



Tim Keller, Mayor

# Greater Albuquerque Active Transportation Committee (GAATC) – AGENDA

April 10, 2023 | 4:00 – 6:00 PM



Meeting will be held virtually.

No in-person option will be provided this month.

Zoom meetings will be recorded for notetaking purposes.

\*6 mute/unmute | \*9 raise/lower hand

Join by Zoom: <https://cabq.zoom.us/j/84571822606>

Join by Phone: +1 346 248 7799

ID: 845 7182 2606

## • Welcome and Introductions

Ryan Mast (Vice Chair)  
NE Quadrant

Dr. Naomi George  
SE Quadrant

Vacant  
NW Quadrant

Vacant  
SW Quadrant

Richard Meadows  
Pedestrians + Transit Users

Josiah Hooten  
Bicyclists

Vacant  
Represent individuals  
w/a Disability

Aaron Hill  
Youth (Under 24)

Lanny Toning  
Older Adults (over 60)

## • Approval of April 10, 2023 Meeting Agenda

## • Approval of March 13, 2023 Meeting Minutes

## • Public Comments (Public comment is limited to two (2) minutes per audience member)

- Please email comments to Valerie Hermanson ([vhermanson@cabq.gov](mailto:vhermanson@cabq.gov)) prior to the meeting OR use the virtual raise hand feature during the meeting. In the meeting, please wait until recognized to begin comments.

## • Discussion / Action Items

- Galbadon Rd NW & I-40 Trail safety concerns (motion at May 9, 2022 meeting to keep this item on the agenda until a resolution is completed)
  - **Action:** Since this item has been addressed, vote to remove from the GAATC Agenda
- **Action:** Selection of new Committee Chair
- **Discussion:** Identify GAATC representatives for the Complete Streets Maintenance Review team & Mid-Region Council of Governments (MRCOG) Active Transportation Committee

**Next Meeting: Monday, May 8, 2023**



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## Greater Albuquerque Active Transportation Committee (GAATC) – AGENDA

April 10, 2023 | 4:00 – 6:00 PM



- **Presentations**

- **NMDOT Rio Bravo Bridge**, Jill Mosher, District 3, New Mexico Department of Transportation (NMDOT)
- **12th Street/Sawmill Road Diet**, Eric Michalski, PE and Abe Bortz-Johnson, Department of Municipal Development, City of Albuquerque
- **NOTE: This item was unable to be heard at the meeting, so the Committee voted to amend the agenda to remove this presentation until a future meeting date.**

- **Staff Reports**

- Municipal Development (DMD)
  - Engineering
  - Vision Zero
- Council Services
- Parks and Recreation
- Planning
- ABQ RIDE
- Sustainability
- Bernalillo County
- MRCOG
- NMDOT District 3

- **Public Comments** (Public comment is limited to two (2) minutes per audience member) Please use the virtual raise hand feature during the meeting. In the meeting, please wait until recognized to begin comments.

- **Next Meeting:** May 8, 2023, 4 – 6 pm

- **Adjourn**

**Next Meeting: Monday, May 8, 2023**

# Greater Albuquerque Active Transportation Committee (GAATC) Meeting Minutes



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## Committee Members Present

Ryan Mast (Vice Chair)  
Dr. Naomi George  
Josiah Hooten  
Richard Meadows

## Committee Members Absent

Aaron Hill  
Lanny Tanning

## Staff Members Present

Carrie Barkhurst (ABQ RIDE)  
Tim Brown (DMD)  
Tara Cok (MRCOG)  
Valerie Hermanson (DMD)  
Abe Bortz-Johnson (DMD)  
Paula Dodge-Kwan (DMD)  
Julie Luna (Bern Co)  
Eric Michalski (DMD)  
Jill Mosher (NMDOT District 3)  
Jenae Robertson (TYLin)  
Shanna Schultz (Council Services)  
Cheryl Somerfeldt (Parks & Rec)  
Seth Tinkle (Planning)

## Visitors Present

Dianne Cress (Bike ABQ)  
Ben Garland (Transit Advisory Board)  
Scot Key (AHCH)  
Megan Myers (WSP)  
Steve Pilon (Bike ABQ)  
Peter Rice (Downtown Abq News)  
Alejandro Villezcas (Together for Brothers)  
Omar Villezcas (Together for Brothers)  
George Winn

**Ryan Mast called the meeting to order at 4:02pm.**

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- **Ryan Mast:** Shared about the very sad loss of the Committee Chair, Mr. Dan Jensen. Would like to send his condolences to Dan's family. Services for Dan Jensen will be held 10 AM on May 22, 2023 at the Shrine of Little Flower St. Therese of Infant Jesus Catholic Church on 3424 Fourth Street NW, Albuquerque, NM. Those wishing to honor Dan may make donations in his name to Road Runner Food Bank. For more details, please reach out to Ryan Mast.
- **Motion to Amend April 10, 2023 Meeting Agenda, to Remove the Presentation of 12<sup>th</sup> Street/Sawmill Road Diet**  
Richard Meadows (motion); Josiah Hooten (second)  
Yes: Dr. Naomi George, Richard Meadows, Josiah Hooten, Ryan Mast
- **Approval of April 10, 2023 Meeting Agenda as Amended**  
Richard Meadows (motion); Dr. Naomi George (second)  
Yes: Dr. Naomi George, Richard Meadows, Josiah Hooten, Ryan Mast
- **Approval of March 13, 2023 Meeting Minutes**  
Richard Meadows (motion); Dr. Naomi George (second)  
Yes: Dr. Naomi George, Richard Meadows, Josiah Hooten, Ryan Mast
- **Public Comments**
  - Steve Pilon: Steve shared condolences for Dan Jensen's family and felt it is sad to hear this news. Steve gave recommendations for the budget of active transportation under DMD or Parks Department. He mentioned that the General Obligation bond that was passed in November of 2021 projected what the expenditures were going to be for trails and bikeways for every 2-year cycle as well as the decade starting in 2021. Legally it has to be 5% and is currently 3.6% according to his calculations. It looks like not much money is being spent on bicycles or pedestrians, does GAATC have any intention on getting more money for bike paths? Also, trail maintenance needed for with bicycles and pedestrians. Is GAATC going to provide recommendations regarding gaps on trail system?
    - Ryan Mast: Appreciated Steve's comments and acknowledged that it is budget season and there are things are currently moving around. Perhaps at a future meeting, GAATC can learn more and have a presentation about this.
  - Scot Key: Scot congratulated the County for receiving funding for Coors in South Valley project. Also, an update for everyone to be aware of, there were 10 out of 24 pedestrians in fatal crashes (over 40%). Reiterating the need to do something about that. Came for the Rio Bravo Bridge presentation and looks forward to hearing it.
  - Alejandro Villezcas: Together for Brothers wanted to express their thanks to Esperanza to make an event they hosted as safe as possible for the people participating. We shall continue to support Esperanza Bike Shop

