

highway requested for designation or dedication is located is responsible for all costs associated with the installation, routine maintenance or replacement of signs due to damage, normal wear and tear or vandalism. The designated portion of NM76 is located within Santa Fe and Mora Counties, so these counties would be responsible for signage costs per rule of the STC.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

The NMDOT writes if the State Transportation Commission (STC) takes action to dedicate the designated portion of NM76 as the “Casimiro Roca Memorial Highway,” then Santa Fe and Mora Counties would be responsible for (1) installing within one year of the STC’s dedication, appropriate signage in accordance with the *Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices* and the *Roadside Design Guide* at no cost to NMDOT; and (2) inspecting the signage annually and performing all maintenance, repairs and replacement of the signage at no cost to NMDOT.

The section of NM76 from the junction with NM503 (milepost 8.2) in Chimayo north to the junction with NM75 in Penasco (milepost 29.9) has been designated as the “High Road to Taos Scenic Byway” by the New Mexico Scenic and Historic Byway Program. The dedication proposed in HM56 cannot overlap the Scenic Byway designation; therefore, the designated portion of NM76 would need to be reduced to the portion of NM76 from Espanola (junction with NM68, milepost 0) to its junction with NM503 in Chimayo. Other than the “High Road to Taos Scenic Byway” designation, there are no other known designations that conflict with the proposed dedication of the designated portion of NM76.

TECHNICAL ISSUES

The HTPWC amendments addressed the following issue: The NMDOT suggests to avoid overlapping the existing “High Road to Taos Scenic Byway” designation, HM56 could be amended to request the designation of Casimiro Roca Memorial Highway as “that portion of NM76 from Espanola (junction with NM68, milepost 0.0) to its junction with NM503 in Chimayo.

RAE/sb/jle