



# State of New Mexico

## *Office of the Governor*

**Bill Richardson**  
Governor

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### **Governor Richardson Announces \$16 Million in Rodeo Funding**

#### ***New Equestrian Facility Will Continue to Help New Mexico Rodeo Grow***

SANTA FE – Governor Bill Richardson today announced he will allocate \$12 million for a new equestrian facility. The new facility will house traditional rodeo events such as team roping and professional bull riding as well as other equestrian activities such as cutting, hunter-jumper shows, breed shows, reining shows and Tennessee Walker Shows.

“The new equestrian facility will be key to attracting professional rodeo activities to New Mexico,” Governor Bill Richardson said.

The new facility was recommended to Governor Richardson by the New Mexico Rodeo Council he created by Executive Order in February 2005.

The location of the new equestrian facility has yet to be determined and Governor Richardson is charging the New Mexico Rodeo Council with the task of determining the best location for the facility in order to meet the needs of the most New Mexicans.

In addition to funding for a new equestrian facility, Governor Richardson proposed \$3 million to improve local fair facilities across the state. This funding is specifically for the improvement of facilities that are directly involved with rodeo related activities.

Governor Richardson also proposed an additional \$700,000 to continue funding existing rodeo programs. This funding will support 4H rodeo programs, junior high and high school programs as well as college scholarships and open rodeo programs.

“With these efforts, we will be well on our way to keeping rodeo a thriving part of New Mexico’s culture and rural economic development,” Governor Richardson said.

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