

Meeting Minutes
Northeast Regional Planning Organization (NERPO)
Village of Angel Fire
Community Center-71 Valley Road
Angel Fire, New Mexico
September 23, 2009
10:30 a.m.

Meeting Attendees

NERPO Voting Members and Alternates:

Name	County	Title	Present/Absent
Les Montoya	San Miguel County	Voting Member	Present
Harold Garcia	San Miguel County	Alternate	Absent
Carlos A. Ortiz, Jr.	City of Las Vegas	Voting Member	Present
Elmer Martinez	City of Las Vegas	Alternate	Absent
John Garcia	Mora County	Voting Member	Present
Peter Martinez	Mora County	Alternate	Absent
Bill Conley	Colfax County	Voting Member	Present
Leo Parker	Colfax County	Alternate	Absent
Jennifer Sparaco	City of Raton	Voting Member	Absent
Pete Mileta, Jr.	City of Raton	Alternate	Absent
Linda Pavletich	Village of Cimarron	Voting Member	Present
Mindy Cahill	Village of Cimarron	Alternate	Absent
Chuck Howe	Village of Angel Fire	Voting Member	Present
Al Lott	Village of Angel Fire	Alternate	Present
Robert Casados	Harding County	Voting Member	Present
Jerry Porterfield	Harding County	Alternate	Absent
Shawn Jeffrey	Village of Mosquero	Voting Member	Present
Ray Vigil	Village of Mosquero	Alternate	Absent
June Mahoney	Village of Roy	Voting Member	Absent
Marshal Drake	Village of Roy	Alternate	Absent
Linda Lavender	Village of House	Voting Member	Absent
None	Village of House	Alternate	None
Larry Moore	Quay County	Voting Member	Absent
Richard Primrose	Quay County	Alternate	Absent
Leo Pacheco	Village of San Jon	Voting Member	Absent
Wade Lane	Village of San Jon	Alternate	Absent
Doug Powers	City of Tucumcari	Voting Member	Present
John Sutherland	City of Tucumcari	Alternate	Absent
Ferron Lucero	Town of Clayton	Voting Member	Absent
Jimmie Taylor	Town of Clayton	Alternate	Absent

Richard Arguello	Union County	Voting Member	Present
Russel Kear	Union County	Alternate	Absent
Michelle Morrow	Village of Des Moines	Voting Member	Absent
Karen Bray	Village of Des Moines	Alternate	Absent
None	Village of Pecos	Voting Member	None
None	Village of Pecos	Alternate	None
Diane Brown	Village of Folsom	Voting Member	Absent
Mike Schoonover	Village of Folsom	Alternate	Absent
Mignon Saddoris	Village of Grenville	Voting Member	Absent
Lynn Wiseman	Village of Grenville	Alternate	Absent
Rose Kelly	Village of Logan	Voting Member	Absent
Larry Wallin	Village of Logan	Alternate	Absent
Joseph Campos	City of Santa Rosa	Voting Member	Absent
Maxine Rivera	City of Santa Rosa	Alternate	Present
Manuel Baca	Guadalupe County	Voting Member	Present
Yolanda Chavez	Guadalupe County	Alternate	Absent
Marilyn Nolan	Town of Springer	Voting Member	Absent
Johnny L. Chavez	Town of Springer	Alternate	Absent
Billie Odum	Village of Eagle Nest	Voting Member	Present
Richard Cordova	Village of Eagle Nest	Alternate	Present
Kay Pinkston	Village of Maxwell	Voting Member	Absent
None	Village of Maxwell	Alternate	None
Benito Armijo	Village of Wagon Mound	Voting Member	Absent
Betty Medina	Village of Wagon Mound	Alternate	Absent

NERPO Planner

Lesah R. Sedillo NCNMEDD
Steve Henthorn EPCOG

NMDOT Staff

Heather Sandoval NMDOT D-4 Assistant District Engineer
Tom Wilson NMDOT Planning Division
Pat Oliver-Wright NMDOT Planning Division

Guests

Mrs. Sandy Chancey, SERPO Planner/EPCOG
Mr. Phillip Ortiz San Miguel County
Mr. Glenn Boone Village of Angel Fire

I. Call Meeting to Order

The Meeting was called to order at 10:30 a.m. by Chairman Richard Arguello.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance and the salute to the New Mexico State Flag was led by Chairman, Richard Arguello.

III. Moment of Silence

Chairman Arguello asked for a moment of Silence.

IV. Welcome and Introductions:

The welcome was presented by Mayor Leahy, Village of Angel Fire. Mayor Leahy thanked everyone for their attendance and welcomed everyone to the Village of Angel Fire!

Individual introductions were conducted by each NERPO Member.

V. Approval of the Agenda:

Chairman Arguello would like to amend the agenda to discuss the NERPO Bylaws under New Business.

Mr. Bill Conley, Colfax County made the motion to approve the agenda as amended. Mayor Billie Odum, Village of Eagle Nest seconded the motion. The motion carried and all voted in favor.

VI. Approval of the Minutes: (August 27, 2009, St. James Hotel)

Mayor Billie Odum informed EPCOG that her name had been misspelled in the minutes. There was also a correction to Mr. Steve Boyce's name and title in the minutes.

Mr. Les Montoya informed everyone that Mr. Harold Garcia had retired and that Mr. John Garcia was his new replacement. He would like that corrected in the minutes. Ms. Sedillo stated that as soon as she received an e-mail or letter informing her of the change as a voting members or alternate, then the change would be recorded.

Mr. William Conley, Colfax County made the motion to approve the minutes as corrected. The motion was seconded by Mr. Al Lott, Village of Angel Fire. The motion carried and all voted in favor.

