

**MINUTES
of the
FIFTH MEETING
of the
TRANSPORTATION INFRASTRUCTURE REVENUE SUBCOMMITTEE**

**October 25, 2024
State Capitol, Room 309
Santa Fe**

The fifth meeting of the Transportation Infrastructure Revenue Subcommittee was called to order by Senator Bill Tallman, chair, on October 25, 2024 at 10:05 a.m. in Room 309 of the State Capitol in Santa Fe.

Present

Sen. Bill Tallman, Chair
Rep. Dayan Hochman-Vigil, Vice Chair
Rep. Anthony Allison
Rep. Art De La Cruz
Rep. Harry Garcia
Rep. Joy Garratt
Sen. Roberto "Bobby" J. Gonzales
Rep. Jenifer Jones

Absent

Rep. Cathrynn N. Brown
Sen. Ron Griggs
Sen. George K. Muñoz
Rep. Randall T. Pettigrew
Sen. Pat Woods

Advisory Members

Rep. Kathleen Cates
Sen. David M. Gallegos
Rep. Rod Montoya

Rep. Gail Armstrong
Sen. Craig W. Brandt
Rep. Pamelya Herndon
Rep. Patricia A. Lundstrom
Rep. Willie D. Madrid
Sen. Shannon D. Pinto
Rep. G. Andrés Romero

Guest Legislator

Sen. Nancy Rodriguez

Staff

Sheila Keleher, Researcher, Legislative Council Service (LCS)
Cristina Vasquez, Staff Attorney, LCS
Erin Bond, Researcher, LCS

Guests

The guest list in the meeting file.

Handouts

Handouts and other written testimony are in the meeting file and posted on the legislature's website.

References to Webcast

The time reference noted next to each agenda item in this document is cross-referenced to the webcast of the subcommittee meeting, which can be found at www.nmlegis.gov, under the "Webcast" tab. The presentations made and subcommittee discussions for agenda items can be found on the recorded webcast for this meeting.

Friday, October 25

Welcome and Introductions (10:06 a.m.)

Senator Tallman welcomed the subcommittee. Subcommittee members and staff introduced themselves.

Planning for Future Risks and Building Resilience (10:09 a.m.)

David Draine, principal officer, State Fiscal Policy, The Pew Charitable Trusts, and Fatima Yousofi, senior officer, State Fiscal Policy, The Pew Charitable Trusts, discussed risks that transportation infrastructure currently faces, with an emphasis on climate change and declining fuel taxes. They highlighted strategies states have used to support infrastructure resilience and noted that the Department of Transportation (DOT) has developed a resilience improvement plan. Dave Harris, executive director, Modal Programs, DOT, noted that resilience planning is being incorporated into the department's design manual, and members of the subcommittee requested a presentation from the DOT on the topic at the subcommittee's next meeting. The presentation materials can be found here:

<https://www.nmlegis.gov/Committee/Handouts?CommitteeCode=TIRS&Date=10/25/2024&ItemNumber=1>.

Approval of Minutes (11:03 a.m.)

On a motion made and approved, the subcommittee unanimously adopted the minutes of the September 25, 2024 meeting.

Rail Safety Legislation (11:05 a.m.)

Clem Harris, chairman, New Mexico State Legislative Board, Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers and Trainmen, reviewed legislation that the organization plans to support in the 2025 legislative session. The proposed legislation limiting the length of trains to 8,500 feet; limiting trains' obstruction of a roadway to 10 minutes; mandating the use of wayside detector systems; prohibiting retaliation for reporting noncompliance of these events; providing

administrative penalties for noncompliance; and setting standards for how train crews are transported to and from trains at the behest of the railroad. The presentation materials can be found here:

<https://www.nmlegis.gov/Committee/Handouts?CommitteeCode=TIRS&Date=10/25/2024&ItemNumber=2>.

Building a National High-Speed Rail Network and Related Infrastructure (12:50 p.m.)

Rick Harnish, executive director, High Speed Rail Alliance, discussed how New Mexico and the United States could develop a national integrated rail network with high-speed rail to connect communities. Alphecca Muttardy, lead economic advisor, Coalition for a National Infrastructure Bank, explained the historical uses of a national infrastructure bank and how such a bank could now help establish high-speed rail between states. The presentation materials can be found here:

<https://www.nmlegis.gov/Committee/Handouts?CommitteeCode=TIRS&Date=10/25/2024&ItemNumber=3>.

The National Infrastructure Bank (1:38 p.m.)

Senator Tallman spoke in favor of House Resolution 4052 (2023), a bill introduced in the United States House of Representatives that would create a national infrastructure bank to help rebuild infrastructure across the United States. The presentation materials can be found here:

<https://www.nmlegis.gov/Committee/Handouts?CommitteeCode=TIRS&Date=10/25/2024&ItemNumber=4>.

Albuquerque Rapid Rail: A Preliminary Proposal (2:08 p.m.)

Benjamin López, M.P.A., reviewed the state of transportation in Albuquerque and explained how a rapid rail system could be financed and developed in the city. He highlighted how the Réseau express métropolitain in Montreal could act as a model for New Mexico. The presentation materials can be found here:

<https://www.nmlegis.gov/Committee/Handouts?CommitteeCode=TIRS&Date=10/25/2024&ItemNumber=5>.

Public Comment (2:48 p.m.)

A list of individuals making public comment is available in the meeting file.

Adjournment

There being no further business before the subcommittee, the meeting adjourned at 2:55 p.m.