

General Information

All County Board and Commission members must be residents of Los Alamos County. Lodgers' Tax Advisory Board members, except the at-large community member, do not need to be residents if they are employed/represent an attraction or hotel.

Once a resident fills out and submits this application, an interview is scheduled with the B&C's County Council liaison, the relevant staff liaison, and the B&C Chair. After the interviews, the applicants' names are presented to the full Council during a regularly scheduled Council meeting, where a vote is taken regarding the appointment of each applicant. Each applicant will be notified if they are appointed or not.

Only on-line applications will be considered.

If you are interested in applying for Labor Relations Board, please contact Mary Tapia at 505-662-8040.

Profile

Board and Commission Application

Note: Please be aware that as a public entity, the County of Los Alamos, is obligated to furnish this information to the public if requested. Note also that current LANL employees, if appointed to a Board or Commission, may be required by LANL to complete a 701 form.

Which Boards would you like to apply for?

Planning and Zoning Commission: Appointed

Rachel _____ S _____ Adler _____
First Name Middle Initial Last Name

_____ Suite or Apt _____
Street Address

_____ NM _____
City State Postal Code

_____ Email Address

_____ Alternate Phone _____
Primary Phone

Registered to vote in Los Alamos?

Yes No

Party affiliation as registered: (Select one of the following) *

Democrat

How long have you lived in Los Alamos County?

16 years

How did you learn of this Board/Commission vacancy?

County staff

Do you currently serve on any County Board or Commission?

Yes No

If yes, which one? (Los Alamos County law prohibits residents from serving concurrently on more than one County board except as expressly approved in writing by the County Council before the appointment is made.)

Community Service

List boards, commissions, committees, and organizations on which you are currently serving or have served. Include any offices held.

I served two terms on the Planning and Zoning commission. I have also served in various capacities on the board of directors for the Los Alamos Jewish Center and Los Alamos Derby, including President, Treasurer, Secretary and member at large.

Employment and Education

List your current and past employment experience.

I have been employed as an Architectural Conservator with the National Park Service for the past 9 years. Prior to that I was a Senior Archivist and then the Bureau Chief at the New Mexico State Archives. From 2010-2014 I was an Exhibit Specialist at Bandelier National Monument.

List your current and past education including any professional or vocational licenses or certificates.

I hold a B.A. in Archaeology from Wesleyan University and an M.S. in Historic Preservation from the University of Pennsylvania. I also have a certificate in GIS from Penn State.

Interests & Experiences

Why would you like to serve on this particular Board or Commission?

I am passionate about historic preservation and believe it plays a key role in maintaining a sense of place, which in turn can strengthen a community and give its residents a common goal to work towards. I have made a career out of preservation and would love to apply my knowledge and expertise to the community I live in.

What would you like to accomplish during your tenure on this Board or Commission? (Please identify any special interests you have that led you to become interested in serving on this Board or Commission.)

Preservation can be used in effective ways to support economic development and community pride. It can also be used as an excuse to limit change and prevent beneficial investment in the community. As a board member I hope to help the county find some balance between maintaining our town's historic character and national significance and creating a place that is attractive to live and work for new residents and especially for potential small business owners.

Have you had any direct or indirect involvement with this Board or Commission or with the County staff supporting this Board or Commission or County Councilors? If so, please explain.

I communicated regularly with members of council during my time on the planning and zoning commission, including during meetings and Chapter 16 work sessions.

What volunteer or professional activities have you participated in that could apply to this appointment?

As a historic preservation professional with the National Park Service, I have seen first hand how important a sense of place is to a community's success and growth. However, relying too heavily on an area's history can also be detrimental, causing stagnation and discouraging healthy development. My work with historic places has given me knowledge about how to leverage a unique history to build economic and community development while maintaining a forward-looking trajectory. I have graduate school coursework in city and community planning as well as volunteer hours with Main Street organizations in other states.

The time involved may be 10-15 hours per month or more. Are you able to serve the volunteer hours and attend training needed to perform your duties as an appointee?

Yes

Are there any issue or matters, financial or otherwise, that you are now or might become involved in that may come before the Board or Commission for which you seek appointment?

