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## FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR Rodella DATE TYPED 02/10/2005 HM 19

SHORT TITLE Taos West Rim Road Responsibility SB \_\_\_\_\_

ANALYST Moser

### APPROPRIATION

Appropriation Contained		Estimated Additional Impact		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY05	FY06	FY05	FY06		
NFI	NFI	NFI	NFI		

(Parenthesis ( ) Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

### SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From  
Department of Transportation

### SUMMARY

#### Synopsis of Bill

House Memorial 19, due to excessive costs to the County of Taos, would transfer maintenance responsibility for Taos County Highway B-115 (aka West Rim Rd) to the Department of Transportation.

#### Significant Issues

DOT worked with Taos County in developing and constructing this project in accordance with a Road Exchange Agreement. In the original scope of work for the construction of West Rim Road, a Plant Mix Bituminous Pavement (PMBP) surface was proposed, but local residents opposed this proposal and requested that the road remain a base course road. The sentiments seem to have changed now, but the funds for doing this type of work are not available at this time.

### PERFORMANCE IMPLICATIONS

The DOT reports that the current patrol for the area maintains 22.6 miles/FTE. With the added

responsibility for County Road B-115, the patrol will maintain 24.3 miles/FTE. This will create a lower level of service to existing roadway maintenance needs.

### **FISCAL IMPLICATIONS**

The DOT estimates that the amount to maintain 8.1 miles of the current unpaved road is \$33,190 per year. This includes the equipment and labor cost of grading the dirt road 20 times per year and cleaning the drainage structure 3 times per year.

Since the DOT's goal is to provide a sound transportation system, a construction project would be required to make this road meet DOT standards. The impact to the STIP is projected at \$9.72 million. This would include paving two 12-foot driving lanes and two 8-foot shoulders.

Future Pavement Preservation/Preventive Maintenance cost over a typical 20 year lifespan is \$264,000. This includes \$28,000/year for Fog Seal at years 5, 10, and 15; \$88,000/year Chip Seal at years 7, 12, and 17.

In addition to the above costs, the DOT would also be required to perform snow/ice removal and incident/emergency management maintenance. The cost of incident management depends on the scope of the incident and could be rather significant.

GM/njw:lg