# County Manager's Monthly Update

#### LOS ALAMOS COUNTY

#### NOVEMBER - 2018

This update contains information about Los Alamos County, and is intended to keep you informed regarding key issues, the status of various capital projects, employee recognitions and significant events that have occurred during the past several weeks. This update is distributed on a monthly basis; however the County maintains a website at <u>www.losalamosnm.us</u> where you can also check for periodic updates on the issues outlined below as well as other current topics. In the event that you have questions concerning the information in this update, or any other questions about Los Alamos County activities, please feel free to contact the County Manager at (505) 663-1750, or via <u>lacmanager@lacnm.us</u>.

# **DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS**

#### Administration Division

#### **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.

#### November 1, 2018 Transportation Board Meeting Highlights

 Dan Erickson, Traffic and Streets Division Manager provided an update on the Golf Course Crossing on Diamond Drive.

#### Airport Division

#### **Perimeter Fence Project:**



Construction is underway on the airport fence project; 90% of the posts have been set and 40% of the top tubes have been installed. Crews will begin stretching the chain-link fabric the first week of December. Once the new fence is installed, crews will remove the old fence and install the new gates. The project is expected to be completed by the end of January. This project replaces the fence along Highway 502 and Airport Road with vinyl-coated eight-foot chain-link fence, replaces two powered vehicle gates and three

pedestrian gates. Ninety-five percent of the project costs are covered by an FAA Airport Improvement Grant and NMDOT Aviation Grant.

## New Aircraft Hangar Complex Construction Project



Crews from Facilities and Streets Divisions of Public Works are nearly finished with construction on the new hangar project; the roof ridge cap and electrical are the only major items that remain. The total project is approximately 95% complete, final inspection is scheduled for mid-December and will be ready for tenants by the first of the year. Once completed, the hangar will accommodate up to 6 aircraft in 4 separate storage areas. The new hangars will be leased to local aviation-related businesses, such as Classic Air Medical, and private aircraft owners.

#### **Custodial Division**

- The Custodial Division supported 282 events during the month of November.
- The carpets where shampooed at the Eco Station this month.
- The tile floor waxing at PCS was completed this month.
- Detail cleaning of Mesa Public Library started this month in anticipation of its reopening in December.

The Facilities Services Manager and Lead Custodian attended the ISSA Annual Conference & Trade Show in Dallas this month. There were many informative seminars on topics ranging from floor work efficiency to green cleaning to building teamwork. In addition, the trade show is one of the largest in the world with over 750 booths and we came away with many new ideas to incorporate into our daily cleaning duties, snow removal efforts and floor care maintenance.

#### Engineering & Project Management Division

# White Rock Senior Meals Center Kitchen Equipment Upgrade:

This project utilizes a grant from the State Aging and Long-Term Services Department (ALTSD) to install additional kitchen equipment to improve the in house and delivered meals capacity. The Invitation for Bids was advertised on September 16th and closed on October 4<sup>th</sup>, and a contractor was selected. The contract is in the award process and is to be reviewed by ALTSD to obtain a Notice of Obligation.

The grant will allow for the acquisition and installation of new commercial kitchen equipment such as; a grill, large cook and hold oven, large serving steam table, large chef work table, heavy duty garbage disposals, and a washer and dryer. Electrical, plumbing and gas lines are also being re-worked to connect

to the new equipment. The kitchen is expected to be shut down for one week in February to accomplish this work. During this time, the seniors will be served through the Los Alamos Senior Center kitchen.

# LAPD Remodel for Sheriff's Office:

A new office space for the County Sheriff's office is being designed inside the Justice Center to allow the public better access. The new entrance will be on the Trinity side of the station. It will consist of an office for the Sheriff and one office space for an Administrative position. Currently, visitors to the Sheriff's office need to be escorted through the Records area, which is not ideal, either for the visitors or staff. Construction drawings have been received and are under review. Construction should be complete before the end of the year.

# Fire Station 3:



The project which includes reroofing, as well as a new exterior wall system, window replacement and HVAC system modifications is well underway. The west wing bunkrooms have been completed. Work will commence on the east wing while roofing activities have approached 75% toward completion. Substantial completion is expected to occur in late December, schedule. **Substantial** ahead of completion is scheduled for January 30. 2018.

# Tsikumu Village

Tsikumu Village is programmed in Fiscal year 2019 for roadway maintenance. This project will include pavement preservation, along with intermittent concrete work as needed on Sioux Street, Cheyenne, Iroquois, Seminole, Yuma, and Ute Street for approximately 1.9 miles. The roadway maintenance treatment is being evaluated to fit within the budget. A selected alternative is anticipated in late 2018 following the December 6<sup>th</sup> public meeting in conjunction with the December Transportation Board Meeting. Construction is anticipated in Spring of 2019.

# Tracts A-13/A-12 LASO Offsite Improvements Project:

This project includes a traffic study to evaluate general geometry and an assessment of improvements to support future development at NM 502 (Trinity Drive) and 35<sup>th</sup> Street. A scoping meeting was held with NMDOT on October 31st to discuss the traffic impact analysis. The next milestone is the 30% submittal, which is on schedule for December 2018.

#### Mesa Library HVAC Improvements:

The project was awarded May 22 to replace the entire HVAC system, change the fluorescent lighting to LED, clean the duct work and tint the large skylight. The project was awarded to Mick Rich Contractors, and a Notice to Proceed date was given on July 2.

The main public area of the library is scheduled to be closed from August 20<sup>th</sup> to December 3.

Work is continuing with the following:

• The Electrical switch-over to the new transformer and power feeds began Monday November 5, with the switching off commercial power to the entire library. Power to the Zone was provided by

the backup generator on site. A quick tie-in of the main breaker for the library servers was made to the generator circuit so that the public could access the collection electronically and staff could continue working. On Wednesday afternoon, November 14<sup>th</sup> commercial power was restored, the new transformer was energized.

