

MARCH 2026



County Councilors Fire Department Tour with Chief Erik Litzenberg



County Manager Anne Laurent and Chief Dino Sgambellone present Corporal John Harris with the 2025 Officer of the Year Award

COUNTY MANAGER'S MONTHLY REPORT



INTRODUCTION

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

NOTE FROM THE COUNTY MANAGER

February came and went quickly with three Council meetings and a special joint meeting with the Los Alamos Public Schools Board to discuss the North Mesa Housing project.

- The Comprehensive Plan process kicked off, announcing open houses for the public and a survey to start the discussions.
- Members of the Los Alamos fire department were awarded the Phoenix award that honors exceptional teamwork, rapid response, and lifesaving actions that resulted in a patient's survival and full recovery.
- Wildland Fire Battalion Chief Van Leimer presented on the high-risk fire season anticipated for the 2026 spring/summer/fall seasons due to minimal moisture this winter and lack of snowpack.
- A task order was awarded to reconstruct Brewer Arena grandstand reconstruction including ADA upgrades, restrooms and other event support infrastructure.
- Councilors Cull, Hand and Reagor were assigned by Chair Ryti to a working group to review possible proposals to revise the County Charter.
- The County's finance and budget division were awarded the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) Triple Crown Honor in Awards for the FY2024 ACFR, FY2024 PAFR, and the NMC-OSC Audit Accountability Award for a mid-sized county due to their excellent high caliber work and standards they maintain for managing public monies.
- Firebrand was selected to support community climate marketing and engagement services and six new level 2 electric vehicle chargers located at the Municipal Building were completed as part of progress made on the County's Climate Action Plan.
- Municipal bonds were successfully sold to fund the community broadband project with construction starting this spring/summer.
- Gross Receipts Tax revenues are as projected at approximately 10% lower this year compared with last year.
- A new member was appointed to the Environmental Sustainability Board.

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

Some of my February activities as county manager coordinating and supporting partners and residents included:

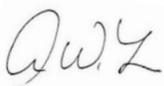
- February 3 – met with private developer regarding their LEDA application (former CB Fox Building)
- February 3 – attended monthly meeting with DOE-NNSA and DOE-EM Los Alamos site managers and staff to discuss topics such as the Rendija Canyon

UXO clearance, hexavalent chromium plume interim measure status, staffing, traffic safety, fire department cooperative agreement, and electric coordination agreement

- February 4 – attended monthly meeting with Triad leadership to discuss operational issues such as emergency response coordination and any general day-to-day issues with shared concerns
- February 5 – met with NM Self Insurance Fund to discuss insurance needs for the A-8-A development project
- February 9 – toured south wing of Pueblo Complex as potential for meetings some of the Social Services facility needs
- February 11 – attended Julie Williams-Hill senior management retirement lunch
- February 12 – attended Julie Williams-Hill retirement celebration in Council Chambers
- February 13 – had a phone call with DOE-EM Los Alamos Site Manager Jessica Kunkle to discuss the cancelled hexavalent chromium plume coordination meetings.
- February 13 – meeting with private developer of the CB Fox building to discuss security for their LEDA request
- February 18 – hosted a meeting with DOE-EM1 Tim Walsh and Council's federal working group members (Chair Ryti, Vice-Chair Herrmann, and Councilor Cull)
- February 19 – attended monthly meeting with LAPS, UNM-LA and Council leadership
- February 19 – attended monthly NM congressional delegation NM staff virtual meeting
- February 19 – met with a local Boards & Commission member regarding local issues of concern
- February 26 – attended a tour of the new Chamisa Elementary school prior to the joint LAPS/Council meeting
- February 28 – attended the Policed Department's annual award ceremony at Betty Ehart Senior Center

February concluded with meetings to finalize the fiscal year (FY) 2027 proposed budget. Overall, expect a slight increase in operational expenses due to salaries, benefits, contracts and a flat or decrease in other expenses. The proposed budget book will be published at the end of March with printed versions available for County Councilors by Friday April 3rd. Budget Hearings are scheduled for April 27, 28, and 29 – see you there!

Warm regards,



Anne Laurent
County Manager



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COMMUNICATION AND ENGAGEMENT

General County

The County's website had ~31,000 total users for the month of February, down from ~40,000 users in January 2026, yet an increase of 55% from ~20,000 users in February 2025.

The top three pages continue to be the home page, the Community Development Department's self-service kiosk, and My Commute.

County Line, Bottom Line, Sustainability, Off the Shelf Newsletter

The average open rate across all County e-newsletters in January was 54%. Individual newsletter performance is as follows:

- County Line: 47% of 2,335 subscribers
- Economic Development – No edition issued in February
- Sustainability: – No edition issued in February

Record Management

Records requested: 271
Carryovers from previous month: 17
Records pulled for review: 5939
Boxes intake for storage: -
Internal requests: 18
Records provided: 18
Permit requests: 12

Clerk's Office

Records & Filings: 269
eRecordings: 96
Marriage Licenses: 6
Probate Cases: 3
Council County / Board Meetings: 3
Total Registered Voters: 16,398
Voter Record Transactions: 1,791
Social Media Posts: 0
Facebook Followers: 657
Instagram Followers: 388
Threads Followers: 77
Customer Visits: 57

Community Development Department

@LosAlamosCountyCommunityDevelopmentDepartment
1,001 Reached this month
68 Content interactions this month

Community Services Department

New Social Media Followers: 46
E-Activity Guide Reads:
 Spring: 271
Alcohol Permits: 0

Environmental Services

Social Media Followers: 1.3k

Fire Department

Social Media Followers: 17 IG, 45 FB

Social Media Report

The County's main Facebook page reached 9,600 followers by the end of February, with 46% residing in Los Alamos and another 46% in the region. During February, there were 3,126 engagements on 118 posts.

The County's main Instagram account had more than 2,300 followers by the end of February, with 23.5% residing in Los Alamos, 8.8% in White Rock, and another 19.6% in the region. During February, there were nearly 10,000 views on 133 posts and stories.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL, TRIBAL, AND REGIONAL RELATIONS

State

The 2026 State Legislative Session ended on February 19. Major issues supported by LAC Council that passed included the Medical Malpractice Insurance Reform sponsored by Representative Chandler, enacting the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact as well as the Social Worker Instate Compact. Currently, the County has an allocation of \$1.152 million in Capital Outlay funding for housing infrastructure, although the bill has yet to be signed by the Governor.

Federal

The Federal Working Group (Councilors, Management and the Intergovernmental Affairs Manager) met with Mr. Tim Walsh, the new Assistant Secretary for Environmental Management at DOE along with other executives from DOE-EM. These conversations will help set discussion for the March advocacy visit to Washington, DC.

Chair Ryti, Councilor Reagor, and the Intergovernmental Manager (IA) attended the NACo Legislative Conference in Washington, DC, attending various workshops and educational sessions as well as policy committee meetings. The NM Counties Congressional Breakfast also allowed time for brief conversations with Senators Lujan and Heinrich.

Tribal and Regional

The MOUs with Espanola and Rio Arriba will be renewed in early March to allow Los Alamos County to continue supporting regional projects.

Conversations with the Pueblo of San Ildefonso on the hexavalent plume took place in January, and due to the situation, it was decided that further talks would take place further in the future.

Working with Pueblo of San Ildefonso on the Guaje Canyon road for emergencies and broadband continued.

FISCAL STEWARDSHIP

Budget: During the month budget finished meeting with all departments and imported all budgets into Munis. Meetings with County Manager's Office to compile and finalize budgets commenced and CIP meetings were finalized. Departments were instrumental in revamping a new look for the budget book with updated department summaries.

Finance: Los Alamos County Council recognized members of the Administrative Services Finance Division on Tuesday, February 17, 2026 for being awarded the Triple Crown Honor issued by the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA), which recognizes governments who have received GFOA's Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting for its Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR), Popular Annual Financial Reporting Award (PAFR), and the Distinguished Budget Presentation Award. This is the 34th year the Finance Division has achieved the ACFR award, the 33rd year achieving the Budget award, and the 10th year achieving the PAFR award.



(Los Alamos County Representatives Pictured Left to Right – Front Row) Councilor Melanee Hand, Anne Laurent-County Manager, Beatrice Odezulu-Deputy CFO, Erika Thomas, Budget and Performance Manager, Mrs. Melissa Dadzie-Chief Financial Officer, Helen Perraglio-ASD Director, Nicholle Cordova-Management Analyst, Annalisa Miranda-Chief Purchasing Officer, (Back Row Left to Right) Councilor David Reagor, Council Vice Chair-Ryn Herrmann, Council Chair Randall Ryti, Tara Mariano-Snr. Financial & Budget Analyst, Councilor Beverly Neal-Clinton, Councilor Theresa Cull, Councilor Suzie Havemann, Derrill Rodgers-Deputy Chief Purchasing Officer

FY 2025 ACFR:

https://www.losalamosnm.us/files/sharedassets/public/v/1/departments/administrative-services/documents/fy2025_acfr_incorporated_county_of_los_alamos.pdf

FY 2025 SINGLE AUDIT:

https://www.losalamosnm.us/files/sharedassets/public/v/1/departments/administrative-services/documents/fy2025_single_audit_report_incorporated_county_of_los_alamos.pdf

Procurement Stats FY 26 YTD Stats:

- 1162 Purchase Orders Issued
- 396 PO Change Orders
- 2383 Inventory Pick Tickets
- 70 Agreements Completed
- 35 Amendments Completed
- 90 Solicitations/Amendments in Progress

Trends:

- Purchase Orders increased from 1053 (FY25) to 1162 (FY26)
- PO Change Orders decreased from 445 to 396
- Inventory Pick Tickets Processed & Delivered decreased from 2471 to 2383
- Agreements Completed increased from 64 to 70
- Amendments Completed increased from 24 to 35
- Solicitations/Agreements/Amendments in Progress increased from 81 to 90
- Anticipated Projects decreased from 44 to 38
- Property Disposal Requests Received decreased from 39 to 34

February 2026				February 2025	
Accounts Receivable	Number of Transactions	Dollar Amount	Variance Over Prior Year Increase (Decrease)	Number of Transactions	Dollar Amount
Gross Receipts Tax Received	4	\$ 7,660,651.56	3%	4	\$ 7,458,618.45
Electronic Payments Received (EPAY)	31	\$ 8,356,450.78	112%	32	\$ 3,937,035.95
Property Tax Received	119	\$ 146,111.36	-35%	111	\$ 226,264.53
Lodgers Tax Received	6	\$ 30,852.44	8%	4	\$ 28,580.00
Accounts Payable					
Number of Invoices Paid	490	\$ 15,923,083.91	0%	476	\$ 15,907,800.30
Wire Payments Processed	18	\$ 9,422,650.66	-9%	34	\$ 10,330,997.52
Electronic Fund Transfers (EFT) Processed	161	\$ 5,142,042.47	22%	114	\$ 4,217,163.97
Normal Print Checks Processed	192	\$ 1,358,390.78	0%	147	\$ 1,359,638.81
Total Disbursements	371	\$ 15,923,083.91	0%	295	\$ 15,907,800.30
P-Card Transactions	1,192	\$ 415,075.19	-1%	1,192	\$ 421,051.38

EFFECTIVE, EFFICIENT, AND RELIABLE SERVICES

CLERK

Update

The Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Los Alamos County Clerk’s Office and the New Mexico Secretary of State’s Office providing reimbursement for Primary Election expenses has been fully executed. This agreement allows the County to receive reimbursement for eligible costs associated with administering the state-funded Primary Election, helping ensure that election operations remain well supported while minimizing the financial impact on local taxpayers.

