

President's Message

Mathew Casford, President & Chief Rail Operations Officer, NMHR

Welcome to the New Mexico Heritage Rail (NMSL&RHS).

It is a tremendous honor to serve as President while continuing my role as Chief Rail Operations Officer. I'm deeply grateful for the confidence and trust of our members — and for the dedication, passion, and craftsmanship that make this organization such a remarkable force for preservation and education.

Our Mission

Our mission remains steadfast:

To **preserve and operate historic railroad equipment**, to **educate the public** about New Mexico's rail heritage, and to ensure that **Locomotive 2926** and our entire collection continue to serve as living, working symbols of the state's rich railroading legacy.

Partnerships and Progress

In the months ahead, the Board and I will work to strengthen and expand NMHR's collaborations with key organizations — including the **WHEELS Museum**, the **City of Albuquerque**, the **New Mexico Department of Transportation (NMDOT)**, and the **New Mexico Rail Runner Express**.

Together, these partnerships will help us enhance infrastructure, expand public access, and ensure that the **Rail Yards** remain a vibrant hub for rail heritage, tourism, and education.

As we begin **upgrade work at the Rail Yards**, our focus will remain on **progress, safety, and partnership**. The coming months will bring exciting opportunities to coordinate with our partners, highlight our restoration work, and share the story of New Mexico's railroads with more people than ever before.

Our People Make It Possible

None of this would be possible without you — our members, volunteers, donors, and supporters. Your hard work, expertise, and belief in our mission keep NMHR on track. Every hour spent, every project completed, and every inspired visitor moves us closer to a lasting and sustainable future for rail heritage in New Mexico.

Looking Ahead

Thank you for your dedication, commitment, and continued interest. I look forward to working with all of you as we build the next chapter of NMHR — **honoring our history, strengthening our partnerships, and keeping New Mexico's railroad legacy alive for generations to come.**

Warm regards,

Mathew Casford

President & Chief of Rail Operations

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