VII. NMDOT-HM 5-Mrs. Patricia Oliver-Wright, Manager, Statewide Planning Section:

Mrs. Patricia Oliver-Wright introduced herself to the NERPO Members. She explained that she was here to discuss HM 5. Mrs. Oliver-Wright stated that HM 5 is a technical committee that will explore options for a sustainable Funding Source in New Mexico and for local governments. HM 5 is a continuation of the work during HM35 and the Transportation Town Hall efforts. She pointed out some of the differences between HM 35 and HM 5:

- **Citizens on the team**
- **Marketing strategy**
- **Economic developing tool-more appealing to the public**
- **Identify a clear picture of need and consistency**

Mrs. Oliver-Wright thanked Commissioner Bobby Casados and Mr. Harold Garcia for participating with HM 5.

Vice Chairman Casados also asked that the NERPO Members feel free to go through him with any other comments or suggestions for HM 5.

There were many questions by the NERPO Members. Chairman Arguello felt that the State of New Mexico should look towards some type of property tax for out of state residents.

All the NERPO Members were very concerned with the critical issues that Congress must address with the federal deadline for a continuing resolution, new Transportation Bill and the \$8.7 Billion dollar rescission. They would like to be kept informed of all the upcoming information. Ms. Sedillo informed everyone that the AASHTO Weekly Journal has very current Transportation information at the federal level.

Ms. Oliver-Wright stated that the next HM 5 Meeting would be held on October 8, 2009, at the PERA Building from 9-3. The deadline for this report is November 15, 2009, to the Governor. Ms. Sedillo stated that it was a shame that there is not enough time or opportunity to really address the public. The Legislative Session will be here very quickly and we need to utilize these marketing tools from HM 5 for public involvement and support.

The following is the power point presented to the NEPRO Members:

House Memorial 5 Technical Committee

presented to
North East RPO

By:
Patricia Oliver-Wright
September 23, 2009



HM 35 Study

Background

- **HM35 passed in the 2007 Legislature**
NMDOT set up a committee to look at sustainable funding for the transportation system
- **Reflected national initiatives;**
Similar studies were done in many states as a result of rising construction costs, backlog of transportation needs and federal funding not coming in as expected.
- **Committee designated by the Governor**
RPOs, MPOs, Trans. Commission, DOT Exec. Staff, NMPTA and DIA.
- **Six month process**
Series of eight meetings; final report 10/07
- **Options to increase revenues**
New and redirected sources



1

Next Steps for HM35

Background

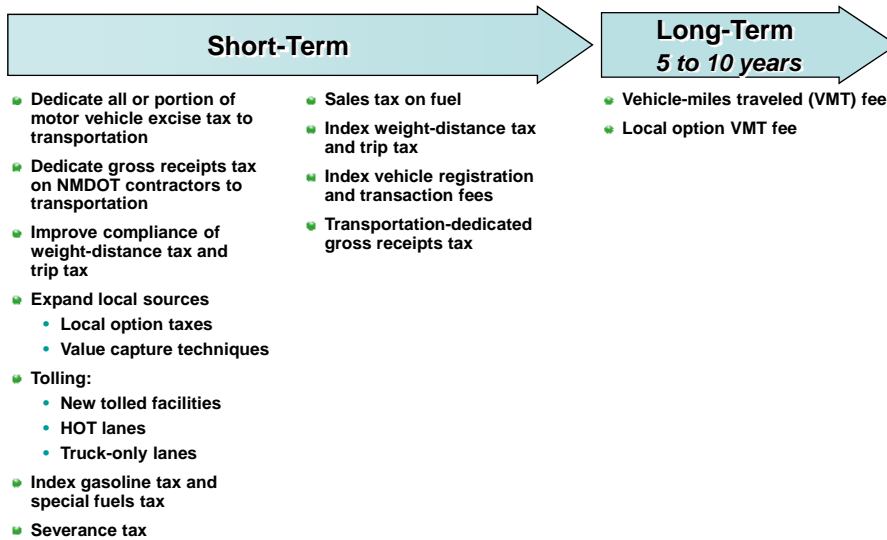
- **Governors office assigned a Task Force**
Input from the public and business community; Series of 8 committee meetings around the state.
- **Transportation Town Hall on Sustainable Funding**
August 7-9, 2008 with subsequent Implementation Team
- **Recommendations Taken to Legislature, January, 2009**
Series of eight bills



2

Funding Options Funding Options by Timeframe

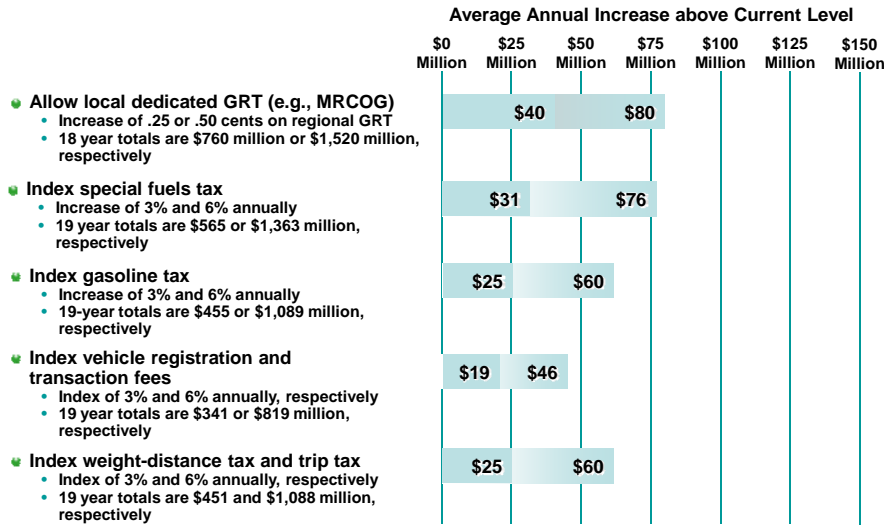
Funding Options



3

Short-Term Funding Options Nine New Sources of Revenue (continued)

