



County of Los Alamos

Los Alamos, NM 87544
www.losalamosnm.us

Agenda - Final County Council - Work Session

*Randall Ryti, Council Chair; Ryn Herrmann, Vice-Chair;
Theresa Cull; Melanee Hand; Beverly Neal-Clinton; Suzie
Havemann; and David Reagor, Councilors*

Tuesday, February 10, 2026

6:00 PM

Fire Station No. 3
129 State Road 4 - White Rock

NOTE: This meeting is in person and open to the public. However, for convenience, the following Zoom meeting link and/or telephone call in numbers may be used for public viewing and participation:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/85448619994>

Or Telephone:

Dial (for higher quality, dial a number based on your current location):

+1 346 248 7799 or + 1 346 248 7799 or + +1 669 444 9171 US or + 1 719 359

4580

or +1 720 707 2699

Webinar ID: 854 4861 9994

1. **OPENING/ROLL CALL**
2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
3. **STATEMENT REGARDING CLOSED SESSION**

February 10, 2026 Closed Session Motion

4. **PUBLIC COMMENT**

This section of the agenda is reserved for comments from the public on items that do not require action by the Council or are not otherwise on the agenda.

5. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**
6. **PRESENTATIONS, PROCLAMATIONS AND RECOGNITIONS**
 - A. [21280-26](#) Recognition of Los Alamos Fire Department Phoenix Award

Recipients

Presenters: Manuel Pacheco, Fire Battalion Chief

- B. [21270-26](#) Presentation by Fire Chief Erik Litzenberg, Wildland Division Chief Van Leimer and Fire Marshal Colorado Cordova on Wildfire Preparedness and Ready Set Go.

Presenters: Erik Litzenberg, Fire Chief, Van Leimer, Fire Battalion Chief and Colorado Cordova, Fire Battalion Chief

Attachments: [A- Wildfire Preparedness Presentation](#)

7. BUSINESS

- A. [21297-26](#) Action to Suspend Council Rules for Work Session

Presenters: County Council

- B. [21075-26](#) Approval of County Council Minutes for the January 27, 2026, Regular Session

Presenters: Michael Redondo, County Clerk

Attachments: [A - County Council Minutes for January 27 2026 Regular Session.pdf](#)

- C. [20992-26](#) Approval of Task Order No. 29 under Service Agreement No. AGR-22-18a with All-Rite Construction, Inc. in the Amount of \$2,113,060.56 plus Applicable Gross Receipts Tax for Brewer Arena Improvements and Establish a Project Budget in the Amount of \$2,870,000.00 which includes Contingency

Presenters: Russell Naranjo, Engineering Project Manager, Miguel Jimenez, Senior Engineer, Wendy Parker, Engineering Project Manager, Eric Martinez, Public Works Director and Cory Styron, Community Services Director

Attachments: [A – Task Order No. 29 AGR22-18a.pdf](#)
[B - Project Budget Spreadsheet](#)
[C - Presentation.pdf](#)

8. COUNCIL BUSINESS

- A. [21145-26](#) Council Discussion of Possible Changes to the Charter

Presenters: Randall Ryti, Council Chair and County Council

Attachments: [A - County Charter](#)

9. WORKING GROUPS AND EXTERNAL ENTITIES REPORTS**A. [21298-26](#) Councilor Submitted Reports**

Presenters: County Council - Work Session

Attachments: [A - Ryti report 2026-02-10](#)

10. ADJOURNMENT

If you are an individual with a disability who is in need of a reader, amplifier, qualified sign language interpreter, or any other form of auxiliary aid or service to attend or participate in the hearing or meeting, please contact the County Human Resources Division at 662-8040 at least one week prior to the meeting or as soon as possible. Public documents, including the agenda and minutes can be provided in various accessible formats. Please contact the personnel in the Office of the County Manager at 663-1750 if a summary or other type of accessible format is needed.



County of Los Alamos

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Staff Report

February 03, 2026

Agenda No.:

Index (Council Goals):

Presenters:

Title

February 10, 2026 Closed Session Motion

Recommended Action

The following statement should be included in the minutes:

"The matters discussed in the Closed Sessions of County Council held on February 10, 2026, that began at 5:00 pm, was limited only to the topics specified in the notice of the closed session, and no action was taken on any matter in the closed session. We request that this statement be included in the meeting minutes."



County of Los Alamos

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Staff Report

February 10, 2026

Agenda No.: A.
Index (Council Goals): Quality of Life - Public Safety
Presenters: Manuel Pacheco, Fire Battalion Chief
Legislative File: 21280-26

Title

Recognition of Los Alamos Fire Department Phoenix Award Recipients

Body

The Los Alamos Fire Department will recognize responders, emergency communications personnel, and community members for their roles in a successful cardiac arrest resuscitation. The Phoenix Award honors exceptional teamwork, rapid response, and lifesaving actions that resulted in a patient's survival and recovery.



County of Los Alamos

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Staff Report

February 10, 2026

Agenda No.: B.
Index (Council Goals): Quality of Life - Public Safety
Presenters:
Legislative File: 21270-26

litliTitle

Presentation by Fire Chief Erik Litzenberg, Wildland Division Chief Van Leimer and Fire Marshal Colorado Cordova on Wildfire Preparedness and Ready Set Go.

Body

As the traditional "fire season" approaches, members of the Los Alamos Fire Department will give a presentation on wildfire preparedness in Los Alamos, including an update to the Wild Land Urban Interface Code, a review of Ready, Set, Go!, and general wildfire information. Presenters will include Fire Chief Litzenberg, Wildland Chief Leimer, and Fire Marshal Cordova.

Attachments

A - Wildfire Preparedness Presentation

An aerial night photograph of a town. In the foreground, a large parking lot and a multi-story building are illuminated by streetlights. The middle ground shows a residential area with scattered lights. In the background, a large, intense wildfire is burning on a hillside, with thick smoke rising into the dark blue night sky. The fire's glow is visible through the smoke and illuminates the surrounding area.

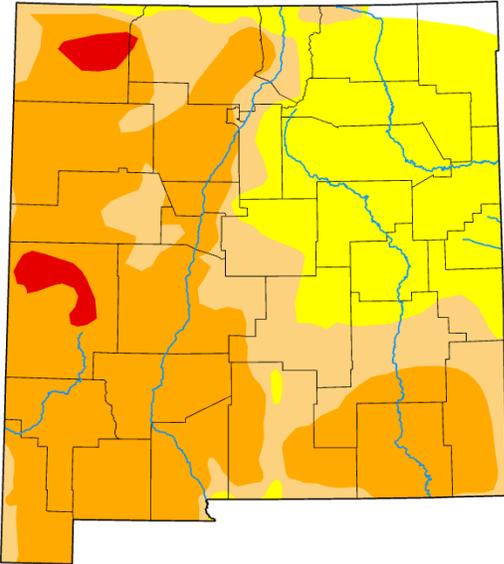
Ready, Set, Go! Wildfire Preparedness in Los Alamos County

Los Alamos County Fire Department

Weather Forecast

New Mexico

[Home](#) / [New Mex](#)



Map released: Thurs. January 29, 2026
 Data valid: January 27, 2026 at 7 a.m. EST

Intensity

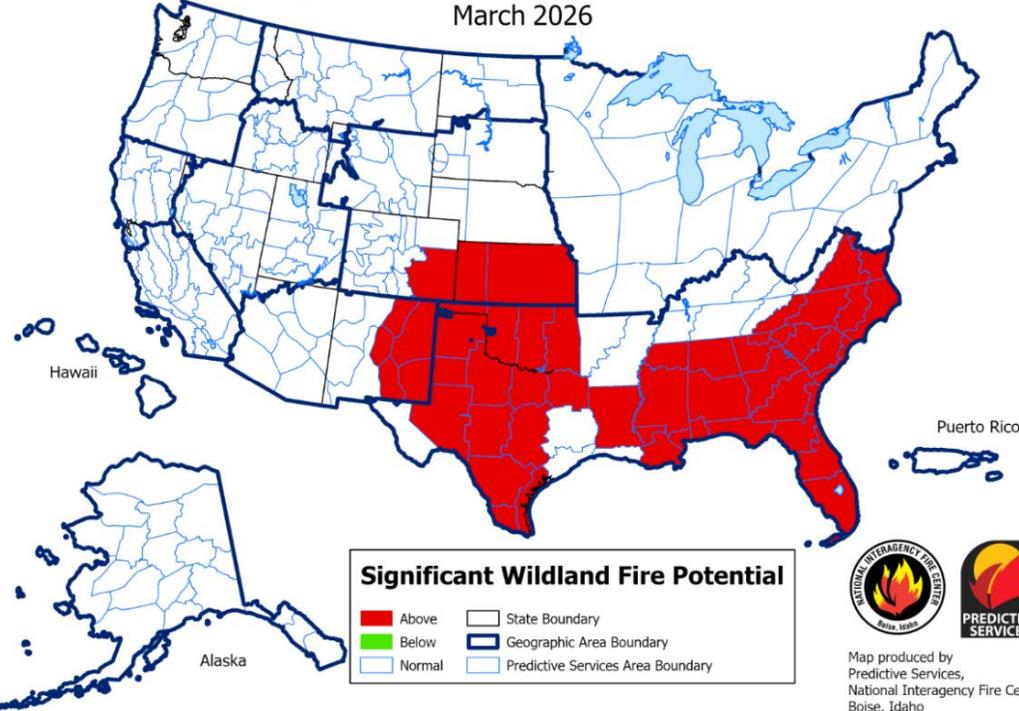
- None
- D0 (Abnormally Dry)
- D1 (Moderate Drought)
- D2 (Severe Drought)
- D3 (Extreme Drought)
- D4 (Exceptional Drought)
- No Data

Authors

United States and Puerto Rico Author(s):
[Richard Tinker](#), NOAA/NWS/NCEP/CPC

Pacific Islands and Virgin Islands Author(s):
[Daniel Whitesel](#), National Drought Mitigation Center

Significant Wildland Fire Potential Outlook March 2026



Significant Wildland Fire Potential

- Above
- Below
- Normal
- State Boundary
- Geographic Area Boundary
- Predictive Services Area Boundary



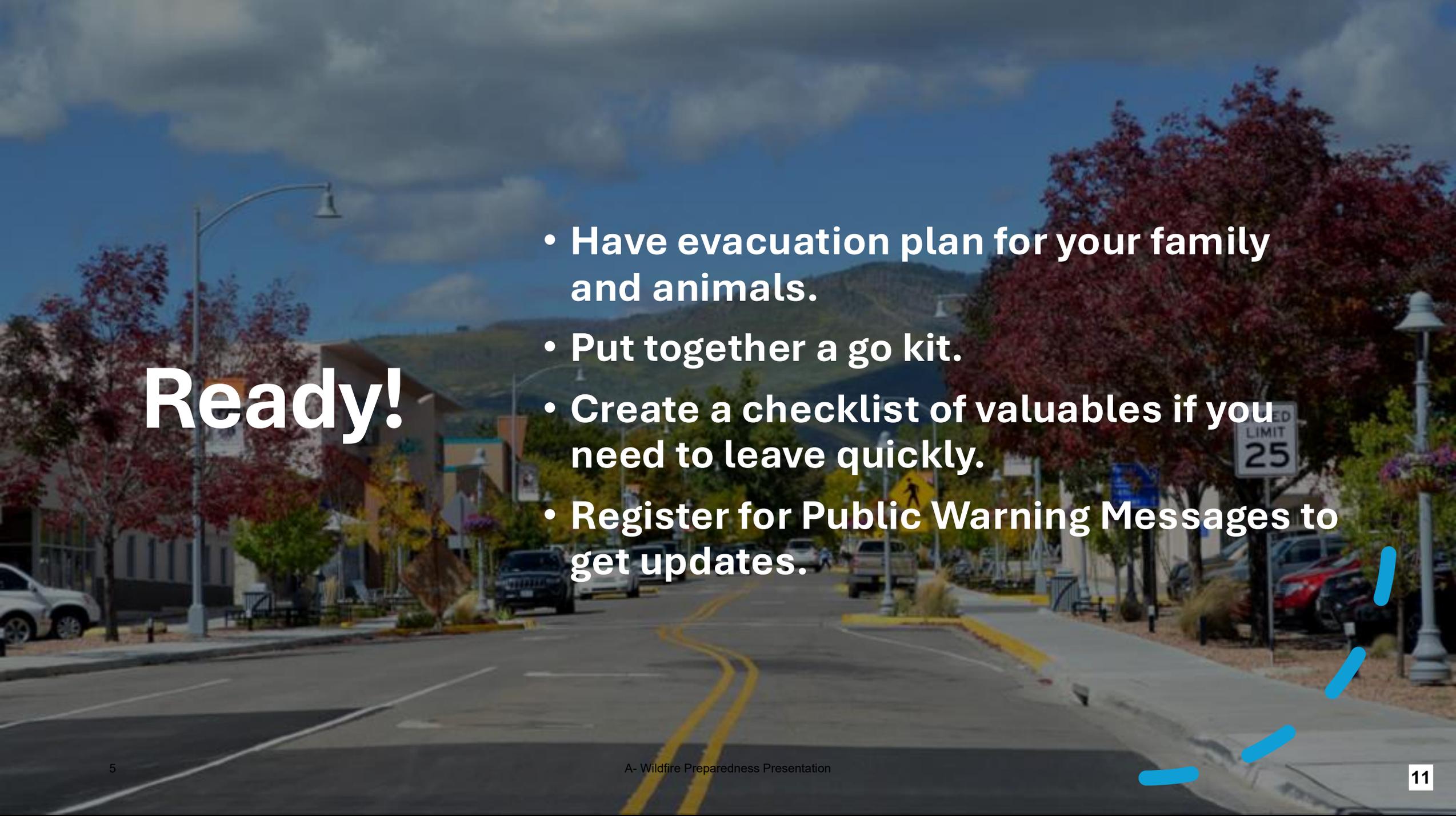
Map produced by
 Predictive Services,
 National Interagency Fire Center
 Boise, Idaho
 Issued: February 2, 2026
 Next Issue: March 2, 2026

Above normal significant wildland fire potential indicates a greater than usual likelihood that significant wildland fires will occur. Significant wildland fires should be expected at typical times and intervals during normal significant wildland fire potential conditions. Significant wildland fires are still possible but less likely than usual during forecasted below normal periods.

Are we wildfire ready?







Ready!

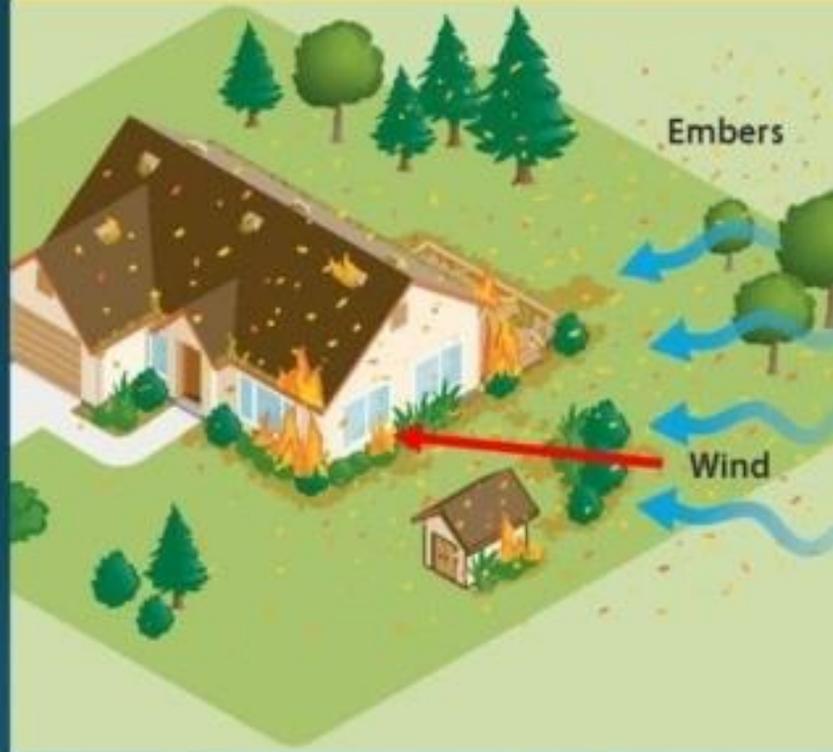
- Have evacuation plan for your family and animals.
- Put together a go kit.
- Create a checklist of valuables if you need to leave quickly.
- Register for Public Warning Messages to get updates.

