



# 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** Northern Blvd Phase B1 Reconstruction

**Lead Agency** City of Rio Rancho

**Agency Contact** Arnell Friedt

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

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

## Project Type

Capacity Project

### Scope of Work / Project Description:

Northern Blvd is one Rio Rancho's principal east/west arterials, located in the geographic center of Rio Rancho going from the City Limits at the west end to NM 528 at the east end. Other major roadways that intersect Northern Blvd include Rainbow Blvd, Unser Blvd, Broadmoor Blvd, Loma Colorado Blvd and NM 528.

Northern Blvd Alignment Study, from Acorn Loop to 35th Court (Walpi Ct), was completed in April 2008. Northern Blvd Phase A, from Broadmoor Blvd to 35th Court (Walpi Ct) was completed in 2011. Northern Blvd Phase B is currently in final design including right of way mapping and environmental clearance.

The reconstruction of Northern Blvd Phase B1 includes roadway widening, intersection improvements safety features, corridor lighting, signal timing and ITS coordination upgrades for the new pedestrian and multi-modal bicycle facilities.

**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:** 347.1

**If NO, please indicate the Control Number:** A300431

[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

Construction/Implementation

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:

Construction / Implementation: \$16,600,000

Other:

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

Scoping / Environmental:

PE & Design:

Utilities:

Right of Way:

Construction / Implementation: 2028

Other:

**Route Name**

Northern Blvd

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

Acal Pl

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

Broadmoor Blvd

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

No

**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.**



NorthernBlvdPhaseB1\_SiteEx... .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.**

Currently this section of Northern Blvd is a two-lane road that frequently needs asphalt and drainage repairs due to its age, the volume of traffic that it wasn't built for, and lack of sufficient drainage infrastructure. The widening of this section will allow for improved reliability of transportation throughput, drainage mitigation and additional multimodal options for travel. It will be a coordinated signalized system which will provide for consistency of travel from Unser Blvd east to the Broadmoor

Blvd. This, along with access control in the corridor allows for further reliability of traffic flow.

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

The widening of this section of Northern Blvd will reduce congestion with the addition of lanes, auxiliary lanes, bike lanes and access management to match the previous project on the east end of this phase. ITS will connect the existing signals to allow for the efficient platooning of vehicles.

**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 project will install fiber optic communications and advanced traffic signal controllers (Cobalt) that will support flashing yellow arrows. Advanced signal detection will be installed that will be used to support Automated Traffic Signal Performance Measures (ATSPM) for the corridor. Closed Circuit Television (CCTV) will be installed at all signalized intersections for traffic monitoring and incident management. Audible Pedestrian Signal (APS) will be installed at each signalized intersection to mitigate ADA issues that may be present along this corridor.

[ITS Architecture Plan](#)

## Optimized Mobility Strategies

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

### Intelligent Transportation Systems Strategies

Traffic signal timing and coordination

Travel signal equipment modernization

Communications networks

Roadway surveillance coverage

Pedestrian pre-emption

### Roadway Capacity Strategies

On-street bicycle treatments

Intersection turn lanes

Acceleration / Deceleration lanes

New travel lanes (general purpose)

New roadways / new alignment

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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.**

This project will add medians, auxiliary lanes and improve pedestrian crossings at signalized intersections while also including the Advanced Traffic Control System (ATCS) which prevents overlapping pedestrian phases with left turn phases minimizing the likelihood of fatal and serious pedestrian injuries. The project will also install advanced vehicle detectors (with dilemma zone detection) to prevent running red lights reducing fatal and serious crashes. The existing unlit corridor is an undivided roadway which increases the chances of head-on collisions. This project will eliminate head-on collisions with the addition of medians and corridor lighting.

**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 principal arterial. The addition of bicycle lanes, auxiliary lanes and ADA compliant facilities will expand choices and community involvement. This 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.**

As a principal arterial, this project provides access to two regionally significant principal arterials Unser Blvd and NM 528 extending network connectivity to the existing Rio Rancho City Center Area (Key Centers) and other destinations.

## Active Transportation Strategies

Multiple options available. Please adequately describe Other option.

### Pedestrian and Bicycle Strategies

Improves connection to a multiuse trail through an established neighborhood

Adding / improving pedestrian crossing/crosswalk

Pedestrian scale lighting improvements

### Geometric Safety Strategies

Consolidates or eliminates driveways

Paved shoulders / shoulder improvements

Crossing improvements: signal detection, signal timing, protected intersection crossing

Narrower travel lanes

Intersection or interchange geometry changes: reducing

### 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 plans are 90% complete and Federal funds are programmed to acquire right of way which will begin in Spring 2023.

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

Although not listed as on the national freight network, Northern Blvd connects to Unser Blvd which connects to US 550 (via Northwest Loop) and Interstate 40. Interstate 40 and US 550 are 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 will provide improved multimodal access with proper drainage to existing and future commercial developments. Many vacant commercial properties exist along the corridor and the transportation and utility improvements brought on by this project will spur economic growth in this area. Throughout the design, the development community has been integral in providing comments to finalize the plans.

#### 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 an employment center via non single occupancy vehicle mode/s

Creates or improves a network link that will aide in access in the event of a major disruption

Provides or improves access to land that will be used for solar or wind energy production

## Financial Strategies

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

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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) along the corridor which will help reduce idling vehicles and reducing tailpipe CO2 emissions. In addition, this project reduces congestion by coordinating signals which allows for more efficient driving with less delays during regular peak driving times.

#### **\*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?**

The existing roadway is under capacity with limited to no existing drainage systems creating road hazards during storm events. This project will mitigate these deficiencies by adding lanes, connecting to an existing storm drain system, and a future properly engineered drainage system. This project will also upgrade existing water and sewer utilities.

#### **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.**

As an east/west principal arterial, widening this phase of Northern Blvd Phase B1 provides additional capacity to Key Centers. As one of a few east/west routes which will assist and direct emergency evacuation to NM 528 and the future Paseo del Volcan (NM 347).

### 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

Coordination with flood authorities

#### Preservation Strategies

Reconstruction, resurfacing, and pavement rehabilitation

Safety features added to existing infrastructure including lighting and signals

Upgrades to existing ITS infrastructure

Bridge improvements

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## 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, emergency services, local businesses and retail workers.

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

Improves multimodal access to an identified local activity center (in a land use plan)

Provides or improves an alternative travel option to the single occupancy vehicle

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

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