

SANTA FE COUNTY
TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE (TAC)
MEETING

August 21, 2024

TRANSCRIBED BY: ANNE DEHON, CCR 226
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1 CHAIRMAN NITZEL: So are we ready to call
2 the meeting to order?
3 MR. BACHWIRTZ-LOPEZ: Sure.
4 CHAIRMAN NITZEL: Okay. We'll call the
5 meeting to order. Hopefully everyone on remote can
6 hear. (Inaudible) couldn't hear.
7 MR. BACHWIRTZ-LOPEZ: Can you hear us okay?
8 We'll just do a sound check, please.
9 MR. CEDENO: Can you hear me? This is
10 Ruben.
11 MR. BACHWIRTZ-LOPEZ: Hi, Ruben, thank you.
12 CHAIRMAN NITZEL: All right. Shall we do
13 the roll call, then? Let's see, do you want to do
14 that or --
15 MR. BACHWIRTZ-LOPEZ: Sure, I can read it.
16 CHAIRMAN NITZEL: Okay.
17 MR. BACHWIRTZ-LOPEZ: Okay. Ms. Christine
18 Chavarria?
19 MS. CHAVARRIA: Present.
20 MR. BACHWIRTZ-LOPEZ: Gillis Lang?
21 MR. LANG: Present.
22 MR. BACHWIRTZ-LOPEZ: Thank you, Gillis.
23 Member Tim O'Malley?
24 MR. LANG: So I'm still present. This is
25 Gillis.

1 MR. BACHWIRTZ-LOPEZ: Can you hear us,
2 Gillis?

3 MR. LANG: I sure can. Can you hear me?

4 MR. BACHWIRTZ-LOPEZ: Yeah, we can hear you
5 fine.

6 MR. LANG: Okay, thank you.

7 MR. BACHWIRTZ-LOPEZ: Member Tim O'Malley?
8 I believe member David Martin is excused today.
9 Member Steven McLaughlin? Steven, are you with us
10 today?

11 MR. MCLAUGHLIN: Yes, I'm here. Can you
12 hear me?

13 MR. BACHWIRTZ-LOPEZ: Yes. Member Ruben
14 Cedeno?

15 MR. CEDENO: Present. Can you hear me?

16 MR. BACHWIRTZ-LOPEZ: Yes, thank you, Ruben.
17 Member Bill Miller, I believe he's excused today.
18 Member Daniel Painter?

19 MR. PAINTER: Present.

20 MR. BACHWIRTZ-LOPEZ: Thank you, Daniel.
21 Member Phil Rowe?

22 MR. ROWE: Present.

23 MR. BACHWIRTZ-LOPEZ: Chair, John Nitzel?

24 CHAIRMAN NITZEL: Here, present.

25 MR. BACHWIRTZ-LOPEZ: Member Jim Murphy?

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1 MR. MURPHY: Present.
2 MR. BACHWIRTZ-LOPEZ: Member Jack Sullivan?
3 MR. SULLIVAN: Here.
4 MR. BACHWIRTZ-LOPEZ: Three, four, five --
5 one, two, three, four, five, six, seven, eight. We
6 have a quorum, Mr. Chair.
7 CHAIRMAN NITZEL: Okay. Thank you very
8 much. Welcome, everyone. It's good to have
9 another meeting. We're back on track here. We did
10 the roll call. The next item is 1(c), approval of
11 the agenda. Hopefully, everyone has a copy of the
12 agenda.
13 MR. BACHWIRTZ-LOPEZ: One change to the
14 agenda, Mr. Chair, to remove item 1(e), the
15 approval of the committee special meeting minutes
16 from June 5th. We don't have those back from our
17 stenographer yet so --
18 MR. MURPHY: We're eliminating it?
19 MR. BACHWIRTZ-LOPEZ: Yes.
20 CHAIRMAN NITZEL: Okay. Any other suggested
21 changes?
22 MR. PAINTER: I'll make a motion to approve
23 it with the change of eliminating 1(e).
24 CHAIRMAN NITZEL: Thank you, very much.
25 MR. MURPHY: Second.

1 CHAIRMAN NITZEL: Okay. There is a second
2 by Jim. Okay. Any discussion, comments? All
3 right. All in favor of the change as proposed,
4 please say aye.

5 IN UNISON: Aye.

6 CHAIRMAN NITZEL: Opposed? Okay. Okay.
7 Motion carries. So we have the agenda approved.
8 We're ready to move on to the -- well, the approval
9 of the committee -- regular meeting minutes of the
10 May 15th meeting.

11 MR. BACHWIRTZ-LOPEZ: Yes. Mr. Chair, this
12 was -- a little bit of background. We had -- a
13 stenographer was not available for this meeting, so
14 staff put together these minutes based on our notes
15 and our recollection from the meeting. And we sent
16 it back out to membership a while ago once that
17 draft was ready.

18 The only comment I think I received was from
19 Mr. Sullivan. I had attributed a comment to you
20 that you did not remember making, so -- but I was
21 still learning names and faces at that meeting. It
22 was my first one. So it was the statement, Mr.
23 Sullivan said the pavement art was an accident
24 waiting to happen. Does anyone want to claim that
25 statement or do we just strike it from the minutes?

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1 Okay. I think we might just take that out.
2 I had written that out what I thought was verbatim
3 and put Jack next to it, and I don't think I got
4 that right, so --
5 MR. SULLIVAN: I don't have any knowledge of
6 whether that striping does or doesn't cause
7 accidents, so, I don't want to take credit for
8 that.
9 MR. MURPHY: Sunflowers in the street.
10 MR. SULLIVAN: Yeah, or what else they want
11 out there. But either way --
12 MR. BACHWIRTZ-LOPEZ: Mr. Chair, that was
13 the only comment I received from membership before
14 the meeting today.
15 CHAIRMAN NITZEL: Okay. So that would --
16 then the meeting minutes will be amended per the
17 comment and -- I guess we have to make a motion, as
18 well, to approve that and vote on it, so is there
19 any more discussion, any more comments?
20 Okay. I'll hear a motion.
21 MR. MURPHY: Move to approve.
22 MR. PAINTER: I'll second.
23 CHAIRMAN NITZEL: Second, okay. Thank you.
24 Any other comments? No. Okay. Let's have a vote
25 on this. All in favor of the minutes as amended

1 please say aye.

2 IN UNISON: Aye.

3 CHAIRMAN NITZEL: Opposed? Thank you. That
4 passes. So far we have a perfect record.

5 Okay. Two, item two, introductions. 2(a)
6 is introduce -- introduction of TAC members. It
7 seems almost redundant. If we take the roll, in a
8 way we're introducing, but it doesn't hurt to go
9 around the room and everyone -- why don't we just
10 combine TAC members, county staff, other staff and
11 guests and just go around, and that will -- and if
12 you're not -- just please identify your affiliation
13 as you do that.

14 So we'll start here with Jim.

15 MR. MURPHY: Okay. I'm an at large member.
16 I think that says enough.

17 MR. CLAVIO: Hello, Brett Clavio, Santa Fe
18 County Planning Department, planning manager.

19 MS. QUINN: Hi, I'm Kiera Quinn. I live out
20 in Madrid, so I'm here to kind of see what's going
21 on with those plans.

22 MR. PAINTER: I'm Dan Painter. I represent
23 district five, retired, not employed, enjoying
24 life.

25 MR. FOSTER: Herbert Foster, planner in the

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1 planning division.
2 MS. YNGVE: Leah Yngve, I'm with the
3 Metropolitan Planning Organization. I've joined
4 virtually before, but nice to be here in person
5 this time.
6 CHAIRMAN NITZEL: Thank you.
7 MR. ROWE: Phil Rowe representing district
8 five of the TAC.
9 MR. SULLIVAN: Jack Sullivan, at large.
10 MS. CHAVARRIA: Christina Chavarria
11 representing district one, vice chair, and just
12 happy to see you all.
13 MR. DEERE: Brian Deere, I'm just a citizen.
14 I live in the county, and I've lived here for ten
15 years, and just out of an abundance of curiosity I
16 thought I would see if this was a 500-person
17 audience type deal or -- so just here to learn.
18 listen and learn.
19 CHAIRMAN NITZEL: Good. Thank you. We have
20 folks up in the -- oh, I'm sorry.
21 MS. RAPPMUND: I'm Denise Rappmund, and I
22 live in Eldorado. I'm here as a resident and a
23 parent in the community. And I guess I'll just say
24 real quick, so I don't use my time later, I -- my
25 day job hat is I'm a ratings analyst with Moody's,

1 and I work with cities and counties and states and
2 mass transit. And I've done that for over 20
3 years, so I don't come to you as an expert today,
4 but I have some background in public finance. So I
5 just thought I would share that, too.

6 CHAIRMAN NITZEL: Shall we -- why don't we
7 do the people online, so if you could --

8 MR. LANG: Gillis --

9 CHAIRMAN NITZEL: Yeah.

10 MR. LANG: This is Gillis Lang. I reside in
11 district one.

12 MR. BACHWIRTZ-LOPEZ: Thanks, Gillis.
13 Ruben, do you want to go next?

14 MR. CEDENO: Yeah. Good afternoon. Ruben
15 Cedeno, resident of the village of Cerrillos. I
16 represent district three.

17 MR. BACHWIRTZ-LOPEZ: Thank you. Stephen.

18 MR. DICKSON: My name is Stephen Dickson.
19 I'm a resident here in Santa Fe County. I live in
20 the very south down by just outside of Edgewood and
21 just concerned about some certain roads and how
22 things get done.

23 MR. BACHWIRTZ-LOPEZ: Thank you. Matt.

24 MR. MARTINEZ: Hello, Matt Martinez, Santa
25 Fe County employee, traffic manager.

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1 MR. BACHWIRTZ-LOPEZ: Thank you. Anna.
2 MR. MARTINEZ: Thank you.
3 MS. BRUNSON: Hello, I'm Anna. I am the
4 grants and transit analyst for the Blue Bus, so I
5 am on this call just for any kind of support that
6 the Blue Bus can give or insights about public
7 transportation.
8 MR. BACHWIRTZ-LOPEZ: Thanks, Anna. And
9 Lara.
10 MS. HEFLIN: Hi, I'm Lara Hefflin. I'm a
11 community member out in Eldorado.
12 MR. BACHWIRTZ-LOPEZ: Hello, and thanks for
13 joining us. Anyone else online that I missed?
14 Okay. I'm Ben Bachwirtz-Lopez, senior
15 transportation planner with the county and staff
16 liaison to this committee.
17 CHAIRMAN NITZEL: I'm John Nitzel, a member
18 at large. They've never been able to figure out
19 where to put me. But it's -- and I really
20 appreciate all of the public that's showed up
21 today. This is excellent because that's one of the
22 reasons why we're here as a committee. When we
23 formed the committee way back when, that was right
24 in our marching orders, so to speak, from the
25 county board, so please continue and hopefully get

1 more people.

2 Now, just to give you a little orientation,
3 item 3 is matters from the public, and what we --
4 this is kind of a -- we're trying this at this
5 level of participation or input, so we were going
6 to try and recommend five minutes for each person.

7 If you have a presentation like we do today,
8 then that -- then it's -- it's totally acceptable
9 to make a request in advance of the meeting to say
10 I might need 15 minutes because we don't want to
11 short-circuit someone if they've done a lot of
12 work, have a lot of concerns. And so just bear
13 that in mind. And so we really appreciate your
14 comments, and so -- and there's a lot of people
15 from Eldorado, where I used to live, and so that's
16 good to see. That's good to see.

17 Let's see. So everyone is introduced. I
18 think we can move right on to item 3, which is what
19 I mentioned. Do we want to have the presentation
20 first or would it be better to maybe --

21 MR. SULLIVAN: Is that item 8(a)?

22 MR. BACHWIRTZ-LOPEZ: We have the
23 presentation under 8(a).

24 CHAIRMAN NITZEL: Oh, 8(a), that's right. I
25 lost that one. Okay. It says there's people from

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1 Eldorado, and the presentation is about Eldorado,
2 so I'm trying to figure out how to put these
3 together in the most efficient way or the most
4 satisfactory way.
5 So would it be -- maybe we should just -- if
6 this -- we could start out first, if there's
7 someone that's not from Eldorado and you have
8 comments, why don't we put that up and it can --
9 and if anybody has anything to say in that regard,
10 please do so now.
11 MR. DICKSON: I'd like to say something.
12 CHAIRMAN NITZEL: Okay.
13 MR. DICKSON: This is Steve, Steve Dickson,
14 from -- I actually live off of Los Chavez Avenue
15 down by Route 66 Elementary School. I deal with
16 coming off of 66 and Barton Road, and I have a few
17 concerns.
18 First of all, the entrance into the school,
19 where the traffic gets off the road and goes into
20 the school has a very short, almost hardly anything
21 for cars to get into a lane to go into the school.
22 Last year was a mess. Cars were backed up all the
23 way to Route 66 waiting to pick up their kids from
24 school, and so I -- I really couldn't even get to
25 my house. I don't know if they can extend that --

1 that turn lane.

2 Also, they came out a few months ago and
3 just oiled the road, which I don't understand that.
4 The cracks and potholes and stuff are still there.
5 So I don't understand what the oil is. But then
6 they oiled it, but there are no -- there are no
7 markings on the road except for arrows going in and
8 out of the school. There are no yellow lines,
9 white lines, division lines.

10 Also, where Los Chavez Avenue comes -- it's
11 a gravel road which hits a paved road. Constant
12 erosion between the gravel and the pavement, and
13 I -- I am looking to see if there's any way they
14 can put some kind of apron there for the transition
15 going from gravel -- gravel to pavement.

16 Also, along those lines, there's a lot of
17 busses that go down this road, and I don't know
18 what the procedure is or what happens, but, you
19 know, there are no bus stop signs. And so I don't
20 know if that's just left up to the bus itself to
21 put out their sign or if there's actually signs
22 that they put on the road for the bus stop for the
23 kids.

24 I think that's about all I've got right at
25 the moment. I just wanted to share that and see

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1 what goes -- what happens from there. I don't know
2 who decides -- oh, another thing I had a question
3 on. When roads are worked on, are they done by the
4 county or are they contracted out?
5 MR. CLAVIO: Yes.
6 CHAIRMAN NITZEL: Matt, would you like to
7 speak to that?
8 MR. CLAVIO: Barton Road is a
9 county-maintained road.
10 MR. MARTINEZ: Yeah. If they're
11 county-maintained roads, Santa Fe County does the
12 maintenance on our own. We have a maintenance
13 district down in the Edgewood area that has a yard
14 out there. But Route 66 and some of the other
15 state roads that you're talking about, those would
16 be NMDOT's responsibility. I can answer to that
17 one.
18 I can probably also answer to the school bus
19 stuff. That goes through our Santa Fe Public
20 Schools. They notify us where the bus stop
21 locations are at and if there's a need for school
22 crossing signs, that kind of stuff, or school bus
23 ahead signs. The thing is, we're limited to only
24 putting those signs on county-maintained roads.
25 So, if the stop is off of Route 66, I think that's

1 going to be a request to the NMDOT.

