



Bill Richardson
Governor

Rhonda Faught
Transportation Secretary

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Crews Install Artwork on Atrisco Pedestrian Bridge

Albuquerque, N.M. – Crews recently began installing artwork depicting Albuquerque’s landscape on the Atrisco Pedestrian Bridge -- located east of the Interstate 40/Coors Interchange. Artist Karen Yank worked with the local community, the City of Albuquerque and the project management to develop the art.

The art is part of an aesthetic plan in the \$91 million Interstate 40 Coors Reconstruction Project.

“The art created for this pedestrian bridge reflects the inspiring local scenery New Mexico is blessed with,” said New Mexico Department of Transportation Secretary Rhonda Faught. “Artistic components were an important part of the aesthetic planning that went into the I-40/Coors Interchange project.”

Yank drew inspiration from the landscape of Albuquerque’s West Mesa to create sculptures that will be mounted in five sections outside the bridge structure. The art depicts geological elements unique to the area, including volcanoes, rocky terrain and the Rio Grande River. “I am honored to have worked with the community to develop these concepts and see them become a reality,” Yank said.

The Atrisco Bridge connects the West Bluff neighborhood to the West Mesa neighborhood and provides north and south access across the interstate.

Crews will also place other similar artwork by Yank on the new West Pedestrian Bridge. That bridge, which is under construction and will be completed by summer, provides access across the interstate between the SR Marmon and West Mesa neighborhoods.

Albuquerque contractor Twin Mountain Construction is completing the reconstruction of the interchange. The project is part of Governor Richardson’s Investment Partnership (GRIP), a \$1.6 billion transportation package that is improving New Mexico’s transportation systems and highways while creating local jobs.

To view renderings of the artwork, visit the I-40/Coors Project page at the GRIP Web site at nmgrip.com.

Video and photo opportunities of the art installation are available. For more information, call Marissa Stone at (505) 490-0492.