- Gas line work is complete.
- Most of the new retaining wall and chiller slab is installed, the remainder anticipated to be complete the week of November 19<sup>th</sup>.
- Much of the wood is installed in the lower level and the drop is being installed.
- The conference room ceiling grid is installed with work continuing to lay in the tiles and make the final lighting and duct work tie-ins.
- The boiler installation is about 95% complete.
- The new fan units are in the process of being installed.
- The ductwork surrounding the fans is being constructed.
- Controls for the HVAC are being installed
- The duct cleaning is complete
- The skylight tinting is complete

Temporary heat for the Zone, where no heating exists during the construction, has been generously provided by the contractor. Elevator upgrades were to be complete prior to the December 4<sup>th</sup> library reopening date, however the subcontractor says this work will be complete on December 10<sup>th</sup>. The elevator will be out of service for the first week after the re-opening.

The library moving dates to re-occupy will occur Wednesday, November 28th, with one final move from Fuller Lodge December 3rd. There will be minor work continuing after the library re-opens, this work will be a minor inconvenience to the public and will still allow the public to access about 99% of the library.

Currently, the dates for Substantial and Final Completion are, January 25<sup>th</sup> and March 29<sup>th</sup>, 2019.



Return Fan Bank



Wood Ceiling – Picture Book area



Wood Ceiling – Dinosaur Area



Inside the electric transformer

# Canyon Rim Trail Phase 3:

The County has been working with the consultant to prepare to obtain easements with the private owners, by first obtaining property appraisals, within the project limits between Knecht Street and the 20th Street Extension. A presentation was made to the membership at the American Legion, one of the properties where an acquisition is needed. They will respond pending the appraised value. Souder, Miller & Assoc. has been in the process of obtaining a contract with an appraiser as per our contract, this is obtained on October 22<sup>nd</sup>. The appraisals are scheduled to be complete in mid-December.

# DP Road and Utility Infrastructure Improvements Project;

The USDOT BUILD (Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development) Grant application was submitted on July 19, 2018, for the DP Road and Utility Infrastructure Improvements Project. The request was for \$5 million for new asphalt road surfacing, pavement markings, concrete sidewalks, curb and gutter, ADA curb ramps, drive pads, storm drains, street lighting, and landscaping improvements. One million dollars was also requested for the replacement of the existing utilities (gas, water and electric) that will be impacted by the roadway construction. The grant awards are scheduled to be announced by December 18, 2018.

The preliminary design continues for this project. A meeting was held with business owners along DP Road on November 6<sup>th</sup> to discuss the project approach and the coordination efforts with other construction projects along the corridor. Another meeting with stakeholders was proposed in early January after the BUILD grant announcements are made to discuss the project schedule. A meeting was also held on November 15<sup>th</sup> with DOE to discuss an easement request for the utilities to be constructed and maintained at the east end of DP Road. A follow-up site visit was scheduled for early December to look at the potential routes.

# NM 4/East Jemez Rd. (Truck Route) Intersection:

Staff continues to work with DOE, NMDOT Bandelier, and Army Corps of Engineers to program, design and construct intersection upgrades to improve capacity and safety. The USACE has entered into a design contract with Bohannon Huston, a Civil design consultant, to study and design the intersection. The final traffic study and concept design was submitted, and a subsequent meeting was held with all stakeholders on October 30<sup>th</sup>. The report documented a preliminary estimate for the preferred alignment of \$3.6Million including NMGRT. DOE will evaluate whether the remaining SEP funds available would be sufficient to construct the project. USACE and DOE have begun the design portion of the project with Bohannon Huston.

## NM 502 Reconstruction, Knecht St. to Tewa Loop:

Staff continues to coordinate with NMDOT on this state lead project. NMDOT bid the project for a fourth time on August 17<sup>th</sup>, 2018 and received two bids. A pre-construction meeting was held on October 13<sup>th</sup> with all project stakeholders. The contractor, Star Paving, has requested a winter suspension in hopes of beginning the project on March 4, 2019. The NMDOT has granted this request, and Los Alamos County is negotiating with Star Paving a location for their staging yard.

#### **Environmental Services Division**

#### Los Alamos County Landfill Gas (LFG) Update:

A construction contractor, AEG/Tetra Tech, has completed construction of the permanent methane gas extraction system, technically referred to as the LAC Landfill Gas Collection and Control System. The Gas Collection and Control System was started up on July 13, 2018 and is designed to keep methane gas from migrating off site.



This is a summary of results for October 2018 methane monitoring for the Los Alamos County closed landfill.

- 1. The monitoring probes near the boundary of the landfill ranged in methane concentrations from 0.0 (MP-8R, MP-9R, MP-11R and MP-12R) to 0.5 (MP-10R) percent gas in air.
- 2. The landfill gas extraction wells that are part of the newly active GCCS ranged in methane concentrations from 2 (EW-2R) to 54.7 (EW-16) percent gas in air.
- 3. The LFG vents and gas probes previously monitored and tracked during our monthly compliance monitoring at Los Alamos are not part of this month's data. These extraction locations have been recently decommissioned following the site's transition to the permanent GCCS system that started-up on July 12, 2018.

#### Curbside Yard Trimmings Roll Cart Update:

The yard trimmings roll cart program began on July 9, 2018. Environmental Services staff delivered over 3,800 roll carts, this is over 54% of the residential customer base. By implementing the yard trimming roll cart, Los Alamos residents have an opportunity to divert 14% of our waste stream from the landfill each year. The diversion efforts have the potential to divert 1,107 tons of yard trimmings annually and will reduce hauling and disposal costs, greenhouse gas emissions, and provide high-quality garden and landscaping

materials for residents. During the first five months of collection Environmental Services collected over 360 tons of yard material. All residents who registered through November 1<sup>st</sup> have received their roll carts and more residents are registering every day.