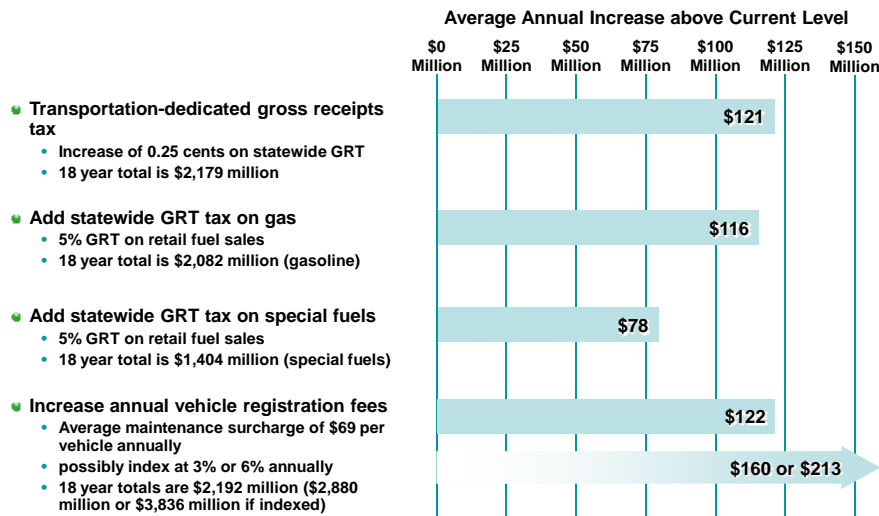
Funding
Options



4

Short-Term Funding Options Nine New Sources of Revenue

Funding
Options

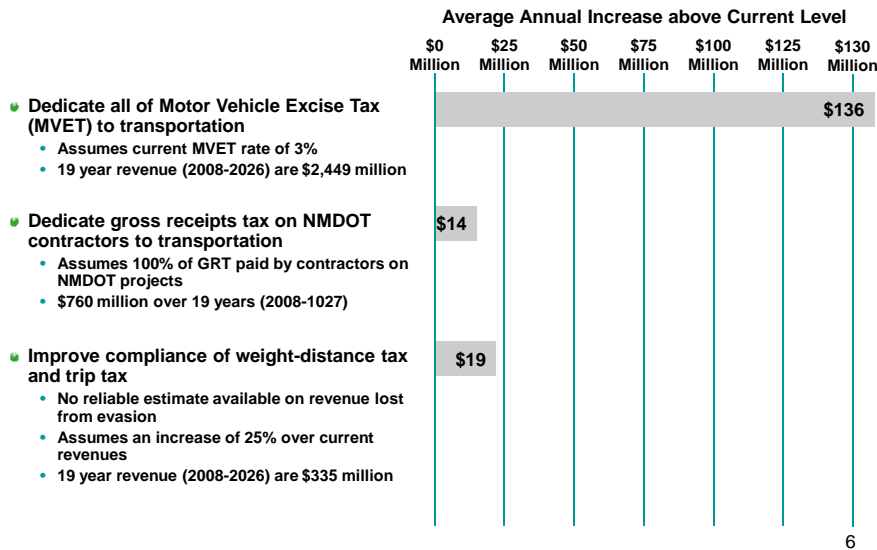


5

Short-Term Funding Options

Redirect Existing Revenues

Funding Options



Legislation Proposals from HM35

Funding Options

- HM 5 Transportation System Review, Gonzales (passed and signed):** Requests the Secretary of Transportation to appoint a technical committee to develop information on future transportation needs, alternative funding strategies; it continues the work of HM35 and **adds a local and tribal transportation element**
- SB 213 Weight Distance Tax Underreporting Penalties, Beffort (passed and signed):** Adds two new penalties for underreporting mileage or weight in weight distance tax returns; if a person reports zero miles traveled in New Mexico for a period but is later determined to have traveled at least one mile in New Mexico during the period, the person will be charged a civil penalty of \$4,000 per period in addition to any other fees, penalties or interest.
- HB 374 Motor Vehicle Excise Tax Revenues to State Road Fund, Gonzales:** Moves 16.5 percent of the net receipts from the motor vehicle excise tax from the General Fund to the State Road Fund
- HB 565 Petroleum Products Loading Fees Distribution Change, E. Chavez:** Permits a portion of funds generated by the Petroleum Products Loading Fee to be used for state roads
- HB 632 Higher Vehicle Tax to Support Transit, Gonzales:** Increases the weight distance tax rates for motor vehicles other than buses by five percent
- HB 636 Increases Vehicle Registration Changes, Lundstrom:** Imposes a registration surcharge for motor vehicles other than motorcycles, trucks, buses and tractors. Surcharges range from \$15 to \$57, depending on gross factory shipping weight, and are imposed annually in addition to the current registration fee. Imposes registration surcharges for trucks, truck tractors, road tractors and buses ranging from \$56 to \$400 depending on declared gross weight
- HB 649 Higher Vehicle Tax to Support Transit, Gonzales:** Beginning January 1, 2010, requires that five percent of the state's annual severance tax bonding capacity be used to fund transportation projects statewide.
- HB 802 Weight Distance Tax Act to Increase Rate, Lundstrom:** Increases by five percent the weight distance tax on trucks and buses weighing more than 48,000 pounds

