

underscored material = new
~~[bracketed material] = delete~~

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25

SENATE MEMORIAL 7

44TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - 2ND SPECIAL SESSION, 2000

INTRODUCED BY

Roman M. Maes III

A MEMORIAL

REQUESTING THE STATE HIGHWAY AND TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT TO DEVELOP A NEW MODEL FOR WORKING WITH COMMUNITIES BASED ON FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION GUIDELINES ON FLEXIBILITY IN HIGHWAY DESIGN AND PROMOTION OF CONTEXT-SENSITIVE DESIGN.

WHEREAS, the United States highway 285 coalition represents all member associations in matters of health, safety, welfare and the preservation of the rural character of the greater community along the seven-mile corridor from the intersection of Old Las Vegas highway to New Mexico route 41; and

WHEREAS, the coalition has been working with the state highway and transportation department for the past six months to modify planned roadway lighting along the first one and one-half miles of United States highway 285 south that goes through rural subdivisions; and

WHEREAS, the coalition has endorsed a federal highway

underscored material = new
~~[bracketed material] = delete~~

1 administration recommendation for eighteen luminaries; and

2 WHEREAS, the state highway and transportation department
3 is planning to install thirty-three luminaries; and

4 WHEREAS, this is a rural community that until recently
5 has had little or no roadway lighting with strict subdivision
6 covenants to preserve its rural character; and

7 WHEREAS, the community has expressed its concerns to the
8 state highway and transportation department about the
9 proposed number of lights and their detrimental effect on the
10 rural character of the area; and

11 WHEREAS, the department refuses to reduce the number of
12 lights below thirty-three and has stated to the coalition
13 that "this is not your highway"; and

14 WHEREAS, the state highway and transportation department
15 has been insensitive to the fact that the highway is a major
16 defining element of the community in that it provides the
17 only entrance and exit to all the subdivisions and the
18 village of Lamy; and

19 WHEREAS, the state highway and transportation department
20 has refused the coalition's request to postpone installation
21 of the lighting until the controversy is resolved; and

22 WHEREAS, numerous other communities have had difficulty
23 in getting the department to adequately address their
24 concerns in the planning and design process of highway
25 projects;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE
STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the state highway and transportation

.133190.1

underscored material = new
~~[bracketed material] = delete~~

1 department be requested to develop a new model for working
2 with communities based on federal highway administration
3 guidelines on flexibility in highway design and promotion of
4 context-sensitive design; and

5 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the state highway and
6 transportation department specifically modify its model to:

- 7 (1) identify representative groups in the
8 community to work with;
- 9 (2) interact with the community during both the
10 planning and implementation stages of roadway projects;
- 11 (3) emphasize and fully address the environmental
12 and community impact up front;
- 13 (4) acknowledge that highways are often an
14 integral part of communities and do not belong solely to the
15 department;
- 16 (5) improve response time to community inquiries;
- 17 and
- 18 (6) reach a balanced decision that is context- and
19 community-sensitive; and

20 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this memorial be
21 transmitted to the state highway and transportation
22 department.
23
24
25