

MINUTES
of the
FOURTH MEETING
of the
TRANSPORTATION INFRASTRUCTURE REVENUE SUBCOMMITTEE

September 10-11, 2026
Center of Recreational Excellence
Banquet Room
4827 North Lovington Highway
Hobbs

The fourth meeting of the Transportation Infrastructure Revenue Subcommittee was called to order by Representative Art De La Cruz, chair, on September 10, 2026 at 9:38 a.m. at the Center of Recreational Excellence Banquet Room in Hobbs.

Present

Rep. Art De La Cruz, Chair
Sen. Antonio Maestas, Vice Chair
Sen. Pat Boone (9/10)*
Rep. Cynthia Borrego
Rep. Cathrynn N. Brown
Rep. Rebecca Dow (9/10)*
Rep. Martha Garcia*
Rep. Raymundo Lara

Absent

Sen. Craig W. Brandt
Sen. David M. Gallegos
Sen. Roberto "Bobby" J. Gonzales
Rep. Dayan Hochman-Vigil
Rep. Jenifer Jones
Rep. Patricia A. Lundstrom
Sen. George K. Muñoz
Sen. Micaelita Debbie O'Malley
Rep. Randall T. Pettigrew

Advisory

Rep. Rod Montoya (9/10)

Rep. Gail Armstrong
Sen. Heather Berghmans
Rep. Joy Garratt
Rep. Anita Gonzales
Rep. Linda Serrato
Rep. Sarah Silva
Rep. Martin R. Zamora

Guest Legislators

Sen. Larry R. Scott
Rep. Elaine Sena Cortez
Sen. Pat Woods

*Appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives or the president pro tempore of the senate as a voting member for this meeting only.

(Attendance dates are noted for those members not present for the entire meeting.)

Staff

Erin Bond, Researcher, Legislative Council Service (LCS)
Sean Dolan, Staff Attorney, LCS

Guests

The guest list is in the meeting file.

Handouts

Handouts and other written testimony are in the meeting file and on the legislature's website.

References to Webcast

The time reference noted next to each agenda item in this document is cross-referenced to the webcast of the subcommittee meeting, which can be found at www.nmlegis.gov, under the "Webcast" tab. The presentations made and subcommittee discussions for agenda items can be found on the recorded webcast for this meeting.

Thursday, September 10

Welcome and Introductions (9:38 a.m.)

Representative De La Cruz welcomed members of the subcommittee and members of the public to the meeting.

Welcome and Updates on Local Transportation Infrastructure (9:52 a.m.)

Jonathan Sena, mayor, City of Hobbs, and Corey Needham, county manager, Lea County, welcomed the subcommittee to Hobbs and provided an update on local infrastructure projects in the area. The presentation materials can be found here:

<https://www.nmlegis.gov/Committee/Handouts?CommitteeCode=TIRS&Date=9/10/2026&ItemNumber=1>.

Educating the Transportation Workforce (10:57 a.m.)

Ryan Tipton, D.B.A., president and chief executive officer, University of the Southwest, and Cathy Mitchell, M.Ed., interim president, New Mexico Junior College, provided an overview of the degrees and services offered by the University of the

Southwest and New Mexico Junior College, with a particular emphasis on transportation-related education. The presentation materials can be found here:

<https://www.nmlegis.gov/Committee/Handouts?CommitteeCode=TIRS&Date=9/10/2026&ItemNumber=2>.

State-Funded Local Transportation Projects (11:13 a.m.)

Joseph Simon, principal analyst, Legislative Finance Committee (LFC), and Cally Carswell, principal analyst, LFC, provided an overview of a recent LFC report regarding transportation-related funds, including issues related to the funds and potential solutions. The presentation materials can be found here:

<https://www.nmlegis.gov/Committee/Handouts?CommitteeCode=TIRS&Date=9/10/2026&ItemNumber=3>.

New Mexico Gas Tax Update and Department of Transportation (DOT) Revenue Projections (12:53 p.m.)