Three types of fire exposures

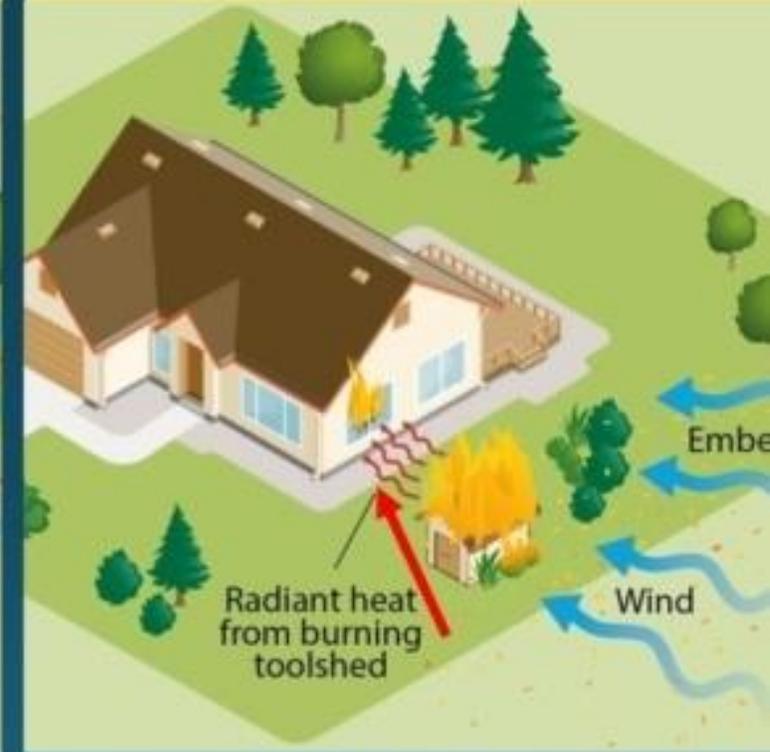
Direct flame contact



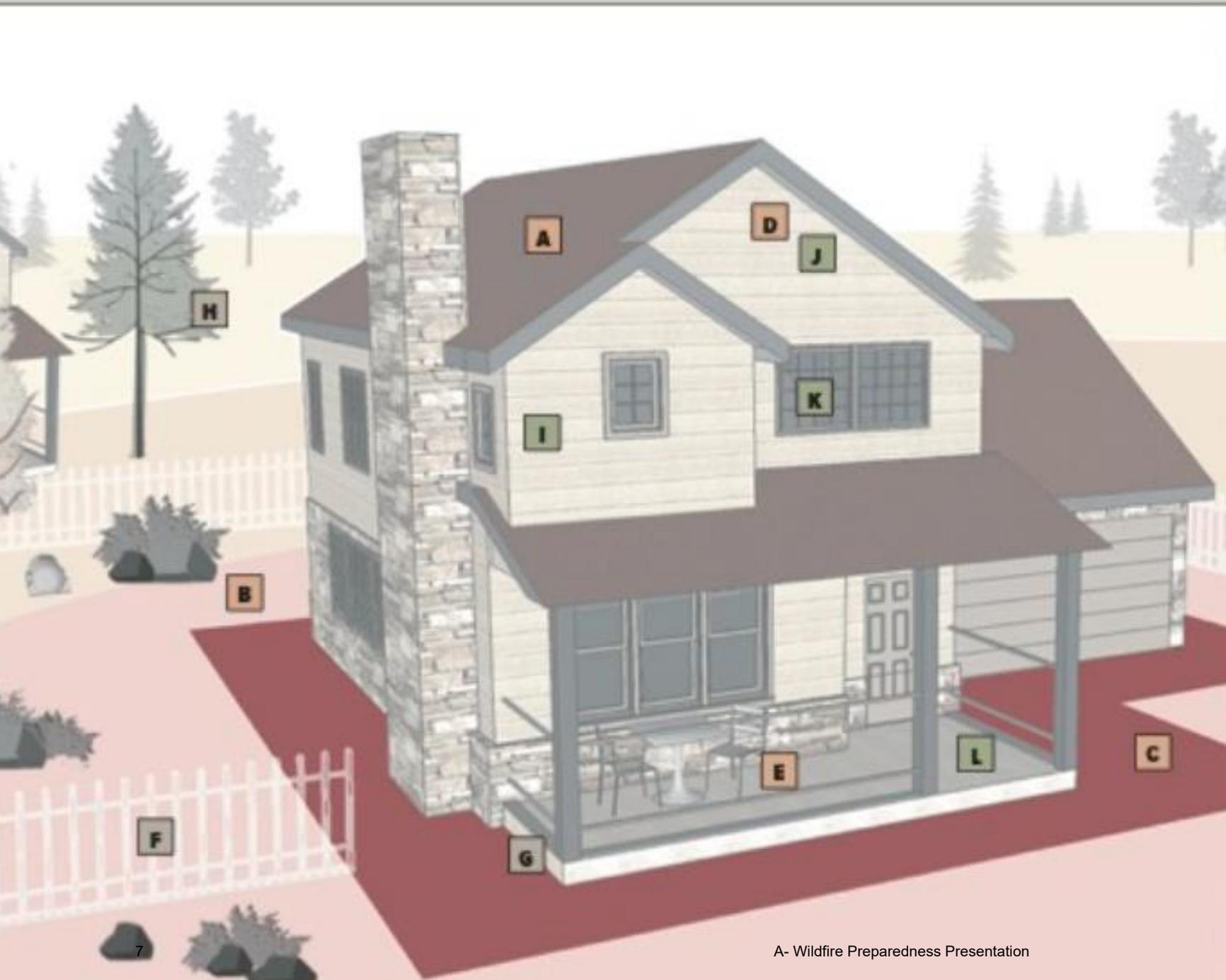
Embers



Radiant heat



- Defensible space strategies have focused on how to reduce direct flame contact.
- **Preparing for embers and radiant heat exposures takes a different approach.**

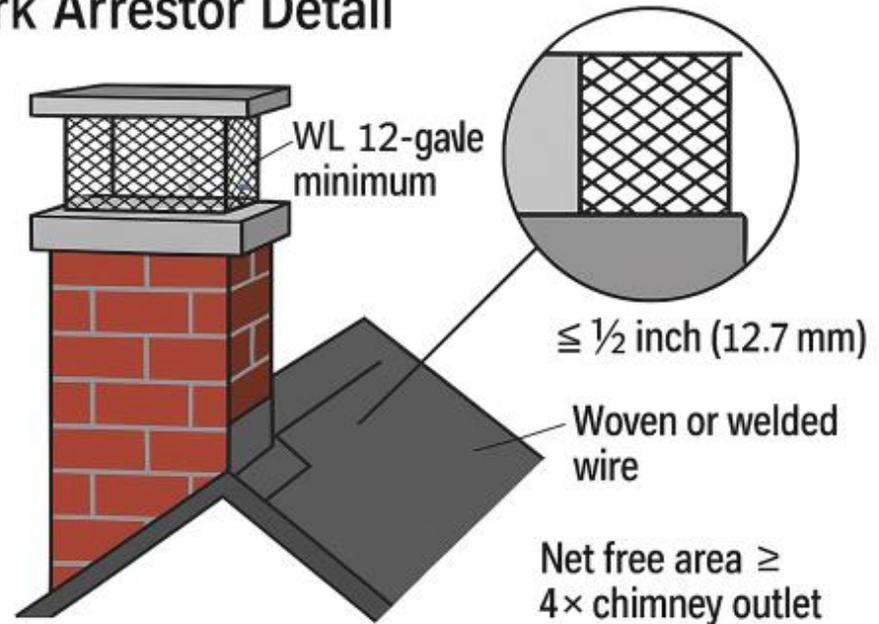


1ST PRIORITY		
A	Roof	Install a Class A-rated roof such as asphalt fiberglass shingles or metal panels.
B	Roof and yard debris	Clear leaves, pine needles, and other flammable material from the roof, gutters, and areas around fences.
C	Buffer zone	Clear vegetation and other combustible materials to create a 5-foot buffer zone around the home.
D	Vents	Install flame- and ember-resistant vents.
E	Deck	Remove vegetation, firewood, and other combustible materials from on top and under decks.
2ND PRIORITY		
F	Fencing	Replace wood or plastic fences attached to the home with noncombustible metal fencing.
G	Enclose decks	Enclose low decks and areas under bay windows with mesh screening or ventilated noncombustible material.
H	Trees	Remove branches that overhang the roof and gutters.
3RD PRIORITY		
I	Siding	Replace at least the lower foot of wood or vinyl siding with fiber cement, stucco, brick, or stone siding.
J	Eaves	Enclose open eaves with noncombustible soffit material.
K	Windows	Use dual-paned, tempered glass in windows and doors.
L	Deck surface	Replace wooden decking with fire-rated composite material, metal, or lightweight concrete.

Spark Arrestors

- Chimneys serving fireplaces require spark arrestors
- Constructed of wire mesh $\leq 1/2$ inch openings
- Net free area ≥ 4 times chimney outlet

Spark Arrestor Detail



Install spark arrestor per IWUIC Section 605:
12-gauge wire mesh, openings $\leq 1/2$ inch,
net free area $\geq 4 \times$ chimney outlet.

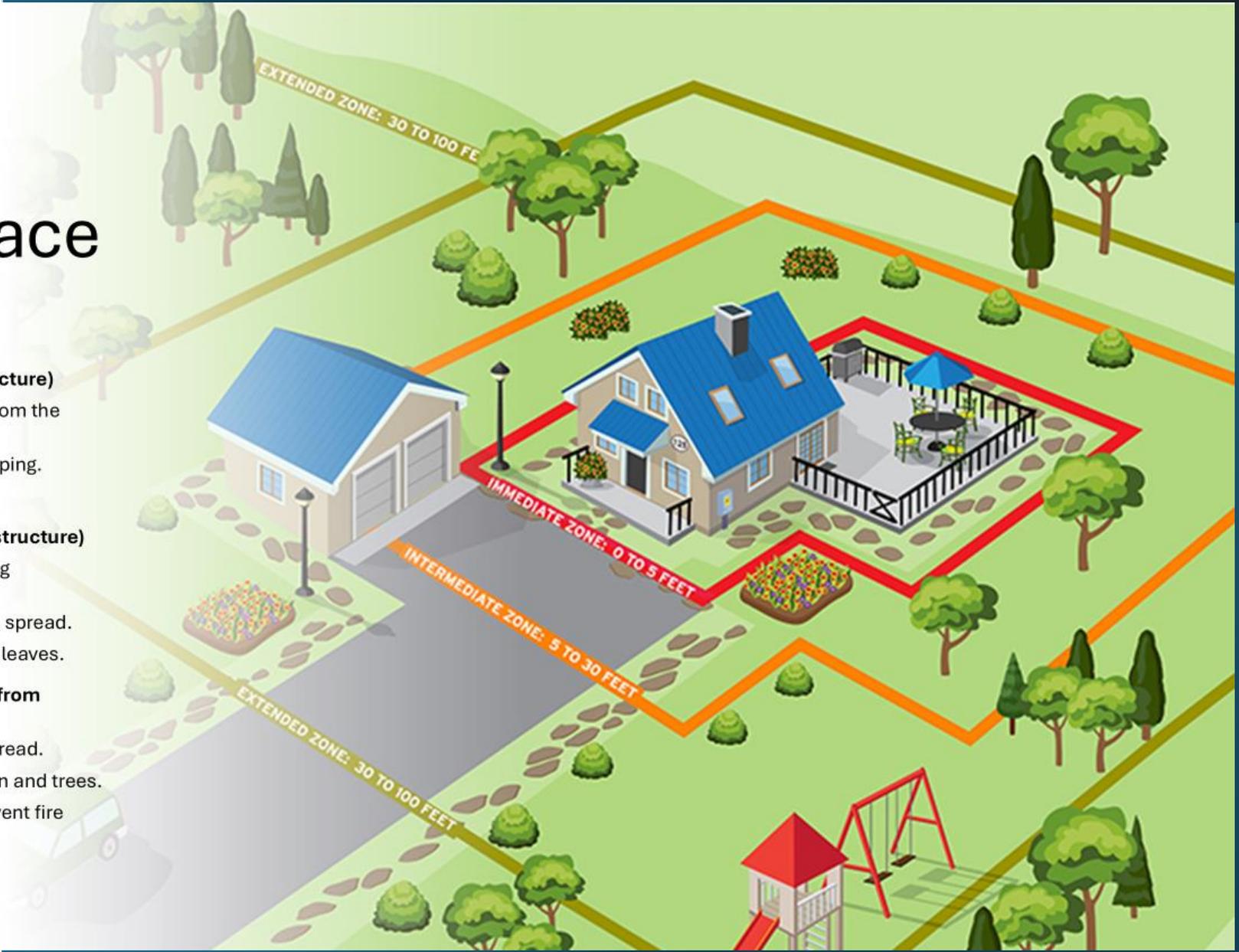


Storage & LP- Gas Requirements

- LP-Gas installations must comply with IFC and be within defensible space
- Combustible materials be kept at least 10 feet from LP-gas tanks
- Firewood and combustibles: Not stored under decks or eaves
- Minimum 20 ft from structures and 15 ft from tree crowns

Zones of Defensible Space

- **Zone 1: Immediate Zone (0-5 feet from structure)**
 - Keep all flammable materials away from the home (e.g., wood piles, mulch, etc.).
 - Use fire-resistant plants and hardscaping.
 - Clear roof and gutters of debris
- **Zone 2: Intermediate Zone (5-30 feet from structure)**
 - Maintain a defensible zone by thinning vegetation.
 - Space trees and shrubs to reduce fire spread.
 - Remove dead and dry vegetation and leaves.
- **Zone 3: Extended Zone (30-100 feet or more from structure)**
 - Create a natural buffer to slow fire spread.
 - Remove excess dead or dry vegetation and trees.
 - Maintain space between trees to prevent fire from jumping from one to another





Defensible Space

Fuel modification distances

- Moderate hazard: 30 ft | High hazard: 50 ft | Extreme hazard: 100 ft
- Los Alamos County is designated as the most extreme level of risk of a wildland event.

Defensible Space

- Trees are allowed within the *defensible space*, horizontal distance between crowns of adjacent trees and crowns of trees and structures not less than 10 feet



Commentary Figure 603.2.2
10-FOOT SEPARATION BETWEEN TREE CROWNS AND STRUCTURES

- Deadwood and litter shall be regularly removed from trees.
- If grass, ivy, succulents or similar plants are used as ground cover, they are allowed to be within the *defensible space*, provided that they do not form a means of transmitting fire from

Set...Fire Approaching

Outside

- Gather flammable items and move them away from house
- Connect garden hoses and turn on sprinklers-TURN OFF WHEN/IF YOU LEAVE
- Patrol your property to extinguish small fires

Inside

- Close windows and doors
- Move furniture away from windows and doors
- Shut off air conditioning
- Move what you are taking to the car

2011 Las Conchas Fire



....GO!

- **Leave before someone tells you! If you feel unsafe, Leave!**
- **Follow instructions from the police, fire, or other emergency services.**
- **In evacuations from the area, leave when you are instructed by your zone, and follow evacuation routes!**

Questions?

Wildland Fire Chief Van Leimer

505-695-4353

van.leimer@losalamosnm.gov



Fire Marshal Colorado Cordova

505-412-7729

colorado.cordova@losalamosnm.gov





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Staff Report

February 10, 2026

Agenda No.: A.
Index (Council Goals):
Presenters: County Council
Legislative File: 21297-26

Title

Action to Suspend Council Rules for Work Session

Recommended Action

I move that Council suspend their procedural rules for this work session, February 10, 2026, so that formal action may be taken.

Body

The Los Alamos County Council Procedural Rules identifies a Work Session as follows:

"Work Sessions. The Council may schedule work sessions on a regular basis under the requirements of the annual Open Meetings Resolution. Council meetings designated as work sessions shall be held for the primary purpose of discussing issues at length with staff in an informal setting without taking formal action except for required procedural actions such as approving minutes from a prior council meeting, or adopting a statement for inclusion in the minutes regarding a closed session. Public comment will generally be taken only at the beginning and ending."

This action would suspend that rule for this meeting to enable Council to take formal action on agenda items scheduled for this work session.



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Staff Report

February 10, 2026

Agenda No.: B.

Index (Council Goals): Quality Governance - Communication and Engagement

Presenters: Michael Redondo, County Clerk

Legislative File: 21075-26

Title

Approval of County Council Minutes for the January 27, 2026, Regular Session

Recommended Action

I move that Council approve the Minutes for the January 27, 2026, Regular Session.

Clerk's Recommendation

The County Clerk recommends that Council approve the minutes as presented.

Attachments

A - County Council Minutes for the January 27 2026 Regular Session



County of Los Alamos

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Minutes

County Council – Regular Session

*Randall Ryti, Council Chair; Ryn Herrmann, Council Vice Chair;
Theresa Cull, Melanee Hand, Suzie Havemann,
Beverly Neal-Clinton, and David Reagor, Councilors*

Tuesday, January 27, 2026

6:00 PM

Council Chambers - 1000 Central Avenue

1. OPENING/ROLL CALL

The Council Chair, Randall Ryti, called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Chair Ryti made opening remarks regarding the meeting's procedure.

The following Councilors were in attendance:

**Present: 6 – Councilor Ryti, Councilor Herrmann, Councilor Cull, Councilor Hand,
Councilor Neal-Clinton, and Councilor Reagor**

Remote: 1 – Councilor Havemann

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Led by: All.

3. STATEMENT REGARDING CLOSED SESSION

Councilor Cull read the following statement to be included in the meeting minutes: "The matters discussed in the closed sessions of County Council held on January 27, 2026, that began at 4:00 p.m. was limited only to the topics specified in the notice of the closed session, and no action was taken on any matter in the closed session. We request that this statement be included in the meeting minutes."

4. PUBLIC COMMENT

Ms. Leslie Linke spoke.

5. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion was made by Councilor Cull, seconded by Councilor Neal-Clinton, that Council approve the agenda as presented.

The motion passed with the following vote:

Yes: 7 – Councilor Ryti, Councilor Herrmann, Councilor Cull, Councilor Hand, Councilor Havemann, Councilor Neal-Clinton, and Councilor Reagor

6. PUBLIC COMMENT FOR ITEMS ON THE CONSENT AGENDA

None.

7. CONSENT AGENDA

Consent Motion:

A motion was made by Councilor Neal-Clinton, seconded by Councilor Herrmann, that Council approve the items on the Consent Agenda as presented and that the motions in the staff reports be included for the record.

- A. Approval of County Council Minutes for the January 6, 2026, Regular Session and January 13, 2026, Work Session**

I move that Council approve the Minutes for the January 6, 2026, Regular Session and January 13, 2026, Work Session.

- B. Approval of Services Agreement AGR26-15 with Armystick, LLC in the Amount of \$1,000,000 for the Water Systems Mechanical Devices Rehabilitation Service and Support for a Seven-Year Term**

I move that Council approve services agreement no. AGR26-15 with Armystick, LLC in the amount of \$1,000,000, plus applicable Gross Receipts Tax, for the purpose of the water systems mechanical devices rehabilitation service and support.

- C. Approval of Services Agreement No. AGR26-842 with Cintas Corporation No. 2 in an Amount Not to Exceed \$310,000 plus Applicable Gross Receipts Tax for Uniform Rental and Related Services for Public Works Electricians and Environmental Services Division for a Seven-Year Term**

I move that Council approve Services Agreement No. AGR26-842 with Cintas Corporation No. 2 in an Amount Not to Exceed \$310,000 plus Applicable Gross Receipts Tax for Uniform Rental and Related Services for Public Works Electricians and Environmental Services Division for a Seven-Year Term.

- D. Approval of Amendment No. 4 to Services Agreement No. AGR20-06, with Unum Life Insurance Company of America, in an Amount Not to Exceed \$1,250,000, plus Applicable Gross Receipts Tax, for the Purpose of Providing Long Term Disability (LTD) Insurance Benefits to Eligible Los Alamos County Employees**

I move that Council approve Amendment No. 4 to Services Agreement No. AGR20-06 with Unum Life Insurance Company of America for Long Term Disability Benefits, in an amount not to exceed \$1,250,000.

