# County Manager's Monthly Update

LOS ALAMOS COUNTY MARCH - 2017

# **COMMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT**

#### **Building Safety Division**



New Construction 45<sup>th</sup> Street, Los Alamos



New Construction Los Pueblos. Los Alamos

Community Development has expanded its efforts to reach out to homeowners and contractors about building safety and the role that building codes and permits play in everyday life, and to provide information about the County's building permitting process. The monthly Contractors Meeting was held on Tuesday, February 21<sup>st</sup> at Fuller Lodge. Michael Arellano, Building Safety Manager/Chief Building Official, was introduced at the meeting. There were approximately 20 people in attendance.

Two commercial permits were issued in February, with a total valuation of \$205,900.00.

Forty-nine residential permits were issued in February, with a total valuation of \$1,151,772. Construction continues on several new residential homes on 45<sup>th</sup> Street, Los Pueblos and Aster. The Building Safety Division is changing internal processes for quick permit application turnaround time and to improve customer service. Several roofing and window replacement permits were issued over-the-counter.

# **Housing and Special Projects Division**

# Housing Rehabilitation Program (Home Renewal Program):

The 2016 program includes 11 rehabilitation projects, seven of which are for senior households. Work has been completed on three homes and five additional homes are in the process of receiving repairs. Contractors have been selected and permit applications will be submitted for the final three homes. It is anticipated the application period for the 2017 program will open mid-April 2017.

#### **Homebuyer Assistance Program:**

On February 28, 2017, a public hearing was held regarding the Program Ordinance and the Ordinance was adopted by Council. A Request for Proposals (RFP) and Draft Administrative Policies and Procedures have been prepared and reviewed by council before being announced to the public. CDD will be contracting the program out to a qualified external entity to implement the program.

Anticipated timelines for 2017 program implementation are:

- Request for Proposals and draft Policies & Procedures (early May)
- External entity contracted (mid-May)
- Program outreach (June-July)
- Open public application period (August).

Approximately 10 households are expected to receive assistance in the first year for the Homebuyer Assistance Program.

#### **Vacant Homes Project:**

Staff is developing a 'clean & lien' strategy. If adopted by Council, the County will be allowed to clean up vacant properties that have code violations, as well as properties of non-responsive owners to violation notices. Once the property has been abated, the County will then place a lien on the property that will allow for the recovery of the costs associated with the abatement. It is anticipated that an ordinance outlining such a program will be brought to Council for consideration in Spring 2017. A table has been produced of homes with high certainty of vacancy including field observations. This information is supporting on-going enforcement efforts related to building exterior and yard violations.

#### **Vacant Development Sites**

Staff continued to coordinate with the Site A-19-A-1 Acquisition Group, LLC as they continue with their due diligence.

# Potential New Ideas for Expanding Affordable Housing Assistance

Staff has conducted initial research on the concept of allocating a portion of funds from sales of County land to affordable housing. This concept will be provided to County senior staff and Council for consideration. Staff is also exploring possibilities for expanding assistance to include moderate income families, such as partnering with private lenders to provide low-interest loans for home rehab and/or down payment assistance.

#### **Planning Division**

# **Planning & Zoning Commission Activities:**

The Planning & Zoning Commission met on February 08<sup>th</sup> and began discussing their 2018 Work Plan. Significant work projects for the upcoming year include code revisions to align the Development Code to the new Comprehensive Plan, including changes necessitated by adoption of a Future Land Use Map.

Another high priority will be development of a new Mixed Use zoning district. Planning Division staff also expects to work with the Legal Division on a major revision of the Sign Code.

The Commission approved the FY18 Work Plan at their meeting of February 22<sup>nd.</sup> At that meeting the Commission also held a public hearing for a Special Use Permit to allow an accessory Apartment on Rim Road. The application was approved with a 15 day appeal period.

The Board of Adjustment approved two (2) Waiver applications on the 6<sup>th</sup> of February. One was for a side yard encroachment of a carport and the other was a back yard setback encroachment for an addition. Both Waiver requests were approved.

Also in February, Council appointed three new Planning Commissioners, who will all start their first terms on April 1, 2017. The new Commissioners are: Melissa Arias, Jessie Dixon and Craig Martin. Retiring from the Commission are current Chair Phil Gursky and Commissioner Catherine Mockler.

# **Business License and Building Permit Review:**

Planning Division staff reviewed and acted on 28 Business License applications and 40 Building Permits.

#### Other Staff Activities:

Planning staff began coordinating with Legal staff on the first drafts of Development Code amendments, including creation of a new Mixed-Use zoning district.

# **COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT**

#### **Library Division**

<u>Device Day-</u> Library Staff held the first of several planned "Device Days" on February 9<sup>th</sup> at the Betty Ehart Senior Center. Many participants attended and learned how to use their Kindles, e-readers, tablets and smart phones as a way to use library materials such as online books and magazines.



<u>Local Author Book Fair</u>- 12 authors and about 50 attendees came to the Local Author Book Fair on Feb. 4. This is a biannual event, with the goal of encouraging and educating authors about the paths to publishing.