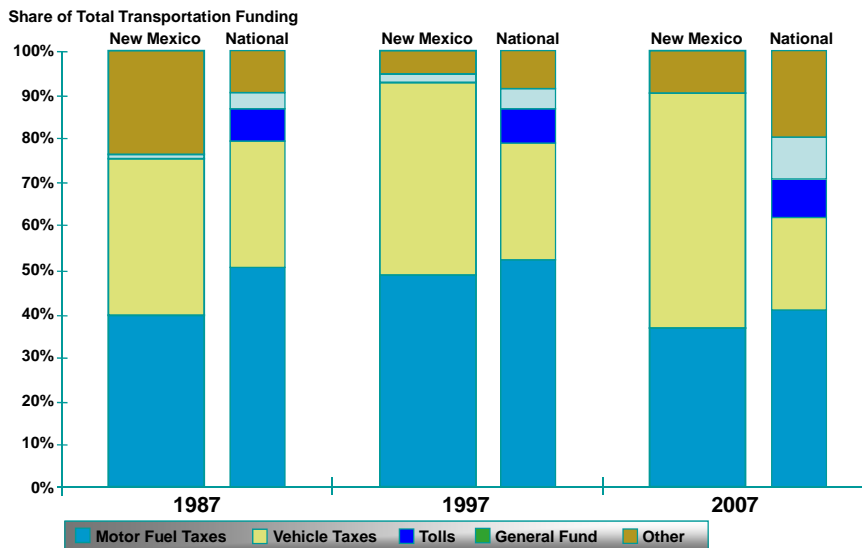
Updates to HM 35 Information

- Overview of current funding
- Historical trends
- Future trends
- HM 35 Options
- Marketing Strategies
- Economic Impacts

8

State Highway Funding
New Mexico versus National

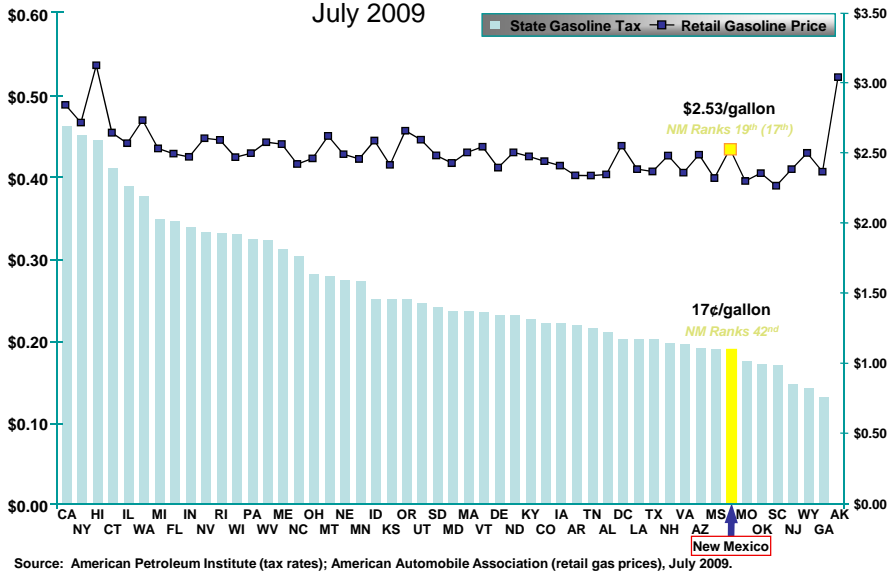
Overview
Transportation
Funding
(Updated)



9

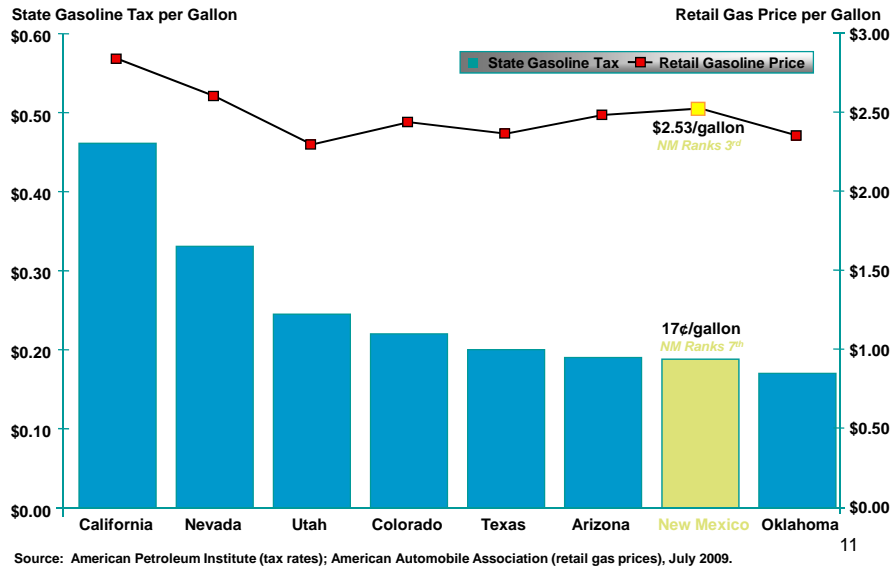
Gasoline Tax and Retail Gasoline Price Fifty State Comparison

Overview
Transportation
Funding
(Updated)