2 MR. DICKSON: Yeah, this stop is -- it's all
3 on Barton Road. Everything I'm speaking of is
4 Barton Road.

5 CHAIRMAN NITZEL: Is Route 66, that's not --
6 I don't think that's a state route. It's got
7 another designation, I think.

8 MR. DICKSON: Yeah, it's 333.

9 CHAIRMAN NITZEL: Oh, thank you. Okay. So
10 it's New Mexico 333.

11 MR. DICKSON: Yes.

12 CHAIRMAN NITZEL: It's a state. Okay.
13 Thank you.

14 MR. DICKSON: Yes. But Barton Road heads
15 south off of 333, and it's right on the Santa Fe
16 County line.

17 CHAIRMAN NITZEL: Okay. That's very good.
18 Any other comments? These are really good
19 comments. Thank you very much. Very perceptive.
20 I appreciate them.

21 MR. DICKSON: Well, I've been here a long
22 time, and at one time Barton was a gravel road and
23 now it's -- it's been paved for a while, but it
24 does seem like it gets a lot of attention.

25 MR. SULLIVAN: Mr. Chair, do we want to

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1 forward his comments on to either the school
2 district or whoever would look into placement of
3 signs for bus stops? I assume that would be the
4 school district.
5 CHAIRMAN NITZEL: I think so. Go ahead.
6 MR. MARTINEZ: Mr. Chair.
7 CHAIRMAN NITZEL: Yes.
8 MR. MARTINEZ: So this is Mathew again. So
9 I was doing a little bit of research. I apologize
10 for a little bit of delay there. But Barton Road
11 is maintained by Santa Fe County from State Road
12 333 to County Road 2, and so that's for about
13 approximately a little bit shy of a mile -- a mile
14 point 25, a little bit shy. So it's a mile point
15 23 actually.
16 MR. DICKSON: Right.
17 MR. MARTINEZ: I can certainly -- I can
18 certainly request something from our public schools
19 notifying us of where the bus stop locations are on
20 Barton, and we could help assist with the signs
21 there. As far as maintenance of the road itself,
22 is there -- is there any type of specific, I don't
23 know, concern that you have?
24 MR. DICKSON: Well, Los Chavez -- Los Chavez
25 Avenue is a county-maintain road also but it's

1 gravel.

2 MR. MARTINEZ: Yes.

3 MR. DICKSON: So that transition from gravel
4 to pavement, they'll come and put some -- some
5 gravel in there, and it lasts maybe a month or so
6 and it's right back into the same position where
7 you've got huge -- a huge hole and almost like, you
8 know, just the dirt -- the dirt is gone, the
9 gravel.

10 So what I'm asking is, is it possible to put
11 an apron where they can -- even four feet from the
12 edge of the road that transitions the pavement to
13 the gravel?

14 MR. MARTINEZ: I understand. So let me -- I
15 will definitely propose the question and put a
16 request in to our roads department in your behalf.

17 MR. DICKSON: Also, is it legal for me to go
18 fill that in?

19 MR. MARTINEZ: I would not encourage you to
20 do that, no, absolutely not. It's a
21 county-maintain road. It's Santa Fe County's
22 responsibility --

23 MR. DICKSON: Okay.

24 MR. MARTINEZ: -- if it's an issue. We do
25 have an online request work order system that's on

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1 our front page of santafecounty.org, and if you've
2 ever noticed that, you can put in a request that
3 the pothole or whatever we want to call it needs
4 some refilling --
5 MR. DICKSON: Right.
6 MR. MARTINEZ: -- or reggrading or something
7 like that in the meantime. But I'll go ahead and
8 put the first one in for you.
9 MR. DICKSON: Okay, thanks. And what was
10 that website again, just Santa Fe County --
11 MR. MARTINEZ: It's santafecounty.org. It's
12 on the front page there, and it's called Report a
13 Road Concern.
14 MR. DICKSON: Okay. Thank you. Yes,
15 because I know when they plow Los Chavez they do a
16 good job and it comes out nice and smooth, but,
17 like I say, it erodes quickly.
18 MR. MARTINEZ: I'll be sure to put a request
19 in there for it to be maintenance in the meantime,
20 but then I'll also propose the question about the
21 apron for you.
22 MR. DICKSON: Okay. Thank you.
23 MR. MARTINEZ: Absolutely.
24 CHAIRMAN NITZEL: These are good comments.
25 I think there's a lot of comments. And I'm just

1 thinking about the proper protocol on how we --
2 when somebody comes to this committee, the
3 committee is staffed by county staff from planning
4 and, of course, Matt and others from public works,
5 and so I'm just wondering, is it -- I mean,
6 obviously, there is a mechanism on the report
7 system, but, to me, if somebody makes an effort to
8 come to a meeting, spends the time or joins by a
9 virtual access, it seems like we should try to help
10 them and work with public works to come up with an
11 answer to these.

12 There's some unique situations. Having been
13 a traffic engineer for a long time, I can see that.
14 But -- and we haven't really had this typical
15 situation before where we have explicit issues on a
16 road at a location and how do we resolve that, so
17 we really haven't done much on this experience.
18 The committee is relatively new.

19 So what I'm wondering is -- I'll make a
20 suggestion -- is would it be appropriate for -- if
21 there's a lot of issues in a situation like this,
22 would it be good to form a small task force to go
23 over these things or would it be -- that would be
24 one thing, is to engage both public works and
25 planning in this, or have public works handle the

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1 whole thing and then come back and report to the
2 committee as to what actions were taken. Just a
3 couple of suggestions. What does the committee
4 feel?
5 MR. MURPHY: Mr. Chairman, I'd suggest -- so
6 we've heard from one that is Steven. And I
7 think -- I think his comments so far, and I don't
8 know. I'm just guessing. Just based on where I
9 live, his comments could be repeated 500 times
10 around the county on any given day. And that's not
11 bad news. It just is what it is.
12 And so I think if we're going -- if we're
13 going to be the source for citizens, I think we've
14 got to figure out a different way to deal with
15 this. Stephen, this is not at you, believe me.
16 MR. DICKSON: Okay.
17 MR. MURPHY: We're going to chew up our
18 meeting after about three comments from the
19 citizens. I mean, it's just the way it is. So I
20 think we've got these. I think Mathew has done a
21 really great job of picking up the sticks, and I'm
22 sure he'll go ahead and do something. I think
23 Stephen has learned that there's a website. So
24 maybe we ought to hear from a couple of other
25 citizens, see what's on their mind, and then we

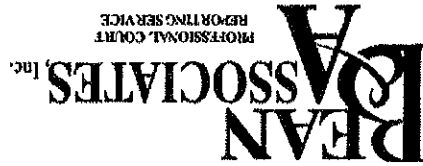
1 ought to sit down later and say how are we going to
2 deal with this? This is really good stuff. I
3 mean, this is -- as you said, this is why we ought
4 to be here. So there we go. That's my thought.

5 CHAIRMAN NITZEL: Okay. Brett.

6 MR. CLAVIO: Mr. Chair, members of the
7 committee, I did speak with Stephen earlier today,
8 and I do know that one of his issues was brought
9 up, was addressed, and that's the school kids'
10 parents spilling out in the road lane, basically
11 making that lane inoperable. So that's what he
12 called in about. That's happening all around. I
13 don't know how that originates, but it's not safe.
14 Maybe we need to think about putting in a shoulder
15 on that road or (inaudible) or maybe we need a
16 different policy that just says you can't queue up
17 on the travel lane and the police need to go out
18 there and tell them to move on.

19 MS. CHAVARRIA: I mean, the school -- I
20 mean, the property that exists, I mean, they need
21 to -- I mean, I've noticed here West Alameda and
22 Gonzales, the community school, they've opened up
23 more, expanded the property to actually put more
24 drive-through, you know, accessing driving in as
25 opposed to people doing what's occurring here in

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1 this situation.
2 So, definitely, if Matt can talk to Santa Fe
3 Public Schools and make them aware of that
4 situation, I think that would be very helpful.
5 Thank you, Matt, for being here and always
6 answering questions for us because --
7 MR. MARTINEZ: You're welcome. You know,
8 Mr. Chair, real quick, if I can. I believe it's
9 Stephen -- is that correct?
10 MR. DICKSON: Yes.
11 MR. MARTINEZ: Stephen, yes, quick question.
12 Where was the road stacking issue? Was that on --
13 was that on Barton, as well? I'm sorry --
14 MR. DICKSON: Yes.
15 MR. MARTINEZ: -- I'm not familiar with the
16 area right off the top of my head.
17 MR. DICKSON: Okay. It was -- it was on
18 Barton and the road where Barton -- you turn off
19 Barton and go into Route 66 Elementary School.
20 There's so many cars backed up that they back up
21 all the way to 66 which is a good maybe quarter
22 mile or so. And, yes, it was -- being a safety
23 hazard, school is just now starting again, and so I
24 don't know if they've done anything about it
25 through the summer. I haven't seen an issue yet,

1 but it was mainly when they came to pick up their
2 kids after school. And --

3 MR. MARTINEZ: So -- I'm sorry. I'm sorry.

4 MR. DICKSON: There was just one lane and
5 it's going southbound, and they just were parked
6 there. They -- I don't know if the school didn't
7 allow them to come in or if they had a routing form
8 in the school. There was just a huge problem.

9 And people that were actually just trying to
10 get to their house couldn't even get through
11 without going into the other lane, which is
12 actually northbound, which is, yes, an accident
13 waiting to happen.

14 MR. MARTINEZ: And just for clar -- just for
15 clarification, the entrance to the school is off of
16 Barton or is it off of Old Route 66?

17 MR. DICKSON: It's off of Barton.

18 MR. MARTINEZ: Thank you.

19 MR. DICKSON: It is off of Barton, yes.

20 MS. RAPPMUND: Can I just say something real
21 quick --

22 CHAIRMAN NITZEL: Yes, certainly.

23 MS. RAPPMUND: -- just to help avoid an
24 extra e-mail chain. Route 66 Elementary is not in
25 Santa Fe Public Schools. It's down in the Edgewood

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1 area, which is a different school district. So, if
2 he's going to contact somebody in the school
3 district, it would not be Santa Fe Public Schools.
4 So that's all.
5 MR. DICKSON: Yeah, it's -- it's Moriarty
6 Public Schools.
7 MR. MARTINEZ: So two different entities,
8 so, yeah, we'll work with the other entity if we
9 need to.
10 MR. DICKSON: Okay. I know I've probably
11 taken up way more than five minutes, but thank you
12 for your time.
13 MR. MARTINEZ: Okay. Thank you.
14 MR. PAINTER: Mr. Chair?
15 CHAIRMAN NITZEL: Yes.
16 MR. PAINTER: I'm sorry. I might suggest
17 that, if Mathew is is going to take a look into the
18 situation, perhaps at our next meeting he could
19 report back to us what he found out, what he
20 relayed to the citizen, and if he did make contact
21 with the other school district. So, if he'd just
22 report back, that would be --
23 CHAIRMAN NITZEL: Matt, is that okay, that
24 you could report back to us because this is pretty
25 interesting and helpful or kind of, like I said,

1 one reason why we're here.

2 MR. MARTINEZ: Absolutely. You know, I
3 might even send out an e-mail to Ben, if that's
4 okay, Ben, once I get some definite answers, and I
5 think we could at least respond to Stephen a little
6 bit more promptly than next meeting. That might
7 be -- might be a long wait for him. But I'll try
8 to get an answer before that and send an e-mail to
9 you, Ben, if that might be helpful, or Brett or
10 somebody.

11 MR. BACHWIRTZ-LOPEZ: Okay. Sounds good,
12 Matt. Thank you.

13 CHAIRMAN NITZEL: Great.

14 MR. MARTINEZ: Thank you.

15 CHAIRMAN NITZEL: I really appreciate you
16 offering to help to meet with the schools. When I
17 was city traffic engineer in Santa Fe, I found,
18 very interestingly, that schools don't have
19 expertise in things like this that come up,
20 signage, pavement markings. That's not what their
21 job is. And so we, as a city traffic division,
22 provided some technical support for them.

23 And I'm not trying to tell you what -- but
24 that did work. That was one solution. And so
25 sometimes you've just got to provide, as a county

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1 or somebody, technical expertise to help out the

2 people because schools are a big deal on safety.

3 Anyway, okay. Good. Thank you, Stephen,

4 for your comments. They're much appreciated.

5 MR. DICKSON: I appreciate it.

6 CHAIRMAN NITZEL: Thank you. Are there

7 others who we have in the guests or --

8 MR. DEERE: My name is Brian Deere. I live

9 over in -- I guess it's called district four. It's

10 the El Gancho area on Old Santa Fe Trail, that

11 region.

12 So I've lived in Santa Fe for ten years, and

13 one of my backgrounds is in designing software and

14 making it usable and improving the user experience.

15 And so having driven around Santa Fe and Santa Fe

16 County for ten years, I sort of have gained what

17 you might call a driver's experience, and so I have

18 some observations/questions because I don't -- as a

19 citizen, I don't know where to turn. You know, I

20 go to the website and I scroll and I scroll and I

21 scroll and I'm like -- and then I go away. So I

22 never quite, you know --

23 So a couple of things. One that I see

24 consistently every single year, and it's like

25 clockwork, every spring when the plants start

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1 growing, the trees start growing, road signs get
2 obscured, and especially speed limit signs, by
3 trees. Like there's a couple of notorious ones on
4 Rodeo, but they're all over the place. They're all
5 over the place.

6 And I guess it's part city, county, but
7 there doesn't seem to be a consistent maybe a team
8 that's on the county or whatever road maintenance
9 groups there are that just goes around and like,
10 oh, there's something that's obstructed, we should
11 clear that, and just pull over and do it rather
12 than maybe doing it once a year or something. It's
13 a very consistent problem I see.

14 And so people don't know what the speed
15 limits are, and I see on Rodeo, for example, which
16 the speed limit is 50, people going 30, 35, and it
17 causes all kinds of backups and consternation. And
18 there's been news stories lately about road rage on
19 Rodeo from people not going fast enough or
20 whatever. Anyway, so it's -- it's an issue. I
21 just don't know how to get any movement on that, so
22 I'm -- that was one of my questions.

23 Related to that is at intersections both in
24 neighborhoods which are both county or city
25 maintained -- I'm not talking about private or

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1 anything like that. These are real city, county
2 roads. You come up to an intersection and there's
3 like chamisas, you know, six feet tall right up to
4 and sticking out into the intersection. So it's
5 really hard to see, and it makes encounters at
6 many, many, countless intersections around town and
7 around the county far more difficult than they
8 should be and far more difficult if, for example,
9 there's an interaction between a cyclist and a car.
10 And I was starting to think about this, and
11 a little data item I came across a while back kind
12 of struck me, that in the state of New Mexico
13 something like 66 percent of all new vehicles sold
14 are pickup trucks and so -- and then, if you add
15 SUVs to them. You know, I'm not -- I'm not in
16 either. I'm in a sedan. But I'm suspecting that,
17 from way up high, everybody has a great view. The
18 majority of the people in the state don't even know
19 what it's like to be in a smaller car or as a
20 cyclist, I guess.
21 So just, you know, again, where does one
22 turn to try to make this observation into something
23 that's actually routine as a process within the
24 county, within the roads division or whatever, so
25 that -- because, you know, on Old Santa Fe Trail,

1 we've noticed once in the last ten years -- and it
2 just happened about two months ago -- some tractor
3 came down the road and mowed either side of the
4 road for the first time since we've lived there.
5 And it was great. It was like, wow, there's a
6 guard rail, who knew. But, you know, it was -- you
7 know, the maintenance of shrubbery growth,
8 whatever, is few and far between, and I don't know
9 what to do or who to talk to such that we might see
10 more regular action.

