Michelle Lujan Grisham, Governor Ricky Serna, Cabinet Secretary

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 13, 2023

NMDOT Supports National Child Passenger Safety Awareness Week

In-person car seat checks available statewide

DEMING – September 17-23 is National Child Passenger Safety Awareness Week. The campaign focuses on the importance of properly securing children in an appropriate car or booster seat. To support the nationwide event, the New Mexico Department of Transportation Traffic Safety Division (NMDOT TSD) will sponsor Car Seat Inspection Clinics from 9 to 11 a.m. on Saturday, September 23, as part of National Seat Check Saturday.

According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), motor vehicle-related injuries remain a leading cause of death for children ages 15 and younger. Using car seats decreases the risk of death by an estimated 71% for rear-facing infants and 54% for older, forward-facing children. Additionally, booster seats reduce the likelihood of significant injury for 4- to 8-year-old children over the use of seat belts alone.

During the event, parents and caregivers will work one-on-one with nationally certified child passenger safety technicians. Technicians will spend approximately 30 minutes per seat educating parents on the proper selection, installation, and use of their car seats and booster seats. Parents and caregivers will also learn important information regarding common errors in car seat safety and will be able to ask questions. If a technician determines a car seat to be recalled, expired, or otherwise unsafe, replacement seats will be available. To be considered for a seat replacement, the child must be present. A \$25 seat replacement fee may apply.

To participate in the statewide clinics, parents and caregivers should bring their car seat, car seat manual, vehicle manual, and the child should be present if possible. Car seat inspections are first-come, first-served and no appointments are necessary. For more information, call 505-856-6143.

Statewide car seat clinics will be held from 9 to 11 a.m. Saturday, September 23, 2023, at the following locations:

Albuquerque (Northeast):

Kohl's Parking Lot 6800 Holly Avenue NE

Albuquerque (Southeast):

Bernalillo County Fire Department Station #38 3610 Prince Street SE

Carlsbad:

Carlsbad Mall 2302 W. Pierce Street

Clovis:

The Java Loft 810 E. 21st Street

Deming:

Deming Fire Department 309 S. Gold Avenue

Farmington:

JC Penny Parking Lot, Animas Valey Mall 4601 E. Main Street

Las Cruces:

Doña Ana County Health Services Center 1170 N. Solano Drive

Rio Rancho:

Target Parking Lot 4225 Crestview Drive SE

Santa Fe:

JC Penny Parking Lot, Santa Fe Place Mall 4250 Cerrillos Road

The clinics are a public service provided by the NMDOT TSD and Safer New Mexico Now. There is no charge for this service, however a seat replacement fee of \$25 may apply.

For more information about national Child Passenger Safety Week and National Seat Check Saturday, or for other child passenger safety information, call 505-856-6143 or visit www.safernm.org.

For more information about the New Mexico Department of Transportation, visit www.dot.state.nm.us

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NMDOT

Mobility for everyone

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