<u>Poetry Gathering-</u> Poets Jane Lin and Mary Cisper celebrated the publication of their highly acclaimed new books with a Poetry Gathering and reading at Mesa Public Library on February 26. A sizable group of enthusiastic poets and lovers of poetry attended.





<u>Uncommon Valor</u>- It has long been a tradition at the Library to show the documentary film "Uncommon Valor" on Iwo Jima Day. The film features interviews with the late Bill Hudson, a pillar of the community here. Bill always introduced the film in the past. To honor his memory, historian Nancy Bartlit proposed showing the film again with an introduction from Manhattan Project Interpretive Ranger Kirk Singer.



#### **Walkup Aquatic Center**

Kha'p'o Community School: The Kha'p'o Community School starts their swim lessons today and will be visiting every Tuesday through March 21<sup>st</sup>.

<u>Freshmen PE</u>: The high school's freshmen PE will start on Monday, March 6<sup>th</sup>. There are 3 classes a day at 8:00 am, 9:45 am, and 12:10 pm.

<u>Swim Teams:</u> The high school swim team finished out their season on February 18<sup>th</sup>, and the club teams finished their short course season with their state championship meet March 3-5, 2017 in Albuquerque.

<u>NMRPA Aquatics Professional Development Meeting:</u> We hosted the statewide aquatics section meeting this month and had a great time sharing best management practices, touring our facilities and networking.

<u>Swim Lessons:</u> We are excited for the upcoming swim lesson seasons and hope to see many participants come and learn lifesaving skills while having fun in our pool.









#### **Recreation Community Collaborations**

<u>ScienceFest 2017</u> – Ranch School Days: Planning has begun for ScienceFest which will kick-off with a Movie in the Park on Wednesday, July  $12^{th}$  at Ashley Pond. ScienceFest will have a multitude of engaging activities and programs for all ages from *July*  $13^{th}$  –  $16^{th}$  that celebrate the history and science of Los Alamos. Many of these events and activities will have a focus on the  $100^{th}$  Anniversary of the Los Alamos Ranch School.

<u>Senior Appreciation Night:</u> SAN an event to celebrate the achievements of out graduating high school seniors is co-hosted by the PROS Division and the YMCA with support from numerous County and Community organizations. The event begins Saturday, June 3<sup>rd</sup> in the evening after LAHS graduation, goes all night with a multitude of activities all around town and culminates with a pancake breakfast and give-a-ways at the Betty Ehart Senior Center. Volunteers are needed to help coordinate this over-night event and supervise activities. If you can volunteer a few hours please contact the YMCA at 662-3100 or the PROS Division at 662-8170 or <a href="mailto:lacrec@lacnm.us">lacrec@lacnm.us</a>.

#### Recreation:

<u>Summer Concert Vendors:</u> The Summer Concerts resume on *Friday, May 19<sup>th</sup>* at Overlook Park in White Rock with the 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Kite Festival. Vendors who are interested in being a part of this community concert series can contact the PROS Division to reserve their space.

<u>Hawk-2-Hilltopper:</u> The annual celebration of 8<sup>th</sup> Graders moving from middle school to High School will be held on Friday, June 2<sup>nd</sup> at Urban Park. If you are interested in volunteering for a couple hours to help grill hamburgers and hotdogs or supervise games and activities, please contact the PROS Division at 662-8170 or <u>lacrec@lacnm.us</u>.

<u>Los Alamos Triathlons:</u> Save the Date of Saturday, July 29<sup>th</sup> for the annual Los Alamos Triathlon, the NEW JR. Triathlon and the Kids Triathlon. In 2016 the LA Tri became USAT sanctioned AND we moved all

events to one day which was met with much enthusiasm. To keep up-to-date "LIKE" the LA Tri on Facebook at <a href="https://www.facebook.com/LosAlamosTriathlons/">https://www.facebook.com/LosAlamosTriathlons/</a>. If you would like to be one of our many volunteers, please contact the PROS Division at 662-8170 or <a href="mailto:lacemonts.">lacemonts.</a>

<u>Fair & Rodeo:</u> From August 10<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup> the County Fair and Rodeo will celebrate the "Legends of the Ranch School" as the 2017 theme for the County Fair and Rodeo as we commemorate the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Ranch School. This theme will flow throughout many community events over the "100 Days of Summer."

#### Ice Rink:

**CLOSED for the Season:** Though the weather was a bit warmer this season, and February quite sunny; it was another wonderful season at the Ice Rink. We enjoyed youth and adult hockey; many new and returning skaters for public skating and lessons; hosted some fun and memorable holiday events; and offered a couple new programs such as Adult Broomball, the 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Atomic City Adult Hockey Tournament; and coordinated a Teen Night with the Teen Center. We cannot wait for November 2017 as we continue improving on current offerings and reviewing new programs and opportunities. See y'all on the Ice in Fall 2017!

#### **Golf Course:**

February brought the much anticipated opening of the golf course. We had many beautiful days and a few with snow.

Hours of Operation: 8 am – 5 pm, Thursday - Sunday for the month of March, weather permitting.

