

FEBRUARY 2025



*Urban Trail Ribbon Cutting February 26<sup>th</sup>*



*Cherished Facilities Superintendent Ron Lopez passed away unexpectedly on February 23<sup>rd</sup>.*

*Ron was a devoted husband and father, and a valued member of our team.*

*His contributions and presence will be deeply missed.*

## COUNTY MANAGER'S MONTHLY REPORT

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## INTRODUCTION

The County Manager's Monthly Report provides updates on key programs and projects, County financials and metrics that help track how we are serving our community.

## NOTE FROM THE COUNTY MANAGER

February was focused on budget development and meeting with all departments about their budget requests. Uncertainty about the federal programs, employees and budget and lower than anticipated GRT revenues caused some initial pause, however the uncertainty has somewhat tempered.

February council meeting highlights:

- Received an update from DOE-EM Site Manager Jessica Kunkle
- Approved Council's Federal Priorities in advance of the annual visit to our delegation in Washington DC
- Approved Eric Martinez as new Public Works Director
- Approved a \$2M contract for renovating the East Park Basketball and North Mesa Tennis Courts
- Approved medical oversight services for EMS in the amount of \$758K over seven years
- Approved electric golf cart infrastructure at the golf course in the amount of \$383K
- Approved a glass mosaic design for the south wall of the Justice Center facing Trinity Drive
- Adopted the C-Pace Ordinance offering fixed-rate financing for energy and water efficiency, renewable energy and resiliency improvements for eligible properties
- Provided comments on LANL's SWEIS
- Revised the Inclusivity Task Force Charter

If you would like to see more about council and their boards and commissions, please visit ([link](#)) to view meeting agendas, videos and minutes.

I will end this note with appreciation and gratitude for those who work tirelessly for the community - our staff, our community partners and volunteers. Thank you for all that you do and the many ways you make Los Alamos a special place.



Anne Laurent  
County Manager



## COMMUNICATION AND ENGAGEMENT

### General County

Facebook:

Followers: 8,507  
Views: 418,636  
Reach: 135,109  
Content Interaction: 2,392  
Clicks: 2,119

Top LACO performing post:

Internet/Cellular Service Outage  
Updates (posted March 11)

Post Impressions: 23,974  
Post Reach: 13,572  
Interactions: 90

Instagram:

Followers: 2,173  
Views: 19,176  
Reach: 5,885  
Content Interaction: 1,474

NextDoor:

Community Members: 5,612

### County Line Newsletter

Subscribers: 2,412

Open Rate: 51%

### Record Management

177 Records requested  
21 Carryovers from previous month  
929 Records pulled for review  
380 Boxes pulled for final disposition  
0 boxes Intake for storage  
2 Internal requests  
6 Records provided  
4 Permit requests  
9 Records provided

### Clerk's Office

232 Recordings & Filings  
59 eRecordings  
3 Marriage Licenses  
1 Probate Cases  
2 County Council / Board Meetings  
15,995 Total Registered Voters  
1,318 Voter Record Transactions  
1 Social Media Posts  
628 Facebook Followers  
372 Instagram Followers  
76 Threads Followers  
146 X Followers  
62 Customer Visits

### Community Development Department

*@LosAlamosCountyCommunityDevelopmentDepartment Facebook:*  
*764 followers to date*  
*1,668 reached this month*  
*104 content interaction this month*

### Community Services Department

4 New Social Media Followers  
178 - E-Activity Winter Guide reads  
124 - E-Activity Winter Guide reads  
0 - Alcohol Permits

### Environmental Services

*Social Media Followers – 1.3k*

### Fire Department

*62 New Social Media Followers (36 IG, 26 FB)*

## Public Meetings

The Urban Trail was opened to the public in February with an official ribbon cutting ceremony taking place on February 26.

The Los Alamos Building Safety Division conducted an informational seminar on Occupancy Classification and Change of Use as part of its community outreach efforts on February 13th. The purpose of this seminar was to clarify common misconceptions and provide business owners with essential information regarding the requirements that must be met before leasing space to a tenant. These regulations are established by the jurisdiction and the state, ensuring compliance with legal standards. Here is a [link](#) to the recording.

PumaGuard: AI-enabled Targeted Puma Mitigation, February 5, 2025

In-person and live-streamed presentation by members of the PEEC Nature Youth Group about their award-winning STEM project to detect mountain lions and protect livestock in Los Alamos.

48 participants

Electrification Planning: Where to Start, February 27, 2025

In-person and live-streamed presentation about issues to consider when converting from natural gas to electric appliances. This program was offered in partnership with Los Alamos County Department of Public Utilities.

24 participants

LAHS Astronomy Club Presents: Quasars, February 28, 2025

In-person presentation from the Los Alamos High School Astronomy Club about quasars and discoveries made during the Sloan Digital Sky Survey.

81 participants

Los Alamos Fire Department continues to collaborate with the Los Alamos community to plan for Senior Appreciate Night 2025 along with local organizations to include the YMCA, the DWI Planning Council, LAPD, LAC Rec Center, and the LA Teen Center.

The department is also gearing up for Wildfire Day 2025 at Ashley Pond. Pub-ed division is actively working on creating flyers and ordering giveaways for the Easter Egg hunt as well as coordinating with local organizations and vendors by obtaining permits for the upcoming event. Wildfire Day is scheduled for April 19, 2025.

Fire Inspector Joseph Romero is having ongoing classes at Santo Nino for Ms. Roybal's 3<sup>rd</sup> grade class in Santa Fe, covering various topics including the Scientific Method used by Fire Investigators to determine the causes of fires. Ms. Roybal's class consists of 25 students who learn and interact with our Fire Inspectors about fire safety.

On Thursday, February 20<sup>th</sup> LAFD attended a career fair hosted by Pojoaque Valley High School. Five of our staff attended to talk to the high school students about career opportunities within the department. Jeff Saiz, Eric Gonzales, Jeffrey Maestas, Ryan Wolf, and Allen Quintana; all Pojoaque alumni, attended the Career Day and shared their experiences and knowledge of working with the Department.

As part of the New Mexico Clean & Beautiful grant initiative, Public Works staff participated in the Breaking Bad Habits event held at the Capitol on Tuesday, February 18, 2025. This event provided a valuable opportunity for collaboration with various stakeholders dedicated to addressing litter abatement, graffiti removal, recycling, prevention, and beautification efforts across New Mexico. By joining forces, we aimed to strengthen our collective impact and energize legislative support for policies and funding that safeguard the state's natural beauty.

## INTERGOVERNMENTAL, TRIBAL, AND REGIONAL RELATIONS

### **State**

The State of New Mexico's legislative session began January 20<sup>th</sup>. Intergovernmental Affairs Manager Danielle Duran Intergovernmental Affairs Manager has been attending committee hearings, speaking on behalf of the County, and coordinating with organizations, legislators and individuals.

### **Federal**

Council Federal Work Group and DPU management on the hexavalent chromium plume Independent Review prepared for Washington DC meetings with delegates. Councilor Rytí, Councilor Reagor and Danielle Duran attended the NACo Legislative conference.

### **Tribal and Regional**

Meetings with the Pueblo de San Ildefonso have yielded positive action on animal shelter discussions and feral cattle.

## FISCAL STEWARDSHIP

### **Financial Overview**

GRT revenues are on track with projections during last year's budget hearings, however, they are significantly lower than last year and are expected to further decline.

February 2025				February 2024		
Accounts Receivable	Number of Transactions	Dollar Amount	Variance Over Prior Year Increase (Decrease)	Number of Transaction		
					Dollar Amount	
Gross Receipts Tax Received	4	\$ 7,458,618.45	-9.44%	4	\$ 8,162,602.37	
Electronic Payments Received (EPAY)	32	\$ 3,937,035.95	51.35%	35	\$ 1,915,467.37	
Property Tax Received	111	\$226,264.53	-12%	162	\$ 252,787.94	
Lodgers Tax Received	4	\$28,580.00	-15%	7	\$ 32,994.43	
Accounts Payable						
Number of Invoices Paid	476	\$ 15,907,800.30	9%	704	\$ 14,483,402.60	
Wire Payments Processed	34	\$ 10,330,997.52	-6%	56	\$ 10,928,332.67	
Electronic Fund Transfers (EFT) Processed	114	\$ 4,217,163.97	79%	115	\$ 897,444.42	
Normal Print Checks Processed	147	\$ 1,359,638.81	-95%	203	\$ 2,657,625.51	
	295	\$ 15,907,800.30	9%	374	\$ 14,483,402.60	
P-Card Transactions	1,192	\$ 421,051.38	4%	1,258	\$ 437,518.98	

## Procurement Highlights

### FY25 YTD Stats:

1053 Purchase orders issued  
 445 PO change orders  
 2471 Inventory pick tickets  
 64 Agreements completed  
 24 Amendments completed  
 81 Solicitations/Amendments in progress

### Trends:

Purchase Orders decreased from 1109 (FY24) to 1053 (FY25)  
 PO Change Orders rose from 425 to 445  
 Inventory Pick Tickets Processed & Delivered decreased from 2487 to 2471  
 Agreements Completed decreased from 74 to 62  
 Amendments Completed decreased from 31 to 24  
 Solicitations/Agreements/Amendments in Progress increased from 78 to 81  
 Anticipated Projects decreased from 47 to 44  
 Property Disposal Requests Received increased from 33 to 39

This data does not reflect all different types of formal solicitations, procurements, and agreement activities tracked on the Procurement Dashboard. The data has been filtered to only show the more common types of formal solicitations and agreements.



## EFFECTIVE, EFFICIENT, AND RELIABLE SERVICES

### CLERK

#### State Legislature Activity

The New Mexico State Legislature is currently reviewing a set of crucial bills that could bring significant changes to the state's election system. Among these bills are Senate Bill 16 (SB 16) and Senate Bill 218 (SB 218), both of which aim to improve voter participation, accessibility, and the overall integrity of the electoral process.

SB 16 focuses on expanding the rights of non-major party voters by allowing them to participate in primary elections. Currently, only voters registered with the two major political parties—Democratic and Republican—are eligible to vote in primary elections, effectively excluding independent and third-party voters from having a say in candidate selection. SB 16 seeks to address this limitation by granting non-major party voters the opportunity to cast their ballots in primaries.

SB 218 introduces a comprehensive set of reforms aimed at improving the overall election process in the state. This bill addresses several critical issues, including the accessibility and security of voting. One of the key provisions of SB 218 is enhancing early voting and absentee ballot access, making it easier for voters to cast their ballots in a way that works for their schedules and needs. Additionally, the bill includes measures to improve the accuracy of voter rolls, streamline election administration, and protect the integrity of the electoral process from potential fraud or misinformation.

As these and other County Clerk duty related bills continue to move through the legislative session, they have the potential to significantly impact how New Mexicans engage with the democratic process.

**Training** - The NM Secretary of State has begun a Clerk Orientation series training called "Voter Registration and Cancellation Process". All County Clerk staff have attended and completed the certificate for the first two (2) modules.

