

STATE-TRIBAL COLLABORATION ACT
2025 AGENCY REPORT
NEW MEXICO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (NMDOT)
Prepared by Angelica Trujillo, NMDOT Tribal
Liaison July 31, 2025

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The New Mexico Department of Transportation (NMDOT) has maintained a proactive government-to-government working relationship with state tribal entities, addressing the tribes' specific needs and concerns relative to transportation. NMDOT strives to be a national leader in developing these relationships on all matters of transportation in a consultative manner that is respectful of each tribe's culture and traditions, and to ensure compliance with the federal tribal collaboration requirements. New Mexico is one of a small number of states that actively support, promote, and encourage tribal participation and involvement in the statewide transportation planning processes with the Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs) and Regional Transportation Planning Organizations (RTPOs) to address their specific tribal needs.

NMDOT Cabinet Secretary, Ricky Serna, was appointed by Governor Michelle Lujan-Grisham in 2022 and continues his commitment to maintain meaningful government-to-government working relationships with tribal entities. Several tribal leaders requested to meet with Secretary Serna on an individual basis to address specific issues, i.e. right of way, project development, traffic safety concerns, and roadway maintenance responsibilities within tribal boundaries, to include NMDOT providing an opportunity for funding through the Transportation Project Fund (TPF) and New Mexico Capital Outlay Process. Consultation between the state and tribal governments, with the respect of tribal sovereignty, sets the standard for a safe, reliable, and efficient transportation system for the traveling public onto and within tribal lands, while promoting tribal economic development. Secretary Serna has continued to have Ms. Angelica Trujillo, Native American Tribal Liaison, as a key executive administrative staff member to participate in the Departmental Administration, which has continued with the commitment of the principal partnership with tribal governments by recognizing, respecting, and supporting the unique sovereign status of the nations, pueblos, and tribes (NPTs) of New Mexico. Ms. Trujillo proactively conducts outreach, mediating misunderstandings between tribal entities and the Department to address their tribal transportation concerns and needs. NMDOT continues to build a close working relationship with the tribal entities based on Ms. Trujillo's technical assistance experience and accountability in working with Tribal, Local, Public Agencies (T/LPAs) on various transportation plans, goals, and projects.

**Michelle Lujan
Grisham**
Governor

Ricky Serna
Cabinet Secretary

Commissioners

John McElroy
Commissioner
District 1

Gary Tonjes
Commissioner
District 2

Hilma E. Chynoweth
Commissioner
District 3

Walter G. Adams
Commissioner, Chairman
District 4

Thomas C. Taylor
Commissioner
District 5

Charles Lundstrom
Commissioner, Secretary
District 6

AGENCY OVERVIEW / BACKGROUND

The NMDOT continues to articulate its 2040 Plan vision statement as “Set the standard for a safe, reliable, and efficient transportation system”.

MISSION STATEMENT

Provide a safe and efficient transportation system for the traveling public, while promoting economic development and preserving the environment of New Mexico.

The Department sets its Core Values as: Safety, Accountability, Customer Service, Integrity, Teamwork and Communication.

AGENCY EFFORTS TO IMPLEMENT POLICY

Former NMDOT Cabinet Secretary, Gary Giron, formally signed and adopted the State-Tribal Consultation, Collaboration and Communication Policy on December 18, 2009, and since that time:

- NMDOT has continued its commitment to the principle of partnership with tribal governments. NMDOT recognizes, respects and supports the unique sovereign status of the nations, pueblos, and tribes in New Mexico.
- In accordance with the provisions of the State Tribal Collaboration Act (STCA) on partnership with tribal governments, NMDOT has, with the assistance of its Tribal Liaison, Angelica Trujillo, pro-actively consulted with the tribal entities in addressing their transportation concerns and needs.

DIVISIONS AND PROGRAMS THAT COLLABORATE WITH TRIBES

The following is a list of current programs and services that NMDOT provides to tribal entities as a part of the statewide transportation-planning program:

Highway Operations Division Native American Tribal Liaison

The Highway Operations Division provides support services in Administration, Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS), Construction, Maintenance, Fleet and Materials. The purpose of Native American Tribal Liaison at NMDOT is to maintain the government-to- government relationships outlined in [New Mexico's State-Tribal Collaboration Act](#) and to assure compliance with the federal tribal coordination requirements. NMDOT increased its participation and partnership with tribal governments significantly since 2004 through completing Memoranda of Agreements (MOAs) and Joint Powers Agreements (JPAs) with all the pueblos and tribal nations in the State. In addition, New Mexico is one of a small number of states that support and encourage tribal participation in the MPO and RTPO state transportation planning processes. The NMDOT Native American Tribal Liaison is proactive in

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conducting outreach, mediating misunderstandings between tribal entities and the NMDOT and building close relationships based on experience and accountability. The NMDOT Tribal Liaison reports directly to Deputy Secretary Mo Moabed: Mo.Moabed@dot.nm.gov, and consults with Executive Staff to ensure tribal transportation goals, concerns, and needs are addressed.

