

2021

STRATEGIC LEADERSHIP PLAN

L  S A L A M  S



Vision

Los Alamos is a world-renowned community where discovery and innovation are inspired by its dramatic history and magnificent mountain setting. We offer extraordinary educational, recreational, and cultural opportunities in a vibrant small town atmosphere.





In January, 2021, the Los Alamos County Council, County staff and community members identified 7 strategic priorities and four cross-cutting goals; these were subsequently adopted on January 26, 2021. These priorities and goals address challenging issues important to the community that Council agrees to make progress on in the coming year; they will support and help enable multiple other initiatives currently underway. This does not mean that the County will only work on and invest in these priorities, they are a tool to help assure that in the context of all of the ongoing County efforts, a focus on a few high-level, important but challenging issues is maintained.

For each of these priorities, concrete actions for addressing them will be identified. Additionally, multiple mechanisms will be used to promote engagement with the community to clearly and more broadly communicate what the priorities are and elicit ideas and creative solutions for making progress. The status of the priorities will be reviewed and reported on regularly; a high-level summary of progress made toward the 2020 strategic priorities is provided in the State of the County Annual Report, January 14, 2021.

Enhancing quality of life, economic vitality, environmental sustainability, and racial equity and inclusivity are overarching goals that will be components of all our efforts as we coordinate with Los Alamos National Laboratory and regional partners and plan for appropriate levels of County services.



Priority Areas

Enhancing communication.

Enhancing communication with the public to promote transparency and strengthen trust in County government.

Increasing the amount and types of housing options.

This includes increasing the variety of housing options for all segments of the community, from affordable to new options for those interested in downsizing or moving closer to central areas of the community, and pursuing opportunities for utilization of vacant spaces to address these needs.

Protecting, maintaining and improving our open spaces, recreational, and cultural amenities.

Los Alamos County open spaces and cultural attractions are greatly valued by the community and provide opportunities for recreational and economic growth; appropriately allocating resources to ensure their health and sustainability is important to our citizens.

Enhancing support and opportunities for the local business environment.

This includes appropriately supporting existing businesses, growing new businesses, supporting technology start-ups and spin-offs, and identifying opportunities for utilizing vacant space as a part of these efforts.

Supporting social services improvement.

Behavioral, mental and physical health and social services are important quality of life components; there are key areas where appropriate types and levels of County support could help address current needs.

Improving access to high quality broadband.

Enabling reliable high-speed broadband service throughout the county by determining appropriate investments (e.g., conduct a community needs analysis, evaluate technical options).

Investing in infrastructure.

Appropriately balancing maintenance of existing infrastructure with new investments in county utilities, roads, trails, expanded transit options, facilities and amenities, which will help improve environmental stewardship, sustainability, and quality of life, while allowing for sustainable growth.

As noted, establishing these priorities is intended to help maintain focus on issues important to the community and support and help enable multiple ongoing initiatives important to the future of our community. These initiatives have benefitted from significant public involvement, time, and expertise and it is essential that we continue to work on:

Implementing the 2016 Comprehensive Plan, including an emphasis on neighborhoods and effectively managing commercial growth.

Implementing the 2018 Tourism Strategic Plan. Utilizing the recommendations of the Community Development Advisory Board.

Addressing issues noted in the 2018 State of Health in Los Alamos.

Pursuing key goals described in 2019 Los Alamos County Economic Vitality Plan.

Communicating and partnering with Los Alamos Public Schools and the University of New Mexico-Los Alamos, as appropriate, to support the high-quality educational opportunities in the community.

Collaborating with Los Alamos National Laboratory as the area's #1 employer.

Responding to the COVID-19 pandemic through support to the Los Alamos County Pandemic and Point of Distribution Plans, close engagement and communication with local and state organizations, identification of appropriate county investments, and clear communication with the public.

Integrating work towards the Department of Public Utilities Strategic Goals with activities in support of the County's strategic priorities will be essential for achieving desired outcomes effectively and efficiently.