# NMFA Oversight Committee Presentation

Gerardo Fierro
Executive Director
New Mexico Border Authority
September 9, 2024



# **New Mexico Border Authority**

Joseph J. De La Rosa	Chairman
Emily Gojkovich	Member, Hidalgo County
Christie Ann Harvey	Member, Luna County
Fred Heinrich	Member, Dona Ana County
Andrea Tawney	Member, Dona Ana County
Alex Sierra	Member, Dona Ana County
Vacant Position	
Hon. Howie Morales	Ex-officio



#### **NMBA Actions FY 2024**

- Facilitated Economic Growth
- Expedited Trade and Commerce
- Leveraged Strategic Location
- Enhanced Collaboration with Key Economic Partners
- Promoted Job Creation
- Supported Industrial Development





### **Strategic Initiatives**

- Create a common agenda with neighboring states in Mexico to advance priority regional projects.
- Compile data and evidence to justify the need for additional services and investments and make the information available to the public on a revamped agency website.
- Request Capital Outlay and Special Appropriations to carry out projects, as well as increase agency revenue to have a greater impact on the border region.
- Strengthen partnerships with local and regional stakeholders to continue identifying critical infrastructure priorities.



#### **Performance Measures**

	FY21 Actual	FY22 Actual	FY23 Actual	FY24 Actual	FY25 Approved	FY26 Request
Annual trade share of New Mexico Ports within the west Texas and New Mexico region	25%	18%	25%	35%	35%	35%
Number of coordination meetings with border community leaders, congressional offices, Mexican federal agencies, federal and state agencies or international funding resources to maintain integrity of the international border in New Mexico	280	350	350	175	375	350
Percent of program objectives obtained as a result of direct agency interaction with the border trade community, both public and private sector	90%	90%	90%	70%	90%	90%
Commercial and non-commercial vehicular port traffic at New Mexico ports	885,197	1,988,281	1,206,104	2,300,016	1,250,000	1,250,000
Number of New Mexico Chihuahua and New Mexico-Sonora commissions meetings	2	0	0	0	2	2



# **NMBA Project Updates**

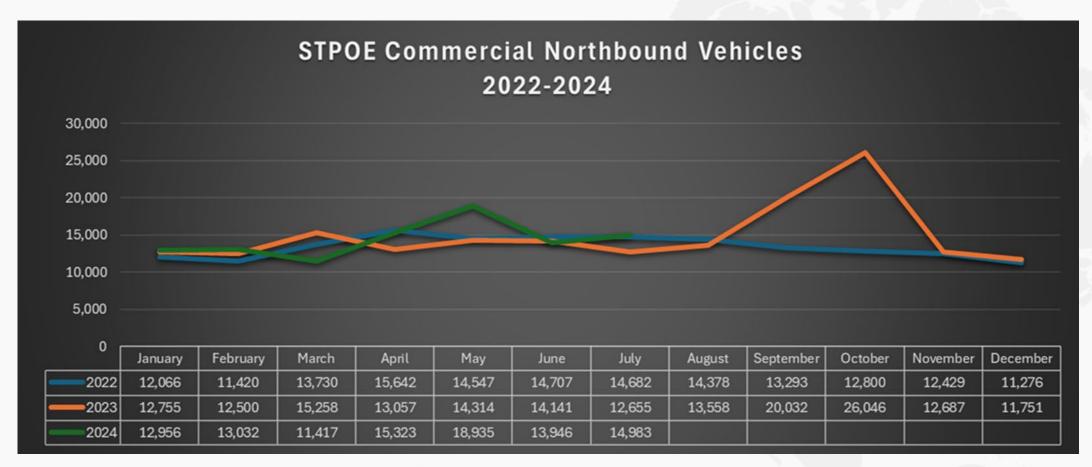
- Feasibility study for the expansion and modernization of the Santa Teresa Port of Entry: The NMBA and U.S. GSA finalized the study in June 2024.
- Columbus Flood Control Project: Final design was completed in March 2024. Construction is expected to begin in the Fall of 2024. Finalizing total project budget.
- **Border Highway Connector:** The NMBA with NMDOT completed Phases A and B of the feasibility study. Phase C (environmental study) is underway and the NMBA is currently working on the contract for Phase D (preliminary design). Finalizing total project budgetary needs.
- Border Highway Connector Phase 2: Additional funding was secured for Phase 2. Phase 2 will look at the best connecting point to Texas and the interstate highway system.