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## • Discussion / Action Items

- Galbadon Rd NW & I-40 Trail safety concerns (motion at May 9, 2022 meeting to keep this item on the agenda until a resolution is completed)
  - **Action:** Since this item has been addressed, vote to remove from the GAATC Agenda

Richard Meadows (*motion*); Dr. Naomi George (*second*)  
Yes: Dr. Naomi George, Richard Meadows, Josiah Hooten, Ryan Mast
- Action: Selection of new Committee Chair
  - Discussion about selection of new Chair. No volunteers or nominations. In the role as Vice Chair, Ryan will serve as the acting Chair and Richard Meadows can fill in to run meetings if Ryan is unavailable to attend. Ryan suggested keeping this item on the agenda for future meetings for further discussion and/or when current GAATC vacancies will be filled.
    - Richard Meadows (*motion*), Dr. Naomi George (*second*)
    - Yes: Richard Meadows, Dr. Naomi George, Josiah Hooten, Ryan Mast
- Discussion: Identify GAATC representatives for the City's Complete Streets Maintenance Review team & Mid-Region Council of Governments (MRCOG) Active Transportation Committee
  - Richard Meadows: The City's Complete Street Ordinance looks at restriping and resurfacing roadways around the city. A group of City staff and a GAATC representative look at roadways that will be repaved and identify striping opportunities to add bike lanes, parking, other safety features to roadway. Change look and feel of corridors in the city. Has participated in this group the last few three years. Many residential streets remain the same, but there are opportunities to address arterials and collectors. It's a good process and has noticed a big different in the city.
  - Dr. Naomi George: How frequently does it meet and is it in person?
    - Richard Meadows: The meetings occur remotely. It's once a year and typically over three or four meetings and typically in April, May, and June timeframe. It depends on how many streets will be repaved for that year.
  - Tara Cok: The Active Transportation Committee meetings are currently every other month, 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> Friday of the month, from 12-1pm @ MRCOG building downtown or there is a virtual option. The Committee also looks at Active Transportation but the group is looking at the larger MRCOG region, so there are staff members from other jurisdictions such as Rio Rancho and Los Lunas. The next meeting is April 21.
  - Dr. Naomi George: Interested in serving as the GAATC representative for the Complete Streets meetings.

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- Ryan Mast: Will serve as the representative for the MRCOG Active Transportation Committee. If anything needs to change in the future for Naomi, please feel free to reach out to Ryan and he can help to fill in.

## • Presentations

- **NMDOT Rio Bravo Bridge**, Jill Mosher, District 3, New Mexico Department of Transportation (NMDOT) and Megan Myers (WSP)
  - *Description:* Emergency replacement for 4 bridges in poor condition = top priority, looking for funding – grant currently out
  - *Purpose:* address structural deficiencies to improve multi-modal transportation. EB river bridge is in poor condition and requires replacement for pedestrian and biking facilities, along with river crossing capacity while maintaining a safe environment and accomplishing construction ASAP
  - *Action Dates:*
    - Study phase 2020-2021
    - Preliminary Design 2021-2022
    - Public Involvement with public (during study phase and prelim design)
    - Engineering study performed after prelim design
    - Final Design will be ONGOING
  - *Action Items/Proposals:*
    - Replace both bridges (over Rio Grande and ABQ riverside drain) and widening for 6 lanes + 8 foot sidewalk on north and south side of RB.
    - Shifting road north and replacing bridge on ½ offset to north alignment.
    - Compress river and bosque area and park (will be cut off by bridge)
    - East side improvements include multi-modal access for corridor, provide access to trails and relocate parking for park
    - Access to boat ramp used for emergency access moved from west to east side
    - Inclined walkway to trails for pedestrians on south (underneath)– access to service roads, parking area for park and cross under bridge to opposite side of bridge
    - Poco Loco & Dean Drive – Striping added, improving condition, temp traffic signal during construction (**priority**)
  - *Concerns:*
    - Complete bridge closure
    - Level on traffic on Rio Bravo
    - Traffic during peak hours
    - Impacts to Bosque, Rio Grande and Park
    - Noise
  - *Phases:*
    - *1<sup>st</sup> (North half)*
      - Maintaining traffic

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- North half of bridges and roadways reconstructed to 3 lanes and sidewalk
- Construct transitions
- Some impact to park and trails to have low interference with people and construction
- *2<sup>nd</sup> (South half)*
  - *Demolish existing bridges*
  - Shifting traffic to north half
  - 3 lanes of traffic with middle lane being reversible
  - Construct south half of new bridges and roadways
- **Questions/Comments** for NMDOT Rio Bravo Bridges Presentation:
  - Richard Meadows: Can you please explain the transition? Currently there is a multi-use trail along Dennis Chavez, when getting to bridge section does it transition to bike lane and sidewalk or is sidewalk multi-use (bike and ped traffic)? Are there bike lanes?
    - Megan Myers: Sidewalk will be used for bikes as well – not striping to show it is a bike lane then transitions past Poco Loco.
    - Jill Mosher: Shoulder can be used for bike lane or accidents for a car to pull aside onto the shoulder.
  - Ryan Mast: In the main areas where issues take place are when pedestrians or bicyclist are not as visible to drivers, are they separated vs sharing the road with drivers. Will there be signage so motors can be aware of bicyclists?
    - Jill Mosher: Yes, the NE part of project by right turning lane will be separated to be indicated with signage for cyclists. The shoulder bike lane is to be shared with automobiles. If they not comfortable with this, you could use a wider shoulder to be more separated from traffic.
  - Steve Pilon: I have concerns that this is not friendly to public transportation and bicyclists. There are people driving 50 MPH with bicyclist riding next to them. Have you done an induced traffic study for impact? Is there any bus right-of-way lane?
    - Jill Mosher: The bridge should have a 75-year life span. The modeling done for MPO, consideration for noise and air. We have worked with ABQ Ride for improvements for bussing. For the buffer lane for pedestrians and biking in between road and turning lanes, this is already implemented on Tramway so will also be implemented here as well.
    - Megan Myers: Will make sure there is signage for ABQ Ride.
  - Ben Garland: The width of the bike lanes for 8 feet seems narrow. Would you please possibly consider making it 10 or 11 feet? This is not very “future-

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proofed” for wheelchairs, families biking, etc. Also, right turn lane/buffer – consider placing barriers for cars who decide to turn last minute to protect those biking.

