



Action Summary
Mid-Region Council of Governments
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Work Session
Thursday, November 13, 2014
809 Copper Ave, NW, Albuquerque, NM 87102

M. Steven Anaya, Chair

Jack Torres, Vice- Chair

ORGANIZATION	PRESENT	MEMBER	PRESENT	ALTERNATE
Sandoval County {2}	X	*Nora M. Scherzinger, Commissioner Glenn Walters, Commissioner		Phil Rios
Village of Los Ranchos de Albuquerque {2}		*Larry Abraham, Mayor Donald Lopez, Trustee		Kelly S. Ward
City of Albuquerque (Administration) {1}	X	*Robert Perry, CAO		Michael Riordan
City of Albuquerque (City Council) {5}	X X	*Rey Garduño, Councilor Isaac Benton, Councilor Diane Gibson, Councilor Don Harris, Councilor Klarissa Peña, Councilor Dan Lewis, Councilor		Brad Winters Trudy Jones Ken Sanchez Julian Moya Tom Menicucci Tony Duran Nancy Montaña Chris Sylvan
Albuquerque Metropolitan Arroyo Flood Control Authority {1}		Danny Hernandez, Board Chair		David Carter
Albuquerque Public Schools {1}		*Kathy Korte, Board Member	X	Martin W. Eckert Lorenzo Garcia
City of Belen {2}		Jerah Cordova, Mayor		David Carter
Town of Bernalillo {2}	X	Jack Torres, Vice-Chair Vacant		Vacant
Bernalillo County {4}		*Debbie O'Malley, Commissioner Wayne Johnson, Commissioner Tom Zdunek, County Manager		Jarvis Middleton, Steve Miller Other Commissioners
Village of Bosque Farms {2}		*Robert Knowlton, Mayor Vacant		Vacant
CNM		*Dr. Katharine W. Winograd President	X	Samatha Sengel
Village of Corrales {2}	X	Philip Gasteyer, Councilor Pat Clauser, Councilor		Vacant
Village of Cuba {2}		Richard Velarde, Mayor Vandora Casados, Clerk/Trustee		Vacant
Town of Edgewood {2}		Brad Hill, Mayor		John Abrams
Town of Encino {2}		John G. Philips III, Mayor Vacant		Loretta Chavez

Organization	Present	Member	Present	Alternate
Town of Estancia {1}		Vacant Vacant		Vacant
Village of Jemez {2}		Vacant Vacant		Vacant
Pueblo of Laguna {1}		Vacant		Vacant
Village of Los Lunas {2}		Charles Griego, Mayor Christina Ainsworth, Dir. Community Development		Gregory D. Martin
Los Lunas Public Schools {1}		Ron Williams, Chief Operations Officer		Clair Ciereans
Middle Rio Grande Conservancy District {1}		*Adrian Oglesby		Karen Dunning
City of Moriarty {2}	X	*M. Steven Anaya, Chair Ted Hart, Mayor		Linda Fischer
Town of Mountainair {2}		Vacant Vacant		Vacant
Town of Peralta		Leon Otero		Vacant
City of Rio Rancho {2}	X	*Greggory D. Hull, Mayor Lonnie Clayton, Councilor		Peter Wells
Rio Rancho Public Schools		Richard Bruce, Chief Operations Officer		Vacant
Southern Sandoval County Arroyo Flood Control Authority {1}	X	*Donald Rudy, Board Member		Vacant
Village of Tijeras {2}		*Gloria Chavez, Mayor Vacant		Diane L. Klaus
Torrance County {2}		*Lonnie Freyburger, Commissioner Vacant		Leroy Candelaria
Valencia County {2}	X	*Mary Anderson, Commissioner Lawrence Romero, Commissioner		Vacant
University of New Mexico {1}	X	Connie Beimer, Director of Government Relations		Robert Doran
Village of Willard {2}		Robert Chavez, Mayor Emily Sanchez, Clerk		Vacant

