

Susana Martinez Governor

Tom Church Cabinet Secretary

May 13, 2015

For Immediate Release

NMDOT Seeks Public Comment on New Mexico Transportation Plan

Santa Fe — The New Mexico Department of Transportation (NMDOT) invites the public to review and comment on its draft long range plan -- now called the "New Mexico Transportation Plan" (NMTP). The draft is available for download from the project web site, <u>www.newmexicotransportationplan.com</u>.

The NMTP is a performance-based and strategic framework that will guide decision-making by NMDOT and its metropolitan and regional transportation planning partners beginning at the start of the next federal fiscal year. The plan meets the requirements of federal law (23 USC 135) for each state to develop a long range plan that is based on wide and diverse stakeholder input; addresses multiple modes of transportation; is statewide in scope; and has a 20-year minimum horizon.

The NMTP establishes a 2040 vision for transportation in New Mexico and documents the state's transportation challenges and opportunities. It identifies a core set of goals and strategies to move NMDOT forward into the future. It also defines a set of agency-level actions and performance measures to hold NMDOT accountable for tracking progress toward achieving the state's transportation vision.

Recognizing that it is not realistic to solve every problem given funding limitations, the plan sets forth a "Preservation First" strategy to maintain the state's existing assets and establishes a tiered system to allocate resources to the infrastructure that is most critical for the movement of people and goods. The plan also takes a new risk-management approach to programming safety funds with an emphasis on protecting vulnerable system users.

Federal transportation law requires public involvement to be a hallmark of the statewide transportation plan development process. To achieve this goal, NMDOT built much of the plan's content from the ground up, incorporating input from 1,900 participants and almost 250 partner agencies, organizations, and tribes. Now we want to hear from you. There are a number of ways to provide input:

- Submit comments electronically through the project web site: www.newmexicotransportationplan.com.
- Submit comments via email: info@newmexicotransportationplan.com.
- Attend an upcoming presentation at the regularly scheduled metropolitan and regional planning organization meetings shown in the attached list.
- Participate in upcoming public meetings to be held in Las Cruces (June 3, 2015), Albuquerque (June 4, 2015), and Santa Fe (June 8, 2015).

The public comment period will remain open through June 26, 2015. The NMDOT encourages all New Mexico residents and visitors to participate in these events. Or, visit the project website to obtain more information and to submit comments on the draft New Mexico Transportation Plan.

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For additional information: Contact Claude Morelli, NMTP Project Manager, New Mexico Department of Transportation, (505) 660-3146, <u>claude.morelli@state.nm.us</u>.

Attachment #1

List of Upcoming Presentations on NMTP at Publicly Noticed Meetings

Key to abbreviations:

- NMDOT: New Mexico Department of Transportation
- MPO: Metropolitan Planning Organization
- RTPO: Regional Transportation Planning Organization
- NMTP: New Mexico Transportation Plan
- MTP: Metropolitan Transportation Plan
- RTP: Regional Transportation Plan

May 14, 2015 (Thursday) – Aztec, Bloomfield, Farmington, Kirtland, urbanized part of San Juan County Presentation on the NMTP to Farmington MPO Technical Committee

Location: San Juan County Commission Chambers, 100 S. Oliver Dr., Aztec, New Mexico Time: Meeting starts at 10:00 a.m. Note: This will be one item among several on the agenda.

May 15, 2015 (Friday) – Albuquerque metropolitan area

Presentation on NMTP to Mid-Region MPO Metropolitan Transportation Board

Location: Middle Rio Grande Council of Governments, 809 Copper Ave. NW, Albuquerque, New Mexico Time: Meeting starts at 10:00 a.m. Note: This will be one item among several on the agenda.

May 18, 2015 (Monday) – Santa Fe metropolitan area

Presentation on NMTP to Santa Fe MPO Technical Coordinating Committee

Location: City of Santa Fe Market Station Office, 500 Market Street, Suite 200, Santa Fe, New Mexico Time: Meeting starts at 1:30 p.m.

Note: This will be one item among several on the agenda.

May 19, 2015 (Tuesday) – Catron, Grant, Hidalgo, and Luna Counties Presentation on NMTP & Southwest Regional Transportation Plan to Southwest RTPO

Location: Southwest New Mexico COG, 1203 North Hudson Street, Silver City, New Mexico Time: Meeting starts at 10:00 a.m.

Note: This will be one item among several on the agenda.

May 19, 2015 (Tuesday) – Las Cruces metropolitan area

Presentation on NMTP to Mesilla Valley MPO, Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee

Location: Dona Ana County Commission Chambers, 845 Motel Blvd, Las Cruces, New Mexico Time: Meeting starts at 5:00 p.m.

Note: This will be one item among several on the agenda.



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May 21, 2015 (Thursday) – New Mexico State Transportation Commission *Presentation on NMTP to State Transportation Commission*

Location: City of Aztec Commission Chambers, 201 W. Chaco St., Aztec, New Mexico Time: Meeting starts at 8:00 a.m. Note: This will be one item among several on the agenda.

May 27, 2015 (Wednesday) – Colfax, Guadalupe, Harding, Mora, Quay, San Miguel, & Union Counties Presentation on NMTP & Northeast Regional Transportation Plan to Northeast RTPO

Location: Mora Valley Spinning Mill, Community Room, Highway 518 Junction 434, Mora, New Mexico Time: Meeting starts at 10:00 a.m. Note: This will be one item among several on the agenda.

