



61st Paving & Transportation Conference

January 6-8, 2026
 Marriott Pyramid
 5151 San Francisco Rd NE,
 Albuquerque, NM, 87109



Emerging Trends Impacting New Mexico

Conference Program

<p>TUESDAY, JANUARY 6, 2026</p> <p>2:00 p.m. Vendor Setup – Exhibit Hall (Chama Room)</p> <p>6:30 p.m. Speakers’ Dinner – <i>by invitation only</i> (Kokopelli Ballroom)</p>
<p>WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 7, 2026</p> <p>Registration</p>
<p>OPENING GENERAL SESSION (Cimarron & Madrid)</p> <p>Presiding – Rafi Tarefder, UNM</p> <p>8:00 University’s Welcome – David Hanson, Associate Vice President for Research, UNM</p> <p>8:10 State Transportation Commission’s Welcome – John McElroy, District 1 Commissioner</p> <p>8:15 State Transportation Update – Ricky Serna, Cabinet Secretary, NMDOT</p> <p>8:30 NM Legislature Update – Rep. Art De La Cruz, Chair, House Transportation Committee</p> <p>8:50 Local Perspective – Priscilla Lucero, Executive Director, SWNMCOG</p> <p>9:20 Keynote Address – Lauren Garduño, President/CEO, Ports-to-Plains Alliance <i>Mobility from Border North to Connect Mexico with Central Part of USA</i></p>
<p>BREAK</p> <p>Refreshments – Exhibit Hall (Chama Room)</p>

<p>GENERAL SESSION 1 (Cimarron & Madrid)</p> <p><i>Emerging Trends in Project Delivery</i></p> <p>Presiding – Jerry Valdez, NMDOT</p> <p>10:30 The End of Design Bid Build: Solving Today’s Construction Challenges with New Project Delivery Methods – Jennifer Turner, City of Albuquerque</p> <p>11:00 Enhanced Project Outcomes: Advantages of Progressive Design Build – Jill Mosher, Horrocks</p> <p>11:30 NMDOT Contractor Milestone Review – David Quintana, NMDOT</p>	
<p>WEDNESDAY LUNCHEON</p> <p>12:15 - 1:30 Lunch – Exhibit Hall (Chama Room)</p>	
<p>CONCURRENT SESSION 2A (Cimarron Room)</p> <p><i>Bridge Projects</i></p> <p>Presiding – Roy Gibson, Bohannon Huston, Inc.</p> <p>1:30 Piñon Hills Boulevard Extension: From Plan Sets to Machine Control Grading (A 25-year Journey) – Kurt Thorson, Bohannon Huston, Inc.</p> <p>2:00 Accelerating Bridge Construction Using Large Diameter Shear Studs – Xianjue Deng, New Mexico State University</p> <p>2:30 New Mexico 566 Bridge Replacement – Church Rock, NM – Kaiyuan Liu, NV5</p>	<p>CONCURRENT SESSION 2B (Madrid Room)</p> <p><i>Next-Generation Asphalt Composite</i></p> <p>Presiding – Terril Wade, HF Sinclair Co.</p> <p>1:30 Improving Pavement Quality and Cost Using Balanced Mix Design – Buzz Powell, Asphalt Pavement Alliance</p> <p>2:00 Designing and Constructing Highly Modified, Low Air Void Mixtures (HiMod) – Danny Gierhart, Asphalt Institute</p> <p>2:30 Enhancing Cracking Resistance of High RAP Asphalt Mixtures through Various Mix Design Strategies – Chen Chen, NCAT</p>
<p>BREAK</p> <p>3:00 - 3:30 Refreshments – Exhibit Hall (Chama Room)</p>	
<p>CONCURRENT SESSION 3A (Cimarron Room)</p> <p><i>Resilience</i></p> <p>Presiding – Zach Troncoso, Parametrix</p> <p>3:30 Transportation Asset Risk and Resilience Manual – Jessica Griffin, NMDOT</p> <p>4:00 NMDOT Resilience Improvement Plan – Gerald Lujan, NMDOT</p> <p>4:30 Paving the Playa: Using Ecological Restoration to Stabilize Soils and Reduce Dust-Related Crashes in Southwestern New Mexico – Jerusha Rawlings, Parametrix</p>	<p>CONCURRENT SESSION 3B (Madrid Room)</p> <p><i>Innovative Binder Technologies</i></p> <p>Presiding – Kelly Montoya, NMDOT</p> <p>3:30 Recycled Binder Availability – Danny Gierhart, Asphalt Institute</p> <p>4:00 Binder to Achieve Perpetual Pavements as a Resilient Option in Arid Climates – Buzz Powell, Asphalt Pavement Alliance</p> <p>4:30 Benefits of Modified and Innovative Asphalts and Emulsions – Mo Rahman, Ergon Asphalt & Emulsions, Inc.</p>

5:00	ITE Social	The Institute of Transportation Engineers New Mexico Section welcomes members and guests to this evening social event supporting the Jerome W. Hall Ph.D. P.E. Memorial Scholarship.
5:00	Asphalt Social	Hosted by HF Sinclair