Angelica Trujillo, Native American Tribal Liaison
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Planning Division

The Planning Division is responsible for the planning activities of the NMDOT and ensuring that NMDOT complies with federal planning requirements, including development of New Mexico Department of Transportation's Long-Range Statewide Transportation Plan (LRSTP) and State Freight Plan, NMDOT's Public Involvement Plan (PIP) and the Strategic Highway Safety Plan (SHSP). The Division ensures compliance with federal and state planning regulations for Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs) and, for the non-metropolitan consultation process, through working with Regional Transportation Planning Organizations (RTPOs). The Division oversees the Bicycle/Pedestrian/Equestrian (BPE) Program, Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP), Recreational Trails Program (RTP), Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program (CMAQ), Carbon Reduction Program (CRP), and Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP), as well as projects previously funded through the Safe Routes to School.

Jessica Griffin, AICP, Planning Division Director
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Multimodal Planning and Programs Bureau

The Planning Division's Multimodal Planning and Programs Bureau monitors state and federal legislation pertaining to transportation appropriations and policies; conducts research into national Best Practices related to state transportation planning programs; develops and oversees implementation of the 2045 Plan and the Public Involvement Plan (PIP); provides technical assistance, including transportation modeling and analysis, to other planning efforts initiated by the Department; coordinates local involvement in the State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP); manages the Transportation Alternatives, Recreational Trails, Bicycle/Pedestrian and Equestrian, Tribal Outreach, Safe Routes To School, and Scenic Byways programs.

The GTG Unit administers contracts for seven (7) RTPO and five (5) MPOs, and works closely with NMDOT's District Offices, STIP Unit, Design Regions and other Divisions to ensure proactive enforcement of state and federal laws.

Rosa Kozub, AICP, Multimodal Planning and Programs Bureau Chief

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MPO and RTPO Liaisons

Planning staff also serve as liaisons to New Mexico's Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs) and Regional Transportation Planning Organizations (RTPOs).

MPOs

Section 112 of the Federal Highway Act of 1973 and subsequent federal transportation legislation require that Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs) conduct comprehensive transportation planning for metropolitan areas with populations of 50,000 or more. Federal law requires MPOs to develop Transportation Improvement Programs (TIPs) and long-range transportation plans. New Mexico has five (5) MPOs:

- Farmington ([FMPO](#))
- Santa Fe ([SFMPO](#))
- Albuquerque area (Mid-Region, [MRMPO](#))
- Las Cruces (Mesilla Valley, [MVMPO](#))
- El Paso MPO ([EPMPO](#)) spans the New Mexico/Texas border to cover the City of Sunland Park in New Mexico; as such, NMDOT coordinates with EPMPO for activities in this region.

RTPOs

Regional Transportation Planning Organizations are state-designated entities that orchestrate rural transportation planning, covering regions outside of MPO boundaries. New Mexico has seven (7) RTPOs:

- Northwest ([NWRTPO](#))
- Northern Pueblos ([NPRTPO](#))
- Northeast ([NERTPO](#))
- Mid-Region ([MRRTPO](#))
- Southeast ([SERTPO](#))
- South Central ([SCRTPO](#))
- Southwest ([SWRTPO](#))

Each RTPO is comprised of a Policy Committee and a Technical Committee, though some RTPOs join these committees. RTPO Policy Committee members represent the governmental entities that comprise the RTPO and are authorized to make decisions on their behalf. Technical Committee members are professional staff who provide technical expertise in the transportation planning process.

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Alison Gillette, Gov't to Gov't Supervisor, MPO/RTPO Liaison
(Farmington MPO, Santa Fe MPO, Northeast RTPO, and Northern Pueblos RTPO)
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Sullivan Moore, Urban & Regional Planner, MPO/RTPO Liaison
(Mid-Region MPO, Mid-Region RTPO, and Northwest RTPO)
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Valerie Sherman, Urban & Regional Planner, MPO/ RTPO Liaison
(Mesilla Valley MPO, El Paso MPO, Southwest, South Central, and Southeast RTPOs)
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Bicycle, Pedestrian and Equestrian Coordinator

The Bicycle, Pedestrian and Equestrian (BPE) Coordinator serves as a resource for NMDOT staff on BPE-related issues. The coordinator also provides residents and visitors with information on cycling through New Mexico.

The Prioritized Statewide Bicycle Network Plan (NM Bike Plan), adopted by NMDOT in December 2018, is a long-range infrastructure plan that identifies which NMDOT owned and maintained roadways are desirable for bicycle infrastructure investment through the establishment of a statewide priority network, as called for in the 2040 Plan. The plan provides design guidelines to inform the implementation of bikeways along the priority network during major roadway rehabilitation or reconstruction. The NM Bike Plan and Appendix is available to view/download as a PDF from the related links to the right.

The New Mexico Pedestrian Safety Action Plan (PSAP) provides NMDOT strategic actions for how to make pedestrians safer in New Mexico. The actions include process, infrastructure, and educational recommendations. The project team developed these actions based on internal input, public and external stakeholder involvement, as well as national best practices. The PSAP is not an infrastructure improvement plan and does not include a list of specific projects. NMDOT started the planning process in late 2019 and completed it in summer 2021.

Samuel Jensen, Active Transportation Programs Supervisor / BPE Coordinator
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Active Transportation and Recreational Programs

The Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) is a federal reimbursement program authorized through the FAST Act as part of the new Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) Program. Approximately \$9 million is available to NMDOT per federal fiscal year. TAP funds can generally be used for bicycle and pedestrian

infrastructure and activities, in addition to other projects, outlined in the [Transportation Alternatives and Recreational Trails Program Guide](#). Each state's department of transportation administers the program using its own competitive process, in accordance with the law. Approximately every two years, NMDOT coordinates with the state's seven (7) RTPOs and five (5) MPOs on soliciting TAP applications.