11 And the last quick comment is -- this is not
12 related to plants and growth and all that, but it's
13 also sort of a -- I guess this is something that
14 you might call an everybody is pointing fingers at
15 somebody else so nothing ever gets done. That's my
16 theory of what's going on. And that is, the
17 interfaces between a main road and a shopping
18 center or a gas station that also has a fast food
19 place and has multiple businesses, those
20 intersections, the entrance/exit areas are often
21 horrifically gouged with potholes and road damage.

22 Since there's many Eldorado people here, I
23 would guess some of them may know about the annual
24 pothole that, you know, can swallow Volkswagens at
25 Eldorado gas -- that gas station right at 285, and

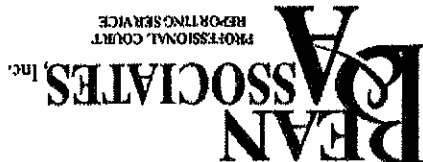
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1 you have to be really careful when you pull out of
2 that gas station to, you know, not get swallowed up
3 in the hole. So it gets worse and worse over the
4 months, you know, each rain. It's just -- it's
5 bad.
6 But there are many, many, again, countless
7 cases where I'm just imagining that no business
8 wants to have to be responsible for that. They're
9 probably thinking, well, it's close enough to the
10 road that it's the city's or the county's problem.
11 And how does one interact with the government to
12 get some resolution there? I have no idea what to
13 do.
14 I figure, if I can't go into the gas
15 station, no one will say, you know, do you want a
16 coke or something, right? I mean, it's not the
17 right -- you know, I can't talk to an owner or
18 something. I figure it's county/city. So those
19 are the kinds of things that I have as questions.
20 Thank you very much.
21 CHAIRMAN NITZEL: Thank you. Excellent
22 comments.
23 MR. MURPHY: I have the same problems.
24 MS. CHAVARRIA: I think that a lot of
25 people -- and I had a conversation with somebody

1 that said why doesn't the city do this, and I was
2 like, well, Cerrillos Road is the state, and then
3 the county -- you know, and they're like I never
4 knew all of that.

5 So I think part of it is that is in some
6 instances we have, you know, our perennial weeds.
7 People, you know, complain about have the
8 government come and pull weeds. It's like okay.
9 But those are all those things that, if you don't
10 know who actually is maintaining the road
11 themselves, I think that's the concern.

12 Yes, I think it would be nice to be able to,
13 you know, set up something so that there would be a
14 joint effort, especially for the markings of the
15 speed limit.

16 MR. DEERE: Yeah. Yeah.

17 MS. CHAVARRIA: I think that is definitely a
18 concern that should really be addressed. And
19 that's like the same premise as street lights.
20 People don't call PNM, and so they don't know they
21 should be contacting PNM to go and report their
22 street outages. And I think it's just maybe making
23 people aware or making -- in this instance, it's
24 bringing it forward to this level and saying, hey,
25 you know, somewhere we've got to find out to be

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1 able to have a proper maintenance of our street
2 signs. So thank you.
3 MR. DEERE: The other thing I've noticed is
4 that on Rodeo, the number of speed limit signs has
5 dropped over the years. They keep pulling them.
6 And I don't know if it's vandals taking them,
7 because, I mean, the entire post is going out, too,
8 which makes me think it's official. But, you know,
9 that -- that doesn't help, but -- and then so the
10 remaining ones, when they're covered by a tree, I
11 mean completely -- I've taken photos just to show
12 people, like, you know, what do you do here in this
13 situation? I mean, I've been tempted to pull over
14 and just chop, chop, but I suppose that would not
15 be the right thing to do, so -- you know, it's
16 tempting though.
17 MS. CHAVARRIA: I understand.
18 CHAIRMAN NITZEL: New Mexico is like a lot
19 of other states, and, you know, your points are
20 very, very accurate. One of the things -- I'll
21 confide, when I was city traffic engineer, I can
22 talk about that and Matt doesn't have to because
23 he's not that, so I can -- as an alumnus, I'll --
24 but what happens here is that the -- we get a rain
25 and the weeds go nuts. They grow like -- it's

1 true, our crews used to be, you know, really
2 challenged to keep up with that. And so they'd do
3 the best they could.

4 And it does happen and you just have to
5 really hammer it out. And we would assign our sign
6 crew and our pavement crew to pull weeds and get
7 weeds or try to get extra help. Sometimes it works
8 and sometimes it doesn't, but it's a real issue.

9 Now, the other day I was driving somewhere
10 and I saw somebody put up a new speed limit sign.
11 They put it right behind a bush. And -- and you
12 say that's not a good idea, right? And so, you
13 know, we can be more attentive to where we place
14 it, and you put a new sign and you have -- and
15 hopefully a weed doesn't sprout up the next day.
16 So there is a little discretion we have to use, and
17 so that does help.

18 But it's a constant problem in the medians,
19 and the New Mexican has made comments about it and
20 it's just constant. And it -- if you don't -- if
21 people don't bring it to the attention of -- when I
22 was at the city, you know, we would try and take
23 care of it, but it's -- yeah, it's -- it's not
24 easy.

25 MR. PAINTER: Mr. Chair?

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1 CHAIRMAN NITZEL: Yeah.
2 MR. PAINTER: Maybe we should get the
3 gentleman maybe just some advice as to who he
4 should go to to report this because this really --
5 I don't think it's the right place to report things
6 that are happening on the roadway out there. So I
7 don't know in the county who that is. Should he
8 come to this department? Should he go to Mathew?
9 I see Mathew has got his hand up, but --
10 CHAIRMAN NITZEL: Mathew, yeah, he --
11 MR. MARTINEZ: So the same website that I
12 mentioned earlier to Stephen was also a location
13 where residents or general public, anybody, really,
14 can log on to that Report a Road Concern. And
15 there's actually a couple of topics you could pick
16 there. You could request tree trimming, brush
17 trimming or mowing.
18 And those -- you know, unfortunately, I do
19 think that it takes somebody to bring it to our
20 attention sometimes, but I am with the gentleman
21 that was speaking earlier in saying that it is a
22 little bit difficult to know where to report it to.
23 Obviously, I work for Santa Fe County and I only
24 work on county-maintained roads. There are a lot
25 of roads in the county, not necessarily -- thank

1 you for bringing that up on the screen, appreciate
2 that. But the -- you know, if it's not a
3 county-maintained road, we really just don't have
4 jurisdiction to do it.

5 And a lot of the roads that we were talking
6 about like Rodeo Road, obviously, you know, that's
7 a city road. 285 by the gas station in Eldorado, I
8 imagine -- and I feel like I've driven in there a
9 few times myself -- I'm pretty sure that's NMDOT
10 right-of-way.

11 Maybe something the committee could do is
12 work with inter-governmental and develop some sort
13 of a way to publish something out there on which
14 entity to contact. Because, I agree, I think it's
15 very difficult. And I do spend a lot of time
16 talking to constituents and sharing with them some
17 information on whether it's the county's
18 responsibility or whose I-fill it might be.

19 A lot of times, too, it falls underneath
20 land owners and HOAs and that kind of thing, and so
21 there's so many different entities that people need
22 to look at. We have a lot of pueblo land in Santa
23 Fe County. We don't have jurisdiction along those
24 areas, as well.

25 But, certainly, if it's something that's a

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1 Santa Fe County right-of-way, what's up on the
2 screen right now, the road maintenance, Report an
3 Issue, you can totally do it from there, and if it
4 is something we'll address it.
5 MR. CLAVIO: And that is GPS centered so you
6 can actually pinpoint where that problem is.
7 MS. CHAVARRIA: Oh, good.
8 MR. MARTINEZ: Yeah. And you click right on
9 that little picture of a downed stop sign or a
10 pothole, and that will direct you to the right
11 location, whether it's going to be something that
12 my division takes care of, like signage, or if it's
13 something like a pothole that our road maintenance
14 or road crews can take care of.
15 MR. DEERE: Thank you. I'll try it out.
16 MR. MARTINEZ: Appreciate it. Thank you,
17 guys.
18 CHAIRMAN NITZEL: Yeah.
19 MS. YNGVE: I just want to point out the
20 City of Santa Fe has a very similar tool. If you
21 go to santafenm.gov and then Solve a Problem, it's
22 on that front page. Then they have the same tool
23 where you can type -- like find it on the map and
24 type in what the issue is.
25 MR. DEERE: Okay. Thanks.

1 MR. PAINTER: And it's fairly likely that
2 the DOT process has something that is fairly
3 similar.

4 MS. QUINN: So, rather than trying to
5 educate the community, what if somebody went on to
6 the county website, reported something that
7 happened to be city property and the county can
8 just send it over to the city? That way, it's not
9 as much of a burden on everybody else and the
10 pathways are already established.

11 MR. BACHWIRTZ-LOPEZ: Matt, I think we do
12 that. We've received a number of requests that
13 came through the city but were actually county's so
14 we ended up dealing with them. We're not going --

15 MR. MARTINEZ: And vice versa. On our
16 website it will notify you if it's something that's
17 not -- like if it falls underneath another
18 jurisdiction, it will let you know before you can
19 submit the request that you need to contact the
20 City of Santa Fe or NMDOT or something like that.

21 And I'll be quite honest with you, there are
22 some that sneak through, but it's the
23 responsibility of the managers, the directors to
24 weed through those and make sure that we notify the
25 person that requested whatever issue it is and let

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1 them know that maybe it got through and it was a
2 misunderstanding. So we'll contact them and let
3 them know.
4 It really is important that the requestor
5 provides us with a phone number or an e-mail, some
6 way of returning their call. Believe it or not, we
7 get some, and it's like, you know, not something we
8 can help them out with, but we have no way of
9 reaching back to them. But we take note of it and
10 we keep it in our work order system in case another
11 request comes in.
12 MR. BACHWIRTZ-LOPEZ: Thanks, Matt.
13 CHAIRMAN NITZEL: Those are good comments.
14 One little thing. When I was at the city, we would
15 get about 500 requests like this a year and so just
16 to give you an idea of --
17 UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Small.
18 CHAIRMAN NITZEL: Small.
19 (Cross-talk.)
20 CHAIRMAN NITZEL: That was just requests.
21 That's not -- you're right. So --
22 MR. MARTINEZ: I appreciate that comment,
23 Mr. Chair. We average somewhere around 220
24 requests a month at Santa Fe County, and that's
25 just in my division. So I'm not sure what our

1 roads department and some of our other utilities
2 departments are getting, but I average quite a bit
3 more than 200 on a month.

4 CHAIRMAN NITZEL: Yeah, that's pretty good.
5 Matt, just one thing we maybe want to touch base on
6 and then we'll move to the next topic is if -- you
7 mentioned there might be an issue, say, on a
8 driveway from a shopping center. And the county,
9 obviously, doesn't do anything outside of your
10 right-of-way, nor does the state or anybody. So is
11 there a way to handle that or you just have to say
12 talk to the property owner?

13 MR. MARTINEZ: I think there's a couple of
14 ways. I think, yeah, definitely talking to the
15 property owner would probably be the best.

16 CHAIRMAN NITZEL: Okay. Thanks.

17 MR. MARTINEZ: Think that could cause some
18 problems. Our land use office might be able to
19 send code enforcement out there, you know, whether
20 it's trash or some sort -- some sort of a hazard.

21 MS. CHAVARRIA: Yeah.

22 MR. MARTINEZ: Obviously, we don't want
23 someone getting into an accident pulling out of a
24 driveway, so that might be an option, as well. I
25 really don't want to speak on behalf of our land

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1 use office or our growth management, but it could
2 be a solution.
3 CHAIRMAN NITZEL: Okay. Thanks. Yes,
4 Christine, did you have any other --
5 MS. CHAVARRIA: No. Oh, yeah, just what
6 Matt said is the best thing we've had is we've had
7 neighbors that wouldn't trim their chamisa bushes,
8 so we'd have to call code enforcement to have them
9 go and notify the land owner that they had to go in
10 and trim down a lot of their property. And they
11 weren't very happy, but it was just a hazard.
12 MR. PAINTER: Yeah. Mr. Chair?
13 CHAIRMAN NITZEL: Yeah.
14 MR. PAINTER: Depending on the age of the
15 development and if they have a site plan that got
16 approved, there's probably -- if they're on a
17 corner, there's probably a site triangle or
18 something that was set up initially which probably
19 has just gotten grown up. And the county or the
20 city or whoever it is has the authority to go in
21 and tell them, you know, time to clean it up again.
22 That was something that was approved as part of a
23 site plan. So, anyway, if that exists, that's a
24 good tool to use.
25 CHAIRMAN NITZEL: Okay. Any other -- okay.

1 Thank you again for your comments, and these are
2 good items.

3 Do we have any other comments --

4 MR. ROWE: Mr. Chairman, you have one right
5 over here.

6 MS. RAPPMUND: Lara has her hand raised.

7 CHAIRMAN NITZEL: You're on the agenda,
8 so --

9 MS. RAPPMUND: No, no, I said Lara has her
10 hand raised.

11 CHAIRMAN NITZEL: Oh, okay.

12 MR. BACHWIRTZ-LOPEZ: Kiera and then Lara.

13 CHAIRMAN NITZEL: Okay.

14 UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Raise your hand.

15 CHAIRMAN NITZEL: Go ahead.

16 MS. QUINN: I'm Kiera. I'm from Madrid, and
17 I noticed that the Madrid plan is on the agenda, so
18 I just kind of wanted to give my two cents.

19 I grew up in Madrid. Like my family moved
20 there in '73 when it was a ghost town. The
21 tourists have been there long before the locals,
22 but it's always been a place where people have
23 walked and it's -- and people walk in the road.
24 It's always been that way, and it's just kind of
25 something that we do.