#### Tis the Season to Recycle!

Toys and clothes and boxes oh my! With the holidays upon us and shopping sprees in full swing, Environmental Services anticipates an increase in cardboard boxes. To help accommodate the extra cardboard, we have added more cardboard recycling locations throughout Los Alamos County. As a friendly reminder, please flatten the cardboard boxes.

Ice Rink - Los Alamos County Municipal Building - North Mesa Ball Fields - Sullivan Field Recycling Center - Eco Station - Fire Station #2 - Fire Station #3 - Fire Station #4 – Fire Station #6

#### Welcome to Public Works



Environmental Services would like to welcome our new Office Specialist Sara Thurgood. Sara comes to Environmental Services from the Recreation Division where she was a Senior Lifeguard and was heavily active in coordinating outreach events.

#### **Recycle Art Fair and Fashion Show**



On November 14<sup>th</sup> Environmental Services and Chamisa Elementary School hosted the Recycle Art Fair and Fashion Show. This was a Zero Waste event, PEEC loaned the Zero Waste Kit, which consisted of reusable plates, cups and serving utensils. All excess food scraps were composted. Special thank you to all the Environmental Sustainability Board Members and Zero Waste team members who helped with the event.





#### **Re-unity Resources Compost Facility:**

Members of Zero Waste team and Environmental Services staff toured the Reunity Resources compost facility in Santa Fe to learn how food waste is composted in the city. Reunity Resources generates high grade compost from food waste collected from schools and restaurants around the city of Santa Fe.





# Training:

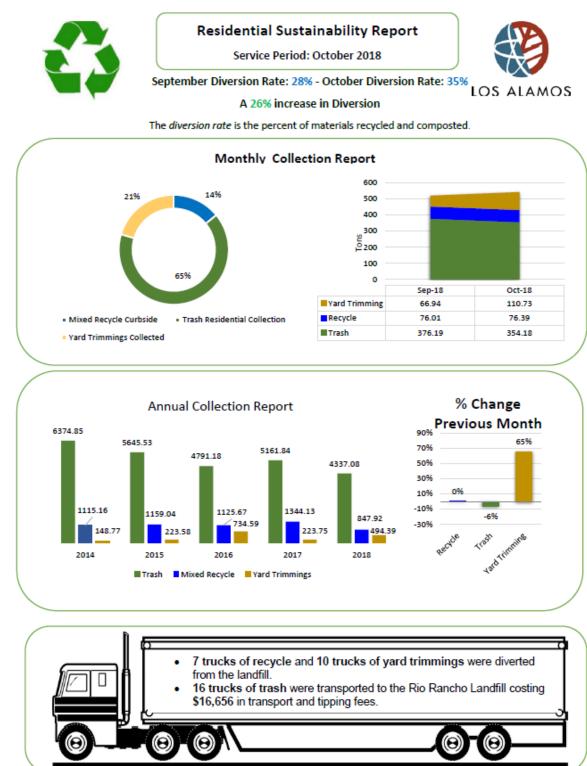
Environmental Services Trainees Antoine Padilla and Stephen Sisneros traveled to Truth or Consequences NM to complete their Transfer Station Certifications that are required from the New Mexico Environment Department. Both Antoine and Stephen passed the course and will receive their certificates once they have one year of service in the industry.

#### Boots on the Ground Illegal Dumping Conference:

Environmental Services Senior Office Specialist, Joshua Levings attended the Boots on the Ground Illegal Dumping Conference held by the South Central Solid Waste Authority in Grants New Mexico. The conference is held every year to help communities stop illegal dumping.



## **Residential Sustainability Report:**



For more information contact Environmental Services Division at 505.662.8163 or email solidwaste@lacnm.us

# Facilities Division

#### Fire Station #6 – Water Leak in Bathroom Wall:



Facilities staff responded to a water leak that occurred in the bathroom of Fire Station #6. The source of the leak was located behind the access panel and the necessary repairs were made to correct the problem which has now been fully resolved.

A similar water leak was also addressed in the first-floor men's restroom, located in the MUNI building, where plumbing for one of the commodes had malfunctioned.

#### Fire Station #2 – Pumping of Oil-Water Separator & Sediment Disposal:



Facilities crew members worked with a contracted firm to pump out the sludge from the oil-water separator at Fire Station #2. Along with removal of the waste material for proper disposal, the baffles on the equipment were cleaned and/or replaced as needed to ensure that the equipment will continue to function as designed in the months ahead until it is serviced once again.

#### Fire Station #4 – Drainage Problem Causing Leak into Basement



Staff are investigating possible remedial actions to address the recurring drainage issue at Fire Station #4 which is, in part, causing a leak into the basement of that facility. Alternatives to correct the issue are currently being discussed.

# Transit Center Driver Trailer – Plumbing Failure and Spill

Facilities staff were called to repair a break in the sewage line of the Transit Center employee trailer located



on LANL property. The damage occurred as a contractor was pumping out the holding tank – which resulted in a hazardous waste release –that required the LANL Hazmat team (tanker is pictured above) to respond to and address.

# **Fleet Division**

Fleet has added a new Skid steer tractor that will be going to Environmental Services. This unit is used for



all types of operations performed around the yard. It will be used for lifting, sweeping, and snow removal.

This addition to the Fleet will be going to Traffic and Streets. It is used to repair or replace street lights,



poles, and traffic signals.

# Traffic & Streets Division

Crews cleaned curbs countywide in anticipation of vendor Accu-stripe to paint curbs and county owned parking lots.





Anthony Lucero oversaw the re-striping of newly micro-sealed roads in White Rock on Rover Blvd and Meadow Lane.



Crews defined a ditch on South Monte Rey where a resident was concerned about storm water flooding her house.

#### ATTACHMENT A



Crews cut back brush in White Rock in anticipation of roads being micro-sealed.



Crew's crew patched a portion of road on 40<sup>th</sup> street where GWS had to repair a line.



