



# MRMPO Project Scoring Form 2022 - New Project Request

## Mid-Region Metropolitan Planning Organization

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## Project Submittal Form for the Project Selection Process (PSP)

The PSP was developed to score and rank member agency submitted projects and programs. This selection process was developed to promote projects that incorporate national transportation goals and regional goals and priorities from the Connections 2040 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP). This form includes 7 pages:

- A. General Project Information
- B. Work Type and Location Information
  - 1. Optimized Mobility Questions and Strategies
  - 2. Active Transportation Questions and Strategies
  - 3. Economic Linkages Questions and Strategies
  - 4. Environmental Resiliency Questions and Strategies
  - 5. Equity Questions and Strategies

While the PSP is an important tool in project selection, it is not the only determining factor. Other considerations, such as the benefit of the project to the local community, and the project's cost and time frame for completion, are also important factors.

*The table below shows the connection between national and regional goals. Narrative Questions with an asterisk by them are developed directly from national goals.*

National Transportation Goals	2040 MTP Goal(s)
<b>Safety:</b> To achieve a significant reduction in traffic fatalities and serious injuries on all public roads.	Active Transportation, Optimized Mobility
<b>Infrastructure Condition:</b> To maintain the highway infrastructure asset system in a state of good repair.	Optimized Mobility
<b>Congestion Reduction:</b> To achieve a significant reduction in congestion on the National Highway System.	Optimized Mobility, Economic Linkages
<b>System Reliability:</b> To improve the efficiency of the surface transportation system.	Optimized Mobility, Active Transportation, Economic Linkages
<b>Freight Movement and Economic Vitality:</b> To improve the national freight network, strengthen the ability of rural communities to access national and international trade markets, and support regional economic development.	Economic Linkages, Optimized Mobility
<b>Environmental Sustainability:</b> To enhance the performance of the transportation system while protecting and enhancing the natural environment.	Environmental Resiliency
<b>Reduced Project Delivery Delays:</b> To reduce project costs, promote jobs and the economy, and expedite the movement of people and goods by accelerating project completion through eliminating delays in the project development and delivery process, including reducing regulatory burdens and improving agencies' work practices.	Economic Linkages, Project Selection Process (PSP)

## A. General Project Information

Lead Agency / Project Information

**Project Title** Idalia Rd and Loma Colorado Blvd Roundabout Phase 2

**Lead Agency** City of Rio Rancho

**Agency Contact** Arnell Friedt

**Phone Number** (505) 896-8242

**E-mail** afriedt@rrnm.gov

**Project Type**

Other

**Scope of Work / Project Description:**

The Idalia Rd and Loma Colorado Blvd intersection improvements was identified as Phase 2 in the recently completed Idalia Rd Phase A/B Location Study Procedure from Northern Blvd to Iris Rd. Phase 2 consists of a dual lane roundabout, including pedestrian facilities, drainage improvements, utility relocations and other multi-modal facilities. This request is for the right of way acquisition for the intersection improvements.

**Is this a new project? If YES, Control Number and MPO ID will be assigned by MPO.**

No

**If NO, please indicated the MPO ID:** 613.1

**If NO, please indicate the Control Number:** A300201

[Metropolitan Transportation Planning \(MTP\) Appendix A](#)

This Appendix includes projects listed in the MTP and provides the MPO ID

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**B. Work Type and Route Information**

**Work Type**

Right of Way

If you would like to see the previous Form B excel spreadsheet used to calculate costs you can [click here](#). This will download the spreadsheet for you. Please enter final totals and the associated years below.

**What is the Total Amount requested for the Work Type?**

Scoping / Environmental:

PE & Design:

Utilities:

Right of Way: \$1,500,000

Construction / Implementation:

Other:

**What is the Year for the Work Type? (2024 through 2029)**

Scoping / Environmental:

PE & Design:

Utilities:

Right of Way: 2026

Construction / Implementation:

Other:

**Route Name**

Idalia Rd and Loma Colorado Blvd Intersection

**Route Beginning (southern/western or Mile Point)**

1250' West of Loma Colorado Blvd

**Route Ending (northern/eastern or Mile Point)**

650' East of Lomatas Loop

**Does your project have additional routes? (ie: intersection improvements or work on two parallel facilities). If so, please fill out additional information below.**

Yes

**Additional Route Name**

Loma Colorado Blvd

**Additional Route Beginning (southern/western or Mile Point)**

650' South of Pioneer Rd

**Additional Route Ending (northern/eastern or Mile Point)**

Montezuma Blvd

**Please upload a zipped SHAPEFILE/FEATURE CLASS for your project.**

**If you do not have one please go to the Project Location Form to draw your project.**



Idalia Rd Phasing Map.pdf

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## 1. Optimized Mobility

Optimized Mobility focuses on the overall management of our roadways, including the introduction of more advanced technologies, such as smart signals and vehicle to vehicle communication. In addition, a greater in accordance with national guidance, an emphasis is placed on prioritizing cost effective maintenance and operations to preserve existing infrastructure.