- Jill Mosher: There is a national AASHTO Design Guide for multi-use-pass allowing 8 feet over the river then it expands out after. So we will be using this.
- Scot Key: I am aware that the focus is more north/south because of Bosque Trail. Please explain walking west from Joy Junction (2<sup>nd</sup> Street) to Isleta?
  - Jill Mosher: People on 2<sup>nd</sup> Street will be able to walk on the path either on north or south side of Rio Bravo.
  - Megan Myers: The trail on north and south side and a curb separating from trails. From north side, come down to the sidewalk between Poco Loco and Rio Bravo and ramp up to Rio Bravo- upcoming to a tall barrier. Then it turns into an 8-foot sidewalk that stays behind the barrier and then before bridges come up to incline. When you come onto the westside, it transitions from tall barrier to a curb and ties into existing configurations on Isleta.
- Ryan Mast: Are there any upcoming ongoing opportunities to discuss project or next phase of design?
  - Megan Myers: They are currently in process of speaking with property owners along Isleta. The website also will be updated on statuses. Contact information is also available on website: <https://nm500riobravo.nmdotprojects.org/>
  - Jill Mosher: Public meeting will not be held until construction is underway.

## • Staff Reports

- Municipal Development (DMD)
  - Transportation Engineering/Vision Zero, Valerie Hermanson
  - Louisiana Blvd Vision Zero Project from Gibson to Central – we just had our 90% review at DRC on March 15, and we’re proceeding to Final Design.
  - Bikeway & Trail Facilities Plan – our consultants are working on the existing conditions and getting reading for May outreach. We’re also working with MRCOG on a survey where folks can share their bicycling priorities. We will also have an interactive map to indicate specific locations where you’d like to see improvements. We’re also finalizing the information for two public meetings – one virtual and one in person:
    - May 10 from 12 – 1, [Online only](#)
    - May 11, 5:30 – 7 at MRCOG’s offices (809 Copper Ave NW 87102)
    - May 19, staff will be pop-up tables as part of Bike 2 Wherever Day



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- May 20 & May 27 pop-up outreach at Bike in Coffee and the Downtown Growers Market
  - Bike 2 Wherever Day is Friday, May 19. There will be many pop-ups around the city where you can stop to pick up bike safety freebies. Visit the website to learn more, commit to ride, and find a pop-up location”  
<https://bikethruburque.com/>
  - GAATC vacancies needed to fill – SW Representative, NW Representative, Disability Representative
- 
- Engineering (DMD), Tim Brown
    - Some projects delayed such as at Girard & Marble Crossing and Carlisle & Mackland Crossing where the City will be installing RRFBs.
  - Council Services, Shanna Schultz
    - Sharing vacancies with City Councilors to see if they can help to fill the vacant positions mentioned by Val.
  - Parks and Recreation, Cheryl Somerfeldt
    - I-40 Gap Feasibility Study - Interagency meetings
    - North Diversion Channel Project – Slow moving because of federal funding expecting kick-off meeting within next month
    - Tom Bolack Park Trail Extension Project – Phase 1 will be starting pre-construction within the next month
  - Planning, Seth Tinkle
    - Near-Heights Community Planning Area (CPA) Assessment completed, reviewed and accepted by City Council last week (4/3 – 4/7/2023)
    - Central ABQ and SW Mesa CPA team currently doing public engagement and recently released survey about priorities and policies.  
<https://survey123.arcgis.com/share/342dc7a5b2f84e70a7e6bfdae97b4838>
    - *Upcoming Events:*
      - Central team - “Spring into Summer” event on April 29, 2023 @ Tiguex Park, 10 AM to 2 PM
      - SW Mesa team events –
        - Small Business Fair - Saturday, April 15, 2023 @ Ted Gallegos Community Center, 11 AM to 2 PM and
        - Block Party mixed with Nature Fest - Saturday, April 22, 2023 @ Tower Pond Park 10 AM to 2 PM

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- East Gateway Community Planning kick off on May 16, 2023 (more info to come)
- ABQ Ride, Carrie Barkhurst
  - Suspended services due to driver shortage and to increase reliability, 10 new drivers
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> Phase of Network Plan – Looking at routes and develop concepts (high # of riders & bus routes that come close to residency), survey out for opinions, and interactive website for route times
  - <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/abqride-concepts>
  - *Upcoming Events within County for Network Plan:*
    - Open House - April 12, 2023 @ South Valley Multi-Purpose Center 4 PM, presentation at 5 PM
    - Open House – April 18, 2023 @ Raymond G. Sanchez Community Center at 4 PM, presentation at 5 PM
- Sustainability, Albert Lee
  - Climate Action Plan Community Engagement (Quarterly) meeting related to Electric Vehicles on Wednesday, April 19, 2023, on Zoom (Virtual), 5 PM to 6 PM
  - <https://www.cabq.gov/sustainability/climate-action-plan#CAP-community-engagement>
- Bernalillo County, Julie Luna
  - Public Meeting for 2<sup>nd</sup> Street Corridor Project - April 11, 2023 @ Mountain View Community Center, 5:30 PM to 7:30 PM
  - South Valley Community Meeting – April 12, 2023 @ South Valley Multi-purpose Center, 4 PM to 6 PM
  - North Valley Community Meeting – April 18, 2023 @ Raymond G. Sanchez Community Center, 4 PM
- MRCOG, Tara Cok
  - No updates.
- NMDOT District 3, Jill Mosher
  - Funding for Rio Bravo
  - Montgomery RFP will be moving out to construction design-build team in July 2023, anticipated construction to be started by 2024
  - Gibson Interchange project kick-off soon. Funding team to get design started