<u>Golf Shop Hours:</u> 10 am - 2 pm, Monday - Wednesday for the month of March. Don't forget our 50% - 75% sale on merchandise until March  $31^{st}$ .

Online Tee Time Booking Now Available: All players can log on to the Los Alamos Golf Association up to 10 days in advance.

<u>Golf Leagues Forming Soon:</u> Make sure to sign up to participate in your favorite league. Call the golf course for more information.

#### Parks Report:

Parks maintenance projects are happening all over the County to get ready for the busy season just around the corner. We hope you will enjoy all the parks and the many amenities they have to offer. Here are some of the park projects we are working on this month:

<u>Barranca Mesa Park</u> – We are updating the bathrooms with new partitions, paint, sinks, toilets and more. They look great and we hope you enjoy them.

North Mesa Community Gardens – Crews are in the process of realigning garden plots and adding plot numbers for more efficient use.

North Mesa Ballfields – Lots of work is being completed to improve the field conditions at our ballfields. Some of the major upgrades are regrading of the infields, topdressing, new bases, and renovation of the new tee-ball field.

Pinon Park – Repairs are being completed to replace the slide that was damaged.



<u>Overlook Park</u> – Crews are working on preparing the fields for the upcoming sports seasons. Backstops, fencing, turf and regrading are happening.

<u>Rover Park</u> – Privacy screens are installed in front of each restroom door and will provide safer usage of the restrooms.

#### **Open Space Report:**

Warm weather is upon us and that will allow many users to access all our great trails and open spaces in in Los Alamos County. We have worked hard this winter to improve the user experience and we hope you will enjoy our upgrades to the Open Spaces System.

Tree removal: We are working hard to remove all downed trees from the spring winds.

<u>Invasive Species Eradication:</u> We are working on removing invasive species such as Siberian Elm and Russian Olives throughout the Open Spaces System

<u>New Bridge Installations:</u> We installed a new bridges on Ranch School Trail and Graduation Canyon. We hope they provide safer travel and a more enjoyable experience.

<u>Plan Updates:</u> We are working with the Open Space subcommittee to update the Trails Management Plan and working with Public Works on the Urban Bike Path Plan.

<u>Flow Trail Update:</u> The second stakeholder meeting for the pilot flow trail was held this month. We are working hard to identify all the necessary components to make this trail safe and fun.

# **COUNTY MANAGERS OFFICE**

# **County-wide Wayfinding Program**

In August 2016, the Manhattan Project Park Advisory Committee recommended that the County initiate a Wayfinding program. Wayfinding is the art and science of moving people through an environment to a desired location using a number of visual cues including, but not limited to, guide signage, place identification, visual landmarks and various forms of experimental graphic design. A Request for Proposals (RFP) was advertised and a consultant has been selected. The County has signed a services agreement with MERJE(West Chester, PA). MERJE is a nationally recognized design firm with specific expertise in Community Wayfinding. They have worked with more than 70 communities of all sizes and aspirations in the development of similar regional programs. This project will kick-off March 21, 2017 with MERJE staff meeting with steering committee and other stakeholder groups. The visit will also include a tour of the County. Deliverables for the agreement include orientation map, sign location plans and a sign standards manual. The project is scheduled to be complete in six months.

# **COMMMUNICATIONS & PUBLIC RELATIONS DIVISION**

Happening Now: Work continues with Civic Live for the public website. Staff is working with the IDEA Group to wrap up the brand action plan. Work is ramping up for the PIO this month in coordinating with Public Works, DPS and Griffin & Associates on public outreach activities that will occur in April for the May bond election for the recreation projects. The Visual Information Specialists are working on economic development materials, branding, Home Renewal Cycle 2 collateral, the Visitor's Guide, support for Art in Public Places, recreation programming (100 days program), the LAPD Annual Report, and an assortment of ads, forms or other materials requested by departments. The PIO continues to support PRISM outreach for employees as part of the internal Change Management Team. Both VIS are spending time on the

Wayfinding efforts and Tourism Plan RFP evaluations. CPR staff have also been busy with emergency management exercises with the County and LANL, and that work will continue next month. Staff is also attending training course to improve skills in photography and videography.

<u>Coming Up:</u> CPR will continue to be very busy with support for branding, the bond election and budget publications or outreach this month. CPR staff is also part of planning efforts for Sciencefest and the County Fair and Rodeo.

<u>Communications Plan</u>: The webpage project is part of the Communications Plan and progress was already noted above. That project will continue to be a significant impact on the PIO's time in March. Once the Brand Action Plan is finalized in March, the Communications Plan and expected CPR involvement for graphic design or photo support will be noted and reflected back in the Plan as a changed item. The materials update (conversions to tri-cuts and application of the brand) for the Municipal Building West Vestibule continues as brochures or notecards need to be reprinted, which is an on-going public outreach item in the Communications Plan. The goal is to have the majority of the most popular items updated before summer.

# **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

#### **Los Alamos In the News**

Los Alamos National Laboratory made Reuter's top 25 World's Most Innovative Research Institutions list for 2017—as one of the government agencies on the forefront of innovation for the long-term research and expensive R&D!