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1 But more recently -- I moved away. I moved
2 back just about five years ago, and there's hardly
3 any tourists in town. I run a business and there's
4 no traffic. We don't have people walking through
5 the door. We don't have people walking down the
6 streets.
7 And I know there was an incident with a
8 young boy got hit on his bicycle because the car
9 was backing out onto the street. There's -- people
10 have been driving through Madrid at a higher speed
11 than they used to. I've had people pass me in
12 Madrid.
13 UNIDENTIFIED MALE: You're going too slow.
14 MS. QUINN: It's crazy. But I understand
15 that more effective than speed limits and the signs
16 that go flashing and stuff is actually making the
17 space feel more narrow and more twisty and those
18 type of things. And as we consider what we're
19 going to do with Madrid, we need -- there's -- half
20 of the road is very straight, and we need to make
21 sure that that section feels slower.
22 I want -- I don't want to see people walking
23 in the road, obviously, but I want people to feel
24 comfortable walking. Cars are getting bigger.
25 Now, the cars are actually back -- like when they

1 park, the tail end of the truck is halfway in the
2 driving lane. I understand that's private
3 property, parking issues that we discuss on a very
4 regular basis in town, but these are also things
5 that we need to consider where do people walk
6 through the town? How is it protected?

7 I know a lot of people have issues with
8 bollards, and I totally get that, but I think very
9 few people would have problems with trees, and that
10 is something that visually makes a space feel more
11 narrow and more cozy. It's more comfortable to
12 walk in, all that kind of stuff.

13 On the other side of town where my business
14 is, in the '70's my grandfather built a wall around
15 the outside of the building because people came
16 barreling from the south into our yard, basically.
17 Several years back there was an accident. A
18 concrete truck barreled into the arroyo. He was
19 killed. I am still doing building repairs from
20 this incident. It's almost ten years ago now.
21 There was another accident right there two years
22 ago, smaller car, the gentleman survived, but it's
23 a constant issue.

24 So that area coming in from the south,
25 you're coming down the hill, you've got a lot of

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1 speed, and, oh, hey, there's a little flashing
2 light. You don't realize you're in town until you
3 come around the corner. It's like, oh, wow, the
4 road is more turny than I thought, there's people
5 walking, all this stuff that you don't know about
6 before. So we need to have some sort of ambulance,
7 slow-down thing, so people actually get why the
8 speed limit is as slow as it is, that type of
9 thing.
10 The other thing I wanted to address is the
11 Bonanza Creek intersection. I understand that they
12 started work this past Monday on it, but nobody is
13 really clear on exactly what they're doing right
14 now. It's like they're doing this, but then
15 they're going to do the safety study, and we're not
16 really sure. I don't know if they're just clipping
17 the trees.
18 But having come up that road many, many
19 times, I know exactly where the road meets 14, and
20 I always feel like it's further away, every time,
21 and it's partially because there's a big dip there.
22 It's not just that the trees are obscuring the stop
23 sign. And, I'm sorry, if you put a flashing stop
24 sign and it's obscured by trees, it's still
25 obscured by trees. And if they clip it once every

1 five years, it does us no good.

2 So the dip is part of the environment. I
3 don't know if we're planning on doing anything with
4 that, but I think that along 14 in there, you know,
5 there's several different businesses around there.
6 I've noticed people starting to walk across the
7 street in that location. I think that that area
8 also needs traffic calming measures because I know
9 the speed limit is 45 and I am always tempted to be
10 going faster through there. It is very hard
11 mentally to make the switch to go slow through
12 there. And there have been fatalities in that
13 spot. There's going to be more.

14 So, as we go forward, I don't think that a
15 stoplight is the answer. Nobody really wants that
16 out there. It doesn't make you feel as if anything
17 needs to go slower. I know there's also some
18 pushback against traffic circles, but that does
19 physically slow people down. And if there is an
20 accident, it is at a slower speed, and there's less
21 actual harm caused by said accident. I understand
22 that the 14 part is not the (inaudible), but I
23 believe the Bonanza Creek part is. So it's all
24 kind of part of the same concept.

25 This is the only national scenic highway in

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1 the state of New Mexico, as far as I know, and it
2 doesn't feel like it through that whole section.
3 Like the end of Santa Fe all the way up until like
4 Galisteo Road, it doesn't feel very scenic, and I
5 think slowing the traffic down through there,
6 making it feel slower, will help with that.
7 And I totally get there's historical
8 significance. You don't want to go too curvy and
9 stuff like that, but there are other ways to really
10 give that feeling and that atmosphere that people
11 go here to enjoy.
12 So the other thing I wanted to mention is
13 the double diamond on 14, but I guess that's not
14 this job to do that.
15 MR. MURPHY: Mr. Chair, of course, I think
16 you started by saying -- and if I'm wrong correct
17 me, please. Tourist have quit coming.
18 MS. QUINN: Largely.
19 MR. MURPHY: What's behind that? Every time
20 I go through Madrid we say, oh, this is great,
21 let's stop and get an ice cream cone, let's stop at
22 the chocolate shop or let's go to the bar.
23 MS. QUINN: There is something I wanted to
24 mention on that.
25 MR. MURPHY: Where are the tourists going if

1 they're not coming to --

2 MS. QUINN: People -- people come who know
3 about it --

4 MR. MURPHY: Yeah.

5 MS. QUINN: -- but most people go on I-25.

6 MR. MURPHY: (Inaudible) to get to
7 Albuquerque, but that's a different story. So
8 they're just bypassing it.

9 MS. QUINN: A lot of people are, and, you
10 know, people just won't spend any money. There are
11 a lot of larger cultural issues there like making
12 it a spot where -- like I want you to drive slow,
13 but, if you're driving freaking out, like then
14 you're not looking around seeing how cool this
15 place is.

16 And if there's no -- like there's a parking
17 lot over on the side of town, but people don't use
18 it. They park in front of the buildings. My
19 parking lot is always taken up by the bar
20 because -- I have issues with the bar and their
21 parking right now. They have legally said that
22 their parking is around back, and they don't
23 actually let people use it.

24 Anyway, the other thing that I wanted to
25 address is public transportation. We have the Blue

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1 Bus out there, and I love it. It is amazing. I've
2 used it once because it doesn't go at times that
3 make sense for -- Madrid is largely a place where
4 people are very environmentalistic, want an option
5 that doesn't include a car, and it's not something
6 that's actually usable for us. It's designed for
7 tourists. The tourists aren't informed. It's not
8 very well used.
9 That said, the businesses that are open late
10 around here are bars. We absolutely need some form
11 of public transit late at night. We have to get
12 the drunk drivers some other option than driving
13 home. It's -- this has been an issue going way
14 back. Ever since I heard about the Rail Runner
15 I've been saying they needed to come through Madrid
16 and they -- I don't know. The tracks are right
17 there on Cerrillos. They came within a few miles.
18 I don't know.
19 But having the public transit more frequent
20 or like more predictable as in the times so I don't
21 need to know at this hour it's 12 after, at this
22 hour it's 25 after. If it was consistent, it would
23 be a lot easier to use. Early in the morning,
24 later at night, more frequent, all the things that
25 would make this something that -- my boys just

1 learned to ride bikes. I have to drive into town
2 to give them a place to ride because there's no
3 place to ride in Madrid.

4 So it's -- we're trying to make it a safe
5 place for them, an enjoyable place for people to
6 come an experience, and it's a road. We have to
7 have the cars there. We also have the Santa
8 Fe-centered bike race that comes through here.
9 There needs to be some access for bikes.

10 A few years ago they widened Highway 14, and
11 I am fully in favor of them narrowing it back down
12 and using that extra space for a bike lane. It
13 would make it a lot safer. I know that 14 is not
14 this group, but it's thoughts.

15 CHAIRMAN NITZEL: Great. Thanks. Comments
16 or questions? Humbling.

17 MR. BACHWIRTZ-LOPEZ: Any of you want to
18 address the Turquoise Trail route?

19 CHAIRMAN NITZEL: Yeah.

20 MS. BURNHAM: Sure. I also just want to
21 bring attention before I address it. Lara has had
22 her hand up for like an hour or so. Maybe we
23 should ask her what she is looking for.

24 Hi. Yes, I'm year in at the Blue Bus so I'm
25 going to give the context that I'm aware of. So

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1 the trail or the routes that are -- what is your
2 name, ma'am, I'm sorry? Let me call you by your
3 name.
4 MS. QUINN: Yes, it's Kiera.
5 CHAIRMAN NITZEL: Kiera.
6 MS. BRUNSON: Okay. Kiera is referring to
7 the 275 Turquoise Trail route. It used to be the
8 270 route. We split it into the NM 599 route and
9 the 275. The intention of it is for commuters, and
10 it's not evening service. So I hear you on that.
11 I think the original intentionality was to
12 get folks, especially from the penitentiary, the
13 workers there, down to where they needed to go and
14 then back home, was the original intent from public
15 engagement there. So it serves for the purpose of,
16 yes, yes, of course, there is going to be tourists
17 that use it, but the timed trips are -- there's two
18 in the morning and two in the afternoon. They're
19 mostly meant for folks who are working in Madrid.
20 And so, with that, I'm going to have to take
21 a look at our long-range service plan and our
22 short-range plan to see what plans -- because those
23 have been curated from a lot of public input, as
24 well, and I just don't know where -- it's not on my
25 radar that we have any immediate, fiscal year

1 2025/2026, changes outside of the Madrid Walk plan
2 to potentially move our bus stop there.

3 Let me -- I can very easily -- you know,
4 since I don't know this answer, I can go chat with
5 my manager in a couple of minutes and hopefully get
6 a little bit more set on if evening service is
7 realistic. I think we want to provide as much
8 service as possible always, and we are just now
9 getting back to operators being retained here since
10 the pandemic, which is four years going. We are
11 just now being able to put back old service that
12 has been closed down for years in other areas of
13 the four-county area in order to bring that service
14 back.

15 So we definitely want to respond to what is
16 needed and what is asked for from the community. I
17 do know that the long-range plan has us, I believe,
18 having a micro-transit on demand zone in that area,
19 if I am not incorrect. Let me just check my notes
20 on that real quick, but let -- let me get a more
21 definitive answer for you about what short- and
22 long-range plan data and collection from the public
23 we took.

24 Unfortunately, I don't think it's on the
25 radar for this fiscal year in terms of providing

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1 expanded service in Madrid, but I can immediately
2 go and talk to my manager and see -- you know,
3 public feedback is a cultivator of us making these
4 changes, so I can ask him if that's on the radar at
5 all and then just kind of get back to you on that,
6 if that sounds good.
7 MR. BACHWIRTZ-LOPEZ: Anna, if you could,
8 just e-mail me what you find out. Kiera, leave
9 your info with Brett, myself, before you leave and
10 we'll get you connected. Sound good?
11 MR. CLAVIO: Mr. Chair, if I could, to that
12 point, I would love to have the county be part of
13 that conversation as we have been wrestling with a
14 way to get some of our detainees that come out of
15 the detention center a safer way home or back into
16 Santa Fe, and the evening route might support that.
17 So, if it's something that we could talk about and
18 put on the table, I'd love for the county to be
19 able to give some input, to at least give one more
20 alternative to our detainees to get a safe way in.
21 There's concern about them walking down 14 in the
22 middle of the night.
23 I'm not asking you to do a
24 middle-of-the-night, but if it's a little bit
25 later, 8:00 or 9:00 in the evening, it might help

1 quite a bit, so --

2 MS. BRUNSON: Yes.

3 MR. CLAVIO: So thank you for letting me
4 make that comment.

5 CHAIRMAN NITZEL: That's excellent, yeah.

6 MR. LANCASTER: This was a subject I never
7 thought I'd broach, but hearing the discussion
8 about detainees walking alongside of the road, a
9 year ago my wife and I stopped, a woman was laying
10 on the side of the road not far from the
11 magistrate, and we worry all the time about people.
12 It seems extraordinary, as if they are being
13 punished by being made to walk there, and there
14 should be some kind of shuttle to take these people
15 safely in and out from the prison into town. It
16 does not seem at all even civil to have them
17 walking alongside the road.

18 I wanted to address a few things that Kiera
19 brought up before we get to the Madrid safety
20 project. I've been working with Brett closely on
21 it, but I've also worked with district five and the
22 DOT and run into some real problems in the town,
23 and that is the dispute over right-of-ways. And
24 this dispute over right-of-ways is making the town
25 more hazardous.

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1 When Kiera says people have to walk in the
2 road, it's often times because the erosion is so
3 deep. We've seen people fall. I have them come
4 into my gallery. They have cuts, wounds, and a
5 fellow recently broke his leg and his arm falling
6 in the ruts on the road. And yet this -- we've
7 called district five out. They've come out and
8 taken a look, and they end up saying, well, we
9 can't touch it because it's a disputed
10 right-of-way. So I think that's a really important
11 issue.
12 I have found, weekend tourism for me, I'm
13 getting hundreds of people sometimes on a daily
14 basis. Weekday business seems to have slowed down
15 for some odd reason, but, as we're approaching the
16 holiday season and we have received quite a healthy
17 state amount of funding for our Madrid Christmas,
18 we expect very busy weekends every weekend in
19 December. And we're arranging a shuttle from the
20 ballpark parking, and we are arranging to do the
21 work ourselves to fill these ruts because we can't
22 get them filled by DOT.
23 A couple of other things regarding parking.
24 And I know we're going to talk about the Madrid
25 Walk, which we also call the Art & History Walk,

1 which was something that came to me a few years
2 ago. Much by accident, I almost hit somebody
3 walking to the playground, a father and a child.
4 But we do have another parking area, and I have
5 spoken with -- and I think that I have spoken with
6 members of the county about this, that we can
7 acquire two lots in town that are just north of
8 Rook and Raven or just south of the boarding house
9 on the other side of the street across from
10 Connie's Photo Park. And if restructured properly
11 and maintained by the county, it can hold about 20
12 cars.

13 And I think this is really an important part
14 of what should be added to the safety plan, but I
15 know that it's on the agenda in a moment to talk
16 about that so I'll leave it all right here.

17 MR. PAINTER: Mr. Chair.

18 CHAIRMAN NITZEL: Yes.

19 MR. PAINTER: I would just suggest for the
20 detention facility, I know they're not going to do
21 anything immediately, but the cost of running a
22 shuttle was probably going to be something they
23 won't be willing to do. But they could probably
24 arrange to Uber or something to have -- I mean, it
25 would be a lot cheaper to pay for each Uber trip

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1 than it would be to go out and buy a shuttle and a
 2 driver and everything that goes along with it. So
 3 they might want to think about providing Ubers to
 4 their detainees to get them home or to wherever
 5 they're going.

6 MR. CLAVIO: Thank you. And just to make it
 7 clear, we offer them rides. Many times, once they
 8 get out, they want nothing to do with county staff
 9 and they refuse our rides. So, just to make it
 10 clear, it's not like we're forcing them to walk
 11 down the road. We're trying to provide as many
 12 alternatives to give them other options.

13 But, yeah, we don't just kick them out and
 14 send them on their way. We've offered it many
 15 times. We can't always give it to them on demand,
 16 so if they have to wait five, ten minutes, that's a
 17 deal breaker and they're gone. We can't help them.

18 (Cross-talk.)
 19 CHAIRMAN NITZEL: Thank you. This is a
 20 surprise tonight that we're having all these great
 21 comments.

22 (Cross-talk.)
 23 CHAIRMAN NITZEL: Yes, Phil. Or, no, up
 24 there. Somebody has been waiting, I'm sorry.
 25 MR. MURPHY: I think she gave up.

