

Council Meeting Staff Report

May 7, 2019

Agenda No.: 1)
Indexes (Council Goals): * 2019 Council Goal - Other
Presenters: County Council - Regular Session
Legislative File: 11851-19

Title

Approval of the 2019 Federal Agenda

Recommended Action

I move that Council adopt the Los Alamos County 2019 Federal Agenda.

County Manager's Recommendation

The County Manager recommends that Council approve the motion as presented.

Board, Commission or Committee Recommendation

The County Council's Federal Legislative Committee recommends approval of the motion as presented.

Body

Annually, the Los Alamos County Council adopts a "Federal Agenda." This document is used as a guide for our intergovernmental efforts at the federal level. The Federal Agenda is developed through a Council committee that meets to produce the message and recommended County priority topics. The Federal Agenda provides direction from the County Council to staff and our legislative support contractor when working with various Federal officials and entities, providing for a consistent voice in our messaging. The proposed 2019 Federal Agenda is attached.

Los Alamos County has many important relationships with the federal government. The County must therefore continuously work to understand, comply with, and provide input to federal laws, actions, and regulations that impact our operations. Furthermore, the Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL) is a privately managed and federally funded national laboratory, and is the largest employer in the County as well as an important economic engine for Northern New Mexico. The significance of LANL, not only to the County but to the State of New Mexico and the Nation, necessitates that the County work closely with the New Mexico delegation and the Department of Energy in respect to federal legislation and issues that affect LANL. This is especially true given that management of the laboratory has recently transitioned. Over the years, the County has developed a valuable working relationship with our New Mexico Congressional delegation and the support we have received from them has been invaluable.

For 2019, the committee and staff are recommending the following priorities, which are further elaborated within Attachment A:

- Fund and Support LANL Missions
- Fund Environmental Cleanup
- Address Interdependent Needs of LANL and the County

Members of the Federal Legislative Committee are scheduled to travel to Washington DC during June and therefore consideration of this agenda will be an important guidebook for the conversations that occur during that trip.

Fiscal and Staff Impact/Planned Item

The fiscal and staff impacts vary depending on the specifics of the legislation.

Attachments

A - 2019 Proposed LAC Federal Agenda