# **Brand Implementation**

The Los Alamos' Brand Action Plan is now set to go to the County Council for approval on Tuesday, April 4. The plan will be presented by consultants from The Idea Group of Santa Fe and HK Advertising, including recommended schedule, expenditures and tactics for integrating the new Los Alamos Brand into the community, to economic development prospects (employees, employers) and tourists.

# **Statewide Tourism Marketing**

#### **American Advertising Federation of New Mexico Addy Awards:**

Los Alamos County's tourism marketing services contractor, Griffin and Associates, submitted the commercial-30 "What Can You Say" and WON a silver award at this year's Addy Awards event in Albuquerque, February 25. The Silver Awards recognize those who have made outstanding contributions to advertising and who have been active in furthering the industry's standards, creative excellence and responsibility in areas of social concern.

# **New Mexico Tourism Department**

Economic Development Marketing is continuing to collaborate with LACDC and local attractions and organizations to submit applications for tangible tourism projects that qualify for the New Mexico Tourism Department's new **Tourism Development Grants.** Qualifying projects may not include marketing, design or operations, but must result in a tangible service, facility or product that a visitor can experience beginning on June 1, 2017. Local projects currently being considered by the state are the Historic Walking Tour maps and markers, Public Wi-Fi in the Heart of the Historic District, new high resolution 3D Dome Films to show in the Nature Center's Planetarium, and possibly, the film website/app. Stay tuned!

The **New Mexico Tourism Commission** experienced their "best meeting ever" in Los Alamos on February 15 thanks to Los Alamos partners in tourism: Tommy Long, general manager, Pajarito Mountain; Heather McClenahan, Executive Director, Los Alamos Historical Society; Marguerite McClay, owner Rose Chocolatier; Melissa Paternoster and her great staff at the Blue Window Bistro; Katie Bruell and her staff at the PEEC/Nature Center; LACDC's Communications Director Ryn Herrmann and Los Alamos MainStreet Executive Director Suzette Fox; our "branding guys" Jim Glover from The Idea Group of Santa Fe and Dave Hayduk from HK Advertising who showcased our branding initiative; and our own Bob Feagans and his awesome Facilities staff who facilitated smooth audio visual operations during the Tourism Commission meeting!



#### **Los Alamos Film Office Update**

Los Alamos Film Website/App. Los Alamos Film Office intern Ryan Guenther is slaving away, watching all of the films that have been located in Los Alamos during the past 10 years to capture film clips, and then visiting those locations to record GPS coordinates and take photos. All of this data will be delivered to our partner Rod Sanchez at Purple Neuron who will incorporate this data into a film location map for posting on LAFO website, app and film tourism map for use by film producers, scouts, local location managers and film buffs.



New Mexico Film Office Liaison Summit.

Economic Development Marketing's Film
Liaison and the Los Alamos Film Office intern
attended the annual, mandatory training for
the state's film liaisons on February 11-12.
The summit kicked off on Saturday with a tour
of Santa Fe Studios.

At the training workshop on Sunday, all liaisons were provided an updated manual with recommendations for promoting locations, protecting our citizens/locations and providing excellent customer service. During the summit, Film Office Director Nick Maniatis announced that the state is working on providing total dollars spent per location in the near future which will assist the Los Alamos Film Office in calculating Return on Investment.



Film & TV Day at the Roundhouse Film Liaison Luncheon. On Monday, February 13, the Los Alamos Film Office representatives attended a film liaison luncheon at the Inn at Loretto, sponsored by the Santa Fe Film Office and featuring remarks by the business agent for the International Association of Theater and Screen Entertainment (IATSE) Local 480 Union. This event provided an excellent networking opportunity with representatives from all aspects of the film industry. After the luncheon, LAFO staff attended the New Mexico Women in Film's panel discussion which ended with Santa Fe Mayor Javier Gonzales' proclamation deeming Monday, February 13, 2017 as Santa Fe's Women in Film Day.

Governor's Council on Film and Media Industries Meeting. Los Alamos Film Office attended the quarterly meeting of the Governor's Council on Film and Media which included presentations by New Mexico Film Office Director Nick Maniatis and New Mexico Tourism Department Brand Advertising and Marketing Director Jordan Guenther. During discussion of cutbacks affecting both state agency's ability to enhance the film website and app, the Los Alamos team seized an opportunity to offer their film/app project website as a prototype for the state.

# **DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS**

#### **Administration Division**

#### 2017 Bond Project Update:

Staff has been working with Dekker Perich Sabatini to update presentation materials to be consistent with Council's direction from the December 20 approved list of five projects. On February 14, 2017 County Council approved the Incorporated County of Los Alamos Resolution No. 17-02, a Resolution Calling for a Special Mail Ballot Election to be held on May 23, 2017, for the purpose of voting on the issuance of general obligation bonds in an aggregate principal amount not to exceed \$20,000,000.00.

#### **Transportation Board:**

The Transportation Board meets the first Thursday of the month at 5:30 p.m. Meetings are held at 1000 Central Avenue, Room #110. The Transportation Board is working to fill one vacancy.

