

New Mexico 2045 Plan

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

JUNE 2021



New Mexico Plan 2045 Plan Executive Summary

The New Mexico 2045 Plan creates a new 25-year transportation vision to establish

“a safe, sustainable, and resilient multimodal transportation system that meets New Mexico’s current and future mobility and accessibility needs.”

In support of this vision, the New Mexico 2045 Plan provides the New Mexico Department of Transportation (NMDOT) with information, guidance, and direction to support decision making.

The full New Mexico 2045 Plan includes:

- a description of NMDOT today, federal and state initiatives affecting transportation, and the public engagement process for the New Mexico 2045 Plan;
- documentation of the existing inventory, condition, and performance of New Mexico’s transportation system;
- a needs analysis and revenue gap, the trends and issues that may impact future transportation in New Mexico, future performance targets, and a scenario analysis of the transportation consequences of those trends and issues;
- vision, goals, objectives, and performance measures that set the framework for long-range transportation planning in New Mexico;
- the strategies that will prepare NMDOT to help the state achieve its transportation vision in the face of both known and unanticipated future challenges and opportunities.



NEW MEXICO 2045 PLAN GOALS



Asset Management

Optimize spending to cost effectively preserve our transportation assets in the best possible condition over the long term



Safety

Improve safety for all transportation system users



Mobility & Accessibility

Efficiently and equitably invest in infrastructure and technology to provide reliable multimodal access and connectivity, improve mobility, foster economic growth, and minimize transportation’s contribution to climate change

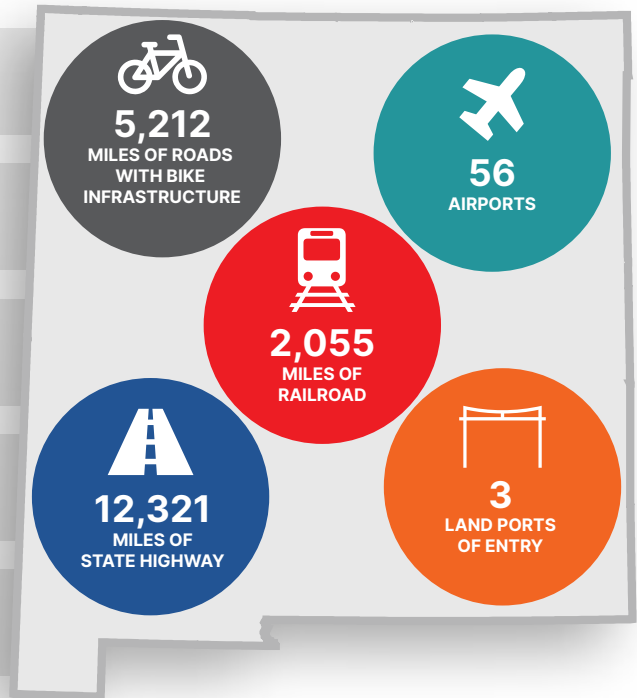


Program Delivery

Deliver transportation programs through approaches and processes that improve resiliency, respect New Mexico’s unique cultures, and promote fiscal and environmental stewardship

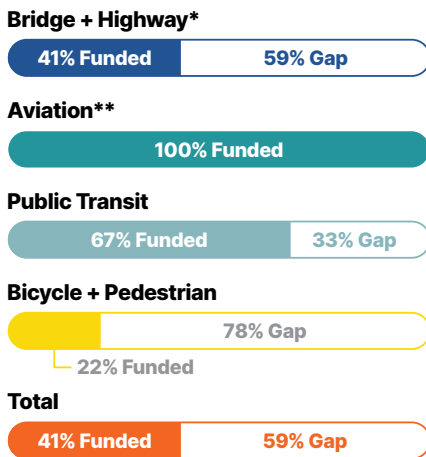


Transportation in New Mexico Today



Looking Forward: Trends and Emerging Issues

Transportation Needs are growing faster than Transportation Revenue.

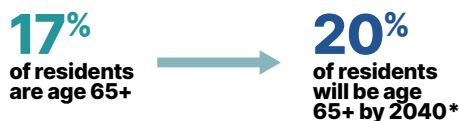


*Bridge and Highway (includes Bridge, Highway, Freight, Safety, and Intelligent Transportation Systems)

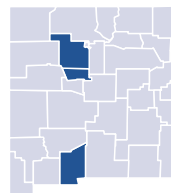
**Aviation needs and funding based on programmed projects.

New Mexico's population will be **older and more urban**, but will **grow slowly**.

Population growth is slowing. New Mexico is on track for its slowest population growth between census years in recorded history.



