

Los Alamos Ice Rink Cover Structure

Parks and Recreation Board
May 8, 2025

Incorporated County of Los Alamos

Background

- Follow-up to the April 10, 2025, PRB meeting
- Cover structure feasibility analysis
- Staff recommendation for cover structure
- Second online survey
- Return to PRB for a recommendation to County Council

Objective

- Review staff recommendation
- Present results of the second survey
- Discuss a Council recommendation

Staff Recommendation Revisited

Driven by budgetary and maintenance considerations

Pre-eng. steel structure & rigid roof deck

Most cost-effective structure

- Complete functionality
- Durable
- Least effort and cost to maintain

Gable or mono-slope frame geometry

OPC: \$900,000 to \$1.5 Million
(+site work cost)



Gable frame



Mono-slope frame

Second Survey

Opened from April 10 to the 24 (14 days)

- Q1. Are you a resident of Los Alamos County?
 - Yes
 - No
- Q2. Given the two possible geometries shown above for the recommended cover structure, please select your preferred geometry? (Select one option only)
 - Gable geometry
 - Mono-sloped geometry
 - None
- Q3. If you selected “None”, please explain the reason.
 - Write your answer here
- Q4. What features would make the cover structure more functional or unique to Los Alamos Ice Rink?
 - Write your answer here

Second Survey Results

- 764 participants
- 94% are Los Alamos residents
- Mono-sloped most popular option (50%)
- “None” second most popular option (28%)
- Gable least popular option (22%)

Most popular option



Mono-slope frame

Question 3. If you selected “None”, please explain the reason

- 213 of participants (28%)
- Open answer format
- Many respondents provided multiple perspectives
- Not necessary/preserve rink uniqueness (390)
- Recommended options not aesthetically pleasing (200)
- Too expensive/other pressing needs (170)
- Prefer a retractable option (80)
- Prefer an indoor ice rink (40)

Question 4. What features would make the cover structure more functional or unique to Los Alamos Ice Rink?

- 410 participants shared their perspectives (53%)
- Many respondents provided multiple perspectives
- Aesthetic enhancements & art (70)
- Amenities for spectators (29)
- Lighting, scoreboard, and sound system (20)
- Sustainable features e.g. solar panels (7)
- Use off-season (21)
- Majority reiterated concerns as in “None” perspectives

County Council Meeting

- May 20, 2025, at Council Chambers
- Report on:
 - Public Outreach Process
 - Community perspectives on cover structure
 - Community & PRB preferences on structure frame
 - Opinion of probable cost
 - Obtain direction moving forward

Main Takeaways

- Mono-sloped cover structure most popular option
- “None” reasons: not necessary/preserve rink uniqueness
- Request PRB recommendation to County Council
- Next public meeting – Council Reg. Session, May 20
- Obtain direction moving forward

Thank you!

Project webpage & surveys results

Conceptual Shade Structure for the Ice Rink

Announcement

The second survey conducted on April 24, 2025. Read the responses below and/or attend "Completed Survey Responses". The next public meeting is scheduled for May 6, 2025, at 7:00 p.m. at the Resource Building as part of the Public & Recreation Board.

Project name	Conceptual phase. Descriptive consultation needed for a conceptual shade structure design that can be incorporated into the future Ice Rink Renovation project.
Project value	\$00
Project schedule	Engine specifications for a potential shade structure (type, size, and layout). The project will go to Council for approval in May.
Contractor name	Wilson & Co., Engineers and Architects
Completion date	May 20, 2025

Project Scope

Identify the needs and specifications for potential shade structure options that can be integrated into a future project to replace the aging refrigerated floor of the Ice Rink at the Rink.

- Research and evaluate shade structure alternatives.
- Identify how shade structure would be used by the County's needs.
- Provide engineering estimates for design, installation, and maintenance.
- Engage the public in three public meetings to gather community input and other information.
- Other recommendations for design development and construction bidding.

Project Purpose

The County has received feedback from residents highlighting the challenges posed by sun and heat at the outdoor ice rink, which limit its usability. During the winter, sunlight can melt portions of the ice, creating unsafe skating conditions. In the summer, the rink becomes increasingly hot, making it painful for other skating and other activities. As the County prepares to replace the aging refrigerated floor, this presents an ideal opportunity to reassess the feasibility of adding a shade structure. Such a structure would mitigate these challenges while enhancing the skating and the year-round use of the rink.

The replacement of the refrigerated floor and the potential addition of a shade structure are part of the County's broader efforts to improve the rink's skating quality. The County is also under contract to replace the refrigerated cooling plant, which is expected to arrive by the end of spring 2025 and begin producing ice for the 2025-2026 skating season.

Council Goals

The potential shade structure options meet the following adopted County Council goals: Quality of Life, Environmental Stewardship, Economic Vitality, Quality Governance and Operational Excellence.

Upcoming Public Meetings & Surveys

Completed Survey Responses

Completed Public Meetings

Updated May 21, 2025

Have your say

Have Your Say

Join the discussion!

Los Alamos County wants your feedback on a variety of topics. Review the current discussions below and weigh in!



5 Results Found

East Downtown Los Alamos MRA Feedback

Ongoing consultation
Los Alamos County and its East Downtown Los Alamos MRA project partners are creating a survey to solicit feedback on the East Downtown Los Alamos Metropolitan Redevelopment Area Plan. The County invites the public and requests community to leave feedback regarding the plan.

Conceptual Shade Structure for the Ice Rink Feedback

Submissions closing on April 30, 2025, 05:00 PM
Provide your feedback on the conceptual shade structure for the ice rink.

Artificial Turf Study Public Input Process

Ongoing consultation
Upon completing the Artificial Turf Study Conceptual Study, we'll recommend options for artificial turf, provide community information, and answer questions. We'll also answer questions, provide community information, and answer questions. We'll also answer questions, provide community information, and answer questions.



Contact us

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<https://losalamosnm.us/ShadeStructure>

<https://www.losalamosnm.us/Have-Your-Say>