- E. Approval of Amendment No. 1 to General Services Agreement No. AGR22-80 with Dearborn Life Insurance Company, in the Amount of \$950,000, plus Applicable Gross Receipts Tax, for the Purpose of Providing Basic Life, AD&D, and Voluntary Life Insurance (Ancillary Benefits) to Los Alamos County Employees

I move that Council approve Amendment No. 1 to General Services Agreement No. AGR22-80 with Dearborn Life Insurance Company, in the amount of \$950,000, for the purpose of providing Basic Life, AD&D, and Voluntary Life, Insurance (Ancillary Benefits) to Los Alamos County Employees.

- F. Approval of Contract Amendment for General Services, Agreement No. AGR25-963-A1 with Stryker Sales, LLC, Increasing the Contract Not-to-Exceed Amount to \$804,173.33 plus Applicable Gross Receipts Tax, for the Purchase of Six (6) Additional LifePak 35 Cardiac Monitors, Including Software and Maintenance, for a Term of up to Seven (7) Years

I move that Council approve Amendment No. AGR25-963-A1 to Agreement No. AGR25-963 with Stryker Sales, LLC, increasing the contract not-to-exceed amount to \$804,173.33, plus applicable Gross Receipts Tax, for the purchase of six (6) additional LifePak 35 cardiac monitors, including software and maintenance, for a term of up to seven (7) years.

- G. Award of Bid No. IFB 26-24 for the Purpose of the Guaje Canyon and Bayo Booster Fiber Optic Line Installation with TSI Tower, Inc. in the Amount of \$559,395.00 plus Contingency and Applicable Gross Receipts Tax

I move that Council approve Award of Bid No. IFB 26-24 for the purpose of the Guaje Canyon and Bayo Booster Fiber Optic Line Installation with TSI Tower, Inc. in the Amount of \$559,395.00 and a contingency in the amount of \$83,910, for a total of \$643,305.00, plus Applicable Gross Receipts Tax.

- H. Approval of Budget Revision 2026-34 for Task Order No. 3 with Souder Miller & Associates under AGR22-67b for Potable Water Storage Tank Inspection and Maintenance Services

I move that Council approve Budget Revision No. 2026-34 in the amount of \$70,433.00, for Task Order No. 3 with Souder Miller & Associates under AGR22-67b for required potable water storage tank inspection and maintenance services.

- I. Approval of Grant Agreement with the State of New Mexico, Aging and Long-Term Services Department for Capital Appropriations Project J25-2037.10 To Renovate and Replace the HVAC System, Windows and Other Renovations for the Betty Ehart Senior Center

I move that the Council approve the Grant Agreement and authorize the County Manager to execute all related documents.

- J. Board/Commission Appointment - Environmental Sustainability Board

I move that Council nominate and appoint Jack Grow to fill one vacancy on the Environmental Sustainability Board for a partial term beginning on January 28, 2026, and ending on July 31, 2026.

K. Board/Commission Appointment(s) - Los Alamos County Health Council

I move that Council nominate and reappoint Celeste Raffin to the Los Alamos County Health Council for a term beginning on February 27, 2026, and ending on February 26, 2028.

Approval of the Consent Agenda:

The motion passed with the following vote:

Yes: 7 – Councilor Ryti, Councilor Herrmann, Councilor Cull, Councilor Hand, Councilor Havemann, Councilor Neal-Clinton, and Councilor Reagor

8. PUBLIC HEARING(S)

- A. Incorporated County of Los Alamos Resolution No. 26-03: A Resolution Authorizing the County to Submit an Application to the Department of Finance and Administration, Local Government Division, to Participate in the Local DWI Grant and Distribution Program**

Ms. Lauren Tomko, Court Program Coordinator, presented.

Public Comment:
None.

A motion was made by Councilor Cull, seconded by Councilor Herrmann, that Council adopt Incorporated County of Los Alamos Resolution No. 26-03, a Resolution authorizing the County to submit an application to the Department of Finance and Administration, Local Government Division, to participate in the Local DWI Grant and Distribution Program.

As part of the LWDI application, she further moved that Council approve the Council Chair to sign the MOU and Statement of Assurances.

The motion passed with the following vote:

Yes: 7 – Councilor Ryti, Councilor Herrmann, Councilor Cull, Councilor Hand, Councilor Havemann, Councilor Neal-Clinton, and Councilor Reagor

9. BUSINESS

- A. Presentation and Possible Acceptance of the North Mesa Recreation Master Plan**

Ms. Wendy Parker, Parks Superintendent, presented.

Ms. Karina Rodgers, Planner, SITES Southwest, presented.

Mr. Robert Oberdorfer, Senior Landscape Architect and Planner, SITES Southwest, presented.

Public Comment:
Mr. Greg Weiss spoke.
Mr. Warren Hurley spoke.
Mr. Grant Fox spoke.
Mr. Daniel Jackson spoke.
Ms. Ashley Connell spoke.

Ms. Lauren Cooper spoke.
Ms. Jordan Duggan spoke.
Ms. Michelle Carlson spoke.
Ms. Krista Sawchuk spoke.
Ms. Lisa Reader spoke.
Ms. Stacy Buck spoke.
Mr. Bryan Bonser spoke.
Mr. Bridger Dickman spoke.
Ms. Tallie Dickman spoke.
Ms. Amalie Atchley spoke.
Ms. Ashley Pryor spoke.
Ms. Phoebe Sanderbeck spoke.
Mx. Drew Hall spoke.
Ms. Michelle Holtkamp spoke.
Mr. Felipe Alves spoke.
Ms. Stacy Meyers spoke.
Ms. Eli Cahill spoke.
Ms. Brittany St. Jacques spoke.
Ms. Elizabeth Ziomek spoke.
Mr. Nathan Maier spoke.
Ms. Anna Alves spoke.
Ms. Carol Bronisz spoke.
Ms. Hannah Wilcox spoke.

A motion was made by Councilor Hand, seconded by Councilor Herrmann, that Council accept the North Mesa Recreation Master Plan as presented.

The motion passed with the following vote:

Yes: 7 – Councilor Ryti, Councilor Herrmann, Councilor Cull, Councilor Hand, Councilor Havemann, Councilor Neal-Clinton, and Councilor Reagor

B. Presentation and Possible Approval of a High-Intensity Activated Crosswalk (HAWK) Signal on NM4

Mr. Keith Wilson, Deputy Public Works Director, presented.
Mr. Eric Martinez, Public Works Director, spoke.

Public Comment:
Mr. Richard Gaddis spoke.
Ms. Jessica Robinson spoke.
Mr. Greg Weiss spoke.

A motion was made by Councilor Hand, seconded by Councilor Herrmann, that Council approve the installation of a High-Intensity Activated Crosswalk (called HAWK) signal on New Mexico 4 approximately 550 feet east of La Vista Drive.

The motion passed with the following vote:

Yes: 7 – Councilor Ryti, Councilor Herrmann, Councilor Cull, Councilor Hand, Councilor Havemann, Councilor Neal-Clinton, and Councilor Reagor

RECESS

Chair Ryti called for a recess at 8:12 p.m. The meeting reconvened at 8:21 p.m.

- C. Presentation and Possible Acceptance of the FY2025 Annual Comprehensive Financial Report with Auditor's Opinion and FY2025 Single Audit Report with Auditor's Opinion**

Mrs. Melissa Dadzie, Chief Financial Officer, presented.

Mr. Farley Vener, President and Managing Shareholder, Hinkle + Landers, presented.

Public Comment:

None.

A motion was made by Councilor Neal-Clinton, seconded by Councilor Cull, that Council accept the Annual Comprehensive Financial Report and Single Audit Report for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2025.

The motion passed with the following vote:

Yes: 7 – Councilor Ryti, Councilor Herrmann, Councilor Cull, Councilor Hand, Councilor Havemann, Councilor Neal-Clinton, and Councilor Reagor

- D. Discussion and Possible Action on Establishment of a Metropolitan Redevelopment Area (MRA) Commission**

Chair Ryti presented.

Public Comment:

Ms. Lisa Shin spoke.

Mr. Jeffrey Branch spoke.

Mr. Greg Gonzales spoke.

Mr. Phil Gursky spoke.

A motion was made by Councilor Herrmann, seconded by Councilor Neal-Clinton, that Council take no further action and maintain Council as the governing decision-making body for MRA funding requests.

The motion passed with the following vote:

Yes: 5 – Councilor Ryti, Councilor Herrmann, Councilor Cull, Councilor Havemann, and Councilor Neal-Clinton

No: 2 – Councilor Hand and Councilor Reagor

- E. Discussion and Possible Approval of Agreement No. AGR26-858 for the Purchase of Public Safety Video Systems and Related Services from Axon Enterprise, Inc in the Amount Not to Exceed \$6,826,839.59, for a Ten-Year Term

Mr. Dino Sgambellone, Police Chief, presented.

Ms. Anne Laurent, County Manager, spoke.

Mr. Chris Ross, Police Sergeant, spoke.

Mr. Alvin Leaphart, County Attorney, spoke.

Public Comment:

Ms. Brittany St. Jacques spoke.

A motion was made by Councilor Cull, seconded by Councilor Reagor, that Council approve the agreement no. AGR26-858 between the Incorporated County of Los Alamos and Axon Enterprise, Incorporated, for the purchase of public safety video systems, related devices, software, and services in an amount not to exceed \$6,826,839.59, for a ten-year term.

The motion passed with the following vote:

Yes: 7 – Councilor Ryti, Councilor Herrmann, Councilor Cull, Councilor Hand, Councilor Havemann, Councilor Neal-Clinton, and Councilor Reagor

10. COUNCIL BUSINESS

A. General Council Business

- 1) Boards and Commission Liaisons and Council Working Groups Assignments

Councilor Reagor noted that he did not remove himself from working with New Mexico Counties (NMC). Chair Ryti clarified that the item on the assignments referred to board membership, not regular participation.

B. Appointments

None.

C. Board and Commission Vacancy Report

None.

D. Board and Commission Reports

None.

E. County Manager's Report

1) County Manager's Report for December 2025

County Manager Anne Laurent reported on:

- Extraction of the hexavalent chromium plume
- North Mesa Housing project with Los Alamos Public Schools
- LEDA retail applications and the LEDA comprehensive plan
- Los Alamos 2025 tourism debrief
- Potential Community Development meeting with Cities Work
- New customer service training for all employees
- MRA applications and handbook modifications
- Aquatic Center closure for maintenance

Councilor Cull requested an overview of the Tourism Working Group at a future session.

F. Council Chair Report

Chair Ryti reported on:

- Hexavalent chromium workshop
- Monthly staff meetings with San Ildefonso Pueblo
- Nuclear Energy Workshop at the New Mexico Counties January meeting
- Meeting with New Mexico Environmental Department Secretary Kenney
- Legislative dinner
- Public School's presentation of their legislative requests
- Regular monthly and weekly meetings
- Pueblo de San Ildefonso Feast Day
- Additional Council abilities related to Planning and Zoning cases
- Plan for future written updates

G. Approval of Councilor Expenses

None.

H. Preview of Upcoming Agenda Items

1) Tickler Report of Upcoming Agenda Items

Councilor Ryti noted that the overview of the Tourism Working Group will be added at the next working session.

11. COUNCILOR COMMENTS

None.

12. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 10:04 p.m.

INCORPORATED COUNTY OF LOS ALAMOS

Randall Ryti, Council Chair

Attest:

Michael D. Redondo, County Clerk

Meeting Transcribed by: Allison Collins, Deputy Clerk

County Council - Regular Session on 2026-01-27 6:00 PM

Meeting Time: 01-27-26 17:45

eComments Report

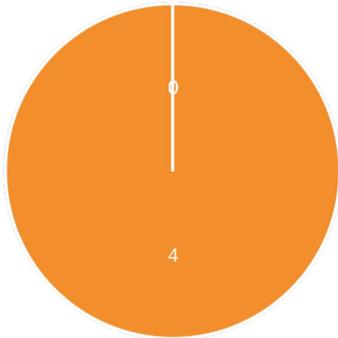
Meetings	Meeting Time	Agenda Items	Comments	Support	Oppose	Neutral
County Council - Regular Session on 2026-01-27 6:00 PM	01-27-26 17:45	45	4	0	4	0

Sentiments for All Meetings

The following graphs display sentiments for comments that have location data. Only locations of users who have commented will be shown.

Overall Sentiment

Support (0%) Oppose (100%) Neutral (0%)
No Response (0%)



Los Alamos County Council
Regular Session
January 27, 2026
Item 9.A

County Council - Regular Session on 2026-01-27 6:00 PM

01-27-26 17:45

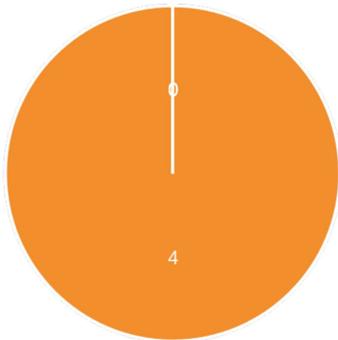
Agenda Name	Comments	Support	Oppose	Neutral
4. PUBLIC COMMENT	1	0	1	0
A. 20593-26 Presentation and Possible Acceptance of the North Mesa Recreation Master Plan	3	0	3	0

Sentiments for All Agenda Items

The following graphs display sentiments for comments that have location data. Only locations of users who have commented will be shown.

Overall Sentiment

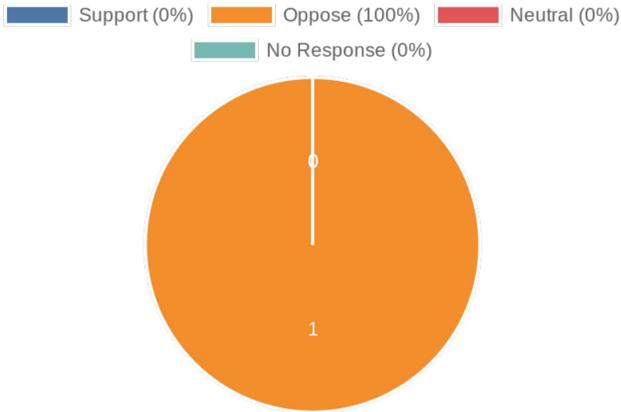
Support (0%) Oppose (100%) Neutral (0%)
No Response (0%)



Los Alamos County Council
Regular Session
January 27, 2026
eComments

Agenda Item: eComments for 4. PUBLIC COMMENT

Overall Sentiment



Ivan Gonzalez-Alvarez

Location:

Submitted At: 9:28am 01-26-26

Let me list five reasons to reconsider approving this plan as someone who actually lives directly next to this area. There is one main road through this area of the North Mesa and it goes through a school zone. Increased traffic not only impacts those of us who live on this Mesa, but also increases the threats to the kids on their way to and from school.

We already have a lot of these facilities. There is a bike park on the Barranca Mesa. Why not spend the funds on improving that facility? Urban park has volleyball courts. The needs are already being met elsewhere in the town. It's a hassle to drive nearly 15 minutes just to go to Smith's from where I live, which again is right next to the proposed zone. Will the Los Alamos residents truly drive that distance to visit some food trucks?

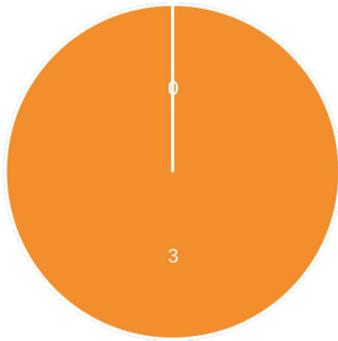
This plan displaces wildlife and disturbs the animals boarded at the stables nearby. Again, to the increase in traffic, imagine the increased number of collisions with the deer, coyotes, and other animals. The increased noise will significantly stress the horses, who have highly sensitive hearing.

The closest residents are largely people in manufactured homes. Are their needs being valued at the same level of the rest of the residents of Los Alamos? The loudest voices are not necessarily the majority voices or even the correct voices. My neighbors are hard-working, usually not the scientists or engineers who work at LANL, but the ones who keep everything operational. We do not have the time to attend these meetings where these plans are developed because we are too busy surviving. Instead of listening to the people who do have the luxury of letting their voices be heard, perhaps take the time to truly discover the needs of the people at North Mesa.

Los Alamos County Council
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Item 4

Overall Sentiment

Support (0%) Oppose (100%) Neutral (0%)
No Response (0%)



Los Alamos County Council
Regular Session
January 27, 2026
Item 9.A

Me Smith

Location:
Submitted At: 6:15pm 01-26-26

Was it only a couple of council meetings ago the council had to increase the GRT just to meet current obligations? Yet, here we are considering a plan that will start in motion a process to increase more spending. This is not an essential project.

A few compliments were received for the process and I agree. Yes, they did have 300 people respond but that is still just a tiny percentage of the counties population. People who attend these meetings usually have an agenda. I am certain you noticed the number of bike helmets in the pictures. If you are going to go forward the council should put this out for a public vote to see if residents really want to spend that amount of money on the park and live by the decision.

A couple of comments I gathered from the meeting. 1). The biking group mentioned this type of bike park was built for \$500k, not \$5 million as in the proposed plan. There is a factor of 10 difference. One of the estimates is way off. 2). The presenter mentioned there that there were volleyball courts nearby but they were not used. Why not repair those rather than build new ones?. 3). The plan calls for a large building with space for food trucks. There was no justification, as in real dollars, that would justify this expense. I understand the Derby Dames would rather not compete for indoor space and have potential tournaments but this not enough to justify the capital improvements. 5) If restroom changes , stormwater changes, and handicapped access are needed then set them as a priority . A large capital project may not be required, perhaps even falling under operational expense to maintain the park.

Please tighten the expenditure belt. The lab support is subject to change as administrations change.

Ivan Gonzalez-Alvarez

Location:
Submitted At: 9:31am 01-26-26

Let me list five reasons to reconsider approving this plan as someone who actually lives directly next to this area.

There is one main road through this area of the North Mesa and it goes through a school zone. Increased traffic not only impacts those of us who live on this Mesa, but also increases the threats to the kids on their way to and from school.

We already have a lot of these facilities. There is a bike park on the Barranca Mesa. Why not spend the funds on improving that facility? Urban park has volleyball courts. The needs are already being met elsewhere in the town. It's a hassle to drive nearly 15 minutes just to go to Smith's from where I live, which again is right next to the proposed zone. Will the Los Alamos residents truly drive that distance to visit some food trucks?

This plan displaces wildlife and disturbs the animals boarded at the stables nearby. Again, to the increase in traffic, imagine the increased number of collisions with the deer, coyotes, and other animals. The increased noise will significantly stress the horses, who have highly sensitive hearing.

