2019

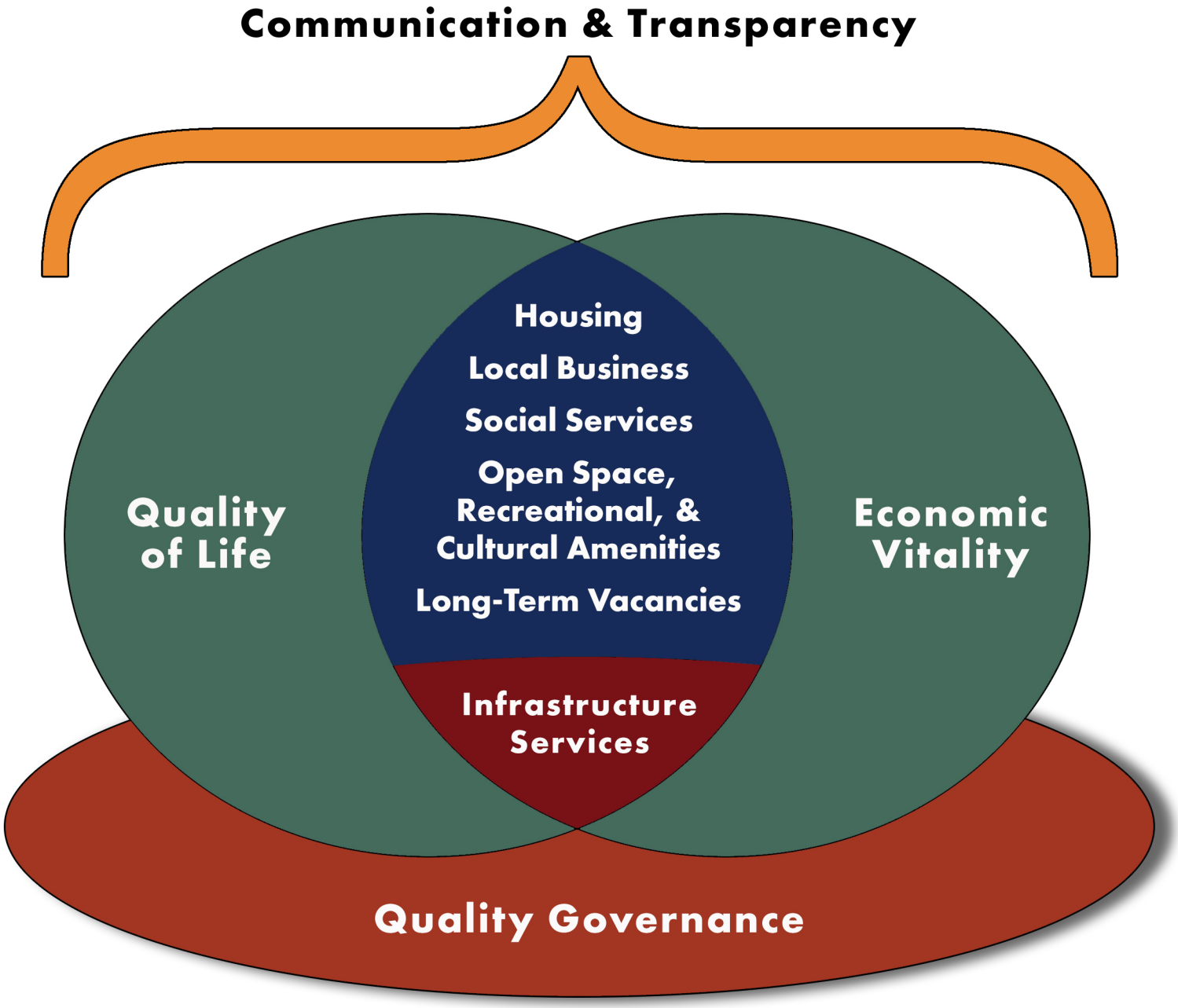
STRATEGIC LEADERSHIP PLAN

LOS ALAMOS

ATTACHMENT A

Vision

Los Alamos is a world-renowned community where discovery and innovation are inspired by its dramatic history and magnificent mountain setting. We offer extraordinary educational, recreational, and cultural opportunities in a vibrant small town atmosphere.


