



Santa Fe Metropolitan Planning Organization



Santa Fe MPO Transportation Policy Board

Thursday, September 25, 5:00 PM

Location: 737 Agua Fria Street (Monica Roybal Center Conference Room)

AGENDA

- ◆ Call to Order
- ◆ Approval of Agenda
- ◆ Communications from the Public
- 1. **Items for Discussion and Possible Action:**
 - A. NMDOT Target Zero Initiative – Amy Whitfield, NMDOT Target Zero Coordinator
 - B. Draft New Mexico State Rail Plan – Kevin Olinger, NMDOT Transit and Rail Division Director
- 2. **Matters from MPO Staff**
- 3. **Matters from TPB Members**
- 4. **Adjourn** - Next TPB Meeting: 11/20/25

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MINUTES

Santa Fe MPO Transportation Policy Board

Thursday September 25, 2025, 5:00PM

Location: 737 Agua Fria Street (Monica Roybal Center Conference Room)

1. Call to Order

A regular meeting of the Santa Fe MPO Transportation Policy Board was called to order by Member Alma Castro at 5:10 pm, on Thursday, September 25, 2025 at 737 Agua Fria Street, Santa Fe, NM.

2. Roll Call

MEMBERS PRESENT

- Alma Castro, Chair - City of Santa Fe
- Justin Greene, Santa Fe County
- Alan Webber, Mayor, City of Santa Fe
- Rhonda Lopez, NMDOT
- Lisa Cacari-Stone, Santa Fe County
- Adam Fulton Johnson, Santa Fe County

MEMBERS ABSENT

- Lt. Gov. Louie Hena, Pueblo of Tesuque

OTHERS PRESENT

- Leah Yngve, Santa Fe MPO
- Alison Gillette, NMDOT
- Erick Aune, Santa Fe MPO
- Kevin Olinger, NMDOT Transit and Rail Division
- Amy Whitfield, NMDOT Target Zero Coordinator

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION: A motion was made by ___Justin Green___, seconded by __Lisa Cacari Stone_____, to approve the agenda.

VOTE The motion pass on a voice vote.

4. Communications from the Public

5. Items for Discussion and Possible Action:

A. Presentation: NMDOT Target Zero Initiative – Amy Whitfield, NMDOT Target Zero Coordinator

Purpose & Context

- Target Zero is a transformative statewide safety initiative launched by NMDOT to coordinate and sharpen all of the agency’s transportation-safety work so that every journey is completed safely.
- The goal is to achieve **zero traffic-related fatalities or serious injuries by 2050** (with earlier interim milestones).
- The initiative was formally authorized via House Memorial 85 in 2023, which directed NMDOT to develop and pursue this target.

Key Highlights & Strategies

- **Safe System Approach:** Target Zero embraces the “Safe System” philosophy: recognize that humans make mistakes, design for human vulnerability, share responsibility among system participants, be proactive, and build redundancy.
 - **Data-Driven & Equity-Centered:** The initiative emphasizes using data to identify the high-fatality/serious-injury network, screening corridors, crash contributing factors, and focusing on equity (historically underserved communities, vulnerable road users).
 - **Coordination & Collaboration:** Because NMDOT cannot do this work alone, Target Zero seeks strong partnerships with local governments (MPOs, cities, counties), tribal nations, other state agencies, law enforcement, health/EMS, planning communities, etc.
 - **Process/Program Integration:** Target Zero is designed to overlay and integrate with existing safety plans such as the Strategic Highway Safety Plan (SHSP), Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP), pedestrian safety action plans, and Complete Streets initiatives.
 - **Root Cause Focus & Countermeasures:** The program is analyzing top contributing factors to fatal and serious injury crashes (e.g., driver inattention, failed to yield, speed, impairment) and deploying countermeasures such as Road Safety Audits (RSA), safety audits of corridors, improved crossing treatments, traffic calming, enforcement, and education.
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Implementation & Next Steps

- NMDOT has published an overview/update of Target Zero and is working on a formal Implementation Plan (for example the “Target Zero 2050 Implementation Plan” is referenced).
- Among activities underway or planned:
 - Conducting multiple Road Safety Audits across the state, targeting high-fatality corridors and intersections.

- Engaging local jurisdictions and MPOs in the effort (for example, the agenda of the Farmington Metropolitan Planning Organization included a Target Zero presentation by Amy Whitfield)
- Developing better data systems (e.g., network screening tools, safety performance functions, crash query tools) to support prioritization.
- Deploying engineering, enforcement, education, and community outreach packages — especially in hot-spot locations (e.g., intersections with high pedestrian crash counts).

B. Draft New Mexico State Rail Plan – Kevin Olinger, NMDOT Transit and Rail Division Director

Purpose & Context

- The Plan is a federally-required update to the previous rail plan (2014) for the State of New Mexico.
- Its aim is to provide a long-range service and investment program for both freight and passenger rail infrastructure and services in the state.
- The update aligns with broader statewide transportation planning, notably the New Mexico 2045 Plan.
- Having an up-to-date State Rail Plan is also important so the state can remain eligible for federal programs, including from the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA).

Key Highlights & Findings

- The plan outlines the current status of New Mexico’s rail network:
 - Passenger service includes long-distance intercity (e.g., Amtrak Southwest Chief) and commuter (e.g., New Mexico Rail Runner Express).
 - Freight rail operations include Class I railroads (e.g., BNSF Railway, Union Pacific Railroad) and a number of Class III/short line railroads.
- Among identified needs:
 - Maintain and improve rail infrastructure (tracks, short lines, etc.) so rail remains a competitive option for shippers.
 - Increase capacity and efficiency of long-distance freight corridors, and expand local freight connections, industrial sites, transload facilities.
 - Improve passenger rail service and connectivity: station and route improvements, better integration.
 - Safety and security enhancements: highway-rail at-grade crossing improvements, collision prevention, updated protocols.
- The Plan lays out a *Rail Service & Investment Program (RSIP)* with two time horizons: a short-range (2025-2030) and long-range (2031-2045) list of projects.

D. Project Updates: Agencies

6. Matters from MPO Staff
7. Matters from TCC Members
8. Next TPB Meeting:

A. 11/20/25

9. Adjourn –

There being no further business before the Committee, the meeting adjourned at 6:50 pm.

Erick Aune

Erick J. Aune, MPO Director



Alma Castro, (Nov 23, 2025 08:49:38 MST)

IPB Chair