84% of growth will concentrate in the most urban counties of **Bernalillo, Sandoval,** and **Doña Ana.**



* 2045 projections unavailable as of June 2021. Population projections provided by the University of New Mexico Geospatial and Population Studies.

The **environment** we plan for is **changing**.

Climate Change is creating need for decarbonization.

E-commerce and Remote Work are changing the way we travel.

In 2020, **self-driving vehicle** testing by the private auto industry expanded to New Mexico's public roads.

Electric Vehicles are projected to make up 20% of all registered NM vehicles by 2045



Implementation Strategies



Mobility and Accessibility

Highlighted Strategy

“Update Guidance Manuals, and processes to include Complete Streets Principles. Develop and conduct training for staff on process changes. Integrate Complete Streets approach into the development process of new and reconstruction projects.”

“Complete Streets” is an approach to provide safe transportation access for all users, inclusive of all ages and abilities, by designing and operating a comprehensive, integrated, and connected multimodal network of transportation options. To-date, NMDOT has drafted a Complete Streets policy that will provide new approaches to plan, design, construct, maintain, and operate its transportation system. In alignment with the Mobility and Accessibility goal, the New Mexico 2045 Plan provides strategies to realize the policy.

The eight Mobility and Accessibility strategies aim to leverage investments, technology and relationships to improve mobility and accessibility on strategic corridors, address freight bottlenecks, support the transition to electric vehicles and expand transportation choice. Through a new Climate Change Plan, coordination with other state departments on rising freight issues, developing partnerships for EV charging stations, and formalizing opportunities for input on project design and implementation – the Mobility and Accessibility strategies include wide-ranging tactics to work with others for a comprehensive and safe multimodal system. These collaborative strategies are paired with tools to strengthen existing NMDOT efforts including expanding vanpool services, creating a new framework to include equity measures in decision-making processes, and continued use of data-driven evaluation of freight projects.



Program Delivery

The New Mexico 2045 Plan sets a goal to deliver projects on-time and on-budget while reducing negative impacts on the natural environment and both adhering to and respecting local plans and heritage. Improving NMDOT program delivery approaches and processes can result from strengthened internal capacity and better relationships with partners.

Highlighted Strategy

“Develop the alternative delivery guidance (including edits to the NMDOT Design Manual) and project eligibility standards. Develop and conduct training for staff on process changes.”

Project delivery refers to the contracting methods NMDOT uses to select contractors and the methods contractors use to build projects. “Alternative project delivery” refers to streamlined processes that, when appropriate, can reduce the time it takes to build a project and bring project benefits to the public sooner. Use of these tools must be allowed by the state legislator, a conversation that is well underway. After this approval, NMDOT must develop the guidance and build knowledge on when and how these tools are used for cost- and time-savings.



Implementation Strategies



Asset Management

The New Mexico 2045 Plan identifies nine strategies to support cost-effective asset management for the long-term preservation and resiliency of pavement, bridges, transit assets, airport runways, and other transportation assets. These strategies highlight opportunities to use and improve data in decision-making, prepare for new technology and climate change risks, and support our transit and aviation partners.

Highlighted Strategy

“Continue to expand the scope and improve the quality of data collected to inform asset management decision-making. Examples include expanding data collection to pedestrian assets and improving the quality of Geographic Information System (GIS) spatial data.”

NMDOT is already improving the quality of and expanding the use of data in asset management. Recent implementation of a Linear Referencing System has created a foundation for additional data collection. Plans to identify and build on data gaps are ongoing and study of best practices across the nation highlight opportunities to integrate data in new, innovative, and useful ways.



Safety

Highlighted Strategy

“Implement the Network Screening and data-driven project selection process outlined in the Highway Safety Improved Program (HSIP) Manual.”

A regular safety tool, the annual HSIP report allows NMDOT to allocate limited safety dollars to areas with the greatest safety needs and to effectively support NMDOT goals, safety strategies, and performance targets to reduce fatalities and serious injuries on the state transportation system. Previous iterations of the HSIP and coordination with local and federal stakeholders has resulted in the identification of tools to improve the project selection process. Implementing these tools will advance long-term safety across the state.

Safety for all transportation system users is an ongoing priority through all NMDOT plans and actions. Achieving fewer driver, bicycle, and pedestrian fatalities and serious injuries will require interventions in project scoping and design, as well as through driver awareness and education. As such, the New Mexico 2045 Plan safety strategies span varying processes. The five strategies include implementing recommendations from bicycle and pedestrian plans, increasing organizational capacity, improving project selection processes, and preparing for future safety concerns such as those that may arise from the recent legalization of recreational cannabis.

NMDOT is ready and excited to implement the New Mexico 2045 Plan strategies to improve the multimodal transportation system for current and future mobility and accessibility needs of our residents, businesses, and visitors.