2018 New Mexico State Rail Plan Update Presentation





Why Develop a Rail Plan?

- Required by the Passenger Rail Investment and Improvement Act of 2008 (PRIIA)
- Required to receive future funding from Federal Railroad Administration (FRA)
- Coordinates with New Mexico's Long Range
 Transportation and Freight Plans

Purposes of Rail Plan

- Describes State Rail resources
- Sets forth State policy regarding passenger and freight rail transportation
- Presents priorities and strategies to enhance rail service that benefits the public
- Serves as the basis for Federal and State rail investments

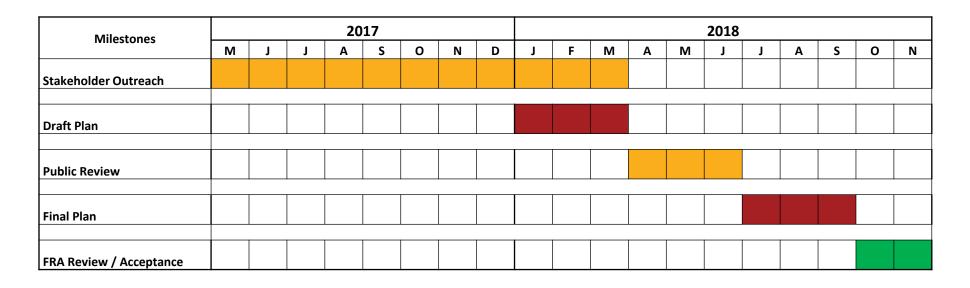
Rail Plan Contents

- Vision, goals and objectives
 - ✓ Guide actions, programs, prioritizations
 - ✓ Provide linkages to State Transportation Plans
- Rail systems inventory and assessment
 - ✓ System inventory (freight and passenger)
 - ✓ Performance assessment
 - ✓ Issues and opportunities
 - ✓ Current and future needs
- Planning for the future
 - ✓ Prioritization of investments
 - ✓ Economic, environmental, community factors
 - ✓ Implementation of plan

Rail Plan Process

- Stakeholder outreach to determine needs, issues, and priorities
- Public involvement
- Draft rail plan
- Public and stakeholder review and comment
- Final rail plan submitted to Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) for approval
- Update plan every 4 years

Rail Plan Schedule



- Initial outreach to MPOs and RTPOs in Summer of 2017
- Draft Rail Plan Spring 2018
- Public meetings Mid 2018
- Second round of presentations to MPOs and RTPOs Mid 2018

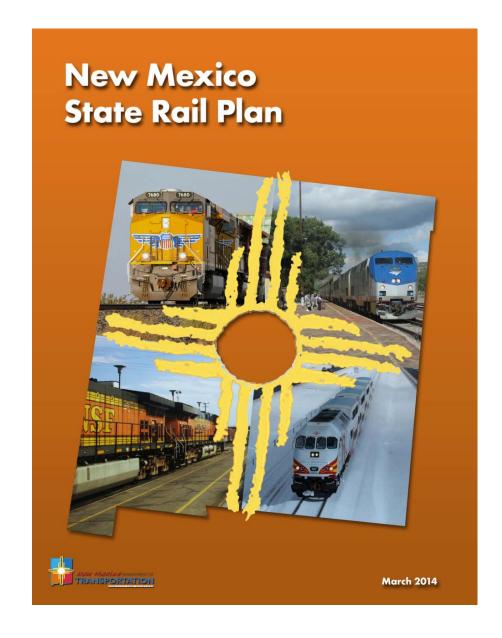
Public Involvement

Transit and Rail Page on NMDOT Website –

http://dot.state.nm.us/content/nmdot/en/Transit Rail.html

- 2014 Rail Plan
- Public Presentation Schedule
- Additional information
- Link to On-Line Rail Survey (Closes 09/15/2017)
- Email Comments and Questions: Rail.Plan@state.nm.us

Updating the 2014 New Mexico State Rail Plan



2014 Rail Plan Vision Statement

The State of New Mexico's vision for its rail network is a fully-integrated and safe multimodal rail system that provides efficient passenger services to, from, and within the state; provides a competitive option for New Mexico shippers; is a vital component of the national transportation network; and supports sustainable, inclusive economic development statewide.

2014 Rail Plan Statewide Goals

Four main goals for rail in New Mexico:

- 1. Support economic growth and development;
- 2. Improve railroad safety and security;
- Maintain railroad assets in a state of good repair;
- 4. Promote efficient passenger rail service

Goal: Support Economic Growth and Development

- Increase capacity of long-distance freight corridors
- Develop and promote local freight connections
- Promote rail-related tourism
- Link rail investments to strategies that support economic development

Goal: Improve Railroad Safety and Security

- Positive Train Control (PTC)
- Develop and implement other mandatory safetyrelated measures
- Improve highway-rail grade crossing safety
- Improve rail security

Goal: Maintain Railroad Assets in a State of Good Repair

- Improve the conditions of the state's Class III rail lines
- Maintain/improve the conditions of the NMRX rail lines

Goal: Promote Efficient Passenger Rail Service

- Improve passenger rail options in New Mexico as part of a multimodal transportation system
- Improve Rail Runner operations
- Identify stable and predictable funding for Rail Runner and NMRX rail lines

2014 Rail Plan Stakeholder Statewide Issues

- Passenger rail service improvements
 - Existing Rail Runner alignment
 - New commuter/regional passenger rail
 - High speed/intercity passenger rail
- Support local economic development
- Grade crossing safety
- Positive Train Control (PTC)
- Santa Teresa border crossing

Factors Affecting Prioritization of Project Funding

- Need to maintain the State's existing railroad infrastructure in a state of good repair
- Need to comply with Federal safety mandates
- Limited overall public funding from Federal,
 State and local sources
- Restrictions on use of available Federal funding
- Anti-Donation Clause

Major Developments Since 2014

- Santa Teresa intermodal facility opened in 2014
- BNSF double-tracking projects completed through New Mexico in 2016
- New transload facilities in Albuquerque's South Valley being developed
- TIGER Grant funds are being used to replace railroad ties on NMDOT track used by Amtrak Southwest Chief in 2017
- Intermodal facilities being developed along BNSF Transcon (Gallup, Los Lunas)
- New rail-served facilities being developed in southeast New Mexico

We Want Your Comments On

- The Vision Statement
- Rail projects and priorities
- Funding mechanisms for rail
- Rail policy

Thank You



Please send comments and questions to: Rail.Plan@state.nm.us