The Recreational Trails Program (RTP) is a federal reimbursement program and provides funding to eligible entities within New Mexico to develop and maintain recreational trails and trail-related facilities for both non-motorized and motorized uses. Approximately \$2 million is available to the NMDOT per federal fiscal year. These Federal funds benefit recreationists who enjoy hiking, bicycling, in-line skating, equestrianism, cross-country skiing, snowmobiling, off-road motorcycling, all-terrain vehicle riding, and off-road four-wheel driving. NMDOT is pleased to provide access to funding for quality, diverse recreational trail projects that will improve New Mexicans' quality of life across the state.

Robin Graham, Active Transportation Program Coordinator

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Highway Safety Improvement Program

The goal of the federally funded Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) as authorized in the FAST Act is to achieve a significant reduction in traffic fatalities and serious injuries on all public roads, including non-State-owned public roads and roads on tribal lands. The HSIP requires a data-driven, strategic approach to improving highway safety on all public roads that focuses on performance. Approximately \$22 million is available to the NMDOT per federal fiscal year. Eligible entities include NMDOT Districts, and Tribal and Local Public Agencies (T/LPAs). Application information is distributed by the NMDOT through the MPOs and RTPOs. The funds are also programmed through the MPO/RTPO planning process and distributed through Cooperative Agreements with the T/LPAs.

New Mexico DOT's HSIP is guided by the Strategic Highway Safety Plan (SHSP), a statewide, comprehensive effort to reduce fatalities and incapacitating (serious) injuries on New Mexico's roadways for all modes and users (motorists, pedestrians, bicyclists, and other transportation users). The [2021 NM Strategic Highway Safety Plan](#) is available online to consult for future transportation safety planning efforts.

Nathan Wagliardo, HSIP Coordinator

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Technical and Freight Planning

The Technical and Freight Planning (T&FP) Unit manages freight planning efforts, including maintaining and guiding implementation of the New Mexico State Freight Plan, and coordinates with freight partners within the state as well as external partners; maintains roadway classification systems, including the Functional Classification System, National Highway System (NHS), and freight-specific classifications; provides technical support, including maintenance of the New Mexico Statewide Travel Demand Model (NMSTDM).

Jason G. Coffey, Technical and Freight Planning Supervisor

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VACANT, Travel Demand Modeler

Nathan Wagliardo, Interim Roadway Classification Manager

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Local Technical Assistance Program

NMLTAP — a Program that solves problems.

The New Mexico Local Technical Assistance Program (LTAP) Center provides local and tribal agencies with a variety of adaptable tools—training events, technology transfer resources, and personalized on-site heavy equipment training—to improve their transportation operations. NM LTAP does not provide engineering services but does offer proven solutions to many transportation problems.

What Services does NMLTAP Provide?

- Information regarding transportation issues
- Conduct Training based on local or tribal needs.
 - Worker/Workplace Safety,
 - Workforce Development,
 - Highway Safety, and
 - Infrastructure Management
- Assistance, referrals, or information through on-site, telephone, or email consultation

If you have any questions regarding eligibility or need additional information, please contact the UNM NMLTAP center.

[UNM NMLTAP resources and information](#)

Phone: 505-277-0767

Data Management Bureau

The Data Management Bureau is part of the Planning Division, and provides planning and engineering data to NMDOT staff, FHWA, government entities, businesses, and the public. The Data Management Bureau oversees the Traffic Monitoring Program and Roadway Inventory Program.

John Baker, Bureau Chief

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Traffic Monitoring Program

NMDOT relies on accurate and quality traffic data to support its planning, engineering and operation activities. Traffic Monitoring is responsible for programming, collecting, analyzing and reporting traffic monitoring data for FHWA's Functional Classes 1 thru 6 urban in New Mexico. We are also participating in a pilot project to estimate Functional Classes 6 rural and 7. NMDOT collects traffic data internally, by contract, and in partnership with local entities in New Mexico. The Traffic Monitoring Program is responsible for ensuring all traffic counts collected and shared with NMDOT meet our quality standards. Traffic monitoring data includes vehicle volume, vehicle classification, vehicle speed and vehicle weight. Data is collected using manual counts, portable counters (road tube and radar) and permanent counters (Continuous Count Stations (CCS) and Weigh-in Motion (WIM) stations).

The following Products & Services are managed, maintained, and updated by the Traffic Monitoring section:

- Annual Average Daily Traffic (AADT)
- Annual Average Daily Truck Traffic (AADTT)
- Future AADT
- Annual Adjustment Factors
- Annual Comparisons by Functional Classification
- Axle Correction Factors
- Daily Vehicle Miles Traveled Reports
- FHWA Vehicle Classification Scheme F Report
- Hourly Percentage by Vehicle Type
- K&D Factors
- Seasonal Adjustment Factors

Mark Rios, Traffic Monitoring Administrator

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Roadway Inventory Program

The Roadway Inventory Program is responsible for maintaining and updating the Road Inventory System (RIS) database. This database consists of NMDOT's Linear Reference System (LRS) and data items necessary for yearly Highway Performance

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Monitoring System (HPMS) reporting requirements. The Roadway Inventory Program responds to both internal and external data requests.

Christian Ovalle, Roadway Inventory Program & LRS Administrator/ HPMS Coordinator

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Research and Climate Bureau

The Research & Climate Bureau (RCB) is part of NMDOT's Planning Division. RCB is tasked with administering research projects and advancing climate change and resilience initiatives to support NMDOT's ability to deliver safe, efficient, and resilient surface transportation to New Mexico.

