

City of Albuquerque Paseo del Norte / Unser Boulevard Expansion Update

Transportation Infrastructure Revenue Subcommittee
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City of Albuquerque

10.23.2026



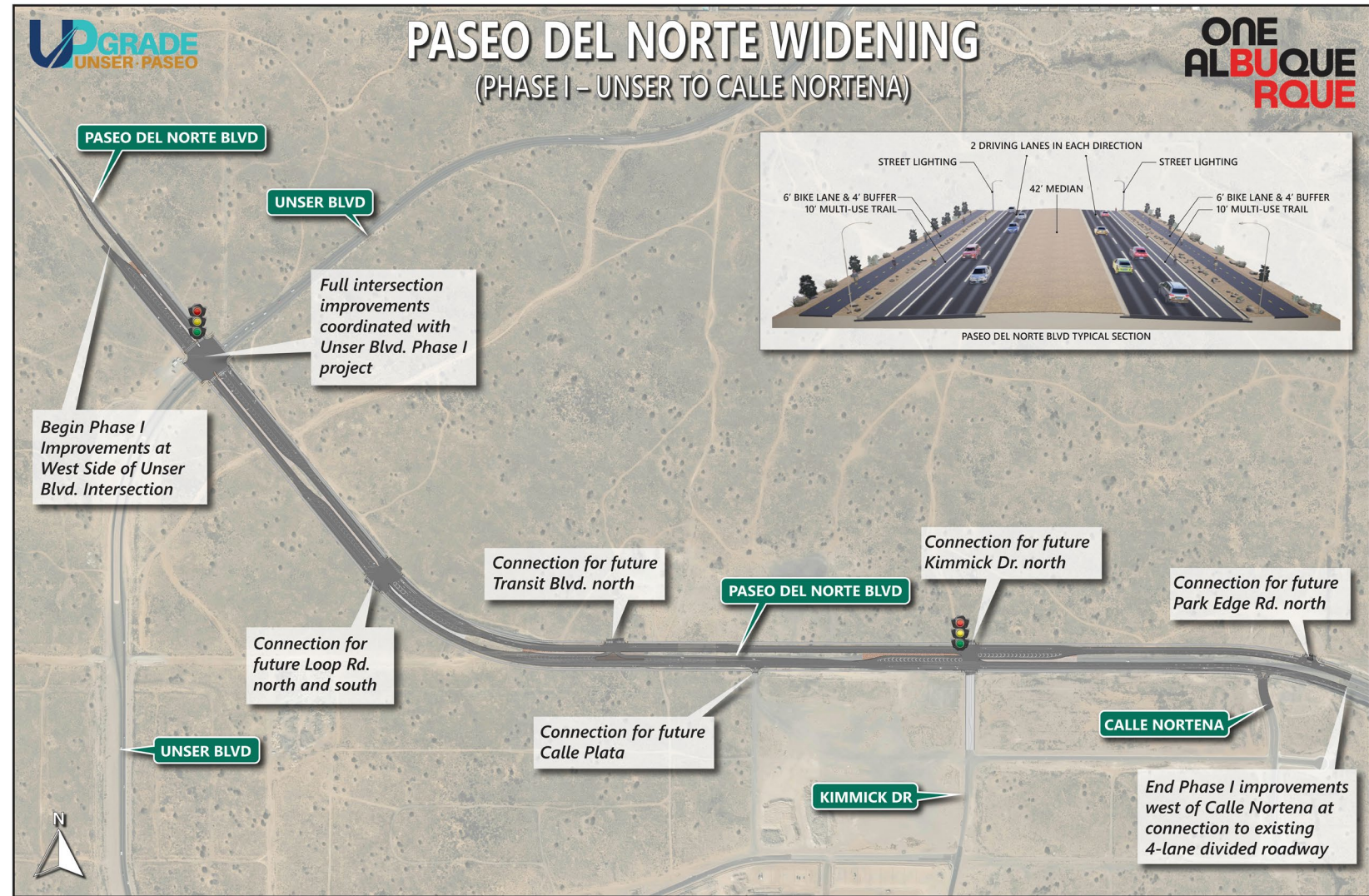
PROJECT HISTORY

- Project development and design originated as two separate projects
 - FUNDING
 - Unser: federal funding in late 2019
 - Paseo del Norte: State appropriations in late 2018
 - Design in 2020 with project development activities beginning for both roadways mid 2020
 - COVID impact
 - PUBLIC OUTREACH and AGENCY COORDINATION
 - Coordination with large land owners, public at large and westside neighborhood associations at each major milestone
 - Coordination with National Park Service due to expansion of Paseo del Norte
