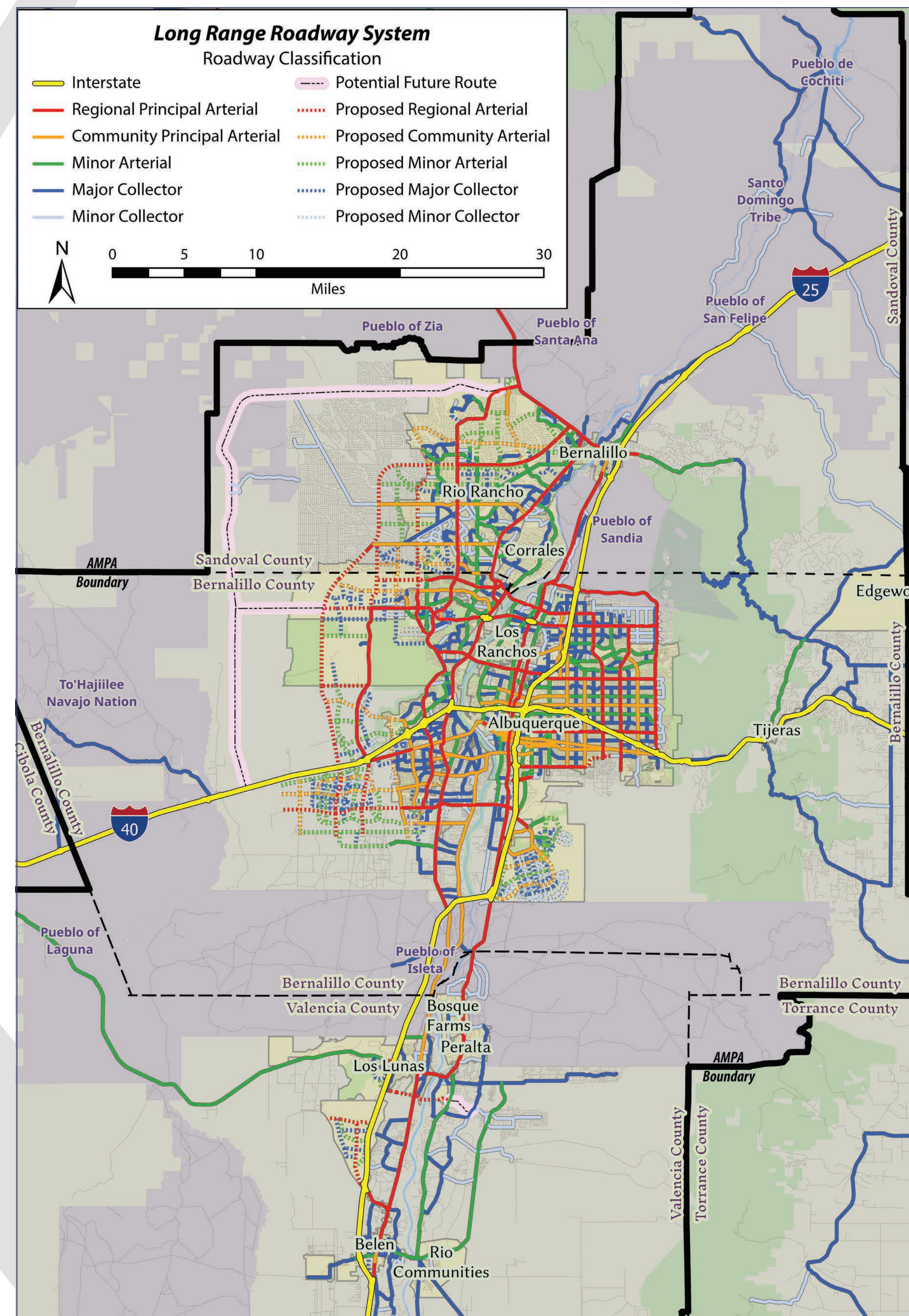


# Travel Demand

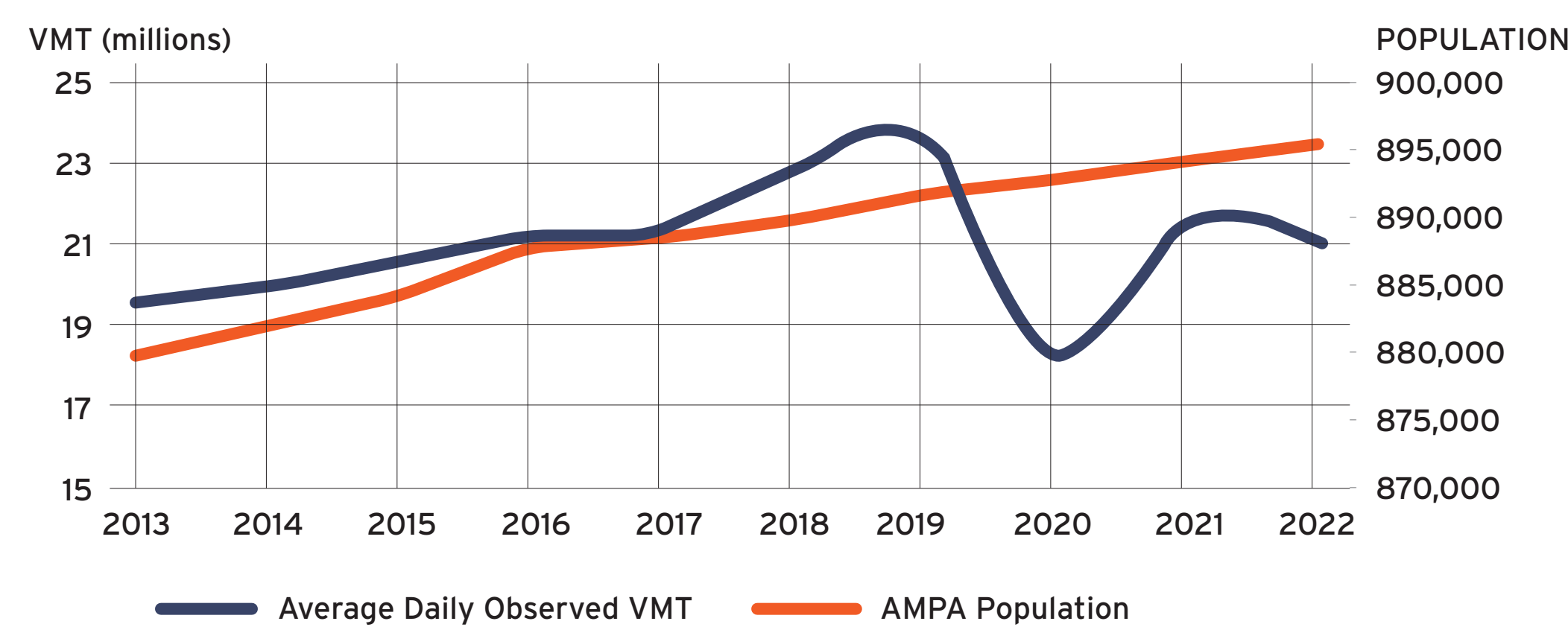
Historically, the total number of Vehicles Miles Traveled (VMT) has been steadily trending upward in the Albuquerque Metro Area. However, a slower rate of population growth combined with an increase in the number of people working from home as a result of the Covid pandemic has impacted the transportation system and has resulted in lower levels of VMT in recent years.

## LONG RANGE ROADWAY SYSTEM MAP



## RECENT DEVELOPMENTS

Recent Trends in Population and Daily VMT  
AMPA, 2013-2022



The annual number of Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT) is usually on a steady incline, increasing each year. However, the number took a big hit in 2020, during the first year of the pandemic. Factors that influenced this flattening of the VMT growth-curve include a slowdown in economic activity, job loss, and a rise in virtual activities ranging from online meetings, shopping, banking, education, and, of course, work.