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1 MS. RAPPMUND: Lara had to drop because she
2 had dinner reservations. It's just the public
3 comments are supposed to be five minutes.

4 CHAIRMAN NITZEL: Yeah, we thought we would
5 try to do that. The council or the board only
6 allows three minutes, so five, I thought, was a
7 gift. Okay. Well, we're just going to have to
8 move on because -- we may want to talk about this
9 at the end, about this time we can accommodate or
10 deal with the kind of comments that need to be
11 discussed.

12 Okay. So matters from the staff, item four,
13 are there any other? Staff is quiet.

14 MR. BACHWIRTZ-LOPEZ: This will be my last
15 meeting as staff liaison. I'm leaving the county.
16 It's been really good to work with committee
17 members and hope to cross paths with you around the
18 county sometime soon.

19 MS. CHAVARRIA: Thank you, Ben.

20 CHAIRMAN NITZEL: Thanks for the update, but
21 we're not -- it's sad that you're leaving us
22 because you've done such a fine job.

23 MR. BACHWIRTZ-LOPEZ: Oh, I appreciate it.

24 CHAIRMAN NITZEL: You really have.

25 MR. BACHWIRTZ-LOPEZ: Thank you.

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1 CHAIRMAN NITZEL: You jumped into this
2 thing, and it was like the current is going fast in
3 the river and you jumped in and just took care of
4 it. So thank you. I wish --
5 MR. PAINTER: Where are you headed? You
6 don't want to say? You don't have to.
7 MR. BACHWIRTZ-LOPEZ: I'm not saying yet.
8 That's all I have from staff.
9 CHAIRMAN NITZEL: All right. Any other
10 staff comments? Okay. Matters from the
11 committee? Does any of the committee members have
12 any items to -- yes, Jack?
13 MR. SULLIVAN: One quick item, Mr. Chair.
14 One of our comments was about down in Edgewood on
15 stacking lanes to get into the school, but I'd like
16 us to draft a letter to DOT. We have a stacking
17 lane problem on St. Francis when it turns into
18 Stringo going north.
19 MR. ROWE: The left-hand turn is
20 insufficient.
21 MR. SULLIVAN: The left-hand turn lane is
22 insufficient. And there's room in the median for a
23 longer -- a longer lane. Frequently, when I'm
24 going north on St. Francis, the traffic waiting for
25 the light -- and it's a fairly long light to turn

1 into Siringo -- is out in the travel lane and
2 that's -- that's super dangerous because people are
3 rocketing along there and suddenly somebody is
4 stopped. And sometimes they have their turn
5 signals on and sometimes they don't.

6 So -- and, again, I know St. Francis is a
7 DOT -- is a DOT road, but I think if we could get a
8 letter to them asking them, is this on your -- on
9 your plan, is this on your five-year plan or on
10 your immediate plan, because it's -- it's a danger.
11 It's a hazard. And I think we just simply -- staff
12 could draft a letter and we could pop it off and
13 see what they say.

14 CHAIRMAN NITZEL: That's a good idea. I
15 know exactly what you're -- yeah, and that's been
16 an issue. The design is old. It's been there for
17 longer than -- I don't know.

18 MR. SULLIVAN: It's as old as that clover
19 leaf intersection up there with St. Michael's.

20 MS. CHAVARRIA: It was -- actually, I think
21 it was finished in like 1976 or '75 or '74, around
22 that time.

23 MR. SULLIVAN: Yeah.

24 MS. CHAVARRIA: Because prior to that you
25 could only take the road from the hospital or

1 Butthoff Lane is how they would get to St. Michael's
2 High School.
3 MR. SULLIVAN: Yeah. And they cut through
4 the barrio and put St. Francis right through --
5 right through the middle of Santa Fe and split it
6 in half.
7 MS. CHAVARRIA: Yeah.
8 MR. PAINTER: Mr. Chair, is that something
9 that should come from our committee since it's
10 something that really deals with the state road and
11 the city? I could understand if an individual
12 wanted to go and write a letter to the city and/or
13 the state, but I don't know that we, as a group,
14 should be sending letters out to cities and the
15 county -- other counties and other cities and --
16 MR. SULLIVAN: Well --
17 MR. PAINTER: I mean, unless it's an area
18 that's really worth dealing with and in our
19 jurisdiction that we're looking at --
20 MR. SULLIVAN: I think we need to make a
21 distinction. And when I ran for office a lot of
22 people didn't understand this, but the city is in
23 the county.
24 UNIDENTIFIED MALE: I think most
25 people understand that.

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1 MR. SULLIVAN: A lot of people whose front
2 doors I went to didn't realize that they also could
3 vote for someone in the county as well as someone
4 in the city.

5 UNIDENTIFIED MALE: But the county is not
6 going to pay for improvements in the city.

7 MR. SULLIVAN: No, and the city is not going
8 to pay for improvements for DOT.

9 UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Right.

10 MR. SULLIVAN: I guess the reason I feel
11 this might be a good venue for it is that we have
12 an official transportation advisory committee. We
13 can -- we can look at issues, as we have today,
14 that are not necessarily issues on county roads.
15 They're issues as the county interacts with
16 state -- with state roads and if -- if the
17 committee doesn't think it's appropriate that we do
18 it, I'll do it myself. It won't have the -- it
19 won't have the clout of the advisory committee, but
20 I'd be glad to do it. I think it's dangerous.

21 That's the only comment I have, Mr. Chair.

22 MR. BACHWIRTZ-LOPEZ: Mr. Chair, I can
23 recommend kind of a compromise. In the meantime,
24 we could reach out informally to DOT and the city
25 and see what's on their project list in that area

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1 that might be --

2 MR. SULLIVAN: Might satisfy that.

3 MR. BACHWIRTZ-LOPEZ: Or not, yes. We'll

4 report back at the next meeting.

5 CHAIRMAN NITZEL: Again, back in my past

6 experience, when I was there I would have welcomed

7 a comment like that because the city gets the flak

8 as much and more than the county because we used to

9 get the flak, and we'd say, well, it's not our

10 deal, it's the state, and then you'd get this

11 silence.

12 MR. SULLIVAN: Right.

13 CHAIRMAN NITZEL: But we would, you know,

14 make comments to the state because we all work

15 in the same -- we're all in transportation, so --

16 MR. SULLIVAN: It's the same with

17 snowplowing. You know, people gripe about

18 snowplowing, and it's like, it's not my road.

19 MR. ROWE: It happens less frequently, but

20 southbound on St. Francis, the right lane backs up

21 when the Rail Runner comes through and you have a

22 similar kind of thing. Some of those people are

23 driving through it. Some of those people wanted to

24 turn right, but depending on the level of traffic

25 they didn't get -- they didn't know to get over

1 into those other lanes if they wanted to go
2 through.

3 And having recently kind of ridden the Rail
4 Runner to find out how much excess time were on the
5 gates compared to the actual passage, it can
6 actually be a fairly substantial time that the
7 gates are down.

8 MR. PAINTER: Well, the other thing, too, is
9 the push button for the bicycle lane there, if
10 somebody pushes that button, then the right turn
11 arrow goes off and that backs people up on the
12 road. But bicyclists are getting through, so
13 that's the intent.

14 MR. ROWE: People pay attention to the right
15 hand --

16 MR. PAINTER: No, I'm not saying that. Most
17 people go on through, but some people stop.

18 CHAIRMAN NITZEL: Yeah, that whole corridor
19 is in much need of revisiting, having worked as a
20 consultant. But, yeah, all these are problems, but
21 that's the main artery now in the city and the
22 county, so, yeah. Okay. But, yeah, I think your
23 suggestion is good.

24 MR. BACHWIRTZ-LOPEZ: Reach out about St.
25 Francis at Siringo. It's the left turn coming from

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1 the south?
2 MR. SULLIVAN: South to west.
3 MR. BACHWIRTZ-LOPEZ: South to west, and
4 then St. Francis at -- is it Zia?
5 MR. SULLIVAN: Yeah, that's at Zia.
6 MR. MURPHY: Mr. Chair?
7 CHAIRMAN NITZEL: Yes.
8 MR. MURPHY: I didn't have a comment. Now I
9 have a comment. I think -- I think today, so
10 far -- we have about a half an hour left --
11 MR. PAINTER: Before we get to the meat of
12 the meeting.
13 MR. MURPHY: Yeah. I think, so far, this
14 has been a terrific meeting. I think the input
15 from our citizens -- thank God, I'm embarrassed
16 that we don't have great answers for anybody who is
17 on the screen, but I think it's indicative of the
18 issues that this county and this city and this
19 state are dealing with on a regular basis. I mean,
20 it's just humendous.
21 MR. PAINTER: Humendous, is that a word?
22 MR. MURPHY: You know what I mean.
23 MR. BACHWIRTZ-LOPEZ: A lot.
24 MR. MURPHY: And listening to this, the
25 question I wrote down coming from this gentleman

1 after the first gentleman was where does someone
2 turn to get all this information. And so I'd
3 suggest somehow -- and I don't know if this is
4 possible, Brett, but I would think that somehow we
5 take all this in, what happened today, and have
6 some kind of an executive session somewhere along
7 the way, maybe before November, of this group to
8 talk only about what is our role here, you know, as
9 an advisory committee. Because if we -- if we are
10 going to continue to invite the public in, which
11 somebody has to, and I think we are -- we are --
12 personally, I'm very willing, and I think everybody
13 on this committee is, to have people come and talk,
14 but we can't have an agenda like this and have the
15 public involved. We've got to figure out what our
16 role in all of this is.

17 And I'll just kind of leave it there. I
18 think we need to get serious about where we fit.
19 As I understand it, Brett, we are a fairly new
20 organization, aren't we?

21 MR. CLAVIO: Yeah, we've been around a long
22 time.

23 MR. MURPHY: Yeah. In this environment with
24 you leading, we've set ourselves up to be a real
25 resource to this county, and I'd like to be a part

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1 of that. But I think we've got to figure out a way
 2 to mesh activity where, you know, all the
 3 intersections in town we're looking at and all that
 4 kind of stuff, with what advisory means. That's my
 5 point.
 6 So, if we could get together somewhere in
 7 the next two or three months as a group and just
 8 beat that one to death, I would be very, very happy
 9 about that.
 10 MS. CHAVARRIA: Mr. Chair and Jim, we had an
 11 actual short meeting, I think, about a week ago,
 12 two weeks ago, and we were talking about the
 13 necessity of having basically this conversation
 14 because people are looking at the clock, I've got
 15 to go by 6:00, and that kind of instance. But we
 16 were talking about maybe this is just a progression
 17 of, you know, now we're at toddler stage, now we're
 18 ready for carrots and, you know, be able to make
 19 that next step. And if we have to have --
 20 MR. MURPHY: Absolutely.
 21 MS. CHAVARRIA: -- a meeting every month --
 22 and participation has been wonderful. Like I told
 23 Mr. Chair, it's wonderful to come and be able to
 24 have a quorum because, for a while there -- and
 25 Brett knows it -- we were like, oh, God, do we have

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1 enough, do we have enough? So I thank everybody
2 for coming.

3 So we need to go into the next stage of
4 saying let's have a monthly meeting for this
5 particular area, and maybe we can do another
6 subcommittee for this area, and I think that's just
7 all part of the growth of this committee that I've
8 been witness to see in the last, I don't know,
9 Brett, five years now or something to see those
10 steps take place.

11 MR. CLAVIO: Yeah, I think it's great.
12 Thank you.

13 MR. MCLAUGHLIN: Mr. Chair.

14 MR. MURPHY: Maybe -- I was going to say,
15 I'm sorry, maybe where we end up is we have to have
16 more meetings. Instead of having them once every
17 three months or something, we do them monthly or
18 bimonthly or something, but if we're going to have
19 long agendas that we're not even going to get to
20 the bottom half of them --

21 CHAIRMAN NITZEL: That's right.

22 MR. MURPHY: -- means we just have to have
23 more time which means more meetings.

24 MS. CHAVARRIA: I agree.

25 CHAIRMAN NITZEL: We changed the agenda to

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1 move the public input process up front.
2 MR. CLAVIO: Sure.
3 MR. ROWE: Whose stupid idea was that?
4 CHAIRMAN NITZEL: We saw from Anna, they'll
5 leave if they don't get --
6 (Cross-talk.)
7 CHAIRMAN NITZEL: Well, that's what we're
8 here for and -- Yeah.
9 MR. MURPHY: I think that's a great input to
10 what I'm trying to suggest, so let's go for it.
11 MR. BACHWIRTZ-LOPEZ: Mr. Chair, members,
12 this is kind of the purpose agenda item 9(b). I
13 don't know if we'll get to it, but we usually
14 consider our work plan at the beginning of the
15 year, and that gets adopted at the beginning of the
16 year. But chair and vice chair met and discussed,
17 you know, that we do have these needs to define
18 things within the (inaudible) and maybe it's
19 appropriate to begin thinking about that -- even
20 though we're just in August, to begin thinking
21 about that now.
22 So, to give a little preview of that item,
23 we really -- I mean, this kind of discussion is
24 fine, but we wanted to kick off today members
25 starting to think about that. How many meetings do

1 we want to have? What additional items do we want
2 to cover? We just talked about transit. We don't
3 have transit in our work plan, but we're the
4 transportation advisory committee. So what are the
5 items we want in our work plan for next year that
6 tie into a longer term vision of what members think
7 this committee could -- could accomplish. And,
8 obviously, we have to get buy-in from the board of
9 county commissioners, the folks who appoint the
10 members, but we can take that vision to them.

11 And regarding the frequency of meetings,
12 maybe we need to have more meetings, longer
13 meetings. There's obviously demand for the
14 conversations we're having. So I probably just
15 knocked out 9(b) right there, but --

16 MR. MURPHY: Well, that's great. You know,
17 we're on a roll. We've got to keep rolling and
18 come up with some answers to this kind of stuff.
19 The public (inaudible).

20 CHAIRMAN NITZEL: I'm sorry I don't have my
21 phone number.

22 MR. ROWE: So, to that end, Mr. Chairman, do
23 we want to consider moving the presentation 8(a) up
24 to this point in the agenda, given the time and the
25 fact that there's some prepared material for that?

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1 CHAIRMAN NITZEL: Well, we should do that
2 because -- you know, we have material.
3 MR. BACHWIRTZ-LOPEZ: We need a motion for
4 that.
5 CHAIRMAN NITZEL: Okay.
6 MR. ROWE: I move that we currently move
7 item 8(a) to be the next item on the agenda.
8 MR. PAINTER: Second.
9 CHAIRMAN NITZEL: Okay. Second. Okay. All
10 right. One -- two comments. First one, Brett,
11 you're totally right, we do need to get some sort
12 of a feedback from the county board people. What
13 do they want out of this committee and are we on
14 the right track. I mean, that's maybe the better
15 way to put it. Say this is the track we think we
16 should be on, does that make sense for you all, and
17 then -- because they're -- they're our boss. A guy
18 I worked -- a supervisor, John, said, never forget,
19 everybody has a boss. And so we should keep in --
20 we should, you know, give them the feedback about
21 where we're going. That's what we're here for.
22 So, if we could do that, would it be fair by
23 the committee to maybe try to establish a meeting
24 for an executive session to talk about these
25 things, which I think they're excellent? So --

1 yeah, so maybe we should move on that.