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- RSA from Bernalillo County is also being contributed by ABQ and NMDOT (20%) as a joint venture to get road safety audit completed. Will continue to be engaged with them to develop project

## • Public Comments

- Steve Pilon: 1) Rio Bravo project is at odds with City and will create global/local pollution along with traffic – hostile to sustainability goals and public transportation including bicyclists. 2) Curious to East, West demarcation. 3) Bond of parks have no projects for bike trails, need to do some research on that.
- Scot Key: Class 2 electric bikes- committee needs to consider that and have a local option
  - Ryan Mast: State Legislation got signed in just fairly recently so it's still fresh on our end. We will make that a topic of discussion for a future GAATC agenda. Interested in how we can address that.
- Ben Garland: Bridge (comfort level) barrier between roadway and bike and ped path looks short, road noise is much louder. Consider maybe looking at 7 or 8 foot barrier to lessen road noise
  - Jill Mosher: barrier need to be MASH compliant national standard to prevent deflection into hazard. Also, view-shed, cannot obscure view from the bridge decks. Noise study is adjacent to bridge- the noise threshold was met

• **Next Meeting:** May 8, 2023, 4 – 6 pm

• **Meeting adjourned at 5:39pm.**



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# Greater Albuquerque Active Transportation Committee (GAATC) Meeting

April 10<sup>th</sup>, 2023

**NM 500 Rio Bravo Blvd.  
Bridge Replacement Project**

**NMDOT Control Nos.  
A301000 / A301001**



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# Project Limits, Background, and Public Input

NMDOT CN A301000

<https://nm500riobravo.nmdotprojects.org/>

# Background

## ▲ Project Purpose and Need

- » **Purpose:** to address structural deficiencies while also reducing congestion and improving multi-modal transportation system connectivity within the project limits.
- » **Need:** the eastbound river bridge is in poor condition and requires replacement; pedestrian and bicycle facilities are discontinuous in the project limits; additional river crossing capacity is needed in the metro area.

## ▲ Work to Date

- » Study Phase - 2020-2021
- » Preliminary Design - 2021-2022
- » Public Involvement
  - Public meetings held during study phase and preliminary design
  - Property owner interviews conducted during study phase and final design
- » Value Engineering Study - performed after preliminary design
- » Final Design - ongoing



Bridge Infrastructure Deficiencies,  
Traffic Capacity, and Multi-modal Connectivity

# Key Topics from Public Feedback Received

## ▲ Priorities

- » *Safety and Environmental*
- » *Construction start and end ASAP*

## ▲ Access

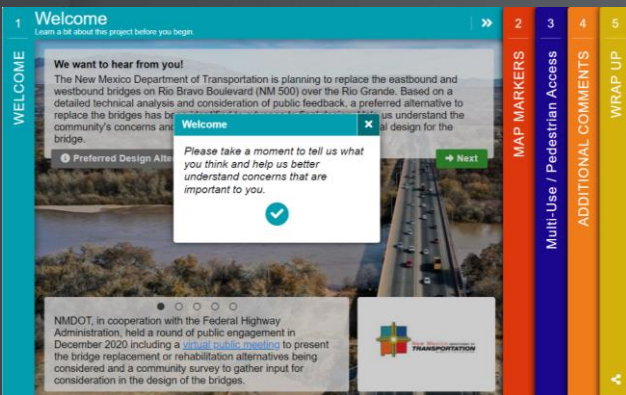
- » *Concern over complete bridge closure*
- » *Level of traffic on Rio Bravo Blvd a concern*
- » *Pedestrian/Multi-modal access to trails*

## ▲ Environmental

- » *Impacts to Bosque and Rio Grande; Protect ecosystem*
- » *Noise concerns, noise barrier consideration*

## ▲ Other

- » *Concerns - traffic during peak hours*
- » *Concerns - adjacent homes, properties, livestock, health*
- » *Majority of commenters supportive of project*





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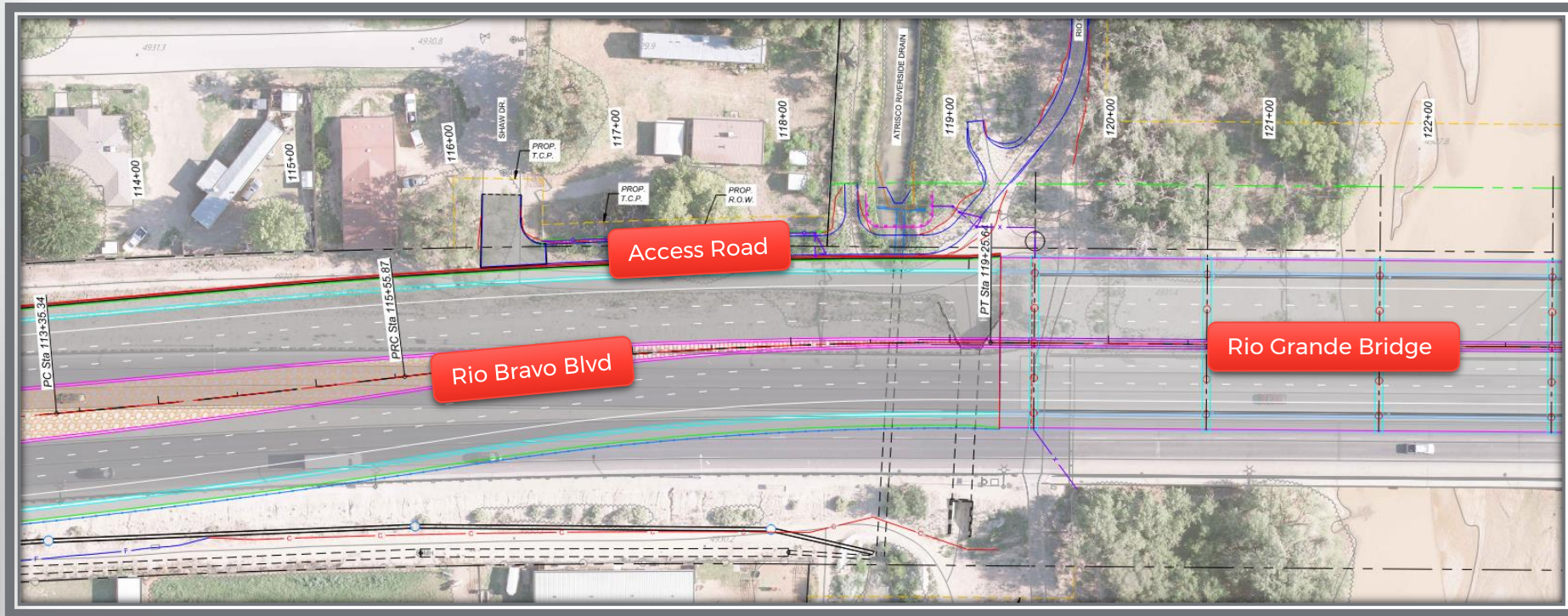
# Proposed Improvements

