

1                                   **MESILLA VALLEY METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION**  
2   **TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

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4    The following are minutes for the meeting of the Technical Advisory Committee of the  
5    Mesilla Valley Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) which was held August 4,  
6    2016 at 4:00 p.m. in the City of Las Cruces Council Chambers, 700 N. Main, Las  
7    Cruces, New Mexico.

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9    **MEMBERS PRESENT:**     Mike Bartholomew (CLC Transit)  
10                                Bill Childress (BLM)  
11                                Todd Gregory (LCPS)  
12                                Jolene Herrera (NMDOT) (departed 4:31)  
13                                Aaron Chavarria proxy Harold Love (NMDOT) (arrived 4:11)  
14                                Debbi Lujan (Town of Mesilla)  
15                                Rene Molina (DAC Eng.)  
16                                Tony Trevino (CLC Public Works)  
17                                John Gwynne (DAC Flood Commission)  
18                                Dale Harrell (NMSU)  
19                                Stephen Howie (EBID)  
20                                Soogyu Lee (CLC) (arrived 4:11)  
21                                Larry Shannon (Town of Mesilla)

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23   **MEMBERS ABSENT:**     David Armijo (SCRTD)  
24                                Luis Marmolejo (DAC Planning)

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26   **STAFF PRESENT:**       Tom Murphy (MPO Staff)  
27                                Andrew Wray (MPO Staff)  
28                                Michael McAdams (MPO Staff)  
29                                Zachary Taraschi (MPO)

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31   **OTHERS PRESENT:**     Aaron Sussman - Bohannan Huston  
32                                J.B. Pruett  
33                                Bill Beesman  
34                                Rita Grusen Meyer  
35                                Becky Baum, RC Creations, LLC, Recording Secretary

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37   **1.     CALL TO ORDER (4:06 PM)**

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39    Gwynne:     Good afternoon. It is 4:04 in the afternoon on August the 4th so let's get  
40                    the meeting started for the Mesilla Valley Metropolitan Planning  
41                    Organization Technical Advisory Committee. Man that's a mouthful.  
42  
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1 **2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

2  
3 Gwynne: So first of all is there a motion to approve the agenda? Are there any  
4 changes to the agenda from anyone? Okay. I'll accept a motion to  
5 approve the agenda.

6  
7 Trevino: Motion to approve.

8  
9 Bartholomew: I'll second.

10  
11 Gwynne: All those in favor?

12  
13 MOTION PASSES UNANIMOUSLY.

14  
15 **3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

16  
17 **3.1 May 5, 2016**

18  
19 Gwynne: Okay. The next item on the agenda is Approval of the Minutes from the  
20 May 5th meeting. Has everyone had a chance to review the minutes?  
21 Are there any changes to the minutes?

22  
23 Bartholomew: Mr. Chair. On the page, I, I guess it's page 11, it, well it's the one that  
24 has 11, 12 at the bottom of it of the minutes under the Committee and  
25 Staff Comments, line 45, it says "Caddy VL," it should be "A" or  
26 "CAD/AVL", CAD/AVL.

27  
28 Gwynne: Okay. Are there any other corrections or changes to the minutes? I'll  
29 accept a motion to approve the minutes as, as adjusted.

30  
31 Bartholomew: So moved.

32  
33 Childress: I'll second it.

34  
35 Gwynne: It's been moved and seconded. All those in favor?

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37 MOTION PASSES UNANIMOUSLY.

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39 Gwynne: Opposed?

40  
41 **4. PUBLIC COMMENT**

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43 Gwynne: Okay. Let's move on to item number four on the agenda which is Public  
44 Comment. Is there any public comment? Seeing none.

1 **5. ACTION ITEMS**

2  
3 **5.1 Amendments to the 2016-2021 Transportation Improvement Program**

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5 Gwynne: We'll move on to item number five. This is Amendment to the 2016  
6 through 2021 Transportation Improvement Plan. Staff.

7  
8 ANDREW WRAY GAVE HIS PRESENTATION.

9  
10 Bartholomew: Thank you. Yes the, the, the State used to allocate the 5339 funds we  
11 get to the small urban systems such as Las Cruces and we had a  
12 Memorandum of Agreement on how we would use it with the State DOT.  
13 The State DOT is now just authorizing the small urbans to apply directly to  
14 FTA and so this is the reason why we have to have it in our own TIP and  
15 STIP. And that will be for purchase of a bus. And I'll take any questions if  
16 anybody has them.