Michael Morrison, chief economist, DOT, presented an overview of the state of the gasoline tax, possible adjustments, gas taxes in other states and revenue projections. The presentation materials can be found here:

<https://www.nmlegis.gov/Committee/Handouts?CommitteeCode=TIRS&Date=9/10/2026&ItemNumber=4>.

Approval of Minutes (1:34 p.m.)

The subcommittee approved the minutes of the July 14, 2026 and August 12, 2026 meetings.

New Mexico Transportation by the Numbers (1:35 p.m.)

Rocky Moretti, director, policy and research, National Transportation Research Group; Jim Garcia, executive director, Associated Contractors of New Mexico; David Shoup, owner, Constructors, Inc.; Sterling Hamilton, owner, James Hamilton Construction; and Manuel Maestas, P.E., acting chief engineer, DOT, presented on key transportation facts in the state, including costs of deficient roads, projects around the state, economic trends and conditions of major roads. The presentation materials can be found here:

<https://www.nmlegis.gov/Committee/Handouts?CommitteeCode=TIRS&Date=9/10/2026&ItemNumber=5>.

Oil and Gas Industry and Transportation Infrastructure (2:28 p.m.)

Missi Currier, Ph.D., director, New Mexico Oil and Gas Association (NMOGA), and Andrea Felix, vice president of regulatory affairs, NMOGA, presented on how oil and gas

are moved through the state, costs and revenue and road safety related to oil and gas transportation. The presentation materials can be found here:

<https://www.nmlegis.gov/Committee/Handouts?CommitteeCode=TIRS&Date=9/10/2026&ItemNumber=6>.

New Mexico Motor Vehicle Safety Inspection Program (4:02 p.m.)

Jacob Eassa, division counsel of the Americas, DEKRA, and JoJo Heselmeyer, consultant, DEKRA, presented on the benefits of an expanded vehicle safety inspection program, which includes a comprehensive inspection of vehicles. The presentation materials can be found here:

<https://www.nmlegis.gov/Committee/Handouts?CommitteeCode=TIRS&Date=9/10/2026&ItemNumber=7>.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Recess

The meeting recessed at 5:05 p.m.

Friday, September 11

Tour of Mewbourne Oil Company (8:00 a.m.)

Subcommittee members and subcommittee staff toured the Mewbourne Oil Company.

Eddy County Highway Safety Team: Leveraging Public-Private Partnerships to Improve Road Safety (11:53 a.m.)

Josh Mack, chief, Eddy County Fire Department, and Heather Brewer, government affairs consultant, Permian Strategic Partnership, presented on the highway safety team program that provides strategic partnerships related to road safety in the Permian Basin. The presentation materials can be found here:

<https://www.nmlegis.gov/Committee/Handouts?CommitteeCode=TIRS&Date=9/10/2026&ItemNumber=8>.

DOT District 2 Engineer Report (12:08 p.m.)

Francisco Sanchez, P.E., District 2 engineer, DOT, presented a brief report on road safety in Transportation District 2. The presentation materials can be found here:

<https://www.nmlegis.gov/Committee/Handouts?CommitteeCode=TIRS&Date=9/10/2026&ItemNumber=9>.

Aviation Division and Industry Update (12:38 p.m.)

Jessi Litz-Rowden, director, Aviation Division, DOT; Bob Hudson, manager, Moriarty Municipal Airport, and president, New Mexico Airport Managers Association; Jody Young, administrator, Doña Ana County International Jetport; Corey Needham, county manager, Lea County; Todd Randall, assistant city manager, City of Hobbs; and Bobbi Thompson, Director, Roswell Air Center, and director, National Championship Air Races, presented on the accomplishments and current priorities of the Aviation Division of the DOT, investments in airports and current projects. The presentation materials can be found here:

<https://www.nmlegis.gov/Committee/Handouts?CommitteeCode=TIRS&Date=9/10/2026&ItemNumber=10>.

Adjournment

There being no further business before the subcommittee, the meeting adjourned at 12:58 p.m.