 - Record Inflation drove up the cost estimates for the projects
 - Better Economy of scale - two projects combined into one but subject to federal compliance
 - Complicated construction funding package: local, State, Federal, private; different administrative requirements.
 - City continued to seek funding for construction during the design process

Unser Blvd. Gap Widening and Paseo del Norte Widening Projects



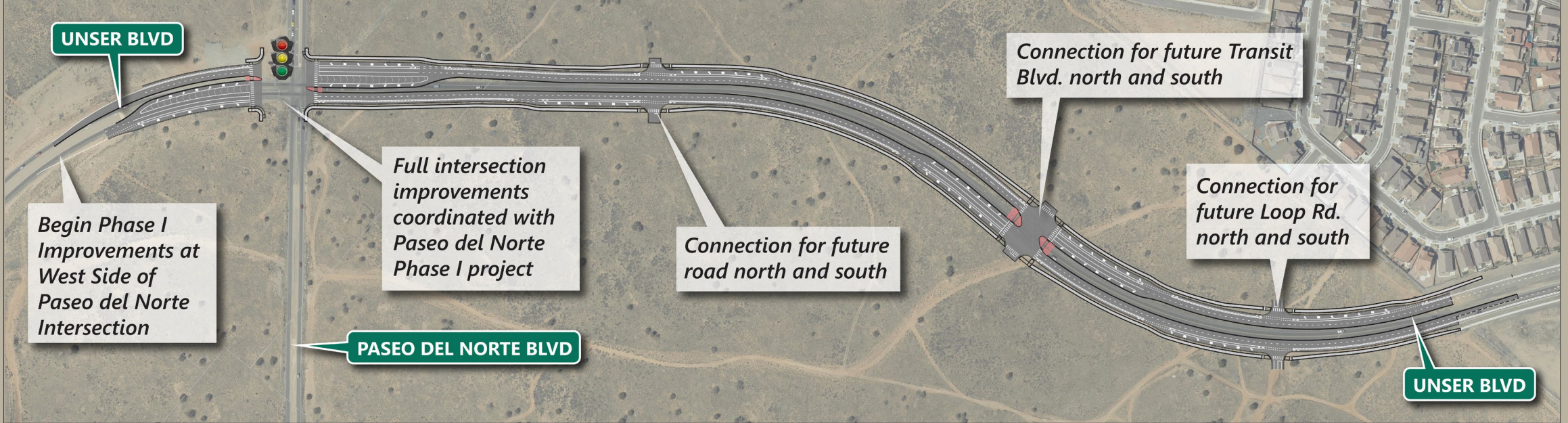
- Complete roadway reconstruction from Unser to Calle Nortena
- Design future intersections for future access along corridor as specified by Roadway Access Control Committee
- 6' bike lanes with 4' buffer throughout corridor
- 10' multi-use trails on both sides of roadway
- Storm drain system design throughout project
- Update signal at Unser Blvd.
- ITS upgrades throughout corridor



