

County Manager's Monthly Update

LOS ALAMOS COUNTY

APRIL - 2019

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 www.losalamosnm.us 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 lacmanager@lacnm.us.

CMO

Relocation of the Los Alamos Visitor Center

The Los Alamos County Tourism Strategic Plan, accepted by County Council in February 2018, recommended that the Los Alamos Visitor Center (located at 109 Central Park Square) be relocated since the current visitor center, located in a shopping center, is not in a location where visitors look for or expect to find visitor information. The Council appointed citizen Tourism Implementation Task Force performed a trade-off analysis in order to provide Council with a recommendation for an alternate location for the Los Alamos visitor center. It was determined that by moving the LAVC to a County-owned facility, costs would be decreased by eliminating the leasing cost. The only County-owned facility on the recommended list was the current NMSU Cooperative Extension office in the Community Building (475 20th Street, Suite A; adjacent to the Los Alamos Teen Center) so it was decided to relocate the Los Alamos Visitor Center to this location.

The County's Facilities division staff recently completed renovations to the space which included removal of a wall, painting two accent walls with brand colors, painting of mural, and installation of diaper changing station. Special thanks to Jim Zerr and Keith Yeske for this effort.

As of Saturday, April 6, 2019, the Los Alamos Visitor Center is operating in the renovated space in the Community building. An official ribbon cutting will be scheduled at a later date.

The following offices have been moved to accommodate this relocation:

- NMSU Cooperative Extension – now at 1251 Bathtub Row (known at Red Cross cottage)
- Los Alamos Arts Council – now in Room 201 of Fuller Lodge (second floor)
- Manhattan Project National Historical Park Administrative offices – now in Room 111 of Fuller Lodge (first floor)

This project was really a team effort! Special thanks to Matthew Valencia and Patrick McGurie for their assistance with moving the above offices; to Steve Huebner for oversight of installation of furniture at the Red Cross Cottage; to Julie Brothers for keeping track of all the keys that were turned in and reissued; and to Custodial staff for ensuring each space was cleaned prior to move in day.

COUNTY CLERK

Women's History Month Celebrated in March

Nationwide every March, we celebrate “Women’s History Month”, honoring women’s contributions in American history. Locally, it is important to honor the important role women played during the Manhattan Project. On March 19th, we celebrate “Women in Public Office Day”, and the Los Alamos County Clerk’s Office takes pride in recognizing all the amazing elected women (and future elected women) representing Los Alamos. Thank you for paving the way for future generations.



Pictured Left to Right: State Representative Chris Chandler, County Council Chair Sara C. Scott, County Councilor Katrina Schmidt, County Clerk Naomi D. Maestas, Probate Judge Anne Nobile, Municipal Judge Elizabeth Allen, and Magistrate Judge Pat A. Casados.

2019 New Mexico Legislative Session Update

The 2019 session of the New Mexico Legislature sure was a busy one for County Clerks. Among the many bills monitored by Clerk Maestas and the NM County Clerk Affiliate, the following is a list of bills that have an impact on the County Clerk’s Office and have been signed by Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham.

SB672 – EARLY & AUTO VOTER REGISTRATION

Allows voter registration during early voting and, starting in 2021, voters may also register to vote on Election Day. However, anyone registering right before voting would need to present a state identification card as well as proof of their address and sign an affidavit attesting they had not already voted in the election. The new law also expressly prohibits voters from switching party affiliation when updating registration during an election. The law will also ensure voter registration information is automatically updated when voters renew their driver’s licenses, unless a motorist opts out of the process. And it calls on the Human Services Department to set up a way so people who are receiving assistance, such as through the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, are given an opportunity to register to vote when visiting department offices.

HB293 – DUPLICATES FOR INSTRUMENTS OF WRITING

This bill amends Section 14-8-4 NMSA 1978 deleting the current provision that allows a duplicate of an instrument of writing to be filed and recorded to the same extent as the original and creating new requirements for the filing of duplicates of instruments of writing. This bill requires that a duplicate may be filed if the original is unavailable and the duplicate is accompanied by an affidavit providing: (1) The name, phone number, and mailing address of the affiant; (2) Information regarding the execution of the original instrument to establish that the original instrument would be entitled to be recorded if it were available; (3) The reason that the original is unavailable; and (4) That the duplicate is a true and correct copy of the original instrument. This bill also provides that there shall not be an additional fee beyond any fee that would be required for the recording of the original instrument.

SB190 – INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE SURVIVOR SUFFRAGE

Amends the Election Code to create the Intimate Partner Violence Survivor Suffrage Act and requires the Secretary of State to ensure that a participant who is eligible to vote in New Mexico is able to be securely registered to vote and to automatically receive a ballot for each election.

HB407– ELECTION CODE OVERHAUL

This is a 472-page bill that provides substantive and pro forma changes to several sections of the Election Code. There are 44 key items being addressed by the bill, visit <https://www.nmlegis.gov> for complete details.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

Administration Division

Chamber Business Breakfast at UNM-LA:



On March 14, 2019 Public Works Director Philo Shelton updated business members on road construction mitigation on NM502 and DP Road.