The closest residents are largely people in manufactured homes. Are their needs being valued at the same level of the rest of the residents of Los Alamos? The loudest voices are not necessarily the majority voices or even the correct voices. My neighbors are hard-working, usually not the scientists or engineers who work at LANL, but the ones who keep everything operational. We do not have the time to attend these meetings where these plans are developed because we are too busy surviving. Instead of listening to the people who do have the luxury of letting their voices be heard, perhaps take the time to truly discover the needs of the people at North Mesa.

Theresa Kucinski

Location:

Submitted At: 9:11am 01-26-26

I have lived on the North Mesa for almost a full four years now, a mere 5 minute walk from the area that is proposed for the North Mesa Recreation plan and I oppose the entire plan. I remember signs going up near the playground last year about meetings but they were unclear, I thought it was about the tennis court situation and not an entire 26-acre development plan. The people who live on the North Mesa, the ones who already use this area, were not adequately surveyed for their opinion. The plan, developed for Los Alamos as a whole, does not take into consideration the people (and animals) who already use and love the space. Tsikumu village on the North Mesa is full of manufactured homes, the current name for what was once referred to as mobile homes, and across the way is the La Mesa Mobile Home Park.

There is no need to beat around the bush here, this development plan is gentrification. Utilizing a space that is deemed "free" or "unused" simply because the people who use it are not in the \$3000/month one-bedroom apartments near downtown or the near 1 million dollar newly built townhomes. This development displaces an area already used by the people of the North Mesa, bringing traffic to the only road that leads to our homes, increasing noise levels, decreasing the amount of actual open space (i.e. nature) where animals thrive, negatively impacting the animals boarded at the local stables. It decreases the quality of life for the people of North Mesa just for the benefit of the people in Los Alamo who can actually afford to live in the larger homes that are not considered mobile, the ones who can afford to live closer to town, while not affecting them in the negative whatsoever. The people of the North Mesa need to be better incorporated into this plan, their needs and wants considered instead of just those who have the time to attend planning meetings.

Los Alamos County Council Regular Session January 27, 2026 Item 9.A
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County of Los Alamos

Los Alamos, NM 87544
www.losalamosnm.us

Staff Report

February 10, 2026

Agenda No.:	C.
Index (Council Goals):	Quality of Life - Open Space, Parks, and Recreation
Presenters:	Russell Naranjo, Engineering Project Manager, Miguel Jimenez, Senior Engineer, Wendy Parker, Engineering Project Manager, Eric Martinez, Public Works Director and Cory Styron, Community Services Director
Legislative File:	20992-26

Title

Approval of Task Order No. 29 under Service Agreement No. AGR-22-18a with All-Rite Construction, Inc. in the Amount of \$2,113,060.56 plus Applicable Gross Receipts Tax for Brewer Arena Improvements and Establish a Project Budget in the Amount of \$2,870,000.00 which includes Contingency

Recommended Action

I move that Council approve Task Order No. 29 under Services Agreement No. AGR 22-18a with All-Rite Construction Inc. in the amount of \$2,113,060.56 plus applicable gross receipts tax for Brewer Arena Improvements and establish a Project Budget in the amount of \$2,870,000.00 which includes contingency.

County Manager's Recommendation

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

Board, Commission or Committee Recommendation

On December 11, 2025, the Parks and Recreation Board approved a motion to recommend the Brewer Arena Project be presented to the County Council for their review and approval.

Body

Los Alamos Brewer Arena is over 20 years old and requires upgrades to meet current Americans with Disability Act (ADA), functionality, and seating requirements.

In the Spring of 2024, the County hired Wilson and Company Inc, an on-call engineering and architectural consultant, to perform a facility condition assessment, and develop proposals and construction documents for the required upgrades. During the condition assessment, evidence of structural damage was found in the pavilion, grandstand, and announcer's box (aka crow's nest). Given the types and combined actions of this damage, Wilson and Company, Inc. determined that these structures were not safe, and replacement structures were recommended. The assessment also determined that parking areas, pedestrian circulation routes, and restroom facilities required upgrades to meet current ADA standards.

With this information at-hand, County staff promptly initiated arrangements for the demolition of the deficient pavilion and grandstand structures and utilized temporary structures to accommodate events in the interim. The demolition and removal of the deficient structures was completed in December 2024.

While the demolition was ongoing, Wilson and Company, Inc. initiated the design of

renovations and ADA accessibility improvements for the Brewer Arena. The scope of design included i) a new pavilion, grandstand, and crow's nest, ii) renovation of the restroom, iii) upgrades to the pedestrian circulation paths and accessible parking, and iv) renovation to the walkways leading to the crow's nest to minimize contact with the animals in the pens.

County staff held numerous public engagements events, including meeting with affected stakeholders and presented to the Parks and Recreation Board to present design recommendations and obtain feedback. The Parks and Recreation Board voted to recommend the project design as presented at its December 11, 2025 meeting.

County staff requested proposals from its on-call general contractors to construct this project. After review, County staff determined that the proposal presented by All-Rite Construction, Inc., provides all labor, services, equipment, structures, and materials required to complete the project in accordance with the construction documents. Thereafter, staff prepared Task Order 29 for Brewer Arena Renovations and ADA improvements in the amount of \$2,455,587.45 plus applicable gross receipts tax (Attachment A).

All-Rite Construction, Inc., has provided excellent services to the County with previous projects including the Hilltop House Hotel demolition, electrical updates at Ashley Pond, the installation of electric golf cart infrastructure, and siding replacement at the Mesa Public Library. Wilson and Company, Inc., will provide construction administration services in support of the County through the duration of the construction.

The site work and restroom renovations are expected to be completed in time for the 2026 County Fair and Rodeo. However, due to lead times and uncertainties with the fabrication, delivery and assembly of metal work associated with the bleachers, pavilion and crow's nest, substantial completion for the project is scheduled for July 2027, in time for the 2027 County Fair and Rodeo.

Alternatives

Council could choose not to approve Task Order No. 29 and postpone the project to a later time. Any delay or cancellation of the project will result in additional cost for temporary seating structures to accommodate events. Moreover, a delay or cancellation of this project will result in increased project cost due to the escalation of construction costs that has been observed in recent years.

Fiscal and Staff Impact/Planned Item

Funding for this project is currently budgeted and available in the FY 2026 Capital Improvement Projects Fund under CSD Infrastructure - Improvements & ADA. In addition, the project received funding through a New Mexico Department of Finance Administration Recreation Grant. No other staff or budget impacts are anticipated.

The Project Budget Spreadsheet (Attachment B) illustrates a total project budget of \$2,870,000.00 which includes NMGRT and an approximate 15% contingency for unanticipated changes or site conditions. It should be noted that this project total also includes already incurred expenses of demolition and design.

Public Works Capital Projects & Facilities Division staff alongside Parks Division staff will help manage the project.

Attachments

-
- A - Task Order No. 29 AGR22-18a.
 - B - Project Budget Spreadsheet
 - C - Presentation

AGR22-18a TASK ORDER #29 Brewer Arena Renovations and ADA Improvements

DATE PREPARED: February 3, 2026

CHARGE: CP7018 8369

CONTRACT MANAGER: Miguel Jimenez, 505-662-1430. All changes in scope, budget, or schedule (extensions) need to be approved in advance by Miguel Jimenez.

COUNTY REQUESTOR/CONTACT: Russell Naranjo Project Manager, 505-662-8421. All changes in scope, budget, or schedule (extensions) need to be approved in advance by Russell Naranjo.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Proposal Provided by All-Rite Construction, dated January 20, 2026
2. Construction Drawings by Wilson and Company, Inc.

COMMENCE WORK DATE:

1. Upon issuance of Task Order

REQUESTED DELIVERY DATE:

1. Construction completed by July 31, 2027

SCOPE OF WORK REQUESTED:

Perform Brewer Arena Renovations and ADA Improvements as described in Construction Documents Issued by Wilson and Company Inc.

1. New Grandstand and Pavilion
2. Site grading and civil work
3. New asphalt sidewalk - Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) for access and pedestrian circulation with a Chip Seal application for an equestrian friendly surface
4. Upgrade restroom facilities to ADA standards
5. Replace the Crow’s Nest (announcer’s booth) and walkways allowing safe access for the occupants

DELIVERABLES:

1. See attached proposal for deliverables and exclusions. The project is scheduled to be 100% completed in 2027. Long lead times for material coating are expected. All site work, ADA restroom improvements, ADA parking, and sidewalk upgrades for pedestrian circulation are anticipated to be completed by the 2026 LAC Rodeo.

ESTIMATED COST:

1. Total Task Order: \$2,071,628.00 plus \$41,432.56 bond plus contingency (~15%) \$342,526.89 for a Total of \$2,455,587.45 plus \$149,234.90 NMGR (7.0625%)

Current Contract Value	\$10,000,000.00	Plus GRT
Estimated value of all task orders to date, including this task order:	\$9,268,998.70	Plus GRT
Remaining Contract Value:	\$731,001.30	Plus GRT

Proposal Submitted To:

Los Alamos County
Public Works Department
White Rock Visitor Center



539 Oliver Ross Dr.
Albuquerque, NM 87121
Ph: (505) 344-7663
Fax: (505) 898-8239
www.ritecon.com

RE: Brewer Arena & Upgrades
4 N. Mesa Rd
Los Alamos, NM 87544

Proposal Submitted By: Jason O'Connor
Attention: Russell Naranjo
January 20, 2026

Description

Ritecon would like to hereby propose executing the turnkey project for the Public Works Division of Los Alamos County. We will provide the materials, equipment, and labor to complete the mentioned project as detailed in construction documents dated 08-04-25. Pricing includes wage decision labor. The compensation and expected time frame for this project is as follows.

Estimated Schedule

See attached schedule, depending on award date.

Total duration from award: 8 weeks of planning, 25 weeks of construction

Note: 90 to 120 days for submittals and delivery for bleachers could be 2027 depending on time of order.

Base bid

Subtotal: \$2,071,628.00

Bond as required: \$41,432.56

Tax 7.0625%: \$149,234.90

Grand total: \$2,262,295.46

Authorized Ritecon Construction Project Manager: Jason O'Connor *Jason O'Connor*

All material is guaranteed to be as specified. All work is to be completed in a professional manner according to standard practices. Any deviation from specifications involving extra costs will be executed upon either written or verbal orders and will become an extra charge over and above the price quote. All agreements are contingent upon strikes, accidents, or delays beyond our control. Owner to carry fire, tornado, and other necessary insurance. Our workers are fully covered by Worker's Compensation Insurance.

Scope of Work

Preconstruction services

- Administrative coordination
- Project master schedule
- Material procurement
- Permit submission and associated fees

General Requirements

- Builders risk and general liability insurance
- PM management & coordination
- Supervision
- Submittals
- Quality control and control inspections
- Temporary facilities and utilities
- Flagging & barricading
- Waste management
- Regulatory control
- Safety
- Closeouts include as-built construction documents, O&M manuals, manufacture warranties and warranty letters

Construction

The Brewer Arena Improvement Project consists of site upgrades and new structural installations to enhance accessibility, safety, and functionality for public use. The scope of work includes:

- **Permitting and engineering**
- **General Conditions:** Project management, safety compliance, submittals, inspections, and coordination with County representatives.
- **Construction Materials Testing**
- **Mobilization and Demolition:** Setup of temporary facilities, equipment delivery, and removal of existing press box and other designated structures.
- **Site Grading and Civil Work:** Grading of the bleacher area using on-site material and supplied fill compacted to 90%. Installation of additional 12-18" culvert under sidewalk for drainage (not shown on plans, refer to RFI#1) \$1600.00 included in scope.
- **Concrete work:** Installation of new sidewalks, spot footings, and ADA concrete parking area with broom finish.
- **New Asphalt Paving and Sidewalk work**
- **Structural Steel Installations:**
 - **Elevated Grandstands:**
 - Construction of galvanized steel angle-framed bleachers with aluminum seat boards, extended ADA-compliant ramp and stair access. All aluminum floorboards are quoted as Mill finish.
 - Clear Anodized aluminum risers at each row
 - Galvanized steel angle frame understructure, cross braces and guardrail posts
 - Two (2) line rail system w/ chain link fence
 - Four (4) aisles, to meet IBC2020/ICC300 w/ mid-rails per code (not continuous as shown on S-103)

- **Extended Roof Galvanized Steel Canopy:**
 - Installation of a steel-framed canopy structure over the seating area approx. 140' x 33'
 - W10x22 Beams
 - HSS 5"x5"x 3/16" Columns with welded 3/4" thick base plates.
 - Light gauge joints 100S162-54 spaced 24" O.C.
 - 20ga 1.5 Galvanized B-decking.

- **Elevated Press box Structure:**
 - Fabrication and erection of a hot dipped structural steel framed press box with elevated pedestrian bridge and stair access. RFI#2 Adding the landing.
 - W12x26 Beams.
 - C10x25 Intermediate Supports.
 - W6x15 Columns with welded 3/4" thick base plates.
 - 60' wide 1-5/8" Galv. Bar grate walking surface and treads.
 - Vertical picket guardrail made from 1-1/2" sq tube & 3/4" sq vertical pickets.
 - 1-1/4" (1-5/8" O.D.) Sch 40 pipe handrail at 36" tall including ADA required extensions where possible.

- **Press Box Building:**
 - 26 ga. Metal R-panel siding and roofing, metal 3-5/8" framing, vinyl sliding windows with painted black steel security screens, design, and operation TBD.
 - Additional window based off revised drawing.
 - Lights and outlets off existing relocated 100amp panel.
 - Full length countertop at windows.

- **Plumbing, Mechanical Systems, and Accessories:** Upgrade the restroom facilities including ADA-compliant fixtures, accessories, and exhaust fans.
- **Electrical Systems:**
 - Installation occupancy sensor for exhaust fan and lighting in restrooms. Install two receptacle stations detailed in plans and power routing with directionally boring equipment.
- **Striping, ADA Signage, and Accessibility:** Striping of ADA accessible parking area along with signage and tactile plaques.

All work will be performed in accordance with the Los Alamos County Public Works standards, applicable building codes, and the issued construction documents dated August 4, 2025.

Warranty

- The above work carries a 1-year labor and materials warranty. Some equipment may have longer warranty durations and will be included in closing packet.

Exclusions

- Hazardous material testing and abatement (e.g., asbestos, lead paint)
- Phasing of project
- Painting exterior masonry for restrooms
- Mill finished aluminum floorboards are prone to staining prior to installation. We'll do everything we can to clean floorboards at the end of the project, but discolored or stained floorboards will not be replaced for cosmetic reasons.
- Utility service upgrades beyond the point of connection specified or relocation of existing utilities.
- Landscaping, irrigation, or restoration
- Low voltage systems not shown on plans (e.g., data, security, PA speakers)
- Night or weekend work
- Geo Tech Survey
- Snow removal or weather-related delays
- Anything not specifically indicated in SOW
- Price is valid for 120 days



Los Alamos County - Brewer Arena & Upgrades

Construction documents - Aug 4, 2025

Construction Bid Proposal -1.22.26

Base Bid				
CSI DIV.	Materials & Equipment Breakdown Item	Quantity		Cost
	General Requirements/ Consumables			\$ 12,556.00
	Construction Materials Testing			\$ 28,000.00
	Fencing, flagging and barricading			\$ 3,520.00
	Demolition / grading equipment mobilization			\$ 8,120.00
	Demolition disposal charges			\$ 8,733.00
	Fill dirt			\$ 8,700.00
	Site grading and drainage			\$ 31,733.00
	Concrete spot footings and reinforcement			\$ 42,200.00
	Concrete ADA pad, bleacher pad, and sidewalks, press box, pads, and ramps.			\$ 68,632.00
	Plumbing and mechanical improvements			\$ 43,002.00
	Through wall HVAC (allowance)			\$ -
	Electrical improvements			\$ 24,920.00
	Restroom accessories, partitions, and doors with HW			\$ 12,867.00
	Interior and exterior restroom finishes			\$ 10,278.00
	Bleacher assembly			\$ 113,897.00
	Canopy assembly			\$ 204,126.00
	Press box assembly			\$ 110,232.00
	Decorative privacy screen			\$ 6,000.00
	Equipment rentals			\$ 10,422.00
	Fuel for equipment and heaters			\$ 4,720.00
	Dumpster fees and porta john			\$ 2,345.00
	Concrete washout			\$ 2,587.00
	Exterior striping, special coatings, and other improvements			\$ 19,823.00
	Job Trailer and hook ups			\$ 4,200.00
	Survey and private line location			\$ 6,320.00
	Permit and engineering fees			\$ 9,532.00
	Asphalt and supplies			\$ 32,313.00
	Subtotal Material & Equipment			\$ 829,778.00
	Labor Breakdown - Hourly Wage Rates			
	Classification Group		Hours	Rate
	Material Administration Processing Cost		240	\$ 70.00
	Subcontractor Administration Processing Cost		200	\$ 70.00
	Project Manager		330	\$ 85.00
	Superintendent		680	\$ 85.00
	Foreman		1459	\$ 85.00
	Group I - Unskilled labor		1080	\$ 60.00
	Group II - Semi-skilled labor		1680	\$ 60.00
	Group III - Skilled Labor		5650	\$ 60.00
	Carpenter		3580	\$ 85.00
	Truck drivers		180	\$ 75.00
	Plumber/ pipefitter		240	\$ 85.00
	Equipment operator		480	\$ 75.00
	Painter		240	\$ 85.00
	Electrician		421	\$ 85.00
	Ironworker		720	\$ 85.00
	Subtotal Labor			\$ 1,236,850.00
	Other Costs and Charges (mobilization charge)			
	Task Order Amount	\$500,000 & Beyond		\$ 5,000.00
	Subtotal: Material, Equipment, Labor & Other Costs			\$ 2,071,628.00
	Bond	2%		\$ 41,432.56
	Tax 7.0625%			\$ 149,234.90
	Grand Total			\$ 2,262,295.46

PROJECT BUDGET SPREADSHEET	
Budget	Amount
New Mexico Department of Finance Administration Recreation Grant	\$ 150,000.00
FY 2026 CP7018, CSD Infrastructure - Improvements and ADA	\$ 2,720,000.00
Total Recommended Budget	\$ 2,870,000.00
Incurred Expenses	
Amount	
Condition Assessment & Construction Docs (NMGRT inclusive)	\$ 171,099.49
Pavillion and Grandstand Demolition (NMGRT inclusive)	\$ 94,078.15
Construction Cost	
Brewer Arena Improvements - All-Rite Construction Inc. (Task Order#29)	\$ 2,113,060.56
NMGRT 7.0625%	\$ 149,234.90
Total Bid w/Tax	\$ 2,262,295.46
Contingency, ~15%	\$ 342,526.89
Subtotal	\$ 2,604,822.36
Total Expenses	\$ 2,870,000.00
TOTAL PROJECT BUDGET	
	\$ 2,870,000.00

Brewer Arena Improvement

Russell Naranjo, Project Manager
Miguel Jimenez, Senior Project Manager
Wendy Parker, Parks Superintendent

County Council Presentation
February 17, 2026

Objective

- Update Council of the PRB recommendation
- Update Council on the continued engagement with LASOA, ELWG, and arena users related to proposed improvements and the long-term functionality and ADA accessibility of this community facility.
- Request approval of Task Order #29 with All-Rite Construction, Inc.