17  
18 Gwynne: Are there any questions? Seeing none I'll entertain a motion to approve  
19 the amendment to the 2016-2021 Transportation Improvement Program.

20  
21 Herrera: I'll make the motion to approve the amendment.

22  
23 Bartholomew: Second.

24  
25 Gwynne: All those in favor?

26  
27 MOTION PASSES UNANIMOUSLY.

28  
29 Gwynne: Opposed? Seeing none, motion carries.

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31 **5.2 Multi-Use Loop Trail Alternative Selection**

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33 Gwynne: Okay. Let's move on to the Multi-Use Trail Alternative Selection. Andrew.

34  
35 ANDREW WRAY GAVE HIS PRESENTATION.

36  
37 Gwynne: Thank you Andrew. Let's go back to the, to the map that shows the  
38 alternatives please.

39  
40 Wray: I'm assuming you mean all of them.

41  
42 Gwynne: Yes.

43  
44 Wray: There we go.

45  
46 Gwynne: Okay. Are there any questions or comments from, from the Committee?

1  
2 Bartholomew: I just had one clarify, clarification question. On, on Option A and B you  
3 said that there is that one stretch of Calle del Norte that was constrained  
4 and you couldn't have a continuous path. It was looks like, looking like it  
5 showed it on the Options A and B we saw before.  
6  
7 Wray: It does. The reason for that distinction between Options A and B and  
8 Option E is because in order to utilize NM-28 there's, there's no trail,  
9 there's no right-of-way to put a trail in at that point anyway so it would be,  
10 it, it would just have to be either a lane or "Share the Road" signs which  
11 would be with, with that portion of Calle del Norte. All that's possible there  
12 would be a "Share the Road" sign and saying, "Trail picks up that way."  
13 So that's the reason why we went in Options A and B and, and went  
14 ahead and included that portion of Calle del Norte whereas the, the  
15 intention of including Laguna really is to try to move the trail as far away  
16 from vehicular traffic as possible. And so we thought in that spirit we  
17 needed to make it clear on the maps that it, it's not going to be contiguous.  
18  
19 Bartholomew: Okay. Thank you.  
20  
21 Gwynne: Other questions/comments from the Committee?  
22  
23 Lujan: I know the Mayor has, is against having the trail on NM-28 due to all the  
24 traffic. How do you feel, DOT, or Aaron? Do you know?  
25  
26 Chavarria: Yeah. Through the Town of Mesilla limits right-of-way's restricted already  
27 so it'd be a tight fit in there.  
28  
29 Herrera: Mr. Chair. If I could just add a little to the discussion. I'm also a member  
30 of the BPAC and so there was a lot of discussion about this at the meeting  
31 in July and the reason that Option D was chosen I think is because at that  
32 meeting I asked MPO staff if they had met with the Town of Mesilla and if  
33 they had any intention of developing any of these projects, and at that time  
34 Tom mentioned that the Town had expressed interest in possibly  
35 developing the trail, Tom I think it was on Calle del Norte. Is that what you  
36 told me? And that connects with the Option D/E kind of route. So that's  
37 sort of why we chose that option.  
38  
39 Lujan: And that is correct. The, Mesilla is putting an application for TAP for on  
40 Calle del Norte to try to get some funding for that.  
41  
42 Gwynne: Other questions or comments from any of the Committee Members? I, I  
43 do have one question from EBID. Have you had a chance to review the  
44 options extensively? Have you guys talked about it and, and is there a  
45 recommendation from EBID?  
46

1 Howie: We have discussed it. It has been some time though. I'll need to touch  
2 base with Zach and Gary once again but we are very eager to work with  
3 whatever entity we need to, to establish these trails. Cause we do like to  
4 promote you know the public getting out and enjoying our scenery and  
5 whatnot so we're willing to work with whoever.  
6

7 Gwynne: So it's your, it's your opinion then that, that they would be comfortable  
8 with, with any of the options that we're, they'd find a way to work with, with  
9 the Town or the County however it may be?  
10

11 Howie: Yes sir. That's correct.  
12

13 Lujan: We have talked to EBID but it's been quite a long time. They did mention  
14 if we did use one of the laterals they prefer the east side and it's been  
15 quite a while so I'm not sure if that still stands because they did mention  
16 the east side only if we used the laterals.  
17

