October is the NMDOT deadline for submission of applications for federally funded TAP, RTP and CMAQ programs to the FTP site.

Paul Sittig advised that the rating and ranking of these projects will take place today and the next steps will be passed onto NMDOT for board review and inclusion in the STIP (Statewide Transportation Improvement Plan). Applicants will receive a letter of award and must return them to NMDOT in March 2022. Members receiving funding are then required to attend an orientation webinar outlining critical deadlines and federal processes. Projects will begin in FFY 2023. There are 2 federal program applicants for the next funding cycle.



Entity	Representative	Vote
Colfax County	Bret E. Wier	Yes
Guadalupe County	Ken Flores	Yes
Mora County	Wanda Martinez	Yes
San Miguel County	Gerald Garcia	Yes
Village of Cimarron	Shawn Jeffrey	Yes
Town of Clayton	Ferron Lucero	Yes
Village of Eagle Nest	Mary Berglund	Yes
City of Raton	Jason Phillips	Yes
Village of San Jon	Cynthia Lee	Yes
Village of Angel Fire	Julie Kulhan	Yes
City of Santa Rosa	Heather Dostie	Yes
Town of Springer	Samuel Blea	Yes
Village of Eagle Nest	Richard Cordova	Yes
Village of Maxwell	Karen Gates	Yes

## IX. Action/ approval: Rating and Ranking – (TAP, RTP and CMAQ applicants)

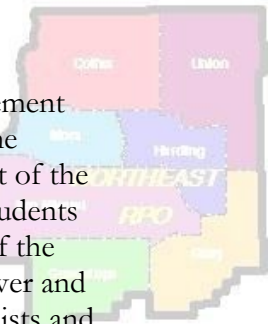
The City of Santa Rosa representative, Heather Dostie, presented the application for TAP program funding for LED Street lighting updates. The city of Santa Rosa applies for reimbursement from the program outlines. The proposed project is for preliminary planning and final design plans, bidding advertisement, construction management and observation during construction and project closeout for approximately 36,000 linear feet (LF).

Professional services for the preparation of preliminary and final engineering design plans will include specifications, estimates, topographic and utility survey, geotechnical survey, and preparation of NMDOT project certificates. This project is listed as a priority item on the City's ICIP. The project justification includes safety for travel along Historic Route 66, Blue Hole and other tourist sites. The project will provide a safer environment for all pedestrians, cyclists, and motorist traffic traveling along the proposed project improvement routes. The project will upgrade the City's lighting network to state-of-the art energy efficient LED lights. The project will include a lighting analysis to determine the appropriate lighting based upon industry standards, including the Illumination Engineering Society (IES) recommendations. The lighting levels will support multi-modal transportation and sidewalk lighting levels (for pedestrians), and lighting levels on the street for vehicles and bicycles. Improved lighting will lower the risk for night-time crashes and enhance safety.

The project will be constructed in the City of Santa Rosa's public Right of Way (ROW) along multiple stretches of roadway. The project will be about \$1.2 million.

The San Miguel representative, Gerald Garcia, presented the project for Cinder Trail. Total project cost is \$771,120.09 with a local 14.56% match of \$112,275.09. The Cinder Trail HMA Overlay, repair and ADA Improvement Project will improve system reliability by maintaining the continuous regional multi-use trail system connecting the south end of the City of Las Vegas to the north end of the city. This section of trail has many failing areas that need to be addressed for functionality and safety. This project will help maintain a safe and reliable route for bicyclist and pedestrians to travel through the City of Las Vegas and portions of San Miguel County. This project addresses the goal for system connectivity by making sure this regional trail system will continue to be a full trail system from UNWC to LCC to NMHU. The project will enhance mobility of the residents who do not have access to a motorized





vehicle and improves non driver access and enhanced mobility, community improvement activities and environmental mitigation. The project will improve the condition of the infrastructure by improving the existing asphalt paved surface on the designated part of the trail system. By completion of this project the community can continue to engage students utilizing the youth conservation corps for enhancement and ongoing maintenance of the project thus creating jobs/summer programs for the preservation of the Gallinas River and landscape of the connection of trails. The project will improve safety for both bicyclists and pedestrians by maintaining the designated multi use trail that is separate from vehicular traffic on adjacent roadways. ADA and ABA guideline improvements will be maintained to keep ROW improvements for residents and improved safety mechanisms. Proper striping along the trail system and at the roadway intersections will also improve the operational safety of the trail system and adjacent roadways.

The submitted membership rating and ranking form were tallied and averages for applicants are as follows:

Santa Rosa: 336/ 33.3 average

San Miguel County: 359/ 32.6 average

RTIPR will be updated and distributed to membership.

Motion to update RTIPR with TAP, RTP and CMAQ federally funded programs for submittal to NMDOT with entity applications.