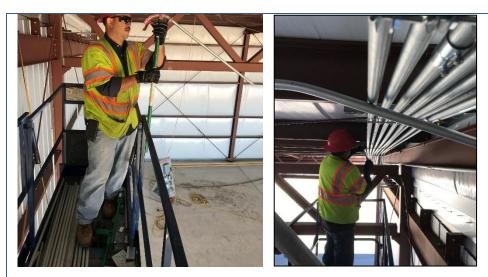
Crews built up a shoulder near Mountain Elementary School where storm water was undermining the curb/gutter and roadway.



Crews repaired a section of shoulder under an existing guard rail where the soil was eroding from the recent rains on Range Road.



Crews finishing placing asphalt at the Eco station to mitigate water ponding and ice forming in an area where employees walk to open and close the gate.



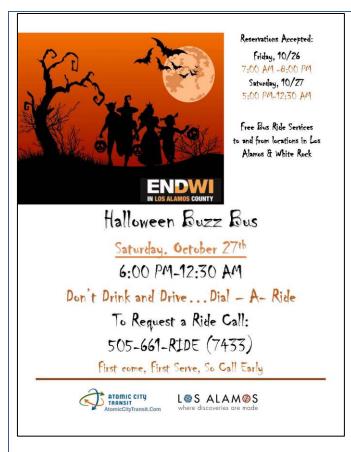
Traffic electricians have been assisting with the building of the new airport hangar. They are nearing completion of the electrical portion of this project.

# Transit Division

#### NMTA Supervisor Training:

Atomic City Transit partnered with LAC DWI Council to bring a very happy and safe Halloween season. Atomic City Transit provided door to door services on Saturday October 27, 2018. We provided the following ridership for this event

Date	Service Name	Operator	Unit	Adult	Unlined Passenger Trips
10/27/18	Halloween Buzz Bus	Julie	4111	22	22
10/27/18	Halloween Buzz Bus	Rolando	4142	15	15
10/27/18	Halloween Buzz Bus	Mark	4115	3	3
	Total				40





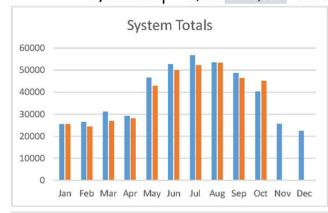
Management Analyst, Kyle Hatch attended New Mexico Transit Association and Southwest Transit Association Transit Supervisor Certification Course in Las Cruces New Mexico in November 2018. The two-day course outline included a variety of transportation topics like vehicle operation, safety, training needs as well as dispatching and scheduling.





Atomic City Transit received a new bus for ACT Assist, the transportation program for persons with disabilities.

ATOMIC CITY TRANSIT	0	crober z	.010 M	dership F			S ALA	W \$ 3
	Oct	tober Trips		Oct. Rev	/. Miles	Oct. Rev	. Hours	YTD Trips
Route	2017	2018	% Chg	2017	2018	2017	2018	2018
1 Downtown	6,259	5,497	-12.2%	2,754	3,965	248.4	328.5	58,663
2M White Rock - Main Hill	2,781	2,757	-0.9%	3,785	7,869	263.4	296.7	26,303
2T White Rock - Truck Rt	1,725	1,660	-3.8%	6,954	7,285	274.1	287.1	16,897
2P White Rock - Peak		430	0.0%	1,140	3,028	42.4	111.9	4,922
3 Central / Canyon	2,915	2,997	2.8%	5,337	5,591	266.7	279.4	29,372
4 North Community	3,133	3,363	7.3%	3,867	4,051	273.0	286.0	28,413
5 Barranca Mesa	1,604	1,484	-7.5%	4,249	4,451	270.6	283.4	16,223
6 North Mesa	6,486	6,698	3.3%	6,019	6,306	407.1	426.4	58,319
Fixed-route subtotal	24,903	24,886	-0.1%	34,105	42,547	2,045.6	2,299.5	239,112
7 North Mesa Expr	1,453	1,486	2.3%	375	380	22.7	22.9	9,785
8 North Community Expr	846	916	8.3%	135	128	9.1	8.7	6,342
9 Aspen Expr	756	875	15.7%	104	99	7.3	7.0	6,410
10 Barranca Expr	1,238	1,369	10.6%	174	165	10.9	10.3	8,518
11 White Rock Expr	655	1,051	60.5%	353	336	14.0	13.3	6,341
Express route subtotal	4,948	5,697	15.1%	1,140	1,109	63.9	62.3	37,396
12 Bandelier	9,664	13,877	43.6%	10,328	8,812	402.9	341.1	110,034
Dial-a-Ride	116	93	-19.8%	738	771	44.9	48.7	951
ACT Assist	504	526	4.4%	4,377	3,908	232.8	214.0	4,389
Special Services	67	40	-40.3%	204	135	20.3	16.8	2,584
System total	40,202	45,119	12.2%	50,892	57,283	2,810	2,982	394,466



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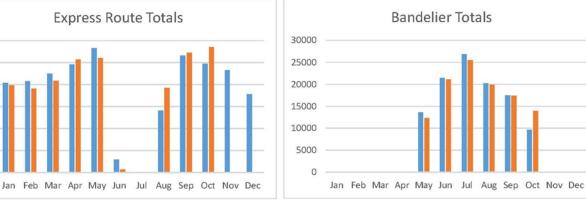
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3000

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Fixed-Route Totals



# 2017 2018

# Total Passenger Trips to Date: 5,141,064

# **COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT**

## **Building Safety Division**

Four (4) commercial permits were issued in November 2018, with a total valuation of \$1,332,557.49 compared to four (4) permits issued in November 2017, with a total valuation of \$61,900.00.

Fifty-two (52) residential permits were issued in November 2018, with a total valuation of \$571,635.00



compared to fifty-one (51) permits issued in November 2017, with a total valuation of \$1,768,391.00.