### Optimized Mobility Narrative Questions

Please be short and sweet, but specific about how your project addresses this goal.

**\*How does this project or program improve the reliability (consistency and predictability of travel time) of transportation, and for which modes of travel? If this is a Transit project then explain improved hours and/or frequency.**

The alignment of Idalia Rd and Loma Colorado Blvd is skewed. This alignment is difficult to traverse when traveling southbound Loma Colorado Blvd to eastbound Idalia Rd or westbound Idalia Rd to northbound Loma Colorado Blvd. Larger vehicles encroach into opposing traffic to complete their turns which causes unsafe conflict points. The roundabout will provide for an efficient and safer intersection for the traveling public. This intersection is the confluence of one of the few northbound arterial roads that leads to a Key Center which includes the UNM Sandoval Regional Medical Center within the City of Rio Rancho. This roundabout will mitigate the additional traffic in the vicinity of increased levels of development.

**\*How does this project or program reduce congestion, and for which modes of travel?**

The proposed roundabout at Idalia Rd and Loma Colorado Blvd will allow the traveling public a safer and more efficient intersection than the current temporary signal. Improved safety is realized because roundabouts are proven to minimize the locations and severity of accidents. To increase intersection efficiency and minimize congestion, a roundabout uses yield signs to eliminate stopping when it is not required. In contrast, a traffic signal requires that at least one direction of traffic must stop, making them less efficient.

**Does the project or program implement new, or update existing, ITS infrastructure? Does the project or program implement identified services in the ITS Architecture Plan?**

This is a roundabout project and therefore does not improve ITS in the corridor.

[ITS Architecture Plan](#)

## Optimized Mobility Strategies

Strategies are modeled after the Congestion Management Process priority matrix developed by the CMP committee.

### Roadway Capacity Strategies

The roundabout project will increase capacity and minimize congestion.

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## 2. Active Transportation

Active Transportation focuses on non-motorized modes of travel such as walking, biking, and other ways to travel in the region like using bike share or scooters. The Active Transportation goal also enhances safety concerns in response to a disproportionately high rate of pedestrian fatalities in our region, and the critical role of transportation investments in activity centers.

### Active Transportation Narrative Questions

Please be short and sweet, but specific about how your project addresses this goal.

**\*How does this project or program reduce fatal and serious injury crashes on the transportation facility? Does it implement a program or project from a regional or local safety plan? If so, indicate which one.**

Roundabouts cause slower speeds which allow drivers more time to react to a situation, and it is generally safer for pedestrians because they only need to cross one direction of traffic at a time at each approach. Studies on roundabouts have shown to improve safety by reducing fatalities, injuries, all crash types, and the severity of a crashes if it does occur by reducing conflict points from 32 to 8.

**Does the project address Complete Streets design as identified in your local entity's guidance, or as identified in the Long Range Transportation Systems Guidelines (LRTS)? Refer to the LRRS classification of the roadway.**

This project corridor is identified as a minor arterial. The addition of bicycle lanes, auxiliary lanes and ADA compliant facilities will expand choices and community involvement. This larger project creates a multimodal facility and will address and mitigate congestion and improve efficiency, through access control, while increasing walkability, and bicycling.

[Long Range Transportation Systems Guidelines](#)

**Does this project or program improve overall network connectivity, provide network redundancy, or make a direct connection to an important regional destination? If so, explain and**

## identify which destination.

This project provides multiple access points to Paseo del Volcan and NM 528 extending network connectivity to existing Rio Rancho City Center Area (Key Centers) and regional destinations.

## Active Transportation Strategies

Multiple options available. Please adequately describe Other option.

### Pedestrian and Bicycle Strategies

Adding bicycle lanes (separated, buffered, and painted)

Adding / improving pedestrian crossing/crosswalk

Curb extensions / narrowing of pedestrian crossing length

Traffic calming design features that benefit pedestrians / bicyclists

Pedestrian scale lighting improvements

### Geometric Safety Strategies

Traffic calming focused on vehicular speed reduction

Signage - crossing signs, variable message signs

Crossing improvements: median refuges, enhanced crossings at transit, bump outs

Road diet / lane reconfiguration

Widening sidewalks

Roundabouts / traffic circles

Intersection or interchange geometry changes: reducing radii, reducing crossing distance

### [FHWA Countermeasures](#)

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## 3. Economic Linkages

Economic Linkages explores the economic impacts benefits of place-making and captures a better sense of the fiscal implications of expanded growth, such as new expanded roadways and transit services, and costs of public services like schools and/or fire stations.

