

PUBLIC INPUT REQUEST

NM 117 Roadway and Drainage Improvements

Milepost 47 to 50 Phase 1-B Study

October 1, 2025 – October 31, 2025

The NMDOT invites your feedback on the recommended alternative identified in the Phase 1-B Study for NM 117, near the El Malpais Ranger Station (mileposts 47 and 50), about 10 miles south of Grants in Cibola County. This stretch runs through to the El Malpais National Monument, El Malpais National Conservation Area, and the Pueblo of Acoma.

Why is this Study needed?

The study aims to improve safety, reliability, and resilience by addressing roadway and drainage deficiencies and upgrading the highway to meet modern design standards. Current challenges include:

- Frequent closures due to flooding & sediment buildup
- No shoulders for emergencies or pedestrians
- Aging, inadequate drainage infrastructure
- Roadway does not meet current design criteria

What's being proposed?

The recommended improvements include:

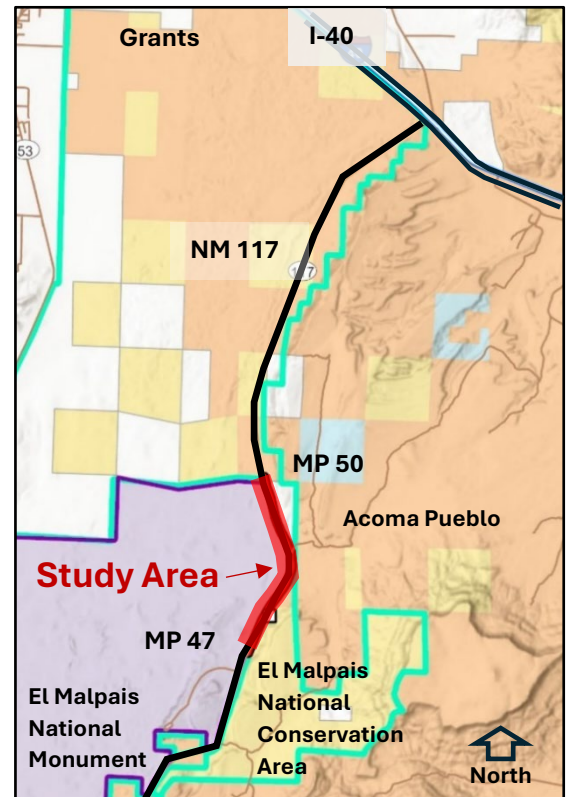
- Widening travel lanes to 12 feet and adding 4-foot shoulders
- Raising the road elevation to reduce flood closures
- Installing new box culverts and earthen berms for stormwater management

What's next?

We're collecting public input to finalize the Study this winter. Once complete, the team will move into design development, with construction funding to be pursued in future years.

To request assistance, language translation, or ADA accommodations, contact John Taschek at (505) 980-0993 or jtaschek@barr.com. Para obtener información en español, envíe un correo electrónico a John Taschek a jtaschek@barr.com.

Your feedback is essential and will help shape the final recommendations for improvements.



WATCH the narrated presentation and

SHARE comments by Oct. 31, 2025

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<https://www.dot.nm.gov/event/nm-117-el-malpais/>