Transportation Board Recruiting New Members:

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

March 7, 2019 Transportation Board Meeting Highlights:

🌈 Eric Martinez, County Engineer provided an update on the NM 502 Project.

Airport Division

Fence Project – Update:



After some long delays due to weather and soggy conditions, crews were back to work on the fence project on Mar 25th. The crews are tackling the last remaining items including vehicle and pedestrian gates, some pavement work, relocation of two light poles and a short stretch of fence along airport road. We expect the project to be complete by mid-May. 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. An FAA Airport Improvement Grant and an NMDOT Aviation Grant is covering 95% of the project costs.

Custodial Division

- The Custodial Division supported 208 events during the month of March.
- Two vacant custodial positions were filled in March
- New flower boxes were purchased for the annuals on the patio at Fuller Lodge
- The Division started its new cleaning certification training program this month

Engineering & Project Management Division

Fire Station 3:

Due to unusually wet weather the contract has been extended until April 12, 2019 to complete all items and deliver the project completed. Only two items remain outstanding, roof ladders and the snow melt system cabling.

White Rock Senior Meals Center Kitchen Equipment Upgrade:

Work started in the kitchen on March 16th and was completed on March 25th. White Rock Seniors are be served through the Los Alamos Senior Center Kitchen during this period. The White Rock Kitchen will reopen on April 1st.

Mesa Library HVAC Improvements:

The project is substantially complete as of February 20th and final completion is pending minor work. The contractor is working on punch list items and making adjustments to the HVAC system as needed. Activation and testing of the chillers will occur in the Spring when cooling will be needed in the building, this is scheduled to be complete by June 1st and will not impact the occupancy of the building. Additional work on the elevator will be complete by the end of March including fire caulking, a damper, and a Shunt Trip breaker requested by the Fire Marshal as precautionary items.

Fire Station 2 Training Tower Work:

A consultant is being hired to verify the tie-offs and lowering structures on the tower meet OSHA safety requirements. County facilities crews will perform work to correct some door and wall panel issues and a concrete contractor will be hired to repair some minor concrete damages on the stairs.

Fire Station 3 Alternate Dispatch Area:

Plans to provide a secondary dispatch area at Fire Station 3 began two years ago to eliminate the need for an alternate dispatch location to reside at the Santa Fe Dispatch area. Planning and Design work to complete the infrastructure is needed before 911 lines are installed. This work is not yet scheduled.

Airport Re-roof:

Staff is working to secure design services for the re-roofing of the Airport due to some damage in January. The roof is at the end of its life and needs to be replaced. Work could occur as early as mid-June and complete at the end of July.

Aquatic Re-roof and Structural Repairs:

Staff is working to secure design services to re-roof the flat roof portion of the center's roof as well as correct some structural issues with a portion of the roof structure away from public areas which have been damaged by humidity from pool. An exhaust fan is anticipated to be installed in the electrical room to

exhaust humidity build-ups and create some air flow. This project is also considering a slanted roof to keep snow from sliding onto the adjacent flat roof and down spouts to deter icing damage on the canyon side of the building.

Canyon Rim Trail Phase 3:

The County has been working with the consultant to acquire parcels with private owners. Appraisals were received on January 23, 2019. County project management staff met with The American Legion the week of February 25th to discuss the appraised value discuss next steps concerning their membership. Formal offers are being drafted by the County and are anticipated to be sent to the property owners in April.

Canyon Rim Trail Underpass:

The project was awarded federal FY2018 funding under the Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) for project study and design in the amount of \$320,000 and FY2020 TAP funding for project construction in the amount of \$2,020,000 for a total award of \$2,340,000.

A 90% plan submittal was submitted on February 1st and a plan review was held on March 8th. A cooperative maintenance agreement between NMDOT and the County is scheduled to Council approval on April 2nd. Final plans are anticipated in June 2019.

Tsikumu Village Road Improvements:

A pre-construction meeting was held on March 26th and the construction is scheduled to begin on April 1st with completion anticipated by mid-June 2019.

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

Santa Fe Engineering, the County's design consultant, presented the design alternatives to the Transportation Board on January 3rd. The board requested a road diet be considered on Trinity Drive between Oppenheimer and Diamond Drive. The road diet scope was added and is currently be analyzed by SFE. The findings and a preferred alignment, based on the model's analysis, will be presented and a recommendation will be requested at the May 2019 Transportation Board meeting.

DP Road and Utility Infrastructure Improvements Project:

Other Grant opportunities will be considered as they become available. Review of A-9 60% design has been submitted back to developer.

SR4 and Truck Route:

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. Bohannon Huston completed a traffic study documenting a preliminary estimate for the preferred alignment of \$3.6Million including NMGR. DOE will evaluate whether the remaining SEP funds available would be sufficient to construct the project and if not would begin to explore other funding options. USACE and DOE have begun the design portion of the project with Bohannon Huston and final designs are anticipated late August of 2019. Bi-weekly project team meetings are being held with all stakeholders to keep this project on schedule.

NM 502 Reconstruction, Knecht St. to Tewa Loop:

Staff continues to coordinate with NMDOT on this state lead project. The contractor, Star Paving, began work on March 18, 2019. Agency coordination is ongoing for projects occurring on or near DP Road for

public outreach. A public meeting was held by the NMDOT Project team on March 20th at Fuller Lodge to discuss construction operations with the public.