Communication & Transparency
Housing
Local Business
Social Services
Open Space, Recreational, & Cultural Amenities
Long-Term Vacancies
Quality of Life
Economic Vitality
Infrastructure Services
Quality Governance

In January, 2019, the Los Alamos County Council identified 7 strategic priorities; these were subsequently adopted on February 5, 2019. These priorities address issues important to the community that the Council agrees to focus and make progress on in the coming year; they are hard and cross-cutting and will support and help enable multiple initiatives currently underway. This does not mean that the county will only work on and invest in these priorities; they are a tool to help assure that in the context of all of the ongoing county efforts, a focus on a few high-level, important but challenging goals is maintained.

For each of these priorities, concrete actions for addressing them will be identified. Additionally, multiple mechanisms will be used to promote engagement with the community to clearly and more broadly communicate what the priorities are and elicit ideas and creative solutions for making progress. The status of the priorities will be reviewed and reported on a regular basis.

Ongoing improvement in communication and transparency in county policy setting is an overarching Council goal that will be a component of all our efforts.

These priorities were identified in the context of uncertainty regarding the County's Gross Receipts Tax revenue; it is understood that addressing priorities that require funding outlays will be contingent on the resolution of this uncertainty.

Priority Areas

Increasing the amount and types of housing options.

This includes a variety of housing options for all segments of the community, from affordable, entry level, and live-work housing to new options for those interested in downsizing or moving closer to central areas of the community.

Enhancing support and opportunities for the local business environment.

This includes appropriate support for existing businesses, growing new businesses, and supporting technology start-ups and spin-offs.

Addressing long-term building vacancies in key areas of our community.

Land availability in Los Alamos County, and in particular in the downtown areas, is limited and there is a desire to work towards better utilization, opportunities for new businesses, and improved aesthetics.

Protecting and maintaining our open spaces, recreational, and cultural amenities.

Los Alamos County open spaces and cultural attractions are greatly valued by the community and provide opportunities for recreational and economic growth; appropriately allocating resources to ensure their health and sustainability is important to our citizens.

Supporting social services improvement.

Behavioral, mental and physical health and social services are important quality of life components; there are key areas where appropriate types and levels of county support could help address current needs.

Investing in infrastructure.

Appropriately balancing maintenance of existing infrastructure with new investments in county utilities, roads, facilities and amenities will help improve environmental stewardship, sustainability, and quality of life.

Planning for appropriate levels of county services.

Making sure we understand the level of services our citizens want will allow us to make appropriate investments in processes and staff to achieve them.

As noted, establishing these priorities is intended to help maintain focus on issues important to the community and support and help enable multiple ongoing initiatives important to the future of our community. These initiatives have benefitted from significant public involvement, time, and expertise and it is essential that we continue to work on:

Implementation of the 2016 Comprehensive Plan, including an emphasis on neighborhoods and effectively managing commercial growth.

Implementation of the 2018 Tourism Strategic Plan.

Utilizing the recommendations of the Community Development Advisory Board.

Addressing issues noted in the 2018 State of Health in Los Alamos.

Pursuing key goals described in 2018 DRAFT Los Alamos County Economic Vitality Plan.

Partnering with Los Alamos Public Schools and the University of New Mexico-Los Alamos, as appropriate, to support the high-quality educational opportunities in the community.

Maintaining and improving transportation and mobility.

Strengthening coordination and cooperation between County government, LANL, and regional and national partners.

Collaborating with Los Alamos National Laboratory as the area's #1 employer.

Work towards the Department of Public Utilities Strategic Goals and integration of these efforts with activities in support of the County's strategic priorities will be essential for achieving desired outcomes effectively and efficiently; mechanisms for improving this integration are being implemented.