During the recent legislative session, the Clerk’s Office was also actively engaged in monitoring election-related legislation and communicating with lawmakers and state partners regarding potential impacts to county election administration. In the final days of the session, two significant election bills were introduced with limited time for review and discussion. One of these measures, New Mexico Senate Bill 264, was ultimately approved by the Legislature and has been sent to the Governor for consideration but has not yet been signed into law.

Senate Bill 264 focuses on strengthening election security and continuity planning. Among its provisions, the legislation would prohibit unauthorized federal or military personnel from being stationed at polling places or near monitored ballot drop boxes during the election period. The bill also establishes additional guidance for emergency election procedures, providing a framework for the Secretary of State and county clerks to implement contingency measures when necessary. These measures could include relocating polling locations, adjusting voting sites, or utilizing alternative ballot delivery methods in response to emergencies such as natural disasters or other events that could disrupt normal election operations.

The Clerk’s Office will continue to monitor the status of the legislation and review any new statutory requirements if the bill is signed into law. The office will also continue working closely with the Secretary of State’s Office and other county clerks across the state to ensure any operational changes are implemented effectively. The goal remains to maintain secure, transparent, and accessible elections for all voters in Los Alamos County while ensuring full compliance with state law.

Upcoming Events / Project Milestones / Seasonal Changes / New Initiatives:

March 3, 2026	County Council Meeting
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March 9, 2026	Clerk's Office Closed from 1PM-3PM for a Staff Meeting and Retirement Celebration in honor of Victoria Martinez, Elections Manager.
March 10, 2026	Candidate Filing Day for County Offices/Non-Preprimary designation candidates
March 17, 2026	Candidate Filing Day for Write-In Candidates
March 17, 2026	County Council Meeting
March 31, 2026	County Council Meeting

HUMAN RESOURCES

Updates

Human Resources interviewed for the Deputy HR Manager and Tania Echeverria de Lumas has accepted and will start on March 16, 2026.

Human Resources is still recruiting for the Senior Office Specialist.

HR is preparing for the upcoming FY27 Budget hearings.

The Personnel Board has two members whose terms will end on March 31st. One application was submitted and an interview was conducted in February. The Council Liaison will recommend the applicant for appointment to the Personnel Board and will be on the consent agenda for the March 3rd Council Meeting.

Risk Management is currently looking for a new OSHA compliance trainer.

Risk Management will be replacing existing AED machines in County Facilities.

Continued collaboration with the Training Manager as well with the ERP Manager on the implementation of the new annual employee evaluations in Munis / ESS.

Continued collaboration with the Budget team on Position Control for FY27.

Compensation launched the Job Description Review Project which is required every four (4) years.

Presented to SMT the Compensation piece to the revamped "Need To Know" presentation for supervisors.

Benefits conducted 10 retirement planning meetings in February.

Training Stats:

HR Training/Staff Development previewed the updated Manager Need to Know training for the Senior Management Team and plan to re-launch this important training in April 2026.

HR has redeveloped the Performance Planning Appraisal (PPA) system and process. The new system will be launched April 1st to be utilized for this PPA cycle. Several training sessions are planned in late March and early April to provide managers with system guidance.

New professional development courses, being offered in partnership with Santa Fe Community College, are available for registration in LAC University.

County employees are currently 93% compliant with required trainings, with 7% of assignments currently overdue.

PLANNING

February Stats

Planning staff reviewed and acted on the following:

14 New Business License Reviews

16 Permit Reviews

7 Planning Inspections

6 Development Applications

Updates

The Planning Division remains on schedule with all adopted work program goals. The 2026 Comprehensive Plan Update is actively underway, with the second Technical Advisory Committee and Steering Committee meetings scheduled for March 11 and 12.

The Historic Preservation Master Plan continues to progress as anticipated, with the consultant discovery site visit completed February 10–11, 2026.

Amendments to Chapter 16, Articles I and V of the Development Code are in the final stages of review and are being prepared for upcoming public hearings at Planning and Zoning Commission and County Council.

Comprehensive Plan Open House meetings are scheduled for March 11, 2026, at 5:30 p.m. in Council Chambers, and March 12, 2026, from 12:30–2:00 p.m. in the Multipurpose Room at the White Rock Library.

Upcoming

March 4: Historic Preservation Advisory Board Meeting

March 11-12: Comprehensive Plan Open Houses in Los Alamos (3/11) and White Rock (3/12)

March 25: Planning and Zoning Commission Meeting

INFRASTRUCTURE ASSET MANAGEMENT

INFORMATION MANAGEMENT

Infrastructure Update

The Group Policy Object (GPO) cleanup is now complete. GPOs are the behind-the-scenes settings that help manage how our county computers behave - things like security requirements, desktop configurations, and standard system settings.

Over time, these policies can accumulate and become difficult to manage, so cleanup helps ensure everything stays organized and efficient. By removing outdated policies and streamlining the structure, we now have a cleaner, more efficient environment. This refreshed setup also supports our ongoing Intune implementation, making it easier to manage devices consistently moving forward.

Thanks to Teo Ortega for leading this and to everyone who helped make this effort a success!

Application Update

Provided ongoing project support for Utilities on the Time of Use and Residential Demand software implementation; Municipal Court for the new Case Management Software implementation; Community Services for the new Recreation Reservation/Registration software implementation; and IM for the rollout of the endpoint device management software.

Successfully completed non-production testing of the SQL Server 2022 upgrade for the Tyler Munis ERP system. This testing is a key prerequisite for moving forward with the production upgrade during the March maintenance window.

Assisted Payroll with shared drive cleanup in preparation for migrating content to the SharePoint Payroll site. Final migration is scheduled for March.

February Stats

432 New Service Desk Tickets
0 Open tickets
432 Closed Tickets

AIRPORT

Take-offs and Landings – January brought typical winter flying conditions to the Los Alamos County Airport, with colder temperatures and periodic weather systems contributing to moderate seasonal activity. A total of 275 aircraft operations were

recorded for the month, including 72 flights by Classic Air Medical's helicopter operations. While slightly lower than peak summer months, activity levels remain consistent with winter seasonal trends and continue to reflect steady use by based aircraft and critical aeromedical services.

Updates

In January, the Airport Division hosted a representative from the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) who conducted on-site aircraft rescue and firefighting (ARFF) training in coordination with the Los Alamos Fire Department. This hands-on training strengthens emergency preparedness and reinforces the airport's commitment to maintaining high safety standards.

The Airport Manager worked with Leslie Bucklin from the County Manager's Office and the FAA to comprehensively update and modernize the County's Drone Policy, clarifying operational guidelines and improving regulatory alignment with evolving FAA unmanned aircraft system requirements.

The Airport Manager also attended professional development training in Dallas through the American Association of Airport Executives (AAAE) Certified Member (CM) program. This continuing education effort supports long-term professional credentialing and ensures airport leadership remains current with national aviation management standards and best practices.

Planning efforts are underway for the 2026 Airport Open House, which has been finalized for September 12th from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. The event will be held in collaboration with the Los Alamos Chamber of Commerce and will include a concurrent Home Business Expo, further strengthening ties between the airport and the local business community.

Additionally, a small but engaged group of local pilots and community members continues to meet regarding the potential formation of a flying club. The Airport Division is facilitating space for discussions, supporting community-led aviation initiatives while remaining neutral in the organizational process.

FACILITIES

February Stats:

Current work orders in queue – 158

New work orders since last report – 95

Completed work orders – 83

Service Requests - 63
After hour call outs – 3
Emergency call outs – 0

Updates:

Los Alamos County is working on a variety of projects that support quality of life, infrastructure, and economic development initiatives.

Several facility projects are currently moving forward. Work to install new HVAC units at the Golf Course Pro Shop is underway, while installation of units for the Community Room has been completed. Asbestos abatement began on February 23, 2026, at buildings 112, 124, and 126 along Long View Drive. On February 10, Council approved Task Order 29 with All-Rite Construction LLC to begin improvements at Brewer Arena. In addition, the Invitation for Bids for the Fire Station 4 replacement project was advertised on February 10, with bids closing in mid-March and a contract award expected in April 2026.



Removal of existing HVAC system and installed new units inside and in the roof of the Clubhouse Community Room.



Long View Drive. Building 112



Long View Drive. Building 126



Long View Drive. Building 124

CUSTODIAL

February Stats

Fuller Lodge – 40

White Rock Activity Center – 11

White Rock Fire Station – 2

Betty Ehart Senior Center – 19

White Rock Town Hall – 0

Municipal Building – 29

Updates

Reservations for the month of February decreased from January. This is usual because it's considered a "slow time" for public events. The County Managers office and HR carpets were cleaned.

There is currently one vacancy for the floor crew.

The team is conducting a window inventory of all County buildings in preparation for putting out an RFP for annual window cleaning.

Additionally, the team has started seeking quotes for refinishing the wood floors at the Golf Course Community Room, LA Little Theater and Fuller Lodge.

Supporting public events countywide.

FLEET

February Stats

Work orders entered – 214

Work orders completed within 72 hours - 133

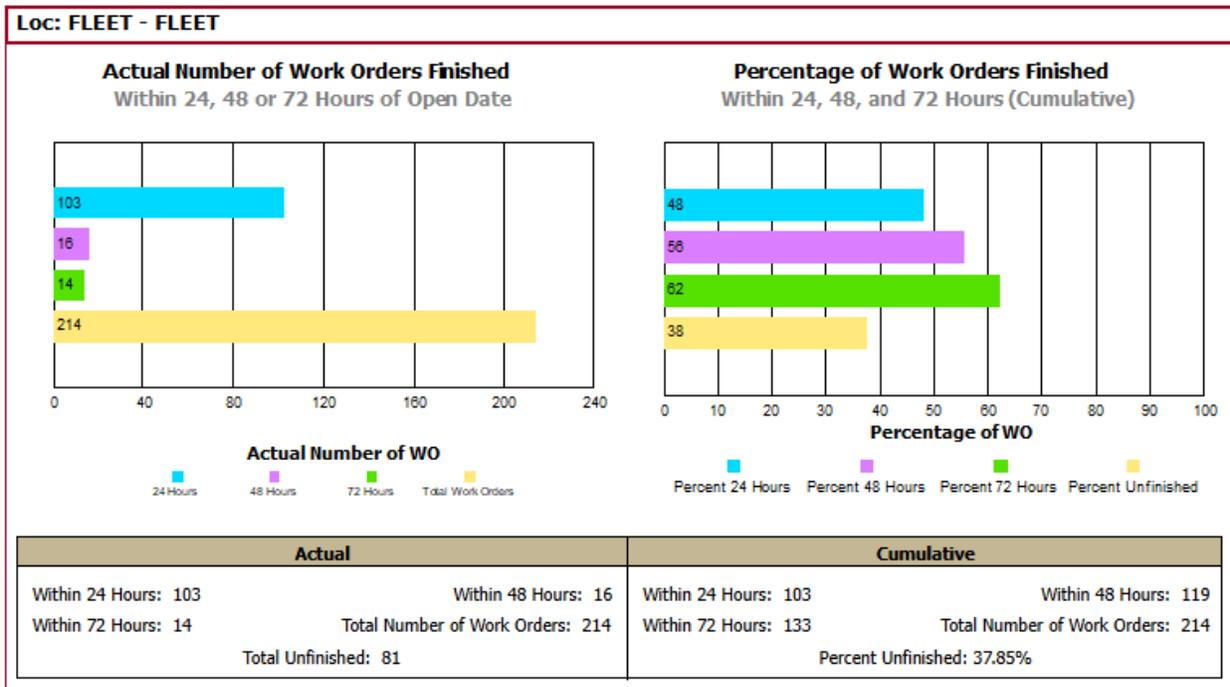
Work orders that remain open - 24

Work orders that are considered preventive maintenance – 52

Work orders that are considered repairs – 159

Work orders due to accidents – 1

Work Orders for recalls - 2





New bus for Transit



New bucket truck for Utilities

TRAFFIC AND STREETS

February Stats

Customer calls – 78

Traffic Control & Excavation Permits processed – 8

Permits extended – 1
Locates performed – 51
Asphalt used – 8 tons
Concrete used – 7 yards
Perma Patch used – 240 lbs.
Sweeping miles - 133
Signs fabricated and installed – 19
Lights and fixtures that were replaced – 3
Work orders received – 6
Work orders completed - 8
Replaced push-button pole – 1