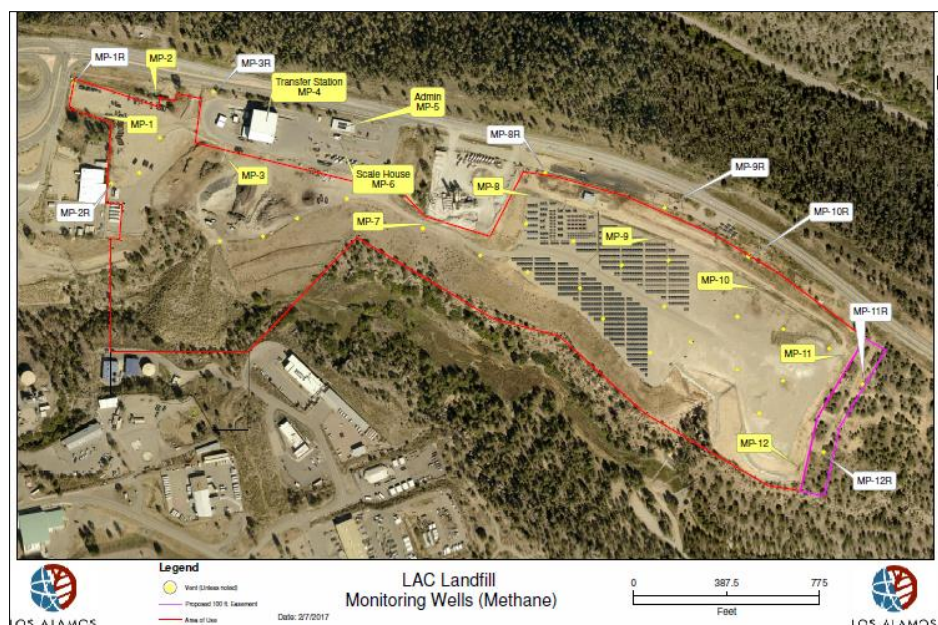
Environmental Services Division

Training:

Environmental Services Superintendent Armando Gabaldon completed his training to be a certified landfill operator. Equipment Operator Clint Chevalier received recertification in Household Hazardous Waste Management

Los Alamos County Landfill Gas (LFG) Update:

With the installation of the Landfill Gas Control and Collection system, the methane concentrations have decreases and are in compliance with NMED Solid Waste Rules. Environmental Services has received approval from New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) to reduce monitoring from weekly to quarterly as prescribed by NMAC Solid Waste Rules.



Los Alamos High School AP Environmental Science class Tours the Eco Station:



Los Alamos High School AP Environmental Science class visited the Eco Station to learn about waste generation and disposal. Environmental Services manager, Angelica Gurule, discussed the triple bottom line, people, planet, and profit. These are fundamental principles of how we do business. We try to balance the needs of our customers with what is the most financially responsible as well as what is right for the planet. The students also learned how recycle material is impacted from a global market and how recycling correctly gives

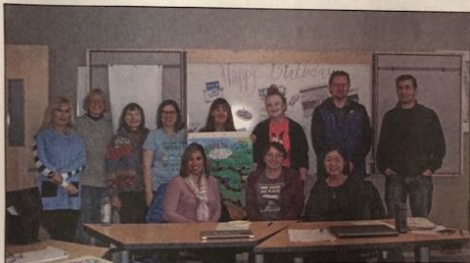
our material more value. Students walked away with knowledge of how waste and recycle materials are processed in Los Alamos.

Zero Waste Team Meeting and 1 Year Anniversary:



The Zero Waste team met March 20th and had new member Elchin Jafarov present on his composting system and business – “Turning Waste into Profit.” Once the meeting was done the team celebrated their 1-year anniversary.

Zero Waste Team Turns One!



The Zero Waste Team celebrates its one-year anniversary Wednesday morning at the Municipal Building. Team member Sue Barnes said it was a successful year. Barnes said the team set up a webpage on the Los Alamos County Environmental Services Division website, established a Facebook page, hosted numerous talks and participated in various events including the Bear Festival at the Los Alamos Nature Center. As the team proceeds into its second year, Barnes said, the team is focusing on food waste across the County. She added the community's response to the Zero Waste Team's work has been excellent. The team's mission is to educate the community on how it can reduce waste. Photo by Kirsten Laskey/la.allypost.com

The Zero waste Team is a group of citizens who engage the community on the importance of reducing waste and becoming more sustainable. In the first year the team has produced many articles for the LA Daily Post, engaged business owners about reducing food waste, created outreach material, and made community events such as Bear Fest and Chamisa Elementary Schools Recycle Fashion Show and Craft Fair zero waste events.

Future Goals for the team include supporting community or county wide composting of food waste and making all county sponsored events zero waste events.