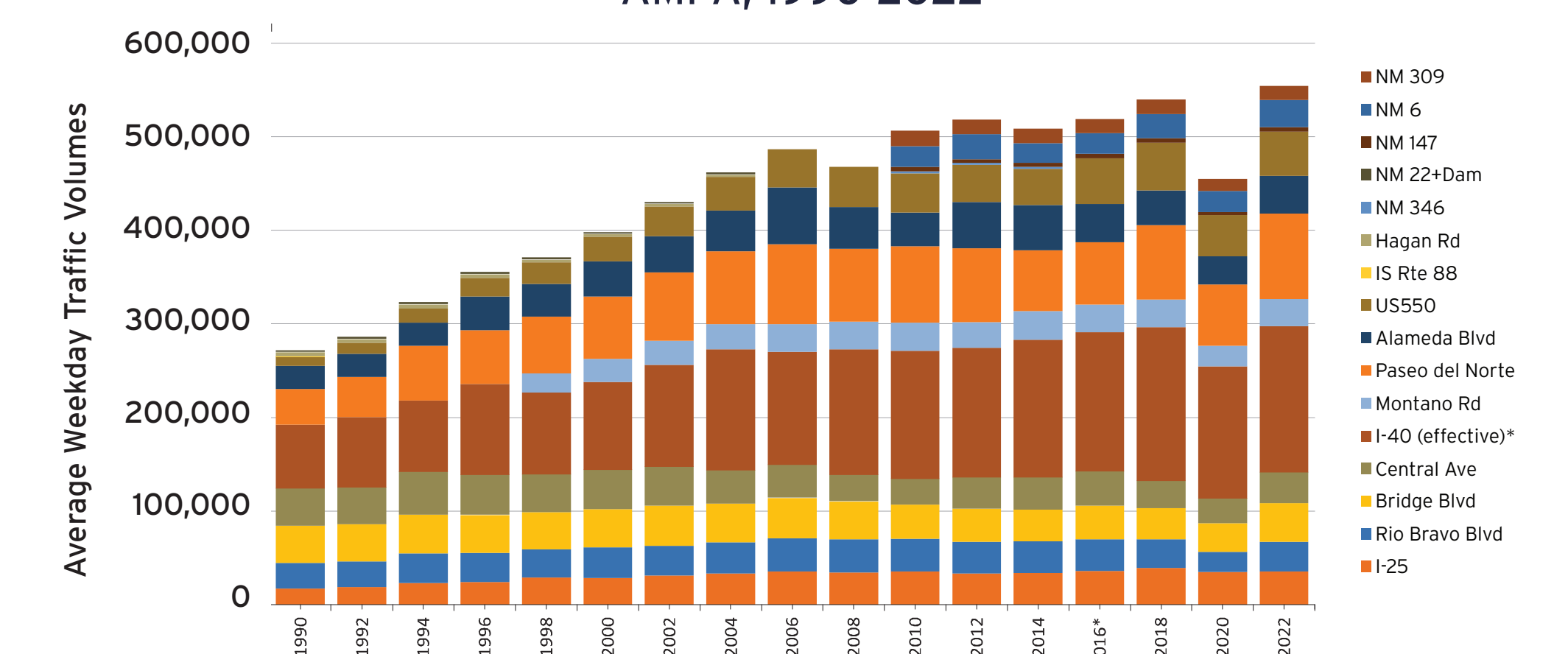
Data from the Census Bureau's latest American Community Survey shows that during the years leading up to the pandemic, around five percent of workers worked from home. In 2021, that rate was over 18 percent. It remains to be seen if this upward trend will continue or if it will level off.

In 2021 and 2022, VMT increased, but stopped short of reaching pre-pandemic levels. This while the metro area's population kept growing at a steady rate.

## PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE

Although the rapid growth in VMT has slowed, it has not diminished the need for planning for future transportation system improvements and expansions in areas of growth. In addition, challenges such as congestion on our river crossings, remain. Although traffic volumes crossing the river are no longer increasing, speeds have dropped and levels of congestion continue to rise.

River Crossing Traffic  
AMPA, 1990-2022



The Long-Range Roadway System map is a product that is updated along with each MTP. This map includes both existing roadways and proposed facilities. The future network helps planners plan for new or improved infrastructure to support population and employment growth in a sustainable manner. This map of future infrastructure is time-independent so individual projects can be implemented when they are needed.

Sources: MRMPO, NMDFA, NMDOT, NMTRD, USGS, Tribal- Regional- and Local Entities