Signs and Markings Division

The Signs and Markings Division has begun installing the new Wayfinding signage. A total of 120 bases were previously installed in 2025, and crews are now completing the sign installation phase. To date, 11 signs have been installed along Central Avenue and Canyon Road.

In addition to wayfinding efforts, the division completed multiple sign repairs and replacements. A total of 19 signs were fabricated and installed to address maintenance needs throughout the county.

Training and Development

The Traffic Safety Specialist has been assigned to provide training for crew members preparing to obtain their Commercial Driver's License (CDL). To date, two employees have successfully completed the written training portion and are scheduled to take the skills (driving) examination in Las Vegas, New Mexico.

Streets Division

Streets crews have been actively engaged in infrastructure maintenance and repair projects. Sidewalk repairs were completed along a trail near Totavi, including curb and gutter repair and replacement at 535 and 585 Totavi Street.

Road maintenance operations are ongoing in Bayo Canyon and Rendija Canyon, where crews are performing roadway repairs to improve surface conditions and safety along this important evacuation route.

Countywide street sweeping operations have continued, along with weed abatement and trash removal to maintain roadway cleanliness and visibility.

Storm Response

Crews responded to two snow events during the reporting period and conducted post-event equipment cleaning and preparation to ensure readiness for subsequent storms. Additionally, personnel patrolled county roads following recent windstorms to identify and remove downed trees and debris, ensuring safe travel conditions.

Projects

Denver Steels Phase II Improvements Project

The project includes replacement of roadway, targeted concrete replacement including curb and gutter, valley gutters, sidewalk, drive pads, and ADA improvements. Aging water lines and fire hydrants will also be replaced.



Construction started February 2, 2026, with waterline and broadband installation.



Traffic and Streets crews continue to install wayfinding signs along Central Avenue.



Before and after images of the Streets crew replacing damaged curb on Totavi Street



Streets Crews performing Road Maintenance on Rendija Road

EMPLOYEE RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION

February Highlights

- YTD 32 Job Postings created
- YTD 449 Applications received
- Average applications per job posting=14
- YTD 19 Promotions
- YTD 1 Employee Transfer
- YTD 1 Employee Status Change from Regular >Casual
- YTD 9 New Hires
- Recruitment continued to assist all County departments with hiring and promotional needs.
- The Recruitment team is in the solicitation process for RFP for a new applicant tracking system.

HOUSING

Updates

20th Street Development Solicitation: The due diligence phase of development kicked off on October 10, 2025. County staff and the development partner are reviewing engineering, soils, planning reports, and similar documents. The due diligence earnest money transfer has taken place, and the Title Report and ALTA survey of the property have been revised and completed. The due diligence period is expected to take until April 2026. [Goals: Downtown Revitalization, Local Business, Housing.]

9th Street Apartments: Key developments this quarter include the successful completion of five-unit renovations and the initiation of major electrical infrastructure upgrades across all three buildings. The focus in the first part of 2026 will be completing the electrical upgrades and implementing energy efficient improvements with the installation of mini splits across units. [Goals: Housing.]

Affordable Housing Service Providers: In the coming weeks, the Housing Trust will launch a new round of marketing for the various programs with a DPU billing insert as well as at various events throughout the community. They currently have multiple applications in process for both the Home Rehabilitation and Homebuyers Assistance programs. [Goals: Housing.]

North Mesa Update: Staff from the County and Wilson and Company presented findings of the North Mesa Transportation and Utilities Study at a joint LAPS Board and County Council work session on February 26, 2026. The final report was well received. The

study provides preliminary designs and cost estimates for system upgrades needed to serve the site with utilities and to mitigate the project's impact on the transportation system. [Goals: Housing, Intergovernmental Relations.]

Coyote Mesa (A-8-A): The effective date for the Sales, Purchase, and Development Agreement for the A-8-A property is November 14, 2025. This key date kicks off the due diligence phase of the development process. The due diligence period is expected to be completed in early 2026. During this phase county staff will provide the development team with key documents including previous engineering, soils, planning reports, and similar documents for review. The Title Report and ALTA Survey for the property have been completed. The development partner is finalizing the site survey and geotechnical boring and analysis. Closing on the property is anticipated in early 2026. [Goals: Housing.]

Public Meeting

There was a joint meeting with the Los Alamos Public School Board and County Council on February 26 at 5:30p at Chamisa Elementary in White Rock to learn more about the North Mesa LAPS Transportation and Infrastructure study.

LOCAL BUSINESS AND DOWNTOWN REVITALIZATION

Updates

MRA and Retail LEDA Programs – Anita Barela continued to assist applicants in their fulfilling their applications process. [1.1 Communication and Engagement]

New Mexico State Creative Industries - Anita Barela met with Creative Industries Division people on February 26th, to learn more about Creative Con. Creative Con is about bringing New Mexico Creatives and businesspeople together to get excited about the unlimited opportunity in the creative economy. The primary goal is to get people tapped into what can help them actualize creative business and projects in their very own communities. [1.1 Communication and Engagement]

MyCity Business/Nonprofit/Events Directory - Anita Barela and Ellyn Felton hosted Directory Information Sessions on February 4 and 18 for the community. The directories went live to the community on February 2 to view and submit information. The directories are publicly available on VisitLosAlamos.org and LosAlamosnm.us. In its first month, 13 businesses and 8 nonprofits signed up, and 9 events were submitted. [1.1 Communication and Engagement; 3.2 Local Business; 3.4 Tourism and Special Events]

Tourism Marketing Services – Ellyn Felton continues to work with DestinationiQ to hone in on digital marketing efforts (Google and Meta Ads). In addition, they provided drafts of the Initial Marketing Assessment and Tourism Marketing Data Plan deliverables. [1.1 Communication and Engagement; 3.4 Tourism and Special Events]

NMTrue Grant – Ellyn Felton continues with advertising initiatives and deliverables through the NMTrue Grant. The second influencer for this year’s program visited Los Alamos County in mid-February as a part of the FY26 grant. In February, Felton and DestinationiQ also submitted their initial questionnaire for FY27. [3.4 Tourism]

EDUCATIONAL, ARTS, CULTURAL, & HISTORICAL AMENITIES

Upcoming Nature Center Programs

Night Sky in April – April 3, 2026

Full - Dome Movie – April 4, 2026

Los Luceros Bird Walk – April 5, 2026

“The Little Things that Run the World” Movie Screening – April 9, 2026

High School Astronomy Club Presents – April 10, 2026

Full - Dome Movie – April 11, 2026

High School Astronomy Club Presents – April 17, 2026

Earth Day Festival – April 18, 2026

Full - Dome Movie – April 18, 2026

Fire Management – April 23, 2026

Experimental Aviation Association – April 25, 2026

Two Sticks, One Path: A Journey Beyond Fear on the Colorado Trail – April 28, 2026

PumaGuard Update with PEEC Nature Youth Group – April 29, 2026

Library February Stats:

Public Programs and Events: 68

Total Program Attendance: 1,565

Physical Items Circulated: 22,120

Digital Items Circulated: 10,030

Total Items Circulate: 32,150

Updates

Program highlights for February include a symphony-themed story time in partnership with the Santa Fe Symphony, an indoor snowball fight with bath sponges at Music & Movement, an adult D&D spin-off tabletop game program, and the inaugural session of Discover!, a new adult program series at the White Rock Branch. The first Discover! session, led by Leslie Bucklin, introduced participants to cell phone photography basics.

Due to high demand, the library also added a second monthly Silent Book Club meeting.



Cell Phone Photo



Sponge Snowball Fight



D&D Spinoff

In February, the Step Up Gallery featured Magic Paint Brush: Painting Peace and Healing, an exhibition of artwork by Feather Redfox. The show ended on February 11 to make way for the popular All Schools Art Show. This show opened on February 26.

Both library branches are welcoming the arrival of spring with the reopening of the seed library cabinets. Now entering its fourth season, the seed library will launch with celebrations, programs, and cake on March 7. Last season was the most successful to date, with 225 patrons borrowing seeds and more than 1,600 packets shared with local gardeners.

On Friday, March 6, the Library will host a teen summit after regular library hours. The event will focus on prevention and is being organized in collaboration with LAPS, the Los Alamos County Library, the Social Services Department, the Courts, the Los Alamos Community Foundation, JJAB, the YMCA, therapists from the LANL Behavioral Health Team, and other community partners.

Looking Ahead

In April, the Library will celebrate Arab American Heritage Month with a food-themed passive program. Patrons will be invited to contribute recipes to a community-created cookbook and sample a selection of spices offered in small take-home packets. The library celebrates all of the recognized heritage and history months with an annual rotation of displays, passive, self-paced activities, or speaker programs.

TOURISM AND SPECIAL EVENTS

February Stats

@VisitLosAlamos Facebook:

15,634 followers to date
115,128 reached in February 2026
552 engagements in February 2026

@VisitLosAlamos Instagram:

1,587 followers to date
11,583 reached in February 2026
288 engagements in February 2026

Visitlosalamos.org Website:

8,347 Users
3,864 Engaged Sessions
32 seconds Average Engagement Time/Session

Visitor Center Visitation

Los Alamos: 676
White Rock: 294

COMMUNITY BROADBAND

The results of the survey asking the community to vote on a name for the Community Broadband Network (CBN) are in. The name chosen was announced to the public as Atomic Fiber.

Another milestone for CBN is that vendor Bonfire has secured agreements with ISPs who expressed interest in being an internet provider on the county’s network. Currently, there are 4 ISPs. A web site for Atomic Fiber is being developed which will have links to more information on these 4 ISPs, as well as provision for residents to express advanced interest in being a subscriber to service on the CBN as soon as it becomes available for their neighborhood.

Other activities had the broadband manager attending this year’s “Broadband Day at the Roundhouse” event, as well as continuing collaboration efforts with Pueblo of San Ildefonso’s fiber optic line project.

HEALTH, WELLBEING, AND SOCIAL SERVICES

February Stats

16 Contractor Public Programs and Events
390 People Attended Programs and Events

Updates

Health, Wellbeing, and Social Services in the Community

The Social Services Division has been actively utilizing a closed-loop referral system, Unite Us. Additionally, the team hosted a training with community partners from local non-profits, faith-based organizations, and the United Way of Northern New Mexico! The training brought more than two dozen organizations together for a rich and thoughtful question-and-answer period. The team looks forward to serving more community members in need across the board.

Social Services Manager Jessica Strong and Health Care Specialist Jeramay Martinez attended the State of Healthcare in Northern New Mexico event at SALA 2/24/26, sponsored by the League of Women Voters and the Los Alamos Community Foundation. The well-attended event heard four local leaders discuss the recent legislative victories and the changing healthcare landscape.

Social Services staff attended training on changing requirements for Medicaid, to learn more and to be better prepared to serve clients. Under the federal HR1 budget reconciliation law, New Mexico is required to implement Medicaid work, training, or community engagement requirements for 80 hours per month.

The Youth Summit, titled “Lifeline: Tools to Save a Life and Build One,” will take place at the Mesa Public Library on 3/6/26, from 5:00pm – 8:00pm, for all local high school students to learn harm reduction, suicide prevention, healthy relationships, and more.

Contractors:

Los Alamos Public Schools Prevention (LAPS)

Alive Tour - February 27, 2026

Los Alamos High School hosted the Arrive Alive Tour impaired driving simulator as part of DWI prevention efforts, with selected classes participating during instructional time. The simulator experience was supplemented with an educational video and guided reflection activity, and additional walk-up opportunities were offered during lunch to increase student access. The event was funded by the DWI Council.

Participants: 150

Upcoming Events & Announcements: Youth Summit - March 6, 2026; Nicotine Peer Ambassador Program – Through April 13, 2026

YMCA Los Alamos Teen Center (LATC)

Midnight Movies - Spring Fling - February 7, 2026

Following the high school dance earlier this month, the Teen Center partnered with SALA Event Center to host a late-night screening of Zootopia (2016). A total of 53 teens attended and enjoyed a safe, supervised space to continue the evening with friends.

The film was selected by popular demand based on survey responses collected during recent lunch outreach visits to Los Alamos High School.

Participants: 53

Upcoming Events & Announcements: LATC will collaborate with JJAB to host a themed party at the Teen Center in coordination with the movie Megamind, sponsored by JJAB at SALA on April 4, 2026.

Family Strengths Network (FSN)

Reasons to Gather (RTG) - February 12, 2026

Reasons to Gather provides caretakers with time away to connect and build relationships with one another. This month, Jane Brooks created handmade mugs for participants to paint with glaze. Food and beverages were provided.

Participants: 16



Family Strengths Network (FSN)

Pack, Play, Picnic (PPP) - February 5, 12, 19, and 26, 2026

Pack, Play, Picnic is a weekly event designed to give families an opportunity to leave the house and share a meal together. The program also allows FSN staff to strengthen connections with participating families.

Participants: 34

Upcoming Events & Announcements: FSN will soon launch Build It Fridays, a new program that will take place on two Friday afternoons.

INCLUSION, ACCESS, AND BELONGING

The Inclusivity Task Force met once in February. The Task Force discussed the final draft report with recommendations. The Task Force took action to accept the report after noted changes were made by the Chair and forward the report and recommendations to Council for their consideration. The final report will be presented to Council on March 17, 2026, at the Work Session in White Rock.

MOBILITY

Atomic City Transit Stats

Unlinked Passenger Trips (UPT) - 18,151

Fixed-Route UPT - 17,559

Demand-Response UPT- 592

Special UPT - 0

Service Days - 20

UPT per Service Day - 908

UPT per Service Mile - 0.48

Service Disruptions - 2

On-time Timepoint Departures – 81.0%

On-time Paratransit Trips – 98%

Buses with Defective ITS Systems – 7%

Customer Complaints - 2

Updates

Atomic City Transit (ACT) will be presented to the Transportation Board on Thursday March 5th with a recap of the Saturday Pilot Service and discussion of next steps for possible long-term implementation.

ACT will begin contracting service for the National Parks Service in Bandelier beginning March 15th and serving a total of 55 days through October 14, 2026. Updates and schedules will be posted within the next few weeks as times and dates will vary.

ACT offered Juan Vargas the midday Lead Position and he has accepted and will be starting March 1st to help support operations, driver assistance, and public need.

Fixed Route Monthly Performance Metrics

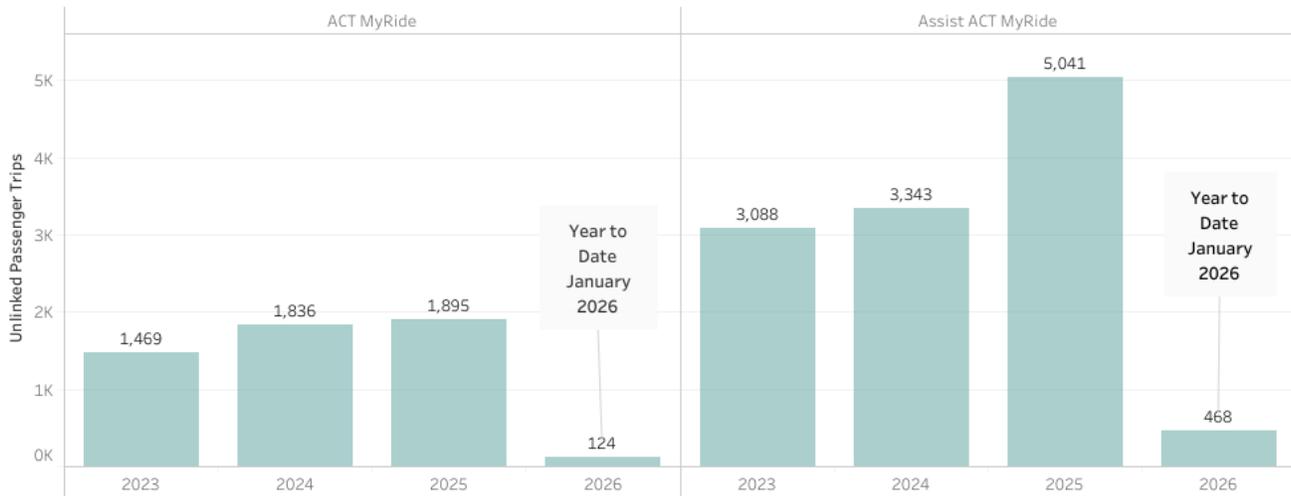
Atomic City Transit Ridership Report

System Total Ridership Analysis Ov..	System Total Ridership Yearly Com..	Fixed Route Monthly Analysis	ACT MyRide Monthly Performance Metrics	Seasonal Services Monthly Performance..
--------------------------------------	-------------------------------------	------------------------------	--	---

ACT MyRide Services Monthly Performance Metrics 2025

On Demand: ACT MyRide and ACT MyRide Assist Programs Ridership

While both serves are free, ACT MyRide is a same day rideshare service open to the public while Assist ACT MyRide is by application only and part of the American Disabilities Act Program. Both services run Monday through Friday. ACT MyRide operates from 5:15 AM to 6:00 AM and 6:30 PM to 9:00 PM and Assist from 6:00 AM to 6:30 PM. An ACT MyRide Saturday Pilot Program ran from August 2, 2025 to October 25, 2025 to determine need and capacity for long term implementation.



Monthly Ridership Comparison by Year

		ACT MyRide	Assist ACT MyRide	Grand Total
January	2019	117	475	592
	2025	119	327	446
	2026	124	468	592

Monthly On Time Performance

		ACT MyRide	Assist ACT MyRide
January	2026	97%	99%

ACT MyRide Services Monthly Performance Metrics

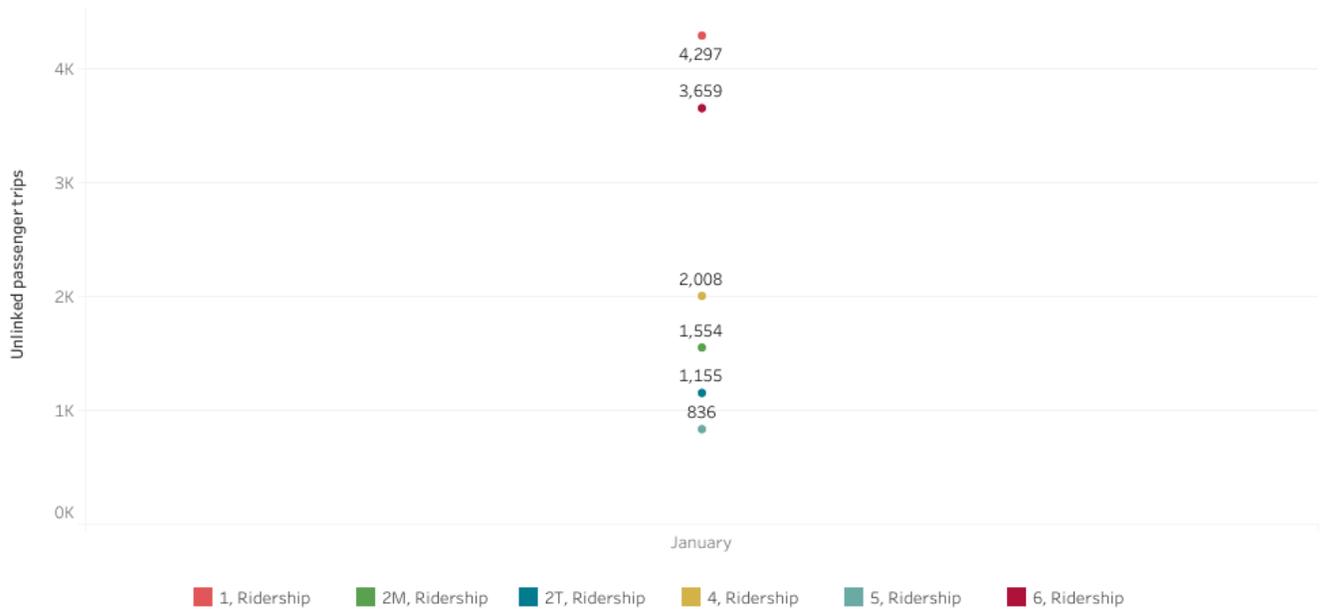
Atomic City Transit Ridership Report

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Fixed Route Monthly Performance Metrics 2025

Monthly Ridership 2025

Routes 1-6 run year round with peak services on 1 and 6 in high ridership times for commutes and the lunch hour.