Residential Sustainability Report



Residential Sustainability Report

Service Period: February 2019

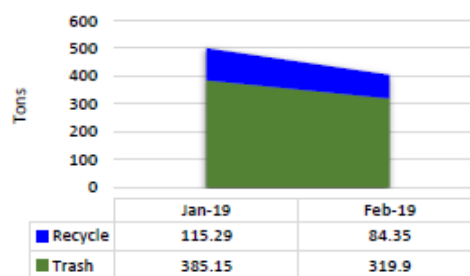
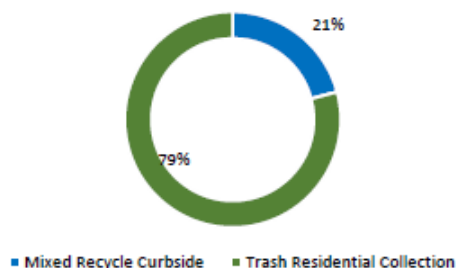


LOS ALAMOS

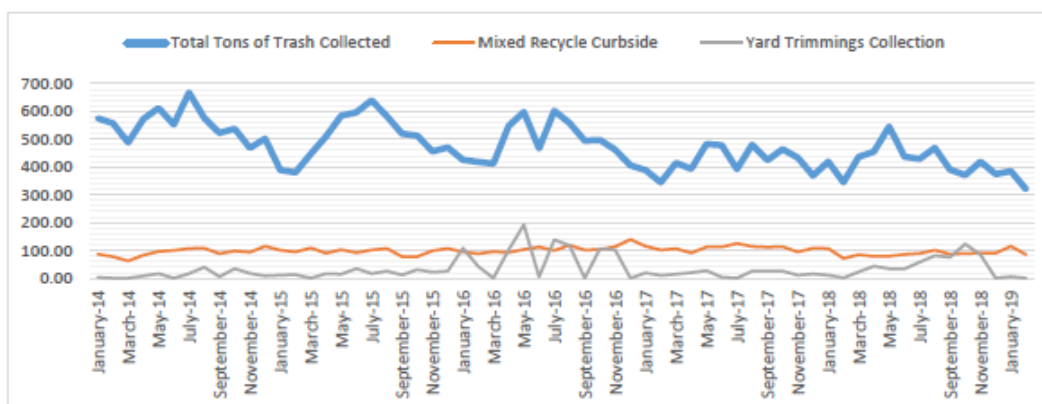
February Diversion Rate: **21%**

The *diversion rate* is the percent of recyclable and compostable material diverted from the landfill.

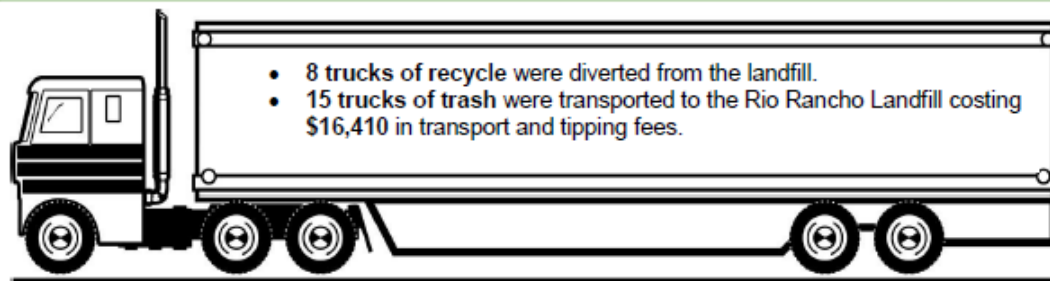
Monthly Collection Report



In February by recycling and composting Los Alamos County reduced CO2 emissions by ~290.16 tons



In 2019 by recycling and composting Los Alamos County reduced CO2 emissions by ~697.45 tons



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

Facilities Division

New Visitor Center – Community Building Remodel:



The Los Alamos Visitor's Center is moving from its previous location at the Central & 15th St. shopping center to a location in Los Alamos County's Community Building opposite the Manhattan Project National Historic Park office on 20th St.

Work in preparation for the move included removing walls to improve flow and completely repainting the space to provide a welcoming environment for area visitors to learn about the community.

Court Audio Upgrades:



Facilities crew members are working with PACE Audio (contractor to the County) on a complete replacement and upgrade of the audio systems that serve the municipal and magistrate court facilities located in the Judicial Complex.

In addition to bringing the system into the digital age, the upgrade will provide the technological capabilities standard in District Courts statewide.

Airport Hangar Modifications:



Staff are working to make final modifications to the new airport hangar required to be in full compliance with the fire code. This activity will be the last at the hangar completing a project many months in the making and clearing the way for the space to serve as revenue producing rental property for the airport, while providing protective cover for the equipment operated by Classic Air Medical. Move in date is scheduled for April 1st.

Fleet Division

New marked unit for Police Department.



New units for Utilities



Traffic & Streets Division



Crews have been patching sections of asphalt on 33rd and 34th Street.



Crews were called to assist with removing a tree from power lines at the top of Ski Hill Road.



Crews were called out to remove a fallen tree on West Road by the Ice-Skating Rink.





Crews were called out to remove a tree that fell on a Jeep.



Crews were called out to remove a fallen tree from Diamond Drive.



Crews were called out to remove a fallen tree on 33rd Street.



Crews were called out to remove a fallen tree on 46th Street.



Crews removed snow that was dumped on Deer Trap Trail Head during the snow storms in December, January and February.