Motion: Shawn Jeffrey, Village of Cimarron

Second: Karen Gates, Village of Maxwell

Roll call:

Entity	Representative	Vote
Colfax County	Bret E. Wier	Yes
Guadalupe County	Ken Flores	Yes
Mora County	Wanda Martinez	Yes
San Miguel County	Gerald Garcia	Yes
Village of Cimarron	Shawn Jeffrey	Yes
Town of Clayton	Ferron Lucero	Yes
Village of Eagle Nest	Mary Berglund	Yes
City of Raton	Jason Phillips	Yes
Village of San Jon	Cynthia Lee	
Village of Angel Fire	Julie Kulhan	Yes
City of Santa Rosa	Heather Dostie	
Town of Springer	Samuel Blea	Yes
Village of Eagle Nest	Richard Cordova	Yes
Village of Maxwell	Karen Gates	Yes

Cities of Las Vegas, Tucumcari, Villages of House, Des Moines, Mosquero, Pecos, Folsom, Grenville, Logan, Roy, Quay County, Harding County, Union County, and the Village of Wagon Mound were absent. Abstention from City of Santa Rosa and Village of San Jon due to technical difficulties.

With all present voting in the affirmative, motion carries.



**X. Action/ approval: NERTPO Title VI Review and approval – (NERTPO Planners)**

Mr. Sittig presented the NERTPO Title VI Plan for review and approval. Mr. Sittig advised membership that updates contained revisions to include NCNMEDD and contact information for points of contact for Sandy Chancey, Executive Direct of EPCOG, and Monica Abeita, Executive Director of NCNMEDD. Also contact information for program planners/managers Raul Rodriguez III, EPCOG, and Paul Sittig, NCNMEDD. There were no major plan or verbiage updates.

Chairman Cordova suggested that approval is tabled until proceeding meeting to ensure membership review and be prepared to approve Title VI Plan.

Motion to table the approval of NERTPO Title VI Plan until proceeding meeting made by Bret E. Weir, Colfax County

Second: Richard Cordova, Village of Eagle Nest.

Roll call:

Entity	Representative	Vote
Colfax County	Bret E. Wier	Yes
Guadalupe County	Ken Flores	Yes
Mora County	Wanda Martinez	Yes
San Miguel County	Gerald Garcia	Yes
Village of Cimarron	Shawn Jeffrey	Yes
Town of Clayton	Ferron Lucero	Yes
Village of Eagle Nest	Mary Berglund	Yes
City of Raton	Jason Phillips	Yes
Village of San Jon	Cynthia Lee	
Village of Angel Fire	Julie Kulhan	Yes
City of Santa Rosa	Heather Dostie	
Town of Springer	Samuel Blea	Yes
Village of Eagle Nest	Richard Cordova	Yes
Village of Maxwell	Karen Gates	Yes

Cities of Las Vegas, Tucumcari, Villages of House, Des Moines, Mosquero, Pecos, Folsom, Grenville, Logan, Roy, Quay County, Harding County, Union County, and the Village of Wagon Mound were absent. Abstention from City of Santa Rosa and Village of San Jon due to technical difficulties.

With all present voting in the affirmative, motion carries.

**XI. Discussion: NERTPO Planners/ Program Manager Reports – (NERTPO Planners)**

Raul Rodriguez III, EPCOG, updated membership of U.S. legislation pertaining to the



massive Infrastructure spending bill that will be up for a vote on Tuesday of the following week. Mr. Rodriguez III also advised that Shannon Glendening is the only planner at the TAP, RTP and CMAQ divisions of the NMDOT. EPCOG had a quarterly board meeting. Mr. Rodriguez III also advised membership to please complete membership confirmation forms that can be found at the bottom of NERTPO meeting reminders and on the RTPO.org website.



Paul Sittig, NCNMEDD, advised that planners are continually working on the RTP and federally funded TAP, RTP and CMAQ applications for submittal on October 29<sup>th</sup>, 2021. Rosa Kozub has notified that NMDOT shared federal comment surveys pertaining to greenhouse gas emissions and comment surveys for STIP and TIP project implementations.

**XII. Discussion:** NMDOT District IV Update (Mr. James M. Gallegos, PE – District IV Engineer and NMDOT Staff)

Paul Sittig, NCNMEDD, updated for NMDOT who was committed to prior meetings. Mr. Sittig updated that Samantha Sandoval, LGRF Program Planner, has received entity's agreement letters and there is a need with new TPF funding to update who consultants and what percentage of designs are done. Please email Samantha as soon as possible. Also, if you have not sent in your LGRF match waiver requests, please do so as soon as possible. Mr. Sittig advised membership that there will be and NMDOT Highway Safety Improvement Plan (HSIP) update webinar next week presented by Jason Coffey at 10:00 AM on Tuesday.

**XIII. Project Status Update** (Local Government Members)

Being none, moving on.

**XIV. New Business**

- A. General Comments and Announcements from NERTPO members and Public Comment
- B. Suggested Agenda items for upcoming meetings – nothing presented by members.
- C. Meeting Location Amendments – to be virtual, until the health advisory status changes.

- ❖ **November 2021** - Virtual
- ❖ **December 2021** – Cancelled
- ❖ **January 2022** -

**XV. Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn: Shawn Jeffrey, Village of Cimarron  
Second: Jason Phillips, City of Raton

With there being no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 11:43 AM.