18 Howie: Yes. The east, east bank or left bank of those laterals would be more  
19 ideal, I guess. Just the way our equipment operates and maintenance  
20 responsibilities are handled so.  
21

22 Gwynne: Okay. Thank you. Any other questions or comments? I guess since  
23 we've already voted on this once what we need to do at this point is  
24 decide if we're going to, going to re-vote, is that correct?  
25

26 Wray: Mr. Chair. I think under the circumstances a new vote would be best  
27 whether, whether you choose to endorse the, the previous  
28 recommendation or make a new one but I think we'd need an, a new  
29 action from this Committee.  
30

31 Gwynne: Okay. Well I guess the best way to do that then is, is, do we need to just  
32 vote on, on a new alternative then ...  
33

34 Wray: I believe the best way to proceed would be to open the floor for a, a, a, a,  
35 a motion for, in favor of one of the options ...  
36

37 Gwynne: This particular ...  
38

39 Wray: Would, would be the, the way to proceed.  
40

41 Gwynne: Okay. I would entertain a motion at this point to approve one of the  
42 alternatives.  
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44 Herrera: Mr. Chair.  
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46 Gwynne: Yes.

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Herrera: I move that we propose Option D as the alternative to the Policy Committee.

Gwynne: Okay. Do I hear a second?

Trevino: Second that.

Gwynne: We couldn't hear, was it B or D?

Herrera: I'm sorry. It was Option D.

Gwynne: That's right. D. Do I hear a second?

Trevino: Second that.

Gwynne: Okay. Any more discussion? All those in favor?

MOTION PASSES UNANIMOUSLY.

Gwynne: Opposed? Seeing none, the motion carries for Option D.

**6. DISCUSSION ITEMS**

**6.1 Missouri Avenue Study Corridor Presentation**

Gwynne: Okay. Let's move on to item number six and this is Discussion of the Missouri Avenue Study Corridor Presentation.

Wray: Thank you Mr. Chair. We're very pleased to have Mr. Aaron Sussman from Bohannon Huston here to present to you today. Let me just get his presentation loaded.

AARON SUSSMAN GAVE HIS PRESENTATION.

Gwynne: Are there questions from the Committee Members?

Bartholomew: Your comment about the Option 6 being really quite popular among, I guess, you mentioned that early on, I would, I would agree with that. I, I actually live up in that neighborhood. I walk almost daily out in that open area out there and there's a lot, I'm not the only one. There's a, it's very recreational area and I, I really see an advantage for quality of life in the community to kind of keep that in mind. Lot of wildlife out there. I, I've, I, I can see where that, that was a popular option.

1 Gwynne: Other, other questions/comments from the Committee? I do have a, a just  
2 kind of a comment. I know that there is a lot of traffic that goes up  
3 Lohman during our rush hour periods and the Missouri Avenue has been  
4 talked about for some time as a potential relief and I know that, that the  
5 residents up in that area would be very resistant, to say the least. So I  
6 agree. I think if, if that option is chosen it'd have to be something that  
7 would be thoroughly vetted and, and really looked at it in study. Is there  
8 plans to do that? I'm, I don't think it's in the scope of your work at this  
9 point, is it?

10  
11 Sussman: It's not in the scope of our work to consider that at this point. At this point  
12 we can definitively say that if Missouri were extended there would be  
13 impacts. Where we stop short and, and where our scope is more limited  
14 is to say what should be done to, to minimize those impacts. We can give  
15 rough estimates of the magnitude of that additional traffic and it's not  
16 insubstantial. We're talking several thousand additional trips per day at  
17 least through the preliminary travel demand modeling. So we can  
18 diagnose that that is clearly an issue and if that were to be pursued, that's  
19 again why at this point what, we're saying that if, if that's to be considered  
20 thoroughly then, then really understanding those impacts, ways to manage  
21 those impacts, and whether those impacts are necessary or whether  
22 there's other alternative options for addressing the regional traffic flow  
23 patterns are, are out there.

24  
25 Gwynne: Okay. Other questions? Comments? Thank you very much for your time  
26 and your presentation. We look forward ...

27  
28 Sussman: Thank you sir.

29  
30 Gwynne: To seeing this again once you've vetted it a little bit more and can give us  
31 more information.