*** Executive Board**

NON-VOTING ADVISORY MEMBER				
ORGANIZATION	PRESENT	MEMBER	PRESENT	ALTERNATE
Kirtland Air Force Base		Vacant		Vacant
Federal Highway Administration		J. Don Martinez, Division Administrator		Vacant
New Mexico Department of Transportation		Tom Church, Secretary		Vacant
New Mexico Department of Transportation		Timothy Parker, District 3 Engineer		Vacant
Pueblo of Santa Ana		Bruce Sanchez, Governor		Ken Paquin

NON-VOTING ASSOCIATE MEMBER

Valley Improvement Association

MRCOG STAFF & OTHERS PRESENT

Dewey Cave, MRCOG Executive Director

Thaddeus Lucero, MRCOG Staff

Wendy Candelaria, MRCOG Staff

Noemi Rodriguez, MRCOG

Larry Horan, MRCOG Staff

Tony Sylvester, MRCOG Staff

Marla Segura, MRCOG Staff

Sandy Gaiser, MRCOG Staff

Jocelyn Martinez, MRCOG Staff

Valerie Hermanson, MRCOG Staff

Derrick Webb, MRCOG Staff

Summary

Item 1

Call to Order:

The November 13, 2014 Board of Directors Work Session meeting was called to order by M. Steven Anaya, City Moriarty at 12:30 pm. A quorum was not noted at the beginning of the meeting.

DISCUSSION AND INFORMATION ITEMS

Item 3

MRCOG Regional FY 15 Priorities Survey Report – Dewey Cave Facilitator

- a. Overview of Results of Survey**
- b. Discuss Recommendations from Survey Responses**
- c. Board Discussion of MRCOG Priorities for FY 15/16**

The Mid-Region Council of Governments conducted the MRCOG FY15 Priorities survey in an effort to gather valuable insights from our four-county region in central New Mexico. The survey analyzes the opinions of local officials and community leaders on topics including regional programs information sharing, communication dissemination, legislative priorities, and board effectiveness. Mr. Cave reviewed the results of the survey.

Attached is a copy of the MRCOG FY15 Priorities Survey Report

Item 4

Legislative Priorities – Larry Horan, Facilitator

- A. Overview of State conditions and forecast**
- B. Discuss priorities from Associations of Counties and Municipal League**
- C. Roundtable discussion of regional priorities**

Mr. Horan discussed 2015 legislative priorities and issues regarding capital outlay, transportation, economic development and issues that impact local government authority. Attached is a summary of the proposed legislative priorities.

Tab 5

Executive Directors Report

MRCOG has hired a consultant to help put together a disaster recovery plan in addition to an equal employment opportunity plan.

MRCOG has implemented a program where free annual passes for the Rail Runner are provided to disabled Veterans. The program started on Veterans Day and will run through December 31, 2015. The program has been a big success with over 300 veterans participating so far.

MRCOG FY 15 Priorities:

- **Economic development**

- Identify efforts
- Facilitation
- Ensuring collaboration
- Identify and communicate value of MRCOG efforts in relation to economic dev.
- Coordinated regional approach inclusive for all communities
- Joint venture (Sandoval County-econ. dev. alliance, CNM-apprentice pgm.)
- MRCOG assistance with data and grant applications

- **Transportation**

- Funding for school-aged children – getting them to school (road infrastructure)
- Land use & planning best practices

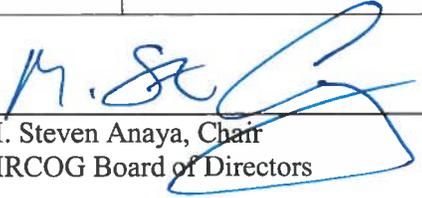
- **Meetings**

- Difficulties in staff participation
- Maintain meetings during the day
- Participation via web/phone – bylaws?
- Send in comments for boards to read during meetings

