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HOUSE MEMORIAL 28

50TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2011

INTRODUCED BY

Tim D. Lewis

A MEMORIAL

DECLARING CONSTRUCTION OF THE PASEO DEL NORTE BOULEVARD AND INTERSTATE 25 INTERCHANGE PROJECT IN ALBUQUERQUE AND THE EXTENSION OF THE EASTERN ALIGNMENT OF PASEO DEL VOLCAN FROM PASEO DEL NORTE BOULEVARD IN THE CITY OF ALBUQUERQUE TO SOUTHERN BOULEVARD IN THE CITY OF RIO RANCHO AS DEVELOPMENT PRIORITIES IN THE GREATLY EXPANDING ALBUQUERQUE METROPOLITAN PLANNING AREA; REQUESTING THE PARTICIPATION OF ALL IMPACTED JURISDICTIONS IN FUNDING THESE PRIORITIES; REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION TO IDENTIFY ALTERNATIVE FUNDING SOURCES.

WHEREAS, the New Mexico department of transportation, in cooperation with member jurisdictions of the Albuquerque metropolitan planning area, has completed the planning phase for a project to improve the Paseo del Norte boulevard and

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1 interstate 25 interchange; and

2 WHEREAS, the Paseo del Norte boulevard and interstate 25
3 interchange project will reconstruct the major traffic exchange
4 that connects Albuquerque's northwest mesa, the city of Rio
5 Rancho, the village of Corrales and the village of Los Ranchos
6 de Albuquerque to the region's major employment centers,
7 including the university of New Mexico, central New Mexico
8 community college, Kirtland air force base, uptown Albuquerque
9 and the north interstate 25 corridor; and

10 WHEREAS, eighty thousand four hundred vehicles use the
11 north interstate 25 transportation corridor every day, and by
12 the year 2035, the number of vehicle trips is projected to
13 double, creating delays of up to twenty minutes. Currently,
14 traffic delays in the Paseo del Norte boulevard and interstate
15 25 interchange project area annually result in nineteen million
16 dollars (\$19,000,000) in lost wages for commuters waiting in
17 traffic; and

18 WHEREAS, due to inadequate access to and from the roads in
19 the Paseo del Norte boulevard and interstate 25 interchange
20 project area, the full economic potential of the land uses
21 within the north interstate 25 corridor is not realized; and

22 WHEREAS, the Paseo del Norte boulevard and interstate 25
23 interchange project will include constructing flyover ramps for
24 the northbound-to-westbound and the eastbound-to-southbound
25 directions of travel; widening Paseo del Norte boulevard from

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1 Edith boulevard to San Pedro drive; improving the intersection
2 at San Pedro drive and interstate 25; separating the grade at
3 Paseo del Norte boulevard and Jefferson street; improving the
4 frontage road adjacent to Paseo del Norte boulevard;
5 constructing a new arterial street over the Domingo Baca arroyo
6 between the north diversion channel and interstate 25 to
7 improve access to underused commercial lands in the north
8 interstate 25 corridor; improving Jefferson street from Lang
9 avenue to the Domingo Baca channel arterial street; improving
10 the interchanges of interstate 25 at San Mateo boulevard and
11 Osuna road, at San Antonio avenue, and at Alameda boulevard and
12 New Mexico highway 528; widening interstate 25 to four lanes in
13 each direction to improve driver safety and traffic flow;
14 improving the frontage roads from San Mateo boulevard and Osuna
15 road to Alameda boulevard and New Mexico highway 528;
16 developing a transit corridor to connect the New Mexico rail
17 runner express with the Albuquerque ride and Rio metro bus
18 systems; connecting the east-west bike trail system across
19 interstate 25 and through the Journal center; developing
20 Channel road from Osuna road to Alameda boulevard and New
21 Mexico highway 528 to improve access to the north interstate 25
22 employment corridor; including a grade-separated intersection
23 at Paseo del Norte boulevard; acquisition of rights of way; and
24 provision for cleanup of former landfill sites; and