2 MR. MURPHY: Could I add just one piece to
3 that?

4 CHAIRMAN NITZEL: Sure.

5 MR. MURPHY: I get a little nervous when we
6 say we ought to ask the commission what they want.
7 Why don't we tell them what we want.

8 CHAIRMAN NITZEL: That's what I --

9 MR. MURPHY: That's --

10 CHAIRMAN NITZEL: What we're proposing.

11 (Cross-talk.).

12 MR. SULLIVAN: Discussion on that motion?

13 CHAIRMAN NITZEL: Yes.

14 MR. SULLIVAN: I would suggest an amendment
15 to your motion that we get action item 7(a) out of
16 the way. We've already seen this letter and
17 this --

18 (Cross-talk.)

19 MR. SULLIVAN: -- a couple of times and I'd
20 just suggest that we move to 7(a) and then 8(a), if
21 the committee wants to do that, because I think the
22 staff wants to get this thing down the pike. Is
23 that acceptable?

24 MR. PAINTER: I would just say that I
25 thought the intent of moving 8(a) up was to let the

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1 public, who were going to make a presentation, get
2 it over with and leave if they want. If we're
3 going to be here after 8(a), we can do 7(a) after
4 8(a) or whatever. It doesn't matter to me if we
5 want to --
6 MR. SULLIVAN: If we have a lot of
7 discussion on 7(a). I just thought it was pretty
8 well set. Maybe I'm wrong. Maybe there's --
9 CHAIRMAN NITZEL: The chair could just take
10 executive action and say it's fine. But let's move
11 to 8(a) and -- oh, there's a motion to move that
12 up. There's a second. Any discussion? All in
13 favor say aye.
14 IN UNISON: Aye.
15 CHAIRMAN NITZEL: Opposed? At least we can
16 move things fast. Okay. Let's hear that. That's
17 a pretty interesting proposal.
18 MS. RAPPMUND: Oh, yeah, thanks. So I'm
19 here in support of a (inaudible) I guess that's
20 been in the Santa Fe County sustainable growth and
21 management plan for a very long time, and I think
22 most recently in 2015 documents.
23 From friends of mine and what happened, I
24 think that an extension -- a road extension project
25 from the back of Eldorado to Santa Fe Community

1 College and to 14 has been discussed for my
2 lifetime, so I don't think that it's a new idea. I
3 think it's just been in there and (inaudible). And
4 I don't know why that is, but I'm here today.

5 So, anyway, so my request is that the
6 committee moves it forward in whatever channel it
7 needs to happen within the county. I think the
8 next steps would probably be some sort of
9 feasibility study or something along those lines,
10 just in the conversations I've had with Brett that
11 there's steps since it's a big project. But that's
12 my request.

13 And I -- so, yeah, I do live in Eldorado.
14 I've lived there not really that long, about
15 four-and-a-half-years, and I (inaudible) about
16 six-and-a-half years. And I do come from larger
17 urban environments, so this is definitely the most
18 rural place I've lived, but I think that there's a
19 real opportunity there in terms of some smart
20 planning to add access and, you know, taking in
21 input from urban planners and our public safety
22 partners and that sort of thing.

23 And I also recognize that none of them
24 shares my viewpoint, so I think I represent some
25 subset of some people's viewpoint in expanding

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1 access, but I recognize that I don't represent
2 everyone's. And I think some people vehemently
3 disagree with adding access throughout the county
4 in this way, and so I think it's important to
5 consider those concerns, as well. So I just wanted
6 to throw that out there.
7 But the way I was thinking about this
8 project -- and, again, there's a map in that 2015
9 document that shows extending the back of the end
10 of Vista Grande Avenue up to the community college
11 and then over to 14. I kind of think about it in
12 three buckets, so access, safety and
13 sustainability. I think the three of them are
14 interrelated. Access is a big one for me, but I
15 know I have some points to think about on all of
16 them.
17 One of them -- and I think this is kind of
18 the cohort that I represent, if you will -- is
19 young families. There are -- at least anecdotally
20 there are more young families moving into Eldorado.
21 It's hard to get current data on such a microlevel
22 from like, say, the Census Bureau, for example, but
23 in speaking with realtors and just opening my eyes
24 I can see that there are more strollers around and
25 there are more people moving there.

1 And I think that the access is important in
2 terms of those children, my children, having the
3 ability to get to educational opportunities and
4 extracurricular activities, particularly at a high
5 school or potentially community college level,
6 because there isn't a school for those grades,
7 obviously, in that 285 corridor.

8 And I think it kind of goes both ways, too.
9 I mean, in all of the county planning documents
10 it's very clear that the Rancho Viejo area is
11 growing rapidly. There's a lot of investment, of
12 course, in that area on the back side to extend
13 access to what the 285 corridor has to offer, as
14 well, like horseback riding and ranches and our
15 school, which then leads me to the next point about
16 the school.

17 The school has gotten very popular. It's
18 grown at least 50 students this year.

19 MR. SULLIVAN: Which school, I'm sorry?

20 MS. RAPPMUND: Eldorado Community School.

21 MR. SULLIVAN: Okay.

22 MS. RAPPMUND: So it's pre-K through eighth
23 grade. It's getting more transfers. The sixth
24 grade, which is the first grade of middle school,
25 ballooned. So there's 60 kids in sixth grade this

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1 year, which means there's 30 kids per class, which
2 is well above the state limit, and they have to go
3 and ask for exceptions for that.
4 You know, in the Best of Santa Fe Reporter,
5 Eldorado was voted among the best schools. I know
6 that there's no science behind that, but it does
7 create quite a buzz, and so more and more parents
8 are wanting to send their kids to the school. So
9 that would impact, I think, either where people
10 choose to live or just people more and more driving
11 in and out of Eldorado to take their children to
12 school. There's no bus service for transfers, so
13 it's all driving.
14 And then the other thing besides the school
15 that I would bring up in terms of access are the
16 businesses in that 285 corridor. Because there's
17 limited access, there's a limited customer base.
18 And I've lived there long enough to see businesses
19 come and go, and a few can succeed. And it's a
20 struggle, I think, to get people to drive over to
21 Eldorado.
22 I think those businesses are wonderful.
23 They make Eldorado a great place to live. I want
24 to see them succeed. And those people want to be
25 able to, I think, live and work in the same

1 community. So there's potential for, again, I
2 think Rancho Viejo to expand the customer base for
3 them. And then -- oh, no, I already mentioned I
4 noticed the growth. So that kind of bucket is
5 accessibility.

6 Safety. I think, you know, safety can be
7 defined in a lot of different ways. The way I was
8 thinking about it is we all know the climate is
9 changing. I'm concerned about fire risk. I am not
10 a climate expert so I don't know the exact
11 particular fire risk in Eldorado or on the 285
12 corridor versus say where this gentleman lives by
13 El Gancho or something like that, if it's
14 different, but, you know, from year to year it can
15 look like a tinder box or it could look like it had
16 a flood. But either way, I think lack of access
17 points out is a danger.

18 I mean, I think we're all familiar with what
19 happened in Paradise, California, where that whole
20 city was flattened by a fire and there were limited
21 entry and exit points and there were fatalities as
22 a result. So I think that's an important
23 consideration in safety.

24 I've also heard just from county staff that
25 emergency crews, because they have limited access

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1 points, whether it's a natural disaster or an
2 incident on I-25, it really lengthens the time for
3 them to respond, and so I would mark that as a
4 concern, as well.
5 And, finally, on sustainability, I think --
6 I'm pretty clear that reducing our carbon footprint
7 is something important to Santa Fe County. The
8 drive, again, for people with children who are
9 doing extracurricular activities, in and out, in
10 and out, because sports teams are four days a week
11 and dance and all the things, it's like a perfect
12 circle. It's absurd. You have to go in a full
13 circle, and so that's a little frustrating. It
14 would certainly reduce drive time for those of us
15 that are driving in and out and hopefully reduce
16 our carbon footprint.
17 I know we talked about transit earlier in
18 the meeting. Just so you're all aware, I've been
19 in touch with RTD for over a year to try to expand
20 service. They've been very receptive to the
21 feedback and they would like to accommodate, but
22 they don't have the bus drivers and they don't have
23 the funding. But what I've asked for is the same
24 thing as the person from Madrid asked for which was
25 more service in the evening that would accommodate

1 families so that we don't have to drive all the
2 time and weekend service, so I'll just say it
3 again.

4 But aside from not having good public
5 transportation, we also don't have safe bike paths.
6 I think there could be an opportunity to have a
7 really nice bike path between the end of Eldorado
8 and up to the community college if people wanted to
9 limit driving, traffic. But just the ability to
10 have a paved path to go that way might be a real
11 enhancement.

12 So I think that would be it for my arguments
13 for this. Again, I just -- I wanted to acknowledge
14 concerns. So I've heard in the community a concern
15 about increased traffic in Eldorado. I'm not
16 really clear how much the traffic would increase
17 just by increasing access because people are making
18 these drives all the time anyway in a very
19 inefficient way, so perhaps that's an opportunity
20 for further study or input from an urban planner.

21 And then there is -- the one I hear the most
22 is a concern about an increase in crime. So, you
23 know, I think that's an opportunity to work with --
24 talk to public safety and see if that's actually
25 accurate. I tried to find some studies before I

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1 came. It seemed like, for example, if a highway --
2 if you add an exit off a highway and there's a
3 neighborhood there and somebody can get in and out
4 very quickly, that can lead to an increase in
5 crime.
6 On the other hand, in Eldorado, if you are
7 going from Eldorado to Rancho Viejo, you're still
8 in these very much a meandering residential area
9 that is not easy to get in and out of. So I'm not
10 sure that that would be the case, but I think it's
11 definitely a concern to be explored.
12 And then the last one on here is just a
13 concern about an obstruction of views on the back
14 side of the community, but, you know, there's a lot
15 of development that the county is planning anyway
16 so I don't know how that would be addressed
17 exactly, but that is a concern in here.
18 And then I would say maybe the last thing on
19 the concerns is I did go back to where Vista Grande
20 ends, and the homes that are there are very close
21 to the road. And I think that, if the road were
22 extended right there, it would negatively impact
23 those homes quite a bit, and so if the county were
24 to move forward with any version of this plan, I
25 think those residents would need to have input and

1 there would need to be some real creative
2 mitigation infrastructure meant to preserve the
3 home values and their quality of life.

4 So, yeah, you know, that's it. I know, I
5 recognize again that not everybody would agree with
6 this, but I think there's a way to expand access in
7 a smart way that would really be a benefit to the
8 county overall.

9 MR. ROWE: Well, I mean, yeah, my comment is
10 with the soon-to-be-open Falcon Way and sort of
11 being stubbed into over there, I think you're not
12 going to be the only one who is going to be
13 strongly proposing sort of this idea. I mean, it's
14 sort of the most natural extension of that -- of
15 that idea because right now they're getting ready
16 to open -- Falcon Way will run behind the community
17 college and connect via a traffic circle with
18 Avenida del Sur going east/west at this point, but
19 what happens in the future moving down sort of for
20 that development.

21 So, to me, I'm sure -- now, I realize Falcon
22 Way and the change to Rabbit Road and stuff were in
23 county plans for how many decades before they
24 actually happened? I mean, I've heard that. I'm
25 not trying to be a smart ass about that. But, you

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1 know, and so I suspect there's something in county
2 plans somewhere that extends it.
3 MR. CLAVIO: Mr. Chair, members of the
4 committee, as Denise mentioned, the Falcon Way
5 extension at Avenida Vista Grande is in the
6 planning document as the Falcon Way road itself.
7 MR. ROWE: Okay.
8 MR. CLAVIO: So it's on our radar. The next
9 step would be to program this project. The way we
10 think about doing it is to create a preliminary
11 engineering report to establish scope, cost and
12 scheduling and also to have some community
13 participation.
14 CHAIRMAN NITZEL: So -- I'm sorry.
15 MR. MURPHY: No, I was just going to ask
16 Brett real fast, would you do a full-blown traffic
17 study, too, so the people in Eldorado would know if
18 their traffic was going to increase a lot because
19 there would be a lot of cut-through traffic or --
20 MR. CLAVIO: Great idea.
21 MR. MURPHY: Yeah, I think somebody is going
22 to ask that question, you know, if we did this,
23 what do we get for it.
24 MR. ROWE: Well, I mean, as a resident of
25 Rancho Viejo, I will tell you, if such a road

1 exists, the way I'm going to access 285 on my way
2 Clines Corners is going to be via that road.

3 MR. MURPHY: Sure, you and everybody else.

4 MR. ROWE: So you are going to get -- it's
5 not going to be just the people in Eldorado who are
6 using the road. If it's convenient, again, the
7 whole community college area and everybody going to
8 the community college from the south, you know,
9 that that becomes -- that becomes a consideration.

10 What I was going to ask is are there any
11 known kind of natural barriers? So what comes to
12 mind is crossing a major arroyo, and I always think
13 of Richard Zatt -- the nonexistent Richard Zatt
14 extension, because it's always been an issue about
15 how you're going to get across the arroyo. Is
16 there anything -- is there any known sort of
17 barriers there?

18 MR. CLAVIO: Good question. I haven't
19 walked it, but I think it's a fairly straight shot.
20 There are probably going to be some improvements
21 needed, for sure. The biggest obstacles are
22 people, so, if we can get people on board, then
23 we're in good shape because our engineers can
24 design bridges --

25 MR. ROWE: Sure.

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1 MR. CLAVIO: -- and stuff like that, so --
2 MR. SULLIVAN: I think getting people on
3 board, Mr. Chair, for that. Going back, I can give
4 you some history back to 2000 when I went on to the
5 county commission 24 years ago, and one thing that
6 happened during my tenure on the commission was a
7 lady was killed on Avenida Vista Grande at the
8 intersection. And so one of the things that we did
9 in district five was we put a stop sign on Vista
10 Grande. Now, it's the only stop sign on Vista
11 Grande, and it was fought like hell. I mean, we --
12 you know, I heard more about that stop sign than
13 any other county issue during eight years and --
14 MS. RAPPMUND: Well, to your point, just me
15 being here, I mean, I've been telling my friends
16 like I hope I don't get death threats for even
17 being in this room. I feel like there's some real
18 strong opinions, but nonetheless I'm going out on a
19 limb.
20 MR. SULLIVAN: Well, the point being that
21 the public engagement is the key. Eldorado at the
22 end there -- and I've ridden a motorcycle off to
23 see how you could get over there, and there is a
24 steep drop at the end of Vista Grande to get
25 across. But it's nothing they can't -- I mean, if

1 a motorcycle can do it, you can do it with a road.

2 But the people back in the back -- Avenida
3 Vista Grande was supposed to be a certain kind of
4 road that had -- that didn't need any traffic
5 control and it was -- that's how it was supposed to
6 be. And the people in the back, as you say, are
7 closer in, and, also, that's the first part of
8 Eldorado that was built. You know, those people
9 back there are on septic tanks and wells, and that
10 was the old -- you know, the old Eldorado.