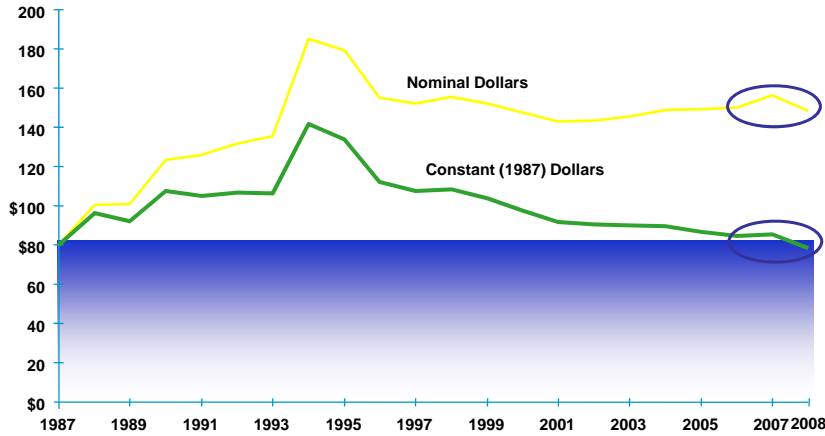
Gasoline Tax and Retail Gasoline Price Southwestern State Comparison (July 2009)

Overview
Transportation
Funding
(New)



New Mexico Motor Fuel Tax Revenue 1987-2008

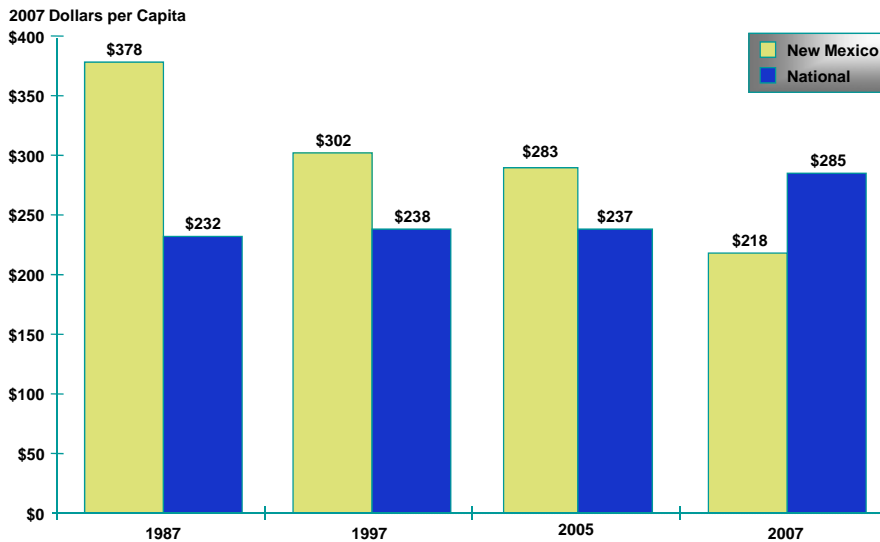
Historical Trends
(Updated)



12

State Highway Funding Per Capita New Mexico versus National Average

Historical Trends
(Updated)

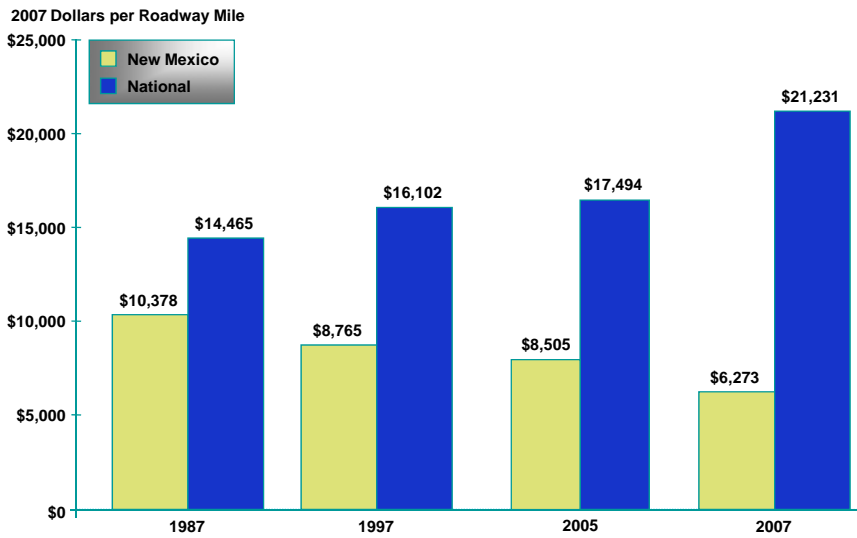


Source: FHWA Statistics and U.S. Bureau Census.

13

State Highway Funding Per Roadway Mile New Mexico versus National Average

Historical
Trends
(Updated)



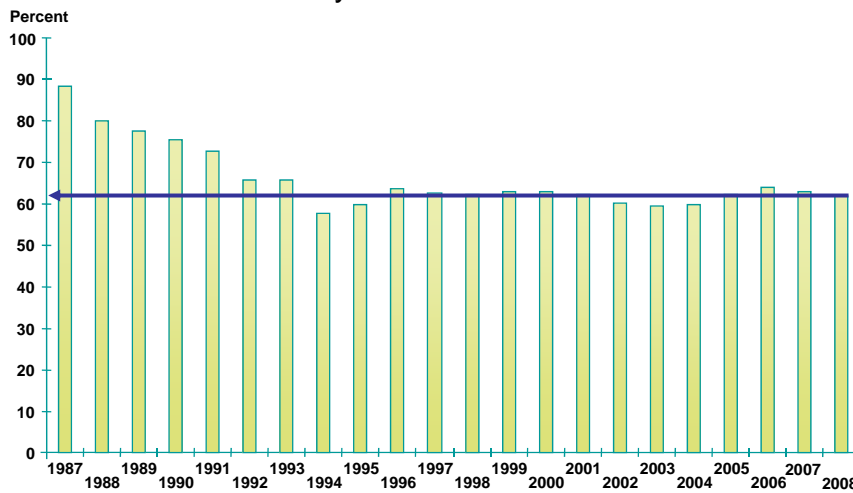
Source: FHWA Statistics.

