



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

August 26, 2021

Monumental Transportation Money Awarded

NM Transportation Commission Awards \$160M in Critical Local & Tribal Projects

Virtual, via Zoom – On August 26th, the New Mexico Transportation Commission approved close to \$160 million worth of local and tribal transportation projects throughout the State of New Mexico. A special call for projects was announced in April, and the Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs), Regional Transportation Planning Organizations (RTPOs), and New Mexico Department of Transportation (NMDOT) reviewed applications from various entities throughout the State. Ultimately, NMDOT Cabinet Secretary Michael Sandoval provide a final list of recommendations to the Commission for approval. The NMDOT received over \$273M in applications statewide and selected 110 projects for award totaling \$159.5 million. Remaining funds will be used for hardship waivers. Special thanks to our District 5 Commissioner Tom Taylor and District 6 Commissioner Charles Lundstrom for their support and advocacy for these funds.

Projects funded in Northwest New Mexico and the counties of Cibola, McKinley, and San Juan included:

District	Entity	Project Title	State	Entity	Total
5	City of Aztec	McWilliams Road Paving	\$663,100	\$34,900	\$698,000
5	City of Bloomfield	East Blanco Bridge Phase II	\$363,850	\$19,150	\$383,000
5	City of Farmington	Foothills Drive Enhancement Phase III	\$1,672,950	\$88,050	\$1,761,000
5	Navajo Nation - Shiprock Chapter	Shiprock Farm Road Improvement	\$1,140,000	\$60,000	\$1,200,000
5	San Juan County	County Road 6100 Bridge Resurfacing	\$603,250	\$31,750	\$635,000
5	Town of Kirtland	Road 6405 Reconstruction	\$114,950	\$6,050	\$121,000
5	Town of Kirtland	Road 6411 Reconstruction	\$114,950	\$6,050	\$121,000
6	Cibola County	County Road 1 Bridge and Road Repair	\$1,187,500	\$62,500	\$1,250,000
6	City of Gallup	Coal Avenue Commons Phase II	\$3,325,000	\$175,000	\$3,500,000
6	City of Grants	Washington Avenue & Drainage Recon	\$2,070,346.40	\$108,965	\$2,179,312
6	City of Grants	Sakelares Blvd Design	\$546,250	\$28,750	\$575,000
6	McKinley County	Superman Canyon Bridges	\$1,900,000	\$100,000	\$2,000,000
6	Village of Milan	Airport Road Reconstruction	\$3,145,591	\$165,557	\$3,311,149
6	Navajo Nation - Ramah Chapter	BIA Route 145 Reconstruction Design	\$546,250	\$28,750	\$575,000
6	Navajo Nation - Ramah Chapter	BIA 195 Reconstruction	\$850,360	\$44,755	\$895,116
6	Navajo Nation - Tohajiilee Chapter	Tohajiilee Road Paving	\$3,695,403	\$194,494	\$3,889,898
6	Navajo Nation - Tsayatoh Chapter	West Tsayatoh Road Phase I	\$2,327,500	\$122,500	\$2,450,000
6	Pueblo of Acoma	State Road 124 Frontage Road	\$1,472,500	\$77,500	\$1,550,000
TOTAL			\$21,294,404	\$1,120,756	\$22,415,163

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About Transportation Project Fund

Current funding was appropriated by the New Mexico Legislature and signed into law by Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham. This program was created based on a 2019 bill carried by Representatives Patricio Ruiloba (D-12, Bernalillo) and Patricia Lundstrom (D-9, McKinley & San Juan), which created the Local Government Transportation Project Fund that allows the State to invest in a wide range of local transportation project types, at all stages of readiness, and only requires a minimum local match. The program was revised to allow tribal participation, and in the 2021 Legislative Session a bill carried by Senator Bobby Gonzales was passed and signed to use motor vehicle excise tax to fund the program annually at about \$40M. Eligible projects are allowed in the following categories: (1) environmental and other studies; (2) planning; (3) design; and (5) acquisition of rights of way necessary for development of transportation infrastructure, which includes, highways, streets, roadways, bridges, crossing structures and parking facilities, including all areas for vehicular, transit, bicycle or pedestrian use for travel, ingress, egress, and parking. The program requires a 5% local match without a hardship waiver.

In 2019, the Northwest region received \$12,912,847 in funding and many of those projects have been completed to benefit their communities including Washington Avenue bridge in Grants and Manuelito Canyon Road bridges in McKinley County.

About Northwest New Mexico Council of Governments

Northwest New Mexico Council of Governments (NWNMCOG) is a 50-year-old regional development organization (RDO) recognized and empowered by the State of New Mexico and the US Economic Development Administration. We serve the entire three-county region of Cibola, McKinley, and San Juan counties and the communities therewithin to improve community and economy for the region and its people. The NWNMCOG is association of nine local governments governed by a Board of Directors unified by the belief that we are stronger together and only united can we advance on regional opportunities and tackle regional challenges from sustainable water supply to behavioral health, to strategic infrastructure, and to economic development. The NWNMCOG facilitates the Northwest Regional Transportation Planning Organization (RTPO) under contract with New Mexico Department of Transportation.

For more information about NWNMCOG, visit www.nwnmcog.com.