



Mid-Region Metropolitan Planning Organization
of the Mid-Region Council of Governments

METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION BOARD

Friday, April 17, 2020
10:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m.

809 Copper Avenue N.W., Albuquerque, NM 87102

Wayne Ake, *Chair*

Jack Torres, *Vice Chair*

AGENDA

Call to Order

A roll-call of those in attendance will be done. The presence of a quorum will be noted.

Approval of Agenda for April 17, 2020

Approval of the previous Action Summaries deferred until public health emergency is over.

PUBLIC COMMENTS AND REPORTS

Public Comments.

Anyone wishing to address the MTB must call-in and identify themselves.

Reports

Staff Report

ACTION ITEMS

Tab 1
R-20-03 MTB

Approval of *Connections 2040 Metropolitan Transportation Plan*

The vote on this item will be by roll-call vote.

Link to document: <http://www.mrcog-nm.gov/503/Connections-2040-MTP>
MRMPO staff will have a brief presentation for board members and the public. Here's a link to the full presentation: <http://www.mrcog-nm.gov/DocumentCenter/View/4170/MTP-Public-Presentation-March-2020-PDF>

Adjournment (A motion to adjourn is not necessary.)

Next Meeting: Friday, May 15, 2020, 10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.
MRCOG Board Room or Via Teleconference

Call-In Information: April 17, 2020 - MTB Meeting 10:00 am – Noon (MDT) (max. 2 hrs., expect 45 min.)

You can also dial in using your phone. If you cannot log-in on the computer you can simply join the meeting by calling-in using the phone number and access code below.

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Anyone requiring special accommodations is requested to notify the MRCOG at (505) 247-1750 or email bthomas@mrcog-nm.gov seven days prior to the meeting.

R-20-03 MTB

ADOPTING CONNECTIONS 2040 METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION PLAN FOR THE ALBUQUERQUE METROPOLITAN PLANNING AREA

MPO Staff Analysis: Staff recommends approval of the 2040 MTP.

Background: During the past two years the MRCOG transportation staff has engaged in a comprehensive process of technical evaluation and public involvement to develop the 2040 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) update. The TCC has been provided with periodic briefings over the last two years regarding the development and status of the *Connections 2040 MTP* update. All efforts were coordinated with staff from all member agencies.

The *Connections 2040 MTP* is a regional multi-modal plan that outlines projects and programs to be undertaken through 2040. By federal law, the Metropolitan Transportation Plan is required to be updated every five years and must be in place before any federal transportation funds can be spent in the region. The previous MTP adoption by MTB occurred on April 17, 2015. Therefore, the *Connections 2040 MTP* must be adopted by the MTB on April 17, 2020. This ensures that we maintain conformity with all federally mandated planning procedures identified in 23 CFR. A lapse in the approval date of the MTP could result in adverse impact in any revisions to the current Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and other federally required MPO documents outlined in 23 CFR.

The *Connections 2040 MTP* conforms to all applicable Air Quality Plans and the AMPA is currently in conformity with all National Ambient Air Quality Standards.

Public Review

- January 2020 the first draft was released for public review and 3 public meetings were held in the Town of Bernalillo, Belen and Albuquerque respectively. Comments have been received and responded to.
- The final public comment period began March 3, 2020 and continued through April 8. All comments received have been responded to.
- All questions and comments have been addressed and are available for MTB members' review on a share site.

Connections 2040 MTP Document: The MTP document is too large for email transmission. Here is a link to document: <http://www.mrcog-nm.gov/503/Connections-2040-MTP> . At the meeting MRMPO staff will have a brief presentation for board members and the public. Here's a link to the full presentation: <http://www.mrcog-nm.gov/DocumentCenter/View/4170/MTP-Public-Presentation-March-2020-PDF>

TPTG Review

The TPTG has been invited to participate in approval of the 2040 Metropolitan Transportation Plan at the April 3, 2020 TCC teleconference meeting. The March 31, 2020 meeting was cancelled due to the public health emergency.

TCC Review

The TCC by vote of 24-ayes & 0-noes, recommends approval of *Connections 2040 Metropolitan Transportation Plan*.