Randy Trujillo, Research and Climate Bureau Chief

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Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program and Carbon Reduction Program

The Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement (CMAQ) Program provides a flexible funding source to the State and T/LPAs for transportation projects and programs that help meet the requirements of the Clean Air Act. Approximately \$10 million is available to the NMDOT per federal fiscal year. **Mandatory CMAQ** funding is made available to areas that do not meet the National Ambient Air Quality Standards for ozone, carbon monoxide, or particulate matter (for nonattainment areas) and for former nonattainment areas that are now in the early years of compliance (maintenance areas). **Non-mandatory CMAQ** funding is administered by NMDOT and is available statewide for projects and programs that improve air quality and reduce congestion. The most current [CMAQ & CRP Guide](#) outlines the process for applying for funds, identifies eligible entities, and lists eligible projects from the NMDOT **non-mandatory CMAQ** apportionment.

The Carbon Reduction Program was authorized under the 2021 Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) and provides funding to the State and T/LPAs for transportation projects designed to reduce transportation carbon dioxide emissions from on-road highway sources. Approximately \$10 million is available to the NMDOT per federal fiscal year. Projects must be identified in the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) and the MPO Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), where applicable. Included as an eligible use of funds are Transportation Alternative-eligible projects, including the constructions, planning, and design of on- and off- road trail facilities for pedestrians, bicyclists, and other nonmotorized forms of transportation. Approximately every two years, NMDOT coordinates with the state's seven RTPOs and five MPOs on soliciting CMAQ/ CRP applications.

Mariana Santiesteban, Climate Action Program Coordinator

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Project Oversight Division

The Project Oversight Division (POD) provides financial oversight for state and federal projects, assuring compliance with all requirements of Federal and State laws. POD oversees the administration of Federal Aid projects, Local Government Road Fund (LGRF) projects, Tribal/Local, Public Agency (T/LPA) projects, Transportation Project Fund (TPF) projects, and Capital Outlay projects. The division offers support, guidance, and resources to Local Entities seeking state and federal funding for transportation projects.

Sean Sandoval, Project Oversight Division Director

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Transportation Project Fund and Local Government Road Fund

The Transportation Project Fund (TPF) was created to assist local entities with the development of transportation infrastructure, which includes highways, streets, roadways, bridges, crossing structures and parking facilities. Local and tribal governments can apply for this state funding in the following categories: (1) environmental and other studies; (2) planning; (3) design; (4) construction; and (5) acquisition of rights of way necessary for the development of transportation infrastructure, which includes all areas for vehicular, transit, bicycle or pedestrian use for travel, ingress, egress and parking. The state will cover 95% of costs for projects, leaving 5% local match.

The Local Government Road Fund (LGRF) is used for project development, construction, reconstruction, improvement, maintenance or repair of public highways, streets and public-school parking lots, or for the acquisition of rights-of-way therefore or for materials for the construction or improvement thereof. LGRF is 100% state funded, 75% state match, 25% local match. Due to the limited funding for this program, maintenance projects are better suited.

Clarissa Martinez, State Grants Manager

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Environmental Bureau

Natural Resource, Cultural Resource, and Roadside Community Design sections within the Environmental Bureau work with stakeholders and the public to ensure that state highway and transportation projects provide lasting value for a community while also protecting and enhancing the environment and preserving cultural resources throughout the 200,000 acres of NMDOT rights-of-way.

Stephen Gisler, Environmental Bureau Chief

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Cultural Resources Section

The Cultural Resource Section has a team of historic preservation professionals that assist our tribal, local, entities to balance New Mexico's transportation needs with protection and preserving our state's cultural heritage along and adjacent to the NMDOT highway system. Using the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) list of projects, NMDOT invites tribes to identify projects and properties of interest early in the project development process so tribal comments and concerns can help avoid impacts to historic and traditional cultural properties. The [NMDOT Tribal Consultation Web Portal](#) facilitates interactive communication with tribes during consultation efforts, especially in the planning process. In addition to the Portal, [NMDOT's Public Involvement Calendar](#) lists all public engagement meetings related to ongoing NMDOT projects.

Lia Tsesmeli, Ph.D., Tribal Consultation Coordinator

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Email: Tribalcoordinator@dot.nm.gov

Traffic Safety Division

The Traffic Safety Division Provides Driving While Intoxicated (DWI) programs, including enforcement, media, and prevention; occupant protection, such as seatbelt enforcement, media campaigns and car seat clinics; driver education for teens, driver safety and DWI school; ignition interlock program, pedestrian programs; traffic records and crash data; publications, including newsletters, brochures, and outreach materials. Tribal entities can request crash data from the [University of New Mexico Geospatial and Population Studies Traffic Research Unit](#).

Shannon Glendenning, Traffic Safety Director

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Transit and Rail Division

The Transit and Rail Division conducts and participates in transit and rail planning activities, administers Federal Transit Administration (FTA) grant funds for all rural and small urban transit grants, provides technical assistance and coordination efforts to public and private non-profit transit operators and provides services in all areas of railway operations and concerns.