11 So -- so it's -- every time it comes up, the
12 county commissioners just -- you know, it's a hot
13 topic. Now, a lot has happened since then,
14 including -- including the road project that we
15 just -- the county just finished, so -- and in
16 20-plus years a lot has changed. So I think you
17 can get those attitudes meshed into a viable plan,
18 but I think you have to start first with what
19 you're doing, which is good, which is support and
20 information locally, and I would suggest that you
21 continue doing that locally, whether you put
22 together a community action committee that -- that
23 advocates this, that has local meetings, that talks
24 to people about it. What Eldoradoans don't like is
25 people telling them what to do.

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1 (Cross-talk.)
2 MR. SULLIVAN: And so -- so working from the
3 ground up, which it seems like you're starting to
4 do, will work. And I think the county commission
5 will respond -- will respond to that. Ultimately
6 it's bound to happen, but it's just a question of
7 before your kids get married will it happen.
8 I guess the point of my comment, Mr. Chair,
9 is that it has always been a sensitive issue with
10 those in Eldorado. They like being a dead end.
11 They don't want to be the access between Rancho
12 Viejo and 285.
13 MS. RAPPMUND: Uh-huh.
14 MR. SULLIVAN: So you have to work with that
15 somehow.
16 CHAIRMAN NITZEL: I would agree. Having
17 lived out in Eldorado for five years, six years,
18 your example of kid carting we encountered all the
19 time. It takes forever. Sometimes we'd make three
20 trips a day into Santa Fe and back. It takes a lot
21 of time, but you have to do it for your kids or
22 whatever, other things. So that's always been a
23 problem.
24 But we also -- we lived on the west edge,
25 south of Vista Grande, and we had -- water supply

1 was a problem. In our little area, some people
2 couldn't get water once in a while because -- in
3 their house. And so, I mean, the sustainability,
4 that kind of goes to my thought that you really
5 have to look at that land use as how sustainable
6 and what can it really support in terms of growth.
7 There's a lot of land between Eldorado and south
8 Santa Fe. Is that a better option to develop that
9 first or -- I mean, I don't know the answer.

10 And then we had a septic system. That
11 failed. And so there's a lot of infrastructure and
12 land use issues that I think, besides
13 transportation, which is really kind of a mess. As
14 you accurately said, it is. There's limited access
15 and it's -- the time lost by the convoluted commute
16 is a challenge. You're right. So this was -- this
17 is a tough nut, I think, to --

18 MS. RAPPMUND: Well, yeah. And then,
19 usually -- I mean, maybe you all would agree. The
20 people who generally have more time to spend on
21 political issues are the people that want to keep
22 it the way it is, and the people like that have
23 young children are the ones that don't, and they
24 don't have the time to come to meetings like this.

25 MS. CHAVARRIA: You have a similar story to

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1 what we've heard in the last two years about the
2 Tesuque community and about the Madrid community,
3 where it's almost that same story line of people
4 saying don't change it, we want it that way; we
5 don't care, we'll get run over, in either one of
6 our communities, and yet the concern was there how
7 do we make a safe community for not only ourselves
8 and our families but also the people that come
9 through our community.
10 So, yeah, if the opportunity is there to
11 maybe talk with them to see how those communities
12 handled it to get more engagement. Because I know
13 that when we made the effort, Santa Fe, under the
14 county, public works, and they got those public
15 meetings going and having that discussion so that
16 people would come in and say we don't want it but
17 we do want to see them come to a compromise.
18 And I saw that happen with Tesuque and also
19 with Madrid because they've come a long way from
20 everybody sticking their head, you know, in the
21 sand or not being concerned about safety, and now
22 they're at the point where we're at, you know,
23 actually seeing the plans in place so that Madrid
24 has those viable plans ready to set in motion to
25 make, you know, a boardwalk, to make a crossing and

1 those certain things available. So going on those
2 baby steps.

3 CHAIRMAN NITZEL: Okay. My question is, at
4 this late moment, what do you want from us at this
5 stage? This is a good outline. We could certainly
6 do comments on it or -- but I don't think the
7 committee is prepared to approve anything yet
8 without more discussion and more review.

9 MS. RAPPMUND: Sure.

10 CHAIRMAN NITZEL: But it's a real good
11 start. It is. But are we on the same page as you
12 are on this or --

13 MS. RAPPMUND: Yeah. I mean, I don't
14 know -- well, it sounds like you guys are trying to
15 figure out how you work with the commission, too.
16 But this all started with me reaching out to Hank,
17 to be honest with you --

18 CHAIRMAN NITZEL: Who is he?

19 MS. CHAVARRIA: He's a commissioner.

20 MS. RAPPMUND: My commissioner.

21 CHAIRMAN NITZEL: Oh, okay.

22 MS. RAPPMUND: And he was really kind and
23 receptive. And then he put me in touch with Brett
24 and this committee and everything else. So, you
25 know, I'm a little concerned about, you know, a

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1 grassroots effort because, again, it's really hard
2 to get parents who are running around with their
3 hair on fire to really engage in things like this.
4 And so, to the extent that any kind of public
5 discussion or anything could come through official
6 channels, if that's possible, would be great.
7 MR. SULLIVAN: If you don't, you're going
8 to -- in my personal opinion, you'll get into the
9 great chicken debate. You've heard about the
10 chicken debate, right, Eldorado?
11 CHAIRMAN NITZEL: Oh, yeah.
12 MR. SULLIVAN: Remember the chickens? You
13 don't. Okay. Those are a while back.
14 MS. CHAVARRIA: I have a comment about
15 chicken or feathers, but --
16 MR. SULLIVAN: No, it was a fight over can
17 you have chickens in your yard in Eldorado. That
18 went on for years.
19 MS. RAPPMUND: Yeah, I'm kind of feeling
20 like that now. So I wanted to come and try. I
21 wanted to just have the discussion and just see
22 where it would go. Honestly, I'm feeling like it's
23 pointless again so --
24 MS. CHAVARRIA: I want to say that, at this
25 point, I would get ahold of Representative McQueen

1 and have a general discussion with him and see what
2 his take is on it, see if he'd like to endorse it,
3 see what -- you know, maybe he'd say this is not
4 the time, but more so you're talking about your
5 community, that they -- those services are needed.

6 I mean, that's something where you're saying
7 there's -- if it was just you -- like we were
8 saying, if it was just you wanting to write a
9 letter, great, but if you have enough resources of
10 people, you have 20 moms and 20 more parents or
11 whatever that say, you know, hey, this is a good
12 idea and we need to do it, then go forth.

13 MS. RAPPMUND: Yeah.

14 CHAIRMAN NITZEL: Okay.

15 MR. CLAVIO: Chair, I just want to remind
16 people, this project is already in our
17 transportation movement program. It's been vetted.
18 It's been approved by the board. It's in our
19 20-year transportation plan, which is -- Ben has
20 indicated item 9(b), we were going to talk about --
21 I'm sorry, 9(a). We were going to talk a little
22 bit about that. We may not have time to tonight.

23 But just to try to close up, Denise, thank
24 you for coming. I did invite Denise, and one of
25 the reasons was to advocate for this project

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1 because, as a committee, we think about
2 prioritizing projects for the next 20 years. This
3 project is still outstanding, so we need to bump
4 this project up on the list.
5 But to member Sullivan's comment, one other
6 obstacle would be those property owners where that
7 road would go through. We've already talked with
8 the main land owner of that, and he's already
9 willing to dedicate that for a public road. So
10 that's going to save us millions of dollars from
11 having to --
12 MR. SULLIVAN: You're talking about outside
13 of Eldorado, not the homes?
14 MR. CLAVIO: No, between Eldorado, Santa Fe
15 and --
16 MR. SULLIVAN: Right.
17 MR. CLAVIO: There's one large land owner.
18 MR. SULLIVAN: But I think the issue that
19 she's --
20 MR. CLAVIO: He's more than willing to
21 dedicate that.
22 MR. SULLIVAN: The issue is the homeowner
23 right at the dead end.
24 MR. CLAVIO: Absolutely, we understand that.
25 So we might have to wiggle around, find another

1 place. Maybe it's not exactly at Avenida Vista
2 Grande but somewhere in that vicinity.

3 MR. SULLIVAN: There's options.

4 MR. CLAVIO: Yeah, okay. Thank you.

5 CHAIRMAN NITZEL: Now, we need to -- I'd
6 like to see some quick discussion on scheduling
7 this meeting we talked about a few minutes ago
8 about the executive session effort or --

9 MR. MURPHY: Are we done with this?

10 CHAIRMAN NITZEL: Well, we're running out of
11 time. We can go back to this, but I want to get
12 that before everybody is ready to walk out the
13 door.

14 MR. MURPHY: I'm just wondering if she is
15 done. If we're done with her, we'll move to the
16 next one.

17 CHAIRMAN NITZEL: Yeah. We could go, but I
18 don't --

19 MS. RAPPMUND: I don't have anything else.
20 I mean, I think that's bringing up some good points
21 about the fact that it's already in there.

22 MR. CLAVIO: Yes.

23 MS. RAPPMUND: And I just want to advocate
24 for it, you know. I don't know that we're really
25 starting from zero. Sometimes it feels that way,

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1 but, you know, here we are.
2 CHAIRMAN NITZEL: Good presentation.
3 MS. CHAVARRIA: Yes.
4 MR. DEERE: Super quick comment on her
5 presentation?
6 CHAIRMAN NITZEL: Quick.
7 MR. DEERE: Again, this has probably all
8 been discussed and thought about for years and I'm
9 probably coming extremely late, so a super quick
10 response would be fine and just send me in the
11 right direction.
12 I'm just curious, it begs the question -- I
13 mean, it feels like transportation and roads
14 connecting Eldorado all the way over to Martin or
15 whatever, totally sensible. I'm all for it. But
16 the bigger question, like the herd of elephants in
17 the room, as it were, is what is the vision at the
18 county level for -- you know, is it just to make
19 this part of New Mexico just like every other
20 suburban area in the United States? It's all about
21 cars to get over to the big box stores over on
22 Cerrillos or whatever, but, you know, the suburbs
23 are not where, you know, people do anything but
24 sleep and eat, you know, as opposed to integrating
25 retail and shopping and everything else in that

1 huge area so that it isn't long hauls and they're
2 basically starting to use this new road as an I-25
3 substitute as opposed -- you know, is there a
4 vision for that and is that the county --

5 CHAIRMAN NITZEL: That's something we have
6 to work on. I'll give you the short answer, okay?
7 But those are totally valid points from a planning
8 perspective that have been in urban planning.

9 All right. So back -- then we're done with
10 this item. Let's talk about the executive meeting.

11 UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Are we going to pass
12 this around?

13 MR. MURPHY: Is that on the agenda?

14 MR. CLAVIO: Yes, we have plans for that
15 area and there's already been plans.

16 (Cross-talk.).

17 CHAIRMAN NITZEL: Then there's the draft --

18 MR. MURPHY: Do we need a motion to move
19 7(a) up? All right. Anybody want to make it?

20 UNIDENTIFIED MALE: I'll move we move 7(a)
21 up.

22 MR. PAINTER: Second.

23 MR. SULLIVAN: My motion was denied so I'm
24 not going to remake it.

25 MR. PAINTER: Second, move 7(a) up.

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1 CHAIRMAN NITZEL: All right. So we have a
2 motion and second. Okay. Are there comments that
3 anybody has?
4 MR. MURPHY: We've looked at it twice over
5 the internet. I'd say either go for it or --
6 MR. PAINTER: I'd make a motion that we
7 approve this and send it to the board.
8 CHAIRMAN NITZEL: Okay. Thanks. Any last
9 discussion? All in favor say aye.
10 IN UNISON: Aye.
11 CHAIRMAN NITZEL: Opposed? Thank you.
12 That's very good flexibility. Thank you.
13 MR. BACHWIRTZ-LOPEZ: Mr. Chair, if I could
14 quickly explain the next steps for this? It goes
15 to the county manager for his signature. What
16 we've done is approve the language, but it will be
17 coming from the other manager going to NCNMEDD for
18 their application due next week, so --
19 CHAIRMAN NITZEL: Good, thank you. Thanks
20 for everybody looking at that, yeah.
21 MR. BACHWIRTZ-LOPEZ: Thank you.
22 CHAIRMAN NITZEL: Okay. Now, the executive
23 meeting. I think we -- can we just say staff will
24 look at a good time, get us together and we'll have
25 like a two-hour meeting or something? And the

1 agenda would -- I think it would be good for
2 committee people to suggest something but also
3 staff and us.

4 MR. PAINTER: Mr. Chair, when you say
5 executive, are you talking about everybody or just
6 you and --

7 CHAIRMAN NITZEL: No, the committee.

8 UNIDENTIFIED MALE: The whole group?

9 MR. PAINTER: Okay. So it's not an
10 executive meeting.

11 CHAIRMAN NITZEL: Yeah, that's true. It's a
12 planning session.

13 MR. PAINTER: It has to be open to the
14 public, though, doesn't it, if we have a quorum?

15 MR. CEDENO: No.

16 MR. BACHWIRTZ-LOPEZ: No?

17 CHAIRMAN NITZEL: Is somebody saying
18 something?

19 MR. PAINTER: I hear --

20 MR. CEDENO: Not necessarily if it's a
21 special meeting to discuss certain items. So we
22 have to be specific on the certain items. I
23 suggest that we look at the potential work plan for
24 2025, revisit the charter, and then probably draft
25 an open invitation for a dialogue with the BCC

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1 staff if we're going to keep it in that venue of
2 the 9(b).
3 CHAIRMAN NITZEL: If it's a closed session
4 it wouldn't -- I'm sorry, Ruben, go ahead.
5 MR. PAINTER: It doesn't have to be
6 advertised?
7 MR. CEDENO: Not if it's a special session.
8 MR. BACHWIRTZ-LOPEZ: Well --
9 MR. ROWE: All public meeting need to be
10 advertised for the Open Meetings Act.
11 MR. CEDENO: This wouldn't be a public
12 meeting. It would be an executive -- a special
13 session.
14 MR. MURPHY: If it's the whole committee how
15 can it be --
16 MR. SULLIVAN: If there's a quorum it has to
17 be advertised.
18 MR. CEDENO: Right. But normally an
19 executive meeting would be the chair, the vice
20 chair and the people of the committee, not
21 necessarily the whole committee. But if you're
22 going to do the whole committee, then you're
23 talking about an open meeting.
24 CHAIRMAN NITZEL: Right, correct.
25 MR. BACHWIRTZ-LOPEZ: We will review the law

1 and county's rules on executive meetings and
2 advisory committees. BCC has that power. I'm not
3 sure the advisory committee does. Our options for
4 that or just a special meeting that would be open
5 to the public.

6 MR. MURPHY: I think we open it to the
7 public. We just don't put public comment on the
8 agenda.

9 MR. CEDENO: Then it wouldn't be an open
10 meeting.

11 (Cross-talk.)

