



# State of New Mexico

Michelle Lujan Grisham  
*Governor*

## **EXECUTIVE ORDER 2023-131**

### **ESTABLISHING THE ROUTE 66 CENTENNIAL COORDINATION GROUP**

**WHEREAS**, Route 66, which was established in 1926, served as a vital transportation corridor across the United States and fostered economic growth and cross-cultural interactions along its path through the State of New Mexico;

**WHEREAS**, Route 66 played a significant role in shaping the history and identity of numerous communities in the United States and in New Mexico, becoming a symbol of progress and adventure during the early 20th century;

**WHEREAS**, Congress has established the United States Route 66 Centennial Commission, which is tasked with recommending ceremonies, celebrations, media production, publication of materials, the issuance of commemorative items, and other ways to celebrate the centennial anniversary of Route 66;

**WHEREAS**, the United States Route 66 Centennial Commission has proposed the establishment of an interstate consortium between the eight states traversed by Route 66 to enable resource and expertise sharing and coordination;

**WHEREAS**, Arizona, California, Illinois, Kansas, Missouri, New Mexico, Oklahoma, and Texas have established the Mother Road Consortium and have agreed to establish a state coordination group focused on centennial planning for their respective states;

**WHEREAS**, the centennial anniversary of Route 66 presents a unique occasion to recognize and honor the contributions of New Mexico’s diverse communities, businesses, and individuals along the historic route;

**WHEREAS**, the landscapes, landmarks, and historical sites along Route 66 in New Mexico have become cherished destinations for travelers, history enthusiasts, and tourists from around the world, contributing to the State’s vibrant tourism industry;

**WHEREAS**, the celebration of the Route 66 centennial in New Mexico will serve as an opportunity to raise awareness about the preservation and conservation of its historic sites, ensuring that future generations can appreciate and learn from this iconic American road;

**WHEREAS**, the centennial celebration of Route 66 will provide an occasion for residents of New Mexico to come together, fostering a sense of community pride and unity while celebrating the enduring spirit of exploration and innovation that the historic road represents;

**WHEREAS**, through the establishment of a dedicated coordination group, New Mexico aims to collaboratively plan and organize a series of events that will showcase the State’s rich cultural heritage, artistic expressions, and culinary delights, thus promoting local businesses and fostering economic prosperity; and

**WHEREAS**, New Mexico will identify projects and activities within the State that align with the United States Route 66 Centennial Commission’s strategy.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I**, Michelle Lujan Grisham, Governor of the State of New Mexico, by the authority vested in me by the Constitution and the Laws of the State of New Mexico do hereby **ORDER** and **DIRECT** as follows:

**1. Creation; Membership.** The Route 66 Coordination Group (the “Group”) is hereby established. The Group shall be composed of twelve members who reflect the interests,

history, and importance of the communities along Route 66 in New Mexico. The members shall be appointed as follows:

- A. One public members appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives;
- B. One public member appointed by the minority leader of the house of representatives;
- C. One public member appointed by the president pro tempore of the senate;
- D. One public member appointed by the minority leader of the senate;
- E. Two public members appointed by the Governor;
- F. The Secretary of the Tourism Department, or their designate;
- G. The Secretary of the Department of Transportation, or their designate;
- H. The Secretary of the Department of Cultural Affairs, or their designate;
- I. The Secretary of the Economic Development Department, or their designate;
- J. The Secretary of the Environment Department, or their designate; and
- K. One Tourism Commissioner appointed by the Tourism Department's Tourism Commission Chair.

**2. Group Duties.** The Group shall:

- A. Recommend, plan, sponsor, and coordinate official Route 66 centennial events, programs, and activities in the State;
- B. Encourage the development of programs designed to involve all citizens in activities that commemorate Route 66 centennial events in the State;
- C. Maintain a supplemental document containing specifics pertaining to these actions where Group members will provide regular updates and input;

D. To the best of the Group's ability, make available to the public information on Route 66 centennial events happening throughout the State;

E. Submit meeting minutes, recommendations for state signature centennial projects, and other regular reports to the United States Route 66 Centennial Commission and/or its working groups;

F. Prioritize projects and activities utilizing the U.S. Route 66 Centennial Commission's dynamic scoring process;

G. Identify consumer experiences, events, projects, sites, and activities to be officially certified by the U.S. Route 66 Centennial Commission and included in official promotional efforts; and

H. Perform any other actions, as directed by the chair or the Governor.

**3. Compensation; Group Meetings.**

A. The members shall not be compensated for their service, other than per diem allowed under the Per Diem and Mileage Act.

B. The Secretary of the Tourism Department shall designate the Group Chair and Vice Chair.

C. A majority of the members shall constitute a quorum for the conduct of business. The Group shall meet at the call of the Chair. A simple majority vote by the Group is sufficient to approve motions. The Group shall follow Robert's Rules of Order.

D. The Group shall adopt by-laws, meet at least four times each year as determined by the Chair, and establish working groups or subcommittees as necessary to address specific topics or tasks.

4. **Stakeholder Meetings.** The Group shall organize and host at least five stakeholder meetings to obtain input from citizens of New Mexico on the proper activities and projects to honor Route 66.

5. **Termination.** The Group shall be dissolved on or before June 30, 2027.

**I FURTHER ORDER and DIRECT** as follows:

1. This Order shall take effect immediately and shall remain in effect until renewed, modified, or rescinded.

ATTEST:



MAGGIE TOULOUSE OLIVER  
SECRETARY OF STATE

DONE AT THE EXECUTIVE OFFICE  
THIS 8TH DAY OF SEPTEMBER 2023

WITNESS MY HAND AND THE GREAT  
SEAL OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO



MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM  
GOVERNOR

