



# State of New Mexico

## *Office of the Governor*

**Bill Richardson**  
*Governor*

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Contact: Gilbert Gallegos  
Santa Fe: 505-476-2217

## **Governor Richardson Kicks Off Improvements to I-25 Interchange**

### **Reconstruction of I-25 and Tramway First Step to a Three-Lane I-25 to Bernalillo**

(Albuquerque, NM) – Governor Bill Richardson and New Mexico Transportation Secretary Rhonda Fought broke ground today on major improvements to the Interstate-25/Tramway Interchange. This work is part of Governor Richardson’s Investment Partnership (GRIP) a \$1.6 billion economic-stimulus package aimed at improving state highways and creating local jobs.

This \$15.5 million project will widen I-25 to three lanes at the interchange and create a smoother flow of traffic on Tramway Road beneath the bridge. This project will significantly alleviate traffic jams during future Albuquerque International Balloon Fiestas. Major construction on this project will not begin until after the 2005 Balloon Fiesta ends.

“As Governor I have worked tirelessly to improve New Mexico’s infrastructure and transportation,” said Governor Richardson. “This GRIP project is the first step in a three-lane I-25 all the way to Bernalillo. It will provide real relief for commuters.”

This project will also have positive impacts on the local economy. The construction contract for the project has been awarded to A.S. Horner Inc. of Albuquerque, which will employ approximately 50 workers on the job. Horner will also hire numerous state subcontractors.

The reconstruction includes replacing and widening both the north and southbound bridges on I-25 to three lanes. Tramway Road beneath the bridges will be widened from two lanes to four lanes. Stop signs at the intersections of I-25 and Tramway Road will be replaced by traffic signals. The Tramway Road improvements will integrate seamlessly with similar work Sandia Pueblo completed on the road east of the interchange.

“I want to thank Sandia Pueblo for their support on this important project,” said Governor Richardson. “Cooperation and coordination between tribes and the state is vital in moving New Mexico forward.”