**NMDOT CN A301000**

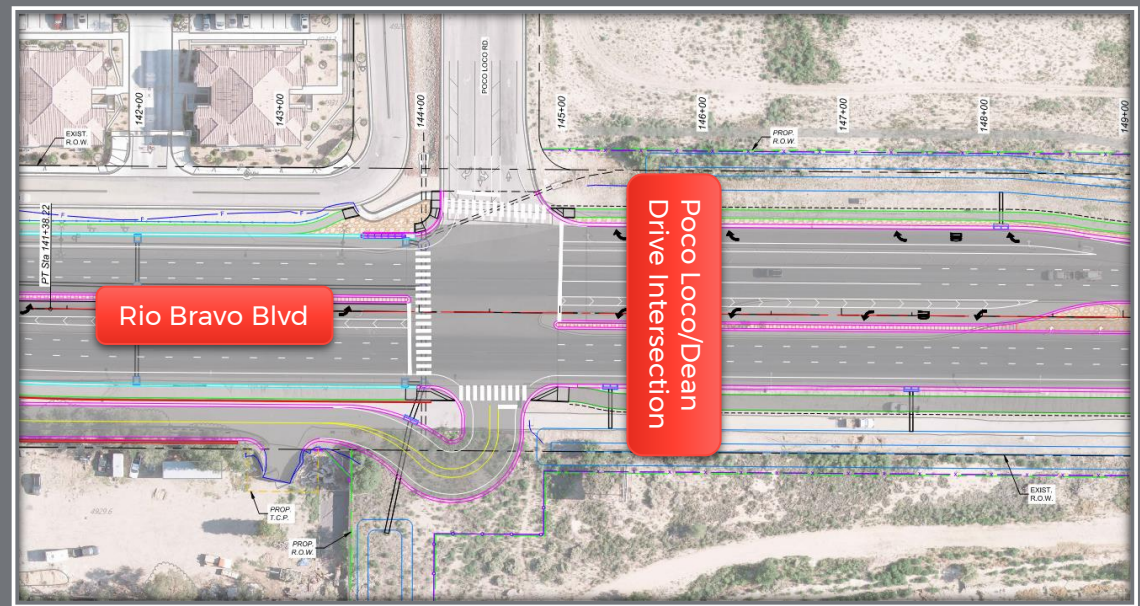
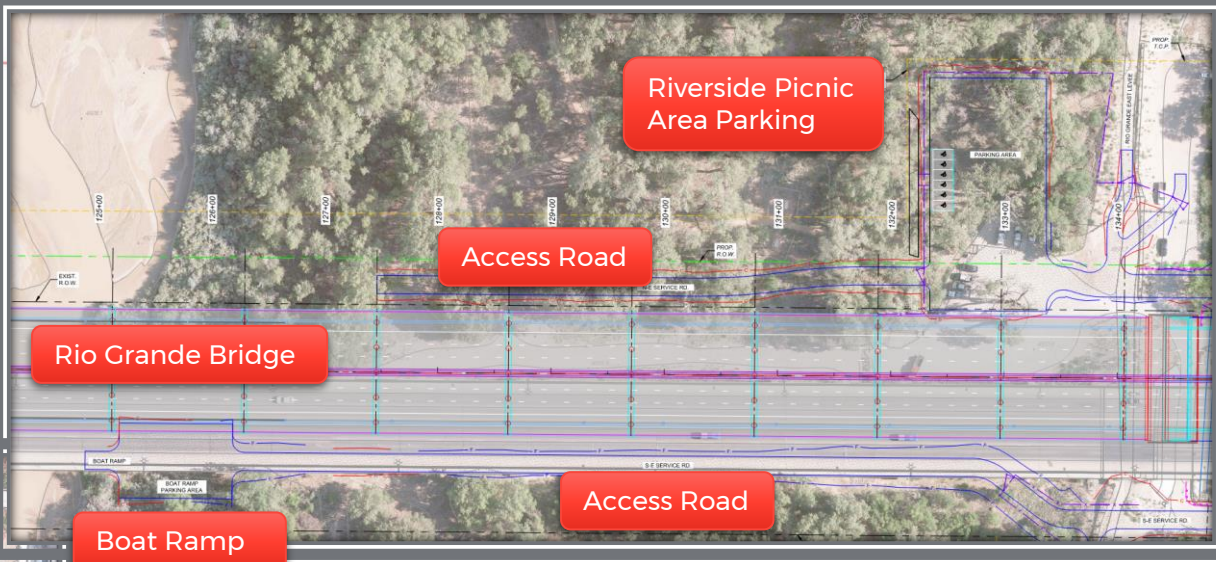
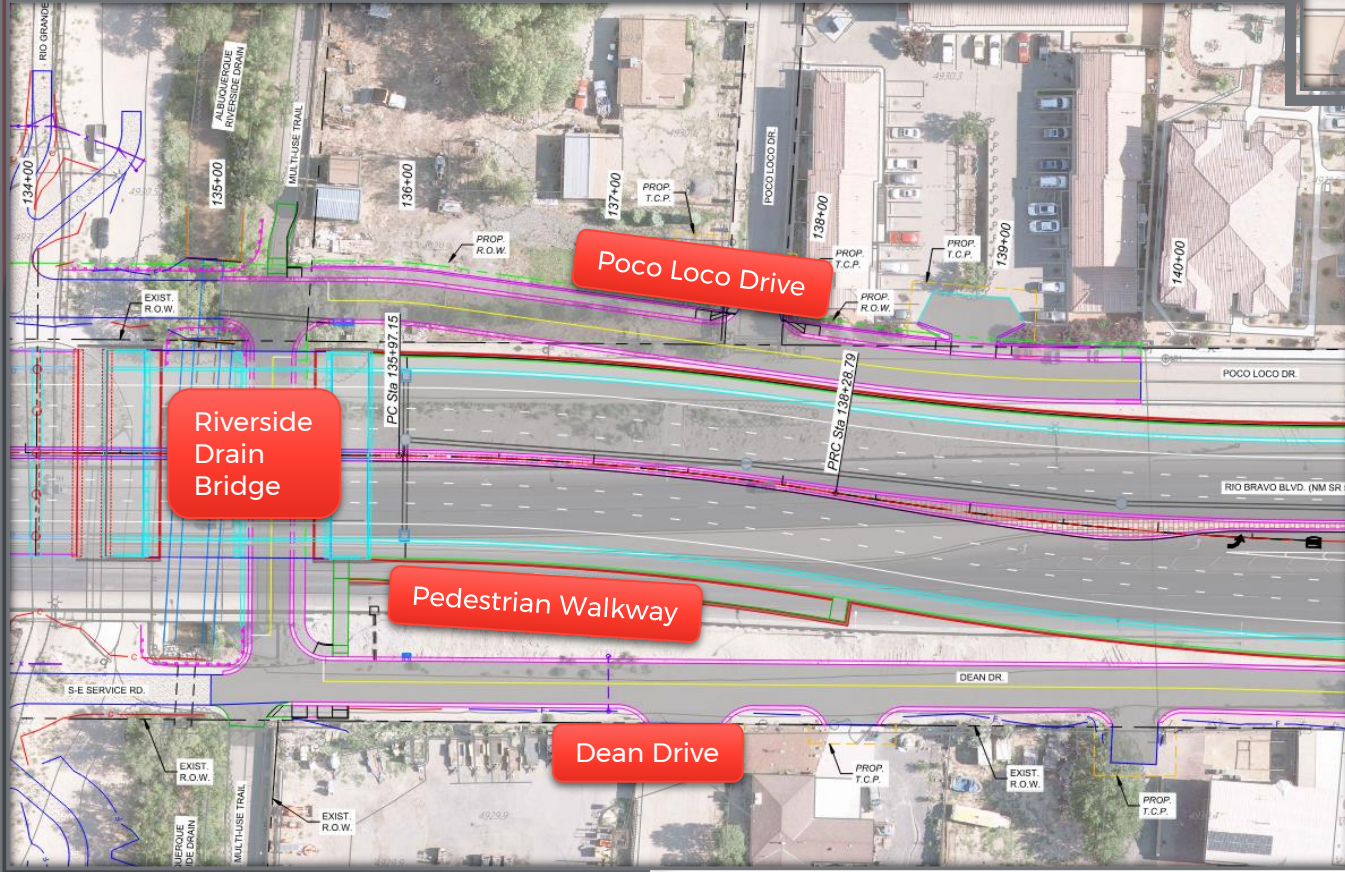
<https://nm500riobravo.nmdotprojects.org/>