# **Outgoing Board Member Receive Certificate of Appreciation:**



Outgoing Transportation Board Chair Khalil Spencer receives a Certificate of Appreciation for his dedicated service to the Board from Jon Bulthuis, Deputy Public Works Director and County Councilor Christine Chandler.

Three existing board members are renewing for another term.

# **Airport Division**



# **Fence Project:**

Grant applications have been sent to the FAA and the NMDOT - Aviation Division for the design phase of the project. The executed grant from the NMDOT - Aviation Division has been received by the County. The FAA grant is being held by the FAA until their funding for the remainder of this fiscal year has been approved by Congress. The Task Order with Delta Airport Consultants for the design of the fence is pending signature by the County. The FAA is authorized to back-fund any work completed on

the design before the FAA grant is executed. The FAA will fund 90% of the project and the State will fund 5% of the project with the county being responsible for the remainder.



#### **Hangar Construction:**

The contract for the purchase of the hangars from Erect-A-Tube was revised slightly the by County and returned to Erect-A-Tube for their review and approval. Once the contract has been finalized we should receive the sealed plans from Erect-A-Tube within three weeks. At that point we can begin getting quotes for

construction of the hangars. It will take Erect-A-Tube approximately four months to fabricate and deliver the hangar materials on site. We can then begin the construction of the hangars. The four hangars consist of one 60 foot by 60-foot box hangar and three T-hangars. These hangars will be available for lease and will be the first hangars owned by the County at the airport.

# **Custodial Division**

The Custodial Division supported 205 events during the month of February.

The White Rock Activity Center and Town Hall renovations were completed and the newly remodeled meeting rooms opened for reservations.

# **Engineering & Project Management Division**

#### Fire Station 3:

Architectural design work is nearing completion and includes a more substantial reroofing, as well as a new wall system, window replacement and HVAC system modifications to better insulate and control the temperature in the bunkrooms.

# White Rock Complex & Senior Center Renovations:

Los Alamos County officials, and community residents celebrated the project's completion with a ribbon cutting ceremony, speeches and tours of the facility on February 23<sup>rd</sup>. The event was well attended.





# **Youth Activity Center Remodel:**

Interior improvements are underway at the Youth Activity Center, located in the basement of the Community Building. The proposed work includes replacing the sloped concrete floors, finishing the entire floor as polished concrete, abatement, replacing cabinetry, and upgrading a fire exit door to be compliant with current codes.

A portion of the concrete floors have been removed and re-poured to eliminate the existing slope in them. The abatement of the ceiling tile mastic has started and is expected to be complete by the end of February. These improvements are expected to continue into April.

During construction, the Youth Activity Center operation was relocated to a space leased by the County at 1911 Central Ave., upstairs from the Endoscopy Center. The Center was open again for the children as planned on January 9th along with the restart of the school.





# **Cumbres Del Sol Subdivision Roadway Improvements Project:**

The project was scheduled to be advertised on February 26, 2017. Award will be at the April 4, 2017 County Council meeting. This project was presented to the Transportation Board and the public at the February 2, 2017 with large attendance. Residents that attended are in support of the project. Construction is scheduled to begin on May 1, 2017 with anticipated completion date of August 15, 2017. The Project consist of roadway improvements, which includes asphalt, paving, curb, gutter, sidewalks, ADA curb ramps, drive pads and drainage structures.

#### **20th Street Extension Project:**

Project design is currently underway. This project was presented to the Transportation Board meeting at the March 2, 2017 at 5:30 pm. Construction is scheduled to begin in June with an anticipated completion of September 2017. The project will consist of roadway and utility improvements, which includes asphalt paving, curb, gutter, sidewalks, ADA curb ramps, drive pads and drainage structures.

#### **Canyon Rim Trail Phase III:**

A task order for easement acquisition and preliminary design services is being negotiated under one of the new on-call Engineering Contracts for the portion of trail between Knecht St. and 20th.

In November 2016 an application was submitted to the NMDOT by way of the Regional Transportation Planning Organization (RTPO) for funding of an underpass of the Canyon Rim Trail at the trailhead near Camino Entrada. The RTPO confirmed this week at their regional meeting, held here in Los Alamos, that notification of selection would be sent out in March for Transportation Arterial Program (TAP) applications. The committee has reviewed the statewide applications and will be making their decisions very soon.

# **Bicycle Master Plan:**

A subcommittee, requested by the Transportation Board, made up of County staff and involved citizens will began meeting in late February to begin talks concerning the Bicycle Master Plan that is currently under revision. This subcommittee was originally formed from guidance by the T-Board after a citizen

brought a petition to the County Council concerning bicycle trail access throughout the town site. From their involvement a planning map was developed linking points of interest within the town site with existing facilities and potential off street multi-use facilities. On this map a "High Priority Corridor" was identified. During the February 7th Council work session an update was given to council concerning the work of the subcommittee and planning estimates for several projects that would make up the "High Priority Corridor," interest in pursuing these projects was greatly recognized.