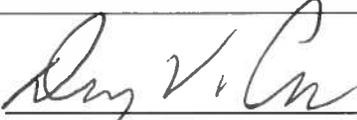
- **General**

- Focus priorities – transportation, economic dev.
- Where we fit in around the region
- Opportunities for communicating MRCOG mission, programs & services at community meetings
- Encourage communities to reach out to MRCOG
- Coordination on joint and local ventures
- Educate public on what MRCOG is about (newly elected officials)
- Discussions on land use & water conservation – mapping out strategy
- Watershed drainage efforts, regional permit EPA

	Three audits will be finalized in the beginning of December, MRCOG, Rio Metro and WCCNM. All three audits are expected to be clean audits.
Item 6	Adjourn: Meeting adjourned at 2:07 pm

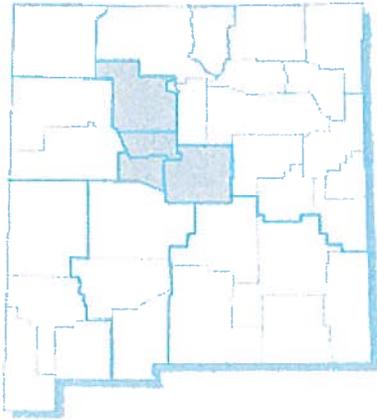


M. Steven Anaya, Chair
MRCOG Board of Directors

Attest 

Dewey V. Cave, Executive Director

(The original tape of the meeting is on file in the MRCOG Office.)



MRCOG

FY15

PRIORITIES

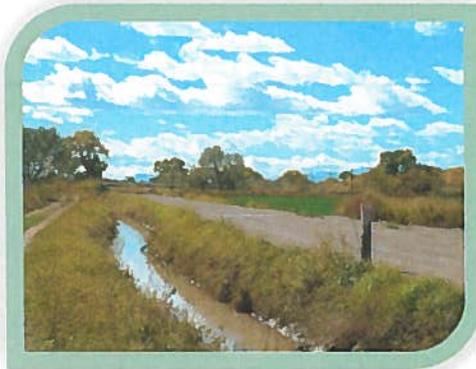
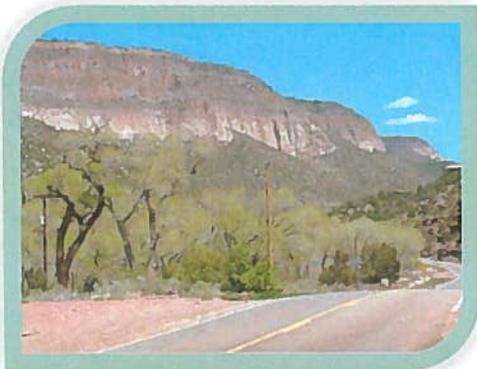
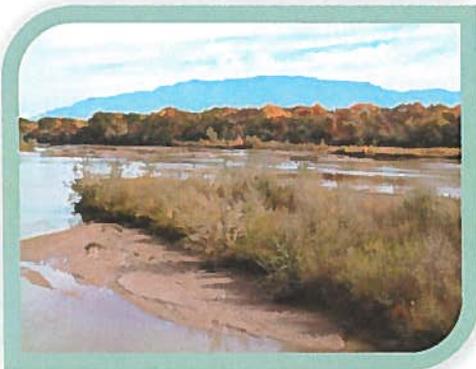
SURVEY REPORT 2014



Mid-Region Council of Governments
November 13, 2014

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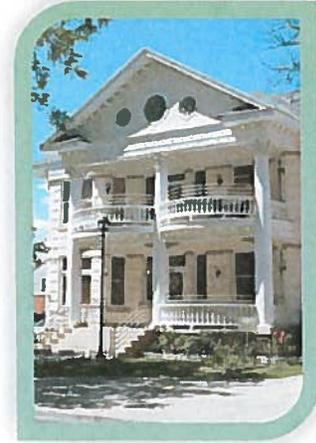
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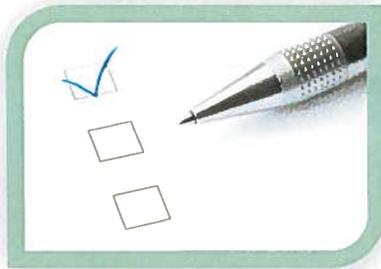
Introduction

