

# Transportation Challenges Facing County Governments

Cibola County

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# Cibola County

## Cibola County

- ▶ Population - 26,853
- ▶ Area - 4,542 sq mi
- ▶ Density - 6.1 people/sq mi
- ▶ Road Dept. Budget - \$2 million expenditures

## Cibola County Roads

- ▶ 363.215 miles maintained
- ▶ 24.181 miles paved
- ▶ 339.034 miles unpaved
  
- ▶ Non-County-Maintained - 1008.83 miles not including State, Federal, or Tribal roads.

# Cibola County

## Cibola County Property Ownership

- ▶ Federal - 29.33% (USFS, BLM, NPS, & DOE)
- ▶ Tribal - 33.18% (Acoma, Laguna, Navajo, & Zuni)
- ▶ State - 5.55%
- ▶ Private and all other - 31.94%
  - ▶ Taxable base at 32% or less of total land area

# Cibola County

## Planning Organizations

- ▶ North West New Mexico RTPO

Biggest Challenge?

**Money &  
Failing  
Infrastructure**

# County Road 18-B Bridge



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# CR 18-B

This bridge was inherited from Valencia County when Cibola County was formed.

- ▶ Does not qualify for most funding sources due to low traffic counts.
- ▶ Repeated repairs (more than once per year) to roadway in recent years.
- ▶ Total Cost - Approximately ½ our current yearly road budget. \$950,000.
- ▶ **Recently awarded from the Local Government Transportation Project Fund**

# County Road 1





# CR-1

Culverts are being undermined due to heavy run-off

- ▶ This project requires two solutions.
  1. Stopping the erosion around the existing culverts
  2. Preventing continued erosion in the S Curve east of the culverts
- ▶ Limited Funding sources.
- ▶ Cost for repairs almost half the annual road budget- Approximately \$ 1,000,000.00

# Additional Challenges

## Reviewing roads for Maintenance

- ▶ Roads must meet criteria
- ▶ Educating the public regarding what a county can do regarding road maintenance
- ▶ Obtaining ROW on roads
- ▶ Balancing safety and welfare of residents with available funds.

# Challenges in Funding Road Projects

- ▶ Limited Road Funding Sources that include:
  - ▶ Local Government Road Funds - Main Source of funding for Cibola County
  - ▶ FHWA Road funds - limited to roads that qualify (Cibola County has only 2 out of 100 Roads that do qualify)
  - ▶ Local Government Transportation Project Fund - (first award from this fund)
  - ▶ Annual Road Budget - PILT and Gas GRT funding sources
- ▶ Cooperation of local School District to obtain official School Bus Routes.
- ▶ Capital Outlay requests.
- ▶ Obtaining Traffic studies to improve functional classification

Thank You!

Questions?