# **Upcoming Projects...**

- The County is awaiting the results of a \$2M grant request submitted to the Regional Transportation Planning Organization for a trail underpass under NM 502 near the Co-op and Entrada Drive.
- NM 4/East Jemez Rd. (Truck Route) Intersection: Staff continues to work with DOE, NMDOT, and Army Corps of Engineers to program, design and construct intersection upgrades to improve capacity and safety.
- NM 502 Reconstruction, Knecht St. to Tewa Loop: Staff continues to coordinate with NMDOT on this state lead project scheduled to begin this summer. NMDOT has tentatively scheduled a project bid letting for April 28, 2017.

#### **Environmental Division**

#### **Los Alamos County Landfill Gas Update:**

This is a summary of the results of the January 2017 Gas Probes and Landfill Gas (LFG) Vents for the extraction system located at the Los Alamos County Landfill.

- 1. For the LFG Vents, some vents increased in methane concentrations during this monitoring event. The methane concentrations ranged from 42.3 to 57.1 percent gas in air (volume).
- 2. For the Gas Probes, some Gas Probes increased in methane concentrations during this monitoring event. The methane concentrations ranged from 11.1 to 44.3 percent gas in air (volume).
- 3. The Perimeter Gas Probes (MP-8R, MP-9R etc.): Of the five perimeter probes only two probes, MP-9R and MP-12R, were less than 5 percent methane, the remainder of the probes ranged in methane concentrations from 7.2 to 25.4 percent gas in air (volume).
- 4. Methane concentrations at the blower remain relatively stable.

# **County Council approves Brush and Bulk Collection Changes:**

During its meeting on Tuesday February 14th, the Los Alamos County Council unanimously approved changing the way brush and bulk items are collected in this community. Council approved the Environmental Sustainability Board's (ESB) recommendation, which is to collect brush only utilizing a 96 gallon roll cart that would be specifically for organic yard trimming. Additionally, the ESB recommended offering a paid scheduled collection for bulk items.

Further, the Council approved implementing an alternative option during the interim period. The alternative option, known as Alternative A, will start in April. Alternative A will provide quarterly brush collection and offer a paid scheduled collection of bulk items at a reduced cost of \$25 per collection. This alternative further reduces cost and may provide modest improvement in diversion by reducing contamination of organic yard waste. Additionally, it will help reduce unsightliness of bulk trash items, according to the recommendation.



Environmental Sustainability Board Chair John Bliss, Environmental Services Manager Angelica Gurule and Public Works Director Philo Shelton answer Council questions about the board's recommendation for the brush and bulk collection program.

#### Winter 2017 Brush and Bulk Item Collection Schedule:

The winter 2017 brush and bulk item collection is currently underway. Due to mechanical issues with the picker truck Environmental Services is running about a week behind schedule. To date, Environmental Services staff have collected 22.87 tons of brush and 14.13 tons of bulk items.

Area	Set out no sooner than	Collection starts
Barranca Mesa, Ponderosa Estates, Loma Linda & Hawks Landing	Jan. 7 <sup>th</sup>	Jan. 17 <sup>th</sup>
Quemazon, Sandia, Trinity, Orange & Nickel	Jan. 13 <sup>th</sup>	Jan. 23 <sup>rd</sup>
North Mesa	Jan. 20 <sup>th</sup>	Jan. 30 <sup>th</sup>
Walnut, Yucca, Urban, Arizona, Town Site	Jan. 27 <sup>th</sup>	Feb. 6 <sup>th</sup>
Rover, Old Town, Meadow Lane, Aragon, Bryce Avenue	Feb. 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Feb 13 <sup>th</sup>
La Vista, Canada Way, Canada Circle, Barcelona, Canyon Vista, Sierra Vista, Monte Vista, La Paloma	Feb. 11 <sup>th</sup>	Feb. 21st
La Senda & Piedra Loop	Feb. 17 <sup>th</sup>	Feb. 27 <sup>th</sup>
Pajarito Acres, Monte Rey, Rio Bravo, Potrillo, Estante Way	Feb. 24 <sup>th</sup>	Mar. 6 <sup>th</sup>

#### **Facilities Division**

Municipal Building - Chair guards are being installed in all conference rooms.

Judicial Complex – Working on several work orders for the Police Department.

White Rock Municipal Complex - getting everyone moved back into the Complex.

# **Fleet Division**

Crews perform regular maintenance on County vehicles.





Crews are installing new County logo on all fleet vehicles.

# **Traffic & Streets Division**

Members of the Traffic and Streets Division participated in the Confined Spaces Training at the Pajarito Cliffs Site Training Room on February 16.

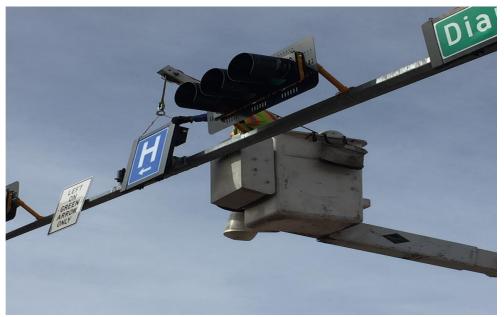


On February 17, crews celebrated the retirement of Senior Equipment Operator Mario Herrera. Mario worked with the County of Los Alamos for 25 years. Mario will be missed by all. Congratulations Mario!

