

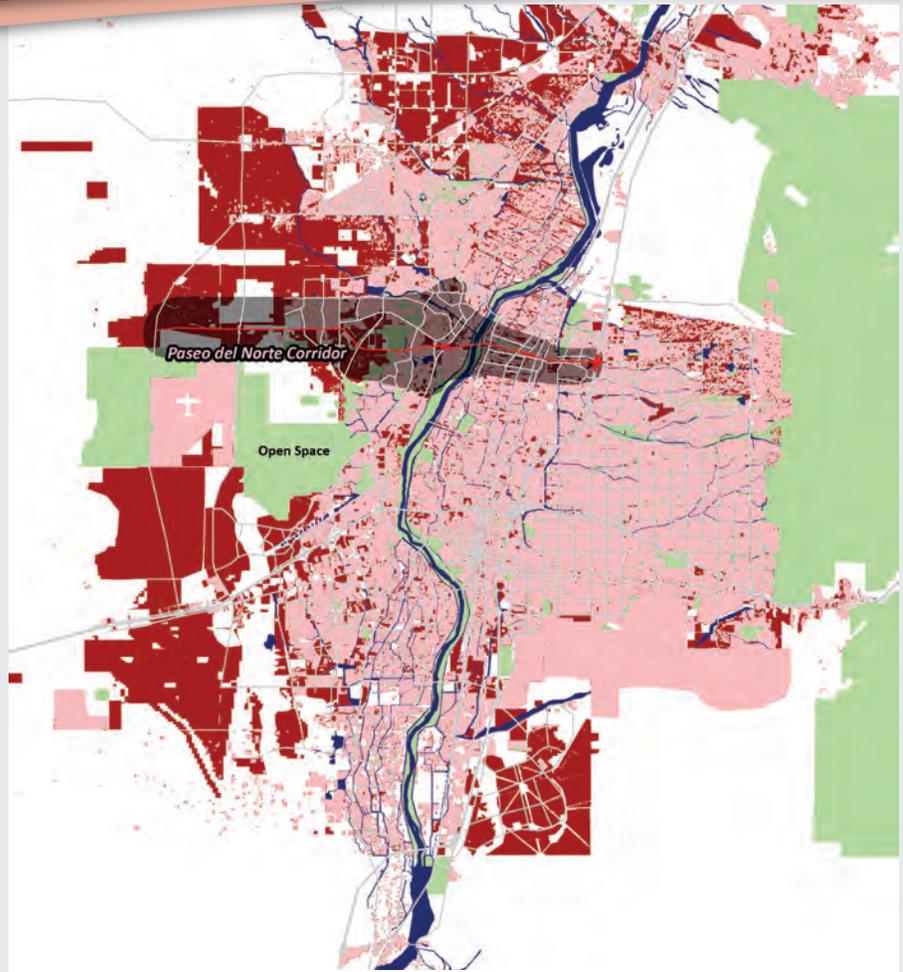
Paseo del Norte High Capacity Transit Study

WHY IS THIS STUDY IMPORTANT?

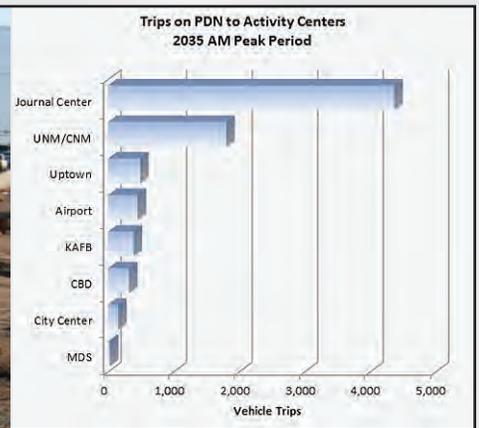
The PDN HCTS is an important step in determining how to best meet our current and future travel needs, especially those that involve travel across the Rio Grande. Congestion and traffic volume – the number of cars on the road – are products of where and how the region grows and the amount of growth that is expected.

The Albuquerque metropolitan area is projected to grow significantly over the next 20 years. By 2035 the population of Bernalillo, Sandoval, Torrance, and Valencia Counties is expected to increase from under 900,000 to more than **1.5 million**. This population increase will add another 310,000 households to the metropolitan area and consume more than **100,000 acres** of previously undeveloped land.

Employment will also increase with over 200,000 more jobs added to the area; almost half of the new jobs will be on the Westside. However, job density will still remain low west of the Rio Grande and the region's major activity centers will be located in employment districts on the Albuquerque Eastside and the Downtown/Central Business District. The distribution of housing and jobs creates recurring congestion along the region's river crossings each peak period as Westside commuters access jobs and services east of the river.



Projected Growth Areas 2012-2035 — Projected new development shown in dark red.



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