14

JM1

Share of Total Transportation Revenues Percent Received by NMDOT from 1987-2006

Historical
Trends
(Updated)

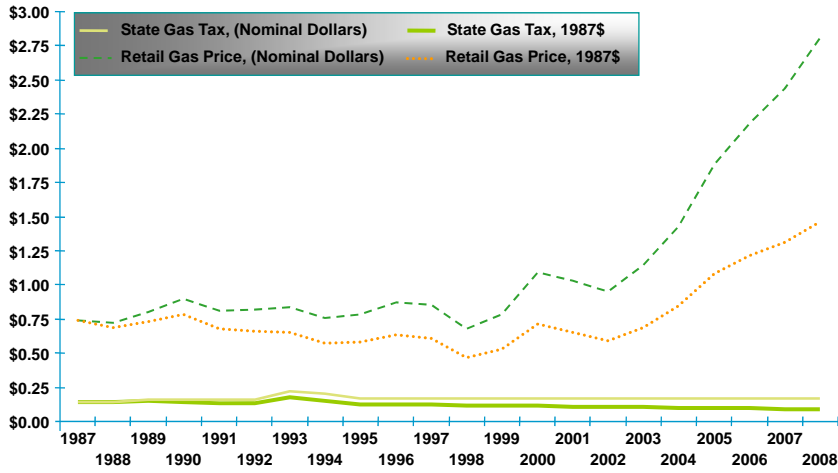


15

JM1

Historical Trends (Updated)

Historical State Funding Trends New Mexico Gas Tax versus Retail Gas Price



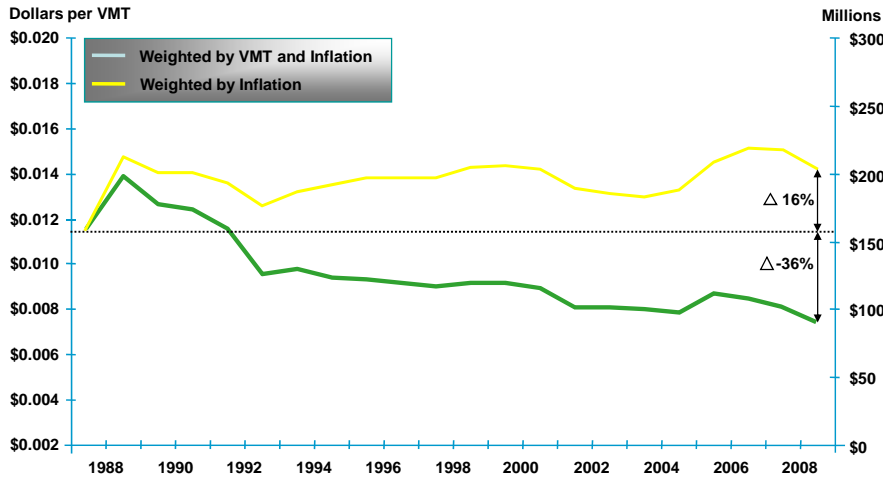
Source: New Mexico Department of Transportation, U.S. Energy Information Administration.

16

JM1

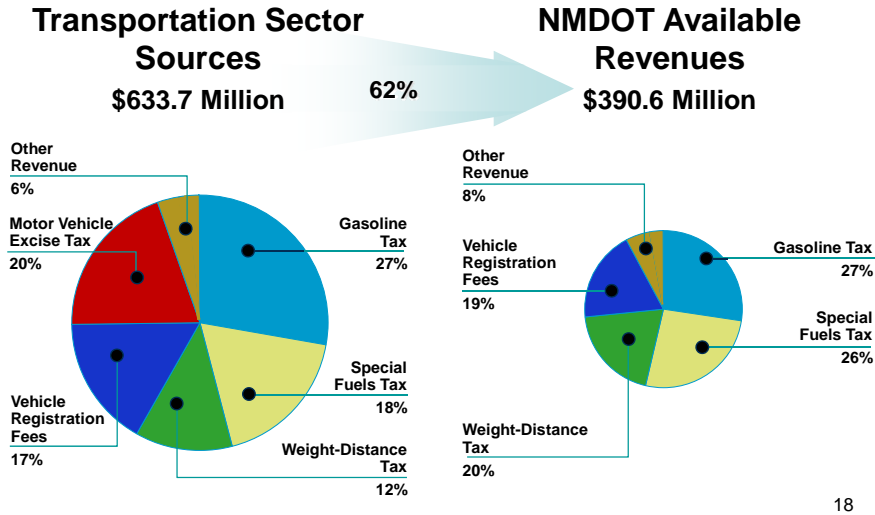
Historical Trends (Updated)

Total DOT Revenues Weighted by Inflation and VMT from 1987- 2008



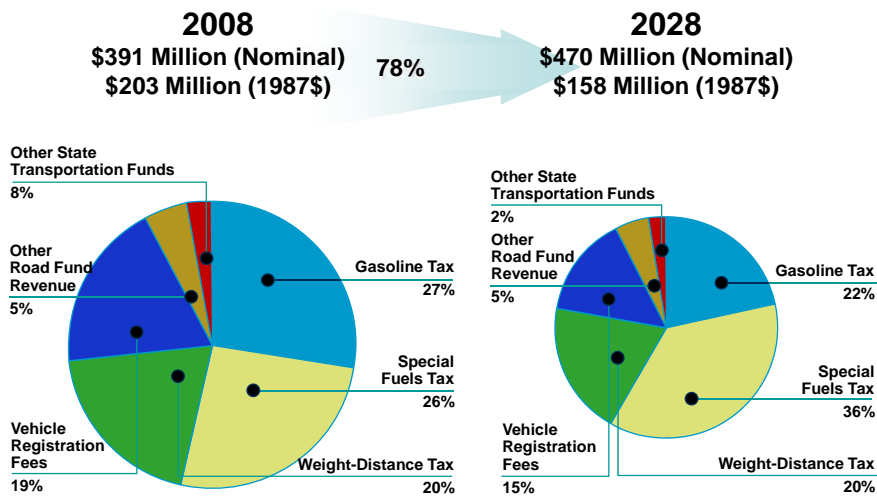
17

Transportation Revenues versus Spending Major Revenue Sources versus DOT Budget in 2008



