



Bill Richardson
Governor

Gary L. J. Girón
Transportation Secretary

July 9, 2009

PRESS RELEASE

Transportation Secretary Girón Announces more than \$9 Million in Federal Transit Grants to be Awarded Statewide

SANTA FE – Transportation Secretary Gary L. J. Girón today announced that the Department will award more than \$9 million in federal transit grants throughout the state.

“Public transportation is a vital component to the Department’s multimodal vision,” said Transportation Secretary Girón. “We can see with the success of the Rail Runner commuter train and the state’s Park and Ride system that public transportation is a viable option for many New Mexicans. We must continue to fund additional programs throughout the state, especially in rural areas, so that every New Mexican has a convenient and economic transportation option.”

Over the last year, public transit passenger trips statewide have grown by more than 13.2 percent, totaling more than 14.6 million trips, and rural public transit trips have grown by more than 20 percent, reaching nearly 1million trips.

The Federal Transit Administration (FTA) grants for Fiscal Year 2010 will be awarded in the following transit programs:

- \$7.6 million for rural public transit (FTA Section 5311) to 26 rural public transit systems throughout the state
- More than \$800,000 for buses and vans to 12 organizations to provide transportation to elderly individuals and individuals with disabilities (FTA Section 5310)
- More than \$800,000 to organizations and transit systems to operate job access and reverse commute transportation (FTA Section 5316)
- More than \$225,000 to transit systems for operations and capital for the new federal transportation freedom program that supports new public transportation services and alternatives that go beyond those required by the Americans with Disabilities Act (FTA Section 5317)

The federal grant funds are matched by \$6.4 million in funds from local governments, and funds from the New Mexico Human Services Department. Details of the awards are included in the attached document.

For more information contact Megan Arredondo (505) 660-2073.

###