Project Scope

Conduct facility improvements to meet ADA requirements:

- Site
- Grandstand
- Restrooms
- Parking area

Address safety issues at Grandstand, Pavilion, and Crow's Nest

Project site



Project Background

- November 2021 – ADA Audit & Transition Plan
 - Requirement per ADA Title II, 2010 focused on recreational amenities
 - Brewer Arena evaluated in this process
- September 2022 – ADA Audit and Transition Plan adopted by County Council
 - Identified Brewer Arena as unique public facility
 - Identified key deficiencies at the Brewer Arena - Accessibility, Parking, and Signage.
 - Brewer Arena renovations moved up in priority to a short-term action item
- November 2023 -- County awarded a \$150,000 grant from NM Department of Finance & Administration (DFA) to plan and design accessibility improvements for Brewer Arena

Project Background (cont'd)

- March to July 2024 – Bower Arena Facility Assessment and proposal for upgrades
 - Determined Pavilion and Grandstand no longer safe for public use
 - Parking areas, pedestrian circulation routes and restroom facilities require upgrades to meet ADA standards
 - Scope of work for design of renovations and accessibility improvements
- August 24 – Temporary structures utilized to accommodate past two rodeos in the interim
- December 2024 -- Demolition and removal of the deficient structures completed
- January to September 2025 – Design for accessibility improvements
 - New Pavillion and ADA compliant Grandstand
 - ADA Compliant Restrooms, Pedestrian Circulation Routes, and Parking
 - Crow's Nest with walkway
 - Spectator circulation from parking lot to grandstand, and restroom facility to incorporate an ADA acceptable material that is equestrian friendly for all users
 - Incorporate materials that are both ADA compliant and equestrian friendly

Project Background (cont'd)

- October 2025 – Public Meetings
 - Council requested that the project be presented to PRB for review and recommendation
 - Project presentation to PRB during the 10/23 Special Meeting – ELGW and LASOA feedback on design
- November 2025 – Public Meetings
 - Community meeting with stable lessees and equestrian community
 - Parks and Recreation Board – Brewer Arena Presentation
- December 2025 – Public Meeting
 - Survey about sidewalk material preferences sent to ELGW and LASOA
 - Community meeting with ELGW and LASOA to discuss survey results
 - PRB – Recommended the revised design for County Council review and approval

Project Requirements

Code Analysis

- ADA Requires Public Facilities to be fully accessible when altered or improved
- Restroom ADA requirements
 - ANSI A117.1 meeting specific ADA standards listed in Chapters 3,4, and 6
- Parking Requirements
 - County Development Code Chapter 16 sections 16-29 Table 27 and 28

Design

- New Grandstand & Pavilion/Canopy
- New Crow's Nest with access bridge
- Restroom ADA renovations
- ADA parking spaces
- ADA accessible route from parking lot to Grandstand and Restrooms

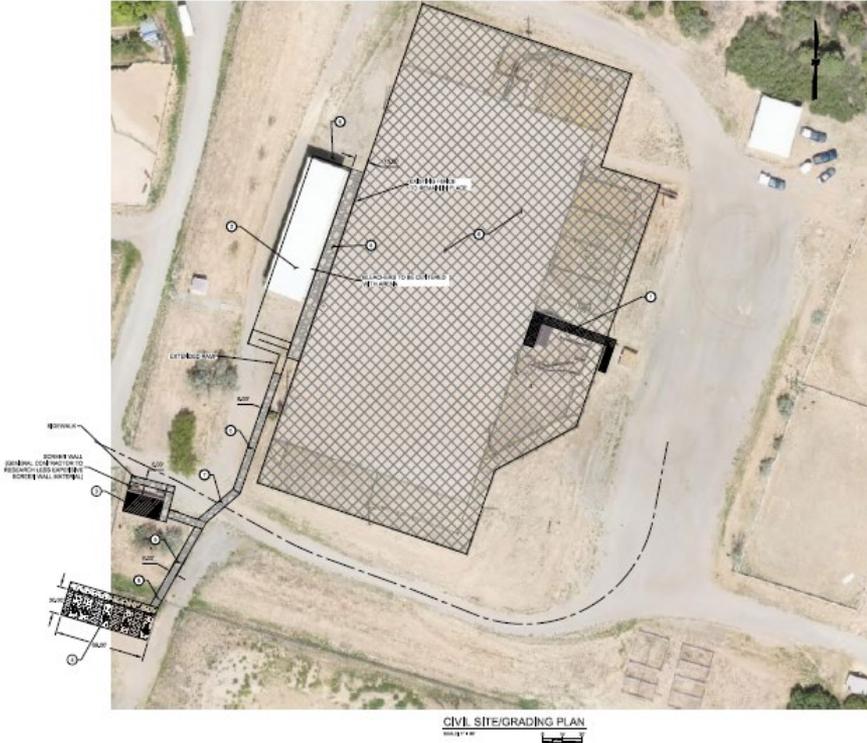
Revised Design

Scope did not change.

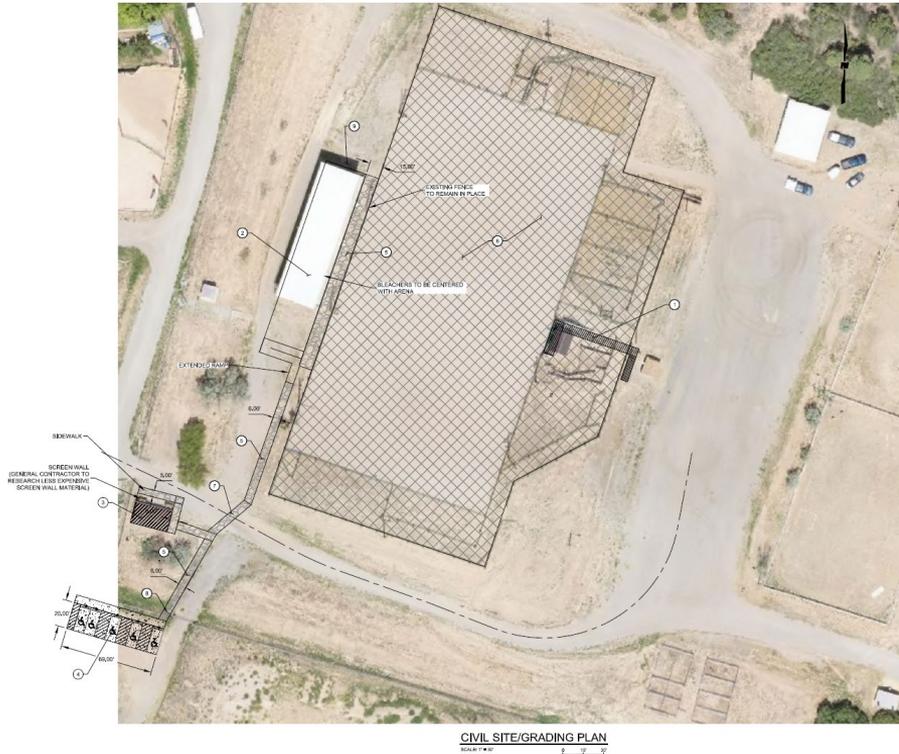
Revised design

ELWG & LASOA feedback resulted in the following design revisions.

- Grandstand elevation, setback, and handrails
- Pavilion roof extension
- Accessible parking
- Crow's nest modifications
- Sidewalk materials



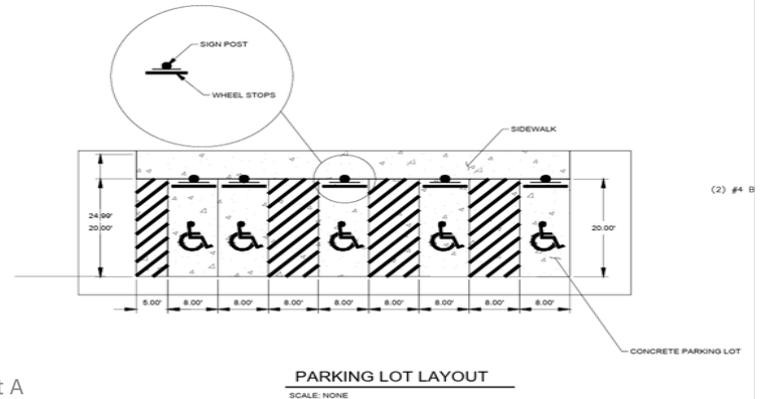
ADA Parking



No change.

Alternative locations evaluated with ELWG, LASOA, and project team:

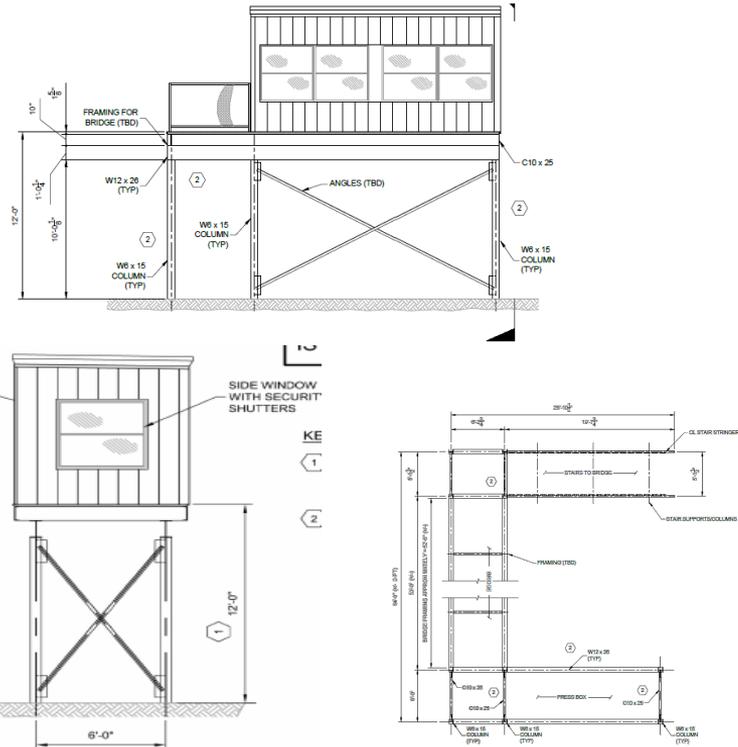
- Pedestrian safety primary goal
- Alternative locations introduce conflict between vehicles and pedestrians



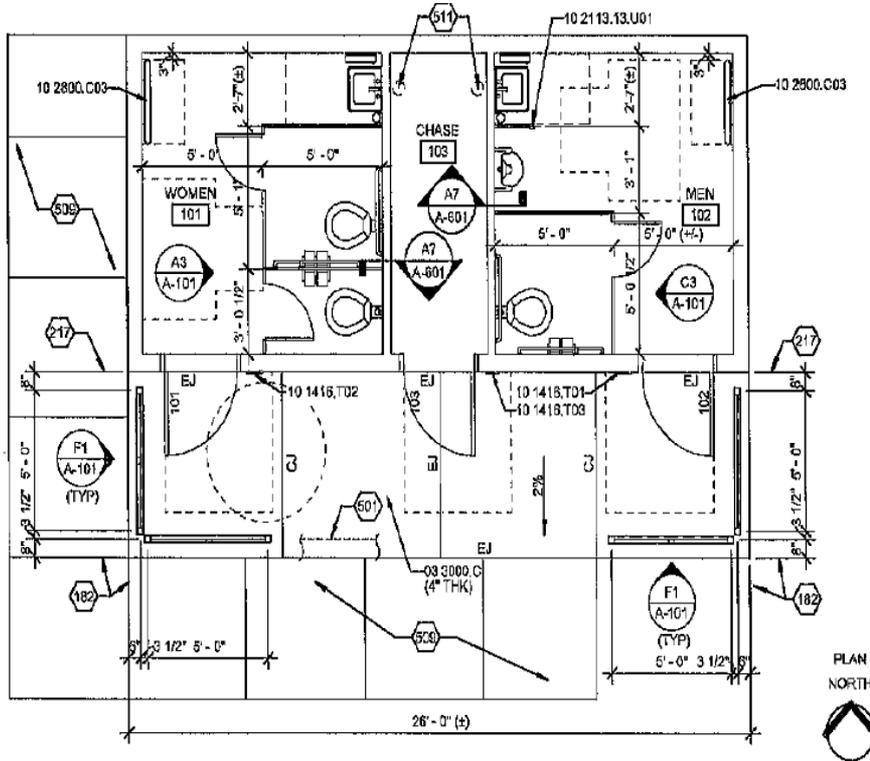
Crow's Nest Revisions

Feedback from ELWG and LASOA

- Delete HVAC system
- Install 12-in countertops
- Protect windows with awnings/shutters
- Operable sliding windows
- Add windows to the sides



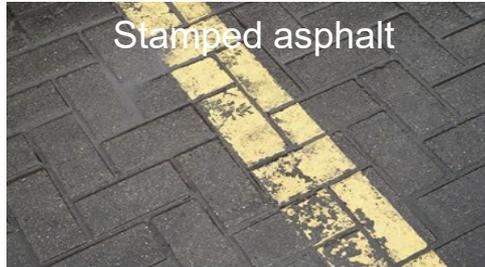
Restrooms



No change

- Restroom upgrades meet ADA requirements
- Privacy Screen
 - Required by code
 - Look for alternative cost saving materials

Sidewalk Material Revision



Attachment A

Based on survey chip seal application is the preferred option

- Durable
- Textured
- Increased surface friction

Feedback from ELWG and LASOA

- Concrete and hot mix asphalt can be slippery for equine
- Soft and slip resistant materials preferred
- Three surface materials evaluated and discussed with ELWG and LASOA

Project Budget

Assessment, Design & Demo
Expenses to Date:

\$265,177.64

**Cost of Improvements:
\$2,113,060.56 + NMGRT**

Total Project Budget =
\$2,870,000.00

- Includes all Construction Costs
- Includes Condition Assessment and Design Expenses
- Demolition Expenses

PROJECT BUDGET SPREADSHEET	
Budget	Amount
New Mexico Department of Finance Administration Recreation Grant	\$ 150,000.00
FY 2026 CP7018, CSD Infrastructure - Improvements and ADA	\$ 2,720,000.00
Total Recommended Budget	\$ 2,870,000.00
Incurring Expenses	Amount
Condition Assessment & Construction Docs (NMGRT inclusive)	\$ 171,099.49
Pavillion and Grandstand Demolition (NMGRT inclusive)	\$ 94,078.15
Construction Cost	
Brewer Arena Improvements - All-Rite Construction Inc. (Task Order#29)	\$ 2,113,060.56
NMGRT 7.0625%	\$ 149,234.90
Total Bid w/Tax	\$ 2,262,295.46
Contingency, ~15%	\$ 342,526.89
Subtotal	\$ 2,604,822.36
Total Expenses	\$ 2,870,000.00
TOTAL PROJECT BUDGET	\$ 2,870,000.00



Next Steps

- If Task Order is approved tonight
 - March to April 2026 – Ordering materials and structures
 - May 2026 – Start of construction
 - Summer 2026 - Restroom improvements, sidewalks, ADA parking, and Crow's Nest
 - Use of temporary bleachers for 2026 Rodeo
- Summer 2027
 - Grandstand anticipated to be completed by the 2027 Rodeo
- Project updates communication through project website and press releases

Discussion & Questions





County of Los Alamos

Los Alamos, NM 87544
www.losalamosnm.us

Staff Report

February 10, 2026

Agenda No.: A.
Index (Council Goals): Quality Governance - Communication and Engagement
Presenters: Randall Ryti, Council Chair and County Council
Legislative File: 21145-26

Title

Council Discussion of Possible Changes to the Charter

Body

This item was requested by Chair Randall Ryti to provide an opportunity for Council to discuss and consider possible changes to the Charter. The County Charter is shown in Attachment A.

For any individual potential charter change, the next step is to draft an ordinance that formally proposes the change. That ordinance will specify the actual new proposed charter language and will also specify the election date. After introduction, each ordinance will have a public hearing which will provide an additional opportunity for public input and for Council discussion and deliberation. If the ordinance is adopted by the Council, then the proposed change will be presented to the voters for adoption or rejection at an election. In general, Council must notify the Clerk's office not less than 70 days before the proposed election date. The item could be placed on the ballot for a local or a general election. To be on the 2026 General Election (November 3), the ordinance would need to be effective and filed before August 25, 2026.

Attachments

A - County Charter

PART I CHARTER¹

ARTICLE I. POWERS OF THE COUNTY

100. Name and Boundaries.

The political subdivision presently existing and known as the County of Los Alamos shall exist and continue as a corporate and political entity by the name, the Incorporated County of Los Alamos, and shall have perpetual succession. Its boundaries shall be as they exist on the effective date of this Charter. The boundaries shall continue to be the same unless changed in the manner authorized by law.

101. Powers of County.

The County shall have all powers possible for a county or a municipal corporation under the constitution and laws of New Mexico as fully and completely as though they were specifically enumerated in this Charter.

(Ord. No. 558, § 1, 6-23-2010/Ref. 11-2-2010)

102. Construction.

The powers of the County under this Charter shall be interpreted liberally in favor of the County. The specific mention of particular powers in the Charter shall not be construed as limiting in any way the general powers stated in this article.

103. Home Rule.

The purpose of this Charter is to provide for maximum self-government and the greatest possible exercise of home-rule powers. As provided in Article X, Section 6, of the Constitution of the State of New Mexico and in the Municipal Charter Act the County may exercise all legislative powers and perform all functions not expressly denied by general law or by other provisions of this Charter. In the absence of the exercise of any such power, the County may act in the manner provided by law.