- SPECIAL NOTE on next page -

DATE: April 10, 2020

TO: All MTB members and Alternates

RE: **Long-Range Plan Adoption and COVID-19 Uncertainty**

FR: Dave Pennella, MPO Administrator

Since we are in the final stages of developing our long-range metropolitan transportation plan, I'd just like to explain and clarify on how we are proceeding with our development of *Connections 2040 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP)*. MRMPO is scheduled to adopt the plan at the April 17th meeting. It was posted for the second round of public review and comment from March 3 – April 8. TCC has voted to recommend approval by vote of 24-0 at its teleconference meeting on Friday April 3, 2020.

Background

- The current long-range plan, *Futures 2040 MTP* was adopted by the MTB on April 17, 2015. That plan can be effective for five years.
- Our scheduled adoption date for the updated plan, *Connections 2040 MTP* is April 17, 2020, exactly five years later.
- There are ramifications under federal regulations 23 CFR 450.330 (old # 450.328) to the TIP if the MTP expires.

Funding Issues

- As we all know, the COVID-19 event will have many unforeseen and possibly long-term consequences in terms of lost revenue (sales tax collection will drop, income tax collection will drop, oil and gas revenue for the state already has dropped, etc.). It is also possible that Congress and possibly the State Legislature may pass some economic stimulus funding to help mitigate the economic impacts from COVID-19; maybe an ARRA-type stimulus package. Also, given that FAST expires on Sept. 30th and it is unlikely that Congress will have a new bill in place and we will most likely have a continuing resolution to begin FFY 2021. This is a lot of uncertainty that will not be resolved before April 17th.

Conclusion

I strongly recommend that we proceed with our long-range plan, as developed and adopt it as planned. This way we maintain conformity with 23 CFR 450 (not having an expired MTP). However, we must all be aware that we may need to amend our MTPs/long-range plans once we have more guidance and have more definitive information on revenue streams at all levels: federal, state, and local.

1 RESOLUTION

2 of the

3
4 METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION BOARD

5
6 of the

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8 MID-REGION METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

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10 Division of the

11
12 MID-REGION COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS OF NEW MEXICO

13
14 (R-20-03 MTB)

15
16 **ADOPTING**

17 ***CONNECTIONS 2040, METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION PLAN***
18 **(Connections 2040 MTP) FOR THE**
19 **ALBUQUERQUE METROPOLITAN PLANNING AREA**

20
21 WHEREAS the Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act and Moving
22 Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (MAP-21) of 2012 and the Safe,
23 Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act-A Legacy for Users
24 (SAFETEA-LU) of 2005 requires metropolitan planning organizations to develop a long
25 range intermodal/multimodal financially constrained transportation plan for each
26 metropolitan area; and

27 WHEREAS, the Metropolitan Transportation Board (MTB) is the metropolitan
28 planning organization (MPO) for the Albuquerque metropolitan planning area (AMPA);
29 and

30 WHEREAS, a draft document of *Connections 2040 Metropolitan Transportation*
31 *Plan* has been developed under the direction of the MTB in consultation with local
32 government staff, the New Mexico Department of Transportation, and operators of

1 public transportation, and with input from various groups and members of the general
2 public; and

3 WHEREAS, the approved Connections 2040 MTP will replace Futures 2040 MTP
4 for the AMPA; and

5 WHEREAS, *Connections 2040 MTP*, identifies transportation facilities for the
6 AMPA to the year 2040 and includes a financial plan which demonstrates how the plan
7 will be implemented and is shown to be fiscally constrained; and

8 WHEREAS, the *Connections 2040 MTP* was developed in accordance with
9 federal metropolitan transportation planning process requirements, as prescribed in Title
10 23, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 450 (23 CFR 450) and other relevant regulations,
11 including requirements for interagency consultation, financial constraint, and public
12 participation; and

13 WHEREAS, the MTB is responsible for local approval and adoption of
14 *Connections 2040 MTP*; and

15 WHEREAS, approval and adoption of the *Connections 2040 MTP* defines the
16 intent of the MTB regarding future transportation facilities in the AMPA and provides
17 direction for development of future Transportation Improvement Programs; and

18 WHEREAS, the *Connections 2040 MTP* includes several appendices including,
19 *Long Range Transportation System Guide (LRTS)*, and an *Illustrative List of Projects*
20 among others.

21 NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Metropolitan Transportation Board
22 of the Mid-Region Metropolitan Planning Organization, a division of the Mid-Region
23 Council of Governments of New Mexico, that:

