



LOS ALAMOS COUNTY

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September 15, 2015

Tom Church, Cabinet Secretary
New Mexico Department of Transportation
P.O. Box 1149
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87504-1149

Dear Secretary Church,

The County of Los Alamos is pleased with the progress of paving sections of NM126. This scenic byway is a vital connection between the Four Corners area of New Mexico and the Valle Caldera, Bandelier, and Manhattan Historical National Park sites. The already-officially-designated National Scenic By-way has, when fully paved, the potential to bring a totally new flow of tourism directly into the middle of the Jemez Springs from the Four Corners as well as from Albuquerque. Such new traffic volumes would be caused by, add to the current traffic volumes to, and thus economic support for, the Valles Grande, Bandelier, the Manhattan Project National Historical Park, and the Jemez Springs communities. It may also add to existing traffic volumes to Santa Fe, as that road would probably be the fastest way to Santa Fe from the Four Corners.

Based on information provided by Mr. Jeff Sanchez, with District 6, there are only the last eight miles of this road remaining to be paved between mile markers 17 to 25. Los Alamos County respectfully requests your consideration to complete paving the last eight miles of NM126 that will greatly improve tourism and transportation to our region.

Sincerely,

Kristen Henderson
Los Alamos County Council Chair

cc: Patrick Sullivan, Executive Director, Los Alamos Commerce & Development Corporation
Larry Maynard, State Engineer
Los Alamos County Transportation Board