18

Future State Funding Projections Share of Total Funding by Major Sources



19

Conclusions

- Adjusted for inflation and demand, transportation funding has declined 36% over past 30 years
- Federal revenue streams are decreasing with more emphasis being placed on states to pick up slack
- Current level of funding will not sustain New Mexico's transportation needs into the future
- Options in transportation funding are needed

20

Lunch

VIII. Discussion/Approval of local lead Economic Recovery Plan and Safety Projects/New PIF (Ms. Heather Sandoval, Assistant District Engineer-Engineering):

Ms. Heather Sandoval stated that anyone interested in submitting a Safety Application can utilize the previous application. A new revised application will be sent out soon from the Traffic and Safety Division. However, if an application is submitted, she will transfer to the new application. Ms. Sedillo stated that she will re-send the listing of eligible projects to the NERPO Members by e-mail. Mr. Les Montoya asked if the Montezuma Bridge would qualify for a Safety Project. Mr. Gray stated that he would have to have the backup accident data or fatalities.

Ms. Sedillo asked if any additional training for the ARRA reporting will be provided. Mrs. Pat Oliver-Wright stated that they were trying to get additional training on the LCP Tracker Reporting. She also asked why numerous projects within the NERPO were moved to FY 2010 on ARRA. Ms. Sandoval stated that they did not make the federal deadline for certifications. Ms. Sedillo asked if they were not certified because the local governments had not submitted the required documents. Ms. Sandoval stated that they were waiting for approval from the main office and all local government entities had complied with all the requirements. Ms. Sedillo reminded everyone that they are not to begin their ARRA Projects without written approval from the Feds.

Mr. Paul Gray, District Four Engineer, reminded everyone who receives ARRA Funding must host a ground breaking. He also said that the district would not be involved with the coordination of these ground breakings.

Ms. Sandoval stated that the new PIF was basically the same, except the certification area. Ms. Sedillo provided a copy of the instructions and the new PIF to everyone.

X. District Four Update-Mr. Paul Gray, District Four Engineer and Heather Sandoval NMDOT District 4:

Ms. Heather Sandoval wanted to remind everyone about the LGRF approaching deadlines. Anyone that has an outstanding **LGRF Project and will not be completed by the **December 31, 2009**, deadline needs to request an extension. The request for the **extension of time** must be in writing and sent to the district office by **December 1, 2009!****

Match Waiver:

Ms. Sandoval also informed everyone that the Match Waivers had to be resubmitted with another resolution with specific information regarding match amounts and cover letter. The new information with then be provided to DFA, where the financial analysis will take place. There is a cap of \$75,000, per entity, and school districts do not qualify. District 4 does not know what the turnaround time will be for the Match Waiver once it goes to DFA.

Ms. Sandoval suggested that we conduct a LGRF Training during the PIF/Capital Outlay Trainings. We will need 3 host communities for the trainings. There will be an official call for projects during October for FY 2014. Since funding is limited there will be some funding for Enhancement Projects.

Mr. Les Montoya asked if he produced his own material for his LGRF Project, could he be paid for his materials through the LGRF. Mr. Paul Gray stated that it could be considered an in kind match, but it could not be reimbursed for his own material.

Mr. Paul Gray, District Four Engineer, stated that we have a NMDOT Commission Meeting on October 15, 2009, in Cimarron. Any entity requesting to be placed on the agenda must send an e-mail with the name of the speaker and topic of discussion by October 2, 2009. The meeting will be held at the Philmont Scout Ranch, Silver Sage Facility just beyond the Villa.

Mr. Les Montoya asked if he need to discuss the Rail Road Crossing. Mr. Gray thought it may be appropriate, but the purchase of the Rail Road may be holding up the final issues.

Mr. Gray also announced that Christina Cordova is no longer with District Four. Mr. Kenny Lujan will be the new PIO for District Four.

GRIP:

Mr. Gray reported that there is \$370 Billion of unfunded projects. They have applied for TIGER funds to hopefully complete the last segment of US 64/87 15 miles E. of Raton. There is \$235 Million in bonding capacity under GRIP for FY 2010-2011. It is unclear whether or not the \$235 Million will be issued. Ms. Sedillo asked if District Four had received all the support letters from the local governments in support of the final segment of US 64/87.

ARRA:

The ARRA relief will pay for the \$170 Million under District Four GRIP Corridor the 6th segment of US 64/87. The US 56 Springer project did not get funded due to an error. There will also be a pavement preservation project from Grenville to Clayton. The district is committed to pavement preservation as their priority.

Transportation Issues:

District Four is decreasing their budget by 3% \$1.16 Million dollar cut in personnel expenses in FY 2010, for a total of \$6,120,600.00 in total budget cuts. District Four has already cut their Heavy Equipment Replacement Fund and Contract Maintenance. There are a lot of rumors that there will be no snow removal. We are still going to try our best to keep the roads safe, but may not be out there as much as we would like. They also looked at closing some of the rest areas, but the Governor's Office was not receptive to the idea. They expect flat funding with the upcoming issues with the end of the Federal Fiscal Year and the issues with the Highway Trust Fund. Congressman Oberstar is trying to push a new Federal Authorization Bill, but having some issues with support. There are also issues with the rescission for the 2009 program which would be a \$30 Million dollar impact due to the current authorization bill. As a state we may have match dollar issues for leveraging federal dollars.