# West Side Proposed Improvements



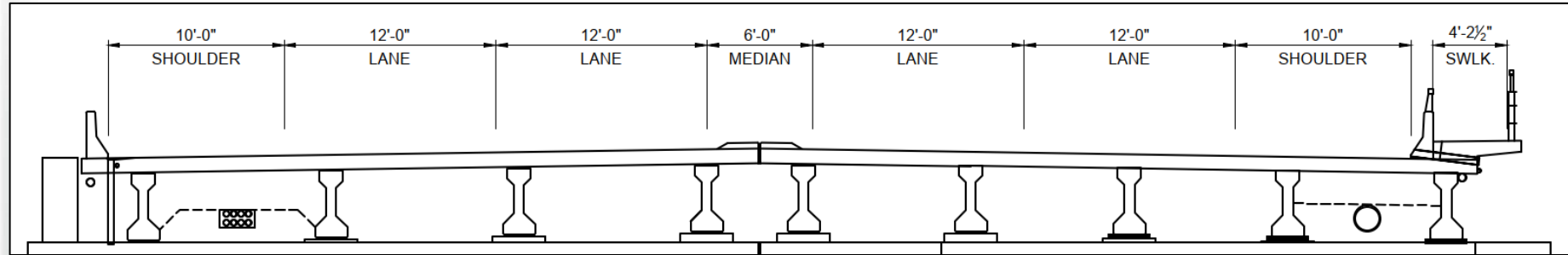
# East Side Proposed Improvements



# Proposed Improvements

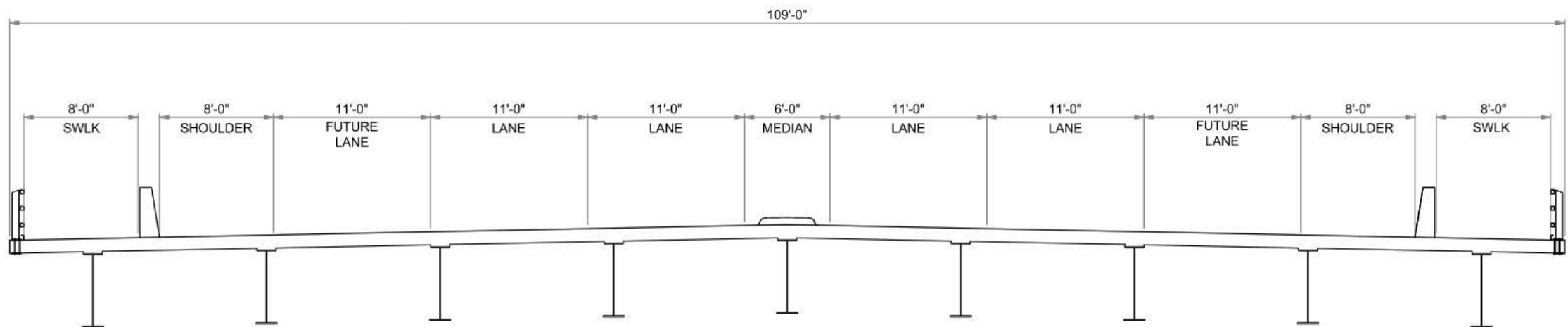
\* When first opened, the bridge may only be striped for 2-lanes in each direction