THURSDAY, JANUARY 8, 2026
7:00 a.m. Breakfast – Exhibit Hall (Chama Room)

<p>CONCURRENT SESSION 4A (Cimarron Room) <i>Smart & Safe Infrastructure Systems</i> Presiding – Risa Lujan, WSP USA</p> <p>8:30 Downtown Albuquerque Smart City Infrastructure – Saif Ismail, City of Albuquerque</p> <p>9:00 ABQ RIDE Transit Safety and Security Strategic Plan Development and Implementation – David Pennington, Parametrix, and Bobby Sisneros, City of Albuquerque</p> <p>9:30 Pedestrian Actuated Warning System (PAWS): Leveraging Existing Infrastructure to Enhance Pedestrian Safety in High-Risk Transit Corridors – Jonathon Kruse, Lee Engineering, and Tim Brown, City of Albuquerque</p>	<p>CONCURRENT SESSION 4B (Madrid Room) <i>Pavement Material and Interface Engineering</i> Presiding – Dan Lewis, APANM</p> <p>8:30 The Circle of Asphalt Life: Preservation Through Rejuvenation – Cynthia Powell, Aztec Asphalt Technology.</p> <p>9:00 Considerations for Longitudinal Joints – Danny Gierhart, Asphalt Institute</p> <p>9:30 On GPR Technology to Evaluate New Mexico Roads – Kelly Montoya, NMDOT</p>
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BREAK
10:00 - 10:30 Refreshments – Exhibit Hall (Cancun Room)

<p>CONCURRENT SESSION 5A (Cimarron Room) <i>Design Guides</i> Presiding – Stephen Lujan, Wilson & Co.</p> <p>10:30 Adaptive Transportation Planning: Santa Fe Street Design Guide – Eric Aune, Santa Fe MPO, Derrick Webb and Ciaran Lithgow, Bohannon Huston, Inc.</p> <p>11:00 Designing Safer Intersections for Pedestrians and Bicyclists – Lessons from NCHRP Report 948 – Paul Barricklow, Lee Engineering</p> <p>11:30 Planning for Multimodal Safety: New Mexico's Statewide Active Transportation Plan and Quick Build Guide – Elsa Goossen, NMDOT, Kelsey Walker and Aaron Sussman, Toole Design</p>	<p>CONCURRENT SESSION 5B (Madrid Room) <i>Emerging Technologies</i> Presiding – Andrew Cuaderes, Certerra</p> <p>10:30 Thermal Integrity Profiling – Anna Klesney, GRL Engineers, Inc.</p> <p>10:55 US 550 – Roadway Heaving Evaluation & Mitigation – Lucas Giron, WSP USA</p> <p>11:20 MSE Walls and Reinforced Fills! What Could Go Wrong? – John Lommler, WSP USA</p> <p>11:45 Addressing Challenges with Emerging Pavement Technologies and Recycling Materials – Scott Sounart, Kimley-Horn</p>
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THURSDAY LUNCHEON

12:15 - 1:30 Lunch on Your Own

CONCURRENT SESSION 6A (Cimarron Room)

Transportation Toolbox

Presiding – Carl Vermillion, Kimley-Horn

- 1:30 Leveraging GIS to Target High Crash and Injury Locations – Tim Brown, City of Albuquerque
- 1:55 Data-Driven Streets: How the City of Albuquerque is Using Technology to Improve Roadway Safety – Jorge Gonzales, City of Albuquerque
- 2:20 From Data to Design: Choosing the Right Remote Sensing Tools for Transportation Projects – Farid Javadnejad, WSP USA
- 2:40 Recent Advancements in Probe Data – Eric Raamot, Paradigm Traffic Systems

CONCURRENT SESSION 6B (Madrid Room)

Emerging Issues of Binder and Paving

Presiding – Can Chen, NMDOT

- 1:30 From the Lab to the Lane: Bridging Mix Design and Field Performance – Cynthia Powell, Aztec Asphalt Technology
- 1:55 If the Road Doesn't Crack, the Contractors Might: Surviving New Pavement Specs in NM – Emiliano Martinez, Albuquerque Asphalt
- 2:20 Overview of the FHWA Mobile Asphalt Technology Center – Robert Lauzon, Consultant to the FHWA
- 2:40 Automated Pavement Condition Assessment and Reporting – Paul DiGiacobbe, TopoDOT

BREAK

3:00 - 3:30 Refreshments – Exhibit Hall (Chama Room)

GENERAL SESSION 7

Engineering Ethics (Cimarron Room)

Presiding – Parveez Anwar, Certerra

3:30 - 4:30 Brian Legan, ACNM

Professional Development Hours (PDHs) may be claimed for attending the Paving and Transportation Conference. Each hour of participation earns one PDH; attendees must maintain their own record of attendance.

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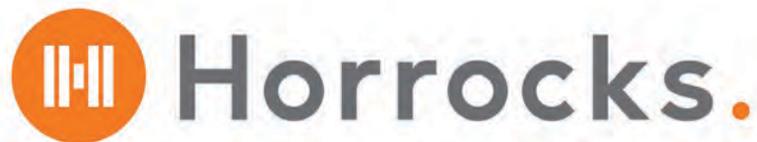
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