



## Technical Memorandum

**DATE:** November 27, 2018

**TO:** Roger Williams, Interim Executive Director/EPMPO

**FROM:** Claudia Valles Sosa

**SERIAL:** TDMNMTAZ-01

**SUBJ:** Re-alignment of 2045 TDM Traffic Analysis Zones/New Mexico conformity.

Update of the Traffic Analysis Zones for the conformity analysis of Dona Ana 2015 Ozone NAAQS nonattainment area

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### Overview

On June 4, 2018 (Effective August 3, 2018) the “Additional Air Quality Designations for the 2015 Ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standards” was published; with such publication Dona Ana County (Sunland Park Area), NM was designated as nonattainment marginal (83 FR 25776). In 2016, New Mexico Environmental Department recommended that EPA designate a portion of Doña Ana County near Sunland Park, NM as nonattainment. The alternative boundary recommendation would still include the majority of the population and emission sources in the Sunland Park Area while excluding uninhabited and largely undeveloped desert land. Figure 1 shows a map with the nonattainment area recommend. The boundaries are as follows:

1. Bounded on the north by latitude N31°49’30” (red line);
2. Bounded on the south by the international border between New Mexico and Mexico (yellow line);
3. Bounded on the east by the New Mexico and Texas state line (gray line); and
4. Bounded on the west by longitude W106°36’36” (red line).



Figure 1: Alternative nonattainment boundary recommendation for the Sunland Park Area.

As part of the Travel Demand Model (TDM) developed for the new Destino 2045 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) and Destino 2019-2022 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) for El Paso Metropolitan Planning Organization, the following Traffic Analysis Zones' (TAZ) structure was used for the conformity analysis (Figure 2).

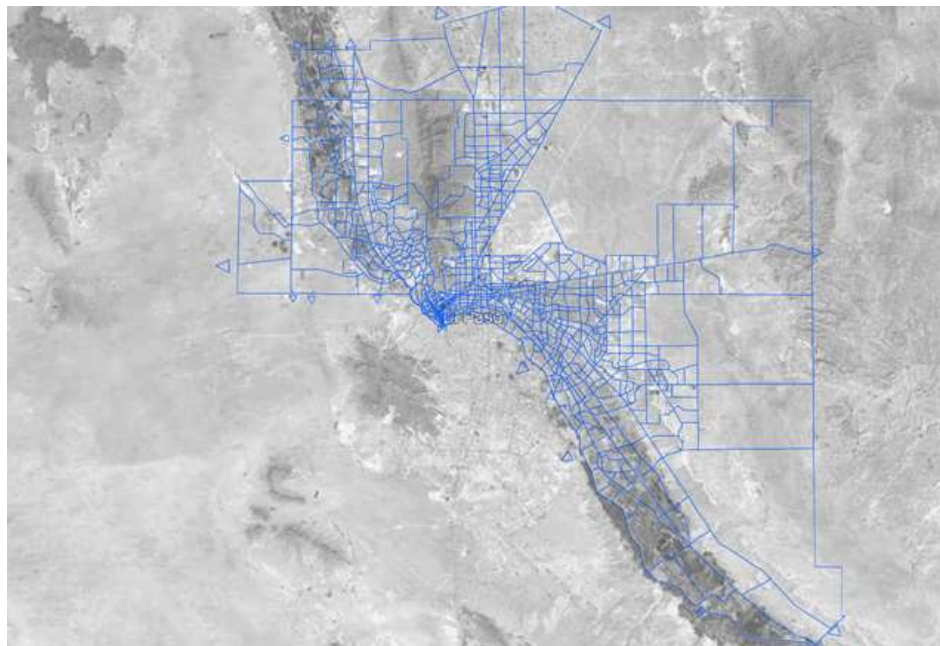


Figure 2: Traffic Analysis Zones at El Paso Metropolitan planning area

The proposed nonattainment area completely covers TAZs: 781, 783, 782,780,779,778,775 and partially covers TAZs: 776, 773 and 777. As TAZs 779, 775 and 778 are next to 776,773 and 777, respectively.

The optimal adjustment to avoid partial use of TAZs was the following: TAZ 779 was extended to the west and TAZ 778 was extended north to reach the nonattainment boundaries. TAZ 775 was adjusted to the north, east, and South. All of the adjustments were in areas with not development as seeing in the images, therefore not changes in demographics were required.

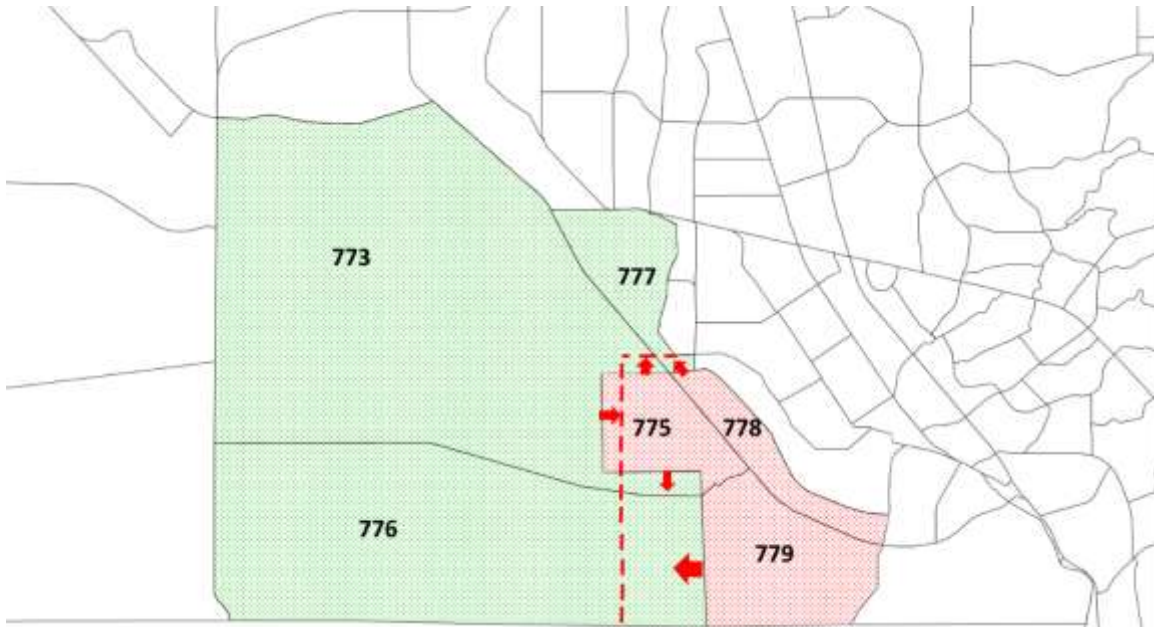


Figure 4: Nonattainment area and TAZ structure



Figure 5: Final TAZ alignment