## Existing Typical Section



## Proposed Typical Section

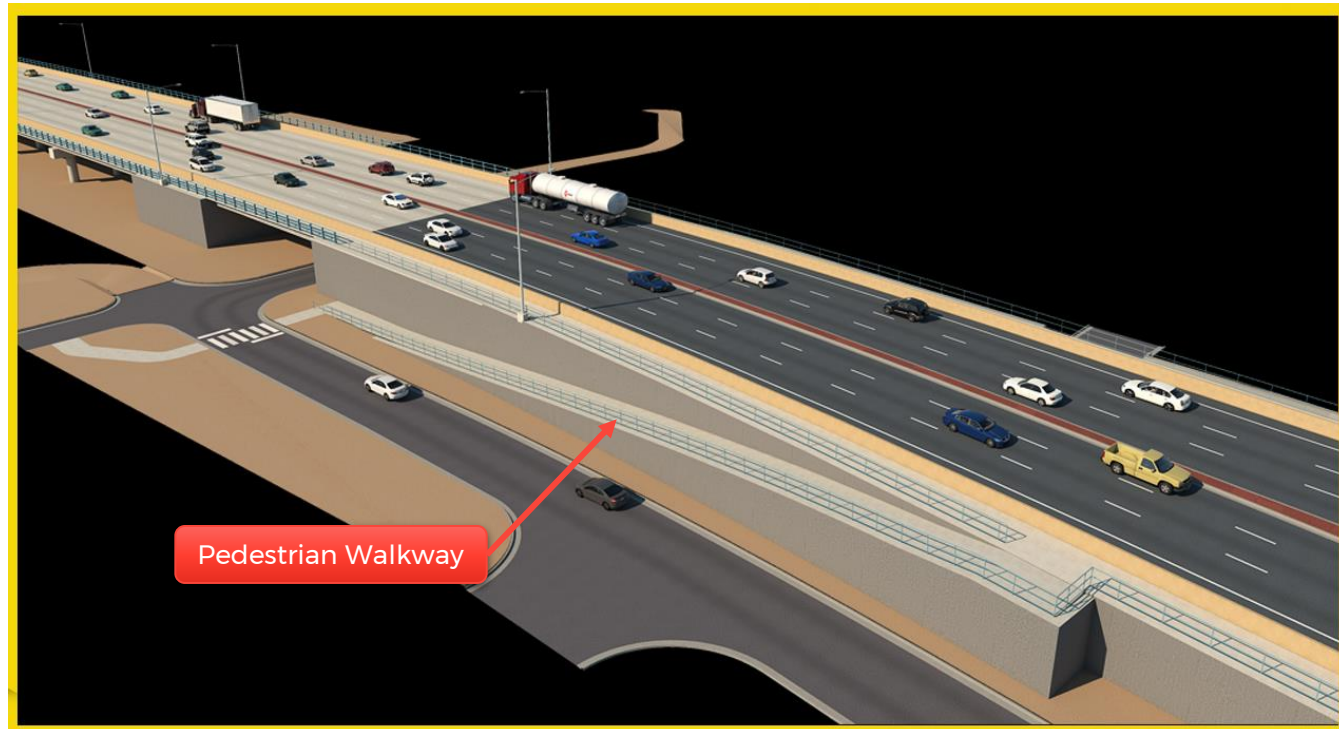
- » Provide additional traffic capacity
- » Provide sidewalk on both sides of the bridge
- » Maintain outside shoulders



# Proposed Improvements

## ▲ Proposed Pedestrian Access

- » *Provide inclined walkway to bring pedestrians down from NM 500 to the Chris Chavez / Riverside Trail and the Rio Bravo Picnic Area*
- » *Provide sidewalk on both sides of NM 500 throughout the limits of the project*
- » *Walkways are Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Compliant*