Transit Division

Shuttle Service:

The Transit Division performed 30-minute shuttle service from Sullivan Field to Pajarito Mountain for Skiasta on March 16, 2019. In addition, a Dial-A-Ride service was performed the same evening for St. Patrick's Day.

Great weather brought several people out to celebrate. Ridership for Skiasta increased by 115 people this year and was a total of 378 with St. Patrick's Day celebration transporting approximately 24. Los Alamos Police Department did perform saturation patrols and zero arrests were made. Way to go Los Alamos!

New Mexico Transit Association will be hosting the annual Transit ROAD-EO. Transit drivers from around our state come together once a year to show off their driving skills in a course designed to maneuver 40' transit buses.

Atomic City Transit will be supporting six drivers for competition and the winners of the ROAD-EO will go on to represent New Mexico in the annual national competition. This year's ROAD-EO will be held at Buffalo Thunder on Sunday March 31, 2019. Good luck to the following contestants: Julie AlderseBaes, Justin Chavez, Corrine Salazar, Ramon Trujillo, Laura Dison, and Jonathan Gonzales.

WELCOME TO THE TEAM



Sidney Snyder, Transit Operator Trainee started with Transit on February 25th. She passed her CDL and is learning the bus routes.



Virginia Espinoza, Senior Office Specialist started with Transit in early March. Welcome to the County.

On March 20, 2019 Atomic City Transit employees attended Bloodborne Pathogen training.

We also had a visit from the Eco Station with a presentation on how to recycle correctly and add to our goal of zero waste. Thank you, Josh for all the information.

ZERO WASTE



COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

Building Safety Division

Four (4) commercial permits were issued in March 2019, with a total valuation of \$36,645.00 compared to seven (7) permits issued in March 2018, with a total valuation of \$109,570.00.

Thirty-two (32) residential permits were issued in March 2019, with a total valuation of \$331,031.00 compared to forty-five (45) permits issued in March 2018, with a total valuation of \$651,634.00.



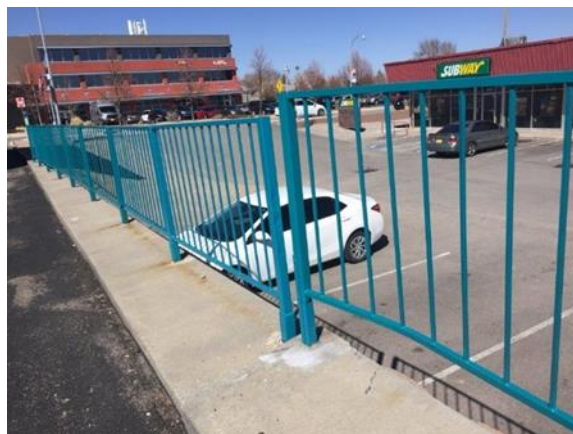
Sonic repairs completed

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):

Work has been completed on five homes for the 2017 program and is expected to finish on three more homes before the end of March. For the 2018 program for the five approved projects, work is scheduled to begin this spring on repairs and improvements for energy efficiency, accessibility and general repair.



Installing energy efficient windows for Los Alamos home

Homebuyer Assistance Program:

Three home closings are anticipated from now until June 2019. For the next fiscal year if additional funding is available more income eligible households will be encouraged to apply.

Affordable Housing Multi-Family Development:

Two affordable rental housing projects are planned for DP Road to be financed with State low-income housing tax credits and built by Bethel Developments. Building permit submittal is anticipated in late May for the first project, “Canyon Walk Apartments” on Tract A-9, 120 DP Road for 70 units focused on workforce housing. Building permit application submittal is anticipated in June 2019 and construction start in August 2019. For the second project, “The Bluffs” the State will announce mid to late June whether the project received a tax credit financing award. The Bluffs’ plan is for 64 units for age 55 and over on 2.79 acres of Tract A-8-b at 135 DP Road. Several other construction projects are planned for DP Road which will be overseen by County departments and other agencies. In order to ensure proper coordination and minimize disruption to local business owners and customers, Community Development staff will be meeting regularly with relevant County departments and agencies.



Locating Utilities for “The Bluffs” affordable housing project

Housing Needs Study:

The County requires current information about the housing market and housing needs in order to direct public resources for housing development and meet Council’s Strategic Goals for Housing. It is anticipated that by early May the County will advertise for a Housing Market Analysis to be conducted over the summer. The Study would identify housing demand and gaps, and housing preferences and types needed for the different demographic segments of the population.

The County intends to use the Housing Market Analysis findings to help inform what types of housing needs to be supported for future development.

Planning Division

The Planning and Zoning Commission did not meet in March. The next regularly scheduled meeting is April 10th, which will include Commissioner training to be provided by the County Attorney's office.

On March 4, 2019 the Board of Adjustment approved a Waiver related to the Lot Split of the Los Alamos Shrine Club property at 1459 Trinity. This was the last of several cases pertaining to this property and will allow the redevelopment of the property to proceed.

Planning staff met with the architect for a new Wendy's restaurant, anticipated to be built on the site of the former McDonald's at 1247 Trinity.