*Mike Eckhoff, Hoover Wood Products, gives presentation on Fire-Retardant-Treated Wood at the Contractors Meeting on November 20, 2018* 



Congratulations to Michael Marquez and Lenora Maes for passing their Permit Technician certification tests through the International Code Council.

# Code Compliance:

Before and after pictures with code compliance intervention



Before

After





Before

After





Before

After

## Housing and Special Projects Division

#### Housing Rehabilitation Program (Home Renewal Program):

For the 2017 program, work has been completed on five homes, and before the end of December work on three more homes is expected to finish. For the 2018 program the Loan Review Committee has recommended approval of five applications including scope of work and cost estimates. These five new recommended projects will be forwarded to the County Manager in mid-December for loan amount approval. Work will include repairs and improvements for energy efficiency, accessibility, and general repair.

#### Homebuyer Assistance Program:

12 home purchases have been completed since the first purchase in the program in February 2018. One more application has been recommended for approval by the Loan Review Committee and will be forwarded to the County Manager for Ioan amount approval. Public interest in the program remains strong and as long as funds are available the application period will stay open.

#### Affordable Housing Multi-Family Development:

Transfer was completed of County-owned 4.25 acres Tract A-9 at 120 DP Road to affordable housing developer, Bethel Development Inc. for the planned "Canyon Walk Apartments" project for 70 affordable rental units. The project was awarded low income housing tax credits from the State for the developer to acquire private financing. It is possible that as soon as the first quarter of 2019 Bethel Development Inc. could submit a building permit application for the project. The Canyon Rim Trail and the bus stop on Trinity Drive will be nearby and easy to access for Residents.

At the November 27, 2018 Council Meeting, for an additional proposed affordable housing project "The Bluffs" an Ordinance was introduced for donation of 2.4 acres of County-owned Tract A-8-b at 135 DP Road. The proposal from Bethel Development Inc is for 64 rental units for seniors age 55 and over, and the site is on the south side of DP Road directly opposite Tract A-9. The Public Hearing for approval of the Ordinance will be December 18<sup>th</sup>, 2018.

#### Planning Division

With great sadness, we report the death of the Planning and Zoning Commission's newest member, Ralph Chapman. Commissioner Chapman was a lifelong paleontologist and came to Los Alamos with his wife of 35 years, Linda Deck, after 15 years at the Smithsonian Institution's Museum of Natural History, where he ran a research laboratory, collaborating on numerous projects and publications.



His full obituary can be found at: <u>https://www.devargasfuneral.com/notices/Ralph-Chapman</u>

#### Planning and Zoning Commission:

The Planning and Zoning Commission (P&Z) conducted a public hearing on November 28<sup>th</sup> to review three cases related to property at the former TRK Building, located at 195 East Road. The property was purchased by Leadership Circle, LLC, a real estate development group based in Montrose, Colorado. They are in the process of acquiring two adjacent parcels, one on each side of 195 East, to be used for parking. Because lots cannot be combined unless they have the same zoning district designation, P&Z recommended approval of rezoning the side parcels to match the zoning of 195 East, which is C-1, Light commercial and professional business district. The Commission also recommended approval of new Future Land Use Map designations of the same parcels to reflect the approved use (parking) and the new anticipated zoning. Final approvals must be granted by Council, which will hear the cases in January 2019.



195 East Road will be adding the two parcels on either side for additional parking.

#### **Board of Adjustment:**

On November 26<sup>th</sup> the Board heard and approved two Waiver applications. One case was a request for a front and side yard setback waiver to allow for the construction of an attached garage, and the other was for a front yard setback waiver for the construction of a porch/entry-way.

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

During the month of November Planning Division staff reviewed and acted on 31 Building Permits and 13 new Business License applications.

#### **IDRC**:

Two Temporary Use Permits, reviewed by IDRC, were issued in November; both were for temporary Christmas tree lots.

#### Other:

Planning staff met with design professionals for redevelopment of the "Black Hole" property, in anticipation of new housing construction in that location in 2019

#### Special Projects Section

# CDD Admin:

Posted the agenda and completed the minutes for the CDAB (Community Development Advisory Board) meeting held on November 19<sup>th</sup>, the LTAB (Lodgers' Tax Advisory Board) meeting held on November 27<sup>th</sup>, and the HPAB (Historic Preservation Advisory Board) meeting held on November 7<sup>th</sup>.

A letter of inquiry has been submitted to the Getty Foundation – Keeping It Modern, requesting consideration to apply for a \$175,000 grant for the <u>Restoration and Preservation of Fuller Lodge</u>. The grant would fund restoring and preserving the logs on the exterior of Fuller Lodge. In addition, there is also a window restoration project included. This is a partnership with the Historic Preservation Advisory Board and Public Works. The Board is working with Wayne Kohlrust, Project Manager, to acquire funding for this project that he is tentatively considering for 2021. At the current time, there is no budget to complete the work.

#### **Boards and Commissions**

Coordinated the B & C November luncheon. Completed and distributed the minutes. Completed appointment letters for the new Library Board members. Completed four non-appointment letters for the Library Board. Published advertisements for Board vacancies on the Lodgers' Tax Advisory Board, Historic Preservation Advisory Board, Environmental Sustainability Board, and Parks and Recreation Board. Reprinted 100 copies of the revised Boards and Commissions Resident's Guide to Volunteer Service and distributed the brochures in the Municipal Building and other County facilities.

#### **Business Licenses**

102 business licenses were processed in November. This includes new business license applications as well as current business license renewals.