(Amendment No. 5, passed 1/20/76, additional section; Ord. No. 558, § 2, 6-23-2010/Ref. 11-2-2010)

¹Editor's note(s)—Printed herein is the Charter for the County of Los Alamos, New Mexico, as adopted by electors on December 10, 1968, and effective on December 10, 1968. Amendments to the original Charter are indicated by parenthetical history notes following amended provisions. The absence of a history note indicates that the provision remains unchanged from the original Charter. Obvious misspellings have been corrected without notation. For stylistic purposes, a uniform system of headings, catchlines and citations to state statutes have been used. Additions made for clarity are indicated by brackets.

ARTICLE II. THE COUNTY COUNCIL

200. General Provisions.

200.1. Membership and Qualifications. The governing body of the County shall be a Council of seven members elected by the qualified voters of the County at large. Only qualified voters who are residents of the County and are not otherwise employed by the County are eligible to hold the office of Councilor.

200.2. Forfeiture. A councilor shall forfeit his office if he (1) lacks any qualifications for the office, (2) violates any express prohibition of this Charter, (3) is convicted of a felony or a crime involving moral turpitude, or (4) is absent from all regular Council meetings for a period of ninety calendar days without being excused by the Council.

200.3. Judge of Qualification and Forfeiture. The Council shall be the judge of the qualification of its members and of the existence of grounds for forfeiture. A charge of forfeiture may be made by any Councilor at any regular meeting of the Council. A member against whom a charge of forfeiture has been made may request a public hearing within ten (10) days of the filing of the charge. Notice of a forfeiture hearing shall be published at least fourteen (14) days prior to the hearing. The Council shall not vote on the forfeiture charge sooner than ten (10) days after it is filed or prior to the public hearing, if one is requested. Decisions of the Council in matters of forfeiture are subject to review by the district court upon petition of the removed member.

200.4. Vacancies. When a vacancy occurs in the Council, it shall appoint a qualified person to serve for the remainder of the unexpired term. If the vacancy occurs within ninety (90) calendar days prior to the expiration of the term, no such appointment shall be made. If four or more vacancies exist, each vacant seat may be filled by majority vote of the remaining councilors who shall constitute a quorum for that purpose, Section 200.2 notwithstanding.

200.5. Compensation. Members of the Council shall be paid at a rate of compensation to be set by ordinance. Any ordinance changing compensation shall take effect for all Councilors on the first day of January following the general election after the ordinance is approved. The Council shall, by ordinance, provide for reimbursement of the actual and necessary expenses incurred by Councilors.

(Ord. No. 387, §§ 1—5, 1994; Ord. No. 560, § 1, 7-13-2010/Ref. 11-2-2010; Ord. No. 561, § 1, 6-23-2010/Ref. 11-2-2010)

201. Powers and Duties.

201.1. General. The Council shall, except as provided in this Charter, be vested with all power and authority and be charged with all the duties and obligations arising under the constitution and statutes of the State of New Mexico and imposed on counties and municipalities and on their governing bodies.

201.2. Bonds. The Council shall provide for a blanket bond at County expense for the bonding of County officers and of members of County boards which have the authority to invest funds.

202. Organization.

202.1. Council Chair. The Council shall annually elect from its members a Chair. The Chair shall be recognized as the head of county government for the purposes of emergency law, intergovernmental relations and ceremonial purposes. The Chair shall attend and preside at meetings of the Council, have equal voting rights with other members of the Council, present an annual state of county message, appoint members and officers of council

committees, assign, subject to Council approval, agenda items to committees, and perform other duties as specified by the Council.

202.2. Procedure and Agenda. The Council shall hold regular meetings at least twice a month at times and places prescribed by formal action of the Council. Special meetings may be held on the call of the Chair or of a majority of the Council members. All meetings of the Council shall be public except as otherwise provided by state law. The Council shall determine its own rules and order of business and shall provide for the keeping of minutes of its proceedings. The minutes shall be a public record. The Council shall place on the agenda of its next regular meeting the subject of any written request signed by five or more qualified voters of the County and presented to the county clerk at least ten (10) days prior to that meeting. The agenda for every Council meeting shall provide time for comments from the public. Voting, except on procedural motions, shall be by roll call of the entire Council and shall be recorded in the minutes. Except as otherwise provided by this charter, no action of the Council shall be valid unless adopted by the affirmative vote of at least four members. Four members shall be a quorum.

(Ord. No. 387, §§ 6, 7, 1994; Ord. No. 559, § 1, 6-23-2010/Ref. 11-2-2010; Ord. No. 568, § 1, 6-23-2010/Ref. 11-2-2010; Ord. No. 648, § 1, 7-29-2014)

203. Ordinances.

203.1. Actions Requiring Ordinances. In addition to those acts required by state law or by this Charter to be done by ordinance, those acts of the Council shall be by ordinance which:

- (a) establish a rule or regulation for the violation of which a penalty is or may be imposed;
- (b) levy taxes;
- (c) grant or renew a franchise;
- (d) set the rates charged by the County for utilities or waste removal;
- (e) authorize the borrowing of money;
- (f) convey or lease, or authorize the conveyance or lease, of any County-owned land.

All other acts of the Council may be done either by ordinance or by other formal action.

203.2. Procedure.

203.2.1. Introduction. An ordinance may be introduced by any member of the Council at any meeting of the Council. Every proposed ordinance shall be introduced in writing and shall be limited to one subject. The subject shall be clearly expressed in the title of the ordinance. The enacting clause of all ordinances shall be "Be it ordained by the governing body of the Incorporated County of Los Alamos ...".

203.2.2. Publication and Hearing. A notice of the proposed adoption of an ordinance shall be published once at least seven days before the Council meeting at which it is to be considered. The notice shall include the entire ordinance or a summary of it and shall state the time and place for a public hearing on the ordinance. If a summary is published, the notice shall state the times and places at which the entire ordinance is available for examination and/or purchase.

203.2.3. Adoption. After the public hearing, the Council may adopt the ordinance with or without amendment or reject it. If the ordinance is amended in any matter of substance, however, the Council may not adopt it until it has been considered by continuance of the meeting or at a future meeting not less than seven (7) days after the initial meeting. A notice of the adoption of the ordinance, including codifications or revisions to codifications, together with the ordinance either in its entirety or by a general summary of the subject matter contained in the ordinance, as directed by the governing body, shall be published and each adopted ordinance shall be promptly printed and made available to the public for examination and/or purchase. The Council may adopt all or part of any standard code of technical regulations by reference to the

code in adopting an ordinance. It shall not be necessary to publish the entire code, but copies of it shall be made available for examination and purchase by the public in the manner required for proposed and adopted ordinances.

203.2.4. Effective Date. Except as otherwise provided in this Charter, every adopted ordinance shall become effective thirty (30) days after the publication of the notice of its adoption or at any later date specified in the ordinance.

203.3. Emergency Ordinances. Notwithstanding the provisions of section 202.2 of this charter, in order to meet a public emergency that is an immediate danger to the public health or safety, the Council may adopt emergency ordinances by the affirmative vote of a majority of a quorum of councilors. No such ordinances shall levy taxes, grant or renew a franchise, convey or lease County lands, or set utility or waste removal rates. An emergency ordinance may be introduced and adopted at the same Council meeting and shall become effective upon adoption and shall stand repealed ninety days after adoption. An emergency ordinance shall be published within seven days after its adoption and shall be promptly printed and made available to the public for examination and/or purchase.

203.4. Resolutions. Every proposed resolution shall be published in full or in summary at least seven days before the Council meeting at which it is to be considered. If a summary is published, copies of the entire proposed resolution shall be made available to the public for examination and/or purchase at the Clerk's office.

203.5. Compilation and Codification. The Council shall provide for the compilation and codification of all County ordinances and resolutions having the effect of law. Such compilation shall be available to the public for examination and/or purchase.

(Ord. No. 387, §§ 8, 9, 1994; Ord. No. 559, §§ 1, 2, 6-23-2010/Ref. 11-2-2010)

ARTICLE III. ADMINISTRATION AND ORGANIZATION

300. County Manager.

The Council shall choose a County Manager for an indefinite term and fix compensation for the Manager. The County Manager shall serve at the discretion of the Council. Appointment shall be based on executive and administrative qualifications. The appointee shall establish residence in the County after appointment within a time specified by the Council. The County Manager shall designate other County staff to perform the duties of the County Manager during any temporary absences.

(Ord. No. 388, § 1, 1994; Ord. No. 649, § 1, 7-29-2014)

302. Duties and Powers of the County Manager.

The County Manager shall be the chief executive officer of the County. The County Manager shall be responsible to the Council for all operational requirements of the County and shall execute the vision, strategic goals and policies established by the Council. The County Manager shall be responsible for the performance of the duties of the Treasurer and the Surveyor of Los Alamos County. The County Manager shall also be responsible for those duties of a county clerk relating to orders for money. The County Manager may delegate duties only with the formal approval of the Council.

(Ord. No. 649, § 2, 7-29-2014)

303. Departments.

303.1. Creation. In addition to the departments created by this Charter, the Council may establish, by resolution, County departments it finds necessary to provide the services and functions required for the public good and shall prescribe the functions of the departments established. No function assigned by this Charter to a particular department is subject to change by the Council.

303.2. Administration. Each County department, except as provided in this Charter, shall be under the direction and supervision of the County Manager and shall be administered by an officer known as the department head. The County Manager shall appoint, suspend, or remove a department head only with the formal approval of the Council. The County Manager may serve as head of one or more departments and one person may serve as head of more than one department.

(Ord. No. 649, § 3, 7-29-2014)

304. Other County Officers—Compensation.

304.1. The offices of Clerk, Assessor, and Sheriff of the County shall be elective. Each of said officers shall be paid at a rate of compensation to be set by ordinance. Any ordinance changing compensation shall not go into effect during the term in which it was passed or during the final three months of a term of office of any said officers. The Council shall, by ordinance, provide for reimbursement of the actual and necessary expenses incurred by the Clerk, Assessor and Sheriff.

304.2. Duties of the Clerk. The Clerk shall be the clerk of the Council, shall maintain copies of all public records of the County, and shall be responsible for the performance of the duties assigned by state statutes to county clerks except for those duties of a clerk assigned to the County Manager by Section 302 of this Charter.

304.3. Duties of the Assessor. The Assessor shall be responsible for the duties assigned by state statutes to county assessors.

304.4. Duties of the Sheriff, Police Department and Peace Officers. The Council shall establish as a department of the County, [sic] a Police Department to be charged with conserving the peace and enforcing the laws of the State and the ordinances of the County. The Sheriff shall have those powers and duties assigned to sheriffs by state statutes, including the powers of a peace officer, but the Sheriff shall not duplicate or perform those duties in this Charter or by ordinance or resolution assigned or delegated to the County's Police Department.

(Amendment No. 1, passed 11/3/70, modification of original section; Amendment No. 4, passed 1/20/76, modification of original section; Ord. No. 388, § 3, 1994; Ord. No. 561, § 2, 6-23-2010/Ref. 11-2-2010; Ord. No. 649, § 4, 7-29-2014)

305. Standing Boards and Commissions and Ad Hoc Advisory Committees.

305.1. Creation. In addition to those boards otherwise created in this charter, the Council may create standing boards and commissions by ordinance and may create ad hoc advisory committees by council action. Members of standing boards and commissions and ad hoc advisory committees shall be appointed by the Council. No standing board or commission or ad hoc advisory committee created by the Council shall have any authority except as granted by the Council.

305.2. County Employees. Except for poll workers, who may serve as regular voting members of standing boards or commissions or ad hoc advisory committees, County employees serving on any standing board or commission or ad hoc advisory committee of the Council shall serve as non-voting members of such bodies.

305.3. Composition of Standing Boards and Commissions. No more than a simple majority of the voting members of any standing board or commission of the Council shall be members of the same political party.

305.4. Limitations. No person shall serve on the same standing board or commission for more than two terms in succession.

(Ord. No. 388, § 4, 1994; Ord. No. 562, § 1, 7-13-2010/Ref. 11-2-2010; Ord. No. 649, § 5, 7-29-14; Ord. No. 650, §§ 1, 2, 7-29-2014)

306. County Employment.

306.1. Non-discrimination. No person shall be discriminated against with respect to any County employment because of race, sex, country of origin, or religious or political beliefs.

306.2. Personnel Rules. The Council, by ordinance, shall establish a system of personnel administration providing that appointments and promotions of all County employees shall be made solely on the basis of merit. The ordinance shall provide for a Personnel Board as a standing board to serve in an appellate and advisory capacity in the administration of the personnel program. The Board shall report annually to the Council on the operation of the personnel system. The County may enter into collective bargaining contracts, but such contracts shall prohibit strikes against the County. The County may share with its employees the cost of insured benefit programs to the extent authorized by the Council.

306.3. Prohibited Political Activities. The Council shall prescribe in the personnel ordinance limitations on employee political activities, as are consistent with federal and state law.

306.4. Rights of Employees. County employees shall have the right to participate voluntarily in political activities at times other than their hours of work for the County.

(Ord. No. 562, § 2, 7-13-2010/Ref. 11-2-2010; Ord. 565, § 1, 6-23-2010/Ref. 11-2-2010)

307. County Attorney.

The Council shall appoint a County Attorney for an indefinite term and fix compensation for the position. The County Attorney shall serve at the discretion of the Council. The County Attorney shall be appointed on the basis of administrative and professional qualifications. The County Attorney shall be legal advisor to the Council, the County Manager, and the County departments, boards and commissions and shall represent the County in all legal proceedings.

(Ord. No. 388, § 5, 1994; Ord. No. 649, § 6, 7-29-2014)

308. Planning.

The Council shall adopt a comprehensive plan to guide the future physical development of the County. The initial adoption and any subsequent modifications of this plan shall take place only after public hearings.

ARTICLE IV. FINANCIAL PROCEDURES

400. Fiscal Year.

The fiscal year shall be set by ordinance.

(Ord. No. 389, § 1, 1994)

401. Accounting System.

The Council shall adopt by formal action an accounting system conforming to accepted accounting principles.

402. Budget Submission.

The County Manager shall annually prepare and submit to the Council a budget for the ensuing fiscal year. The budget shall be accompanied by a budget message giving comparisons with past years as well as projections for future revenues and expenditures.

(Ord. No. 389, § 2, 1994; Ord. No. 649, § 7, 7-29-2014)

403. Council Action on Budget.

403.1. Publication. The Council shall publish a general summary of the budget and a notice stating the times and places where copies of the message and budget are available for inspection by the public and the time and place for the initial public hearing on the budget, which shall not be less than two (2) weeks after publication.

403.2. Adoption. After the public hearing, the Council may adopt the budget with or without amendment. No amendment to the budget shall increase the authorized expenditures to an amount greater than the total of the estimated income and cash reserves, nor shall any amendment change expenditures required by law or for debt service or for estimated cash deficits. The budget as adopted shall be a public record. The Council shall adopt the budget for the ensuing fiscal year for timely submission under state law. If the Council fails to adopt a budget[,] the amounts appropriated for operation during the current fiscal year shall be deemed adopted for the ensuing year on a prorated month-to-month basis until the Council adopts a budget for the new fiscal year.

403.3. Changes. The Council may at any time, by formal action, increase or decrease maximum expenditures within the limitations cited in 403.2. The County Manager may at any time make transfers within each department, but shall report such transfer to the Council.

(Ord. No. 389, §§ 3, 4, 1994; Ord. No. 649, § 8, 7-29-2014)

404. Procurement Procedures.

The Council shall adopt rules and regulations for the purchase of supplies, materials, services, fixed assets and other items necessary for any County function. A petty cash account and rules governing its use may be established by the Council.

405. Disbursement Procedures.

Disbursements shall be made by check or checks drawn on a depository or depositories approved by the Council. Authorized signatures on all bank accounts shall be approved by the Council by formal action.

406. Indebtedness.

Indebtedness shall be limited as allowed counties and municipalities under the constitution and statutes of the State of New Mexico.

407. Audit.

The Council shall provide for an independent annual audit of all County accounts and may provide for more frequent audits as it deems necessary. These audits shall be made by a certified public accountant or firm of such accountants having no personal interest, direct or indirect, in the fiscal affairs of the County government or any of its offices. The Council may, without requiring competitive bids, designate such accountant or firm annually or for a period not exceeding three years. The same accountant or firm of accountants shall not be retained for more than six consecutive years.

408. Capital Projects Permanent Fund.

The council shall create by ordinance and maintain a special fund to be known as the capital projects permanent fund. The principal of the fund shall not be expended but shall be invested in accordance with ordinances adopted by the council. Investment of the fund under this Section 408 shall be made pursuant to standards not lower than those established for investment of state permanent funds. Any investment of the funds in bonds, notes or other obligations of the county shall be at a yield not lower than the yield on comparable municipal securities at the time of investment. Income from investments shall be added to principal in accordance with ordinances adopted by the council in amounts sufficient to maintain the real value of the principal.

Income from the fund not required to be added to principal shall be distributable income from the fund and shall be expended in accordance with ordinances adopted by the council solely to pay all or part of the cost of capital projects. The council may add amounts to the principal of the capital projects permanent fund from the general fund or other available resources in accordance with ordinances to be adopted by the council.

(Ord. No. 346, § 1, 1986; Ord. No. 564, § 1, 6-23-2010/Ref. 11-2-2010)

409. Reserved.

Editor's note(s)—Former section 409, concerning an expenditure fund for capital projects, was repealed by Ord. No. 444, which was adopted by the county council on June 27, 2000, and approved by the voters at the general election on November 7, 2000.

410. Reserved.

Editor's note(s)—Former section 410, concerning a government operations assistance permanent fund, was repealed by Ord. No. 444, which was adopted by the county council on June 27, 2000, and approved by the voters at the general election on November 7, 2000.

ARTICLE V. UTILITIES

500. Utilities Department.

There shall be a Department of Public Utilities which shall operate the County-owned electric, gas, water and sewer utility systems under jurisdiction and control of the Board of Public Utilities.

501. Board of Public Utilities.

501.1. Qualifications and Terms for Membership on the Board of Public Utilities. The Board of Public Utilities shall consist of five (5) members who shall be appointed by the Council. To be eligible for appointment and service on

the Board of Public Utilities, a proposed member (1) must have been a resident of the County of Los Alamos for not less than one (1) year prior to the date of his appointment; (2) must be registered to vote in the County of Los Alamos; (3) must not hold any public office or be an employee of the County government; and (4) must not conduct any business with the Department of Public Utilities except as a consumer. A Board member may be removed any time during his appointment if he lacks any qualification for membership; if he willfully and intentionally violates any express prohibition of this section; if he is convicted of a felony or of a misdemeanor involving moral turpitude; if he is absent without a reasonable excuse from all regular meetings of the Board of Public Utilities during any continuous period of ninety (90) days; if he removes his residence from the County; or if he votes on matters of substantial financial interest to himself. The Council shall appoint one member for a five-year term to begin on the first day of July each year. Vacancies shall be filled by the Council for any unexpired term. A member of the Board of Public Utilities shall hold office until a successor has been appointed. As approved by the Board of Public Utilities, members of the Board shall be entitled to reimbursement for reasonable expenses incurred in carrying out their duties.

501.2. Conflict of Interest. Any member of the Board of Public Utilities who has a financial interest, other than as a consumer, in the outcome of any policy, decision or determination of the Board of Public Utilities shall not vote on that issue.

501.3. Organization of the Board of Public Utilities. The Board of Public Utilities shall adopt and shall file with the Council procedural rules and regulations not inconsistent with this Charter. No action shall be taken by the Board of Public Utilities except by the affirmative vote of at least three members. Three members shall constitute a quorum for the business of the Board. The Board shall meet at least once a month. The meetings and records shall be public. The County Administrator and the Utilities Manager shall be ex officio but non-voting members of the Board of Public Utilities.

(Ord. No. 389, § 5, 1994)

502. Manager of the Department of Public Utilities.

The head of the Utilities Department shall be known as the Utilities Manager. The Board of Public Utilities shall appoint, suspend or remove the Utilities Manager only with the formal approval of the Council. The Manager shall be appointed solely on the basis of his professional qualifications. The Manager shall conduct the business of the Utilities Department subject to the policies established by the Board. All other officers and employees of the Utilities Department shall be appointed and removed by the Manager in accordance with the regulations of this Charter and the personnel ordinance.

503. Cooperation with Other County Departments.

The Utilities Department shall have the right to require the services of the various County offices and departments and shall reimburse such departments to the extent agreed to by the Board and the Administrator. The Utilities Department may provide its services to other County offices and departments and shall be reimbursed from non-utility funds to the extent agreed to by the Board and the Administrator. Utility commodities shall be sold to the County on a compensatory basis and the Department of Public Utilities shall be reimbursed for these commodities from non-utility funds.

504. Rates and Charges.

The rates to be paid by consumers for electricity, gas, water and sewer service shall be proposed by the Board of Public Utilities and shall become effective upon adoption by the County Council. The Board of Public Utilities shall hold a public hearing before a change in rates or charges is put up for adoption. Two weeks before the hearing[,] a notice of the hearing and the proposed change must be published. The Department of Utilities

shall be operated on a compensatory basis. The rates and charges shall be just, reasonable, and comparable to those in neighboring communities and shall be uniform for all consumers of the same class. Different rate schedules may be established for different classes of consumers. Charges for other services provided by the Department of Public Utilities shall be set by the Board of Public Utilities.

505. Accounting and Reporting.

The Department of Public Utilities shall, not later than forty-five (45) days or other time set by ordinance after receipt of the report of the annual audit required by this Charter, furnish the Board of Public Utilities and the Council its annual report which shall include balance sheets, prepared according to generally accepted accounting principles, showing the financial condition, as of the end of the previous fiscal year, of each utility in the Department and of the Department as a whole. Such reports shall be kept on file in the County Clerk's office and shall be public records. A summary of the annual report shall be sent to all consumers.

(Ord. No. 389, § 6, 1994)

506. Budget.

The Department of Public Utilities Manager shall formulate the proposed budget with the Board of Public Utilities for timely submission to the Council for adoption. The proposed budget shall include payments to be made to the County in lieu of the franchise fees and the taxes that would be normally assessed against privately owned gas and electric utilities. It shall also include a proposed Schedule of Funds which shall prescribe the necessary annual rates for funding from revenue the replacement reserves, extension reserves, and any other reserves required.

(Ord. No. 389, § 7, 1994)

507. Bond Issues.

Subject to applicable state statutes[,] the Council, on the recommendation of the Board of Public Utilities, may authorize the issuance and sale of revenue bonds and general obligation bonds to finance the acquisition, construction, improvements and extensions of the utilities.

508. Investment of Funds.

The Board shall have the right to invest the reserve and contingency funds of the Department in accordance with laws and statutes of the State of New Mexico governing investment of public funds by local governing boards and bodies.

509. Priority of Budgeted Expenditures.

In order that the Department of Public Utilities can plan and utilize its proceeds for the maintenance, improvement and extension of the utilities system before any part of such proceeds is diverted to general County purposes, all funds derived from the operation of the utilities shall be managed and expended in accordance with the following policies. From the proceeds of the operation of the Department:

1. There shall first be set aside the funds required for current operations.
2. There shall next be set aside the funds required to redeem and pay interest on any bond issue for the utility which shall become due and payable during the next fiscal year.

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3. There shall next be provided an adequate reserve to finance replacements required by normal depreciation of the utility plant or equipment as provided in the Schedule of Funds. These reserves may not be used by the County for financing County operations.
 4. There shall be paid to the General Fund those amounts set forth in the budget as payments to be made to the County in lieu of franchise fees and taxes that would be normally assessed against privately owned gas and electric utilities.
 5. There shall next be a provision for additions and improvements foreseen as necessary to meet future requirements for the utility systems as provided in the Schedule of Funds.
 6. All remaining operating profits shall be transferred to the County General Fund.

510. Management Audit.

Within two years of the adoption of this Charter and at least every five years thereafter, the Board of Public Utilities shall employ a qualified consultant to review, comment, and make recommendations as to the operation and condition of the County Utilities.

ARTICLE VI. NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS

600. County Elections.

600.1. General. Except as otherwise provided by this Charter, the provisions of the election code of the State of New Mexico applicable to county government shall apply to elections held under this Charter.

600.2. Plurality or Majority of Votes Cast Required for Election. The candidate who receives a plurality of the votes cast for the office sought shall be elected to that office. If more than one candidate is to be elected to an office, the candidates, in the number to be elected, receiving the largest pluralities shall be elected. Unless otherwise provided by this Charter, all other questions submitted to the voters shall be decided by a majority of the voters voting on the question. The resolution of tie votes shall be determined by lot.

600.3. Canvassing Committee. The returns of every election shall be canvassed and certified to the Council by a Canvassing Committee consisting of three persons to be appointed by the Council. No person shall be appointed to the Committee unless he is a resident and a registered voter of the County. No more than two of the members of the Committee shall be members of the same political party. No person who is a candidate at an election to be canvassed by the Committee shall serve on the Committee. The Committee shall serve at the pleasure of the Council.

(Ord. No. 390, §§ 1, 2, 1994; Ord. No. 563, § 1, 6-23-2010/Ref. 11-2-2010)

601. Reserved.

Editor's note(s)—Ord. No. 563, § 2, adopted June 23, 2010/November 2, 2010, repealed § 601, which pertained to nominations and derived from Ord. No. 446, § 1, 6-27-2000/Ref. 11-7-2000.

602. Multiple Candidacies.

No person's name shall appear more than once on the ballot at any one election as a candidate for office under this Charter.

603. Election Code.

The Council may adopt by ordinance an election code that shall be consistent with this Charter.

ARTICLE VII. INITIATIVE, REFERENDUM AND RECALL

700. Direct Legislation by Initiative.

Adult residents of the County have the right to propose ordinances through the petition process to the Council and, if the Council fails to adopt the proposed ordinance without change of substance, to adopt or reject it at a County election. Initiative shall not extend to:

- a. The budget;
- b. Outstanding bonds or bonds previously approved at an election;
- c. Appropriations;
- d. Levy of taxes;
- e. Capital projects;
- f. Utility and solid waste rates;
- g. Compensation of county officers and employees;
- h. Zone map amendments; or
- i. As otherwise provided by law.

700.1. Petition requirements.

1. An adult resident of the County, hereinafter referred to as "the petitioner," shall present each proposed ordinance to the Clerk on forms provided by the Clerk, prior to circulating the petition. The date the petition forms are first received by the petitioner from the Clerk shall be the issuing date of the petitions.
2. The Clerk shall issue petition forms to the petitioner.
3. The petition issued by the Clerk shall contain:
 - a. A heading which states that the petition is for the purpose of enacting an ordinance by initiative, and which sets forth, in full, the text of the proposed ordinance;
 - b. A place for the person signing the petition to sign his name and to print his name and address, as registered;
 - c. A statement on each page, signed and sworn to by the person circulating the petition, that the signatures were obtained in his presence, that each signature is genuine to the best of his knowledge and belief, and that the person signing had the opportunity, before signing, to become familiar with the full text of the petition; and
 - d. A statement on each page that any petitioner, petition, circulator or person knowingly providing, or causing to be provided, any false information on a petition, forging a signature, or signing a petition when that person knows that he or she is not a qualified voter in the County of Los Alamos shall be subject to prosecution, as provided by law.

700.2. *[Number of signatures required.]* As to the number of signatures required, an initiative petition shall be deemed sufficient if signed by registered voters in an amount equal to fifteen percent (15%) of the arithmetic mean of the number of voters in the previous two general elections.

700.3. *Filing and validation of completed petition.*

1. A completed initiative petition shall be filed with the Clerk within ninety (90) calendar days following the date on which the Clerk issued the petition for circulation.
2. The petitioner may file individual signature pages at any time. The petitioner may assert to the Clerk at any time that the petition has sufficient signatures.
3. The Clerk shall validate the signature pages within ten (10) business days of receipt, and shall promptly notify the petitioner of any rejected signatures and the reasons for the rejections
4. Within ten (10) business days of final submission or the deadline for filing, the Clerk shall determine whether the petition contains a sufficient number of valid signatures and shall notify the Council and the petitioner. If the petition does not contain a sufficient number of signatures, the Clerk shall reject the petition. The Clerk shall not accept a petition that is substantially similar to a rejected petition for a period of twelve (12) months from the date of notice of rejection.

700.4. *Council action.*

1. Following validation of sufficient signatures, the Clerk shall present the proposed ordinance to the Council at its next scheduled session. The Council shall, within thirty (30) calendar days, consider the proposed ordinance in accordance with its established procedures for legal reviews, publishing, hearing and enacting ordinances, except that no introduction beyond that of the Clerk shall be necessary.
2. If the Council fails to adopt the proposed ordinance, it shall enact an election resolution for the purpose of submitting the initiated ordinance to a vote in accordance with the election provisions of county and state law.
3. If the ordinance is approved by a majority of the ballots cast, it shall become effective upon certification of the election results, unless a later date is specified in the ordinance.
4. If the ordinance is disapproved by a majority of the ballots cast, the Clerk shall not accept a petition for a substantially similar proposed ordinance for a period of twelve (12) months from the date of the election at which it was disapproved.

700.5. *Notice.* All notices by either the Clerk or the petitioner, other than the Clerk's notice to the Council, shall be deemed complete if provided to the designated party in writing, delivered either in person or by other recognized delivery methods in which receipt is acknowledged, including electronic notifications.

(Ord. No. 598, § 1, 5-9-2012/Ref. 11-6-2012; Ord. No. 599, § 1, 5-9-2012/Ref. 11-6-2012; Ord. No. 600, § 1, 5-9-2012/Ref. 11-6-2012; Ord. No. 601, § 1, 5-9-2012/Ref. 11-6-2012; Ord. No. 602, § 1, 5-9-2012/Ref. 11-6-2012; Ord. No. 603, § 1, 5-9-2012/Ref. 11-6-2012)

701. Referendum.

Except as otherwise limited herein, the adult residents of the County shall have the right, through the petition process, to require the Council to reconsider any adopted ordinance. If the Council fails to repeal such an ordinance, said ordinance shall be subject to approval or rejection at a County election. The power of referendum shall not extend to:

- a. The budget;
- b. Appropriations;

-
- c. The levy of taxes;
 - d. Capital projects already approved by election in accordance with State law or approved by inclusion in an adopted budget;
 - e. Utility and solid waste rates;
 - f. Compensation of county officers and employees;
 - g. Zone map amendments;
 - h. Recall and initiative ordinances; or
 - i. As otherwise prohibited by State law.

701.1. Petition requirements.

1. Within thirty (30) calendar days of adoption of the ordinance by the Council, a qualified voter, hereinafter referred to as "the petitioner," shall present the proposed reconsideration of the subject ordinance to the Clerk for approval, on forms provided by the Clerk, prior to circulating the petition. The date the petition forms are first received by the petitioner from the Clerk shall be the issuing date of the petitions.
2. The Clerk shall issue petition forms to the petitioner.
3. The petition issued by the Clerk shall contain:
 - a. A heading which states that the petition is for the purpose of referendum to repeal an ordinance, specifying the title, number and a brief description of the ordinance;
 - b. A place for the person signing the petition to write his name (printed), address as registered and signature;
 - c. A statement on each page, signed and sworn to by the person circulating the petition, that the signatures were obtained in his presence, that each signature is genuine to the best of his knowledge and belief, and that the person signing had the opportunity, before signing, to become familiar with the full text of the petition; and
 - d. A statement on each page that any petitioner, petition circulator or person knowingly providing, or causing to be provided, any false information on a petition, forging a signature, or signing a petition when that person knows that he or she is not a qualified voter in the County shall be subject to prosecution, as provided by law.

701.2. Number of signatures. A referendum petition shall be deemed sufficient if signed by registered voters in an amount equal to fifteen percent (15%) of the arithmetic mean of the number of voters in the previous two (2) general elections.

701.3. Filing and validation of completed petition.

1. A completed referendum petition shall be filed with the Clerk within sixty (60) calendar days following the date on which the Clerk issued the petition for circulation.
2. The petitioner may file individual signature pages at any time. The petitioner may assert to the Clerk at any time that the petition has sufficient signatures.
3. The Clerk shall validate the signature pages within ten (10) business days of receipt, and shall promptly notify the petitioner of any rejected signatures and the reasons for the rejections.
4. Within ten (10) business days of final submission or the deadline for filing, the Clerk shall determine whether the petition contains a sufficient number of valid signatures and shall notify the Council and

the petitioner. If the petition does not contain a sufficient number of signatures, the Clerk shall reject the petition.

701.4. Council action.

1. Following validation of sufficient signatures, the Clerk shall present the referred ordinance to the Council at its next scheduled session. Any such ordinance, other than an emergency ordinance, shall automatically be suspended as of the date of such meeting. The Council shall, within thirty (30) calendar days, consider the referred ordinance in accordance with its established procedures for legal reviews, publishing, hearing, and repealing ordinances, except that no introduction beyond that of the Clerk shall be necessary.
2. If the Council fails to repeal the proposed ordinance, it shall enact an election resolution for the purpose of submitting the ordinance to a vote in accordance with the election provisions of county and state law.
3. If the ordinance is approved by a majority of the ballots cast, it shall be effective upon certification of the election results, unless a later date is specified in the ordinance.
4. If the ordinance is disapproved by a majority of the ballots cast, it shall be deemed repealed upon certification of the election results.

701.5. Notice. All notices by either the Clerk or the petitioner, other than the Clerk's notice to the Council, shall be deemed complete if provided to the designated party in writing, All notices by either the Clerk or the petitioner, other than the Clerk's notice to the Council, shall be deemed complete if provided to the designated party in writing, delivered either in person or by other recognized delivery methods in which receipt is acknowledged including electronic notifications.

(Ord. No. 387, § 10, 1994; Ord. No. 605, § 1, 5-9-2012/Ref. 11-6-2012; Ord. No. 606, § 1, 5-9-2012/Ref. 11-6-2012; Ord. No. 607, § 1, 5-9-2012/Ref. 11-6-2012; Ord. No. 608, § 1, 5-9-2012/Ref. 11-6-2012; Ord. No. 609, § 1, 5-9-2012/Ref. 11-6-2012; Ord. No. 610, § 1, 5-9-2012/Ref. 11-6-2012)

702. Recall.

An elected official of the County is subject to recall by the voters of the County in accordance with the provisions of Article 10, Section 9 of the New Mexico Constitution providing for recall on the grounds of malfeasance or misfeasance in office or violation of the oath of office by the official concerned, and any State law applicable thereto.

(Ord. No. 612, § 1, 5-9-2012/Ref. 11-6-2012)

703. [Reserved.]

(Ord. No. 604, § 1, 5-9-2012/Ref. 11-6-2012; Ord. No. 611, § 1, 5-9-2012/Ref. 11-6-2012; Ord. No. 613, § 1, 5-9-2012/Ref. 11-6-2012)

Editor's note(s)—Charter § 703, pertaining to initiative, referendum and recall was repealed by Ord. No. 604 insofar as it related to initiative, Ord. No. 611 insofar as it related to referendum and Ord. No. 613 insofar as it related to recall.

704. [Reserved.]

(Ord. No. 604, § 1, 5-9-2012/Ref. 11-6-2012; Ord. No. 611, § 1, 5-9-2012/Ref. 11-6-2012; Ord. No. 613, § 1, 5-9-2012/Ref. 11-6-2012)

Editor's note(s)—Charter § 704, pertaining to initiative, referendum and recall was repealed by Ord. No. 604 insofar as it related to initiative, Ord. No. 611 insofar as it related to referendum and Ord. No. 613 insofar as it related to recall.

ARTICLE VIII. INCORPORATED COUNTY COURT

800. General Provisions.

There shall be a Court of the Incorporated County of Los Alamos having jurisdiction over all offenses and complaints under County ordinances. The Court shall have those additional powers and duties assigned to municipal courts by state statute and may issue subpoenas and warrants and punish for contempt.

801. Council Action.

The Council shall provide by ordinance for the qualifications, bond, and salary of the Judge of the Court. The Council may provide by ordinance or resolution for a system under which a person accused of specified offenses may admit his guilt and pay a penalty assessment for the offense without being required to make a Court appearance.

ARTICLE IX. GENERAL PROVISIONS

900. Charter Amendments.

900.1 Amendments. Amendments to this Charter may be proposed: (1) by council ordinance; (2) by initiative ordinance pursuant to section 700 of this charter as it applies to process; or (3) by report of a Charter Commission that has been created by ordinance. Any such ordinance shall contain a full text of the proposed amendment.

900.2. Election. The proposed amendment or amendments shall be submitted to the electorate for adoption or rejection at an election to be held pursuant to the relevant provisions of section 700 of this charter relating to the process for initiative elections.

900.3. Publication. The Council shall provide for publication in its election resolution according to the election and publication procedures of county and state law, provided, that the Council shall, at a minimum, cause to be published the date of the election and the full text of the proposed amendment or amendments at least 20 days prior to the date of the election. The full text of the proposed amendment or amendments shall also be posted at each voting place.

900.4. Adoption. If a proposed amendment is adopted by a majority of the voters voting on the question, it shall become effective 30 days after the certification of the election results by the County Council.

900.5. Separate ballot questions. When distinct proposed amendments to the Charter are not dependent on each other, and there is no direct, necessary or logical connection between the operation of each, those amendments shall be submitted separately to the voters.

(Ord. No. 391, §§ 1, 3, 1994; Ord. No. 614, § 1, 5-9-2012/Ref. 11-6-2012; Ord. No. 615, § 1, 5-9-2012/Ref. 11-6-2012; Ord. No. 616, § 1, 5-9-2012/Ref. 11-6-2012; Ord. No. 617, § 1, 5-9-2012/Ref. 11-6-2012; Ord. No. 618, § 1, 5-9-2012/Ref. 11-6-2012)

901. Separability.

If any provision of this Charter is held invalid, the other provisions of the Charter shall not be affected. If the application of the Charter or any of its provisions to any person or circumstances is held invalid, the application of the Charter or any of its provisions to other persons or circumstances shall not be affected.

902. Titles and Subtitles.

Titles and subtitles appearing before the articles and sections of this Charter are not intended to determine or restrict the meaning of its provisions. No provision of this Charter shall be construed or limited by reason of the content of titles and subtitles.

903. Seal.

The County shall have a seal which shall contain the word "SEAL" in the center and shall also contain the words "Incorporated County of Los Alamos, New Mexico" surrounding the word "SEAL".

904. Reserved.

Editor's note(s)—Ord. No. 566, § 1, adopted June 23, 2010/November 2, 2010, repealed § 904, which pertained to action against the county and derived from original charter adopted 12-10-68.

905. Reserved.

Editor's note(s)—Ord. No. 562, § 3, adopted July 13, 2010/November 2, 2010, repealed § 905, which pertained to committees and boards and derived from Ord. No. 391, § 4, 1994.

906. Elected Officials.

906.1. Term of Office of Councilors. All County Councilors shall be elected for a term of four years, and after having served two consecutive terms, shall be ineligible to hold any County elective office for a period of two years.

906.2. Term of Office of Other Elected Officials—Restrictions. There shall be no restrictions on the number of terms which a judge of the Court of the Incorporated County of Los Alamos, also known as the Judge of the municipal Court in and for Los Alamos County, may serve, but all other elected officials, except as provided in Section 906.1, shall be ineligible to hold any County elective office for a period of two years after having served two consecutive terms.

(Ord. No. 391, §§ 5, 6, 1994; Amendment No. 2, passed 11/3/70, modification of original section.)

907. Additional Petition Requirements.

907.1. Certification of Forms. In addition to other requirements as specified in this Charter, each petition shall be upon forms obtained from the County Clerk at no charge to the petitioner. The County Clerk shall certify on each page: (a) the date on which it was issued; (b) the purpose of the petition; (c) the date the petition is due; and (d) the County seal.

907.2. *Name and Address.* Each signature on the petition shall be followed by the address of the person signing. Only the signatures of resident, [and] qualified voters of the County shall be counted.

907.3. *Affidavit.* Each page[,] when filed shall contain an affidavit executed by the circulator stating: (1) he personally circulated the page; (2) the number of signatures on the page; (3) that all signatures were affixed in his presence; (4) that he believes them to be genuine signatures of the persons whose names they purport to be; and (5) that each signer had the opportunity before signing to read the full text of the petition.

907.4. *[Reserved]*

907.5. *Petition Certification.* Within 20 days after the petition is filed, the Council shall certify the petition as to its sufficiency with regard to this Charter. If a petition is certified as insufficient, the County Clerk shall specify the particulars of insufficiency, and shall promptly send a copy of the certificate to the petitioners by registered mail. The petition may be supplemented once, within ten days after receiving the copy of such a certificate. The supplemental petition shall be executed in the same manner as the original petition. If the supplemented petition is certified insufficient by the Council, it shall be considered a final determination of insufficiency.

(Ord. No. 445, § 1, 6-27-2000/ref. 11-7-2000; Ord. No. 604, § 1, 5-9-2012/Ref. 11-6-2012; Ord. No. 611, § 1, 5-9-2012/Ref. 11-6-2012; Ord. No. 613, § 1, 5-9-2012/Ref. 11-6-2012)

Editor's note(s)—Subsection 907.4, pertaining to initiative, referendum and recall was repealed by Ord. No. 604 insofar as it related to initiative, Ord. No. 611 insofar as it related to referendum and Ord. No. 613 insofar as it related to recall.

908. Final Day of Act.

If the last day for performing an administrative duty, filing a petition, a declaration or other similar act, falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or holiday, the next succeeding day on which the County or municipal office is open during regular business hours shall be the final day for such performance.

909. Definition: Publish and Publication—Defined.

Except as otherwise provided in this Charter, the term "publish" or "publication" shall have the meaning as prescribed in state law for legal notices and shall also include posting at the Municipal Building, the public library and its branches, and such other places as may be designated by ordinance.

(Ord. No. 391, § 7, 1994; Ord. No. 567, § 1, 6-23-2010/11-2-2010)

910. Conflict of Interest.

Any elected official, County employee, committee member or advisory board member who has a financial interest in the outcome of any policy, decision, or determination shall not vote or act on the issue in which he has such an interest.

911. Filling of Vacancies.

When a vacancy occurs in the elective offices of Clerk, Assessor, or Sheriff, the County Council shall appoint a qualified person to fill such office for the remainder of the unexpired term.

912. Authority to Enter.

All laws governing the County, for the purpose of public safety, health and welfare, and pertaining to the inspections and investigations required thereunder, shall in their adopting ordinances and in codes adopted by reference thereby, have an "Authority to Enter" section. Such action shall state the purpose of entry and direct that County inspectors may enter all buildings at any reasonable time for inspections, and shall further state:

"This authority to enter shall not include the interiors of private parties, dwellings or living quarters, or the portions of commercial premises used as dwellings, or the non-public portions of commercial premises, except upon obtaining a search warrant, or permission of the occupant thereof, or permission of the party responsible therefor in the event the premises are unoccupied. The provisions of this section do not apply in the event of explosion, fire, or like emergency."

(Amendment No. 3, passed 11/7/72, additional section.)

ARTICLE X. TRANSITIONAL PROVISIONS

1000. Rights and Privileges Preserved.

Nothing in this Charter, except as specifically provided, shall be construed to affect or impair the rights, privileges, and duties of persons who are County officers or employees at the time of its adoption.

1001. Adoption and Certification.

This Charter shall be submitted to the qualified voters of Los Alamos County, and if a majority of those voting vote for its adoption, it shall become effective on January 1, 1969. The Board of Commissioners of Los Alamos County shall cause true copies of the adopted Charter to be certified by the Clerk and made available to the public for examination and/or purchase.

1003. Transfer of Powers.

The powers and duties of any County department, office, or agency abolished by this Charter shall be transferred as designated in this Charter or, in the absence of a Charter provision, as designated by the Council.

1004. Property and Pending Matters.

All County property, records, and equipment in existence on December 31, 1968[,] shall be transferred as designated by the Council. All rights, claims, actions, orders, contracts, and legal or administrative proceedings shall continue except as modified by the provisions of this Charter.

1005. County and Municipal Laws.

Each County ordinance, resolution, and regulation that is in force when this Charter becomes effective is repealed to the extent it is inconsistent with this Charter. Each ordinance, resolution, and regulation shall continue in effect to the extent it is not inconsistent with this Charter.

1006. Abolition of Offices.

The offices of Treasurer and Surveyor of Los Alamos County are abolished as elective offices.

CHARTER COMPARATIVE TABLE AMENDMENTS

This table shows the location of the sections of the basic Charter and any amendments thereto.

Ordinance Number	Adoption Date	Referendum Date	Section	Section this Charter
	12-10-1968(Ord.)			Arts. I—X
1(Amd.)	11- 3-1970			304
2(Amd.)	11- 3-1970			906
3(Amd.)	11- 7-1972			912
4(Amd.)	1-20-1976			304
5(Amd.)	1-20-1976			103
346	1986		1	408
387	1994		1—5	200
			6, 7	202
			8, 9	203
			10	701
388	1994		1	300
			3, 4	304, 305
			5	307
389	1994		1	400
			2, 3	402, 403
			4	403
			5	502
			6, 7	505, 506
390	1994		1, 2	600
391	1994		1	900
			3	900
			4, 5	905, 906
			6	906
			7	909
445	6-27-2000		1	907
446	6-27-2000		1	601
558	6-23-2010	11- 2-2010	1	101
			2	103
559	6-23-2010	11- 2-2010	1	202.2
			2	203.2.1
				203.2.3
				203.3
560	7-13-2010	11- 2-2010	1	200.4
561	6-23-2010	11- 2-2010	1	200.5
			2	304.1—304.4
562	7-13-2010	11- 2-2010	1	305

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			3 Rpld	905
563	6-23-2010	11- 2-2010	1	600
			2 Rpld	601
564	6-23-2010	11- 2-2010	1	408
565	6-23-2010	11- 2-2010	1	306.3
566	6-23-2010	11- 2-2010	1 Rpld	904
567	6-23-2010	11- 2-2010	1	909
568	6-23-2010	11- 2-2010	1	202.1
598	5- 9-2012	11- 6-2012	1	700
599	5- 9-2012	11- 6-2012	1	700.1
600	5- 9-2012	11- 6-2012	1	700.2
601	5- 9-2012	11- 6-2012	1	700.3
602	5- 9-2012	11- 6-2012	1	700.4
603	5- 9-2012	11- 6-2012	1	700.5
604	5- 9-2012	11- 6-2012	1	703
				704
				907.4
605	5- 9-2012	11- 6-2012	1	701
606	5- 9-2012	11- 6-2012	1	701.1
607	5- 9-2012	11- 6-2012	1	701.2
608	5- 9-2012	11- 6-2012	1	701.3
609	5- 9-2012	11- 6-2012	1	701.4
610	5- 9-2012	11- 6-2012	1	701.5
611	5- 9-2012	11- 6-2012	1	703
				704
				907.4
612	5- 9-2012	11- 6-2012	1	702
613	5- 9-2012	11- 6-2012	1	703
				704
				907.4
614	5- 9-2012	11- 6-2012	1	900.1
615	5- 9-2012	11- 6-2012	1	900.2
616	5- 9-2012	11- 6-2012	1	900.3
617	5- 9-2012	11- 6-2012	1	900.4
618	5- 9-2012	11- 6-2012	1	900.5
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			4	304.2
			5	305.1
			6	307
			7	402
			8	403.3

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CHARTER COMPARATIVE TABLE AMENDMENTS

650	7-29-2014	11- 4-2014	1, 2	305.1, 305.2
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County of Los Alamos

Los Alamos, NM 87544
www.losalamosnm.us

Staff Report

February 10, 2026

Agenda No.: A.

Index (Council Goals):

Presenters: County Council - Work Session

Legislative File: 21298-26

Title

Councilor Submitted Reports

Attachments

A - Ryti report 2026-02-10

MainStreet Futures. Council members assigned for 2025 were Herrmann, Reagor, Ryti. Councilor Havemann will be taking my place on this committee in 2026. We had a meeting in January. There was a recap of the successful accreditation process. Project Y is moving to a different storefront in Central Park Square and will be rebranded as a hub. There is an Arts & Cultural District pilot grant for this year. ScienceFest is being moved to September with a more regional focus. The New Mexico outdoor recreation industry initiative [<https://www.endeavornm.org/>] was discussed. More information on MainStreet is on their webpage (<https://www.losalamosmainstreet.com/>).

Energy Communities Alliance (ECA). Ryti Treasurer, Executive Board, Board. There was the monthly Executive Board meeting in January but I could not attend due to a scheduling conflict. Also reviewed and approved invoices and expense reimbursements. The other regular, annual meeting has been the Intergovernmental Meeting, which is organized by the National Association of Governors. This meeting was planned for November 2025, but due to the Federal Government shutdown the meeting has been at least postponed with a new dates June 23-25 2026. Vice Chair Herrmann is planning on attending in my place. Main mission for ECA has been to secure funding for environmental cleanup and productive re-use across the DOE complex. ECA was also instrumental in helping to create the Manhattan Project National Historical Park. More recent initiatives for nuclear energy and interim/permanent geological repositories for nuclear waste. To that end ECA develops documents on relevant topics like a “Community Handbook on Nuclear Energy: Understanding Nuclear Energy and Alternatives for the Future” <https://www.energyca.org/handbook-index> and “Ensuring Long-Term Success: Recommendations for the Next Administration on the U.S. Department of Energy’s Environmental Management Mission.” More information is available on their webpage (<https://www.energyca.org/>).

National Association of Counties (NACo). Ryti is one the Vice Chairs of the Environment, Energy, and Land Use (EELU) Policy Committee. Every Councilor can get an account with NACo and this will be useful for seeing of the reports and information available (<https://www.naco.org/>). I encourage Councilors interested in NACo consider joining one of the policy committees.

Environment, Energy & Land Use (EELU) Policy Steering Committee. Member since February 2023, Vice Chair of Energy Subcommittee in 2023-2024 and Chair of Energy Subcommittee in 2024-2025, and one of the Vice Chairs of the Committee in 2025-2026. Successful interim policy statement in support of energy communities infrastructure funding, and changes to platform to clarify support for consent-based siting of nuclear waste. Co-sponsor of regulatory reform interim policy statement. EELU has monthly

meetings with a different speaker each month. The current Committee Chair, Supervisor Mike Turner of Loudoun County Virginia has been coordinating speakers on meeting the greatly expanding power needs in both his region and nationally due to higher demand from data center, AI, and the general trend to electrification. The January meeting included speakers discussing water policy in the fire-prone west and a Federal update (minibus passed and state revolving funds are flat but reduced greatly from the IJA plus up). The February meeting reviewed interim policy proposals planned for the February NACo Legislative Conference. I will be a co-sponsor of the “Proposed Interim Resolution in Support of Maintaining or Increasing Funding Levels for the Clean Water and Drinking Water State Revolving Funds.”

Resilient Counties Initiative. Member in 2024-2025 and 2025-2026. Attending meetings to hear lessons learned on natural disasters and mitigation planning best practices from around the country. I received a NACo Presidential appointment to this initiative for 2025-2026. Resilient Counties has an ongoing initiative for Rural Energy.

New Mexico Counties (NMC) Board of Directors. Elected to represent Los Alamos County in 2025 and that term will expire at the end of 2026. Entire board meets roughly quarterly. We vote to support or oppose legislation prior to and during the State Legislature sessions. Other meetings presentations on topics of interest to NMC and approve recommendations on changes to NM State Law. There are also affiliate groups for County elected officials (Commissioners, Clerks, Assessors, Sheriffs, Treasurers) and some non-elected (e.g., Managers, Attorneys). The next meetings were associated with the NMC Legislative conference held January 19-22 2026. At the Legislative conference Danielle Duran and I coordinated speakers for a workshop titled “Nuclear Energy Opportunities for New Mexico”. It was well-attended with over 50 people present and several questions from the audience. We had speakers representing Los Alamos National Laboratory, Waste Isolation Pilot Plant, and the New Mexico Nuclear Alliance. The NMC Board meeting had presentations from the Legislative Finance Committee with the main point is that weak growth in revenues is expected for the next 3-5 years. Much of the surplus had been put into “permanent type funds” that will continue to provide revenues for several State priorities. There was a synopsis of the NMC legislative priorities. IPRA reform might be on the call as a memorial to continue the studies and possible reform. There was another request for Counties to contribute to the Public Lands Institute (our contribution would be \$1000). The opening session of the conference was on health care status, issues, and possible legislative action. A joint session of note was on “A Modern Approach to Law Enforcement and Detention Liability.” Both having and enforcing policies consistent with State and Federal laws was an important highlight of this session. The next NMC Board

meeting was held February 7 to review legislation and vote to support or oppose bills relevant to NMC members.

New Mexico Counties Insurance Authority (NMCIA) Board. Appointed to represent Los Alamos County in 2023. One annual meeting for the full board annually. Los Alamos County gets its worker's compensation insurance through NMCIA. The NMCIA votes for members to the Executive Board at the annual meeting. The annual meeting approves the financial statements and gets a summary of relevant legislation. I, along with Ms Laurent, attended the annual meeting on January 20 2026. We were informed of changes to policy regarding leaving and re-entering the pool for one or more policy lines. Lexipol as a source for up-to-date law enforcement policies and detention center accreditation were discussed. There might be an overlap with the CALEA (Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies) accreditation that Los Alamos Police Department uses. We also got a request from the NMC Executive Director to let them know about any unpaid invoices from the State for housing their detainees in our detention center. See the webpage for more information (<https://nmccountyinsuranceauthority.org/>).

New Mexico Municipal League Self-Insurers Fund Board of Trustees (NMML SIF BOT). Elected to Board in 2019. This Board meets roughly quarterly and reviews/adopts updates to policy, receives information on the SIF initiatives, approves financials and rate schedules. We had no Board of Trustee meetings in January or February. We get most of our insurance through the SIF. Los Alamos County was one of the founding members of the SIF. More information is available on their webpage (<https://nmml.org/161/Insurance>); meetings of the Trustees are public, and information packages can be found on the calendar.

Coalition of Sustainable Communities New Mexico (CSCNM) Executive Board. The Executive Board has been meeting annually and the CSCNM has been re-structuring as an independent 501c3. Ms Angelica Gurule has been elected to the new Board, and Councilor Havemann will be the Council liaison for 2026. CSCNM has workshops for members and reviews legislation that are relevant to sustainability initiatives in the state. The current focus is on legislation being considered for the 30 day session. See the webpage for more information (<https://www.coalitionscnm.org/>).

Technical Work Group (TWG). Monthly presentations and discussion on technical aspects of the environmental cleanup in Los Alamos. Hosted by N3B and EM-LA. I received notice that on January 22 2026 that this group is no longer active.