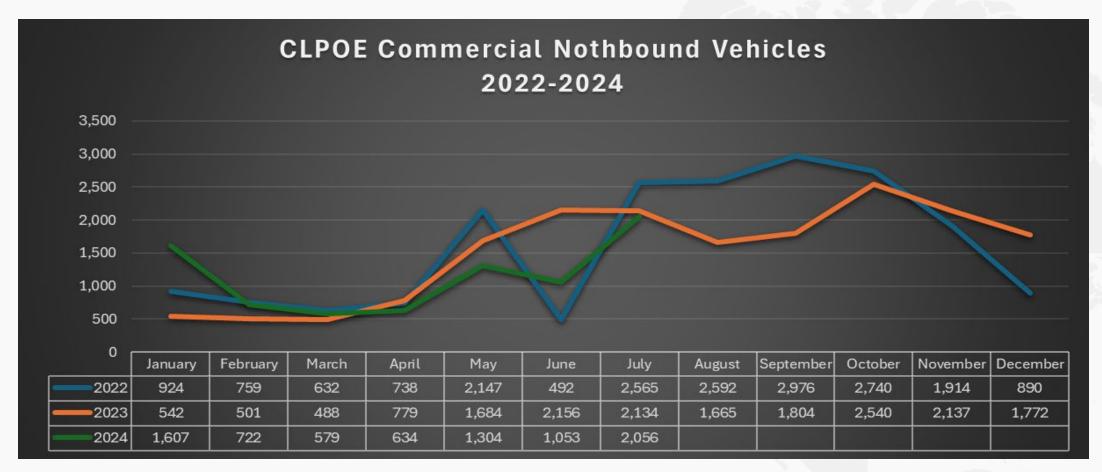
## **NMBA Project Updates**

- Santa Teresa Elevated Water Tank: Final design pending. IGA with CRRUA has been approved. Revising final budget for a 1-million-gallon tank.
- Columbus Facultative Wastewater Pond: Final design and environmental document completed.
   Permit approval received in June of 2024. Pending IGA with the Village of Columbus. Updating final budget.
- NMBA POV Parking Lot: Final design and environmental document completed (2023). The NMBA Board approved construction (2023). Finalizing budget and procurement.
- NMBA Commercial Parking Lot: Final design completed (2024). Finalizing budget and project schedule.