## Economic Linkages Narrative Questions

Please be short and sweet, but specific about how your project addresses this goal.

**\*How does the project or program provide insurance that it is shovel ready? Has the project already received federal funds or a soft match? Does it include innovative financing such as Public Private Partnerships?**

The final plans and right of way mapping are ongoing and will be ready for right of way acquisition to begin. Federal funds are currently being used to design and map the right of way.

**\*How does this project or program improve upon existing freight networks or provide access to international trade markets?**

Although not listed on the national freight network, Idalia Rd currently connects to US 550 (via Paseo del Volcan and NM 528), and to Interstate 25 (via US 550). Interstate 25, US 550, and NM 528 are all on the national freight network.

**How will this project spur economic development? Will the project support local businesses and/or permanent job creation?**

This project is forward-looking to improve traffic circulation and vehicular safety in a key growth area in the geographic center of Rio Rancho, benefitting nearly 1,500 existing homes, another planned new 2,958 dwelling units, five public school sites and additional development in the City Center Area (Key Centers).

## **Economic Linkages Strategies**

Multiple options available. Please adequately describe Other option.

### **Access Strategies**

Provides or improves multimodal access to an employment center or large employer

Provides or improves access to industrial development

### **Financial Strategies**

Helps facilitate development in areas with existing water, sewer, roadway and other infrastructure

Project done in coordination with local school district

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## **4. Environmental Resiliency**

Environmental Resiliency acknowledges the transportation sector's impact on air quality and climate change. Environmental Resiliency also includes urban heat island effects, the benefits of low impact development and tree coverage, and expands on emergency evacuation and critical transportation infrastructure. Critical transportation infrastructure includes assessing the overall connectivity of our transportation networks.

### **Environmental Resiliency Narrative Questions**

Please be short and sweet, but specific about how your project addresses this goal.

**\*How does this project or program protect the natural regional environment? Does it include any emissions reductions, Green Infrastructure, wildlife crossings, or storm water management?**

This project will increase the Level of Service (LOS) at the intersection which will help reduce idling vehicles and reducing tailpipe CO2 emissions. In addition:

-Reduces congestion by allowing for more efficient driving with less delays during regular peak driving times.

- Reduces fuel use by having fewer stops, accelerations, and less idling time.
- Saves money because a traffic signal purchase/installation is not generally required, as well as less power and maintenance needed to fix said traffic signal.
- Improved community quality of life because roundabouts create quieter environments that are both functional and aesthetically pleasing.

**\*How does this project or program maintain or improve the existing infrastructure? Does the project or program improve a bridge that is failing, or is the project first and foremost focused on preservation of existing infrastructure that is deteriorating?**

This existing intersection is in close proximity to the intersection of Loma Colorado Blvd and Inca Rd which does not allow for queuing and will fail with future development in the area. The roundabout will relieve queuing that would otherwise impact the Loma Colorado Blvd and Inca Rd intersection. The roundabout will not require additional approach lanes or shift tapers that would be required for a signalized intersection. The roundabout will eliminate safety and sight distance concerns with the existing skewed intersection.

**Does the project or program improve critical infrastructure in the region? Please indicate how the project or program is CRITICAL to emergency evacuation or overall network function.**

The existing signalized intersection has limited time with battery backup in case of a power outage. The proposed roundabout requires no electricity and therefore not encumbering emergency services. These emergency services can be used for other operational needs.

## Environmental Resiliency Strategies

Multiple options available. Please adequately describe Other option.

### Air Quality Strategies

Reduces congestion by allowing for more efficient driving with less delays during regular peak driving times.

### Climate Change Strategies - Flooding, Wildfires, and Urban Heat

Improve drainage facility for pedestrian access

Saves money because a traffic signal purchase/installation is not generally required, as well as less power and maintenance needed to fix said traffic signal.

### Preservation Strategies

Intersection improvements that do not add general purpose lanes

Safety features added to existing infrastructure including lighting and signals

## 5. Equity

Equity refers to ensuring all members of a community have similar access to the transportation system and that no groups are disproportionately burdened or benefited by transportation decisions and investments. Addressing equity also means working to prioritize improvements for underserved communities that have been denied the full opportunity to participate in aspects of economic, social, and civic life. MRMPO has developed a Vulnerability Index (MVI) to assess areas of concern.

### **How does this project address Equity and ensure no negative consequences for underserved communities?**

This project will allow the continuation of access to schools, senior centers, emergency services, local businesses and retail workers.

#### **Equity / Vulnerable Communities Strategies**

Improves access to senior centers and/or assisted living facilities

Improves access to medical and health facilities

Improves access to food for underserved residents

Improves access to education (Pre-K – University) for underserved residents