TORRANCE COUNTY

Resolution # 97-44

WHEREAS, the efficient movement of goods and services is critical to the continued economic vitality of the Middle Rio Grande Region; and

WHEREAS, the projected growth in population in the Middle Rio Grande Region will generate an increase in travel demand that cannot be accommodated by the roadway capacity expansion programmed in the 2020 LONG RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLAN; and

WHEREAS, the results of the Middle Rio Grand Regional Transit Authority Feasibility Study indicate that expansion of transit in the region is both feasible and necessary to maintain the region's quality of life; and

WHEREAS, the major obstacles to expansion of transit services in the Middle Rio Grande region are the lack of funding and the lack of governing structure to operate multijurisdictional transit services; and

WHEREAS, the Feasibility Study found that a regional transit authority with dedicated funding offered the most effective and efficient opportunity to expand transit services in the region; and

WHEREAS, a Regional Transit Authority is a necessary component for maintaining both mobility and air quality compliance requirements of the region's 2020 LONG RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLAN;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE TORRANCE COUNTY COMMISSION supports the regional transit authority enabling legislation in substantially the same form as proposed in the 1997 legislative session, with sufficient taxing authority to adequately fund the capital and operating costs of such an authority.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT THE TORRANCE COUNTY COMMISSION urges the New Mexico State Legislature to pass regional transit authority enabling legislation in the 1998 session and the Governor of the State of New Mexico to sign such legislation into law.

TORRANCE COUNTY

Resolution # 97-41
Page Two

DONE at Estancia, Torrance County, New Mexico on this 22nd day of October, 1997.

TORRANCE COUNTY COMMISSION

Bill R. Williams, Chairman

ATTEST:

Rodger Rayner, Member

Chester Riley, Jr., Member