No

General

Have you ever worked for Los Alamos County?

Yes No

If yes, please list dates and department.

Are you related to any employee of Los Alamos County?

Yes No

If yes, please indicate name and relationship.

Are you aware of any potential conflicts of interest in connection to your occupation or financial holdings in relation to your responsibilities as a member of the advisory body to which you seek appointment?

Yes No

If yes, please indicate any potential conflicts.

Are you aware of the time commitment necessary to fulfill the obligations of the Board or Commission to which you seek appointment?

Yes No

Can you commit to approximately 10-15 hours per month to this Board or Commission to prepare for and attend monthly meetings and training as needed?

Yes No

Are you willing to participate in Board and Commission meetings that are recorded and may be live-streamed?

Yes No

Are you willing to have your name listed on the County Boards and Commissions public webpage?

Yes No

If you have any questions, please contact Adrienne Lovato at 505-662-8293

County Manager's Office BOARD & COMMISSION INTERVIEW QUESTIONS

Rachel Adler
Applicant's Name

HPAB
Board or Commission

Theresa Cull
Interviewer Name

4/16/26 12:30
Date/Time of Interview

Interview Conducted:
 Personally
 Telephone
 Remote/Zoom

NOTE TO INTERVIEW PANEL: Please remember to use this interview as an opportunity to share Council's directives and guidance for B&C's.

#	Question/Documented Response
1	<p>Please tell us a little about yourself, especially your experience and background related to this board (HPAB).</p> <p>Bkgd in Archaeology (BS) - MS in Historic Preservation. 2 summers as intern at Mesa Verde. Moved to NM - to work at Bandelier (4 yrs). Worked for State Archives for 2 yrs. Still working as Material Scientist for State; unique problem-solving. Historic properties requires collaboration; being a voice.</p>
2	<p>Why would you like to serve on this board?</p> <p>Historic preservation is important to me. Love my job - bring expertise to Los Alamos. Conflicting viewpoints/emotion re: historic properties. Personal connection - grandfather stationed here in 1945 as technician. Important to me to be civically engaged; was member of P&Z previously.</p>
3	<p>What do you believe are the major issues facing this board?</p> <p>Communication & collaboration of Nat. Historical Park & LANL. Do what's best for community; handle disagreements; different perspectives. Keeping things as is vs. don't keep - make necessary changes/meet in middle based on what community desires/connection.</p>
4	<p>What criteria or factors would guide your determination of what is historically significant versus what could be altered?</p> <p>Follow Sec. of Interior's standards for conservation. Restoration may not be best solution. Use as std to decide what can't be altered; what's historically significant.</p>
5	<p>What other community and/or civic activities have you been involved in?</p> <p>P&Z Commissioner (Chair for 2 yrs). Involved in LA Jewish Center (was</p>

president.

6 What do you feel you could contribute to this board?

My bkgd in historic preservation; experience of various materials; government employee (Park, community staff interactions). Knowledge of the field. Care about Los Alamos Community (have been there for 16 yrs) - lots of potential to take advantage of history.

7 Do you have any other questions for the interview panel?

How often Board meets? (1st Wed 5:30), starting May 5 (first mtg May 6).

Issues recently discussed? Homestead signs, rose garden fence, Camp Master Plan, ways to participate in community, outreach at Farmer's Mkt, etc.

Notes:

LOS ALAMOS

County Manager's Office BOARD & COMMISSION INTERVIEW QUESTIONS

Rachel Adler
Applicant's Name

HPAB
Board or Commission

Patrick Cruz
Interviewer Name

4/16/2026
Date/Time of Interview

Interview Conducted:
 Personally
 Telephone
 Remote/Zoom

NOTE TO INTERVIEW PANEL: Please remember to use this interview as an opportunity to share Council's directives and guidance for B&C's.