Kevin Olinger, Transit and Rail Division Director

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Other NMDOT Programs and Services

Research Library- The Library's mission is to provide information, materials and resources that support the mission, programs, and research of the New Mexico

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Department of Transportation. The library supports these programs by acquiring organizing, managing and preserving the information in its own collections, and offering supportive reference services to the employees of NMDOT, local agencies, federal agencies, US independent nations, contractors and the public.

North/Central/South Regional Design Centers– Assists with project design and development of Roadway Construction plans.

Drainage Design– Assists with design of erosion protection structures and permitting for EPA Clean Water Act.

Bridge Design– Assists with structural design services.

Pavement Design– Assists with recommendations for pavement and material designs.

Survey and Lands Engineering– Assists with conducting field surveying and acquiring Right of Way verification.

Aviation – Coordinates with all public and private agencies and organizations, state, local, tribal, and federal, to encourage the advancement of aviation in the state. Aviation also supports and encourages air services to smaller communities within the State through the Air Service Assistance Program.

State Materials Bureau- The Pavement Exploration Section provides testing and sampling of pavement structures including coring, soil sampling, deflection testing and friction testing.

FY 2025 TOP TRIBAL ACCOMPLISHMENTS RELATED TO TRIBES

NMDOT Tribal Liaison Activities and Projects

The following section outlines FY 2025 activities and projects the NMDOT Native American Tribal Liaison was involved in, including those NMDOT, FHWA, and other State/Federal agency planning initiatives affecting tribes.

1. NMDOT D-1/Alamo Navajo School Board – Parking lot improvements of School District Parking lots and Access Roads, \$48,765.00.
2. NMDOT D-2/Mescalero Apache Tribe, FY-2024, Transportation Project Fund (TPF), \$1,400,000.00, Construction/CMS & Testing, Carrizo Trail Route 97 (0.8 miles), Construction anticipated to begin in August 2025.
3. NMDOT D-2/Mescalero Apache Tribe, FY-2021, Transportation Project Fund (TPF), \$400,000.00, Construction/CMS – A'dildi' ni' Kuwaa Drainage, Roadway Reconstruction & Safety Improvements, Work in Progress
4. NMDOT D-3/CRD/Pueblo of Isleta, NM 314/NM 45/NM 317 Intersection Improvement & Realignment Project: Pueblo lead project with NMDOT D-3 Oversight to realign and reconstruct the intersection of three roadways, drainage infrastructure and pedestrian/bicycle facilities. FFY23/24 construction funds

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totaling \$12,166,799 (\$8,477,945 being HSIP and state match, the remainder being TTP and Capital Outlay). Design completed in summer of 2023. Construction is anticipated to be complete by September 2025.

5. NMDOT D-5 / Newcomb Navajo, FY-2024 Capital Outlay, \$200,000.00 To plan, design, construct fencing and cattle guard on Navajo Route 19 in the Newcomb Chapter in San Juan County- Work in progress.
6. NMDOT D-5 / Tse Alnaozti'i' Navajo, FY-2024 Capital Outlay, \$400,000.00 To plan, design and construct Navajo Route 5010/N342 Tse Alnaozti'i' Chapter in San Juan County – Work in progress.
7. NMDOT D-5 / Burnham Navajo, FY 2024 Transportation Project Fund (TPF) \$500,000.00 The existing paved roadway N5/NM371 intersection has no signage, street lighting or turn lanes. A Road Safety Audit (RSA) provided recommendations to improve this intersection; will provide safety for citizens and school buses - enhancing quality of life and multi-modal safety. Burnham Chapter – Work in progress
8. NMDOT D-6/Mexican Springs Chapter, FY-2025 Capital Outlay, \$350,000.00 Plan, Design, Construct Lighting at the Junction of Navajo Route 30 and US 491 in the Mexican Springs Chapter of Navajo Nation in McKinley County. The project is currently in progress.
9. NMDOT D-6/Acoma Pueblo, FY-2025, Local Government Road Fund (LGRF) \$34,650.00. Full Construction, Construction Management, Misc. for SP-33, SP-27, SP-36, SP-130, SP-30 and SP-22. The project is currently in progress.
10. NMDOT D-6/Rock Springs Chapter, FY-2025 Capital Outlay, \$200,000.00 Acquire easements and right of way and to Plan, Design and Construct Road Improvements in the Rock Springs Chapter of the Navajo Nation in Mckinley County. The project is currently in progress.
11. NMDOT D-6/Tse'Lichee Chapter, FY-2025, Capital Outlay \$50,000.00 Plan, Design, and Construct Uprooted Tree Road Improvements in the Tse'Lichee Chapter of the Navajo Nation in Mckinley County. The project is currently in progress.
12. NMDOT D-6 – HB2, Laws of 2021, \$8,871,257.04, – Pavement Preservation Project, US 491, MP 55 to 62 within Navajo Nation.
13. NMDOT D-6 - State Funded \$1,343,942.97, – Maintenance Project on NM 53, MP 23 to 30 within the Zuni Pueblo.
14. NMDOT D-6 - State Funded \$985,949.25, – Maintenance Project on NM 4, MP 0 to 4.7 within the Pueblo of Jemez.
15. NMDOT D-6 - State Funded \$2,399,094.61, – Maintenance Project on US 491, MP 17 to 25 within the Navajo Nation.