32  
33 Sussman: All right thank you. Let me just add if you don't mind, if there are any  
34 questions or comments or concerns please feel free to e-mail us. We're  
35 still in sort of the last stages of data collection and, and gathering input so  
36 if you have any comments we'd, we'd love to hear them.

37  
38 Gwynne: Thank you very much.

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40 Sussman: Thank you.

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42 **7. COMMITTEE AND STAFF COMMENTS**

43  
44 **7.1 City of Las Cruces, Dona Ana County, Town of Mesilla, Las Cruces**  
45 **Public Schools, RoadRUNNER Transit, and SCRTD Project Updates**  
46

1 Gwynne: Okay. Well let's move on to comments from the Committees and Staff  
2 Members. Start with City of Las Cruces.  
3

4 Trevino: Just two projects. We have the Las Cruces Dam Trails which is LC00130.  
5 Paving has been ongoing for probably about a month now and they are  
6 getting tight with the schedule but it's coming along real nice and hopefully  
7 by the end of the month we should have substantial completion on that  
8 project.  
9 The El, the El Paseo Safety Project, LC00190 is ahead of the  
10 schedule at this point. The major road work is done. They still lack some  
11 medians and a few other infrastructure that needs to be done but that's  
12 looking good and is on, on target to be completed by schedule. So that's  
13 it.  
14

15 Gwynne: Okay. Dona Ana County.  
16

17 Molina: Also two, two projects. Dripping Springs/Baylor Canyon Road, that  
18 project's complete. It turned out really nice. A lot of people are already  
19 using it, continue to use it.  
20 And the intersection realignment for Camino Real and Dona Ana  
21 School Road, we're still working on right-of-way mapping and tunnel work.  
22 It's being reviewed by BO, the DOT, the general office. Thanks.  
23

24 Gwynne: Town of Mesilla.  
25

26 Shannon: At this point we don't have any current projects.  
27

28 Gwynne: Okay. Las Cruces Public Schools.  
29

30 Gregory: We're, all I really submitted was just kind of a annual summary. We're,  
31 we've been off kind of for the summer but we're picking up again here,  
32 planning for the beginning of the school year. But we did have, we did get  
33 to present at the City Council meeting. We also presented at a School  
34 Board meeting and we also presented at a national conference and a, a  
35 local conference about our position and how we continue to expand Safe  
36 Routes to School in our community as well as just actively working on  
37 updating the Action Pack, Action Plan for the MPO. Thanks.  
38

39 Gwynne: Very good. RoadRUNNER Transit.  
40

41 Bartholomew: Well, with our, related to our operating project we did implement our new  
42 transit service plan on the 25th of July so we're just starting to complete  
43 our second week of it. We've offered a fare-free service for the, those two  
44 weeks while everybody gets adjusted to it and it's really, I, I believe it's  
45 helped quite a bit. Our routes are staying on schedule. We, we've  
46 certainly had comments both way, of people that like the changes and

1 don't like the changes but I would say we've got a lot of customers that are  
2 specially happy with certain routes out there.

3  
4 Gwynne: Okay. Okay, so let's go to, is there anyone here from the South Central  
5 Regional Transit District? I didn't think so.

6  
7 **7.2 NMDOT Projects Update**

8  
9 Gwynne: Okay. So let's move on to Item 7.2, DOT.

10  
11 Chavarria: At this time we have no current construction updates.

12  
13 **7.3 MPO Staff Projects Update**

14  
15 Gwynne: Okay. MPO staff.

16  
17 Murphy: I think pretty much our, our projects are covered through Aaron's, Aaron  
18 and Mike's statements. We were involved with the Short-Range Transit  
19 Plan and then the Missouri study. And also our, our model is near the end  
20 of its getting validated and updated which he spoke to some of the results  
21 on that. But that's what, that's what's happening in the MPO world.

22  
23 Gwynne: Okay.

24  
25 **8. PUBLIC COMMENT**

26  
27 Gwynne: Do we have any Public Comment? Seeing none.

28  
29 **9. ADJOURNMENT (4:58 PM)**

30  
31 Gwynne: I would take a motion for adjournment.

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33 Bartholomew: So move that we adjourn.

34  
35 Gregory: Second.

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37 Gwynne: All those in favor?

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39 MOTION PASSES UNANIMOUSLY.

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41 Gwynne: Opposed? No. Thank you. We're adjourned.

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Chairperson