#	Question/Documented Response
1	<p>Please tell us a little about yourself, especially your experience and background related to this board.</p> <p>Archaeology, MS - HP W Penn - NPS, State Archives</p>
2	<p>Why would you like to serve on this board?</p> <p>HP is important - it's her career. bring expertise to where she lives. LA's history - importance of community</p> <p>Her grandfather worked there in '45</p>
3	<p>What do you believe are the major issues facing this board?</p> <p>Communication - working with MPR & LANL - coordination conflicting interests. Value of resources</p>
4	<p>What criteria or factors would guide your determination of what is historically significant could be altered?</p> <p>Sec't of Interior Standards, as standards apply to LA</p>

5	<p>What other community and/or civic activities have you been involved in?</p> <p>Planning & zoning commissions 2yr. LA Jewish center - Pres. Roller Derby Team.</p>
6	<p>What do you feel you could contribute to this board?</p> <p>Strong Background, specialist Science of HP working with Stakeholders Cares for LA, member of community for 16 yrs.</p>
7	<p>Do you have any other questions for the interview panel?</p> <p>when does board meet? May 5 May 6th Homestead signs, rose garden Historic master plan</p>

Notes:



**County Manager's Office
BOARD & COMMISSION INTERVIEW QUESTIONS**

Rachel Adler

Historic Preservation Advisory Board

Applicant's Name

Board or Commission

Danyelle Valdez

4/16/26 12:30pm

Interview Conducted:

Interviewer Name

Date/Time of Interview

Personally

Telephone

X
Remote/Zoom

NOTE TO INTERVIEW PANEL: Please remember to use this interview as an opportunity to share Council's directives and guidance for B&C's.

#	Question/Documented Response
1	<p>Please tell us a little about yourself, especially your experience and background related to this board.</p> <p>BA in Archeology; MS in science of Historic Conservation at U Penn. Professional background is in historic preservation, with specialization in materials science and conservation of historic structures, including adobe and masonry systems.</p> <p>Work for the National Park Service, in the Vanishing Treasures Program, focusing on conservation and documentation of historic and archaeological resources.</p>
2	<p>Why would you like to serve on this board?</p> <p>HP is important to Rachel; career, studying it, loves historic preservation and wants to bring the experience to the place that she lives. Driven by professional alignment, as historic preservation is their established career field and area of expertise. They express a clear intent to apply this knowledge at the local level in Los Alamos, particularly in navigating preservation decisions that involve competing viewpoints.</p> <p>Motivation reinforced by a strong personal connection to the community, including long-term residency and grandfather tied to the Manhattan Project.</p>
3	<p>What do you believe are the major issues facing this board?</p>

Several key challenges facing the board, including the need for effective coordination among Los Alamos County, the National Park Service, and Los Alamos National Laboratory, and the complexity of shared responsibility without unified ownership. Difficulty of navigating decisions involving multiple stakeholders with differing priorities and the importance of managing conflict constructively. Ongoing tension in preservation philosophy between strict preservation and more flexible approaches, advocating for a balanced strategy that maintains historical integrity while allowing necessary modifications.

Importance of community engagement, noting that public connection to historic resources is critical to successful preservation efforts.

4 What criteria or factors would guide your determination of what is historically significant versus what could be altered?

Determinations of historical significance and appropriate alterations should be guided by the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties. A preference for stabilization over full restoration unless supported by sufficient documentation and noted the importance of using established preservation standards to distinguish between contributing and non-contributing elements.

Funding sources and regulatory context may influence decision-making but established professional standards should serve as the primary framework for evaluating what should be preserved versus what may be altered.

5 What other community and/or civic activities have you been involved in?

Planning and Zoning Commission, Chair of Commission (2 years). Involved in Los Alamos Jewish Center (president). Member of Roller Derby team.

6 What do you feel you could contribute to this board?

Strong technical expertise in historic preservation. Experience working with a range of historic materials and addressing complex preservation challenges. Experience in public sector processes, including stakeholder coordination, community engagement, and navigating public input and decision-making. Ability to approach decisions objectively, manage conflict without taking matters personally, and balance competing interests. A strong commitment to the Los Alamos community and an interest in

	leveraging historic resources to support community identity and potential economic benefits, such as tourism.
7	<p>Do you have any other questions for the interview panel?</p> <p>The applicant asked for clarification on the board's meeting schedule and time commitment, confirming that meetings occur monthly. They also requested examples of recent discussion topics and ongoing projects to better understand the board's current priorities and areas of focus.</p>

Notes: