Local and Small Business Engagement Working Group. Council members are Hermann, Reagor, Ryti; engaging with the business community, County staff, and other interested parties. We had meetings March 19, March 27, April 16, April 18. We continued to investigate options for providing security for retail Local Economic Development Act (LEDA) projects. We look forward to the Cities Work engagement process starting hopefully this month. We have attended another Local Business Coalition forum on Thursday April 10 at SALA with the focus on rules and interpretation of building codes. Recording of this forum is on their webpage (https://coalition.losalamos.com/). There was also a discussion about tourism on May 6 with the Coalition and Los Alamos Commerce and Development representatives. The discussion focused on how to better promote local retail businesses in Los Alamos and White Rock with options ranging from simpler ways to facilitate wayfinding to all businesses, promotional information on busses and at bus stops, digital options as well as more targeted print versions. It will be good to review the scope of the current contracts for MainStreet relative to business promotion and events and how the Lodger's tax funds are currently programmed. On a related topic, I followed up with the Assessor's office on the commercial vacancy data they compile each year as well as vacant commercially zones land. The vacancy data goes back to 2018 and a summary will be shared with Council at a future work session. Vacancy rate for retail or restaurant properties was about 15-20% in 2024. Council Reagor has been working a white paper outlining the retail LEDA process.

MainStreet Futures. Council members are Hermann, Reagor, Ryti. Other attendees include Jacquelyn Connolly, Alison Watkins, Patrick Moore, Jennifer Armstrong, Megan Bucklin, George Marsden, Juan Rael, Janice Krish, Donavan Price, Janet Lovato, Shanna Sasser, & Liz Martineau. We had a monthly meeting on April 14 with updates on the Farmers' Market, business accelerator, economic transformation strategies/work plan, metropolitan redevelopment areas, and various events (ScienceFest, Tuesdays at the Square, etc.). There were updates from the county on wayfinding, road projects, pedestrian master plan, and more. More information on MainStreet is on their webpage (https://www.losalamosmainstreet.com/).

Energy Communities Alliance (ECA). Ryti Treasurer, Executive Board, Board. We had the monthly Executive Board meetings in April and May, reviewing and approving invoices and expense reimbursements. I was on a panel providing a community perspective at the American Nuclear Society Student Meeting on April 5 "Restarting Stalled Nuclear Conversations." One reason that this meeting was in Albuquerque is that University of New Mexico has a program in nuclear engineering. The New Nuclear Forum in Idaho Falls (April 23-25 2025) was quite successful with about 400 people registered. I will be attending the International Atomic Energy Act event titled "International Conference

on Stakeholder Engagement for Nuclear Power Programmes" from 5/26 – 5/30/2025 and I will report on this conference next month. The National Cleanup Workshop in Washington DC (Sep 24-26 2025) has also been approved and registrations will open soon. The size of this event has been scaled back due to restrictions on Federal employee travel. The other regular, annual meeting has been the Intergovernmental Meeting, which is organized by the National Association of Governors. This meeting may not happen or be entirely virtual. Thus, elections for the Executive Board and Officers will happen at the National Cleanup Workshop. I will run to serve as Treasurer for one more year, but a transition could be planned to another Councilor. Is there interest in any Councilor in attending the National Cleanup Workshop to learn more about ECA? Partly to help with potential Federal funding shortfalls, the Executive Board agreed with starting to raise dues by modest amounts for most communities starting in 2026. Main mission for ECA has been to secure funding for environmental cleanup and productive re-use across the DOE complex. More recent initiatives for nuclear energy and interim/permanent geological repositories for nuclear waste. To that end ECA develops white papers on relevant topics like "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 the Chair of the Energy subcommittee 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. See additional information under NMC below.

Environment, Energy & Land Use (EELU) Policy Steering Committee. Member since February 2023 and Vice Chair of Energy Subcommittee in 2024 and Chair of Energy Subcommittee in 2025. 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 policy steering committees meet in person before the Federal legislative conference and annual meeting with speakers in the morning and policy resolutions in the afternoon. I applied for NACo Presidential appointment to the EELU leadership for 2026. The Federal work group is meeting to discuss policy statements for possible Council support the annual meeting.

Resilient Counties Initiative. Member in 2025. Attending meetings to hear lessons learned on natural disasters and mitigation planning best practices from around the country. I applied for NACo Presidential appointment to this initiative for 2026.

New Mexico Counties (NMC) Board of Directors. Elected to represent Los Alamos County in 2025. 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 (Managers, Attorneys). There was a meeting of the full NMC Board on May 2. Some of the key action items were a presentation on the annual audit and approval of the FY2026 budget. The audit resulted in a clean, unmodified opinion by the third-party accounting firm. To maintain competitive salaries for NMC staff the Board raised the annual fee by 10% for all counties. For Los Alamos County this raises the participation fee from $32,089 to $35,298. Counties are grouped by factors such as population and annual budget to determine the fee. We also had presentations on the legislative session and on efforts to engage the Department of Energy on the National Interest for Electric Transmission Corridors (NIETC). Bills supported by NMC that passed early in the session include crime competency and behavioral health funding. Other bills, such as police IPRA and property tax equitable disclosure, did not advance in the legislature. The Board also approved over $400k in grant for wildfire mitigation using funds from BLM. NMC staff also asked that all counties send information about activities of general interest to broadcast to membership. An example of internships was given for this kind of information. There were also some updates from staff and NACo activities. It was noted that there are some vacancies for New Mexico on some of the NACo policy steering committees. These committees mainly meet virtually during the year with in-person attendance possible at the Federal legislative conference or the annual conference.

New Mexico Counties Insurance Authority (NMCIA). 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. See the webpage for more information (https://nmcountyinsuranceauthority.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 get most of our insurance through the SIF. Los Alamos County was one of the founding members of the SIF. There have been no BOT meetings since February 27. There is a National League of Cities (NLC) Risk Information Sharing Consortium (RISC) trustees conference coming up May 14-16 and a BOT retreat June 4-6. 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 is in progress of re-structuring as an independent 501c3. It has been a project under the Santa Fe Community Foundation. CSCNM has workshops for members and reviews legislation that are relevant to sustainability initiatives in the state. We had a monthly member discussion session on April 11. I attended a roundtable on community solar. 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. Last meeting on May 7 was a presentation on the aggregate area investigation requirements and process. Some of the challenges of the work were discussed and include conflicts with LANL critical mission activities, cultural and biological resource constraints, hazardous materials, and weather.