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# Maintenance of Traffic

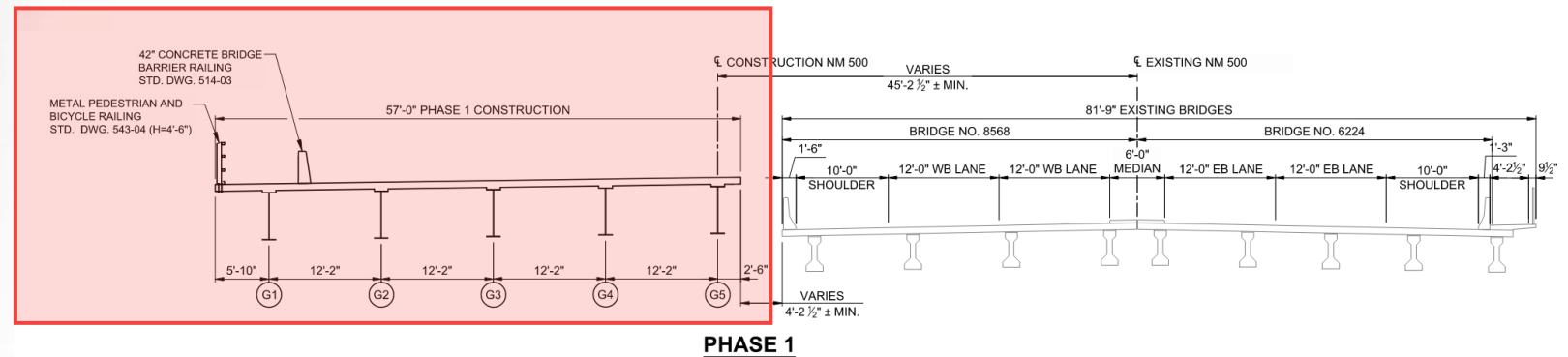
**NMDOT CN A301000**

<https://nm500riobravo.nmdotprojects.org/>

# Phased Construction

## ▲ First Major Phase – North Half

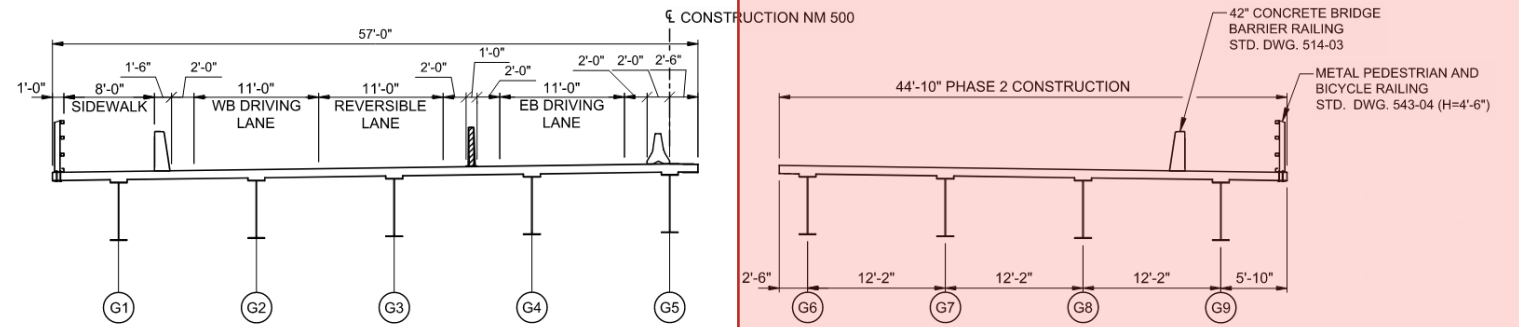
- » Maintain traffic on existing bridges
- » Construct north half of bridges and roadways north of current road alignment for 3 travel lanes and a sidewalk
- » Construct transitions



# Phased Construction

## ▲ Second Major Phase – South Half

- » Shift traffic to newly constructed north half of bridges
  - Will require reversible lanes to provide 2 lanes in peak travel direction
- » Demolish existing bridges
- » Construct south half of new bridges and roadways



**PHASE 2**

# Pedestrian/ Bicycle Access



## ▲ First Phase

- » *Multimodal access across the bridges will be as exists*
- » *Access to riverside park and trails may be temporarily affected during construction operations to protect the public*

## ▲ Second Phase

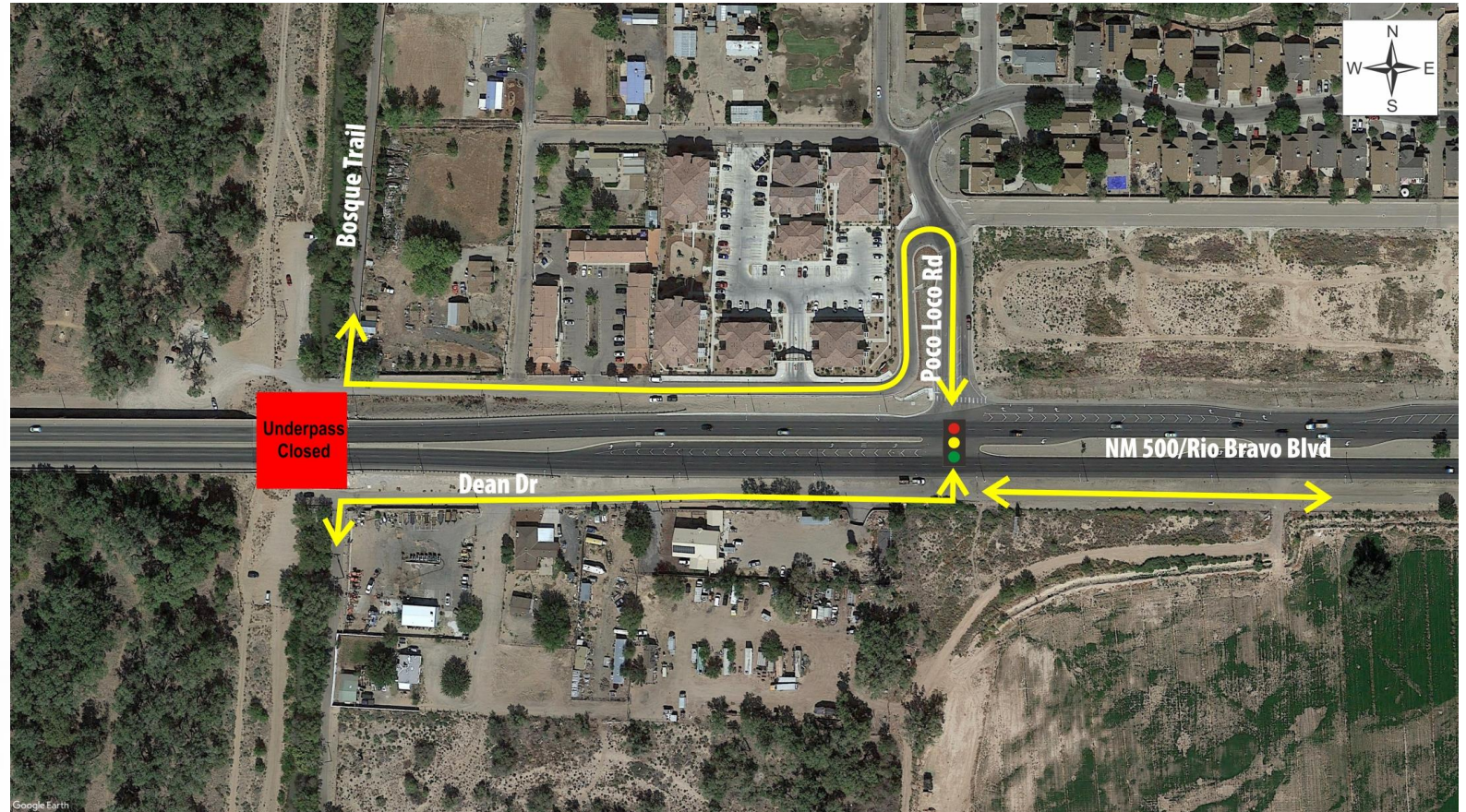
- » *Multimodal access on north side of new bridges*
- » *Access to riverside park and trails may be temporarily affected during construction operations to protect the public*



# Pedestrian/ Bicycle Access

## ▲ Access under Rio Bravo Blvd. on East Side

- » Full closures will be needed
- » Temporary signal at Poco Loco/Dean Drive



Thank You!



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# Questions



**NMDOT CN A301000**

<https://nm500riobravo.nmdotprojects.org/>