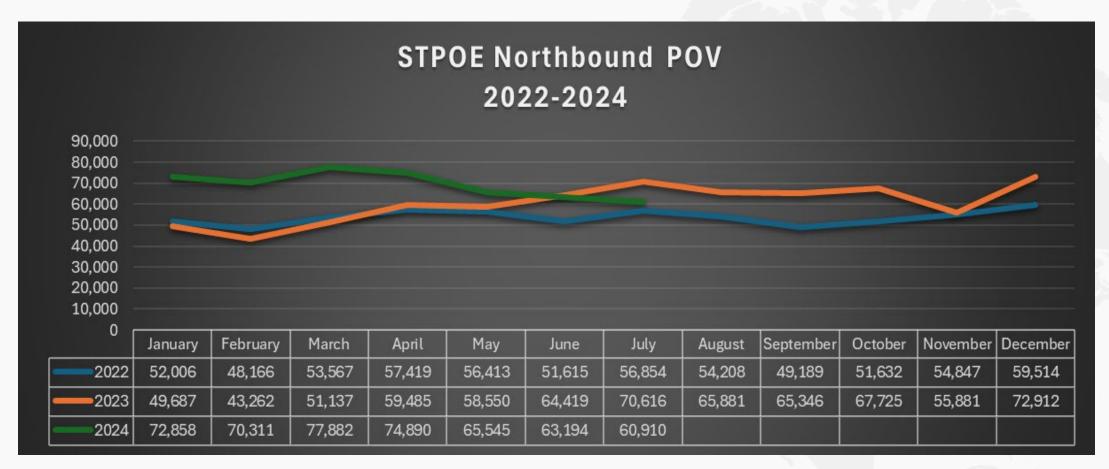




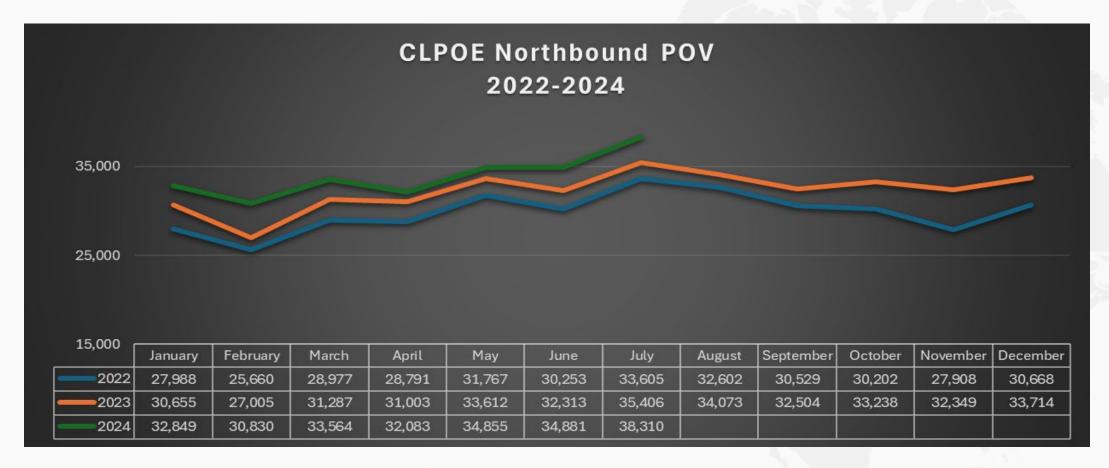














# **Recent Proposed Legislation**

HB 13 – Amend Border Development Act (2023) Sponsored by Reps. Lara & Small	<ul> <li>Changing membership</li> <li>Adding ED qualifications</li> <li>Technical &amp; Clarifying Changes</li> <li>Repealing old provisions</li> </ul>
HB 307- Border Authority as Adjunct Agency (2024) introduced by Rep. Lara	<ul> <li>Removing admin attachment to EDD</li> <li>Changing membership</li> <li>Moving personnel and duties</li> <li>Repealing provisions</li> </ul>
HM 56 – Study Border Development Act (2024) Sponsored by Reps. Lara & Garratt	<ul> <li>Asking NM Association of Counties,</li> <li>later SCCOG to hold meetings with</li> <li>stakeholders to propose border authority</li> <li>changes</li> </ul>



# **Future-Focused Strategy**

As the new Executive Director of the New Mexico Border Authority, my commitment is to build on the agency's momentum and strengthen its role as a catalyst for economic growth and quality of life improvements in the border region.

In the next years, the NMBA will focus on enhancing our infrastructure development initiatives, deepening cross-border partnerships, and expanding our revenue streams to increase our impact. We will prioritize collaborative leadership, innovative problem-solving, and inclusive community engagement to address the unique challenges and opportunities of our binational region. By doing so, we aim to solidify NMBA's position as a trusted convener, facilitator, and champion for a thriving and resilient border community.

As we embark on this strategic journey, I am excited to work alongside our dedicated team, stakeholders, and community partners to shape a brighter future for The State of New Mexico. Together, we will seize opportunities, overcome obstacles, and create a legacy of progress and prosperity for generations to come.

# Thank you!

Gerardo Fierro Executive Director New Mexico Border Authority (505) 629-3175

Gerardo.Fierro@nmba.nm.gov