### **Board of Registration**

The Board of Registration in Los Alamos County plays a vital role in maintaining accurate and up-to-date voter rolls, which are essential to the integrity of the election process. One of their key responsibilities is overseeing and approving the voter cancellation process, which ensures that the county's voter lists remain current and reflective of eligible voters.

Voter registration can be canceled for several reasons, including a change of address, voter request, or if a voter has become inactive due to a prolonged absence from elections. Voters who fail to participate in elections for a specified period may be flagged as inactive, and their registration could be canceled after a thorough review. Additionally, if a voter moves out of the county or requests to be removed from the rolls, the Board ensures these cancellations are processed accurately and in compliance with state and federal laws.

The Board of Registration, County Clerk staff and the New Mexico Secretary of State's Office work diligently to prevent any ineligible individuals from being included in the voter rolls, which helps safeguard the electoral process and ensure fair and secure elections. By carefully reviewing cancellation requests and maintaining updated records, the Board ensures that only eligible voters can participate in Los Alamos County elections. This work is a critical part of upholding the integrity and accuracy of the voting system.

The next meeting of the Los Alamos Board of Registration is scheduled for March 6, 2025 at 11am in County Council Chambers. The agenda will be made available online no less than 72 hours prior to the meeting.

The Clerk's Office remains committed to providing accessible services, in person and online. For more information, visit the Clerk's webpage at [www.losalamosnm.us/clerk](http://www.losalamosnm.us/clerk), or contact the office at 505.662.8010. The office is located at 1000 Central Avenue, Suite 240, and staff is always happy to assist with any inquiries.

The Los Alamos County Board of Registration is a local government board that is responsible for overseeing the registration of voters in the county.

### **Meet the Los Alamos County Board of Registration**

**Lisa Hampton** worked in the Nuclear Weapons Complex for 32 years as a Project Controller, Quality Engineer, Line Manager, and Program Manager and retired from LANL in 2023. She serves as: the chair of the County Health Council, a member of the LA County Board of Registration, a member of the Older Adult Network for the LA Retired and Senior Organization, the Director of Community Health and Wellbeing for the LA League of Women Voters and on their fundraising and budget committees, and volunteers for the Los Alamos Arts Council supporting various events.

**Rick Reiss**, and his wife Deborah, have made Los Alamos home for over 30 years. Rick has served the county on the Planning and Zoning Commission, was elected to County Council for 6 years, worked in banking, mortgage lending and real estate development. Now retired, Rick volunteers with the Los Alamos Community Foundation, Friends of Manhattan National Historical Park-LA, and Kiwanis.

**Chris Luchini** has lived in the area since 1999, living in White Rock. He is a small business owner and entrepreneur and is actively involved in governance issues at all levels of government.

**Philip Gursky** is a native of Los Alamos and a graduate of LAHS and UNM Law School and has spent decades as a real estate development and finance lawyer and as a senior executive and principal in real estate development firms, developing throughout the country. He has been active for many years in multiple County boards and community organizations in Los Alamos, as well Democratic Party politics.

**Greg White** is a Los Alamos resident and was appointed to the Los Alamos County Board of Registration in July 1, 2023. His intention to serve on this board is to uphold

the integrity of the election process and ensure transparency, allowing him to provide his fellow citizens with confidence in a fair and impartial electoral system.

### **New Initiative**

The Clerk's Office is implementing comprehensive indexing and redaction for remaining historical, county clerk recorded documents in-house! This transition will enhance efficiency, improve accuracy, and ensure greater security and compliance. By leveraging internal resources, we can better serve our community while streamlining processes for long-term success.

### **Upcoming Events**

March 6, 2025 Board of Registration Meeting @ 11am  
March 6, 2025 Clerk's Office Closed between 1pm and 3pm for All-Staff Meeting  
March 12, 2025 Los Alamos County Day at the State Legislature

## **HUMAN RESOURCES**

Negotiations with the International Association of Fire Fighters (IAFF) are underway, with the current CBA expiring on June 30, 2025.

The Pension Delegate Committee held its quarterly meeting in January to discuss year-end changes, review pension plan details, and discussed legislative updates to ensure the pension plan complies with the SECURE 2.0 Act.

LAC Pension recording keeping and financial advisor services RFP closed, and proposals are being reviewed. The current agreement expires June 30, 2025.  
1095-C forms were recently mailed to employees, in compliance with the Affordable Care Act.

LAC Leadership Academy is currently being reviewed, and Class 14 will begin soon. Technical training, leadership development, and soft skills training to support employee growth and development are offered on a continual basis.

Training Compliance numbers remain high.

Risk Management recently rolled out Company Nurse, which is our new Workplace Injury Reporting process. Employees contact Company Nurse upon any type of injury. They are triaged immediately and receive guidance for medical care based on their injury. The goal of this program is to assist with reducing the County's Workers' Compensation claim costs.

## PLANNING

### Planning February STATS:

Permits reviewed: 27

Planning Inspections Conducted: 8

Business Licenses Reviewed: 12

Development Applications Processed: 7

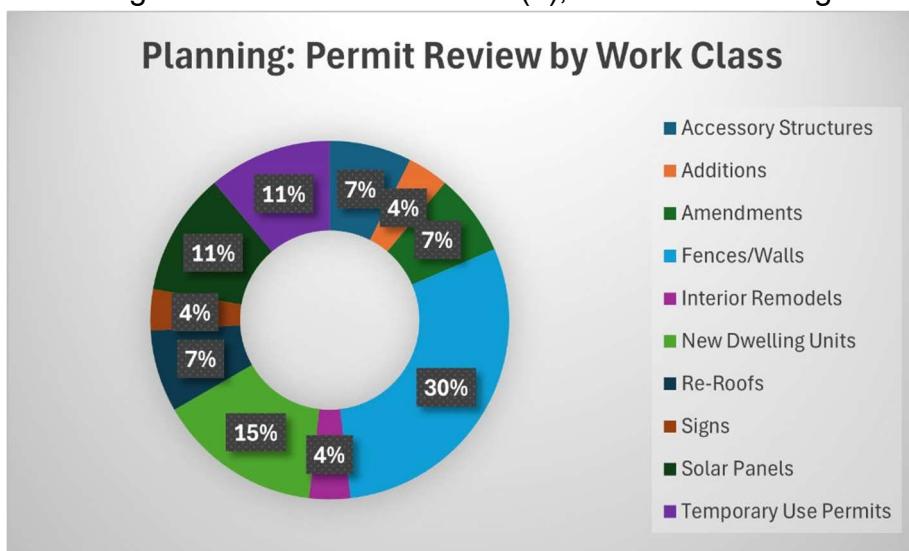
**Development Code Update:** In 2023, Los Alamos County replaced its Development Code with an updated version to streamline zoning regulations, development standards, and procedures while aligning with the county's evolving needs. Now, staff is working with the County Attorney's Office on a "Clean-Up" process to clarify language, fix inconsistencies, and refine standards, continuing into 2025 alongside a Comprehensive Plan update. This effort supports the County Council's Strategic Leadership Goals for Operational Excellence. Upcoming activities include:

- Proposal to County Council for Adoptions of Development Application Fees
- Text Amendment application(s) to include, but are not limited to, Temporary Signs, and Mobile Food Vending.

**New Initiative:** The Planning Division is creating an interactive development map—your go-to tool for tracking projects from application to completion. This addition will allow the public to stay informed with updates and key details on developments across Los Alamos County.

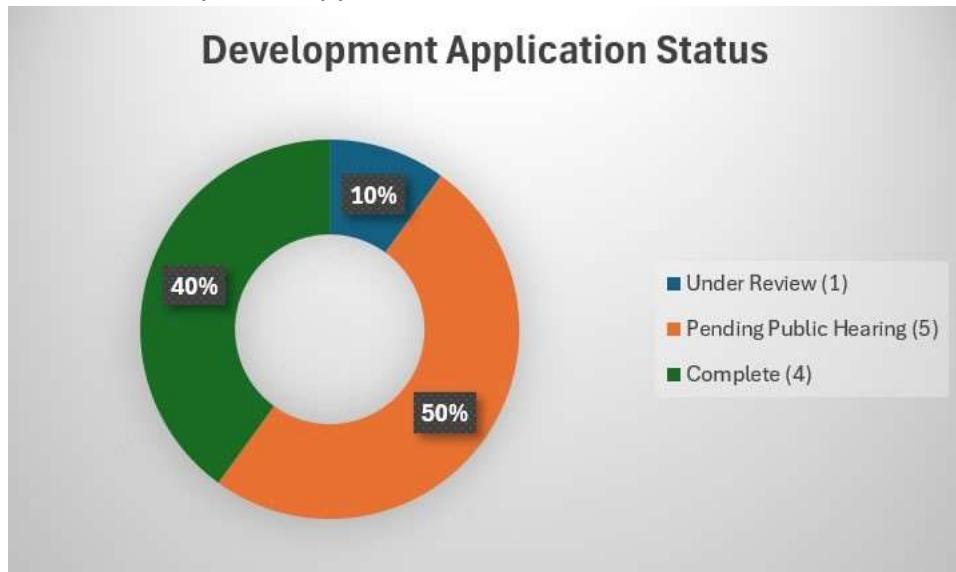
### Permit Reviews:

The Planning Division reviews and applies the Development Code to a variety of permits based on the type and extent of work being proposed. Below are reviews for February with the top two being reviews for Fences/Walls (8), and New Dwelling Units (4).



## Development Applications:

The timeframe for Development Applications can range 3 business days to 12 weeks, depending on the application type: Administrative, Quasi-Judicial, and Legislative. Each requires specific processes, including public notice, and public hearings. Below is an update of recent Development Applications based on status.



## Planning & Zoning Upcoming Cases:

- **March 12, 2025**, Planning and Zoning Commission Meeting:

**Case No. VAR-2025-0006.** Will Gleason of Dekker Designs, Agent on behalf of Ocean Rock Capital Partners and Grand Mesa Partners, LLC, property owner, requests a variance from the Downtown Los Alamos Streetscape Standards along Central Avenue. This variance pertains to an approved hotel development located at 400 Trinity Drive, Los Alamos, NM. The property, designated as EA2 S, is situated within the Eastern Area 2 Subdivision and the Downtown Los Alamos (DTLA) Zone District.

- **March 26, 2025**, Planning and Zoning Commission Meeting:

Pinnacle Consulting (aka Sun State Tower) and Co-Applicant Verizon Wireless, on behalf of Los Alamos County, have submitted applications related to the construction of an 80-foot Wireless Telecommunication Facility tower at Overlook Park (580 Overlook Rd) within the Open Space (OS-PP) Public Park sub-zone district. The requests include:

**Case No. TEL-2024-0005.** Approval to construct the tower, collocate two commercial antenna arrays, and build a 20' x 30' x 8' enclosure for ground equipment.

**Case No. CUP-2024-0000.** Conditional Use Permit (CUP) approval from the Planning and Zoning Commission for the tower in an Open Space zone.

**Case No. VAR-2025-0007.** A variance request to exceed the 50-foot height limit, allowing the tower to reach 80 feet.

Note: All applications pertain to the same site within the ballfields area of Overlook Park.

**Case No. SIT-2025-0071.** Los Alamos County Capital Improvements and Facilities Division, on behalf of Los Alamos County, property owner, is requesting Site Plan approval to renovate the Manhattan Project-Era Dormitory building, an existing 2- story building previously referred to as the "Women's Dorm Building", to serve as a visitor center with historical and educational exhibits, related office space, and a Caretaker Unit; and construction of a 560 Sq. Ft. detached restroom facility, and picnic pavilion. The property, EA3 U, is addressed 1725 17th Street and is within the Institutional (INS) zone district.

Note: Project was unable to be heard and will be rescheduled due to lack of a quorum.

## INFRASTRUCTURE ASSET MANAGEMENT

### INFORMATION MANAGEMENT

- Migrated last legacy virtual servers (8) from the old operating platform onto the new operational foundation
- Countywide Managed Detection and Response (MDR) cybersecurity project underway; all roles assigned. Targeted live date: March 17
- Completed the replacement of all Police Dispatch workstations with upgraded computers at both the primary (Los Alamos) and secondary (White Rock Fire Station 3) dispatch operations sites
- Continued project support to the Fire Department for the FirstDue software implementation

## February Service Desk Stats:

443 tickets  
0 open tickets  
443 closed tickets

## AIRPORT

### February take-offs and landings – 241

At the request of the public users of the terminal and as part of an effort to improve energy efficiency, the airport recently replaced the existing roller shades on the south side of the airport with automated roller shades that do 100% darkening, cutting down the glare in the room for presentations. In addition, the shades can now be programmed to open and close with both time of day and temperature-related setpoints to maximize heating and cooling using solar gain. These improvements should make the terminal more comfortable, use less energy, and create a better environment for community events.

Staff are waiting for contractor proposals for the grant-funded T-hangar project that will allow the development of the west side of the airport.

Weather conditions in February were not favorable to general aviation operations as it was often windy and unpredictable, which contributed to a significant decrease in airport activity. A total of 241 take-offs and landings were recorded, down from 343 in the previous month (30% decrease).

The airport is working with Los Alamos Mainstreet to coordinate an airport open house in conjunction with the Los Alamos Discovery Day in June. Staff are working with the Experimental Aircraft Association, Los Alamos RC airplane club, and others to develop activities and events for the festival.

## FACILITIES

No facility maintenance stats updates were provided in February.

## CUSTODIAL

### Custodial Stats supporting public events:

Fuller Lodge – 42  
White Rock Activity Center – 10  
WR Fire Station #3 – 2  
BESC – 23

WR Town Hall – 0  
Municipal Building - 41

Staff will be working to refinish the wood floors in Fuller Lodge and the concrete floors at Pajarito Cliffs Site (PCS Bldg. 1) in March.

## FLEET

February Stats:

*Work orders entered* - 238

*Work orders completed within 75 hours* - 148

*Work orders remain open* - 27

*Work orders are preventive maintenance* – 42

*Work orders repairs* – 194

*Work orders for accidents* – 2

Fleet is focused on keeping vehicles and equipment in top shape so Los Alamos County Departments can provide quality services to the residents of Los Alamos and White Rock. Fleet also provides a Motor Pool service that is located at the Municipal building, which is available to County staff.

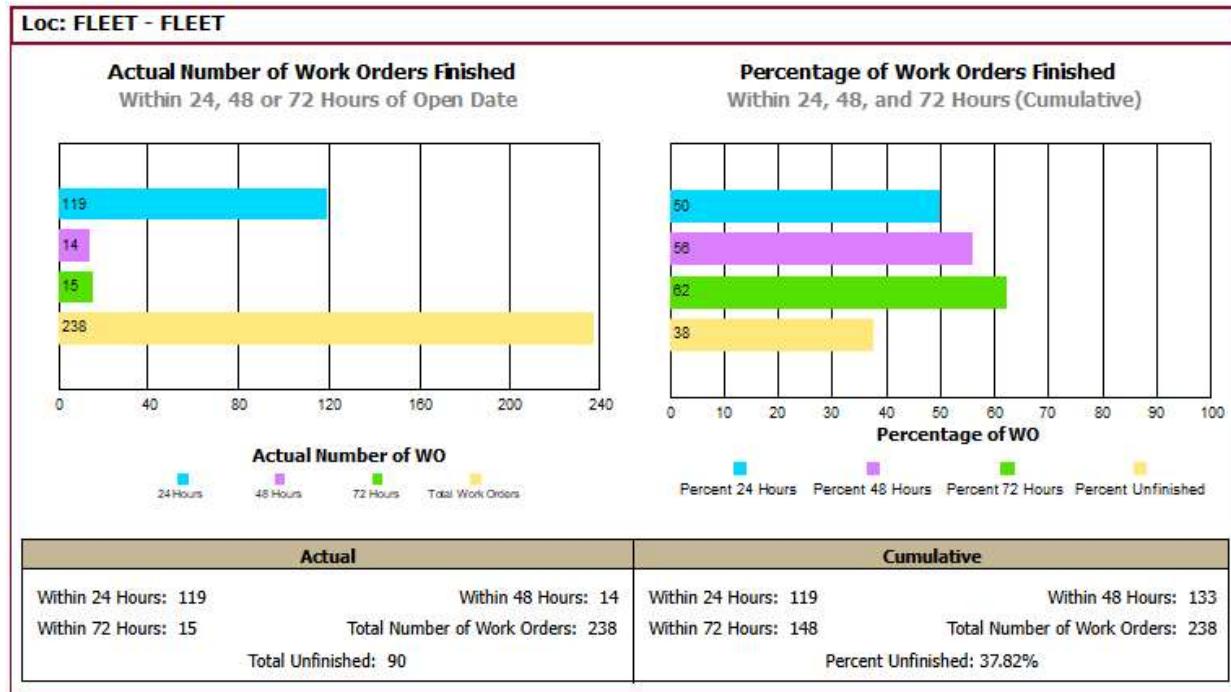
FY25 equipment ordering is about 90% complete.

Fleet is working on summer equipment checks.

Fleet is working on needed updates to fuel tanks after State Inspection.

Gathering information and speaking with other agencies about vehicle GPS.

Gathering data for the Fleet Conversion Study.



## TRAFFIC AND STREETS

February Stats:

*Customer Calls* – 83

*Permits Processed* – 22

*Permits Extended* – 6

*Perma Patch for potholes* – 480 lbs.

*Miles swept* – 323

*Locates* - 130

*Signs replaced and repaired* - 36

*Replaced Lights and Fixtures* – 27

*Requisitions processed* - 4

Traffic Electricians removed and replaced light fixtures at various locations in Los Alamos and White Rock. They checked and tested all bollard lights in the Los Alamos area, removed and replaced bollard LED's that were out and replaced fixture sockets.

They responded to and repaired damaged 5 sec overhead signal at Diamond and West Road and realigned adjacent 3 sec overhead signal.

They removed the old speed limit sign on Canyon Road and installed a new sign, solar panel and conductors.

They removed and replaced damaged J-Box lids on Oppenheimer Drive at Trinity Drive and at 15<sup>th</sup> Street and Trinity Drive.

They installed video detection cameras and field Conductors at Diamond Drive and Arkansas Ave.

The Signs and Markings crew have been taking core samples on South San Ildefonso, Big Rock Loop, and North Mesa Rd. Additionally, they have been repairing sign's county wide. They continue to upgrade ACT bus stop signs countywide as well. They have a total of 36 signs installed or repaired.

Transportation Safety Specialist reviewed traffic control permits, attended pre-construction meetings, inspected traffic control countywide and started a Safety Class, where crews meet and discuss safety issues on a weekly basis. The first meeting consisted of OSHA snow removal topics.

Right-of-way maintenance and tree trimming were done countywide, and crews cleaned drains at Cheryl Ave. and Aragon Ave.

Crews repaired a section of sidewalk on Central Ave. that posed a tripping hazard. They swept sidewalks on Trinity Drive, Central Ave., Canyon Road, and East Rd. and performed litter control on East Road. Crews also cleaned drop inlets on Spruce Street, Rose Street and Oppenheimer Drive.

Crews took a welding class on Metal Inert Gas (MIG) and ARC welder, and on torches. Crews have been removing and hauling dirt from the ice rink as part of the Community Services Department Ice Rink Parking Lot Improvements Project.

## EMPLOYEE RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION

### February Highlights

- 6 employees hired (all Regular/Full-Time)
- 6 employees left for non-retirement reasons (1 deceased)
- 3 employees retired
- Vacancy rate – 6% (stable for last 12 months)

### Current Vacancies ([link](#))

Lifeguard, Election Worker, Recreation Leader, Equipment Operator, Engineering Associate, Transit Operator, Arborist, Facilities Manager, Project Manager, Engineering Intern, Police Officer, Emergency Communications Specialist and Shift Supervisor (Dispatch), Summer Student Interns

## HOUSING

WASHINGTON, DC – February 29, 2025. Incoming GDP, labor market, and inflation data point to an economy that entered 2025 with strong momentum, but current risks to the outlook are higher than normal due to uncertainty around trade policy, including additional tariff proposals, according to the February 2025 commentary from the Fannie Mae Economic and Strategic Research (ESR) Group. “However, ongoing uncertainty around trade policy adds risk to our GDP and inflation outlooks, which may have implications for mortgage rates, although the direction – up or down – would depend on several factors. Higher mortgage rates would exacerbate the existing ‘lock-in effect’ and worsen affordability, which may then weigh on home sales and mortgage originations activity. Of course, if mortgage rates move lower, we’d likely see an improvement in affordability and a corresponding pickup in housing activity,” according to Kim Betancourt, Fannie Mae Vice President of Multifamily Economics and Strategic Research. – Fannie Mae – Economic & Strategic Research Group.

### **Partnership Project Updates:**

**20th Street Development Solicitation:** County staff and RBMM development are finalizing the SPDA and related cost estimates for on-site and off-site improvements. The RBMM engineering team are completing initial design and cost estimates including a ‘not to exceed’ amount for intersection improvements. [Goals: Downtown Revitalization, Local Business, Housing.]

**Affordable Housing Service Provider:** The Santa Fe Housing Trust staff are reviewing applications for both the Home Rehabilitation and Home Buyer Loans. The County and Housing Trust hope to issue affordable housing loans under the partnership in the coming weeks.

**North Mesa Update:** Wilson and Company are currently conducting field data collection as well as water and sewer modeling of the existing systems to determine the impacts of additional development on the North Mesa property. This data will guide the required infrastructure improvements needed to support development and provide preliminary cost estimates for the work. [Goals: Housing, Intergovernmental Relations.]

## LOCAL BUSINESS

18 new Businesses received LAC business licenses in February 2025. 6 are here in Los Alamos County and 12 are out-of-town businesses.

7 Event permits were approved and issued in February 2025 **Tourism?**

## DOWNTOWN REVITALIZATION

Staff received a draft Los Alamos Downtown East MRA plan for review and will be scheduling public hearings required by the state law for Council adoption consideration.

## EDUCATIONAL, ARTS, CULTURAL, & HISTORICAL AMENITIES

### **Nature Center Programs**

Night Sky in April, April 4, 2025

25th Anniversary Fuller Lodge Art Gallery Opening Night, April 4, 2025

The Sun: Our Living Star, April 5, 2025

Bird Walk at Los Luceros, April 6, 2025

25th Anniversary Bathtub Row PEEC Beer Release, April 10, 2025

Moonrise Hike, April 11, 2025

Audio Tour of the Universe, April 12, 2025

Phantom of the Universe, April 19, 2025

25th Anniversary Wildflower Walk, April 22, 2025

Los Alamos Big Band Performance in the Planetarium, April 25, 2025

From Earth to the Universe, April 26, 2025

Los Alamos Mountaineers program (In-person and Live-streamed), April 29, 2025

### **Library**

#### **February Stats:**

67 Public programs and Events

1,419 Total Program Attendance

23,753 Physical Items Circulated

9,887 Digital Items Circulated

33,640 Total Items Circulated

In February, the Library hosted a variety of adult programs. Early in the month, three Dungeon Masters guided adventurers through separate one-shot D&D campaigns, introducing new patrons to the game and the ongoing weekly winter campaign.

The Library offered a talk by Bernie Gurule, principal of the Santa Fe Indian School, on the history of the school and its integration with the 19 pueblos of New Mexico. This

event was made possible in partnership with the J. Robert Oppenheimer Memorial Committee.

Additionally, a Small Space Gardening Panel was held in support of the volunteer-run seed library, featuring experts ranging from Master Gardeners to long-time local gardeners.

Library teens at the Random Fandom program worked on a service project decorating bowling pins for the Bowl for Kids' Sake fundraiser by Big Brothers Big Sisters Mountain Region.

Youth staff collaborated with First Born Los Alamos to host a pajama party at the White Rock Branch, where 29 parents and kids played and built forts with sheets.

The annual All Schools Student Art Show opened in the Step Up gallery on February 20, attracting an estimated 400 students and family members. The exhibit features artwork from students at all grade levels in Los Alamos Public Schools.

In February, the second season of the seed library ended. While checkouts from the first season weren't quite matched, the White Rock Branch Library saw a 30% increase in both patrons served and seed packages distributed.

The Library's new website will launch on March 18, using the same platform as the County's website to improve information sharing between the two.

The public poll on the outdoor classroom closed on March 2nd with 230 responses received. Based on survey responses, Library staff will send feedback to the architect to modify the design.

## TOURISM AND SPECIAL EVENTS

### **@VisitLosAlamos Facebook:**

*15,587 followers to date*

*9,525 reached this month*

*215 engagements this month*

### **@VisitLosAlamos Instagram:**

*1,416 followers to date*

*11,553 reached this month*

*186 engagements this month*

**Visitlosalamos.org Website:**

2,658 Users

2,072 Engaged Sessions

58 seconds Average Engagement Time/Session

**Visitor Center Visitation**

**Los Alamos:** 822 this month

**White Rock:** 218 this month

**Connecting with the Public:**

**Business Tour:** On January 20, Dr. Shanna Sasser, Anita Barela, and Ellyn Felton visited the business UbiQD for a tour and discussion. The business received a Small Business Innovation and Research Grant from the USDA in 2024 and received the 2024 South by Southwest (SXSW) Innovation Award for its quantum dot greenhouse technology. [1.1 Communication and Engagement; 3.2 Local Business]

**Connecting with Community Partners:**

**LTAB-** On February 26, Ellyn Felton and Dr. Shanna Sasser participated in an LTAB Committee Interview. Now that the committee has reached quorum, LTAB will continue to meet monthly. [3.4 Tourism and Special Events]

**Tourism Group Discussion** - On January 26, Ellyn Felton and Dr. Shanna Sasser led a conversation with their tourism group. The meeting included updates about calendars as well as insight on events at the Los Alamos Golf Course. [3.4 Tourism and Special Events]

**Airport Meeting**- Dr. Shanna Sasser met with Gary from the Los Alamos Airport to discuss economic development potential. [3.4 Tourism and Special Events, 3.2 Local Business]

**NM Economic Development Professional Association**- Dr. Sasser attended the winter meeting for NM IDEA in Santa Fe. [3.4 Tourism and Special Events, 3.2 Local Business]

**Designing and Leading Public Participation**- Dr. Sasser completed the second part of Public Participation training. [3.4 Tourism and Special Events, 3.2 Local Business]

**Pojoaque Industrial Park Tour**- Dr. Sasser organized a meeting with regional partners to see the Pojoaque Industrial Park for potential site locations for businesses. [3.2 Local Business, 1.2 Intergovernmental, Tribal, and Regional Relations]

**Business Coalition Presentation-** Dr. Sasser presented to the business coalition on the current updates for the CDD Department and Small Business Supports. *[3.2 Local Business, 1.2 Intergovernmental, Tribal, and Regional Relations]*

**Change of Use Workshop** - Dr. Sasser collaborated with the Building and Code Department to present a workshop for small business owners to better understand how the change of use in commercial space affects the code requirements. *[3.2 Local Business]*

**Comprehensive Economic Development Steering Committee**- Dr. Sasser participated in meetings with the Northern NM Council of Governments. The Committee will be holding a listening session on March 13<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 pm to hear public comments around economic development. *[3.2 Local Business, 1.2 Intergovernmental, Tribal, and Regional Relations]*

## COMMUNITY BROADBAND

The broadband manager is meeting weekly with the Bonfire team to implement the CBN (Community Broadband Network) project. The project is currently in the engineering & design phase. The project team is also meeting with staff from Public Works, the Department of Public Utilities and the Los Alamos National Laboratory to identify existing conduit. Bonfire's subcontractor will soon begin proofing these conduits in the field to determine viability. All of these efforts are working toward Bonfire's first deliverable - the "high-level" design.

Collaboration efforts continue with the Pueblo of San Ildefonso's broadband team on the middle mile fiber project, including finalizing a series of agreements related to construction and operation of the Pueblo's new 11-mile middle-mile fiber network connecting White Rock to Pojoaque.

## HEALTH, WELLBEING, AND SOCIAL SERVICES

February Stats:

*4 Contractor Public Programs & Events  
1,347 People Attended Programs and Events*

Social Services staff continue to assist clients at our office location, as well as locations throughout the community. We especially appreciate our collaboration with the Los Alamos Police Department as officers have recognized community members in distress, have offered ride-a-longs with SSD staff in the field, and have been able to connect individuals with resources through the Social Services Division.

In February, Social Services Manager Jessica Strong attended the New Mexico Alliance of Health Councils' Annual Statewide Meeting in Albuquerque. This event brings County and Tribal Health Councils together for a day to connect, share knowledge, and collaborate for a healthier New Mexico. As a reminder, the Los Alamos County Health Council meets monthly on the first Thursday of the month from 12-1:30pm, and meetings are open to the public.

Case Coordination Specialist Deni Fell attended the Unite Us Summit in Albuquerque on February 6<sup>th</sup>. The summit was designed to bring community nonprofits and service providers together for a day of networking, information sharing, and relationship building. No single organization can meet all the needs of those seeking assistance, and we rely on one another and the resources available through our community of helping agencies to refer clients in a closed-loop system.

Following a successful pilot program last year, the Los Alamos County Social Services Division announced the relaunch of its successful evening hours collaboration with the Mesa Public Library and the White Rock Public Library from 4-7pm at Mesa Public Library on the first Wednesday of the month and from 4-7pm at White Rock Branch Library on the third Wednesday of the month.

### **Social Services Contractors:**

#### **Los Alamos Public Schools Prevention (LAPS)**

Title: LAHS Sources of Strength Dare to Care Campaign

Dates: February 7-14, 2025

# of Participants: Reaches the entire student and staff population at LAHS, approximately 1200 people.

Event Summary: The LAHS Sources of Strength peer leaders created an outreach campaign for February, encouraging staff and students to share their care. Activities included a kickoff video, a table for sharing what participants love about LAHS, and decorated student bathrooms with positive messages. The program was recently added to the Suicide Prevention Resource Center's Best Practices Registry for its significant prevention impact.

Upcoming Event: The annual Spring prescription drug take-back day is scheduled for Saturday, April 26th.

## **Los Alamos Retired & Senior Organization (LARSO)**

Title: Romance Scams Workshop

Date: 2/18/2025

# of Participants: 20

Event Summary: AARP representatives shared information about Romance Scams as part of the Scam Awareness for Elders campaign. The event focused on recognizing and avoiding scams targeting older adults.

Upcoming Event: Lunchtime Music: SaxAtomix on Tuesday, April 15, 2025, 12:00-1:00 PM.

## **YMCA Teen Center (TC)**

Title: Valentine's Day Carnival

Date: 2/14/2025

# of Participants: 18

Event Summary: The Teen Council organized a Valentine's Day carnival featuring a cake walk, musical chairs, charades, and art projects. This event followed the successful Halloween Carnival held earlier this year.

Upcoming Event: Hawk Hangout - Take Over the Teen Center Day on April 24th for middle schoolers, with high school members acting as mentors.

## **Las Cumbres Community Services (LC)**

Title: Developmental Drop-in Playgroup

Dates: Mondays in February (2/3, 2/10, 2/17, 2/24)

# of Participants: 109

Event Summary: Las Cumbres facilitated developmental activities with support from Occupational and Behavioral Therapists. The event provided opportunities for families to ask questions and receive guidance.

Upcoming Event: Sensory-Friendly Egg Hunt on April 12th from 3-5 pm at the Los Alamos location.

Upcoming Event: Sensory-Friendly Egg Hunt on April 12th.

## **INCLUSION, ACCESS, AND BELONGING**

Task Force

Council created and appointed seven member to the Inclusion Task Force that will serve as advisory to the County Council on issues of .... ([add link to web page](#))

## **MOBILITY**

The draft update to the Los Alamos County Pedestrian Master Plan was presented to the Transportation Board on February 6. Staff will address feedback received and provide a follow-up presentation to the board in March, with an anticipated request for recommendation for adoption to take place in April.

The Urban Trail was opened to the public in February with an official ribbon cutting ceremony taking place on February 26.

### **Atomic City Transit**

February Stats:

*Unlinked Passenger Trips (UPT) - 16,422*

*Fixed-Route UPT - 15,976*

*Demand-Response UPT - 446*

*Special UPT - 0*

*Service Days - 21*

*UPT per Service Day - 782*

*UPT per Service Mile - .44*

*Service Disruptions - 2*

*On-time Timepoint Departures - 83.0%*

*On-time Paratransit Trips - 95.0%*

*Buses with Defective ITS Systems -17%*

*Customer Complaints - 0*

Atomic City Transit (ACT) continues to work on its Zero Emission Transition Plan. The Plan will identify any current and future resources needed for a successful implementation of incorporating battery electric or low emission vehicle technologies in Los Alamos. Also, an essential component of this plan is its compliance with the Federal Transit Administration's requirements for a Zero-Emission Fleet Transition Plan.

ACT continues to work with Spare Labs Inc on the logistics and implementation stages of the upcoming Microtransit Support. This service aims to enhance the efficiency of paratransit operations while integrating with Microtransit services.



## 2025 Ridership Report

### LOS ALAMOS

YTD

Route	Trips						% Chg (from 2019)	% Chg (from 2020)	% Chg (from 2021)	% Chg (from 2022)	% Chg (from 2023)	% Chg (from 2024)	Jan Rev. Miles		Jan Rev. Hours		Jan YTD Trips		Month YOY % Chg (from 2024)	Svc Days	
	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2025							2024	2025	2024	2025	2024	2025			
1 Downtown	4,509	4,606	-	2,153	2,946	3,748	4,774	6%	4%	122%	62%	27%	5,118	5,136	272	273	3,748	4,774	27%	21	
2M White Rock - Main Hill	2,336	2,089	-	1,061	2,079	1,659	1,093	-53%	-48%	3%	-47%	-34%	7,450	7,503	282	284	1,659	1,093	-34%	21	
2T White Rock - Truck Rt	1,451	1,228	-	508	730	837	955	-34%	-22%	88%	31%	14%	6,954	7,008	272	274	837	955	14%	21	
2P White Rock - Peak	405	533	-	-	-	-	-						-	-	-	-	-	-	0%	-	
3 Central / Canyon	2,428	2,526	-	954	-	-	-						-	-	-	-	-	-	0%	-	
4 North Community	2,920	2,713	-	1,156	2,525	2,078	2,225	-24%	-18%	92%	-12%	7%	4,050	4,072	271	273	2,078	2,225	7%	21	
5 Barranca Mesa	1,228	1,603	-	514	953	855	888	-28%	-45%	73%	-7%	4%	3,781	3,812	268	271	855	888	4%	21	
6 North Mesa	5,200	6,088	-	1,832	2,487	2,366	2,504	-52%	-59%	37%	1%	6%	4,852	4,893	339	342	2,366	2,504	6%	21	
<b>Fixed-route subtotal</b>	<b>20,477</b>	<b>21,386</b>	-	<b>8,178</b>	<b>11,720</b>	<b>11,543</b>	<b>12,439</b>	<b>-39%</b>	<b>-42%</b>	<b>52%</b>	<b>6%</b>	<b>8%</b>	<b>32,205</b>	<b>32,424</b>	<b>1,705</b>	<b>1,717</b>	<b>11,543</b>	<b>12,439</b>	<b>8%</b>		
7 North Mesa Expr	1,171	1,019	-	731	663	935	907	-23%	-11%	24%	37%	-3%	224	115	15	5	935	907	-3%	-	
8 North Community Expr	648	646	-	125	638	768	737	14%	14%	490%	16%	-4%	103	116	7	8	768	737	-4%	18	
9 Aspen Expr	749	741	-	248	148	114	665	-11%	-10%	168%	349%	483%	157	176	7	8	114	665	483%	18	
10 Barranca Expr	1,057	594	-	291	413	550	487	-54%	-18%	67%	18%	-11%	135	132	8	8	550	487	-11%	18	
11 White Rock Expr	776	789	-	282	439	445	741	-5%	-6%	163%	69%	67%	272	306	11	12	445	741	67%	18	
<b>Express route subtotal</b>	<b>4,401</b>	<b>3,789</b>	-	<b>1,677</b>	<b>2,301</b>	<b>2,812</b>	<b>3,537</b>	<b>-20%</b>	<b>-7%</b>	<b>111%</b>	<b>54%</b>	<b>26%</b>	<b>891</b>	<b>846</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>2,812</b>	<b>3,537</b>	<b>26%</b>		
12 Bandelier	-	-	-	-	-	-	-						-	-	-	-	-	-	0%	-	
Dial-a-Ride	117	99	-	49	97	177	119	2%	20%	143%	23%	-33%	1,114	838	75	62	177	119	-33%	21	
ACT Assist	475	361	58	215	216	244	327	-31%	-9%	464%	52%	51%	34%	2,237	2,984	159	186	244	327	34%	21
Special Services	-	-	326	-	-	-	-						-	-	-	-	-	-	0%	-	
<b>System total</b>	<b>25,470</b>	<b>25,635</b>	<b>384</b>	<b>10,119</b>	<b>14,334</b>	<b>14,776</b>	<b>16,422</b>	<b>-36%</b>	<b>-36%</b>	<b>4177%</b>	<b>62%</b>	<b>15%</b>	<b>11%</b>	<b>36,447</b>	<b>37,091</b>	<b>1,988</b>	<b>2,005</b>	<b>14,776</b>	<b>16,422</b>	<b>11%</b>	<b>21</b>

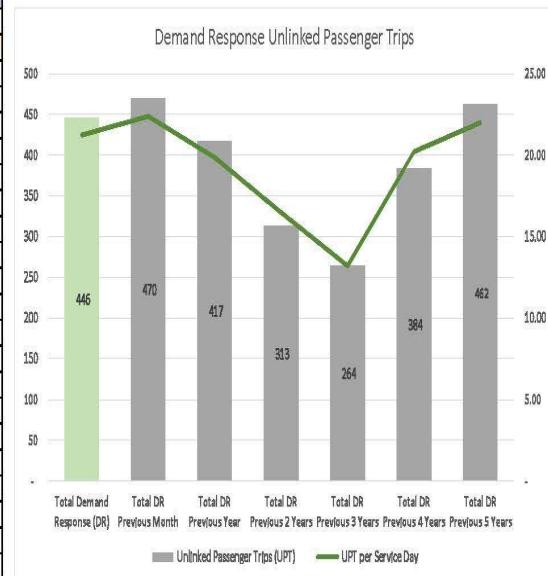


#### Significant Service Adjustments and Special Events

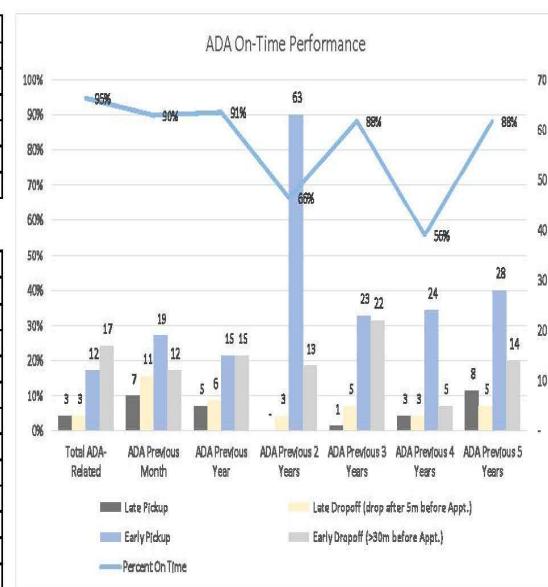
- **All Month:** Due to staffing shortages, Rt 3 did not operate (Rt 1 provided service to Camino Entrada area). Route 6 Peak morning service was suspended due to a staffing shortage.
- **January 1:** Closed in observance of New Year's Day.
- **January 2-6:** Express routes did not operate during school closure
- **January 20:** Closed in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day

## Atomic City Transit - Demand Response Ridership and Statistics

January 2025	Total Demand Response (DR)	Total DR Previous Month	Total DR Previous Year	Total ADA-Related	Total DAR	Total DAR-Special
<b>NTD Service Information</b>						
Vehicles Operated in Max Service	2	2	3	2	2	-
Unlinked Passenger Trips (UPT)	446	470	417	327	119	-
UPT Ambulatory	424	439	383	311	113	-
UPT Non-Ambulatory	22	31	34	16	6	-
UPT Evening DAR	34	43	46	-	34	-
UPT Daytime DAR	78	112	122	-	78	-
UPT Regional-Linked	216	194	159	168	48	-
Companions	31	39	-	24	7	-
PCAs	19	20	32	19	-	-
Total Vehicle Miles (VMI)	4,827	4,944	4,243	3,736	1,091	-
Total Vehicle Hours (VH)	370	371	353	276	94	-
Total Revenue Miles (RM)	3,822	3,940	3,351	2,984	838	-
Total Revenue Hours (RH)	248	247	234	186	62	-
Regional-linked Miles	2,571	2,235	1,637	2,070	501	-
Regional-linked Hours	92	81	63	76	15	-
Passenger Miles	3,419	3,157	2,673	2,613	806	-
Passenger Hours	144	140	117	112	32	-
Service Days	21	21	21	21	21	-
Weekdays	21	21	21	21	21	-
UPT per RM	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	-
UPT per RH	1.8	1.9	1.8	1.8	1.9	-
UPT per Service Day	21.2	22.4	19.9	15.6	5.7	-
UPT per Weekday	21.2	22.4	19.9	15.6	5.7	-



Scheduling Stats	Subscription	196	165	128	196	-	-
One Way Trips Requested	614	706	597	476	138	-	-
One Way Trips Performed	396	411	385	284	112	-	-
Advance Reservation	284	256	215	284	-	-	-
Same Day Reservation	112	155	168	-	112	-	-
Avg. Minutes to board	1	0	0	1	0	-	-
Avg. Minutes to Disembark	1	0	0	1	{0}	-	-



Capacity Metrics	Missed Trip (Due to Vehicle Late)	-	-	-	-	-	-
Trips On Time	370	374	346	269	101	-	-
Percent On Time	93%	91%	90%	95%	90%	-	-
Early Offer	12	10	10	9	3	-	-
Late Offer	5	11	9	4	1	-	-
Late Pickup	8	11	13	3	5	-	-
Excessively Late Pickup (>15m after window)	-	1	1	-	-	-	-
Late Dropoff (drop after 5m before Appt.)	4	11	6	3	1	-	-
Excessively Late Dropoff (>10m after Appt.)	1	1	-	1	-	-	-
Early Pickup	18	26	26	12	6	-	-
Excessively Early Pickup (>15m before window)	2	2	4	2	-	-	-
Early Dropoff (>30m before Appt.)	19	12	15	17	2	-	-
Excessively Early Dropoff (>45m before Appt.)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Trip Over 45 min	15	15	8	15	-	-	-
Trip Over 60 min	-	1	3	-	-	-	-
Over Fixed-Route Duration Est.	14	16	15	10	4	-	-
>15m Over Fixed-Route Duration Est.	3	1	2	2	1	-	-

## OPEN SPACE, PARKS, AND RECREATION

### ADMINISTRATION

CSD sponsored a park and recreation facility tour for the Parks and Recreation Board members.

### OPEN SPACE, PARKS AND TRAILS

February Stats:

Park Acres Maintained – 248

Repairs Due to Vandalism – 8

Volunteer Hours – 0

Cemetery Headstone/Niche Installations – 7

Memorial Bench Installations - 0

The Parks and Open Space team is working on the following items.

- AGR24-950, OpenGov Asset Management Software for the Parks and Open Space Division will begin implementation in White Rock to work out any software issues in March 2025.
- RFP25-37, Guaje Pines Cemetery Master Plan process will begin March 2025. The contractor, Sloane Consulting Group, will be conducting a site visit during the week of March 24-28, 2025.
- IFB28-18 - Athletic Field Renovations approved by County Council on 11/19/24. This is a three-year sports field renovation plan to address field leveling/laser grading, replacement of sod and irrigation adjustments will begin May 23, 2025.
- AGR24-23, Site Southwest Open Space and Trails Management plan is in the final stages. The contractor has conducted multiple community engagement meetings and is working on final reviews and edits of the plan.
- IFB25-36, Contractor LA Landscaping and More will lead the renovations at both sites, which include the demolition and construction of a new basketball court at East Park and demolition and construction of tennis and pickleball courts at North Mesa Park with an estimated completion date of September 30, 2025. This project begins March 5, 2025.
- Due to warmer weather, the Parks team has been turning water on during the last few weeks of February. This is extremely early compared to prior years.

## Volunteer Opportunities

Volunteer opportunities for trail maintenance are offered May – October annually. A complete list of volunteer opportunities may be found here:

<https://www.volunteerlosalamos.org>

## RECREATION

Recreation February Stats:

Programs and Events – 28

People Attending Programs and Events – 963

Open Gym Programs – 883

People Utilizing the Ice Rink – 9,463

People Utilizing the Golf Course – 0 (closed for winter)

Special Olympics Fundraising Broomball Game, February 7, 2025

On Friday, February 7th, the Ice Rink hosted the Special Olympics fundraising Broomball game. The rematch featured Fire vs. Police, with the Fire team coming out on top this year. This event brought in around 200 attendees.

Meiji University High Altitude Training, February 11 – March 2, 2025

A total of 13 athletes from Tokyo visited Los Alamos for high-altitude training from February 11 to March 2. This is the first year Meiji University brought members from both the men's and women's swim teams.

Hawk Hangout Bowling Trip, February 13, 2025

Recreation staff, along with the YMCA, LA Courts, JJAB, and LAMS, accompanied a group of middle school students for Hawk Hangout to Espanola for a fun afternoon of bowling at Big Rock Bowling.

Dive In Movie, February 14, 2025

Friday, February 14th, was an eventful day at the Walkup Aquatic Center with the Dive In Movie event. The total turnout was 12 youth and 4 adults. Although the turnout was low, those who attended had a great time.

Annual 3v3 Tournament for 6U Players, February 15, 2025

Rink staff, in partnership with Los Alamos Youth Hockey Association, hosted the annual 3v3 tournament for 6U players. This age group is the youngest in youth hockey, and the tournament has been hosted by LAHA for 16 years before LAC Rink/REC staff took over in 2023. This year's tournament featured 8 teams, with participants from Texas (2), Colorado (3), and New Mexico (3).

Holiday Ice Skating, February 17, 2025

The Ice Rink was open for Presidents Day from 12 PM to 5 PM, marking the last day of the season.

**Ice Rink Shutdown, February 18, 2025**

In preparation for summer events, staff began the process of shutting down the ice rink. This included removing the ice sheet, pressure washing any paint residue, and buffing the boards and glass to remove scuff marks.

February brings us to the end of the Ice Rink 24/25 season. March has rink staff cleaning up the Rink and working on various maintenance tasks to clean the rink up and transition to a roller rink for the spring and summer roller skate groups and events.

This March will also see the start of the removal of the temporary Ice Chiller to make way for the new permanent chiller plant to take its place.



*Difference old/new sliding door*



*Small space gardening panel*



*Pajama playdate at WRBL*



*Sources of Strength*



*Borderlands Rodeo Queens Clinic*



*Hawk Hangout*



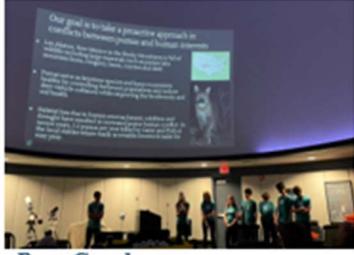
*3v3 tournament*



*Ice Rink Shutdown*



*Broomball 2025*



*PumaGuard*

## PUBLIC SAFETY

### BUILDING SAFETY

There were a total of 2 Commercial permits issued in February 2025 with a total valuation of \$32,993.00

There was a total of 61 Residential permits issued in February 2025 with a total valuation of \$1,597,054.00

There was a total of 130 inspections conducted by the Building Division during February 2025

## CODE ENFORCEMENT

35 Code Cases opened in February 2025

42 Code Cases were closed in February 2025

## FIRE

### February Stats:

*181 calls for service*

*121 EMS Calls*

*16 False Alarm Calls*

*12 Good Intent Calls*

*10 Service Calls*

*9 Hazardous Condition Calls (No Fire)*

*5 Fire Calls*

*1 Severe Weather & Natural Disaster Calls*

*1 Special Incident*

*3 Community Outreach/Education Events*

## LAFD New Ladder Trucks

LAFD is getting two new ladder trucks to be added to our fleet. Pierce Manufacturing Inc. is keeping the department updated on the progress made throughout the process of building our new trucks along with photos. Pierce has updated the department of the following as of February 21<sup>st</sup>, 2025:

For the first truck in February, the cab has completed assembly and has completed the initial paint process. The pump house and body are completed and at this point remain staged. Moving forward, the pump house will be merged with the chassis and the body will continue through the paint process. The bed has been base coated and will be getting ready for paint. The air suspension components have been mounted onto the chassis.

For the second truck in February, our cab is continuing the initial assembly process, and the frame is still undergoing fabrication and assembly. The pump house will continue initial assembly and has been painted. Moving forward the body will undergo the assembly and further the paint process. The bed has not yet been coated with the basecoat but is near completion of the assembly.

## **EMS Division**

Los Alamos Fire Department is proud to announce the successful completion of the didactic portion of its Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) Intermediate class, which was wrapped up last week. This marks a significant landmark in the training of local EMTs who are preparing to serve our community with the highest standards of emergency medical care.

The EMT Intermediate class, which includes both classroom instruction and hands-on experience, has provided students with a solid foundation in advanced emergency medical techniques, patient care, and critical decision-making. The didactic portion of the course focused on a comprehensive curriculum that covered a wide range of topics including intravenous therapy, advanced airway management, trauma care, pharmacology, and cardiac emergencies.

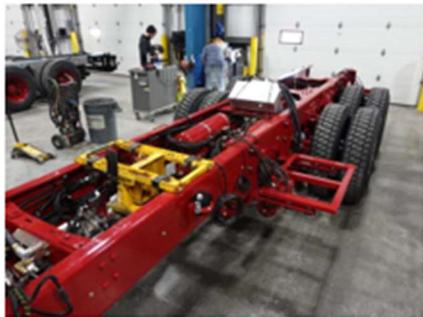
Now, the students are moving on to the clinical portion of the training, where they are gaining invaluable real-time practice in a clinical setting. They are working directly with healthcare professionals, engaging in live scenarios that provide them with a firsthand understanding of the dynamics of emergency medicine. These clinicals are crucial for bridging the gap between classroom learning and actual patient care in the field.

Staff would like to express our sincere gratitude to Los Alamos Medical Center for their partnership and support in allowing our EMT students to conduct their clinical rotations at their emergency room. This collaboration has provided an essential real-world experience that ensures our EMTs are ready to respond to emergencies with the knowledge and confidence required to save lives.

## **Wildland Division**

LAFD's Wildland Division has seen a big increase in its free Home Assessment program. Traditionally LAFD would conduct 1-3 home assessments every two weeks.

Since the LA Daily Post article from January, the division has conducted over 30 assessments with an additional 20 scheduled for the next two weeks. These home assessments are greatly appreciated by the public and benefit the community's safety and readiness.



*Frame of department's ladder truck*



*Cab being placed on LAFD's new ladder truck*



*The frame of the ladder truck continues assembly*



*2025 Wildfire Day flyer*



*LAFD personnel present to Pojoaque students*



*LAFD at Pojoaque High school with all presenters for Career Day*

## ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP

In February, the sustainability manager and DPU's conservation officer held two work sessions for county employees to learn about rebates and tax credits through the Inflation Reduction Act and the New Mexico Energy Conservation and Management Division. The rebates and incentives are designed to make homes and businesses more energy efficient.

Work to integrate the Climate Action Plan strategies into County operations continues. This includes adding ongoing and near-term action items into an Achievelt Dashboard, which will be displayed on the Sustainability webpage when it is done. Several climate action initiatives are funded and are in progress, such as kicking off the EV Fleet Conversion Study and Community-Wide EV Charging plan and efforts to bring an agreement to the Council in June 2025 to award a third-party vendor to assist with outreach and public education on greenhouse gas reduction. Additionally, Staff is exploring how to design and effectively implement energy audit services for residential

households. Read the latest Sustainability Newsletter  
<https://conta.cc/3FdbWeU>.

## WASTE MANAGEMENT

### Environmental Services

February Stats:

*Customer Emails* – 41

*Roll Cart Requests* – 62

*Household Hazardous Waste Customers* - 72

*Recycle Coach App Users* – 2,812

*Recycle Coach App Interactions* – 13,120

*Overlook Visitors* – 117

*Transfer Station Visitors* – 1,955

*Yard Trimming Participants* – 5,312

Environmental Services has selected a site for a food waste composting facility at the Los Alamos Eco Station. Initial site plans for an aerated static pile system, designed to operate at the Eco Station, were developed by SCS Engineers. The program aims to divert an estimated 4,500 tons of food and yard trimmings annually from the landfill, transforming these materials into valuable compost.

On February 6, 2024, County Council meeting, the Council approved the staff recommendation to implement food waste composting at the Eco Station using the Aerated Static Pile system. Currently, Environmental Services is working with the Department of Energy (DOE) to amend the lease for the Eco Station, allowing for the facility's operation on the property.

Environmental Services, in collaboration with the Sustainability Managers, continues to explore grants and other funding opportunities to support the project's costs.

As part of the "Operation Save the Bears" initiative, Environmental Services delivered 260 dumpsters to the business community and 1,000 roll carts to residential customers during the first wave of the program. In December 2024, Environmental Services received an additional 1,154 Kodiak Bear-Resistant Carts and has since distributed more than 600 to residents who requested one.

Residents interested in obtaining a bear-resistant cart can submit a request at [www.losalamosnm.us/gogreen](http://www.losalamosnm.us/gogreen).

On February 3, 2023, Environmental Services transitioned from a weekly to a monthly Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) drop-off schedule. During the February 2025 event, Los Alamos County's contractor, ACT Enviro, provided trained personnel to properly categorize and sort materials from 72 residents, ensuring safe transport to appropriate disposal facilities.

The next HHW collection event is scheduled for Saturday, March 8, 2025, from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

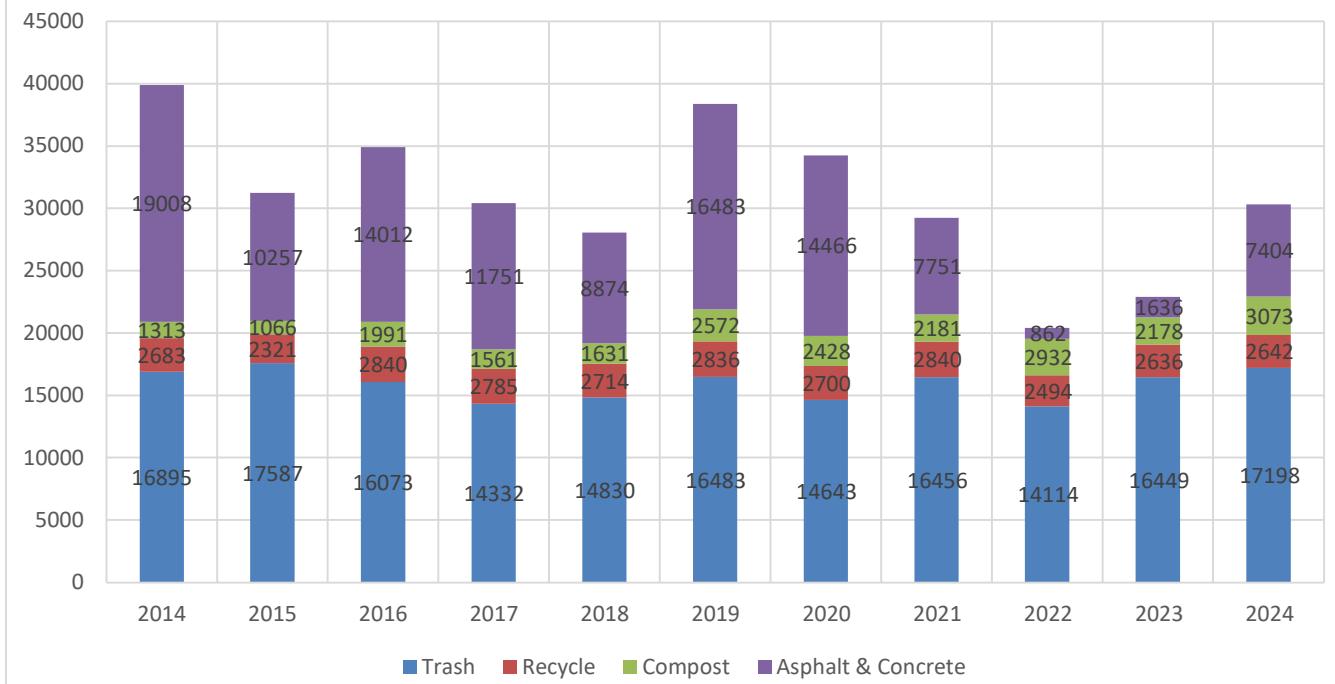
Yard trimming collection for the 2024 calendar year began on Monday, March 25, and concluded on November 22. During this period, Environmental Services collected approximately 841 tons of yard waste. The materials are repurposed in various ways, including mulching for biosolid composting in wastewater management, erosion control at the Caja Del Rio Landfill, and landscaping by residents.

Each household is eligible for a one-yard trimming cart. Collection will resume on March 24, 2025. To register for a cart, visit [www.losalamosnm.us/gogreen](http://www.losalamosnm.us/gogreen).

Environmental Services submitted its annual report to the New Mexico Environment Department on February 14, 2025. In 2024, the number of materials sent to the landfill increased by 749 tons, primarily due to a higher volume of construction debris.

The Environmental Services Department, in collaboration with the Zero Waste Los Alamos Team, offers a Zero Waste Party Kit for your next event. The kit includes 15 complete table settings, each featuring a large plate, cup, fork, spoon, butter knife, and napkin, providing a sustainable alternative to disposable tableware.

## Material Types by Tons Annually 2014 - 2024



### ***Material collected at the Eco Station***



## Residential Sustainability Report

Service Period: January 2025

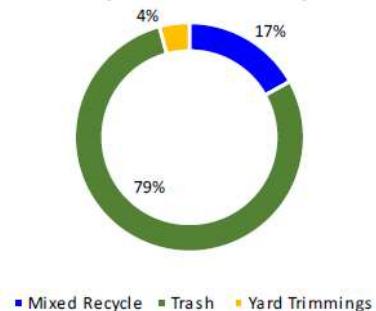
January Diversion Rate: 21%



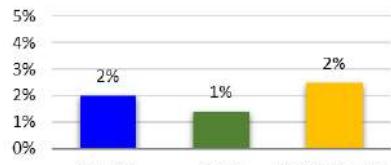
LOS ALAMOS

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

### Monthly Collection Report

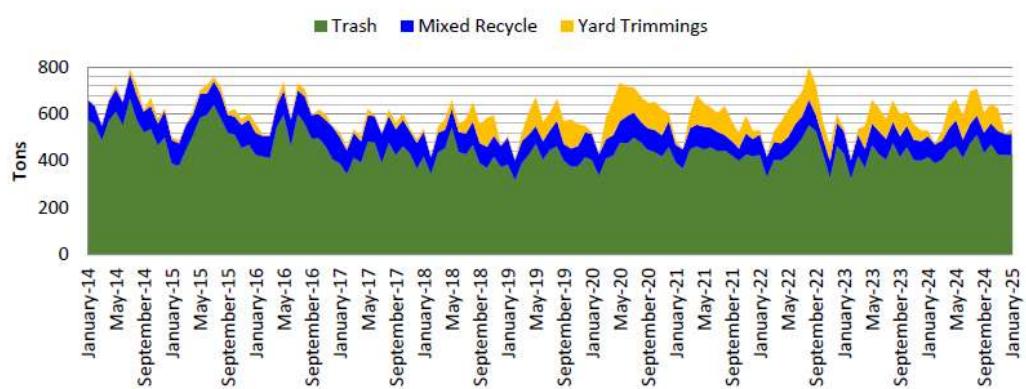


### % Change Previous Year

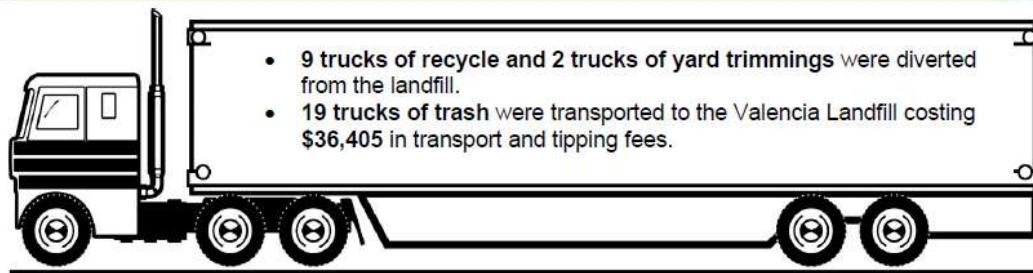


■ Mixed Recycle ■ Trash ■ Yard Trimmins

In January by recycling and composting Los Alamos County reduced GHG emissions by ~357 tons\*



In 2025 by recycling and composting Los Alamos County reduced GHG emissions by ~357 tons\*



For more information contact Environmental Services Division at 505.662.8163 or email [solidwaste@lacnm.us](mailto:solidwaste@lacnm.us)

\*GHG emissions calculated using <https://www.stopwaste.co/calculator>

## PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

### BUILDING FACILITIES

Project managers are working on 24 active projects. The status of these projects encompasses the planning, procurement, design, and construction phases, and involve a wide range of building systems and complexities.

Project managers have closed 25 projects from the beginning of the year to date.

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Project Name	Dept(s)	Update
<b>Golf Course Electric Cart Conversion</b>	PW, CSD	On February 25 Council approved the Task Order 27 With All-Rite Construction
<b>Asset Management Software for Facilities</b>	PW	Staff and vendor are working together to review and verify the asset data collection upload. Staff are working with the vendor to configure the work order intake platform.
<b>Benchmarking building utility consumption</b>	PW	No activities to report for February.
<b>Emergency dispatch CRAC unit</b>	PD	The design professional is developing a design for the configuration of the server room and computer room air conditioning (CRAC) unit.
<b>Women's Dormitory Building Renovation</b>	PW	Staff and designers are preparing site plan package for P&Z consideration in February 2025.
<b>Capital Outlay Grant Application for Betty Ehart Senior Center</b>	PW, CSD, AS-FIN	Application under review by the funding agency. Results from this process are expected after April 2025.
<b>Customer Care Service Electrical Connection to Emergency Power</b>	PW, DPU	Installation of electrical breakers in main distribution panel and testing of systems is postponed until a new uninterrupted power supply system is installed.

<b>Golf Course Site Improvements</b>	PW, CSD	New outdoor bathrooms are installed in holes #6 and #13. The contractor is waiting for warmer weather to complete installation and testing of pump for new irrigation system.
<b>Ice Rink Temporary Chiller</b>	PW, CSD	The temp. chiller is operating satisfactorily.
<b>Ice Rink Permanent Chiller Replacement</b>	PW, CSD	Mechanical permits approved. Contractor is fabricating the chiller skid.
<b>Ice Rink Floor Replacement and Shade Structure</b>	PW, CSD	A second public meeting will be held in April.
<b>Fire Station 3 Snow Melt System Replacement</b>	PW, FD	Waiting for design professional proposal to redesign the glycol system.
<b>Department of Utility (DPU) Standby Area Renovation</b>	PW, DPU	This project is in a closeout phase. The contractor is correcting findings from the HVAC test and balance.
<b>Emergency Operations Center (EOC)</b>	PW, PD, FD	Grant application is going through the FEMA review process. Results are expected after April 2025.
<b>Fire Station 4 Replacement</b>	PW, FD	Staff reviewed preliminary design and coordinated preferred furnishings and finishes with Fire Department, reviewed preliminary design with sustainability team for feedback and compliance with LEED.
<b>Mesa Public Library Siding Replacement</b>	PW	The contractor started work is on-schedule and almost completed.
<b>Aquatic Center Olympic Pool restoration</b>	PW, CSD	Staff reviewed agreement and discussed project timeline – likely 2026 arch – October.
<b>Betty Ehart Senior Center Renovation</b>	PW, CSD	Staff and designers are reviewing the scope of the renovations.
<b>Los Alamos Little Theatre fire suppression and asbestos abatement.</b>	PW, CSD	Staff are coordinating with contractors to determine the scope of asbestos abatement, patching, and painting in conjunction with fire sprinkler work.
<b>Betty Ehart Senior Center HVAC replacement</b>	PW, CSD	The design kick-off meeting was held on January 9. Preliminary design work is in progress.
<b>Doors installation at PD</b>	PW, PD	The contractor is expected to complete installation and project close-out will commence.
<b>Installation of EV chargers</b>	Sustainability PW	Staff developed and approved a preliminary design for the charging station at the Municipal Building.