Staff also held a pre-application meeting with the architects and developers for "The Hill" – 150± new market rate apartments to be built on the former LASO site, east of the Medical Center on Trinity.

Planning Cases Applied for in the Month of March:

Subdivision- 1
Temporary Use Permit - 1
Waiver - 0

Building Permit and Business License Review:

During the month of March Planning Division staff reviewed and acted on 18 Building Permits and 11 new Business License applications.

CDD Administration and Special Projects

Boards and Commissions

There are currently vacancies for the Planning and Zoning Commission and the Art in Public Places Board. Vacancies have been advertised. Boards and Commissions FY20 Work Plans have gone to Julie Habiger for her review.

Business Licenses

95 business licenses were processed in January. This includes both new applications as well as renewals of existing business licenses.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Economic Development

Los Alamos, New Mexico is #5 in Realtor.com's annual ranking of America's Best Small Towns. The Economic Development Administrator participated in an interview with the Realtor.com News Team data journalist out of New York, providing examples of what makes our community a great place to live. To read the full story, go to

<https://www.realtor.com/news/trends/top-10-affordable-small-towns-where-you-d-actually-want-to-live-2019-edition/>

Economic Development Marketing

Tourism Marketing • Local Flavor magazine:



LtoR: Amber Rushton, Melanie Pena, Cullen Curtiss, Marianne Tennenbaum, Patty Karlovitz, Kelly Stewart, Linda Deck, Katie Bruell at the Fleur de Lys (not shown: Linda Matteson and Ryn Herrmann)

As part of its efforts to establish strong, cross-promotional partnerships with key tourism marketers in Santa Fe, Economic Development Marketing set up a group *interview with Local Flavor magazine* publisher/editor Patty Karlovitz and associate editor Cullen Curtis at Fleur De Lys Friday, March 8. Representatives from Los Alamos attractions and the Discoveries Action Team shared the people and experiences that make Los Alamos a special place to visit. Look for new articles about Los Alamos in upcoming issues of *Local Flavor*, currently distributed for free at several locations around town. If there is a Los Alamos location where you think *Local Flavor* should be distributed, please contact Kelly Stewart, kelly.stewart@lacnm.us, (505) 662-8087.



<https://deadline.com/2019/03/perpetual-grace-ltd-trailer-ben-kingsley-series-steve-conrad-epix-video-1202570171/>

Los Alamos Film Office • Click the link above to check out the first official trailer for ***Perpetual Grace, LTD*** (aka “Our Lady, LTD”). As reported in previous monthly reports, this 10-episode Epix original noir series follows James (Simpson), a young grifter, as he attempts to prey upon Pastor Byron Brown (Kingsley), who turns out to be far more dangerous than James suspects. It turns out Byron and his wife Lillian (Weaver), known as Pa and Ma, have used religion to bilk hundreds of innocent people out of their life savings. According to actor Ben Kingsley, ““They are like the Macbeths in Shakespeare’s greatest play.” And according to a lucky media rep who enjoyed an advance screening of the series, Kingsley’s character “Pa” is a seriously menacing figure with Bard-plus spicy language to boot, and New Mexico serving as the story’s modern Wild West backdrop.

Expect to see several scenes of a bus depot—all filmed at the Los Alamos County Airport parking lot. Also look for some of the County’s own (i.e., Facilities Manager Jim Zerr and his daughter) who are in scenes involving NASA scientists and recruits!

The production has been filming primarily in Santa Fe, Espanola and three different weeks in Los Alamos in December, January and February, filming at the Airport and LANB, and staging at the Los Alamos Main Gate Park. During the 10 days in December and January when the production was in Los Alamos, they spent over \$11,000 on meals, gas, ice melt, copy services and site rentals for parking, staging and filming.

Kudos go to several members of the Public Works Department who helped find and access locations, and juggled ever-changing filming schedules with snow removal operations—even removing and replacing streetlight bulbs—to serve the location and lighting requirements of the production. LAPD officers provided traffic control operations to accommodate filming and access for pilots and travelers.

While every filming project is different in nearly every way, the Los Alamos Film Office is charged with standardizing and managing contracts, permits, processes and procedures to minimize negative impacts to County operations, staff and, most importantly, County residents.

Los Alamos ScienceFest 2019 theme: Eureka! • When the Los Alamos ScienceFest planners convened after the 2018 event, “Eureka!” was suggested as a theme for the following year as the perfect expression of joy in discovery. This year, when the group reconvened to begin planning the 2019 event, it was discovered that the expression originated during the mid- to late-200’s b.c.! Legend has it that the famed mathematician, physicist, engineer and inventor Archimedes exclaimed “Eureka!” (meaning “I have found it”) while running naked through the streets of Syracuse, Greece after discovering the hydrostatic principle of displaced water while taking a bath! Turns out, this town has an affinity for bathtubs and an abundance of physicists and engineers who all know and love Archimedes. The event planners at Los Alamos MainStreet and Creative District are forging partnerships with Bathtub Row Brewing Co-Op and many other businesses and associations to leverage the “Eureka!” and Archimedes story. The County’s marketing and branding experts are developing additional promotions and campaigns to cultivate curiosity and create aha moments through social media, public relations and digital and broadcast campaigns with content that begins with Archimedes, incorporates LANL’s discoveries and then ties in the unique programming of this year’s ScienceFest. Stay tuned!