The Mid-Region Council of Governments (MRCOG) conducted the MRCOG FY15 Priorities survey in an effort to gather valuable insights from our four-county region in central New Mexico. This regional survey analyzes the opinions of local officials and community leaders on topics including regional programs, information sharing, communication dissemination, legislative priorities, and board effectiveness.

Thank you to all who participated. Your insights will help guide the MRCOG Board of Directors in establishing legislative priorities for the 2015 session and in developing solutions to meet your specific and changing needs so that together we can positively impact your communities.

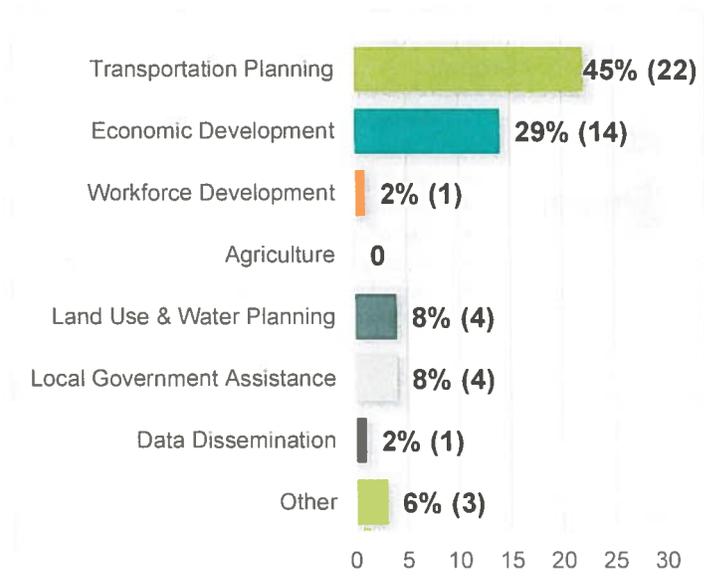


Respondent Detail



MRCOG surveyed elected and local officials from the central region between October 7 and October 24, 2014. The results discussed in this report are based on the responses of 50 respective MRCOG board members, Mayors, County Commissioners and Managers, Councilors, City Managers, public officials and community leaders across four counties. For geographic comparisons, Bernalillo County made up 54% of the sample, 17% respondents were from Sandoval County, 6% from Torrance County, 13% from Valencia County and 10% from counties outside of the region.

Q3. Of the key regional programs that MRCOG oversees, which is the most important to you (or your community)?



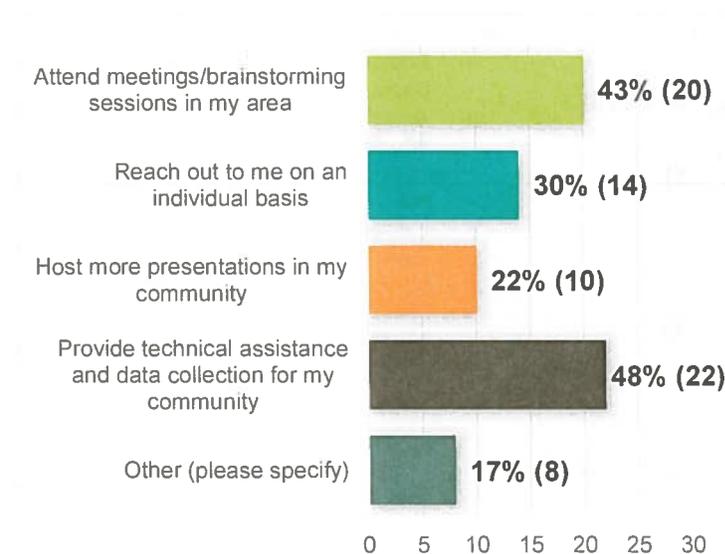
Answered: 49

Skipped: 1

Selected Other Responses:

- All the above
- Geospatial data and demographic data
- Youth and young adults in the Criminal Justice System

Q4. How can MRCOG work with you to better understand the goals and objectives of your community? Please select all that apply.



