



INFRASTRUCTURES

## The Pas variant and a segregated road to La Seu, priority connections

The Government rules out railway projects with Catalonia and France because they are expensive and have an excessive impact

Spain is open to expanding the N-145 with a third reversible lane to improve capacity

SFGA/JAVILADOT



►► Jaume Bonell, Víctor Filloy and Jordi Gallardo, during the appearance at the General Council.

### the figures

**59** million euros cost of the Solana road to link with France.

**130** million euros for the cost of the regular collective electric road (REC) to La Seu.

**4,000** million euros in the cost of the train project between the capital and Ospitalet.

yet made a decision, but the required investments would skyrocket in the short term, so they would hardly be affordable now,» acknowledged Gallardo. In this sense, with regard to the connection with France, it would involve an investment of between 1,500 and 4,000 million euros, between Ospitalet and various points in Andorra. On the other side of the border, the cost would not be so high, between 670 and 140 million euros. In both cases, the agreement with the Spanish and French authorities is required. According to Gallardo, «we will have more credibility when asking the outside if we carry out what depends on us».

In the preparation of this study, Mobility has met with the General Directorate of Traffic (DGT) and the Spanish Ministry of Mobility, where the state of the N-260 and N-145 has been addressed. Regarding this, Bonell revealed that in the first case there is already a planned investment of 43 million euros, between Adraal and La Seu d'Urgell. In the second case, there is a commitment to analyze a capacity expansion project, with a third reversible lane. In fact, currently, on the Andorran side, leaving the country, the road can absorb 1,000 vehicles an hour, while on the N-145, entering Andorra, only 750. «This causes an accordion effect with delays to leave Andorra and complicates road safety due to the traffic flows that arrive suddenly at La Seu d'Urgell, so the double lane could reverse it depending on the intensities», explained the director of Mobility. ≡

EL PERIÒDIC  
ANDORRA LA VELLA  
@PeriodicAND

Last Wednesday, the Government revealed the priorities of the Ministries of Economy and Territory in terms of connections with the outside world. Ministers Jordi Gallardo and Víctor Filloy, accompanied by the director of Mobility, Jaume Bonell, presented the Study of the possibilities of opening the Andorran mobility network, in which the most viable projects and those presenting the most difficulties are glimpsed. The Pas de la Casa variant, the Caubella heliport and the connection via segregated transport to the airport and La Seu d'Urgell are the three projects with the most options to see the light of day in the future, as they depend on good part of the will of the Andorran authorities.

First of all, the project that corresponds to the extension of the CG2 or

Pas de la Casa variant through the Solana road stands out, with a cost estimate of 59 million euros. The new road, which would connect Andorra with France, from the Pas to Ospitalet, would be 6.4 kilometers long, with a kilometer of viaducts and an avalanche gallery. Most of the road would pass through Andorran territory and would save time, with about four kilometers less. It would only require the agreement with France, because a new customs house would have to be built, since the current one is on the other section of the French N-20.

The Caubella heliport, the second project with the most options, would be located entirely in Andorran territory and would mean the introduction of new forms of aeronautical connections, apart from the traditional helicopter, which would enable the arrival of tourists from beyond the traditional markets, one of the objectives of the open-



**JAUME BONELL**  
DIRECTOR OF MOBILITY

«The current state of the N-145 causes an accordion effect with delays to exit and complicates security at La Seu»

**JORDI GALLARDO**  
ECONOMY MINISTER

«We will have greater credibility when ordering from abroad if we first carry out what depends on us»

ning of the country's mobility network.

Thirdly, Mobility foresees a segregated transport that would connect Andorra, from La Farga de Moles, along the right side of the river to La Seu d'Urgell and the airport, through a regular collective electric road (REC), with an estimated cost of 130 million euros. It would be an exclusive and direct route to Andorra without going through customs, intended mainly for airport passengers. The platform, which could be used by several types of electric vehicles, could transport between 500 and 1,500 people per hour in both directions.