Branding • The **Discoveries Action Team (DAT)** met December 20 and January 19. Beginning on February 21, DAT started a new process, establishing a different focus for each gathering, starting with working meetings, where members spend the entire 90 minutes working on specific projects. Other meetings will focus on vetting new ideas or bringing new members up to speed, or reporting in on progress made on projects!

The most recent achievement to come out of DAT is a LANL Summer Students on-line resource designed to orient and inform summer students before, during and after their extended visit to Los Alamos. The idea was raised during a DAT meeting, then championed and researched by LACDC, and designed and produced by the County’s Communications and Public Relations Office. The user-friendly web resource is being promoted by LANL as part of their summer student recruitment efforts.

Discover the Next Great Idea at the next Discoveries Action Team at Council Chambers on Thursday, March 21st held at the regular time, over the lunch hour (11AM-12:30PM). All new ideas must be submitted in advance using the idea form available at <http://wherediscoveriesaremade.com/>!

BRAG ABOUT BRANDING

Whenever you realize you’re having an “**aha moment**,” share it!!! Send it to kelly.stewart@lacnm.us 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!!

COMMUNICATIONS & PUBLIC RELATIONS DIVISION

The division has been very busy this last month as many projects begin to ramp up before the summer, including: LANL Student Collateral (a new feature for incoming summer students using Adobe Spark, put together with the MainStreet/Chamber of Commerce, that should launch by April), the Spring into Adventure booklet (CSD – featuring spring programming), helping out Schools with promotion of School Bus Safety (proclamation, photo op, sharing out on social media), some information for the February snow events (social media, media relations), the startup of Cone Zone (traffic updates newsletter released on Fridays) as well as setting up project pages for Road Construction, a new feature on the website (to assist residents during the summer with updates and sharing out info on the NM502 roundabout). Work on outreach for the roundabout was also significant this month for the PIO, in coordinating the various entities. The PIO will also be assisting IT with a new intranet project happening later this year and attended a kick off meeting. Budgets for CPR and supporting documents were developed, and two surveys for Open Forum were launched along with supporting ads and press. The PIO is also working on getting the committee set up for the Jim Billen Trail Naming public hearing in April.

COMMUNITY SERVICE DEPARTMENT

Aquatics

New Mexico Swimming 2019 Championship Meet – March 2nd & 3rd, 1199 attendees:

The Walkup Aquatic Center hosted the New Mexico “B” short course championship meet. This meet attracted novice swimmers and their families from all over the state.



Los Alamos High School Freshmen PE Kickoff – March 4th, 315 freshmen:

During the 3-week Freshman PE sessions, 9th grade students learned hands-only CPR, safe rescue techniques, and stroke development. The final day of class included relay races and gutter-ball (a modified water polo game).



Spring Forward Warm Water Weekend – March 9 & 10th, 862 attendees:

Because it was the time-change weekend, the theme was “Spring Forward.” There was a floating island and a large, colorful flower scattered around the shallow end for kids and adults to enjoy.



Pre-Pi/Pirate Wacky Wednesday – March 13th, 42 attendees

In honor of Pi Day, the Aquatic center hosted a Pre-Pi/Pirate Wacky Wednesday. There were pirate ships and pizza slices for the kids to enjoy. Pirate and slices of pizza inflatables in the water for the patrons.



Pajarito Mountain Ski Patrol Training – March 17th, 8 participants:

Pajarito Mountain Ski patrol conducted an in-water training at the Aquatic Center to cross-train their staff on immobilizing spinal injuries on the mountain.



Lifeguard Certification Training – March 25th through March 29th, 16 participants:

Lifeguard candidates participated at the Aquatic Centers lifeguard certification class, including Dan Erickson, the new PROS Manager. All of the candidates passed the class.



Recreation

Family Night at the Nature Center – March 20th, 110 attendees:

It was a packed house at the Nature Center where CSD employees took over the Nature Center and made S'mores and played games and watched a movie in the Planetarium with the kids.



Golf

Golf Course Opening Day – March 9th & 10th, 83 attendees / March 23 & 24, 133 attendees:

Golfers warm up as they ready themselves for their first round of golf for the year. The golf course opened the front nine holes and practice facility, with a lot of happy golfers dusting off their golf clubs and enjoying the sunshine.



Parks

Removed six trees and approximately 30-40 pallets of retaining wall block and landscaping rock from the median where the roundabout will be constructed. The trees have been transplanted to the dog park, Main Gate Park and around town.



Parks crews removed the new solar holiday trees and have been busy trimming plantings around the pond to get it ready for the summer.



Crews were busy cleaning up debris after the wind storms, where trees fell down.





