



New Mexico DEPARTMENT OF
TRANSPORTATION
MOBILITY FOR EVERYONE

Multimodal Transportation Options & Benefits

A Presentation to TIRS
September 29, 2023

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ACTING EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

MODAL PROGRAMS

Multimodal Transportation Options & Benefits

- World Resource Institute/Rocky Mountain Institute Presentation Recap:
 - IJJA/BIL as a means to:
 - Modernize transit
 - Improve road safety
 - Carbon reduction & improved air quality
 - Better health
 - Economic and social well-being
 - Equity
 - IJJA/BIL is an excellent opportunity to examine and strengthen existing processes and expand collaboration
 - These are existing concepts and practices in NMDOT planning, design and implementation



NMDOT Multimodal Planning

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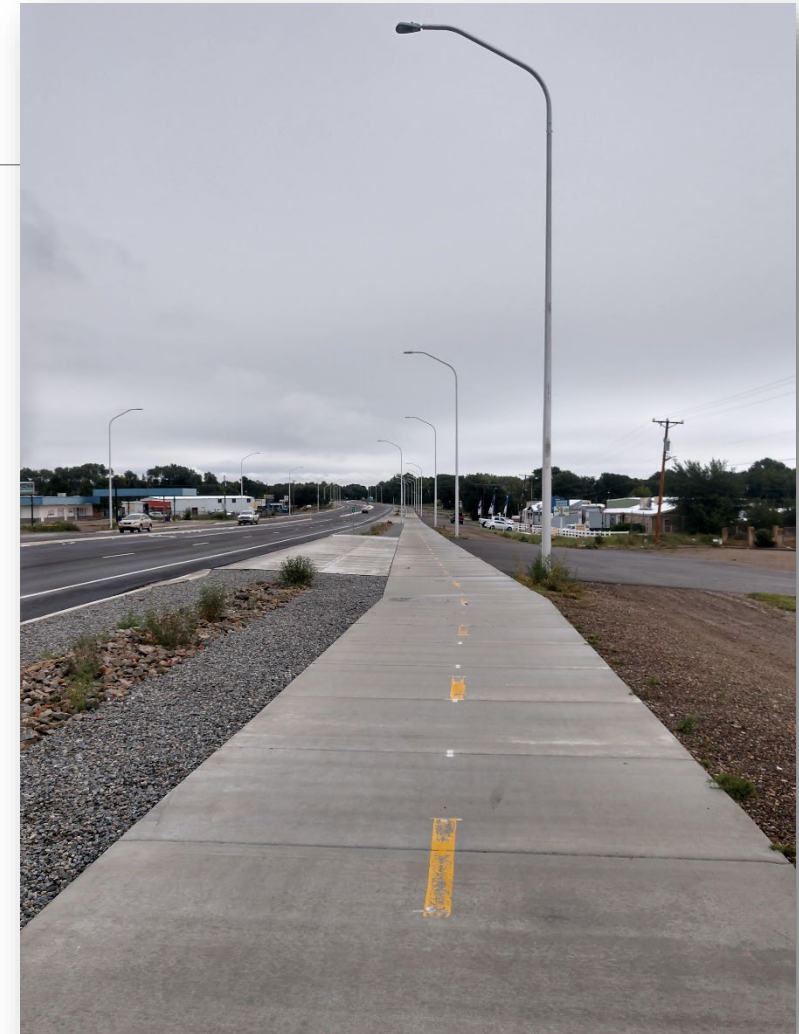


Recap from August 2023 TIRS

Planning Division presented as part of safety-related agenda item

Safety topics covered:

- Highway Safety Improvement Program
 - Strategic Highway Safety Plan
 - FFY 2022-2025 project lists
- Vulnerable Road User Safety Assessment and Special Rule Funds
- NMDOT Pedestrian Safety Action Plan
- NM Bike Plan
- Complete Streets.....
 -which transitions into today's presentation



Multiuse path in Las Vegas, funded by CMAQ
Source: NMDOT

Complete Streets

The Planning Division is currently working on a Complete Streets approach for NMDOT.

Complete Streets touches on many concepts identified in *Moving America Forward: Health, Safety, and Economic Benefits of Multimodal Transportation Systems* report

- Multimodal
- Safety
- Health
- Carbon/Greenhouse gas reduction
- Equity



Source: https://www.americaisallin.com/sites/default/files/2022-09/moving-america-forward_0.pdf

What are Complete Streets?

National Complete Streets Coalition:

- Complete Streets is an approach to planning, designing, building, operating and maintaining streets
- Intent is to enable safe access for all people, including pedestrians, bicyclists, motorists and transit riders of all ages and abilities
- Complete Streets road design varies based on the context

NMDOT working definition:

- Community and context-appropriate roads and transportation networks that are designed, built, and operated to enable safe use for all modes and support mobility for users of all ages and abilities, while also providing infrastructure that mitigates the impacts of climate change.



