



County of Los Alamos

Council Meeting Staff Report

January 5, 2021

Agenda No.:	B.
Indexes (Council Goals):	* 2020 Council Goal - Supporting Social Services Improvement
Presenters:	Helen Perraglio
Legislative File:	OR0881-20

Title

Introduction of Incorporated County of Los Alamos Ordinance No.702; An Ordinance Making Available a Personal Income Tax Rebate to Eligible Low-Income Los Alamos County Property Taxpayers for Taxable Years 2021, 2022, 2023 and 2024.

Recommended Action

I introduce, without prejudice, Incorporated County of Los Alamos Ordinance No. 702; An Ordinance Making Available a Personal Income Tax Rebate to Eligible Low-Income Los Alamos County Property Taxpayers for Taxable Years 2021, 2022, 2023 and 2024 and ask the staff to assure that it is published as provided in the County Charter.

County Manager's Recommendation

The County Manager recommends that Council introduce this Ordinance.

Body

Sec 7-2-14.3 of New Mexico Statutes provides that counties will hold a public hearing on whether to participate in the Low-Income Taxpayer's Property Tax Rebate Program. This program provides that low-income taxpayer's may apply for a rebate of up to \$350 per year on their New Mexico Personal Income Tax for a portion of their property tax payment. The County elected to participate in this program beginning in 2001 pursuant to Ordinance No. 456, and has continued since then. The current authorizing ordinance, No. 668 expires after 2020. Ordinance No. 702 would continue the County's participation in this program for another four years, 2021 through 2024. If Ordinance No. 702 is adopted by the Council, the County would then be responsible to reimburse the State Taxation and Revenue Department for the amount of property tax rebates allowed to County taxpayers.

Alternatives

The County could discontinue Low-Income Taxpayer's Property Tax Rebate Program, which would effectively raise the tax burden for those who currently qualify. The increase in County property tax revenue would be approximately \$17,000-\$22,000 for each tax year.

Fiscal and Staff Impact/Planned Item

There is minimal staff impact. The fiscal impact for the 2018 tax year, billed in FY2020, was a reduction in property tax revenue of \$14,612, and for the 2017 tax year, billed in FY2019, was \$15,043. The future impact is expected to be of a similar magnitude.

Attachments

- A - Incorporated County of Los Alamos Ordinance No. 702
- B - Publication Notice for Ordinance 702_Tax Rebate_PH_FINAL