Monthly Ridership Comparison by Year

Month	Year	1	2M	2T	4	5	6	Grand Total
January	2019	4,509	2,336	1,451	2,920	1,228	5,200	17,644
	2025	4,774	1,093	955	2,225	888	2,504	12,439
	2026	4,297	1,554	1,155	2,008	836	3,659	13,509

Monthly On Time Performance

Month	Year	1	2M	2T	4	5	6	SYSTEM
January	2026	81%	70%	79%	86%	86%	81%	81%

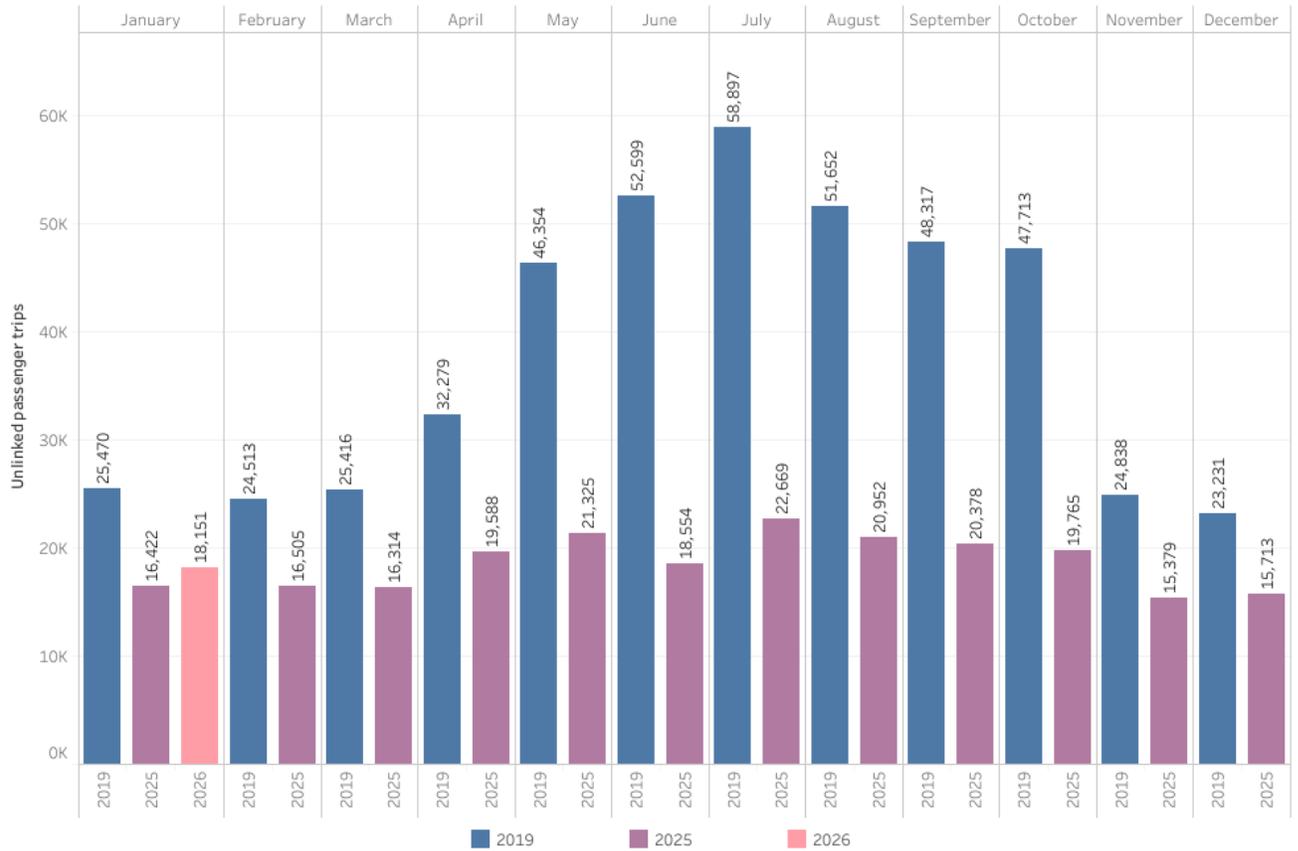
System Total Ridership Analysis Over Time

Atomic City Transit Ridership Report

System Total Ridership Analysis Ov..	System Total Ridership Yearly Com..	Fixed Route Monthly Analysis	ACT MyRide Monthly Performance Metrics	Seasonal Services Monthly Performance..
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System Total Ridership Analysis Over Time

How to Read this Graph: The year 2019 (blue column) is an industry baseline for ridership trends before pandemic times while the 2025 (purple column) and the 2026 (pink column) ridership numbers provide recovery comparisons year over year against the 2019 baseline. Significant ridership loss was seen in summer months due to Bandlerier service changes and access since 2024.



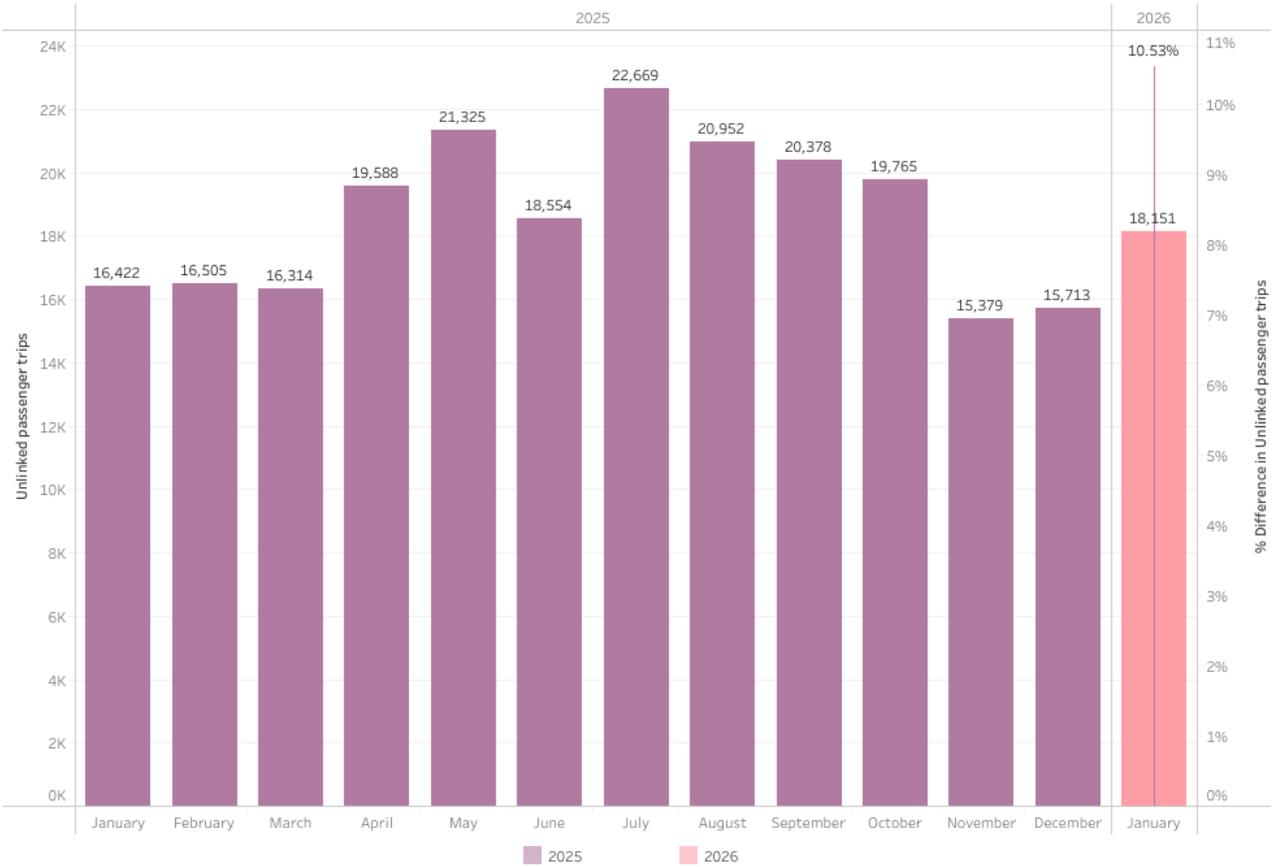
System Total Ridership Yearly Comparison

Atomic City Transit Ridership Report

System Total Ridership Analysis Ov..	System Total Ridership Yearly Com..	Fixed Route Monthly Analysis	ACT MyRide Monthly Performance Metrics	Seasonal Services Monthly Performance..
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System Total Ridership Yearly Comparison

How to Read this Graph: The columns show total ridership numbers including fixed route, seasonal services, and on demand ridership. The shaded areas (January is just a line for one month) show percent difference in ridership compared to the prior year so 2025 shows comparatively to 2026.



Seasonal Services Monthly Performance Metrics 2025

Atomic City Transit Ridership Report

System Total Ridership Analysis Ov..	System Total Ridership Yearly Com..	Fixed Route Monthly Analysis	ACT MyRide Monthly Performance Metrics	Seasonal Services Monthly Performance..
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Seasonal Services Monthly Performance Metrics 2025

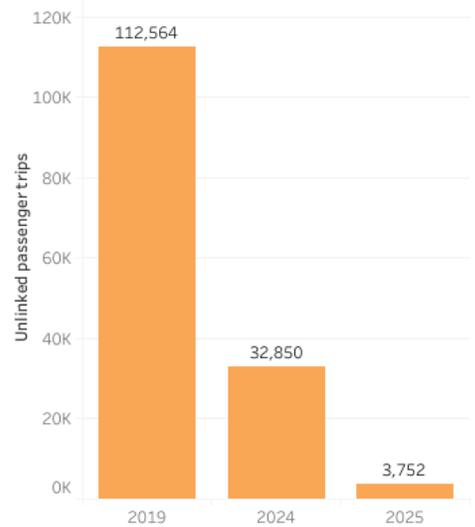
Express Routes 7-11, 2025

Express Routes run one outbound trip from bus stops near schools into the Downtown Area between 2:00 - 3:45pm August through May.



Bandelier Route 12

Bandelier contracted service runs between Juniper Parking Lot and the Visitor Center seasonally.



Note: In 2024 and 2025, changes in Bandelier service levels and connection to White Rock adjusted ridership significantly.

Monthly Ridership Comparison by Year

		7	8	9	10	11	Bandelier 12	Grand Total
January	2019		648	749	1,057	776	0	3,230
	2025	907	737	665	487	741		3,537
	2026	636	697	646	1,206	864		4,049

There was 1 unassigned rider in January 2026. Unassigned riders are riders on board during non-revenue service periods or can happen when disconnected from the live tracking technology where the software cannot determine which route to assign the passengers.

TRANSPORTATION BOARD

The Transportation Board meeting focused on safety improvements along NM 502, where Jennifer Morrow, Senior Engineer, presented plans for installing rumble strips and restriping at Camino Entrada to address crash concerns, including a recent fatality. The board reviewed and approved Attachment A of their work plan, which included various quality of life and infrastructure initiatives.

The meeting also included the welcome of new Council Liaison Councilor Havemann, and farewells to outgoing members Nancy Talley and Michael Altherr. Eric Martinez, Public Works Director provided updates on the county's bronze-level bicycle-friendly community designation, the Denver Steels roadway project, and the installation of a Hawk signal at NM 4.

The board discussed the need for regulations regarding sign placement on public right-of-way and concluded with plans for future discussions on fire hazard preparation due to dry weather conditions.