Las Cruces Safe Routes to Schools
Photo credit: Ashleigh Curry

Complete Streets Work at NMDOT

Complete Streets Set-Aside

- Sec. 11206 BIL/IIJA: US Congress mandated that state DOTs spend 2.5% of SPR funds (or about \$250k/year in NM) on developing complete streets standards, policies and implementation plan
- On-call consultant contract to assist with this effort; started July 2023

NMDOT does some Complete Streets work; this effort will institutionalize and expand upon that work.

Planning Division currently working on:

1) State of the Practice Report

- Summary of best practices
- Internal assessment of NMDOT to document current processes

2) Complete Streets Strategic Plan

- Builds on State of the Practice Report
- Will determine what steps NMDOT must take to implement Complete Streets



Don Gaspar Ave. by Roundhouse
Source: Google Maps

Rural Complete Streets in NM



NM 536 going up to Sandia Crest
Source: Google Maps



County Road in Kirtland, NM
Source: Toole Design

Urban Complete Streets in NM



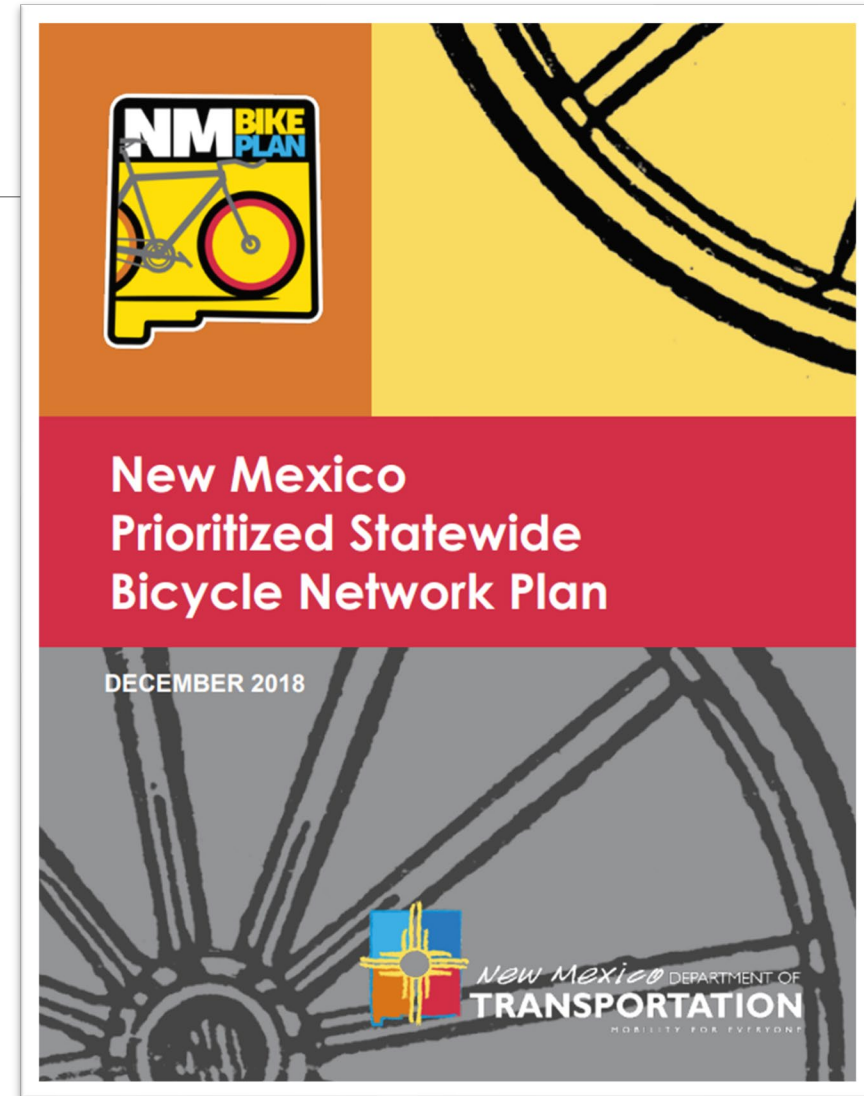
Dr. Martin Luther King Jr Dr NE, Albuquerque, NM
Source: Google Maps