May 28, 2015 (Thursday) – Aztec, Bloomfield, Farmington, Kirtland, urbanized part of San Juan County Presentation on the NMTP to Farmington MPO Policy Committee

Location: City of Aztec Commission Chambers, 201 W. Chaco St., Aztec, New Mexico Time: Meeting starts at 1:30 p.m. Note: This will be one item among several on the agenda.

May 28, 2015 (Thursday) – Santa Fe metropolitan area Presentation on the NMTP to Santa Fe MPO Transportation Policy Board

Location: City of Santa Fe Market Station Office, 500 Market Street, Suite 200, Santa Fe, New Mexico Time: Meeting starts at 4:30 p.m.

Note: This will be one item among several on the agenda.

June 3, 2015 (Wednesday) – Southern Dona Ana and Otero Counties (Santa Theresa, Sunland Park, Chaparral, etc.) Presentation on NMTP to El Paso MPO Transportation Project Advisory Committee

Location: El Paso MPO, 211 N. Florence, 2nd Floor, Room 202, El Paso, Texas 79901 Time: Meeting starts at 1:30 p.m. (MST) Note: This will be one item among several on the agenda.

June 3, 2015 (Wednesday) – Las Cruces, New Mexico

Public meeting to present NMTP draft

Location: TBD (visit www.newmexicotransportationplan.com for more information) Time: TBD

June 4, 2015 (Thursday) – Albuquerque, New Mexico

Public meeting to present NMTP draft

Location: TBD (visit www.newmexicotransportationplan.com for more information) Time: TBD

June 8, 2015 (Monday) – Santa Fe, New Mexico

Public meeting to present NMTP draft

Location: TBD (visit www.newmexicotransportationplan.com for more information) Time: TBD

Note: These events will provide the public with an opportunity to learn about the plan, ask questions, and provide comments.

June 4, 2015 (Thursday) -- Las Cruces metropolitan area Presentation on NMTP to Mesilla Valley MPO Technical Advisory Committee

Location: Dona Ana County Commission Chambers, 845 Motel Blvd, Las Cruces, New Mexico Time: 4:00 p.m. Note: This will be one item among several on the agenda.

June 5, 2015 (Friday) – Albuquerque metropolitan area Presentation on NMTP to Mid-Region MPO Technical Committee

Location: Middle Rio Grande Council of Governments, 809 Copper Ave. NW, Albuquerque, New Mexico Time: Meeting starts at 1:30 p.m. Note: This will be one item among several on the agenda.

June 8, 201 (Monday) – Los Alamos, Rio Arriba, (rural) Santa Fe, Taos Counties Presentation on NMTP & Northern Pueblos Regional Transportation Plan to Northern Pueblos RTPO

Location: North Central RTD, 1327 N. Riverside Drive, Espanola, NM 87532 Time: Meeting starts at 10:00 a.m. Note: This will be one item among several on the agenda.

June 10, 2015 (Wednesday) – Las Cruces metropolitan area Presentation on NMTP to Mesilla Valley MPO Policy Committee

Location: Dona Ana County Commission Chambers, 845 Motel Blvd, Las Cruces, NM Time: Meeting starts at 1:00 p.m.

Note: This will be one item among several on the agenda.



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June 10, 2015 (Wednesday) – Cibola, McKinley, and (rural) San Juan Counties Presentation on NMTP & Northwest Regional Transportation Plan to Northwest RTPO

Location: San Juan Fire Operations Facility, Aztec, NM (Visit www.newmexicotransportationplan.com for more information)

Time: Meeting starts at 10:00 a.m.

Note: This will be one item among several on the agenda.

June 11, 2015 (Thursday) – Torrance, northwest Sandoval, and southern Santa Fe Counties Presentation on NMTP & Mid-Region Rural Transportation Plan to Mid-Region Regional (Rural) Transportation Planning Organization

Location: MRCOG, 809 Copper Ave., NW, Albuquerque, NM Time: Meeting starts at 9:00 a.m. Note: This will be one item among several on the agenda.

June 16, 2015 (Tuesday) – Chaves, Eddy, Lea, Lincoln, Otero, Curry, De Baca, and Roosevelt Counties *Presentation on NMTP & Southeast Regional Transportation Plan to Southeast RTPO*

Location: Roswell Public Library, 301 N. Pennsylvania, Roswell, NM 88201 Time: Meeting starts at 10:00 a.m. Note: This will be one item among several on the agenda.

June 17, 2015 (Wednesday) – Socorro, Sierra, Doña Ana Counties Presentation on NMTP & South Central Regional Transportation Plan to South Central RTPO

Location: Richard Cooper Training Center, 101 Highway 195, Elephant Butte, NM Time: Meeting starts at 11:00 a.m. Note: This will be one item among several on the agenda.

June 19, 2015 (Friday) – El Paso County, southern Doña Ana and Otero Counties Presentation on NMTP to El Paso MPO Transportation Policy Board

Location: El Paso MPO, 211 N. Florence, 2nd Floor, Room 202, El Paso, TX 79901 Time: Meeting starts at 9:00 a.m. (MST) Note: This will be one item among several on the agenda.