<b>Fire Station 3 showers renovation</b>	PW, FD	Staff are reviewing the scope and cost of proposal from on-call contractors.
<b>Grant Application for Designing, Constructing, and Installing Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure</b>	PW, DPU Sustainability	Staff are waiting for the results of the applications' evaluation.

Project Name	Dept	Completion date
<b>Sewer Line at the Municipal Building</b>	PW, RIM, Clerks, Archive	Project completed in January 2025
<b>Golf Course High Netting</b>	PW, CSD	Project completed in January 2025
<b>Airport Fuel Farm</b>	PW	Project completed in January 2025
<b>White Rock Visitor Center Outdoor Restrooms and Pavilion</b>	PW, CDD	Project completed in January 2025
<b>White Rock Complex Roof Replacement</b>	PW	Project completed in January 2025
<b>BESC – Day-out area new roof covering</b>	PW	Project completed in January 2025
<b>Nature Center beams replacement</b>	PW, PEEC	Project completed in January 2025
<b>Community Bldg. new roof covering</b>	PW	Project completed 2025
<b>Red Cross Bldg. new roof covering</b>	PW, PEEC	Project completed 2025

## ROADS

The DP Road Phase II and Bathtub Row projects began in February again following a winter suspension.

The NM-4 Crossing project and the Pedestrian Master Plan update were both brought to Transportation Board in February with public comment received on both items. These comments will help guide staff in these important initiatives.

A public meeting for the Trinity Drive ADA project, as well as a follow-up public meeting for the Pedestrian Master Plan Update will be held in March.

Other projects such as the Denver Steels Phase II, Bathtub Row, and DP Road have required outreach to the public, residents, businesses, Los Alamos Public Schools, and LANL/DOE. This coordination is critical to successful project execution while minimizing negative impacts.

Project Name	Dept(s)	Update
<b>Urban Trail Phase I and II</b>	PW	This project is complete with the trail fully open. A ribbon cutting ceremony was held on February 26.
<b>DP Road Phase II</b>	PW	The construction project is back underway by TLC Plumbing and Utility after a winter suspension and is anticipated for completion in late Spring 2025. The project scope includes new sewer and gas lines, electric conduit, storm drain, concrete replacement, and full reconstruction of roadway.
<b>NM-4 Crossing and Multi-Use Trail</b>	PW	This project will provide an at-grade crossing of NM State Road 4 in White Rock at the Mirador Subdivision and provide both new multi-use trail infrastructure and reconstructed trail infrastructure in the Pinon Park area. The county was awarded grant funding from NMDOT for this project with design underway by Bohannon Huston Inc. Construction is anticipated to begin in late 2025.
<b>Trinity Safety and ADA</b>	PW	This project is the result of a 2016 road safety audit and has been awarded grant funding from the Federal Highway Safety Improvement Program by NMDOT. The Hybrid Road Diet alternative selected to be further explored at the August 6 Council was presented by the design team lead by Wilson & Company to Council. A resolution of support from the Council on September 10 was approved for this alternative. Construction is anticipated in late 2025.
<b>Finch Street</b>	PW	The project design was completed by an engineer on-call. The project is anticipated to be advertised for bids in 2025. Approval of entering into an agreement with the Los Alamos Medical Center for the transfer of land for the construction of the Finch Street project was approved by the Council in August 2023. Construction is anticipated in 2025.
<b>Canyon Rim Trail Phase III</b>	PW	The project design and ROW acquisitions are underway from Knecht Street to 15 <sup>th</sup> Street. Design is being completed by an engineering on- call. The project is anticipated to be advertised for bids in Spring 2025. Completion of the trail design from 15 <sup>th</sup> Street to 20 <sup>th</sup> Street is pending ROW acquisitions.
<b>Bathtub Row – Peach Nectar</b>	PW	The project was awarded to TLC Plumbing and Utility. This is a joint project with the Department of Public Utilities and includes full road reconstruction along with utility upgrades. The project began construction in August 2024, entering a winter suspension in November 2024 and will be completed in Summer 2025.
<b>Denver Streets Phase II</b>	PW	This project is being designed by staff. This is a joint project with the Department of Public Utilities and includes full road reconstruction along with utility upgrades. The project is anticipated to begin construction in late 2025.

## NEW STAFF & PROMOTIONS



**Monica Rivera, Permit Technician**

The Community Development Department is delighted to welcome Monica Rivera to their team as our new Permit Technician. Monica joins us from DPU Customer Care and has been a valued member of Los Alamos County for over three years. She will continue to provide exceptional customer service to both internal and external customers. Congratulations to Monica.

### **Jeramay Martinez, Health Care Specialist**

Social Services welcomed Jeramay Martinez to a full-time position as Health Care Specialist. Staff and community members alike are thrilled as she has worked as a Health Care Specialist in a part-time casual role the past year, assisting our population at risk of and those experiencing homelessness.

### **Anita Barela, Small Business Program Manager**

Anita Barela has accepted the position of Small Business Manager position in the Economic Development Division of Community Development. Anita has begun the process of small business outreach as follow-up from the small business survey and will be working on developing the LEDA for Retail program by the Fall.

### **Victoria Pacheco, Benefits and Pension Manager**

### **Crystal Roybal, HR Analyst 2 (Recruitment)**

### **Sierra Martinez, HR Analyst 1 (Recruitment)**



**Benjamin Vigil and Jacob Coriz** were recently promoted to Senior Equipment Operators.



**Clint Barb and Bryant Robertson** were recently hired as Transit Operators.

## ANNIVERSARIES AND RETIREMENTS

### February Service Awards

#### 25 years

Olivia Li

#### 20 years

Julie Jaramillo

Ernesto Gallegos

#### 15 years

Neddie Gurule

#### 10 years

Beverley Simpson

#### 5 years

Victoria DeVargas

Christal Quintana

Selina Loretto

Eric Ulibarri

## ACCOLAIDS



### **Melissa Dadzie, Chief Financial Officer**

Melissa has passed her exams and has achieved her Certified Fraud Examiner (CFE) certification. The Association of Certified Fraud Examiners (ACFE) offers the Certified Fraud Examiner (CFE) certification to professionals who investigate financial records for fraud. CFEs are trained professionals who possess a unique set of diverse skills in preventing, detecting and investigating fraud. Skills such as: Knowledge of complex financial transactions, understanding of investigative techniques and legal issues, ability to resolve allegations of fraud, and designing effective anti-fraud programs.

CFEs have access to world-class anti-fraud training and resources through the Association of Certified Fraud Examiners (ACFE), which enables them to build and maintain their expertise and stay informed about the latest trends and best practices. This is a valuable resource for taxpayer accountability, and excellence over internal controls.

Congratulations to Melissa.



### **Perry Rutherford, Technical Support Specialist**

Congratulations to Perry Rutherford for passing the Information Technology Infrastructure Library 4.0 (ITIL) Certification Exam, on February 28<sup>th</sup>.

### **Sonya Ortiz, Compensation Manager**

Congratulations to Sonya Ortiz, Compensation Manager, who received her Certified Professional Certification through the Society of Human Resources Management (SHRM-CP)



## **Community Development Building Safety and Administration Divisions**

### **IAS Reaccreditation Success**

The Building Safety Division successfully passed the IAS reaccreditation process. Auditors conducted an on-site review, and the division achieved accreditation with no corrective actions required—an outstanding accomplishment.

The only noted recommendation was the implementation of an annual meeting, which will be addressed moving forward to further enhance operational efficiency and compliance.

#### **External Stakeholder Feedback :**

Positive comments from our external stakeholders, including:

- The division has seen a remarkable transformation since 2017.
- Open and responsive to concerns, always looking for ways to improve.
- Strong partnerships within the building community.
- Highly customer-focused and solution-oriented.
- Operates like a well-functioning family that works seamlessly together.
- "At the top of the food chain" in terms of service quality.
- Plan reviews are among the best compared to other departments.

Additionally, our external stakeholders rated us on a scale of 1 to 10:

- Timeliness: 9.0
- Quality: 9.3
- Staff Professionalism: 9.0

#### **Internal Stakeholder Feedback :**

Internal stakeholders shared positive insights, including:

- The division operates smoothly with strong policies and procedures in place.

- Our team is knowledgeable, professional, and dedicated.
- The Building Division staff are true team players and always willing to help.

## Library

Comments received by email from three separate people after the Intro to D&D event:  
 "Thank you SO much for seeing this up today! Learning D&D/RPG has been something we've been wanting to do as a family!! "

"I am so excited!" about the upcoming D&D campaign on Tuesday evenings.  
 "My spouse and I attended the D&D event on Saturday and so thoroughly enjoyed ourselves we promptly signed up for the Tuesday's long campaign. We are very excited."

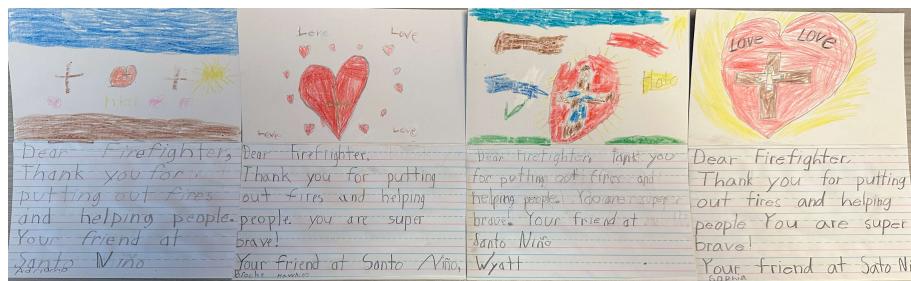
White Rock patron appreciates being able to place holds on MPL items and having them delivered to WR.

White Rock youth patron came to the desk and asked for a feminine hygiene product. She was very relieved and appreciated that we had some.

An adult patron said the December Teen Display, Books vs. Movies, encouraged him to read for the first time in nearly a decade and was very thankful to our team for making the creative display.

## Fire

Fire Inspector/Investigator Joseph Romero. Joseph Romero has continued to show his dedication to fire education by teaching children and building a positive rapport with Santo Nino Elementary faculty and students.



## Public Works



Atomic City Transit would like to acknowledge Corinne Salazar, Ramon Trujillo and Cliff Sisneros. Champions of Youth Ambitions (C'YA) had THREE ACT employees nominated for Community Asset Awards!! Thank you to all three for the high level of support you provided Transit and the Community.

### **Transportation Board**

Staff would like to extend our heartfelt gratitude and sincere appreciation to Georgia



Strickfaden for her dedicated service and invaluable contributions to the Transportation Board. As she concludes her time on the Board, we celebrate her impactful tenure and wish her continued success in all her future endeavors.

Thank you, Georgia, for your outstanding service.