# **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

#### **Economic Development**

**REDI Summit** • Los Alamos County contractor, the Regional Development Corporation, held its annual Regional Economic Development Initiative Summit event at Buffalo Thunder on Tuesday, December 4. The Summit featured remarks from Senator Carlos Cisneros, Council Chair David Izraelevitz and new LANL Director, Dr. Tom Mason. Panel discussions included representatives from the State Economic Development Division and Workforce Solutions group, as well as the Lab's environmental management contractor N3B and local start-ups that have chosen to stay in northern New Mexico. Other panels included representatives from higher education institutions, including UNM-LA, Northern New Mexico and Innovate-Educate Santa Fe. Major themes of discussion included the need fund and develop educational programs and strategies that address the needs and capacities of both employers and the workforce, and affordable housing.

#### **Economic Development Marketing**

Film • The Los Alamos Film Office provided location services for the following productions:

 Dec 7-12: Our Lady Ltd, an EPIX series produced by MGM Television, is filming scenes at the Los Alamos County Airport and at the LANB parking lot. The series follows James (Jimmi Simpson from Westworld), a young drifter, as he attempts to prey upon Pastor Byron Brown (Sir Ben Kingsley) and his wife Lillian (Jacki Weaver from Silver Linings Playbook) who turn out to be far more dangerous than he suspects. • Dec 16: On the Precipice independent feature film to shoot in County Municipal Building.

Los Alamos Creative District • The Los Alamos Creative District is managed by Los Alamos MainStreet, a program of the Los Alamos Commerce and Development Corporation, and funded, in part, via a contract managed by the County's Economic Development Division. During the month of November, the State's Arts & Culture Office approved the Creative District's request to include the Los Alamos Nature Center and the Reel Deal Theater as cultural institutions, outside of the district boundary but affiliated with the District, and qualified to receive the promotional benefits of Creative District efforts.

MainStreet Executive Director Lauren McDaniel, together with the new Creative District Curator Jennifer Loveless, are conducting a re-branding of the District using the following three-step approach:

- 1) **Research:** The research stage of the re-brand has been completed. This was done by doing a brand audit which included understanding the community's views on the Creative District, discovering its strengths and weaknesses and understanding its place amongst other Creative Districts. The outcome of this research showed that the Creative District purpose was very unclear to the community and that there is a need for a main creative hub in Los Alamos.
- 2) Opportunity: The research presented an opportunity for the Creative District to serve as the creative hub for Los Alamos. This will be done by re-defining the purpose of the website as a creative directory for creatives in the district as well as Los Alamos. This directory will help expand what we define as creative by including more fields, such as culinary arts, healing arts, hair design etc. Highlighting more felids and individuals will help expand our reach in the community as well as increase youth involvement.
- 3) **Re-branding plan:** The re-branding plan has several stages that will be implemented over the next few months. This plan includes a new color pallet and logo design, re-defining the vision and mission statements, adding the creative directory and map to the website and hosting a community mural event.

Jennifer Loveless has been conducting **youth outreach**, attending several meetings at the Teen Center to meet with the directors and the teens, to determine the best way to engage this age group in the Creative District. Feedback from these meetings has included an interest in making tutorials to live on the Creative District website, as well as an overwhelming interest in a community kitchen.

#### Calendar of Upcoming Creative District Events:

December 17th Science On Tap- Tapping into algal diversity for biofuels

**Branding** • New contractor Simply Design out of Albuquerque was selected via competitive bid to manage the branding website **wherediscoveriesaremade.com**. Developed by brand consultants, Once A Day Marketing, wherediscoveriesaremade.com will be the one-stop-shop for all branding programs, projects, meetings, tools and aha moments. The home page will serve as a landing page that will help users self-identify by interest and link out to the best information source. E.g., people looking for things to do on a specific day/time will be linked out to the <u>new</u> fyilosalamos.com portal; visitors unfamiliar with Los Alamos will be linked to visitlosalamos.org; those looking to start or relocate a business or job will be linked to a separate page with contact information for County Economic Development, LACDC and LANL.

The seventh *Discoveries Action Team (DAT) meeting* was held Thursday, November 15 with discussion on new projects, including the potential for developing an app to bring enhanced audio interpretation to the Historic Walking Tour! *Mark Your Calendar* with Future Discoveries Action Team Meetings to be held on the third Thursday of each month over the lunch hour (11AM-12:30PM) at the <u>Pajarito Cliffs Site in the Building 1 Conference Room</u>. The next meeting date is **December 20**<sup>th</sup>!

Whenever you realize you're having an "*aha moment*," share it!!! Send it to <u>kelly.stewart@lacnm.us</u> and I'll help you get it out there!

Remember, on any on-line or social media, please use any of the following hashtags that best apply to your message:

#LiveLosAlamos #WorkLosAlamos #PlayLosAlamos #StayLosAlamos #LearnLosAlamos #SafeLosAlamos #GiveLosAlamos #lovelosalamos #100ahamoments

Then, always follow that action-oriented hashtag with: "#wherediscoveriesaremade and #NewMexicoTrue (This aligns your message with bigger efforts that will provide Los Alamos more positive exposure!)

**Spread the Love!** Go to Instagram and check out **@LoveLosAlamos**, the new account started by three members of the FY17-FY18 Leadership Los Alamos class! The concept is simple: post photos of the things you love about Los Alamos, then hashtag #lovelosalamos #wherediscoveriesaremade! Instagrammers—spread the love! And if you haven't got an Instagram account, this is a good reason to join!!

# **COMMMUNICATIONS & PUBLIC RELATIONS DIVISION**

The division has been busy wrapping up some year-end projects and planning for December events such as Winterfest and the Holiday Tree Lighting and the Newly Elected Official Swearing In Ceremony. The Visual Information Specialists are working on a variety of work orders for ads, flyers, brochures and branding items. There are also several photos of winter scenes or events that have been filed, and extensive work has been done to bring the Smug Mug photo gallery and in-house photo library up to date by deleting old photos no longer timely or relevant, and uploading new photos from 2018. C&PR is helping CSD promote the recently released 100 Days of Winter booklet, and the PIO is gathering year end updates for the 2018 Management Action Plan. Work is underway on the Annual Report. The PIO continues to support the Discoveries Action Team meetings and helped Jim Glover of Once a Day Marketing facilitate the meeting in November. The D.A.T. continues to work on several conceptual ideas for the Place-Making group and more champions were identified in November to carry forward some of the ideas coming out of both Place Making and Place Marketing. The PIO is also facilitating a meeting with other stakeholders for road construction projects that will begin around the airport road to DP Rd to Knecht intersections next Spring; a kick off meeting is set for Dec. 10 so that all involved can meet and get to know each other and the project parameters. More work on ways to facilitate public outreach - especially as it concerns the businesses on DP Rd and the downtown and Trinity districts - will be forthcoming in 2019. The County will support outreach on all the projects by sharing out information through its channels as much as possible.