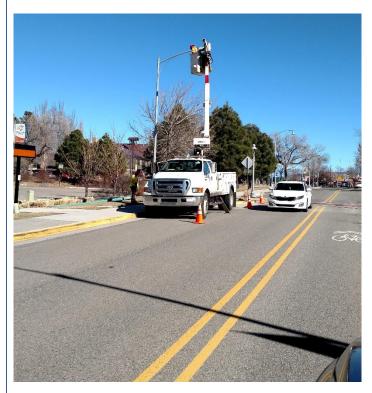
Streets crews have been working on transitioning between winter and spring seasons; a delicate balance between keeping enough trucks ready for snow response, but also freeing vehicles from sanders so that material can be hauled including asphalt for pothole repair. Crews have also been taking advantage of the warmer weather to address service requests including Utility street repair cut, damaged concrete and the service and repair of equipment.







Crews have been installing lighted hospital signs along Diamond Drive.



Crews repair a street light along Central Avenue.







Crews locate a buried pull box to repair a faulted streetlight feed.

Crews are busy replacing traffic signs countywide.









#### FEMA:

Design is ongoing for the repair of the drainage ditches along Camp May Road. Construction is scheduled to start on the Landfill Cap Repair Project on March 6<sup>th</sup>.

# **Transit Division**

The Transit Division (Atomic City Transit - ACT) partnered once again with the County of Los Alamos DWI program to bring the Buzz Bus for the 51st Super Bowl on February 5, 2016. This was not a highly used service and will be reviewed for future service. The partnership between the DWI Program and Atomic City Transit will continue to identify events to provide a free and safe ride home for Los Alamos County residents and visitors.

A new Senior Office Specialist, Nanette De La Torre joined the Transit Division on February 27, 2017. Nanette comes to Los Alamos County from Northern New Mexico Community College (previous employer). We are very excited to welcome her to our team.



The Transit Division is preparing for the upcoming Bandelier Shuttle Service scheduled to start on May 15, 2017. We are looking for employees with great customer service and driving skills to join our team in providing this service for the summer months.

# LOS ALAMOS FIRE DEPARTMENT

#### **EMS Division**

# **Mutual Aid Agreement with Classic Air Medical:**

LAFD Paramedics are highly trained and have a broad scope of practice, along them to treat a myriad of different disease processes. There are occasions that a patient's injuries or illness expand past our allowable scope of practices, and require a critical care team to get the patient to a specialty care facility to receive the treatment they need. In these cases, Classic Air Medical's critical care team would fly the patient. So what happens when the weather is bad and Classic is unable to fly? This is the reason that LAFD and Classic coordinated a mutual aid agreement, allowing Classic's critical care team to work with LAFD Paramedics, to transport the patient via ambulance, providing the needed level of care and getting the patient to the facility they need.

Special thanks to Classic Air Medical's Base Director Geoff Rogers.

#### **Transmissions to Los Alamos Medical Center:**

When minutes count, and LAFD is working their hardest to save a life, the ability to send information to the Emergency Room could change an outcome. In February LAFD, and LAMC joined forces to create a link between the ER Doctors and the Field Paramedics. This link allows responders to transmit information from their cardiac monitor directly to the awaiting nurses and doctors. This information is then used to gather the correct resources to appropriately treat life threatening situations. The benefits of this program could decrease the time that it takes to get critical treatments used to treat heart attacks and strokes started.

Special thanks to Dr. J. Child & LAMC CEO J. Whiteside.

# **High School CPR:**

For the second consecutive year, the Los Alamos Fire Department's CPR team went to the Los Alamos High School and taught high quality hands only CPR to the Freshman Class. This year we were able to teach 308 students. One of the most important parts of surviving an out of hospital cardiac arrest is pre-EMS arrival CPR. Without bystander CPR a person in cardiac arrest may go several minutes prior to EMS

arrival without oxygen to the brain or vital organs, and each minute cause's irreversible damage. These students now have the knowledge and ability to bridge the gap from cardiac arrest to arrival of our EMS teams, increasing the likelihood of a successful resuscitation. The students also learned how to use an Automatic External Defibrillator AED, and how to help a person that is choking.

# **Los Alamos Domestic Violence Task Force**

LAFD instructed a hands only CPR course for the Los Alamos Domestic Violence Task force. This group works within our community to provide resources to families and individuals that have experienced domestic violence.

# **Training Division**

#### Fire Recruit Academy#27:

On February 27, 2017 - Fire Recruit Academy #27 completed the EMT Basic portion of the Fire Recruit Academy Training – Congratulations gentlemen! LAFD personnel have been conducting Pierce Engine Training in February training will continue through the end of March 2017. LAFD personnel have begun quarterly live burn trainings at Fire Station #2 and will continue throughout the year.

