

**Sent:** Friday, March 1, 2024 5:06:49 PM

**To:** Pedro, Lois, EMNRD

**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] FWD: Maria Ann Booker- EMNRD #3141436

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Hello,

Please see the information below for your department's review and response and contact the constituent within 2 business days. If your department requires an extension, please let us know why as soon as possible. Upon case conclusion, please reply to this email with detailed and pertinent information about your efforts, subject matter unaltered, for tracking purposes.

The contact information for the constituent is:

Maria Ann Booker

[ann.booker0@gmail.com](mailto:ann.booker0@gmail.com)

+8043703320

705

S Tin Street

Deming NM 88030

The constituent's issue information is listed below.

**From: Maria Ann Booker**

Date: Fri, Mar 1, 2024 at 11:26 am

The following are comments I sent in response to the proposed rate changes to NM state parks use fees: After a thorough review of the presentation and proposal to rate changes, please accept the following input from a NM state resident and avid camper. After review of the proposal, it is clear that the NM state parks do need to update the rate structure and use fees to ensure that the park system can continue to maintain and support our beloved parks. For years, NM with its annual camping permit, has become a haven for many people seeking an inexpensive and alternative full-timer lifestyle. As a result, our state park facilities, especially in Winter in the southern half of the state, are overrun with campers from the colder climates, resulting in full parks and hard to get camping spots. As a senior, I have long appreciated the very good deal that the annual camping permit offers to state residents. I would hate to see NM go from offering the best deal in the country to a fee structure (as proposed) that makes it more expensive than many private RV parks and the park system in surrounding states. While NM needs to raise revenue to better support the parks, the proposed rate structure of up to \$50 per night for full hookups is just too much. Furthermore, the bulk of people that take advantage of the annual camping permit by taking up seasonal residence in our parks are from out of state. I would like to see a rate structure for camping that offers New Mexico residents a significant break in fees vis-a-vis non-residents. That can be done through a continuation of an annual camping permit or by a much more reasonable nightly camping fee than in the current proposal. NM is not a state with a high income level in many locations and our state parks offer residents, at today's rates, an affordable place for families and couples to vacation and enjoy the beauty of our great state. Non-residents (i.e.,

people visiting our state that do not support the state through taxes) should have to pay a higher rate than residents, however even for non-residents, the price should not exceed the cost of RV parks or be on the highest end of the surrounding states. My recommendation would be to have a three-tiered structure for camping rates as follows: NM residents (consider retaining ACP or a more affordable nightly use fee) NM residents (senior rate) (consider retaining ACP or a more affordable nightly use fee) Non-residents As regards the day use fee proposal, I would be supportive of the changes for non-residents to \$10/day/car. Continuation of the \$40/year annual fee for residents is not unreasonable if changes to the proposed rates for camping can be made. I do not believe the goal of the rate changes is to make the cost of enjoying our parks prohibitive. There must be some compromise on all sides to ensure the parks and their facilities can continue to operate for generations to come. Thank you for your acceptance of these comments and consideration of my recommendations. Maria Ann Booker 705 S Tin Street Deming NM 88030  
Would You Like A Response: Yes, please contact me

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Name: Channel  
Value: Web  
Prefix: Ms.  
First Name: Maria  
Middle Name: Ann  
Last Name: Booker  
Email Address: [ann.booker0@gmail.com](mailto:ann.booker0@gmail.com)  
Phone Number: 8043703320  
Address1: 705  
Address2: S Tin Street  
City: Deming  
State: NM  
Zip Code: 88030  
Type: Correspondence  
Subject: Contact the Governor: Other Issues  
Trace Id: Fw1Qoexr1O  
Office: newmexicogovernor  
Form Id: e8157390-ee98-4a62-a4d6-edaeaa9b7628

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Thank you,

Vanessa Kennedy (she/her)  
Director | Constituent Services  
Office of Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham  
505-476-2235 | [vanessa.kennedy@exec.nm.gov](mailto:vanessa.kennedy@exec.nm.gov)  
[governor.state.nm.us](http://governor.state.nm.us)