Open Space

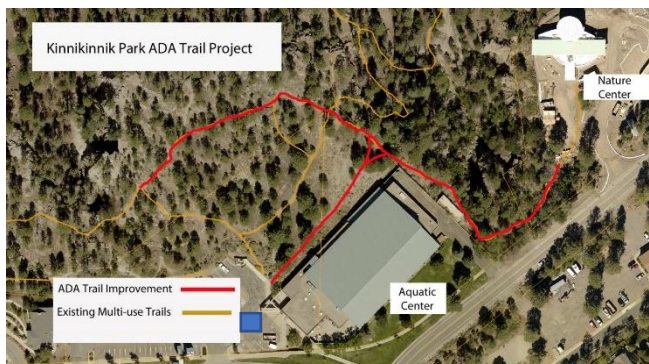
Hazard and Fallen Tree Mitigation:

Many trees have been cleared from trails throughout Los Alamos County Open Space after the winter storms.



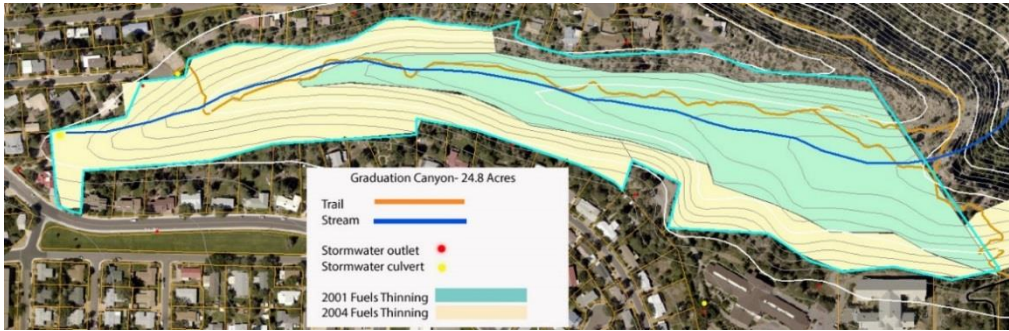
Kinnikinnik Park ADA Trail Improvement Project:

Bids are being reviewed and once finalized, the project to improve the trail path will begin.



On Call Environmental Consulting Services- Graduation Canyon Restoration Project:

Natural Channel design completed a Schematic Design and Schedule for the upcoming project. Work will begin mid-April.



Library

Sean Gaskell Musical Performance, March 2nd, 46 attendees:

Kora player Sean Gaskell talked about the history and construction of this African instrument which is similar to a harp. His concert included many traditional Gambian pieces and some he had composed himself.



Authors Speak with Walt Whitman (played by Bruce Noll) – March 21st, 19 attendees:

Whitman scholar Bruce Noll portrayed the iconic American poet Walt Whitman, reciting Whitman's poetry from memory as well as answering questions from the audience about Whitman's life and work.



Pi Day/ Mathamuseum, March 14, 73 people attended:

Mathamuseum co-founder Gordon McDonough volunteered his time and expertise at Mesa Public Library on Pi Day, bringing math puzzles and games. Albert Einstein, whose 140th birthday it was, also made a brief appearance, to the delight of Melissa Mackey, who was wearing a pi-themed dress.



Social Services

“Of Butterflies and Roses” by Claudia I. Haas – March 27, 24 Participants:

Dramatic play reading by Cassandra Bowman, Mandy Marksteiner, narrated by Tomas Farish



“Paint the Purple Mountain” – March 25th, 12 participants:

Canvas and Chamomile painting class led by Susanne Harrison

Los Alamos Public Schools

New Mexico Youth Summit on Opioid Awareness – March 6th, 47 participants:

Youth Summit was designed by the Mark Wahlberg Youth Foundation and DEA 360 Strategy to educate students about the dangers of opioid addiction and encourage them to be part of the solution to ending the epidemic.

DWI Program

Pi Day – March 14th, 25 Participants:

Various community members and Los Alamos County DWI Program came together in support of youth for a celebration of National Pi Day. Local celebrities such as Brian Brogan, CSD Director, Commander Oliver Morris, LAPD, Dr. Kurt Steinhaus, LAPS Superintendent, Suzanne Lynne, Principle of Chamisa Elm., George Marsden, YMCA Teen Center Director, James Robinson, County Councilor, Katrina Schmidt, County Councilor, Jordan Redmond YAC Director and many others.



Cultural Services

The Family Star Party – March 12, 2019 – 94 attendees:

A new program in the planetarium was debuted. These will be held monthly before PEEC's Family Nights and expect to continue to draw a large crowd.

Educational Field Trips – All 9th graders from LAHS physics classes watched a planetarium show as part of their curriculum. In addition, multiple classes from Santa Fe Indian School also viewed the shows in the planetarium.

Nature Playtimes continue to be popular, with about 20-30 families attending each week

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING MEETINGS AND EVENTS

April 15 – Budget Hearings, 6:00 p.m., Council Chambers

April 16 – Budget Hearings (Continued) 6:00 p.m., Council Chambers

April 18 – Discoveries Action Team Monthly Meeting – Full Meeting with Champion Reports, 11:00 a.m., - 12:30 p.m., Fuller Lodge

April 22 – Budget Hearings (Continued) 6:00 p.m., Council Chambers

April 23 – Budget Hearings (Continued) 6:00 p.m., Council Chambers

April 25 – Public Hearing: Jim Billen Trail Petition, 5:30 p.m., Pajarito Rm, Fuller Lodger

April 27 – Earth Day Celebration, 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m., Nature Center