#### **PRISM**

# PLANNING RESOURCE INTEGRTION + SYSTEMS MANAGEMENT

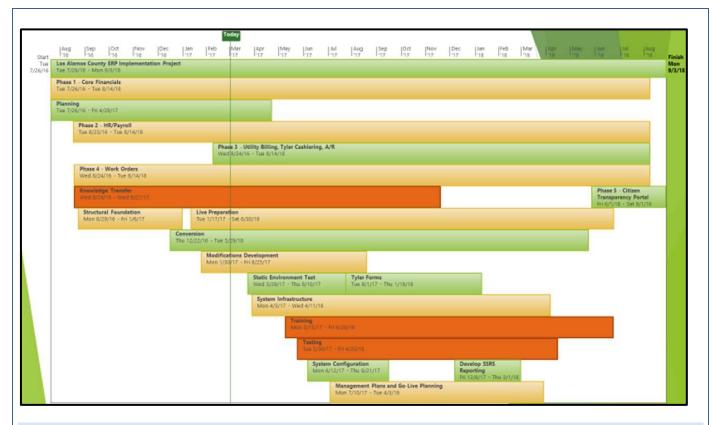
The PRISM Project remains busy with Knowledge Transfer sessions that will determine configuration and setup as the backbone of the implementation effort.

During the month of February, Phase Three kickoff sessions were held which includes all Revenue associated modules in the software such as Accounts Receivable, General Billing, Utility Billing and Cashiering functions. The three days of sessions were well attended and very informative for the teams associated with those areas. The Human Resources, Payroll and Work Order teams received more of their initial overview training and review of the County process analysis to determine the best ways to implement the new processes. Our experts in GIS held a couple meetings to map out the interfaces with Munis between Utility Billing, Work Order Assets and the GIS of data maintained by the County.

Change Management team members have been assigned the task to determine training needs in each of their Divisions related to the project which will lead to training plans that are individualized by job functions and will include face to face training as well as eLearning opportunities. End user training will officially begin in April 2018, however, there will be many opportunities prior to that date for users to get involved in testing and validation sessions.

March brings various internal analysis sessions for the teams to verify and consider all cross functional touch points throughout the system as well as map our resource needs to ensure success through the end of this calendar year.

- Finance teams will finish up Knowledge Transfer by completing the extensive configuration and setup worksheets in preparation of proof of concept testing scheduled for May.
- HR & Payroll teams will work on Forms design, completion of configuration worksheets and conversion import discussions
- Work Order team will work to complete forms design and begin conversion and interface discussions
- Revenue team will prepare for their Knowledge Transfer sessions beginning in April including review of the configuration worksheets that will be reviewed and discussed in detail during those sessions.



# CALENDAR OF UPCOMING MEETINGS AND EVENTS

Mar 21 - Contractor's Meeting - "Open Discussion Michael Arellano , Building Safety Manager Safety Building Inspector", 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m., Fuller Lodge

Mar 21 - Council Meeting, 6:00 p.m., Council Chambers

# **KUDOS & FYI**

#### **Kudos**

Bob,

What a great show we had this weekend. The band was amazing and LOVED the venue. I want you to know that I make next to nothing on these shows and am often sweating it until the last minute, but love the process of producing them. You and your team are a part of the reason I love it. You guys are so accommodating and professional. Like many civil servants in this town your contributions to making this a great place to live are underappreciated. Thanks for all your work.

#### Jonathan

From: Nancy Stratton [mailto:nancystratton@comcast.net]

Sent: Monday, March 06, 2017 1:49 PM

To: LACManager < lacmanager@lacnm.us >

Subject: Kudos to Katie Thwaits and Chris Wilson

Dear Mr. Burgess,

I am writing to let you know about two excellent Los Alamos County employees.

My parents were buried in the wrong plot at Guaje Pines last year. After several months' efforts to get this resolved through Customer Service and the County Clerk's office, I finally called the LA County Attorney's office.

Katie Thwaits was immediately concerned, and first and foremost apologized to me. This was a welcome relief as she was the first that acknowledged that the County had messed up. She, and her assistant, were both always available and kept me posted on their progress in trying to figure out a solution. I was concerned about doing a quit claim deed because the Millers, who own the plot next to my parents, are not well. In fact, Mr. Miller has passed away and Shirley is in assisted living in Wyoming and I was advised by another dear friend that it would not be good to tell her about this problem.

Anyway, Katie researched the deeds, which took some doing as I understand. She also got in touch with Chris Wilson, the Division Manager of Parks, Recreation and Open Space, and enlisted his help. Between the two of them they came up with a solution that did not require that I contact Shirley Miller and did not require that the cremated remains be disinterred and moved.

Both Katie and Chris were indispensable in helping resolve this problem and I commend them 100 percent.

# **Nancy Stratton**

\_\_\_\_\_\_

From: David Fuehne [mailto:david.fuehne@gmail.com]

Sent: Monday, March 06, 2017 10:37 AM

**To:** Peterson, Eric < <u>eric.peterson@lacnm.us</u>>

**Subject:** Nice bridge!

Hello Mr. Peterson-I got your name from my buddy Dan Pava at LANL. As a frequent hiker in Graduation Canyon, I just wanted to say THANK YOU for the new bridge in the canyon. My kids and dogs and I really love it. We use it at least weekly, along with the new one in Acid Canyon below the Nature Center also. You're doing great work!

I attached a pic of one kid and 2 dogs. The rest were running amok in the Canyon.

Thanks again

Dave Fuehne

Sage Loop