# **COMMUNITY SERVICE DEPARTMENT**

#### Aquatics

# Los Alamos High School Inter-squad Meet – November 3<sup>rd</sup>, 64 participants:

The High School swim team competed in a green vs. gold competition. The morning was full of cheering as the teams battled it out for ultimate supremacy. It should be of no surprise that the gold team won.



#### Aquatomics Swim Meet – November 10<sup>th</sup>, 200 participants:

The Los Alamos Aquatomics hosted a "B" league swim meet with teams from Taos, Santa Fe, and Albuquerque. "B" League swim meets allow young and novice swimmers to compete against each other and win events, which helps boost their confidence levels.



#### Dive in Movie – November 16<sup>th</sup>, 50 participants:

The Incredibles 2 dive-in movie this month was the first time the new inflatable movie screen was used – and with great results! The sound system was also upgraded, giving patrons a true movie theater experience...but on water.



Los Alamos High School Swim Meet – November 30<sup>th</sup> & December 1<sup>st</sup>, 300 participants:

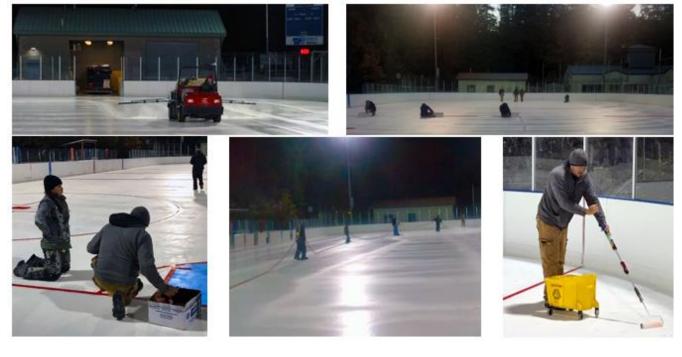
Los Alamos High School hosted the Bill Hudson Memorial Swim and Dive swim meet. 15 teams from Los Lunas, Albuquerque, Belen, Farmington, Taos, and Santa Fe participated in this annual event. The diving competition began Friday evening and the swim meet ran all day Saturday. Los Alamos won the meet with a sizable lead and a few state qualifiers as well!



Ice Rink and Recreation

# Ice Making – November 7th - 15th

Temperatures dipped below freezing early in November to allow Rink staff and volunteers from the Hilltopper Varsity and JV hockey teams to build the ice sheet.



#### New Recreation Leader:

Welcome Vera Jaramillo! Vera joined the Recreation Division in November and is supporting the team with all Rink operations and Recreation programming. She has quickly become a valued team member!



#### **Opening Day – November 16th, 108 public skaters:**

Opening day was quite busy starting with Noon-Time Adult skate and moving into public skating. Patrons of all ages were happy to be out on the ice.



## LAHS Varsity Hockey Game – November 16<sup>th</sup>, 20 players & 231 spectators

The Hilltopper Varsity hockey team hosted Varsity and JV players from Amarillo, TX on Friday and Saturday. The Hilltoppers lost to Amarillo on Friday night, but came back strong on Saturday morning to take the win. (Photo credit: John McHale)



**Opening Weekend Turkey Bowling – November 16th & 17th, 56 participants:** 

Turkey bowling returned to the Rink for opening weekend with prizes ranging from frozen turkeys to travel mugs with a free coupon to enjoy a hot beverage at the Ice Rink.



# Try Hockey for FREE – November 17<sup>th</sup>, 15 participants:

The Los Alamos Hockey Association hosted this annual event with volunteer coaches gearing up kids to get out and try the "coolest game on ice."



# <u>Parks</u>

#### Holiday Lights!

Staff has been busy lighting up both Los Alamos and White Rock for the Holidays. Don't forget to come out to Ashley Pond on December 8<sup>th</sup> for the official tree lighting.



#### New Platform for Sound Booth at Ashley Pond – 80% complete:

Staff recently installed a new concrete platform with railings at Ashley Pond near the parking lot in front of the stage to serve dual purposes -- as a sound booth for concerts and as an ADA picnic area. Construction has continued with placing new conduit with audio cable to the stage as well as a new flag pole to be installed in the weeks to come.



#### Cattle Guard Installation – 100% complete:

Staff installed a cattle guard at Guaje Pines Cemetery this month to help keep the feral cattle out of the cemetery that had been a nuisance in recent months.



# <u>Golf</u>

#### **Closed for the Winter:**

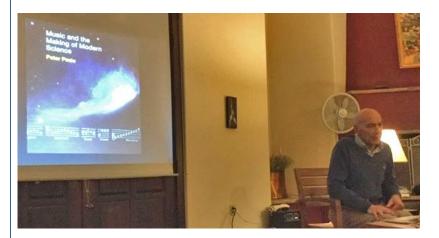
The golf course has been prepared for the upcoming winter and will be closed for the winter. The driving range, however, will be open as snow and weather conditions allow. The Pro Shop is also open – from 9am to 4pm Monday through Friday. Come by to purchase gifts including golf apparel, accessories, and gift certificates for lessons and rounds!



