



State of New Mexico

Office of the Governor

Bill Richardson
Governor

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Governor Richardson Applauds State House Approval of GRIP II

Santa Fe, NM - Governor Bill Richardson today applauded the New Mexico House of Representatives for its overwhelming approval of GRIP II, which is a plan to work with local communities across New Mexico to invest in vital transportation projects.

The plan is an offshoot of GRIP (Governor Richardson's Investment Partnership) – the successful, \$1.6 billion initiative that financed 40 major highway projects, including the I-40/Coors Interchange reconstruction, as well as the RailRunner commuter rail system. The House passed GRIP II today on a 62-5 vote.

"GRIP II is vital legislation benefiting the entire state of New Mexico," said Governor Richardson. "Improving roads will help improve the economy in every corner of the state."

GRIP II is an ambitious \$250 million effort to tackle road projects around the state, including local road projects that often get lost in the shuffle, is a top priority for the Richardson administration for the current legislative session.

State Transportation Secretary Rhonda Faught worked with communities to identify priority road projects that need immediate funding. The GRIP II plan will carve out \$50 million dollars per year in each of the next five years to address these local road needs.