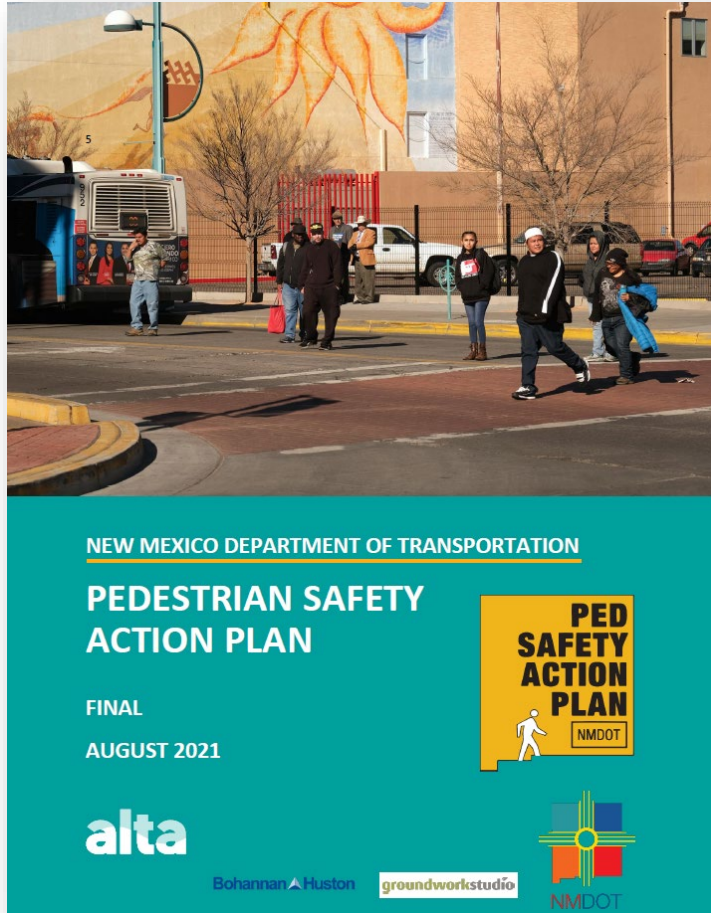
Main Street in Farmington, NM
Source: Google Maps

NM Bike Plan

- Adopted December 2018
- Long-range infrastructure plan that identifies which NMDOT roadways are appropriate for bicycle infrastructure during roadway reconstruction and major rehabilitation projects
- Context sensitive: Plan provides guidance on the types of facilitates that are appropriate based on the roadway:
 - Vehicular speed
 - Vehicle volume
 - Urban/rural
- Plan is referenced by the Districts
- Implementation happens by the District offices and Design Centers during construction/rehabilitation projects



NMDOT Pedestrian Safety Action Plan



- Adopted August 2021
- 5-year framework of over 40 distinct actions to hopefully reduce pedestrian involved fatal and serious injury crashes
- Actions divided up into 7 categories:
 1. Data, Analysis and Evaluation
 2. Driver Education
 3. Pedestrian Outreach Program
 4. Highway and Traffic Engineering
 5. Law Enforcement and Emergency Services
 6. Communication
 7. Planning and Legislation
- Requires Department-wide implementation

New Mexico 2045 Plan

Federally-mandated 5-year long range statewide transportation plan – adopted July 2021

Safety Goal – Improve safety for all transportation users

- Invest in infrastructure and programs that improve pedestrian safety

Mobility and Accessibility Goal - Efficiently and equitably invest in infrastructure and technology to provide reliable multimodal access and connectivity, improve mobility, foster economic growth, and minimize transportation's contribution to climate change

- Expand transportation choice through multimodal investments and complete streets design.



New Mexico 2045 Plan

Implementation Strategies:

- Update Guidance Manuals and processes to include Complete Streets Principles. Develop and conduct training for staff on process changes. Integrate Complete Streets approaches into the development process of new and reconstruction projects.
- Implement recommendations from the NM Bike Plan for reconstruction and rehabilitation projects to increase safety for local and tourist cyclists and reduce VMT.
- Implement recommendations from the NMDOT Pedestrian Safety Action Plan.



Tribal/Local Public Agency Multimodal



Multiuse Path crossing road with raised crosswalk
Source: NMDOT

Bureau funds active transportation plans and projects for Tribal/Local Public Agencies

- Using federal programs:
 - Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP)
 - Recreational Trails Program (RTP)
 - Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program (CMAQ)
 - Carbon Reduction Program (CRP)
- Project selection criteria vary for each program, in general:
 - Planning
 - Economic Vitality
 - Safety and Security
 - Accessibility and Mobility
 - Protection and Enhancement of the Environment, or Air Quality Improvement
 - Equity
 - Among other items



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NMDOT Plan Updates

STATEWIDE PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION PLAN

- Evaluate the needs of New Mexico's rural, urban, and intercity public transportation services.
- Identify, define, and prioritize transit programs and investments to fill gaps in the existing network of services across the state.
- Present transit investment projects and programs for the next ten years.
- Provide recommendations that align with goals of the New Mexico 2045 Plan: Safety, Mobility and Accessibility, Program Delivery, and Asset Management.

STATE RAIL PLAN

- Include both freight and passenger rail.
- Guide decisions and investments affecting the NM rail system.
- Describe the current status of the NM rail system.
- Demonstrate the demand for and benefits of the rail system.
- Identify capital infrastructure and operating needs.

Coordinated Approach to Transportation

- Data-driven
- Partnerships
 - City/County/Tribal governments
 - Community resources
 - Elected officials
 - Public engagement
- Funding
 - Seek appropriate funding mechanisms, including grants
 - Serve as a funding mechanism to partners (NMDOT as a resource)
 - Fund programs that support agency goals
- Programming
 - Strengthen coordination across the department (planning, design, construction...)
 - Safe Systems Approach (HM 85 – Vision Zero)