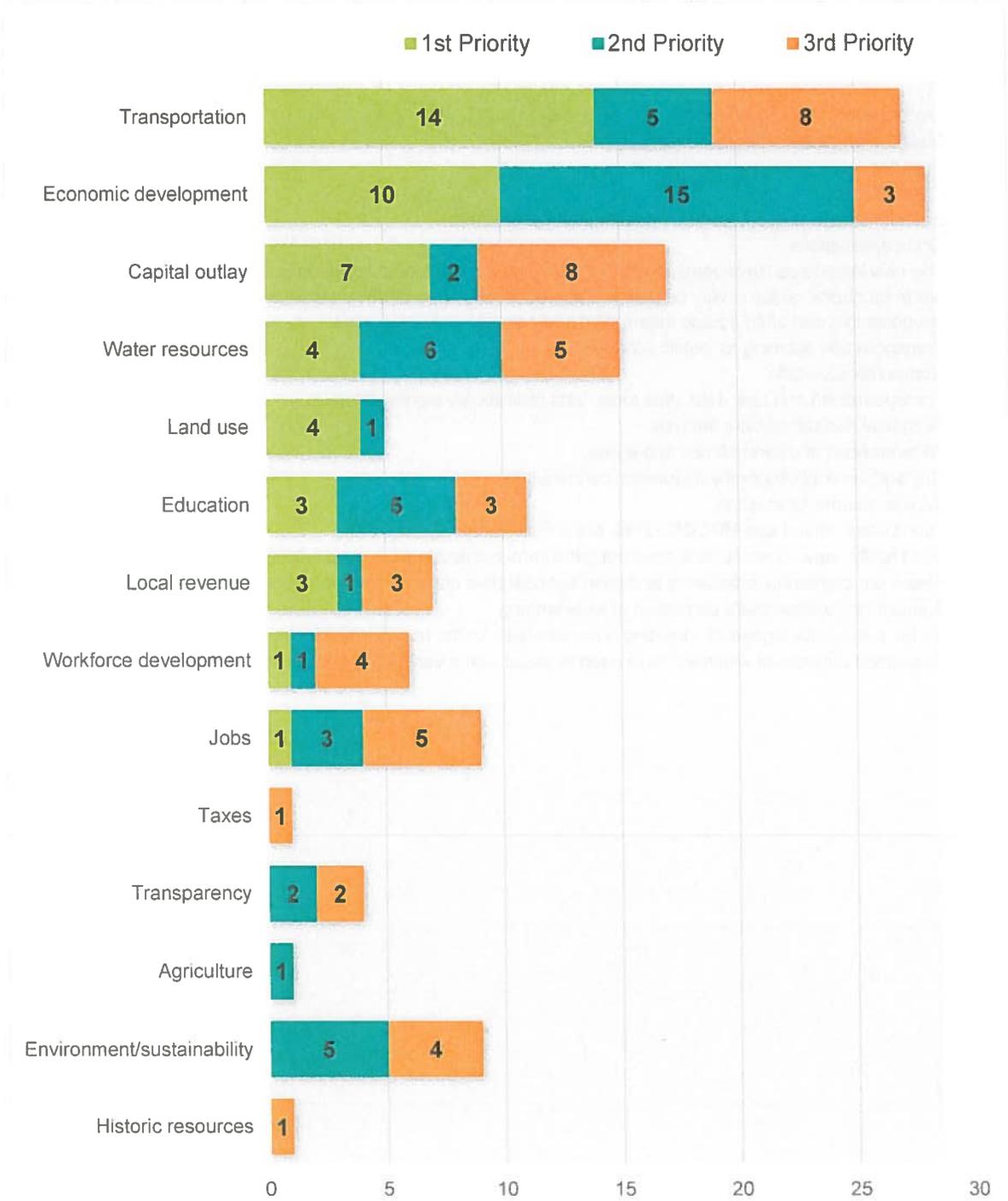
Answered: 46

Skipped: 4

Selected Other Responses:

