



Rio Arriba
Board of County Commissioners

Resolution No. 2020-042

COMMISSIONERS

Danny J. Garcia
Chairman
District III

Leo V. Jaramillo
District I

James J. Martinez
District II

COUNTY MANAGER

Tomas Cámpo III

**DEPUTY COUNTY
MANAGER**

Leo R. Márquez II

Resolution No. 2020-042
A RESOLUTION URGING THE U.S. CONGRESS TO CREATE A
NATIONAL INFRASTRUCTURE BANK

WHEREAS, there is a widely acknowledged shortfall in infrastructure spending in the United States of America, and the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) rated the nation D+ in its 2017 Report Card and concluded that the nation must spend \$4.6 trillion just to bring the current infrastructure up to a state of good repair. Of this amount, over \$2 trillion is unfunded, and with the federal budget deficit running at over \$1 trillion annually, there is no discretionary funding available; and

WHEREAS, New Mexico's infrastructure deficit mirrors that of the nation, and according to the ASCE, each driver in New Mexico spends an average of \$594 per year in car repairs due to poor condition of the roads, 6.5% of the bridges are rated structurally deficient, 167 dams are rated high-hazard potential, and the amount of money needed to bring drinking water to a state of good repair is estimated at over \$1 billion; and

WHEREAS, Rio Arriba County is suffering from a lack of infrastructure, jobs, and industrial development; and

WHEREAS, households in Rio Arriba County have a median annual income of \$33,422, which is nearly half the median income of the rest of the nation, at \$60,336; and residents living in poverty in Rio Arriba County is 26.4%, which is well above the national average of 13.4%; and

WHEREAS, some households in Rio Arriba County still lack electric power, and the social consequences of this situation are also manifest in large numbers of residents addicted to drugs and alcohol, as Rio Arriba County has the highest death by drug overdose rate in the state, 85.8 per 100,000, as of 2017; and

WHEREAS, a National Infrastructure Bank could address the underlying issue of economic hardship in New Mexico and the nation; and

Doc Id: 2020-042 Debbie

Meeting Date: 12/17/2019

Receipt #: 52285 Page 1 of 3 Doc Code: RES

Linda J. Parrilla County Clerk & Recorder Rio Arriba, New Mexico



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Espanola Annex * 1122 Industrial Park Road * Espanola, New Mexico 87532 * Phone (505) 753-1780 * Fax (505) 753-2387

WHEREAS, this country has previously had four (4) National Infrastructure Banks to help drive economic development, particularly during the eras of George Washington/Alexander Hamilton, to Abraham Lincoln, to Franklin Roosevelt; and

WHEREAS, President Roosevelt used the Reconstruction Finance Corporation as a national bank, which helped fund many New Deal projects in New Mexico, including water works, rural electrification, dams and bridges; and

WHEREAS, a new National Infrastructure Bank could be capitalized with no new federal debt and could invest upwards of \$4 trillion in new infrastructure projects, creating at least 25 million new high paying union jobs, helping to build roads, bridges, water systems, desalination plants, schools, and all other infrastructure needs; and

WHEREAS, the creation of a new National Infrastructure Bank has been endorsed by many organizations, including the National Latino Farmers and Ranchers, the National Congress of Black Women, and the National Federation of Federal Employees, and similar resolutions to this one have been passed in three state legislatures last spring and fourteen more filed these resolutions; and

WHEREAS, many County Commissions and City Councils have also passed resolutions, and a bill has now been drafted for the U.S. Congress.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Commissioners of Rio Arriba County that:

1. Rio Arriba County Commission hereby calls upon the Congress of the United States of America to introduce and pass legislation to create a National Infrastructure Bank in the tradition of Alexander Hamilton and Franklin Roosevelt.
2. Copies of this Resolution shall be forwarded to the members of the New Mexico delegation to the United States Congress, and to the President of the United States.
3. This Resolution is hereby declared to be an emergency measure necessary for the immediate preservation of public peace, health, safety and welfare for the reason that proper attention must be brought to the poor condition of the nation's infrastructure.

SIGNED, ADOPTED AND APPROVED THIS 17th DAY OF DECEMBER 2019.

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
RIO ARRIBA COUNTY, NEW MEXICO**



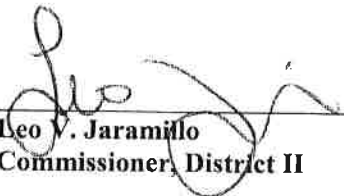
**Danny J. Garcia, Chairman
Commissioner, District III**

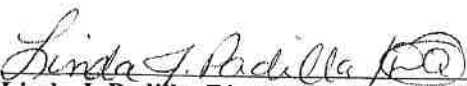


**James J. Martinez
Commissioner, District I**

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Meeting Date: 12/17/2019
Receipt #: 52285 Page 2 of 3 Doc Code: RES
Linda J. Padilla County Clerk & Recorder Rio Arriba, New Mexico


Leo V. Jaramillo
Commissioner, District II

ATTEST: 
Linda J. Padilla, Rio Arriba County Clerk



Doc Id: 2020-042 Debbie

Meeting Date: 12/17/2019

Receipt #: 52285 Page 3 of 3 Doc Code: RES

Linda J. Padilla County Clerk & Recorder Rio Arriba, New Mexico