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16. NMDOT D-6 - State Funded \$2,759,80065, – Maintenance Project on US 491, MP 37 to 42 within the Navajo Nation.
17. NMDOT D-6 - State Funded \$1,731,517.01, – Maintenance Project on NM 371, MP 28 to 33 within the Navajo Nation.
18. NMDOT D-6/CRD/Pueblo of Laguna, NM 124 Road Diet Project: Pueblo lead with NMDOT D-6 Oversight to reduce NM124 to 2 lanes in order to add bicycle lanes. FFY21/22/24 construction funds totaling \$3,830,689 (\$3,272,940 being TAP fund, the remainder being local match). Design was completed in summer 2021. The contractor was awarded this spring and awaiting Notice to Proceed to begin construction. Anticipated start-August 2025.
19. NMDOT General Office- FY 2025, Que Linda Grant \$200,000-To build a local beautification program within the Pueblo of Isleta.
20. NMDOT Environmental Bureau, Cultural Section- Through the Tribal Consultation Program, 189 STIP projects were distributed to 33 tribes affiliated with New Mexico. Request for consultation invitations were expanded to include 25 state funded projects of potential interest to tribes in accordance with the stipulations set forth by STCA. 67 comprehensive tribal consultation project summaries were generated, detailing the history of contact and tribal responses indicating the consultation status. Tribal input was requested for 12 additional state funded/STIP projects.

The NMDOT Tribal Liaison is also involved in the following significant tribal transportation efforts:

- Coordination with Tribal Entities: Conducted outreach and shared current funding opportunities i.e. Tribal Infrastructure Fund (TIF) through IAD, Capital Outlay, Standalone special appropriation, Local Government Road Fund (LGRF). Distributed call for Projects - Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement (CMAQ) Program, Carbon Reduction Program (CRP), Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP), Recreational Trails Program (RTP), Highway Safety Funds, Local Government Road Fund (LGRF) and Transportation Project Fund (TPF). Follow up has been done on a quarterly basis with current NMDOT projects that fall within tribal boundaries.
- Tribal Liaison continued to provide follow-up with our tribal entities that have received funding through federal and state grants administered by NMDOT to ensure contract timelines are followed and close out documents and/or the need for amendments to their agreements are properly processed with their respective NMDOT Districts and our NMDOT Project Oversight Division staff.

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- Maintained distribution list of Tribal Leadership, Law Enforcement, and Transportation staff to share tribal transportation announcements, training and education information, grant and public input opportunities, and general NMDOT notifications relative to NPTs.
- Encouraged tribal entities to participate in ongoing MPO and RTPO meetings and processes that provide information about current and upcoming grant opportunities, with the ability for tribal entities to obtain supportive services that assist communities with tribal transportation planning and infrastructure projects.
- Recommend tribal entities to apply for the Transportation Project Fund (TPF), to address their local transportation needs. Along with making sure that the tribal entities have their local match available and have their latest project costs, (due to the rising costs, especially with materials) the tribal liaison provided alternative funding sources that would cover the tribal entity's local match, i.e: DFA's NM Match Fund.
- Continue to aid our General Office and Districts relative to coordination, collaboration, and consultation with our tribal entities, along with providing technical assistance to the MPO's and RTPO's.
- Cabinet Secretary, Native American Tribal Liaison, and District Engineers conducted in person meetings and site visits with Tribal Leaders across New Mexico to learn about each community's transportation needs and concerns. Tribal members and NMDOT staff engaged in effective and respectful discussions to identify mutual goals and responsibilities that will strengthen the relationship between our state agency and tribal officials. Outreach efforts are active and maintained through follow up and open dialogue with NPTs.
- Established communications between Tribal Leadership, Law Enforcement, and staff with NMDOT, BIA, Navajo DOT, FHWA, Counties, and Municipalities, and other state agencies that provide support and services to tribal communities.

Other tribal outreach provided by the NMDOT Tribal Liaison includes:

- **Tribal Planners Roundtable** - Participate in addressing tribal transportation issues and concerns with other state transportation practitioners and stakeholders
- **Policy Round Table on Tribal Pedestrian Safety**– Explored ways to address the crisis of high pedestrian fatalities in Indian Country with recommendations to develop public education materials, trainings, and engage in ongoing discussions with tribal safety advocates
- **NMDOT Aesthetics Plan Tribal Roundtable**– Assisted Roadside and Design Group/Consultant on an updated Aesthetics Plan to gain public input from our tribal members across the state through a survey emailed out. Also participated in 2 virtual tribal roundtables that allowed for Q&A, discussion on intent of survey, and acknowledgement of tribal sovereignty with respect

- to images, designs, patterns, etc. depicted in aesthetic designs for roadway infrastructure such as bridges, medians, and soundwalls
- **NMDOT Tribal Transportation Safety Summit-** Coordinated with NMDOT Target Zero Special Director to host a planning luncheon where Tribal Leaders engaged in valuable conversation surrounding traffic safety and reducing traffic fatalities to zero. Tribal Leaders completed a survey about their top tribal transportation safety concerns, where they provided recommendations and interests that will be discussed at the Safety Summit scheduled for September 2025.
 - **Strategic Highway Safety Plan (SHSP) Interagency Working Group, Tribal Lands Emphasis Area-** Coordinated with NMDOT Technical Unit Supervisor to engage tribal community members in identifying strategies and safety countermeasures and providing feedback on which strategies will be most effective to focus on in the updated NMDOT SHSP-Tribal Lands Emphasis Area. The SHSP is a work product of the NMDOT Highway Safety Improvement Program.
 - **Pueblo of Jemez-** Participated in Tribal Pedestrian Safety Workshop and Quick-Build Demonstration Project with Pueblo of Jemez, as a part of the National Safety Council and America Walk's Road-to-Zero project. Safety advocates came together to learn how to plan, design, and implement a Quick-Build project in their community.
 - **Pueblo of Nambe-** Initiated NMDOT State Materials Bureau-Pavement Exploration Unit to conduct Pavement Friction Testing on EB NP 101/ Poechunu Poe Rd., 6.5mi., to identify slickness of road; provided supportive data for goals/planning of roadway improvements or reconstruction
 - **Pueblo of Santa Ana** - Update Dove Road (main arterial of the community) and NM 313 Intersection improvements. Pueblo received \$2.3 million of TPF funding for construction phase. Project will begin construction in fall of 2025.

