

**MINUTES
of the
SECOND MEETING
of the
TRANSPORTATION INFRASTRUCTURE REVENUE SUBCOMMITTEE**

**July 14, 2026
Ralph Edwards Auditorium
Truth or Consequences Civic Center
400 West Fourth Street
Truth or Consequences**

The second meeting of the Transportation Infrastructure Revenue Subcommittee was called to order by Representative Art De La Cruz, chair, on July 14, 2026, at 9:47 a.m. in the Ralph Edwards Auditorium at the Truth or Consequences Civic Center in Truth or Consequences.

Present

Rep. Art De La Cruz, Chair
Sen. Antonio Maestas, Vice Chair
Rep. Cynthia Borrego
Rep. Rebecca Dow*
Sen. David M. Gallegos
Rep. Dayan Hochman-Vigil
Rep. Raymundo Lara
Sen. Micaelita Debbie O'Malley

Advisory Members

Rep. Martha Garcia
Rep. Joy Garratt

Absent

Sen. Craig W. Brandt
Rep. Cathrynn N. Brown
Sen. Roberto "Bobby" J. Gonzales
Rep. Jenifer Jones
Rep. Patricia A. Lundstrom
Sen. George K. Muñoz
Rep. Randall T. Pettigrew

Rep. Gail Armstrong
Sen. Heather Berghmans
Sen. Pat Boone
Rep. Anita Gonzales
Rep. Rod Montoya
Rep. Sarah Silva
Rep. Martin R. Zamora

*Appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives or the president pro tempore of the senate as a voting member for this meeting only.

Guest Legislator

Sen. Linda M. Trujillo

Staff

Erin Bond, Researcher, Legislative Council Service (LCS)
Sean Dolan, Staff Attorney, LCS
Alyssa Reyes, Intern, LCS

Guests

The guest list is in the meeting file.

Handouts

Handouts and other written testimony are in the meeting file and posted on the legislature's website.

References to Webcast

The time reference noted next to each agenda item in this document is cross-referenced to the webcast of the subcommittee meeting, which can be found at www.nmlegis.gov, under the "Webcast" tab. The presentations made and subcommittee discussions for agenda items can be found on the recorded webcast for this meeting.

Tuesday, July 14

Welcome (9:47 a.m.)

Representative De La Cruz welcomed members of the subcommittee and members of the public to the meeting.

Welcome and Updates on Local Transportation Infrastructure (9:56 a.m.)

Rolf Hechler, mayor, City of Truth or Consequences; Richard Holcomb, mayor, City of Elephant Butte; and Jim Paxton, chair, Sierra County Board of County Commissioners, described local infrastructure projects, including new waterlines and road repairs, and funding requests. The presentation materials can be found here:

<https://www.nmlegis.gov/Committee/Handouts?CommitteeCode=TIRS&Date=7/14/2026&ItemNumber=1>.

Approval of Minutes (10:48 a.m.)

Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the subcommittee adopted the minutes of the June 9, 2026 meeting.

Department of Transportation (DOT) District 1 Engineer Report (10:48 a.m.)

Aaron Chavarria, P.E., M.B.A., District 1 engineer, DOT, and Mo Moabed, deputy secretary, Highway Operations, DOT, presented on funding issues due to increased costs, progress on certain projects and equipment needs for District 1. The presentation materials can be found here:

<https://www.nmlegis.gov/Committee/Handouts?CommitteeCode=TIRS&Date=7/14/2026&ItemNumber=2>.

DOT Project Life Cycle (11:34 a.m.)

Manuel Maestas, P.E., acting chief engineer, DOT; Mr. Moabed; and Tisha Clark, P.E., state construction engineer, DOT, discussed the DOT project development process, from the

initial idea to the completion of construction. The presentation contained details regarding project identification, project priorities, the internal planning process, the bid process and completion of the project. The presentation materials can be found here:

<https://www.nmlegis.gov/Committee/Handouts?CommitteeCode=TIRS&Date=7/14/2026&ItemNumber=3>.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Off-Highway Vehicle Use and Regulation (12:55 p.m.)

Roger Pattison, president, New Mexico Off Highway Vehicle Alliance, presented on the benefits of off-highway vehicles to the local economy, the popularity of off-highway vehicles as recreation and a proposed statutory change to broaden who may authorize off-highway vehicles to operate on roads. The presentation materials can be found here:

<https://www.nmlegis.gov/Committee/Handouts?CommitteeCode=TIRS&Date=7/14/2026&ItemNumber=4>.

Innovations in Transportation Technology: DoorDash (1:17 p.m.)

Kierra Phifer, head of West Public Policy, DoorDash; Sophie Jantz, senior associate, Autonomy Policy and Strategy, DoorDash; David Obaidi, operations associate, Expansion and Analytics, DoorDash; and Juan Orellana, operations specialist, Robot, DoorDash, provided an overview of DoorDash, introduced DoorDash's new autonomous delivery robot, including a demonstration, and discussed some legal barriers to operating the autonomous delivery robot. The presentation materials can be found here:

<https://www.nmlegis.gov/Committee/Handouts?CommitteeCode=TIRS&Date=7/14/2026&ItemNumber=5>.

Spaceport America Report (2:28 p.m.)

Scott McLaughlin, executive director, Spaceport Authority, provided background on and the history of Spaceport America, recent and upcoming events at the Spaceport, ongoing projects and budget concerns and previewed the subcommittee's upcoming tour. The presentation materials can be found here:

<https://www.nmlegis.gov/Committee/Handouts?CommitteeCode=TIRS&Date=7/14/2026&ItemNumber=6>.

Tour of Spaceport America (3:50 p.m.)

Legislators and subcommittee staff toured Spaceport America.

Adjournment

There being no further business before the subcommittee, the meeting adjourned at 5:45 p.m.