



## DEFENSE ACCESS ROAD (DAR) PROJECT UPDATES FOR MELROSE AIR FORCE RANGE (MAFR)



Mr. Rick Masters Director of Staff 4 October 2021

This Briefing is: UNCLASSIFIED



## **Bottom Line Up Front**



- NMDOT has made a concerted effort to improve all access roadways around and into Cannon Air Force Base (CAFB) and Melrose Air Force Range (MAFR) over the last 6 years
  - Overpass repairs to CAFB Main Gate entry from U.S. Hwy 60/84 & NM State Road 311
  - Major repair/resurface of U.S. Hwy 60/84 east of CAFB to Clovis NM
  - Expansion of U.S. Hwy 60/84 to accommodate safety turn lanes at entrance to Roosevelt Road AV for primary access to MAFR
  - Grant to Roosevelt County to improve Sundale Valley Road (alternate entry to MAFR)
  - Grant to Roosevelt County for fencing project along RR AV for primary access to MAFR
  - Repairs/resurface of NM State Road 311 (entry to CAFB's Chavez Military Housing area)
- CAFB appreciates all of the efforts of NMDOT and the positive working relationship that we have been able to develop and sustain



## Sundale Valley Road Update Informational



#### SUNDALE VALLEY RD

#### Background:

- Sundale Valley Road west from the intersection with NM267 was approved for the Defense Access Road (DAR) program 30 March 2018 (approx. 3.75 miles)
- Road was used for the main entry prior to the opening of the new main gate at Roosevelt Rd AV (RR AV); due to traffic there was deterioration that needed to be repaired.
- Roosevelt County (the County) required the repair be completed prior to the DAR RR AV project approval.

#### Scope/Costs:

- The County planned on self performing a chip seal w/slurry seal.
- CAFB, working with NM Military Base Planning & Support and the County, were able to secure a grant of \$600K from the New Mexico Department of Transportation (NMDOT) for repairs to Sundale Valley Road and for the fence requirements for RR AV.

#### Current Situation:

- The County received the NMDOT grant to repair the road early in 2021 and decided to contract out the work.
- Construction is currently underway.





## Roosevelt Road AV Update Informational



#### DAR RR AV (Krider Rd)

#### Background:

- RR AV received DAR certification on 30 March 2018.
- The Unspecified Minor Military Construction (UMMC) project will encompass improvements from US Route 60/84 south of the rail road crossing to the north gate of Melrose Air Force Range (MAFR).
- Fence each side of RR AV in the county ROW is needed to prevent cattle from interfering with traffic flow and is a county requirement.
- RR AV and Rte 60/84 intersection enhancements are the responsibility of NMDOT.
- The railroad crossing enhancements are the responsibility Burlington Northern Santa Fe (BNSF) Corporation.

#### Scope/Costs:

- UMMC RR AV: Improvements will consist of using hot mix asphalt to pave a 2 lane road that is 24' wide with 4' shoulders along the 5 mile length of road and digging all associated drainage. PA = \$5.25M
- RR AV and Route 60/84 Intersection: Turn lane reconfiguration.
- Railroad Crossing Enhancements: Includes improvements to the railroad crossing surface, warning lights, and drop arms.
- RR AV Fence: 5 strand barbed wire each side of road in ROW. Installed by County, funded by NMDOT. Portion of \$600K grant





# Roosevelt Road AV Update



#### DAR RR AV (Krider Rd) Cont.

- Current Situation:
  - RR AV and Rte 60/84 intersection improvements have been completed by NMDOT.
  - The railroad crossing enhancements have been completed by BNSF.
  - The UMMC RR AV project:
    - The MOA between the Roosevelt County, Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), AFCEC, and CAFB has been signed to begin the design process for the UMMC project.
    - Planning and design funds transfer from AFCEC to FHWA should be complete by mid-Oct.
    - Design phase to start in approx. Nov 2021
    - Construction slated to start in approx. Dec 2022
  - The County received the NMDOT grant for new 5 strand barbed wire fence.
    - The County is continuing to navigate numerous hurdles with the State Land Office and the project has not yet been able to start.





# Strategic Highway Network (STRAHNET) Coordination



#### STRAHNET Update.

- Current Situation:
  - STRAHNET team has indicated their initial support for including Cannon on the STRAHNET system
    - Will extend the existing 60/84 STRAHNET route to include CAFB main gate
    - STRAHNET evaluating extending the 60/84 route out to MAFR at Roosevelt Road (there is precedent for connecting to training ranges)
    - STRAHNET has requested additional information about the utilization of MAFR for ground training & predeployment activities
    - CAFB is working to provide the additional information to STRAHNET
  - Following discussion of the additional ground utilization information from MAFR, STRAHNET will review & make an initial determination about suitability for inclusion
    - If approved, STRAHNET will designate as "Highways for National Defense" and inform NMDOT
    - Estimated timeline to assess and issue determination is approximately three months







## **Questions?**