



New Mexico DEPARTMENT OF
TRANSPORTATION

Michelle Lujan Grisham, Governor
Michael R. Sandoval, Cabinet Secretary

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Jan. 28, 2021

NMDOT supports CMGC Senate bill 37 *Alternate project delivery method could save time and cost less*

SANTA FE – Legislation introduced in the state Senate will enable the New Mexico Department of Transportation (NMDOT) to use an alternate project delivery method which could speed the completion of road projects. The Construction Manager General Contractor (CMGC) bill is a top priority for the department this legislative session.

Road construction projects require many steps before they are complete. From the time a need for construction is identified to the actual ribbon cutting, the progression can take years. Transportation departments are frequently looking for ways to streamline the process.

“There are many advantages to passing the bill, but the two affecting taxpayers the most are how the method can accelerate project delivery and provide higher quality projects at lower costs,” said Transportation Secretary Mike Sandoval. “The traveling public wants as little disruption to their commute as possible. They welcome new projects, but they want them to be cost effective and finished quickly. The CMGC delivery method does that.”

Senate bill 37 requests the ability to use the CMGC delivery method for transportation projects. This process brings the design team and the builder together during the early phases of the project to work collaboratively under one contract.

The partnership allows the builder to take on the role of construction manager (CM). The CM works with the design team to verify constructability, pricing, material selection and construction methods before putting in a bid for the project at the guaranteed maximum price. If the bid is accepted, the CM then becomes the general contractor (GC) and is responsible for actual construction services.

CMGC is similar to the project delivery method the department currently uses called “Design-Bid-Build,” but the builder and the design team are contracted separately and come together *after* a project has been put out for competitive bidding which typically goes to the lowest bidder, thereby pushing out other, capable builders.

“The CMGC method is being used by all of the western states,” adds Sandoval “It won’t replace the Design-Bid-Build method, which is still the DOT’s preferred project delivery method, but CMGC will give us another tool to work efficiently,” adds Sandoval.

Senate bill 37 also has the support of the American Council of Engineering Companies of New Mexico (ACEC) and the Associated Contractors of New Mexico (ACNM).

“The communities in our state depend on sustainable funding for roads and infrastructure,” said Bert Thomas President of ACEC New Mexico. “Without reliable infrastructure, our daily lives will be impacted. CMGC is another tool we desperately need in our toolbox to get projects completed quickly and efficiently. It will benefit New Mexico businesses and allow the NMDOT and other government agencies the ability to improve the quality of life for all New Mexicans,” adds Thomas.

“CMGC is a cost-effective alternative to completing heavy highway projects with great efficiency,” said Jim Garcia ACNM Executive Director. “ACNM supports the NMDOT using taxpayer money wisely.”

Senate bill 37 is sponsored by Senator Michael Padilla, D-Albuquerque.

###

NMDOT
Mobility for everyone

Marisa Maez, *Communications Director* | Marisa.Maez@state.nm.us | 505 469 8243