#### Library

#### Peter Pesic Author Speak at Ghost Ranch – November 8<sup>th</sup>, 14 attendees:

Ghost Ranch hosted the November Authors Speak featuring author, lecturer and musician Peter Pesic, who spoke about his latest book Polyphonic Minds- Music of the Hemispheres. Ghost Ranch program director Stephen Picha expressed the hope that the Los Alamos Public Library and Ghost Ranch could work together in the future.



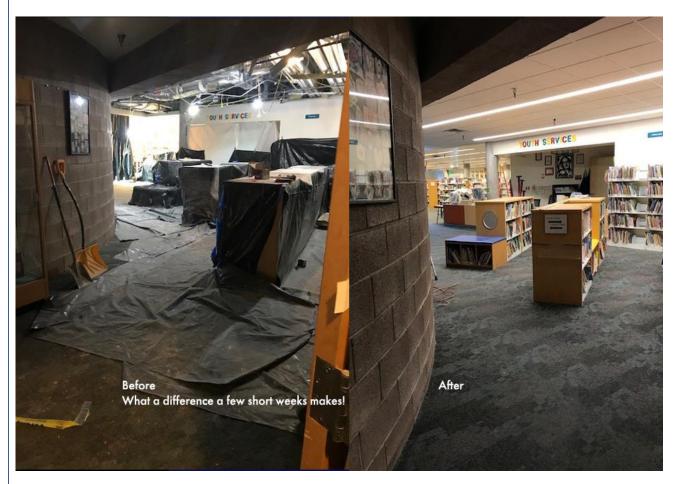
# Poetry Reading, Lauren Camp and David Mutschlecner – November 17<sup>th</sup>, 15 attendees:

Poet Lauren Camp has a new book of poetry, her fifth, called "Turquoise Door." David Mutschlecner also has had several books of poetry published. Both authors read from their work to an appreciative crowd at the White Rock Branch library.



# **Construction:**

Contractors and county staff achieved a substantial transformation during the time Mesa Public Library was closed for renovations.



# Social Services

# Family Strengths Learn and Play Playgroup – November 15<sup>th</sup>, 43 participants:

Learn and Play is a facilitated playgroup that enhances child development through play with parents and caregivers.



# Paint the Aspens: A Canvas & Chamomile Event – November 19<sup>th</sup>, 6 participants:

The Senior Center hosted a step by step guided painting event for beginners and experienced painters. Led by artist Susanne Harrison.



Scams: A Roundtable Discussion – November 8<sup>th</sup>, 22 participants:

Kelley Weaver from the LANB Fraud Department led a discussion at the Senior Center regarding: how to recognize a scam, is it or isn't it a scam, how do they know about me, what to do, and whom to call.



#### Festival of Trees – November 17<sup>th</sup>

The 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Festival of Trees, held at the Betty Ehart Senior Center, was full of good cheer and generous people!



# **Cultural Services**

# PEEC Wilderness First Aid 2-day course – November 3<sup>rd</sup> - 4<sup>th</sup>, 11 participants



# Opt Outside Hike – November 23<sup>rd</sup>, 16 participants

The Nature Center offered an alternative to Black Friday shopping.



#### Top Hat Award!

PEEC won the New Mexico Hospitality Associations' Top HAT award for Best Attraction in New Mexico!



# **COUNTY CLERK**

#### 2018 General Election – Outcome, Outreach, and Kudos..!

It goes with saying, *Democracy is alive and well in Los Alamos County...*! During the November 6, 2018 General Election, 10,340 ballots were cast, representing a turnout of 73% among the 14,191 eligible registered voters, giving Los Alamos the highest voter turnout percentage in the state this mid-term election...! A BIG Thank You to all those who chose to exercise their right to vote and make their voice heard this election cycle.





Voters at the Golf Course on Election Day Voters at the Municipal Building on Election Day Photos Courtesy of the Los Alamos Daily Post.





Voters at the White Rock Town Hall on Election Day Voters at the Betty Ehart Senior Center on Election Day Photos Courtesy of the Los Alamos Daily Post.

Thanks to all the candidates for their dedication and commitment through this election process. As well, thanks to our partners this election, who helped promote voter registration and the election itself: Los Alamos League of Women Voters, Los Alamos High School and iVOTE members, UNM-Los Alamos, Betty Ehart Senior Center, Sombrillo Nursing Home, Aspen Ridge, and The Farmer's Market. This election, the Clerk's Office partnered with Atomic City Transit, placing flyers in the buses and advertising its use on Election Day. We would like to extend a special "Thank You" to all the Election Poll Workers, who spent nearly 440 hours, from October 9th through the late hours on election day serving voters in a friendly, professional, and efficient manner. We also would like to extend much appreciation to the employees of Los Alamos County for all of their help this election.



Election Poll Workers at the Golf Course



Election Poll Workers at Betty Ehart Senior Center

Since its inception in 2014, the Clerk's Office has continued to improve and enhance our Election Night Results Reporting process. During the November 6, 2018 General Election, in addition to viewing in the Boards & Commission Room, we expanded our use of the Lobby area, utilizing the TV displays and additional seating.





County Clerk Maestas posts results tape in Municipal Bldg. Lobby. Photos Courtesy of the Los Alamos Daily Post. Citizens gathered in B&C Room to view Election Results.

On Friday, November 9th, the County Council appointed Canvass Committee certified the November 6, 2018 General Election results, followed by Council approval on Tuesday, November 13th. The committee consisted of Ms. Cathy Walters, Ms. Robyn Schultz, and Mr. Jeff (Scott) Brown. *(pictured below L-R)* 



# CALENDAR OF UPCOMING MEETINGS AND EVENTS

- Dec 18 Council Regular Session, 6:00 p.m., Council Chambers
- Dec 19 Swearing-In Ceremony for Elected Officials, 4:30 p.m., Council Chambers
- Dec 20 Discoveries Action Team Monthly Meeting, 11:00 a.m. 12:30 p.m., Pajarito Rm. Fuller Lodge

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