OPEN SPACE, PARKS, AND RECREATION

ADMINISTRATION

CSD held public meetings to discuss playground and ADA improvements at San Ildefonso (Dinosaur Park) on February 4, Grand Canyon Tot Lot on February 5, and Bayo Canyon Trailhead on February 11.

Aquatic Center Front Desk Relocation – February 22, 2026

The Los Alamos County Aquatic Center front desk operations were relocated to the Leisure Lagoon side in preparation for the main pool replaster project, which began on March 2, 2026.

Connecting with the Public

Common Ground - February 5, 2026

Common Ground featured an in - person screening of a documentary exploring how regenerative farming can help heal the planet. The film highlighted innovative agricultural practices that restore soil health, improve ecosystems, and support sustainable food systems.

Participants: 47

Connecting Wildlife Habitat in a Fragmented World - February 19, 2026

Connecting Wildlife Habitat in a Fragmented World featured an in-person and live-streamed presentation on how the New Mexico Land Conservancy is protecting and connecting wildlife habitats across the state. The program explored the importance of conservation efforts in maintaining biodiversity and supporting healthy ecosystems. Participants: 53

James Webb Space Telescope: Unlocking the Universe - February 20, 2026

James Webb Space Telescope: Unlocking the Universe featured an in-person presentation highlighting discoveries and emerging mysteries revealed by the James Webb Space Telescope. Attendees enjoyed stunning imagery while learning about groundbreaking advancements in space exploration.

Participants: 30

Looking Ahead:

Night Sky in April – April 3, 2026

Full - Dome Movie – April 4, 2026

Los Luceros Bird Walk – April 5, 2026

“The Little Things that Run the World” Movie Screening – April 9, 2026

High School Astronomy Club Presents – April 10, 2026

Full - Dome Movie – April 11, 2026

High School Astronomy Club Presents – April 17, 2026

Earth Day Festival – April 18, 2026

Full - Dome Movie – April 18, 2026

Fire Management – April 23, 2026

Experimental Aviation Association – April 25, 2026

Two Sticks, One Path: A Journey Beyond Fear on the Colorado Trail – April 28, 2026

PumaGuard Update with PEEC Nature Youth Group – April 29, 2026

OPEN SPACE, PARKS AND TRAILS

February Stats

Parks Acres Maintained: -

Repairs due to Vandalism: 5

Volunteer Hours Worked in

- Parks: 0

-Trails: 0

Funeral Services: 0

Headstone/Niche Installation: 4

Updates

No additional updates to report for February 2026

RECREATION

February Stats:

Programs and Events: 1

Participation:

-Recreation: 1,458

-Aquatics: 190

Open Gym Programs: 16

Vendors: 0

People Utilizing the Ice Rink: 3,677

Round of Golf: 0

Ice Rink Updates:

The ice rink remained open through the scheduled closing date, and overall, it was a fantastic season. The final event, Glow Skate Night, had a great turnout and was a wonderful way to wrap up the season. The ice rink officially closed on February 17th. The SAN committee has begun meeting monthly, and the Rec/Ice team is now preparing for upcoming summer programs.

Updates:

Family Dive-In Movie: “Jaws” - February 20, 2026

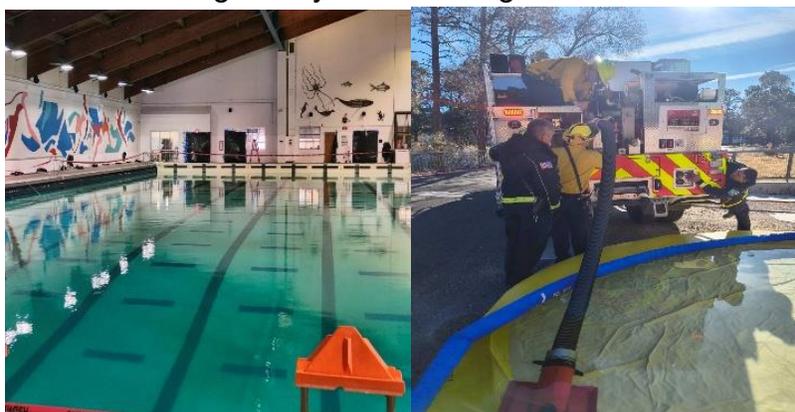
Participants: 18

Adult Dive-In Movie: “Cocaine Bear” - February 13, 2026

Participants: 10

Water Resource Training with LAFD - February 22–23, 2026

The Los Angeles Fire Department conducted Water Resource Training, draining approximately 42,000 gallons of dechlorinated pool water. The water was transported to the golf course and used to irrigate dry areas throughout the course.



Main Pool Re-Plaster Project - February 2026

Construction on the main pool re-plaster project is underway. Aquatic staff prepared and drained the pool, and all facility operations have temporarily moved to the circulation room of the Leisure Lagoon.

PUBLIC SAFETY

BUILDING SAFETY

There were a total of 7 Commercial Building permits that were issued in February 2026 with a total valuation of \$204,825.00

There were a total of 51 Residential Building permits that were issued in February 2026 with a total valuation of \$1,398,572.34

4 Certificate of Occupancies was issued in February 2026

Update

In the month of February, an additional Certificate of Occupancy was issued for The Hill Apartments multifamily project. Currently, roughly 80% of the project has passed final inspections. The contractor is hopeful that the remaining buildings will be ready for final inspections prior to May 1, 2026.

Earlier in the month, Monica Rivera (Permit Technician) and Michael Marquez (Plan Reviewer) met with the Design Professional and Contractor for the Coyote Mesa (A-8-A) project to begin guiding them through the permitting process. This meeting was held to inform them of the documentation required for a permit submittal. During the meeting, the team was also able to highlight common “pitfalls” encountered when submitting permit applications. A pre-application meeting was arranged for March 2 with all departments involved in the plan review process.

Looking Ahead

The next “DIY” meeting with homeowners is scheduled for March 26. This is an excellent opportunity for residents contemplating home improvement projects to meet with staff and get questions answered about the permit application process. The Building Safety and Planning Departments will partner to host this meeting at Fuller Lodge from 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM on the 26th.

Building Safety will also be hosting a contractor meeting on the afternoon of April 10. This meeting is geared towards roofing contractors working in Los Alamos County.

Topics will include common definitions, the permit and plan review process, available resource guides, and common corrections identified during inspections.

CODE ENFORCEMENT

CDD Director Elias Isaacson attended the ICC EduCode Conference in Las Vegas, Nevada, from February 23–27, 2026. During the conference, Elias attended sessions focused on upcoming code cycles, leadership development, and code enforcement practices. These sessions provided updates on evolving building codes and offered insight into effective leadership and enforcement strategies that support safe and compliant development within the community.

POLICE

Update

The Police Department (PD) held its annual awards banquet, honoring professionalism and dedication to duty of PD employees. Several awards were presented including multiple lifesaving and “Of the Year” awards. Award highlights include:

Officer of the Year	John Harris
Detention Officer of the Year	Agustus L’Esperance
Civilian of the Year	Juanita Norris
Civilian of the Year	Lance Fresquez
Supervisor of the Year	Hilario Salinas
Life Saving Award	Samantha Terrazas
Life Saving Award	Robert Larsen



County Manger Anne Laurent and Chief Dino Sgambellone present Corporal Samantha Terrazas one of several awards she received at the Police Department’s Annual Awards Banquet.

Total IPRA Records Pulled for Inspection FY 2025 Los Alamos Police Department

Division	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	TOTAL
Police Department	142	420	116	12,391	330	216	222	196	330	213	43	358	14,977

The Police Department receives a high volume of Public Information requests. Because these records may contain sensitive information, each request must be carefully reviewed to ensure it complies with legal requirements. Requests involving video footage require additional time, as the content must be fully reviewed, redacted when necessary, and approved prior to release. The Department is implementing new technology expected to arrive by summer 2026 that will help streamline this process, reduce costs, and improve the ability to respond to public records requests more efficiently.

FIRE

LAFD Responded to 167 calls for service in February:

- 121 EMS Calls
- 18 Public Service Calls
- 13 False Alarm/Good Intent Calls
- 12 Hazardous Condition Calls (No Fire)
- 3 Fire Calls
- 62 New Social Media Followers (17 IG, 45 FB)

Updates

EMS Phoenix Awards

In February, during a regular meeting of the Los Alamos County Council, the Los Alamos Fire Department proudly presented the Phoenix Award — one of the most prestigious honors in Emergency Medical Services.

The Phoenix Award is presented to responders who successfully resuscitate a patient in cardiac arrest and whose patient survives to return home from the hospital with little to no neurological deficit. Named after the mythical phoenix rising from the ashes, the award symbolizes rebirth — a second chance at life.

This incident reflected a perfectly executed chain of survival. Two family members took immediate and heroic action before first responders arrived. Their courage and decisive efforts were instrumental in the patient’s outcome, and they were also formally recognized during the ceremony.

Emergency communications played a critical role as well. The calm, professional guidance provided during the 911 call ensured that lifesaving care began immediately and continued seamlessly until the crews arrived on scene. This coordinated effort demonstrated the strength of an integrated emergency response system working exactly as designed.

The team was especially honored to have the patient whose life was saved, along with his wife, join us for the presentation. His presence was a powerful reminder of why training, teamwork, and compassion matter. Seeing him standing alongside those who answered the call reinforced the profound impact of preparedness and swift action.

Phoenix Award recipients included the patient's two family members, crews from C-Shift Stations 4 and 1, and members of the Emergency Communications team:

- Captain/Paramedic Chris Rondeau
- Driver Engineer Michael Manzanares
- Firefighter Steven Tenorio
- Firefighter Jennifer Edmunds
- Firefighter Nicholas Lopez
- Firefighter/Paramedic Adrian Vigil
- Firefighter/Paramedic Brian Thomas
- Driver Engineer/Paramedic Dustin Rogers
- Emergency Communications Specialist II Amanda Bucklin
- Family Members Destiney Montoya and Madison Trivezo-Martinez

Because of their actions, a life was not only saved — but preserved with quality and hope.

The Los Alamos Fire Department extends its sincere appreciation to the Los Alamos County Council for their continued support of public safety and for providing the opportunity to recognize excellence when it truly matters.



LAFD responders along with EMS Division Chief and LAFD Deputy Chief with Los Alamos County Council members and the patient they were able to save

Battle of the Badges

The Los Alamos Fire Department proudly claimed victory in the annual Battle of the Badges basketball game against the Santa Fe Fire Department on Saturday, February 21, in Santa Fe.

The friendly rivalry brought together firefighters, family members, and community supporters for an evening of spirited competition, teamwork, and camaraderie. Both departments demonstrated outstanding sportsmanship and athleticism, but Los Alamos ultimately secured the win after a hard-fought contest on the court.

The Battle of the Badges game continues to serve as more than just a competition. Events like this strengthen the professional relationships between neighboring agencies while providing an opportunity for personnel to engage with the communities they serve in a positive and energetic setting.

Los Alamos Fire Department extends its appreciation to Santa Fe Fire Department for hosting this year's event and for their continued partnership in regional cooperation and mutual aid. While the trophy may reside in Los Alamos this year, the true victory lies in the fellowship shared between departments and the support shown by the community.

The team looks forward to defending the title next year and continuing this valued tradition.



Captain Daniel Garcia and FireFighter Ryan Wolf giving a presentation to Pojoaque Valley High School students.



Captain Daniel Garcia, Firefighter Ryan Wolf, Firefighter Jennifer Edmunds, Driver/Engineer Gregg Hecathorn, and Jeffrey Maestas at the PVHS Career Day.

ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP

Sustainability Manager provided a quarterly Climate Action Plan Implementation Update to County Council.

Environmental Sustainability Board

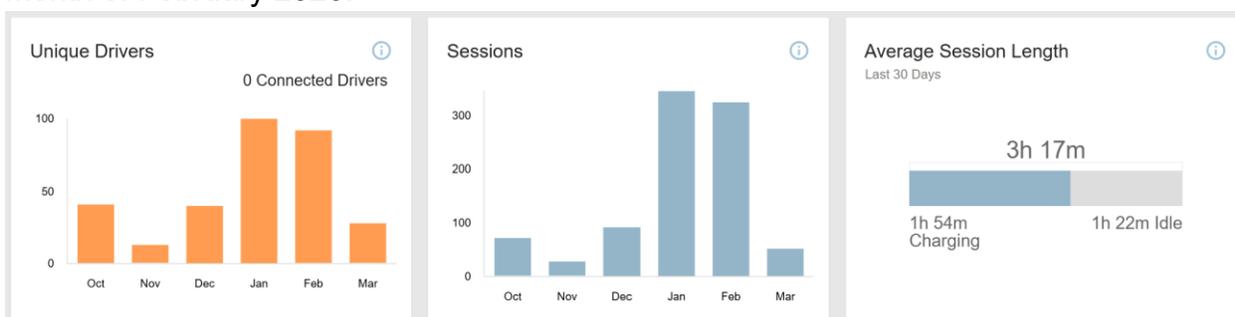
The ESB received the final Fleet Conversion Plan and Community Wide EV Charging Plan. The Environmental Sustainability Board supports the Fleet Conversion and Community-Wide Electric Vehicle Charging Plan and recommends forwarding the plan to Council as presented.

Electric Vehicle

Staff continue to work on the implementation of the 2 Direct Current Fast Chargers at Mesa Public Library. Staff ordered the EV Charging Equipment and have requested a quote for construction services.

The final Fleet Conversion Plan and Community Wide EV Charging Plan will be presented to Council in March.

The 6 new Level 2 chargers at Municipal Building have been operational for two months. Below is the report from January 1 – March 4. GHG savings are 5,445kg for the month of February 2026.



Climate Marketing and Education

Firebrand will help the County develop communication messages that will activate community members to shift behavior to reduce energy use, conserve water, promote zero waste and utilize alternative transportation. This effort will span the next 7 years. The consultant Firebrand visited Los Alamos and over the span of three days, hosted a series of meetings with staff, Council and community members to share intentions for the project, gather input and gain a sense of culture and community values. The next steps are to market test possible brand ideas that will be used throughout the project. A community-wide poll will be conducted in March.

WASTE MANAGEMENT

Environmental Services February Stats

Customer Service Emails – 36

Roll Cart Requests – 46

Household Hazardous Wasted Customers – 88

Recycle Coach App Users – 5,223

Recycle Coach App Interactions – 14,151

Overlook Visitors – 82

Transfer Station Visitors – 1,431

Yard Trimming Participants – 5,419

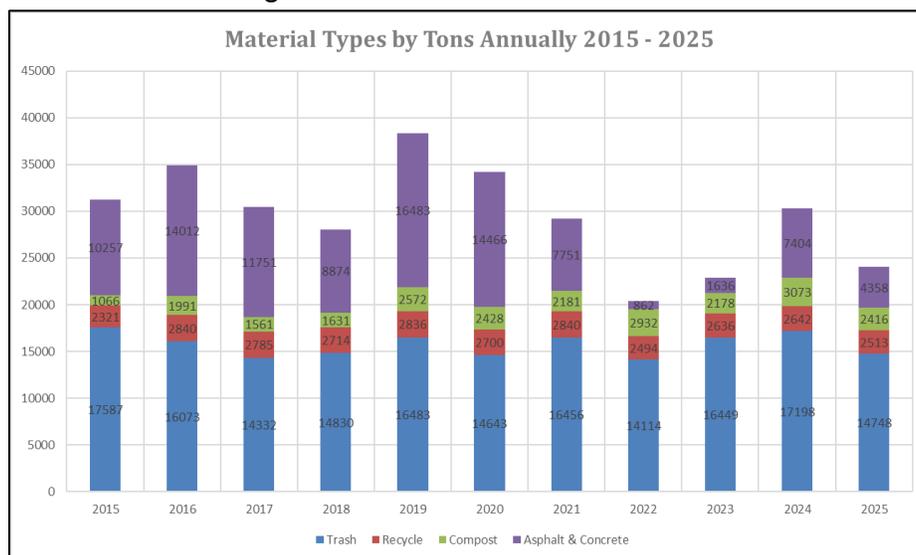
Social Media Followers – 1.3k

Update

Environmental Services submitted its Annual Report to the New Mexico Environment Department on February 14, 2026, in accordance with state reporting requirements. The report provides a comprehensive summary of operational data and material management outcomes for the 2025 calendar year. In 2025, the total volume of materials disposed of at the landfill decreased by 2,450 tons compared to the previous year. Additionally, volumes across other material streams—including recycling and brush—also declined from 2024 levels, reflecting overall shifts in material intake and disposal patterns during the reporting period.

Environmental Services' contractor, GM Emulsion, has been actively working to crush and process the existing concrete and asphalt stockpile. The material is being crushed and screened to create a reusable aggregate suitable for base course applications in construction and infrastructure projects. Once processing is complete, the finished product is available for purchase directly through GM Emulsion, supporting responsible material management and the beneficial reuse of previously stockpiled materials.

In response to the drier-than-average winter and increased fire danger, Environmental Services is offering an additional service to help residents reduce fire risk. This service includes the collection of large brush piles and bagged yard debris. The expanded service will be available through March 27, 2026.





Concrete Before



Concrete After

Residential Sustainability Report



Residential Sustainability Report

Service Period: January 2026

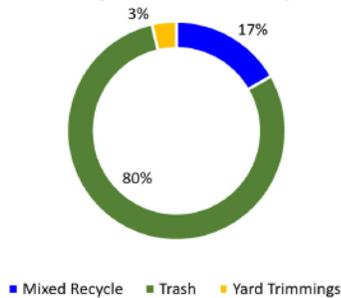
January Diversion Rate: 20%



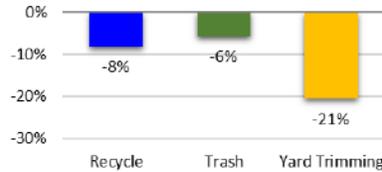
LOS ALAMOS

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

Monthly Collection Report

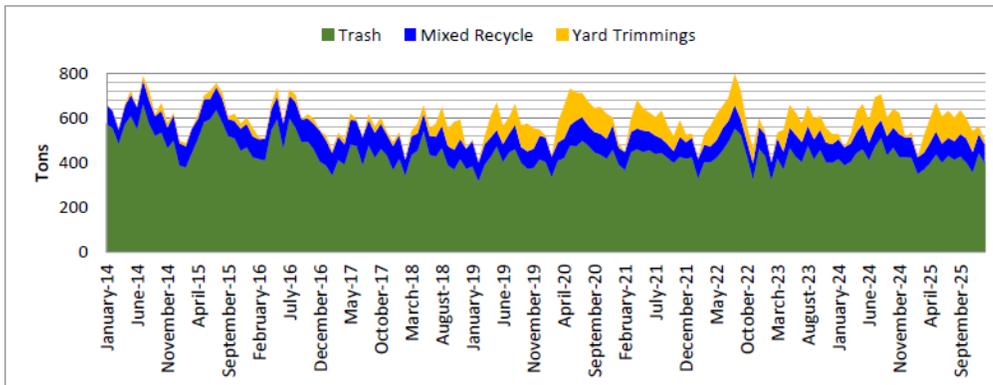


% Change Previous Year

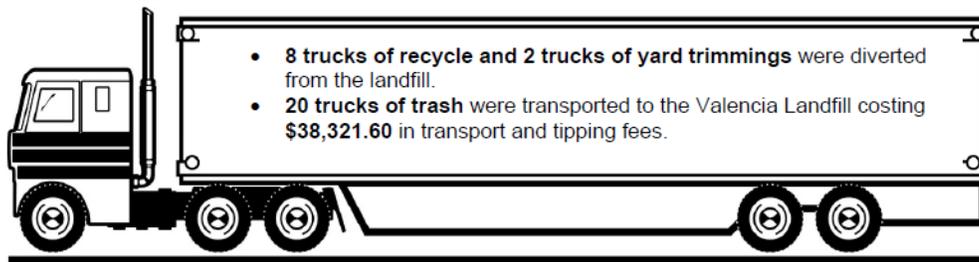


	Jan-25	Jan-26
Yard Trimming	22.69	18.03
Recycle	91.00	83.54
Trash	423.91	399.77

In January by recycling and composting Los Alamos County reduced GHG emissions by ~323 tons*



In 2026 by recycling and composting Los Alamos County reduced GHG emissions by ~323 tons*



- 8 trucks of recycle and 2 trucks of yard trimmings were diverted from the landfill.
- 20 trucks of trash were transported to the Valencia Landfill costing \$38,321.60 in transport and tipping fees.

For more information contact Environmental Services Division at 505.662.8163 or email solidwaste@lacnm.us

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

BUILDING FACILITIES

Capital Improvement Projects Updates – Engineering

Los Alamos County is working on a variety of projects that support quality of life, infrastructure, and economic development initiatives. A summary of the project and additional information can be found on the website– <https://lacnm.com/PW-Projects>.

Project Name	Dept(s)	Update
<p>NM-4 Crossing and Multi-Use Trail and Piñon Elementary School Trail Extension</p>	<p>PW</p>	<p>This project will create 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 Piñon Park area. The county received design and construction grant funding from NMDOT for this project. A separate grant was also received to extend the trail network through the Piñon Elementary School to Grand Canyon Drive The designs are being completed by Bohannon Huston and will be advertised for construction in Spring 2026 with construction continuing through 2027.</p>
<p>Trinity Drive Safety and ADA</p>	<p>PW</p>	<p>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. A resolution of support was made by Council in September 2024 approving a Hybrid Road Diet, one of the alternatives presented by the engineer Wilson and Co. The design has been finalized with construction anticipated to begin in 2026.</p>
<p>Finch Street</p>	<p>PW</p>	<p>This project design was completed by an on-call engineering firm. The project is anticipated to be advertised for bids in late 2025. Council approved an agreement with the Los Alamos Medical Center for the transfer of land for the construction of the Finch Street project in August 2023. Construction is anticipated to begin in 2026.</p>

Canyon Rim Trail Phase III	PW	The project design and right-of-way (ROW) acquisitions are underway from Knecht Street to 15 th Street. The design is being completed by an on-call engineering firm, Wilson and Co. The project is anticipated to be advertised for bids in Fall 2026 with construction occurring in late 2026/2027. Completion of the trail design from 15 th Street to 20 th Street is pending ROW acquisitions.
Denver Steels Phase II	PW	This project was awarded to TLC Plumbing and Utility (Spear D). The joint project with the Department of Public Utilities includes full road reconstruction along with utility upgrades. The project is anticipated to begin construction on the first week of February.
Fairway Dr. – Trinity Dr. to LANL Gate	PW	This project is a joint-utility project with DPU and is anticipated for construction in late 2026 through 2027. The design is being completed in-house and is underway.
Denver Steels Phase III	PW	This project is a joint-utility project with DPU and is anticipated for construction in late 2026 through 2027. The design is being completed in-house and is underway.