12 MR. PAINTER: It could be open to the public
13 and they could sit there and listen or comment.

14 MR. MURPHY: You know, I think I first said
15 executive meeting. I didn't mean to exclude
16 anybody, but I think our discussion needs to be
17 around how do we carry on as a group going forward.
18 What does our charter mean. So however that
19 happens and if people want to be a part of that,
20 great. I mean, (inaudible). There we go.

21 CHAIRMAN NITZEL: I'll ask the experts to
22 put it together and see what happens.

23 MR. SULLIVAN: It's a study session, not an
24 executive session. Separate meeting. It's in
25 private and can only discuss real estate issues,

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1 personnel --
2 MR. BACHWIRTZ-LOPEZ: Legal issues.
3 MR. SULLIVAN: -- legal, pending or
4 threatened lawsuits. You can't discuss this.
5 CHAIRMAN NITZEL: Just general stuff.
6 (Cross-talk.)
7 CHAIRMAN NITZEL: Yeah. Well, anyway, so
8 the timing would be maybe -- our next meeting is
9 not until before Thanksgiving.
10 MR. PAINTER: We can have another meeting
11 next month if you want. All we have to do is agree
12 to a date and time.
13 CHAIRMAN NITZEL: Let's try to do that.
14 MR. ROWE: Yeah, there's enough of this
15 agenda left we need to --
16 MR. BACHWIRTZ-LOPEZ: Spend some time on it.
17 UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Can we move some stuff
18 with respect to that meeting?
19 MR. ROWE: Well, I mean, these are all
20 things -- okay. So we have two different issues.
21 We have the special meeting with respect to these
22 administrative, kind of objective kinds of issues.
23 That's one. Then we've got the issue of whether
24 the topics that didn't get covered in this meeting
25 that we need to be aware of, plus whatever -- I

1 mean, as I recall, we did have a set of kind of
2 requirements put forth by the board on things they
3 wanted from us for the year.

4 MR. CLAVIO: The work plan.

5 MR. ROWE: The work plan, and we need to
6 make sure that we're on track for the work plan
7 given the fact that that's, I think, for 2024 --

8 CHAIRMAN NITZEL: Right.

9 MR. ROWE: -- and we're sitting here in late
10 August.

11 CHAIRMAN NITZEL: Well, we've gone through
12 some of them already.

13 MR. ROWE: I know, we did the speed cam -- I
14 understand that. But there are other things on
15 there --

16 CHAIRMAN NITZEL: There are still two or
17 three items.

18 MR. ROWE: -- including input into some of
19 the various long-term planning, I thought.

20 CHAIRMAN NITZEL: Yes.

21 MR. CLAVIO: We can definitely think about
22 our work plan for the next year, too, and start
23 hammering that out.

24 MR. ROWE: So it strikes me that sort of
25 thinking about who are we and what do we want to be

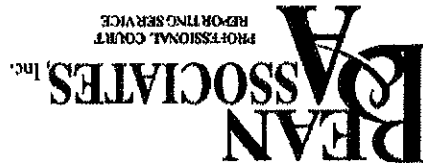
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1 when we grow up needs to come first.
2 MR. CEDENO: Exactly.
3 MR. ROWE: We're then in a position to think
4 about what we want to do. So those things we need
5 to do.
6 MR. MURPHY: I don't want to snatch defeat
7 out of victory here. I think we're getting real
8 close to saying who is it, what do we do when we
9 grow up and what does the budget really mean. Ever
10 since I've been on this, which has been a wonderful
11 experience, we -- and I'm not and engineer so I
12 don't have to worry about this.
13 MR. ROWE: I'm not either.
14 MR. MURPHY: We have a tendency to get
15 bogged down in minutiae.
16 MR. PAINTER: Well, I wouldn't say minutiae.
17 It's important stuff.
18 MR. MURPHY: I think the way this is
19 structured is we're not the people who were
20 designed to solve these problems. We're -- we're
21 to get them organized and go forward. But I think
22 that needs to be defined, is my point. I'm just
23 spouting off the top of my head about that. But I
24 think, you know, who are we and what is our
25 perimeter of operation, is what I would say that

1 would be.

2 CHAIRMAN NITZEL: Okay. So let's pick a
3 date in September.

4 MR. BACHWIRTZ-LOPEZ: How long do you think?

5 MR. CEDENO: I suggest the third week, the
6 third Wednesday of September, keep it the same.

7 MR. SULLIVAN: So the 18th would be the --
8 18th would be the third week, that Wednesday. Does
9 that sound right?

10 MR. CEDENO: Yeah. Yeah.

11 CHAIRMAN NITZEL: Yeah, that's good for me.

12 MR. MURPHY: Same time?

13 MR. BACHWIRTZ-LOPEZ: 4:00 p.m.

14 CHAIRMAN NITZEL: 4:00 to 6:00.

15 (Cross-talk.)

16 MR. CEDENO: Well, I think we need to have
17 meeting management, so keep the agenda short. I
18 would suggest that we have the little charter of
19 the transportation committee available so we can
20 look at it ahead of time.

21 MR. CLAVIO: We'll e-mail that out to all
22 the members.

23 MR. BACHWIRTZ-LOPEZ: Sure.

24 CHAIRMAN NITZEL: It doesn't even match
25 where we are now. That's the other question. I

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1 don't have it committed to memory, the charter, but
2 we may be beyond that.
3 MR. CLAVIO: I think we're spot on. We're
4 spot on. We're just not at liberty to create
5 things like subcommittees, working groups. These
6 are all great ideas. It helps -- it helps staff
7 improve because, you know, it's a small staff, so
8 you guys add value to the staff and bring ideas
9 here. Your main purpose is to advise the board of
10 county commissioners, so we brought ideas to you
11 guys, you guys support it, move it to the board.
12 That gives them a little extra weight, and they can
13 have confidence that it's been sort of vetted and
14 that's the term.
15 MR. CEDENO: Okay.
16 CHAIRMAN NITZEL: So is everybody okay with
17 the 18th at 4:00?
18 MS. CHAVARRIA: Yeah.
19 MR. CLAVIO: Yeah.
20 MR. CEDENO: Yeah.
21 MR. SULLIVAN: When does the county have to
22 have its work plan in for the next year?
23 MR. CLAVIO: We normally present a work plan
24 in January.
25 MR. SULLIVAN: To the commission?

1 MR. CLAVIO: Yeah. And so this year, for
2 example, we've been -- and we were surprised
3 because they wanted to give us more work, and they
4 didn't do that. I was like, oh, okay. So they
5 have confidence in this group and they want to
6 utilize you to help them make better decisions.

7 MR. ROWE: That's true.

8 MR. CEDENO: Cool.

9 CHAIRMAN NITZEL: But you haven't heard any
10 feedback relevant -- prior to this meeting, since
11 we're not going to meet again until the 18th, would
12 it be appropriate for staff to just kind of get a
13 status report from the -- just county people or
14 what?

15 MR. MURPHY: The safety study, the speed
16 light study.

17 CHAIRMAN NITZEL: Well, that's another
18 issue.

19 MS. CHAVARRIA: Yeah.

20 MR. CLAVIO: What's the question, I'm sorry?

21 CHAIRMAN NITZEL: Okay. Recognizing the
22 county board is in charge of things, does it hurt
23 just to ask them how things are going, any issues
24 or something, or maybe they just want us to charge
25 forward like we are. I mean, I always like to have

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1 a line of communication, if possible, between -- do
2 you follow what I'm saying?
3 MR. CLAVIO: Yeah. All of you guys have
4 been appointed -- have been appointed by your
5 commissioner. You're free to communicate with that
6 commissioner or keep in touch. The board is very
7 busy. We apprise them as things come up, but we do
8 give them a status report from time to time. They
9 typically -- if they want to see the minutes, they
10 can access the minutes. I think their main
11 interest has been (inaudible).
12 CHAIRMAN NITZEL: Okay.
13 MR. CLAVIO: But sometimes the commissioners
14 come to the meetings, too, so -- if there's
15 anything that you want to relay to the commission,
16 though, I'd be glad to do that.
17 UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Get those potholes.
18 MR. CLAVIO: (Inaudible) is telling me it's
19 the county.
20 (Cross-talk.)
21 MR. MURPHY: Okay. I just want to be --
22 okay. So is there anything on the agenda we have
23 to get done today that needs to go forward anywhere
24 or --
25 MR. BACHWIRTZ-LOPEZ: Really, the only item

1 was 7(a), the action item, which was that letter of
2 support. Everything else can -- I can tell you
3 very quickly, the informational items, nothing has
4 really moved on those, so I think giving you an
5 update on the 18th is perfectly fine.

6 CHAIRMAN NITZEL: Okay.

7 MR. CLAVIO: That sounds about right.

8 CHAIRMAN NITZEL: Kiera gave a very good
9 presentation about concerns with Madrid. Is
10 that -- is she advised of where that project is
11 enough to be -- I mean, would it be good to talk
12 with her, staff? Have you been updated on the DOT
13 project pretty good?

14 MS. QUINN: I was attending some of the
15 meetings on Zoom several years ago and I haven't
16 heard anything about it since.

17 CHAIRMAN NITZEL: That's what I was
18 wondering, yeah.

19 MS. QUINN: So I'll probably try to come
20 maybe to that one. Is the link to come to the
21 meeting always the same link or is it --

22 MR. BACHWIRTZ-LOPEZ: No, it will change. I
23 would look for it there on the agenda.

24 MS. QUINN: Okay.

25 CHAIRMAN NITZEL: She just raised some

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1 issues that I thought were germane to the study
2 that didn't sound like they were totally in synch
3 to me, so -- maybe they are in synch with what the
4 DOT is coming up with.
5 MR. BACHWIRTZ-LOPEZ: So the county is
6 moving forward, has received some funding to move
7 forward with the Madrid Walk project.
8 MS. QUINN: Right. I do have some concerns
9 about that project. As somebody who walks my kids
10 along that area, I love the overarching idea. I
11 just -- I don't know that the local community is
12 largely aware of how far Michael has already kind
13 of taken things outside of town, so I just -- I
14 don't want people outside of town to go charging
15 ahead thinking that Madrid is on board when they're
16 not up to date.
17 MR. CLAVIO: I can just address that
18 concern. So we have a current scope of work for an
19 RFP. It's in the process of going through
20 procurement. Included in that scope of work is a
21 number of public (inaudible). So it's not going to
22 be a bulldozer through your community. We're going
23 to engage you and your neighbors time and time
24 again until we reach a consensus, and then we're
25 going to design it. And if the consensus is we

1 hate it, then we're not going to do it, but there
2 has already been money appropriated for that. It
3 is a recommended -- recommended safety
4 counter-measure in the safety study, so it's got
5 some legitimacy.

6 But to your point, we want buy-in from the
7 community. We want to do it the way you guys want
8 to do it.

9 MS. QUINN: So I will tell you, we're also
10 dealing with something with the county right now
11 with water drainage and erosion problems. They
12 came through -- they've been working with people
13 for several years trying to do all this stuff, and
14 then they started having these public meetings.
15 And there's a certain constituent in town that had
16 no idea and went, oh, my God, you can't do this.
17 And so we kind of, as a community, have been
18 working through some issues very similar to this
19 very, very recently, like I went to the meeting
20 last week.

21 So there's -- people have been busy. I have
22 two kids. I take care of my grandmother with
23 dementia. I run a business. I'm very busy, and
24 most people can't come to the meetings and stuff so
25 people aren't -- a lot of people aren't on

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1 Facebook. That's where people communicate, all
2 that kind of stuff.
3 MR. CLAVIO: Okay.
4 CHAIRMAN NITZEL: That's about it. One last
5 thing. The TSS, I've asked to move that next
6 meeting back one week to, let's see, the 17th, I
7 believe. Is that right?
8 MR. SULLIVAN: The TSS?
9 CHAIRMAN NITZEL: Transportation Safety --
10 MR. SULLIVAN: Oh, oh.
11 CHAIRMAN NITZEL: So those of you that are
12 on that -- is that correct?
13 (Cross-talk.)
14 MS. CHAVARRIA: I'm sorry, what date was
15 that again, Mr. Chairman?
16 MR. BACHWIRTZ-LOPEZ: It's currently
17 scheduled for October 16th. He's recommending --
18 CHAIRMAN NITZEL: Thank you. I don't know
19 where that came from.
20 MR. BACHWIRTZ-LOPEZ: Because he'll be out
21 of town.
22 MR. ROWE: So when do you want to move it
23 to?
24 CHAIRMAN NITZEL: To the 16th, is that --
25 MR. BACHWIRTZ-LOPEZ: No, it's scheduled.

1 CHAIRMAN NITZEL: It's scheduled.

2 MR. BACHWIRTZ-LOPEZ: The week before would
3 be the 9th. The week after would be the 23rd.

4 CHAIRMAN NITZEL: Okay. That's it, yeah,
5 thank you.

6 MS. CHAVARRIA: You want to do the 9th, you
7 said?

8 CHAIRMAN NITZEL: No, we're back a week.
9 Let me find my calendar.

10 MR. CLAVIO: We're at the end of the
11 meeting.

12 UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Meeting's over.
13 Computer died.

14 (Cross-talk.)

15 CHAIRMAN NITZEL: Yeah, that's the 23rd.
16 Currently, it's the week before that. Move it back
17 a week to the 23rd. It would be the 16th to the
18 23rd.

19 UNIDENTIFIED MALE: October 23rd?

20 CHAIRMAN NITZEL: Yes, that's correct.

21 MR. CLAVIO: Are we done?

22 CHAIRMAN NITZEL: Any other things? No?

23 MR. CEDENO: You'll notice Bernalillo County
24 is doing speed --

25 MR. BACHWIRTZ-LOPEZ: If there's nothing

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1 else --
2 MS. CHAVARRIA: Somebody at Bernalillo
3 County put it on --
4 (Cross-talk.)
5 MR. MURPHY: Can I make a wrap-up statement?
6 CHAIRMAN NITZEL: Yes.
7 MR. MURPHY: A, I think it's been a great
8 meeting. B, I appreciate the public -- you're
9 still there? I think it probably -- it sounds to
10 me like we're in a situation where we're going to
11 have to grow because the problems that are out
12 there that you all mentioned are just
13 extraordinary. So I think -- I think we're on the
14 right path with this.
15 CHAIRMAN NITZEL: Appreciate that. That's a
16 good way to set the stage for wrapping up today.
17 MR. MURPHY: So be informed or be surprised.
18 MR. PAINTER: Either way it's happening.
19 MS. CHAVARRIA: Move to break?
20 CHAIRMAN NITZEL: Is that it? We're
21 adjourned.
22 MS. CHAVARRIA: Aye, aye.
23 (Cross-talk.)
24 MR. BACHWIRITZ-LOPEZ: Thanks, everybody.
25

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I, ANNE DEHON CCR #263, DO HEREBY CERTIFY
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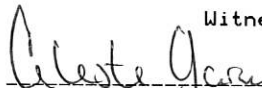

John Nitzel, Chair

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