25 WHEREAS, the benefits from the Paseo del Norte boulevard

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1 and interstate 25 interchange project include a combined
2 savings of ten to thirty minutes in travel time and improved
3 commercial access to the north interstate 25 corridor, together
4 resulting in a total economic impact for the period 2010 to
5 2030 of thirty-three billion four hundred ninety million
6 dollars (\$33,490,000,000), consisting of additional labor
7 productivity and business growth and in a net gain of over
8 twenty-five thousand eight hundred jobs, improvement in the
9 movement of people and goods and creation of three thousand six
10 hundred eighty-six construction and project-related jobs; and

11 WHEREAS, much of the asphalt, concrete and diesel fuel,
12 which constitute a major part of the cost of the Paseo del
13 Norte boulevard and interstate 25 interchange project, will be
14 processed within New Mexico, and the project design and
15 engineering to date have been conducted by New Mexico firms;
16 and

17 WHEREAS, the Paseo del Norte boulevard and interstate 25
18 interchange project is a major investment that will require
19 phased development, with the first phase to be identified by
20 the department of transportation by the spring of 2011; and

21 WHEREAS, the federal government has committed twenty
22 million dollars (\$20,000,000) to design the project, and the
23 city of Albuquerque has committed eighteen million two hundred
24 fifty thousand dollars (\$18,250,000) from its capital programs
25 to build and complete the Channel road extension and to expand

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1 Osuna road; and

2 WHEREAS, a three-mile missing portion of the eastern
3 alignment of Paseo del Volcan boulevard exists between Paseo
4 del Norte boulevard in Albuquerque and Southern boulevard in
5 the city of Rio Rancho; and

6 WHEREAS, construction of the missing portion of Paseo del
7 Volcan boulevard will provide an additional route for commuters
8 between western Rio Rancho to interstate 40; and

9 WHEREAS, commuter traffic on the interstate 40 bridge over
10 the Rio Grande does not exceed vehicle capacity during morning
11 and evening rush hours, and diverting traffic to this bridge
12 will result in improved traffic flows on Alameda boulevard,
13 Paseo del Norte boulevard and Montano avenue bridges over the
14 Rio Grande; and

15 WHEREAS, the three north-south routes connecting the city
16 of Rio Rancho to interstate 40 are congested during rush hours,
17 but this congestion can be alleviated by developing a fourth
18 north-south road; and

19 WHEREAS, completion of the missing portion of Paseo del
20 Volcan boulevard is identified in the draft 2035 metropolitan
21 transportation plan for the Albuquerque metropolitan area as a
22 strategy to reduce congestion on the existing north-south
23 roads; and

24 WHEREAS, completion of the missing portion of Paseo del
25 Volcan boulevard will enhance the feasibility of developing the

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1 Double Eagle industrial park, a potential major regional
2 employment center;

3 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
4 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the Paseo del
5 Norte boulevard and interstate 25 interchange project and
6 construction of the missing portion of Paseo del Volcan
7 boulevard between Paseo del Norte boulevard and Southern
8 boulevard be declared development priorities in the Albuquerque
9 metropolitan planning area; and

10 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the communities in the
11 Albuquerque metropolitan planning area, the federal government
12 and private parties whose lands will be improved by the Paseo
13 del Norte boulevard and interstate 25 interchange project be
14 urged to join together to fund the project; and

15 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the department of
16 transportation report to the appropriate interim legislative
17 committee by September 1, 2011 on funding alternatives for
18 completion of the Paseo del Norte boulevard and interstate 25
19 interchange project; and

20 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the city of Albuquerque, the
21 city of Rio Rancho, the village of Corrales, the village of Los
22 Ranchos de Albuquerque, Bernalillo county, Sandoval county and
23 the private parties whose lands will be improved by the
24 construction of the missing portion of Paseo del Volcan
25 boulevard be urged to join together to fund the construction;

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1 and

2 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
3 transmitted to the department of transportation, the New Mexico
4 office of the federal highway administration, the city of
5 Albuquerque, the city of Rio Rancho, the village of Corrales,
6 the village of Los Ranchos de Albuquerque, the Bernalillo
7 county board of commissioners, the Sandoval county board of
8 commissioners and the mid-region council of governments.

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