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A MEMORIAL

RECOGNIZING AND SUPPORTING CONTINUED EFFORTS FOR NEW MEXICO
COMPLETE STREETS.

WHEREAS, the United States department of transportation identifies complete streets as streets designed and operated to enable safe use and mobility for all users, including people of all ages and abilities, regardless of whether they are traveling as drivers, pedestrians or bicyclists or riding on public transportation; and

WHEREAS, complete streets designs can encourage drivers to drive their vehicles at slower speeds and prevent dangerous conflicts between pedestrians, cyclists and motorized vehicles without the need for additional law enforcement; and

WHEREAS, multiple studies by the national complete streets coalition demonstrate that implementation of complete streets stimulates local economies by raising surrounding property values, spurring private investment and reducing transportation costs for users; and

WHEREAS, the American public health association has stated that motor-vehicle related fatalities and injuries, whether impacting drivers, passengers, pedestrians or cyclists, cause an estimated one hundred eighty billion dollars (\$180,000,000,000) in both property damage and health

1 impacts; and

2 WHEREAS, the American association of retired persons
3 public policy institute has officially endorsed the planning
4 concept of complete streets and encourages local, regional
5 and state planning agencies to change policies and procedures
6 so that multimodal accommodations are a routine part of
7 project development; and

8 WHEREAS, the United States office of the surgeon general
9 promotes walking and walkable communities by improving access
10 to safe and convenient places to walk, noting that one out of
11 every two United States adults is living with a chronic
12 disease, such as heart disease, cancer or diabetes; and

13 WHEREAS, the United States office of the surgeon general
14 further cites that street design can support walking and
15 enhance pedestrian safety; and

16 WHEREAS, transportation and travel policies and
17 practices that create or enhance pedestrian and bicycle
18 networks and expand or subsidize public transit systems can
19 be another approach to encouraging walking for
20 transportation; and

21 WHEREAS, other studies demonstrate how street trees, as
22 an integral part of complete streets, remove substantial
23 volumes of carbon dioxide and other air pollutants, catch
24 significant amounts of storm water, reduce urban heat-island
25 effects and create safer and more sociable neighborhoods,

1 which contributes to a sense of community, economic
2 viability, environmental sustainability and healthier people;
3 and

4 WHEREAS, the New Mexico senate officially declared
5 February 11, 2014 "New Mexico Complete Streets Day"; and

6 WHEREAS, the New Mexico complete streets leadership team
7 consists of more than sixty members statewide with a
8 diversity of technical expertise who diligently advance
9 policies, practices and projects supporting the safety and
10 mobility of all users of public streets and roadways; and

11 WHEREAS, multiple complete streets policies, resolutions
12 and ordinances have been passed throughout the state, and the
13 cities of Las Cruces, Santa Fe, Albuquerque and Farmington
14 have taken steps to integrate complete streets into their
15 planning and regulatory framework through transportation
16 policies and design standards; and

17 WHEREAS, tribal communities in New Mexico have begun to
18 implement complete streets projects, such as the Pueblo of
19 Laguna's roundabout with bicycle and pedestrian safety
20 features, constructed through a partnership with the
21 New Mexico department of transportation; and

22 WHEREAS, many other New Mexico organizations are
23 instrumental in contributing to complete streets planning;
24 and

25 WHEREAS, in its 2040 long-range transportation plan, the

1 New Mexico department of transportation identified the goal
2 to adopt transportation safety policies related to complete
3 streets, pedestrian design and access management; and

4 WHEREAS, the New Mexico department of transportation's
5 vision and its mission align with complete streets
6 principles, policies and guidelines; and

7 WHEREAS, complete streets supports the New Mexico
8 department of transportation's transition planning
9 requirements in the federal Americans with Disabilities Act
10 of 1990 and public right-of-way accessibility guidelines; and

11 WHEREAS, federal agencies and the president of the
12 United States issued a call to action to determine why the
13 nation lost thirty-five thousand ninety-two people in traffic
14 crashes in 2015, a seven and two-tenths percent increase in
15 deaths from 2014; and

16 WHEREAS, national statistics show that in 2014,
17 New Mexico had the highest rate of pedestrian deaths in the
18 United States; and

19 WHEREAS, by 2030, it is estimated that New Mexico will
20 be fourth in the nation with a percentage of people older
21 than sixty-five, and complete streets planning provides an
22 opportunity to increase the safety and availability of older
23 adults' travel options;

24 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE
25 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that it recognize and congratulate the

1 leadership and accomplishments of local and tribal
2 governments, agencies and team members that are committed to
3 the safety of all users of roadways in promoting and
4 implementing complete streets throughout New Mexico; and

5 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that complete streets be
6 recognized for its understanding that transportation is about
7 moving people and connecting, supporting and building vibrant
8 communities; and

9 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
10 transmitted to the team members of New Mexico complete
11 streets; the secretary of transportation; the secretary of
12 health; members of the state transportation commission; the
13 tribal liaison for the New Mexico department of
14 transportation; the division administrator of the New Mexico
15 division of the federal highway administration; the secretary
16 of energy, minerals and natural resources; the secretary of
17 economic development; and the chair of the governor's
18 commission on disability.

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