

ITS Report by KokHeong McNaughton (from February 5th to February 26th Meeting)

- 2/11/25 LASA meeting on Zoom.
 - LASA proposes to showcase individuals or groups, featuring the work they do as “Sustainability Heroes” in future issues of their monthly newsletter distributed electronically. They ask the community for nomination. Here’s the link to the nominating page on the DPU website:
<https://www.cognitofirms.com/LosAlamosCountyDPU/SustainabilityHero> .
Assigned members to contact local groups for stories – Eco Club, Bee City, PEEC, Civic organizations, churches, and county staff.
 - Planning an Anniversary celebration at the March 4th Meeting (11 to 12:30 pm). Will provide food, and invite community to attend. Possibly held at PEEC.
 - Seed Library’s next program is “Small Spaces Gardening” panel discussion on Saturday, February 15th 11-12:30 pm MPL Upper Rotunda. This program addresses people who live in apartments/condos and wish to grow food or flowers in pots, grow bags, window boxes, and other containers. Covers Indoors/Outdoors plants, vertical gardening, aquaponic, as well as DIY self-watering set-ups.
 - Seed Library also will be celebrating 2nd Anniversary on March 1st at MPL from 1-3 PM. The public is invited. The WR Branch will hold a smaller celebration with Seed-related activities and cupcakes for the children’s program the Wednesday before. All are invited to both.

- 2/13/25 Parks and Rec Board Meeting. They elected a new chair: Brian Watkins. Jerry Cowan Vice-chair. Cory Styron gave an update of the County’s CIP (Capital Improvement Projects) for all of the different parks and outdoor facilities. They are making progress with making these facilities more accessible following ADA audit. Wendy Parker gave an update on the outdoor classroom between the library and Senior Center, with public input to go out soon. Katherine Hudspeth gave a progress report on the shade structure for the Ice Rink. All these projects can be followed on the County’s Website. One accessibility recommendation I can offer is being mindful of using acronyms that many people are not familiar with. At least spell them out the first time they are used.

- 2/19/25 Accessibility Working Group start up. Karen Edwards and I talked over the phone. We brainstormed a list of people and organizations we will be reaching out to in the next few weeks to ask them to consider joining the Accessibility Working Group, which includes Canes and Canine (vision-impaired), Senior Center (senior concerns), Library (accessibility within the Library, including multi-lingual books, web content

navigation, and a talking computer), All Individuals First (various neuro-divergent disabilities), Churches, friends, Open Space (trail accessibility), and Schools. We'll design a poster and make use of social media, email lists, and other venues of advertising to reach out to more people who are interested in working on accessibility issues. We also listed several on-going projects and initiatives that are currently happening in our county: e.g., Safe Route to School Initiative, pedestrian crossing on State Road 4 near Visitor's Center, Urban Trail Multi-use Project's ribbon cutting on Wednesday, February 26th from 2-3:30 PM, and a local mother-daughter's effort to purchase a wheelchair-accessible portable kitchen for a food truck to train and employ wheel-chair users.

- 2/20/25 LGBTQ+ Working Group. I sent out the three questions we came up with to be distributed to Loving Trans Family Together for their next meeting on Monday, February 24. Tara Adams will gather the responses for us.
- 2/20/25 Senior Center Board meeting. I recruited Katie Fry, Board Chair, to join the Accessibility Working Group. The Board will also reach out to Senior Center members to see if anyone else is interested. They have grant money to hire a driver to drive seniors to medical appointments off the hill for the next three months, using their own vehicle. They are in need of more volunteers to serve lunch. Volunteers will get a free lunch. There were some discussions about renovation projects at both Senior Center locations.
- 2/20/25 I contacted Library Director Gwen Kalavaza for her recommendation of a library staff to join the Accessibility Working Group. She recommended Norma Covington who has taken the lead in the library on accessibility issues and is very knowledgeable. We are awaiting confirmation and acceptance from Norma.
- 2/20/25 ESB Meeting. There was a presentation on effective communication and marketing strategies by Anne Marie Cleary Ranker of ICLEI (International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives), which is a network of local and regional governments that work together to create more sustainable communities. The presentation was interesting and informative, with an interactive survey. The Board continues its work on establishing working groups. I gave a brief report on what we are working on, and invited them to attend our next meeting, as well as to participate in the Urban Trail ribbon cutting ceremony and walk afterwards.

LGBTQ+ Work Plan Report by Xeph Ivankovich

Below is the LGBTQ+ WG plan!

Plan:

Mostly LGBTQ+ adults with a few allies working on identifying inclusivity needs in Los Alamos. Will be working with the Los Alamos Pride Board to survey, communicate with, and identify inclusivity needs in LA. Will likely work with parents of LGBTQ+ kids to address inclusivity needs for trans and queer youth. May work with trans and queer teens as well.

Communications may be in a few forms such as: Google polls, google groups, discord(maybe?) and signal.

Thanks!!

Xeph