Capital Improvement Projects Updates - Facilities

A summary of the project and additional information can be found at the County website – <https://www.losalamosnm.us/Government/Departments-and-Divisions/Public-Works/Capital-Projects-Facilities-Division-Projects>.

Project Name	Dept	Update
Asset Management Software for Facilities	PW	Facilities are coordinating training for Department Liaisons on the work order requests portal.
Benchmarking Building Utility Consumption	PW	No activities to report in February
Justice Center Emergency Dispatch CRAC Unit	PD	Project team is preparing project budget and drafting staff report for Council consideration
Manhattan Project Era Dormitory Renovation	PW	100% construction documents anticipated by end of February. The Architect is working on an updated construction cost estimate.

Golf Course Site Improvements	PW, CSD	Project team conducted a course assessment to determine current course condition, review of items requiring warranty work, and possible timelines for warranty work.
Golf Course Clubhouse HVAC replacement	PW, CSD	Work is in progress to install new HVAC units inside and on the roof of the Pro-Shop. Contractor has completed the installation of the new HVAC units inside and on the roof of the Community Room.
Ice Rink Permanent Chiller Replacement	PW, CSD	The chiller replacement completed a successful ice-skating season. Project team is coordinating quarterly maintenance service with Mechanical Contractor. Order for spare compressor motor is in place.
Ice Rink Floor Replacement and Shade Structure	PW, CSD	Staff is preparing RFP for design –build services.
Fire Station 3 Snow Melt System Replacement	PW, FD	Project team developed an alternative snow melt configuration that is easier to operate and maintain. Engineer and Architect are preparing a proposal for the design changes.
Emergency Operations Center (EOC)	PW, PD, FD	Project Team is finalizing the floor plan configuration and starting the schematics for the mechanical, electrical, and plumbing systems.
Fire Station 4 Replacement	PW, FD	Invitation for Bid was advertised on February 10 and closes in mid-March. Contract award is anticipated in April 2026.
Aquatic Center Olympic Pool Restoration	PW, CSD	Contractor mobilization and construction begin on March 2,2026.
Betty Ehart Senior Center Renovation	PW, CSD	Project team is preparing Task Order for construction documents and construction administration services. Project team is discussing tentative project schedule.
Betty Ehart Senior Center HVAC Replacement	PW, CSD	50% Construction Documents anticipated by the end of February 2026
Mesa Public Library EV charging Stations	Sustainability, PW, DPU	Construction drawings are 90% complete. Project team and EV charger’s vendor are reviewing the drawings.

Aquatic Center Pool Replacement Pumps Design	PW, CSD	Procurement and project team are preparing an agreement for design and commissioning services of the replacement pumps and ancillary filtering system
County Facilities Interior and Exterior Lighting Upgrades	PW	Project team is drafting a scope of work to develop an implementation plan to upgrade interior and exterior lighting in County Facilities.
PCS Salt Bins Rust Correction	PW	Updates: Review of 90% drawings in progress.
PCS Bus Canopy Snowmelt System	PW	Project team is finalizing the construction drawings for future EV chargers and block heaters.
Electric Bus Charging Infrastructure	PW	Project team is conducting final review of electrical drawings and drafting an IFB for this project.
Brewer Arena Improvements	PW/ CSD	Council approved a Task Order with All-Rite Construction LLC to begin construction.
Social Services Action Center	PW/ CSD	Project team is reviewing proposals from A/E consultants for the planning and conceptual design phase of this project.
Airport T-Hangars	PW	Contractor is working on construction permits with CID and developing project schedule. Project team is monitoring closely project progress.
WR Visitor Center Food Truck Pads	PW/ CDD	Walk-through on February 24, 2026, with on call-contractor to discuss project scope and cost.
BESC Heritage Gate	PW/CSD	Gate fabrication will be completed by March 30. Task Order and PO in place for installation.
Ashley Pond Electrical Pedestals Phase II	PW/CSD	Task Order for the Installation of 4 (four) additional electrical panels under review
White Rock Complex EV Chargers	PW	Project team has initiated the design of an accessible replacement EV charging station for this location
Longview Dr. Development	PW	Abatement of asbestos containing materials from buildings 112, 124 and 126 on Long View Drive started on February 23, 2026.

Animal Shelter Dog Run	PD/ PW	Project team is working on a budgetary estimate for this project
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ROADS

Updates

Engineers for the Canyon Rim Trail Phase III project began biological assessments required by easements granted from the DOE/NNSA. These assessments will be completed later in the year and are the final step prior to advertising for construction. Evaluation is underway of proposals received for the 2026 pavement condition survey and new pavement asset management software. Once awarded, the pavement condition survey will begin later in the year.

Staff is working to schedule a contractor to begin installation of centerline rumble strips on NM 502 from Airport Road to just east of East Gate Drive. Once the work begins, it should be completed within about two weeks.

Connecting with the Public

The Denver Steels Phase II public outreach process consists of coordination with affected residents, businesses, and Los Alamos Public Schools. This coordination is critical to successful project execution while minimizing negative impacts. Upcoming project planning is underway for public outreach for the multiple projects being overseen by Public Works including construction of Trinity Drive Safety and ADA, NM-Crossing and Multi-Use Trail; and design of Denver Steels Phase III and Fairway Drive projects.

Looking Ahead

Staff continue to prepare multiple grant applications to help fund CIP and pavement preservation projects in FY27.

Preparation continues in preparing solicitation of bids for several key projects, including the Finch Street project, Trinity Drive Safety and ADA Improvements, and the NM-4 Multi-Use Trail and Crossing.

Design development continues for two Capital Improvements Projects for Denver Steels Phase III and Fairway Drive. These projects are joint-utility projects and are anticipated to be advertised for bids in late 2026 for 2026/2027 construction.

The Engineering Division continues to play an active role in reviewing developer applications, conducting inspections, and approving construction permits and design reviews. Recent reviews have covered a diverse range of projects, such as the Christus

Development, A-8-A near DP Road, 20th Street Development, the Guesthouse Hotel (old Hilltop House site), the Women's Dormitory Building, and the Hills Apartments/35th Street Realignment. Other reviews include the Century Bank, Sherwood Rounds off Longview Drive, Arbolada, and the redevelopment of the Motel 6 building.

NEW STAFF & PROMOTIONS



Deputy Chief Timothy Johnson

Deputy Chief Johnson brings a wealth of experience, leadership, and dedication to his new role. Throughout his career with the department, he has demonstrated a strong commitment to operational excellence, firefighter safety, and professional development. His progressive leadership assignments and service to the community have prepared him well to assume the responsibilities of Deputy Fire Chief.

In this role, Deputy Chief Johnson will continue to assist in overseeing department operations, strategic planning initiatives, personnel development, and emergency response coordination. He will work closely with Fire Chief Litzenberg and command staff to ensure the continued delivery of high-quality fire suppression, emergency medical services, fire prevention, and community risk reduction programs to the residents of Los Alamos County.

Deputy Chief Johnson has consistently exemplified the core values of integrity, service, and teamwork. His promotion reflects both his individual accomplishments and the confidence the department places in his ability to help guide the organization forward. The Los Alamos Fire Department congratulates Deputy Chief Johnson on this well-earned promotion and looks forward to his continued leadership and service to the community in his new capacity.



Estrella Martinez, Management Analyst

Please join us in welcoming Estrella Martinez to the Public Works team as our Management Analyst. We're excited to have Estrella's expertise and support in advancing our projects and initiatives.

Estrella has over a decade of experience in government and business operations, records management, budgeting, contracting, and grant and property management. She joined the County in 2025 and contributes her extensive institutional knowledge to the Public Works team.

Before joining Los Alamos County, she served as the Department Administrator for Santa Fe County's Community Development Department, where she helped oversee major initiatives in Economic Development, Film, Tourism, Affordable Housing, Sustainability, and the Housing Authority. As Administrative Manager for the Housing Authority, she managed multiple HUD programs, supporting compliance and housing development goals. Her public service career began in 2014 with the Santa Fe County Clerk's Office, where she gained experience in elections, records, probate, business and commission operations. Through these roles, she's built a strong foundation in policy, process improvement, and community-focused service.

ANNIVERSARIES

Congratulations to the following individuals on their service anniversaries with Los Alamos County:

10 years

Ying Meng
Anthony Cardena

15 years

Bernadette Martinez

RETIREMENT

The team would like to congratulate the following individuals on their retirement from the County:

Julie Williams-Hill, Communications and Public Relations
Yvette Atencio, Administrative Services



Eric Edmonds, Senior Application Analyst

Eric Edmonds has announced his retirement after 17 years of dedicated service to the County. He supported public safety dispatch systems and applications as a Senior Application Analyst and previously served as the County's Safety Specialist/Coordinator. Eric's last working day is March 10, and his final date on the books is July 31, 2026. He was honored with a Nambe plaque for his service at the IM Division meeting on March 5. Congratulations, Eric!

ACCOLADES

Congratulations to the following team members who earned Recognition coins this month:

Juanita Romero – CDD, Leadership

Your hard work directly demonstrates the County's values, and we congratulate you on striving to meet the mission and vision of the County. Thank you for your exceptional efforts and for being an inspiring part of our team.

Library

A patron saw the Crafts & Hobbies marketing, asked about it, and was delighted to be shown how to access it from our website.

Patrons were delighted with the "Leaders in Black History" display.

A WR program participant in the first Discover! program thanked staff for adding this series to the adult programming line-up. "Now, I don't always have to drive to Los Alamos".

Dear Aaron

I just wanted to thank you for replacing the mirror. All those who live on Circle Drive greatly appreciate it.

Wishing you a Happy New Year and a healthy 2026.

Best wishes,
Claire Swinhoe
HOA County Liaison

From: Neal-Clinton, Beverly <beverly.nealclinton@losalamosnm.gov>

Sent: Monday, March 2, 2026 5:49 PM

To: Padilla, Marisol <marisol.padilla@losalamosnm.gov>; Litzenberg, Erik <erik.litzenberg@losalamosnm.gov>; Johnson, Timothy <timothy.johnson@losalamosnm.gov>; Reagor, David <david.reagor@losalamosnm.gov>; Hand, Melanee <melanee.hand@losalamosnm.gov>

Cc: Vo, Kelley <kelley.vo@losalamosnm.gov>

Subject: Re: Confirmed Stations Tours w/ County Council

Erik,

I just would like to take the time and thank the entire staff at each of the locations for taking time out of their schedules to answer our questions.

I came away with a sense of pride and sincere appreciation for all of the work, the training, the knowledge and the depth and breath of how much work is involved to protect us here on the hill.

Thank you from the bottom of my heart, and please ensure that this information is relayed to each of the fire stations.

PS

I can't wait for October!