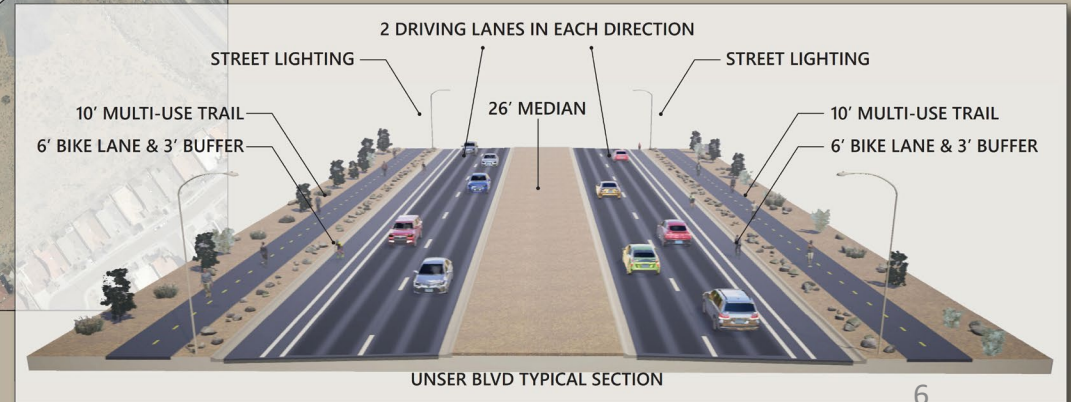
Upgraded Intersection

- Project includes reconstruction of the Paseo del Norte and Unser intersection to upgrade the signal and to accommodate future traffic and future phases of design/construction.





End Phase I improvements at the Paradise Blvd. Intersection



CHALLENGES DURING DESIGN

- Project Complexity
- Right Of Way (ROW)
 - Corridors had 78 feet of ROW and we needed 156 feet of ROW
 - 61 parcels, multiple individual land owners and multiple large land owners
 - Technical experts needed for the appraisal services and land acquisition services
 - All ROW was needed either in the form of purchase or court ordered preliminary order of entry before funding could be accessed (obligated)
 - ROW acquisition activities/land purchases/legal actions were costly and added time to the schedule
 - Condemnation actions required for 11 owners of the large land holdings
 - The City is still in litigation with 5 of these owners since 2024
- Utilities and Coordination with AMAFCA (Unser pond) and Albuquerque Bernalillo County Water Utility Authority(ABCWUA) (storm sewer interceptor)

PROJECT BIDDING

- When the Paseo and Unser Project was advertised, the construction industry was busy:
 - Montgomery/I25 (NMDOT)
 - Los Lunas River Crossing
 - Bridge Boulevard (Bernalillo County)
- The Project Estimate at advertisement was \$52M
- After multiple addendums including requests from contractors to add time to complete the project, the City received two bids and awarded the low bid: \$62,264,978.17 to Star Paving