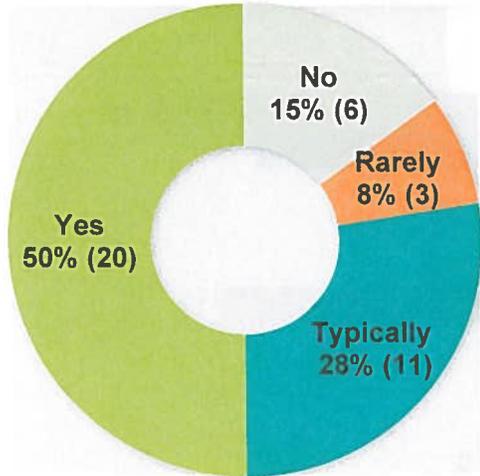
- Assist with CDBG Application Process
- Spread the funding
- Grant writing assistance
- Regional economic development planning
- Agree they are doing all the above effectively
- Provide a brief and concise one page summary of important MRCOG region issues twice a month
- Work collaboratively with public health planning and evaluation efforts
- Webcasting of meetings, forums, etc.

Q7. MRCOG develops legislative priorities that are regionally significant and provide community-wide benefit. Last year's priorities included capital outlay, transportation and economic development. List your top 3 legislative priorities for the 2015 session.



Answered: 47
Skipped: 3

Q9. Do you think the calendars of the various boards that MRCOG oversees (MRCOG Board, MTB, Rio Metro or WCCNM) are organized effectively with respect to the number of meetings per year, and days and times of each meeting?



Answered: 40
 Skipped: 10
 Comments:

Yes

- I assume they are; projects move forward in a timely manner

Typically

- TPTG and TCC are right after lunch when many are digesting food and less blood is going to brains.
- I don't know enough about your organization

Rarely

- All boards need to approve schedules in November or December including TCC.

No

- Too many cancellations due to lack of quorums, esp. Rio Metro
- A bit overwhelming and discombobulated -- one email listing all meetings per month and who typically attends would be helpful. Then individual invites for each meeting as it approaches.
- I prefer earlier meetings
- People with a job can't attend meetings during the day. Limits public involvement.
- Too many boards and too many meetings. Try the NMMS approach, where their staff comes to you.

Q10. For the various MRCOG Boards, are there other recommendations to improve our effectiveness?

Answered: 18
 Skipped: 32
 Responses:

- Don't know enough to comment.
- Balance of community representatives.
- Align calendars when scheduling meetings.
- MRCOG appears to cater to the City of Albuquerque and other entities that already have a lot of funds. Neither MRCOG, DFA, or Legislature seems all that active in assisting small communities that need assistance the most.
- Need to know more about what your organization is doing and how it helps the public and the local economy.
- Better coordination around specific challenges when possible.
- Make sure there will be a quorum before holding the meeting.
- Calendar invite for the year would be helpful
- Could you hold MTB meetings after 5:00 pm?
- Seems that many meetings are cancelled. Need quorums to do business; change meeting dates/times to achieve quorums; or change Board membership to include people who will commit to attend the meetings.

Q12. Do you have suggestions or feedback on improving the effectiveness of MRCOG's mission or services with your member government? Please explain.

