

**APPROVED 2009 WORK PLAN AND MEETING SCHEDULE  
for the  
ECONOMIC AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

The Economic and Rural Development Committee (ERD) was created by the New Mexico Legislative Council on May 7, 2009.

**Members**

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Sen. John M. Sapien  
Rep. Shirley A. Tyler  
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**Work Plan**

During the 2009 interim, the Economic and Rural Development Committee proposes to address the following:

1. Evaluate the home mortgage crisis in New Mexico, including a review of the Home Loan Protection Act, foreclosure rates, predatory lending practices, congressional solutions and potential state initiatives.
2. Lack of a well-trained work force is often cited as one of the barriers to business recruitment. The committee plans to review the implementation of Senate Bill 46 to develop high school pre-apprenticeship programs and examine additional statewide opportunities in vocational education and the needs of New Mexico's job market.
3. Study ways to encourage higher education to emphasize degree programs currently in short supply as well as review work force talent retention problems. The committee also plans to

evaluate the cultural competency curriculum for students entering health professions.

4. Receive a presentation from the Workforce Solutions Department on unemployment issues and review statewide work force demographic changes.
5. Evaluate the economic impact of the wine industry from growth to production and determine whether policy changes are necessary to support the industry.
6. Review the practical effects of the changes to tax increment development district (TIDD) statutes in New Mexico, including a review to determine if amendments are necessary to accomplish the state's goals in creating the districts. The committee will examine existing TIDDs, the new TIDD at Winrock and potential future TIDDs in Las Cruces and the SunCal TIDD.
7. Review annexation issues pursuant to House Memorial 60, including the benefits and drawbacks of expanding municipal boundaries as well as annexation procedures. Specifically, the committee will hear a presentation on the regionalization efforts of White Sands Missile Range.
8. Oversee the efforts of the Economic Development Department to attract economic activity to New Mexico and assess the return on investment for tax credits encouraging economic development, including film, energy and the job training incentive program.
9. Receive a report from the Tourism Department on the effects of this ailing economy on New Mexico tourism and study the potential for promoting "adventure/eco-travel".
10. Continue to examine the needs of rural communities, including tribal economic development, New Mexico rural poverty, asset deficits and individual development accounts.
11. Continue to evaluate collaboration opportunities with the national laboratories.
12. Examine the new model Administrative Procedures Act, assess its impact on business and develop an approach to improving regulatory processes. The committee voted to create a Regulatory Processes Subcommittee, comprised of six members, subject to approval by the New Mexico Legislative Council. At the June 24 meeting of the New Mexico Legislative Council, the council did not accept the Economic and Rural Development Committee's proposal. Instead, the council voted to create a subcommittee composed of members of the Economic and Rural Development Committee, Revenue Stabilization and Tax Policy Committee and Courts and Criminal Justice Committee. The council approved one two-day meeting for the 2009 interim.
13. Review recommendations and the report from the Consumer Lending Task Force and look at recommended legislation.
14. Evaluate emerging economic sectors in New Mexico, identify incentives to attract new business and investment and examine methods to cultivate opportunities for existing business.

The committee will focus on incentives for the renewable energy industry, specifically exploring the possibility of renewable energy payments as an incentive to encourage use of alternative energy (House Memorial 96) and studying regulation of commercial wind facilities (House Joint Memorial 75).

15. Receive an update on the progress of Spaceport America.
16. Review arts and culture as a means of economic development pursuant to House Memorial 112.
17. Explore agricultural issues, including the chile industry, organic farming, dairy and hemp commercialization (Senate Memorial 30).
18. Receive an update on uranium mining, including development and cleanup.
19. Study the statutory and regulatory powers of homeowners' associations and, conversely, the rights of members.
20. Explore the economic development impact of transportation infrastructure.
21. Receive an overview of the federal stimulus package, including plans for transportation, government services and the status of grant applications.

(Please note: All appropriation requests will be limited to the November committee meeting with the exception of presentations by host communities.)

## MEETING SCHEDULE

<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>
June 1	Santa Fe
July 8-10	Deming/Elephant Butte
August 26-27	Albuquerque/Belen
September 28-29	Taos/Angel Fire
November 11-13	Santa Fe