The NMDOT Tribal Liaison also provides the following in-house assistance and coordination:

- **NMDOT, MPOs & RTPOs** - Assisted with the tribal entities to apply for Transportation Project Fund, which includes tribal governments as eligible recipients, with the inclusion of transit, bicycle, and pedestrian infrastructure as eligible project types.
- **MPOs and RTPOs** – Attend monthly/quarterly meetings to assist to address the various local tribal transportation projects needs and concerns.
- **RTPO and MPO Meetings** – Attend monthly/quarterly meetings to assist in addressing tribal concerns and needs. Opportunities for tribal feedback, consultation.
- **NMDOT D-6/ D-3 Quarterly Meeting Pueblo of Laguna** – Attended Quarterly Coordinating Meetings to address various transportation issues and concerns; provide updates
- **NMDOT D-3 Bi-Monthly Meeting Pueblo of Sandia** – Initiated and attended Bi-Monthly Coordinating Meetings to address various

- transportation issues and concerns; provide updates
- **NMDOT D-3 Bi-Monthly Meeting Pueblo of Isleta** – Attended Bi-Monthly Coordinating Meetings to address various transportation issues and concerns; provide updates
- **NMDOT D-3 Bi-Monthly Meeting Pueblo of San Felipe** – Attended Bi-Monthly Coordinating Meetings to address various transportation issues and concerns; provide updates
- **NMDOT-POD** – Maintained critical listing of Capital Outlay Projects and Transportation Project Fund (TPF) Projects with tribal entities
- **NMDOT-District Local Government Sections-** Supported district local government sections with tribal entities through knowledge of grant opportunities and eligibility, project agreement timelines, end dates for agreements, and provided follow up and mediation services

Tribal Participation in State Transportation Planning

The NMDOT Native American Tribal Liaison, Angelica Trujillo, continues to encourage tribal involvement in the MPO and RTPO planning processes to take advantage of opportunities for involvement in the development of MPO Transportation Improvement Program (TIPs) and RTPO Regional Transportation Improvement Program Recommendations (RTIPRs) that feed into the State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP). Ms. Trujillo continues to aid in developing procedures and mutual protocols concerning safety, environmental and emergency response measures, and adherence to cultural values. Ms. Trujillo continues to provide technical assistance regarding planning activities and requirements by acting as an intermediary between tribes, Bureau of Indian Affairs – Southwest Region Department of Transportation (BIA-SWRDOT), FHWA-Federal Lands Tribal Transportation Program, Tribal Technical Assistance Program (TTAP), NM Local Technical Assistance Program (NMLTAP) and other NMDOT divisions and district offices. Tribal Liaison continues to meet with tribal officials to coordinate tribal and NMDOT communication involving the implementation of local transportation projects.

Technical Planning Assistance

NMDOT's goals are to maintain collaborative efforts with tribal entities and to continue providing technical planning assistance to address the specific unmet needs and concerns of each individual tribe. The Department's Native American Transportation Outreach Program will continue to serve as a liaison between the tribes; the BIA's Regional Department of Transportation Offices; FHWA-Federal Lands Tribal Transportation Program; Tribal Technical Assistance Program, NM Local Technical Assistance Program (NMLTAP) and NMDOT Divisions and District Offices to ensure tribal participation in all pertinent planning activities and the sharing of data and other information to coordinate services. The Native American Tribal Liaison will continue to meet with tribal officials on a regular basis to coordinate tribal and NMDOT communications regarding the implementation of local transportation-related projects, along with meeting any new federal requirements. The Tribal Liaison will facilitate the Tribal Coordinating Committee (TCC), established for the 2045 Plan, to assist in developing and implementation of the Strategic Highway Safety Plan (SHSP).

Training and Employee Notification

STCA Training Certification

The State Personnel Office (SPO) and Indian Affairs Department (IAD) developed the Cultural Competency Training component of the STCA. The on-demand, online course will enable new NMDOT General Office staff and Districts to receive certification.

The NMDOT will implement the following to meet its responsibilities under the State-Tribal Collaboration Act:

1. Allocate time during NMDOT's monthly New Employee Orientation for the Department's Tribal Liaison to address employees regarding the provisions of the State-Tribal Collaboration Act.
2. Continue to track current "Developing Effective Communication Skills in the Workplace" training classes in the Department's training database; and
3. Develop additional training curriculums as needed in lieu of classes ordinarily provided by SPO/IAD, unless such training becomes available.

In addition, the NMDOT Tribal Liaison will continue to consult with the SPO as needed and appropriate, regarding the training program that the SPO had formerly implemented so successfully.