We have some difficult times ahead with Transportation and there may be more cuts ahead with our State's budget after the Special Session.

The NERPO Members were hesitant in submitting projects, due to the funding issues. Mr. Gray suggested that there may still be funding for Enhancement Projects.

Mr. Conley stated that we cannot just stop the process of submitting projects and going through the RPO Process. They will still submit projects in hope of additional funding. No one anticipated the ARRA Projects, and we cannot just stop the process.

Vice-Chairman Robert Casados thanked District Four for their hard work on NM 39, even with the lack of funding. Mr. Doug Powers also praised District Four for the work on NM 39.

Mr. Les Montoya commended District Four for the I 25 Bernal Interchange.

Mr. Benny Martinez asked the NERPO Members to keep submitting their progress reports on the GRIP 2 Projects. Ms. Heather Sandoval stated that she call everyone to get the updated reports for the district.

Mr. Tom Wilson, NMDOT provided a memo regarding the consideration of meeting times and dates. The NMDOT Planning division is losing staff and those positions may not be filled due to ongoing budget issues.

XI. Update from the NERPO Planners-Lesah R. Sedillo and Steve Henthorn:

Ms. Sedillo provided the following report:

NERPO Planner Report
By Lesah R. Sedillo
September 23, 2009

General Information:

Ms. Sedillo would like for everyone to thank and recognize our former Chairman Robert Casados and former Vice-Chairman Richard Arguello for all their hard work. They have now reversed roles and we appreciate their dedicated service.

*The ICIP is due on **September 30, 2009**, to the Department of Finance and Administration. Remember, you must submit a copy of your inventory, resolution adopting your plan and a copy of your updated plan. If anyone is in need of assistance, please contact your respective planner.*

NMDOT Commission Meeting is scheduled for October 15, 2009, in Cimarron. The meeting will be held at the Philmont Scout Ranch-Silver Sage Facility, just beyond the Villa. 8:30 am.

NM Infrastructure Conference will be held on October 27-29, 2009, at the Isleta Casino Resort and the RPO's will provide a presentation and have the booth available. Please e-mail photos of your projects, ongoing or completed for display at the booth.

Please remember to read the AASHTO Weekly Journal for the most current Federal Transportation Issues.

Ms. Sedillo provided the final summary of the Town Hall Implementation Team from August 2009!

Mr. Steve Henthorn stated that they will have to change the way that they conduct business, due to the loss of their additional RPO Contract. They will have to double up on trips and schedule accordingly. They may have to look at the amount of meetings that they will be able to attend. Chairman Arguello stated that they want their own planners, but the NMDOT may have to do the work in the future.

Ms. Sedillo stated that she understood the unfortunate situation, but that she would help and will be available when they cannot attend. Ms. Sedillo will re-send the meeting schedule that she prepared along with the NERPO Bylaws for discussion at the next meeting. Ms. Sedillo stated that there are numerous meetings required for action items and programs. Ms. Pat Oliver-Wright stated that the NMDOT may have to consolidate funding deadlines to help accomplish the need for so many meetings.

XI. New Business:

A. General Comments and Announcements from NERPO Members:

Mr. Robert Casados thanked the NERPO Members and the Planners for all their support during his term as Chairman.

Mr. Chuck Howe stated that the Village of Angel Fire has a \$23 Million dollar public improvements project.

Mr. Les Montoya formally introduced Mr. John Garcia as the new San Miguel County Public Works Supervisor. He also announced the success of the new \$1.7 Million dollars Public Works Facility and Industrial Wood Business Park. The facility is located on the 153 acre old Medite site. They are also making their own gravel material with a new crusher that they purchased. They are also in the process of a Transfer Station Bailing Facility.

Mr. Doug Powers would like to thank the Village of Angel Fire for a great lunch and warm hospitality.

Mayor Linda Pavletich would like to thank the Village of Angel Fire.

Mayor Billie Odum stated that they are working on their GRIP 2 Project, CDBG Comprehensive Plan and the recent dedication of the Eagle Nest Visitor Center. In 2008, they had over 194,000 visitors. They are also working with the Eagle Nest Park regarding two village roads cooperatively.

Mr. Bill Conley would like to thank District Four for all the improvements in Colfax County.

Mr. Paul Gray said that they are participating in a study for state of the art Blizzard Fences.

Mrs. Pat Oliver-Wright thanked the NERPO Members for giving her the opportunity to present to them and hoped to attend more RPO Meetings.

Chairman Richard Arguello thanked the NMDOT District Four Office for all their hard work in Union County.

B. Suggested agenda items for upcoming meetings: **Mr. Bill Conley inquired about training for Maintenance of dirt roads**

C. Meeting Location Amendments

This is the following schedule for the NERPO Meetings:

- **October 15, 2009,-NMDOT Commission Meeting-Cimarron**
- **October 21, 2009-Town of Clayton-Context Sensitive Solution/Transit Application Rating and Ranking.**
- **November-PIF/Capital Outlay/LGRF Trainings**
- **December 2, 2009-NMDOT General Office-Santa Fe-Legislative Updates/PIF/Capital Outlay/LGRF Trainings.**

XII. Adjournment:

Mr. Doug Powers, City of Tucumcari made the motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Mr. Carlos Ortiz, City of Las Vegas. The motion carried and all voted in favor.

The meeting adjourned at 2:45 p.m.

