

1 RESOLUTION

2 of the

3 METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION BOARD

4 of the

5 MID-REGION COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS OF NEW MEXICO

6 (R-15-08 MTB)

7 **SUPPORTING THE 2015 TIGER GRANT APPLICATION**  
8 **FOR INNOVATION CENTRAL**  
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11 WHEREAS, the USDOT issued a notice of funding availability for the 2014  
12 Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) Grant program on  
13 April 3, 2015; and

14 WHEREAS, applications for the 2015 TIGER Grant program are due June 5,  
15 2015; and

16 WHEREAS, the Rio Metro Regional Transit District (RMRTD) has identified  
17 capital improvement needs on the New Mexico Rail Runner Express (NMRX) rail line  
18 that will improve service speeds and service reliability; and

19 WHEREAS, the City of Albuquerque and RMRTD have identified a pedestrian  
20 improvement project that will serve to provide better pedestrian connectivity between  
21 the Alvarado Transit Center, the NMRX Downtown Platform, EDO, Innovate ABQ, the  
22 Convention Center, and future Central Avenue BRT stations; and

23 WHEREAS, the City of Albuquerque and RMRTD submitted a 2014 TIGER Grant  
24 application last year to fund the implementation of the NMRX rail line improvements and  
25 the downtown pedestrian connectivity improvements; and

26 WHEREAS, the 2014 TIGER Grant application was unsuccessful, and a

27 debriefing from the TIGER Grant selection panel indicated that a reduced project cost  
28 coupled with a more detailed cost / benefit analysis would have benefited the project;  
29 and

30 WHEREAS, the City of Albuquerque and RMRTD have cooperatively prepared a  
31 2015 TIGER Grant application titled *Innovation Central*, to implement the NMRX  
32 improvements and to improve the pedestrian connectivity, the pedestrian environment,  
33 and ADA accessibility between the Alvarado Transit Center, the Downtown NMRX  
34 Station, Innovate ABQ, the Convention Center, EDO (East Downtown), and the future  
35 Central Avenue BRT station locations, including improved pedestrian facilities that help  
36 remove the NMRX track as a barrier to pedestrian mobility; and

37 WHEREAS, said improvements are consistent with *Futures 2040 - Metropolitan*  
38 *Transportation Plan*, the long-range transportation plan for the Albuquerque  
39 Metropolitan Planning Area adopted April 17, 2015 in accordance with 23 CFR 450; and

40 WHEREAS, the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) must contain all  
41 federally-funded transportation projects in the metropolitan transportation planning area  
42 prior to the distribution of funds to those projects; and

43 WHEREAS, the TIP must contain all regionally significant projects in the  
44 metropolitan transportation planning area regardless of the source of funding;

45 NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Metropolitan Transportation Board  
46 of the Mid-Region Council of Governments of New Mexico that this Board supports the  
47 2015 TIGER Grant application for *Innovation Central*;

48 AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Metropolitan Transportation Board  
49 directs staff to prepare an amendment to the Transportation Improvement Program  
50 (TIP) to include any and all TIGER funds which may be awarded as a result of the

51 previously stated application.

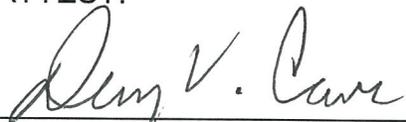
52 PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED this 15th day of May 2015 by the  
53 Metropolitan Transportation Board of the Mid-Region Council of Governments of New  
54 Mexico.



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Debbie O'Malley, Chair  
Metropolitan Transportation Board

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58 ATTEST:



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59 Dewey V. Cave  
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62 Dewey V. Cave  
63 Executive Director, Mid-Region Council of Governments  
64 Executive Secretary, Metropolitan Transportation Board