Employee Notification about the STCA

The NMDOT Training Bureau will prepare a notification list identifying all new NMDOT employees that must complete the Cultural Competency Training as required by the provisions of STCA. NMDOT Training Bureau has also coordinated with IAD to conduct specific sessions for the NMDOT employees.

FY 2026 GOALS/OBJECTIVES RELATED TO TRIBES

1. Develop a new online training course for incoming NMDOT employees to inform on NM affiliated tribes, tribal cooperation, etiquette and cultural differences awareness.
2. Coordinate technical assistance for long-term Tribal planning efforts and ensure alignment with Tribal Transportation Program (TTP) and NMDOT goals.
3. Increase engagement through more frequent and consistent meetings with the Nations, Pueblos, and Tribes located within District 6.
4. Strengthen internal expertise by providing targeted training workshops on funding programs such as TPF, LGRF, Capital Outlay, and other applicable financial sources so staff can share information and effectively answer questions that NPTs may have.
5. Foster collaboration by proactively coordinating with the Nations, Pueblos, and Tribes on any construction activities occurring within their boundaries.

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6. Support future Tribal applications and projects by collaborating with the Mescalero Apache Tribe on priority project identification and scope development, including efforts such as the U.S. 70 wildlife corridor design.
7. Work with Alamo Navajo Chapter to assist with project funding opportunities.
8. Seek participation from Alamo Navajo chapter in yearly coordination meetings.
9. Future sign replacement project on NM 169 through Alamo Chapter.
10. Future drainage work along NM 169.
11. More frequent and improved communications with the Nations, Pueblos and Tribes located within District 5.
12. Develop further the NMDOT Tribal Consultation Portal with Tribal Input since tribes have been extremely positive in their receipt of this portal.
13. Seek additional tribal input on future enhancements that will further customize the Tribal Consultation Portal to accommodate tribal Section 106 consultation requests.
14. Coordinate visits from Environmental Bureau staff to tribal museums, share discussions with tribal members.

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NMDOT District 5

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NM Metropolitan/Regional Planning Organizations with Tribal Entities

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Santa Fe Metropolitan Planning Organization (SFMPO)

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Mid-Region Rural Transportation Planning Organization (MRRTPO)

Mid-Region Council of Governments

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Northern Pueblos Regional Transportation Planning Organization (NPRTPO)

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NMDOT Glossary of Terms and Acronyms

- **(2040 Plan)** New Mexico 2040 Plan
- **(AADT)** Annual Average Daily Traffic
- **(ARRA)** American Recovery and Reinvestment Act
- **(BIA)** Bureau of Indian Affairs
- **(BIA-SWRDOT)** Bureau of Indian Affairs – Southwest Region Department of Transportation
- **(BIL)** Bipartisan Infrastructure Law
- **(BPE)** Bicycle Pedestrian Equestrian
- **(BR)** Bridge Program
- **(BUILD)** Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development
- **(CMAQ)** Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program
- **(CRP)** Carbon Reduction Program
- **(CCTV)** Close Caption TV
- **(DDETFP)** Dwight D. Eisenhower Transportation Fellowship Program
- **(FAST)** Fixing America’s Surface Transportation Act
- **(FFY)** Federal Fiscal Year
- **(HSIP)** Highway Safety Improvement Program
- **(IM)** Interstate Maintenance Program
- **(IRRP)** Indian Reservation Roads Program
- **(LRTP)** Long Range Multimodal Transportation Plan
- **(LTAP)** Local Technical Assistance Program
- **(MAP – 21)** Moving Ahead for Progress into the 21st Century Act
- **(MPO)** Metropolitan Planning Organization
- **(MRRTPO)** Mid-Region Regional Transportation Planning Organization
- **(NHS)** National Highway System
- **(NWRTPO)** Northwest Regional Transportation Planning Organization
- **(NPRTPO)** Northern Pueblos Regional Transportation Planning Organization
- **(NRD)** North Region Design
- **(PIF)** Project Identification Form
- **(PIP)** Public Involvement Plan
- **(PLH)** Public Lands Highways Program
- **(POD)** Project Oversight Division
- **(ROC)** Research Oversight Committee
- **(RTP)** Recreational Trails Program
- **(RTPO)** Regional Transportation Planning Organization
- **(SAFETEA-LU)** Safe Accountable Flexible Efficient Transportation Equity Act: a Legacy for Users
- **(SCRRTPO)** South Central Regional Transportation Planning Organization
- **(SERTPO)** Southeast Regional Transportation Organization
- **(SWRTPO)** Southwest Regional Transportation Organization
- **(SHSP)** Strategic Highway Safety Plan
- **(STBG)** Surface Transportation Block Grant Program
- **(STIP)** State Transportation Improvement Program
- **(STP)** Surface Transportation Program
- **(STIC)** State Transportation Innovation Council
- **(TAP)** Transportation Alternatives Program
- **(TCC)** Tribal Coordinating Committee
- **(TIGER)** Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery

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- **(T/LPA)** Tribal/Local Public Agencies
- **(TLPTP)** Tribal Long Range Transportation Plan
- **(TPF)** Transportation Project Fund
- **(TPS)** Safety Programs
- **(TPTG)** Transportation Program Technical Group
- **(TTAP)** Tribal Technical Assistance Program
- **(TTPCC)** Tribal Transportation Program Coordinating Committee
- **(TTIP)** Tribal Transportation Improvement Program
- **(TTP)** Tribal Transportation Program
- **(VMT)** Vehicle Miles of Travel