

**2025 APPROVED
WORK PLAN AND MEETING SCHEDULE
for the
ECONOMIC AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND POLICY COMMITTEE**

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Work Plan

The Economic and Rural Development and Policy Committee (ERDPC) was created by the New Mexico Legislative Council on April 28, 2025. During the 2025 interim, and as time permits, the ERDPC will explore and discuss major areas and specific issues affecting rural economic development and policy as follows:

- A. updates from government agencies involved in economic development, including:
1. the Economic Development Department;
 2. the Workforce Solutions Department;
 3. the Regulation and Licensing Department;
 4. the New Mexico Department of Agriculture;
 5. the Tourism Department;

6. the Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department;
 7. the New Mexico Finance Authority;
 8. the New Mexico Mortgage Finance Authority;
 9. the General Services Department;
 10. the Department of Environment;
 11. the Office of Broadband Access and Expansion;
 12. the Office of the State Engineer;
 13. the Early Childhood Education and Care Department; and
 14. the Cultural Affairs Department;
- B. reports on sector-based economic drivers, including:
1. energy and climate economies:
 - a. clean technologies and energy economies;
 - b. tribal energy development around New Mexico;
 - c. site readiness and meeting the energy needs of New Mexico companies;
 - d. regional transmission organizations;
 - e. taxation of projects on New Mexico Renewable Energy Transmission Authority property; and
 - f. climate resilience, restoration-based employment and extreme heat exposure and drought mitigation;
 2. agricultural and food systems:
 - a. agricultural industries as economic generators;
 - b. local and regional food deserts, supply chains, distribution and processing; and
 - c. water and land access for agricultural use;

3. outdoor, tourism and cultural economies:
 - a. development of outdoor recreation and ecotourism economies;
 - b. tribal tourism and cultural enterprises; and
 - c. expansion of the creative industries;
 4. technology, film and innovation:
 - a. technology and artificial intelligence;
 - b. broadband and digital infrastructure; and
 - c. rural expansion of the film, television and digital media industries;
 5. federal, military and border economies:
 - a. the border industries and tradeports; and
 - b. economic impacts of federal and military installations and national laboratories;
- C. updates on business development and capital access, including:
1. economic development initiatives and priorities in communities around New Mexico;
 2. challenges and opportunities facing rural New Mexico industries and small businesses, including:
 - a. the gaming and tribal gaming industries;
 - b. the tourism and hospitality industry;
 - c. the restaurant, bar and food service industry;
 - d. the manufacturing industry;
 - e. the medical industry; and
 - f. the creative industries;
 3. cooperative and community ownership models in rural and tribal economies;

4. impacts of state policies, such as the use of eminent domain, prevailing wage requirements and the Environmental Improvement Board's policies on electric vehicles;

5. access to capital for small and minority-owned businesses, including through community development financial institutions, tribal lenders and credit unions;

6. opportunities for international investment opportunities in New Mexico, such as the NMexus Center; and

7. impacts of federal tariffs and opportunities for substituting foreign imports with New Mexico production;

D. reports on workforce, education and livability infrastructure, including:

1. internships, apprenticeships and workforce development programs;

2. education initiatives relating to career and technical education and business developments;

3. housing, evictions, zoning and construction;

4. child care access and its role in workforce participation and provider stability; and

5. paid family and medical leave; and

E. updates on tribal and rural economic equity, including:

1. tribal economic development, infrastructure and self-determination;

2. equity in procurement, incentives and rural-targeted programs;

3. the relationships between the economy and the environment, including water use;

4. tribal health care as a model for rural health care; and

5. the economic impact of tribal gaming.

**Economic and Rural Development and Policy Committee
2025 Approved Meeting Schedule**

<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>
June 4	Santa Fe
July 7-8	Ruidoso/Corona
August 11-12	Los Lunas
September 4-5	Farmington
October 1-2	Gallup
November 10	Santa Fe