Answered: 14

Skipped: 36

Responses:

- Join us for our planning meetings and efforts to plan and fund the new interchange and corridor project.
- I believe MRCOG leadership meeting with local government leaders is the best way to improve effectiveness. That has taken place, and I hope it continues.
- If MRCOG charges the same membership fee of all entities, then they should commit the same amount of effort and financial resources to all, no matter the size or population counts.
- Need to communicate your mission
- As a stakeholder representing significant transportation infrastructure within the AMPA but headquartered in Santa Fe we need to be involved more directly in evaluating planned/proposed transportation projects that impact or involve the use of that infrastructure.
- Identify common themes or even goals, and cite specific examples in terms of projects.

Q13. What opportunities do you feel will help MRCOG improve over the next 3-5 years? Please explain.

Answered: 16

Skipped: 34

Responses:

- Completion of WWTP to meet USEPA Compliance
- Lead and speak on behalf of our region (Valencia County) regarding a new interchange and east/west corridor in Los Lunas.
- Collaborative planning with all agencies.
- Reaching out more to smaller municipalities and offer the same level of support and funding opportunities.
- More regular outreach and presentations to City Councils, County Commissions, and the public - monthly, quarterly?
- Ensuring focus is on the region and listening to input from outlying areas.
- Helping the region to collaborate to create jobs. MRCOG is the forum where this needs to occur. Right now every local government is doing their own thing and we have not been successful as a region.
- Be aggressive and proactive on economic development and transportation
- I don't know as I said before when I hear MRCOG I think of the Rail Runner
- Dealing with climate change and the effects of these global challenges.
- Working to integrate a number of services into a regional format, including, Jails, road taxes, economic development, public employee health insurance, storm water, water and sewer delivery, open space.

Contact Information



Mid-Region Council of Governments

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www.mrcog-nm.gov

- ♦ Bernalillo County ♦ Sandoval County
- ♦ Torrance County ♦ Valencia County

• 2015 Legislative Priorities

- State income tax
- Gross receipts tax
- County assessor affiliates – tax lightning issue
- *Remove*
 - community kitchen
- *Add*
 - Small cities assistance fund
 - State support regional assessment center – mental illness
 - Interchange Morris & I-25, bridge over river to expressway Valencia County – transportation
 - Courts & criminal justice bill – relieve prosecution of local law enforcement officers who are charged with most serious crimes – take burden from local DA's. Help Alb. & public perception.

2014 LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

The Mid-Region Council of Governments supports the following issues in the 2014 Legislative Session



CAPITAL OUTLAY

- ▶ Support capital outlay requests of member governments
- ▶ Monitor legislation that proposes changes to the administration and awarding of capital outlay funding

MISCELLANEOUS

- ▶ Monitor legislation that proposes changes to the PERA retirement of public employees. Ensure that any proposed legislation has a minimal or manageable impact on member governments as employers
- ▶ Monitor and report on proposed use of the Permanent Fund to provide education funding
- ▶ Monitor changes to Inspection of Public Records Act and Open Meetings Act — support any legislation that addresses the issue of “data mining” of public records by private companies for profit

TRANSPORTATION

- ▶ Support the New Mexico Rail Runner Express program and advocate for improvement of transit services
- ▶ Support initiatives that improve regional transportation, such as the UNM/CNM Corridor study and implementation

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Support the economic development initiatives and efforts that create jobs and market our region:

- ▶ Support the Rio Grande Community Development Corporation (RGCDC) efforts to create a Mixing Bowl kitchen incubator
- ▶ Support Innovate ABQ

ISSUES THAT IMPACT LOCAL GOVERNMENT AUTHORITY

- ▶ Support legislation granting more authority to local government to set property tax mill rates. Monitor any legislation that impacts Local Revenues and Local Authority
- ▶ Monitor legislation that proposes changes to the imposition of Gross Receipts tax to offset loss of Hold Harmless revenue
- ▶ Monitor legislation on State tax policy and effects on local government — how tax credits, deductions, and exemptions impact local revenue
- ▶ Monitor any legislation that
 - o Reduces local revenue
 - o Adversely affects local funding sources
 - o Diminishes regulatory authority of member governments
- ▶ Monitor any legislation relating to water resources and impact on member governments