FUNDING

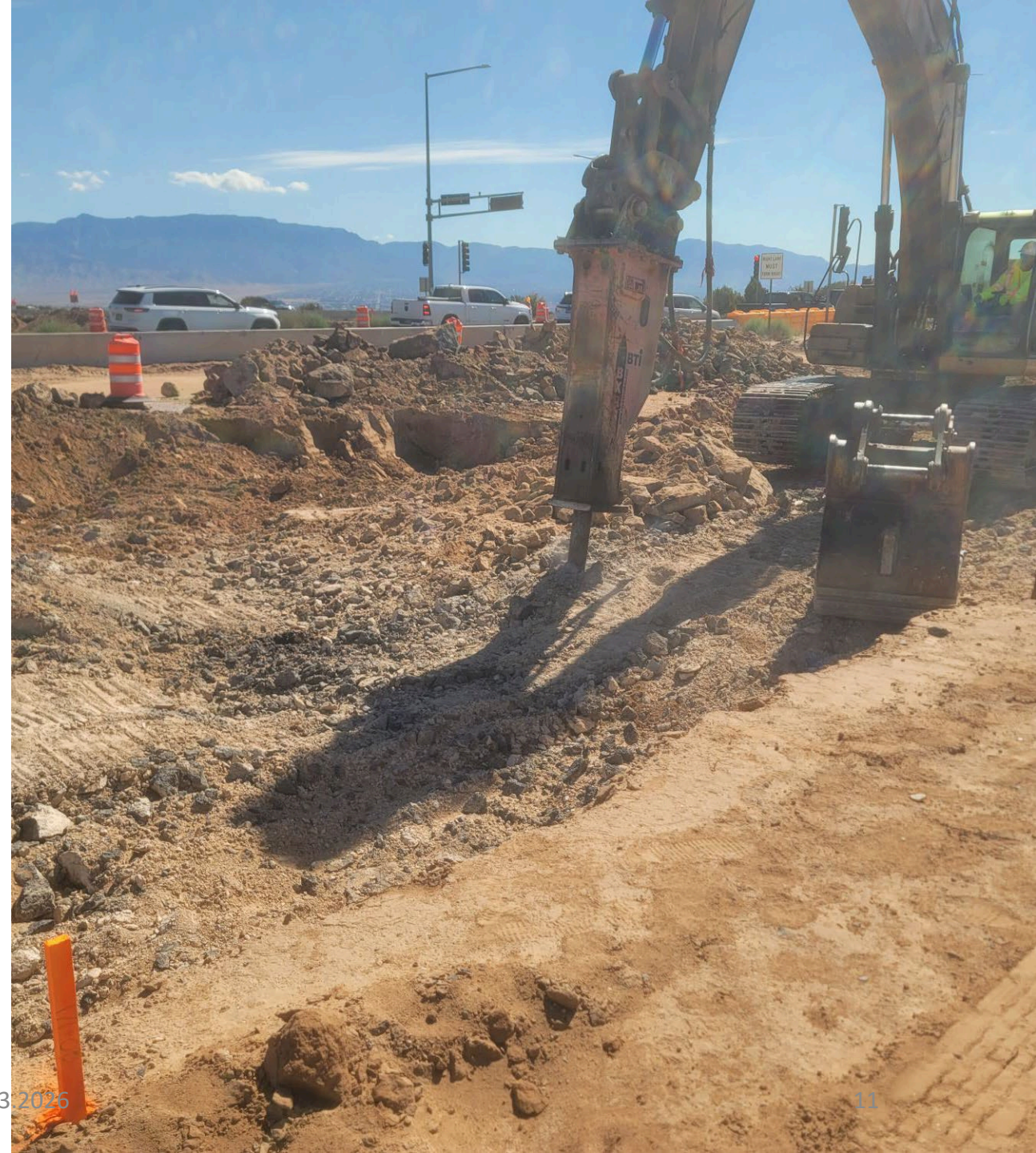
- Final funding package for project:
 - 52% local funding
 - 32% Federal funding and City match requirement
 - 17% State appropriation either capital outlay through NMDOT or NMDOT State Road funding
- Cost Sharing Opportunities:
 - AMAFCA for regional detention pond
 - ABCWUA for storm sewer interceptor extension

Unique Project Aspects

▸ Subsurface Soil Exploration



Extensive Rock Blasting: Paseo del Norte



10.23.2025

Unique Project Aspects

84 inch rigid
concrete pipe
inspected and
verified for use
and assigned to
project



Construction Activities



10.23.2026



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CONSTRUCTION PROGRESS



- This is a **650 calendar day (CD)** project that started on January 12, 2026
- To date 459 CD remaining
- 24% of the funding has been expended which includes State appropriations as well as federal and local funding. This includes full expenditure of 3 state appropriation grants by the end of October. The remaining two state appropriations being used for construction are expected to be fully expended by June 2027
- Blasting operations are **approximately** 30% complete, experiencing large basalt strata throughout the project limits. Expected to be complete late Spring 2027
- Storm Drain installation will continue through Spring 2027 on Paseo and Unser
- Substantial completion date **8/23/2028**

Questions