As for the less viable options proposed by the study, they refer to rail connections with France and Catalonia, a possibility that, for the time being, the Government rules out as being too expensive and because it would have a significant environmental impact. «We have not

Don't miss any special editions  
of **El Periòdic!**

PURCHASING POWER

# The PS calls electioneering the resignation of the salary increase of the majority

The formation will present an amendment so that the same increase as in the private sector is applied to senior positions

EL PERIÒDIC  
ANDORRA LA VELLA  
@PeriodicAND

The president of the Social Democratic Parliamentary Group, Pere López, criticized last Wednesday in a press conference the decision of the majority to finally not increase the salaries of high political positions in accordance with the CPI in 2023, calling it an electioneering gesture. «I'm really very surprised, because it's been a few years since I've been a parliamentarian and I've been a minister, and I've never seen an action, with all due respect, as ridiculous and as inappropriate for political activity as this,» he lamented. During the debate on the full amendment to the budget «we already said that this could not be done in any way», assured López, who at the same time explained that the wording of the law is already done, and «if you don't like it, the task of parliamentary groups is to amend, debate, discuss things; not make a press release», since, if the text is not modified, «What does this resignation mean? How will you control what needs to be done?», he questioned.

So, claiming that the majority does not intend to amend the article, López assured that «we will.»

Therefore, the PS will present an amendment so that these charges have the same increase as the private sector. According to his proposal, the increase would be 7% in terms of the minimum wage, and there would be a step between 6.5% and 0.5% up to 4,000 euros, a fraction that would no longer be affected. In this sense, the president of the parliamentary group announced that he personally would not receive any increase, «but not because he makes any resignation, any gesture towards the gallery or anything that is inappropriate for parliamentarians, but in the case that accept the amendment that we will present», he clarified. As for the social democratic councilors, he explained that yes, they could receive an increase in their salary, since it is 1,700 euros, even though each person can have more income afterwards.

On the other hand, and in a mo-



►► Pere López during last Wednesday's conference



**Pere López**  
PRESIDENT OF PS

«I had never seen an action, with all due respect, as ridiculous and as inappropriate for political activity as this»

«If it doesn't like it, the task of the parliamentary groups is to amend, debate; do not make a press release»

**The party defends that the lowest wages should rise more than what is being proposed**

re general context, the social democratic leader explained that the party thinks and defends that there is a great lack and difficulty in relation to the purchasing level. Along these lines, he explained that when the Labor Relations Law

was created, it should have provided for the automatic incorporation of the IPC in employment contracts, as is done in rental contracts, maintenance contracts or insurance policies, «but all this was not wanted at the time», he ad-

mitted. In addition, although López defended the initiative to increase wages towards 2023, he indicated that the lowest should rise more than what is being proposed, a formulation that the citizens reasoner had already made in the previous weeks, who spoke of raising wages by at least 10%. «He has a very good thermometer of what is going on, because people explain their situation to him every day», he opined.

At the same time, he assessed that it is clear that there are salary and purchasing power problems in the country that, as long as rent prices are allowed to rise, as do expenses or food, wage increases will be absorbed and, consequently, will be insufficient.

However, the question that the PS wants to enter next week regar-

**López assures that salary increases will be absorbed if rental prices continue to rise**

ding why the Government entered the bill, López assured that it will not be withdrawn and, in fact, «with all these improvised movements there is still much more reason for this question to be formulated and answered», he pointed out.

For her part, the non-affiliated councilor general, Carine Montaner, recalled that during the session of the General Council on September 13th, she proposed a reduction in the salaries of politicians and senior positions in the Public Administration. Regarding this demand, Montaner observed that the head of government «hinted that the proposal was populist and would not solve the problem of public finances by any means». This measure has finally been taken, and for this reason, she regretted that the Executive «immediately attacks other political colors considered as adversaries, instead of reflecting on the substance of the proposal». Finally, she emphasized that «political maturity is needed in this legislature».☐

Your leading real estate agency in Andorra.

Our experience guarantees results, realtors since 1988.



(+376) 353 424 / (+376) 379 769

(+376) 747 747

laportella@andorra.ad

Casa Nova Olivet 10 · Ordino

www.laportella.ad