

JANUARY 2026



Nuclear Hockey Tournament 2026



Outdoor Recreation/Tourism Day at the Roundhouse

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

January kicked off with Council selecting Randall Ryti as the new chair and Ryn Herrmann as the vice-chair of the County Council. The State of NM Legislative session kicked off January 20th and Governor Lujan Grisham has signed several bills including a \$1.5 billion road construction bond package (SB 2), interstate compacts for medical and social work licensure (SB 1, HB 50) and the Immigrant Safety Act (HB 9).

Council held three meetings in January; and their meetings had many important discussions and actions taken including:

- Heard presentation on the State of the County report from 2025 Council Chair Theresa Cull.
- Made appointments for the Parks and Recreation Board, Planning and Zoning Commission, Environmental Sustainability Board, and Los Alamos Health Council.
- Passed annual resolution establishing standards for the Open Meeting Act.
- Adjusted salaries of the Assessors, Probate Judge, Municipal Court Judge, and Councilors by ordinance to be effective upon newly elected officials taking seat.
- Approved a Local Economic Development Act (LEDA) participation agreement for UbiQD – an \$800K zero interest 10-year loan for the purchase of a new building for R&D expansion.
- Approved resolution for the sale of bonds (\$04M) for the community broadband project.
- Heard presentation from the Regional Development Corporation.
- Heard presentation on the North Mesa Recreation Master Plan.
- Decided not to create a separate Metropolitan Redevelopment Area Commission and maintain County Council and the governing body having authority.
- Discussed indicators for a community dashboard relaunch in March.
- Approved annual amendments for long term disability and life insurance benefit providers.
- Approved grant agreement with State of NM Aging and Log-Tern Services Department for HVAC system and other improvements at the Betty Ehart Senior Center.
- Approval of resolution for grant application for the Local DWI Grant and Distribution program.
- Acceptance of the North Mesa Recreation Master Plan.
- Approval of a High-Intensity activation crosswalk (HAWK) signal on NM4 adjacent to the Mirador residential subdivision.
- Heard presentation and accepted the FY2025 Annual Comprehensive Financial report and Single Audit report.

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 January activities as county manager coordinating and supporting partners and residents included:

- Completed recruitment of new Public Information Officer Dave Krueger.
- January 7 - Participated in the Quarterly Hexavalent Chromium Plume Workshop with representatives from DOE-EM-LA, NMED, NM Office of the State Engineer, Pueblo de San Ildefonso, BIA, Chair Randall Rytí, Utilities Manager Philo Shelton, and Deputy Utilities Manager for Engineering James Alarid. Topics of discussion included the coordination, communication, processes and approvals between DOE-EM-LA and the various state offices; and how adaptive process can be applied to restart the interim measure that is currently stopped due to hexavalent chromium on pueblo lands revealed as part of constructing a new monitoring well.
- January 7 – Hosted a community meet and greet for new Fire Chief Erk Litzenberg at Fuler Lodge.
- January 9 – Met with the Pueblo de San Ildefonso council leadership with Chair Randall Rytí and Vice Chair Ryn Herrmann to discuss shared concerns about the migration of the Hexavalent Chromium Plume onto tribal lands.
- January 12 – Attended the LACDC board meeting to share economic development related updates and answer board questions.
- January 15 – Attended a LAPS, UNM-LA, LAC joint leadership monthly meeting where the upcoming joint LAPS/LAC meeting to discuss North Mesa housing infrastructure and consideration of next steps for the housing project.
- January 16 – Attended the annual legislative dinner hosted by our state lobbyist. LAC state senators and representatives along with LAPS leadership and the state and regional working group of Councilors attended (Chair Randall Rytí, Vice Chair Ryn Herrmann and Councilor Melanee Hand).
- January 20 through 22 - Attended session at the NM Counties Legislative Conference including the NM CIA insurance pool annual member meeting with Chair Randall Rytí, Manager's Affiliate sessions and a luncheon where the County's finance team were awarded the NMC and OSA Continued Excellence in outstanding audit performance award for the eighth time.
- January 23 – Virtually attended NM Counties annual lobbyist breakfast to mark the start of the legislative session and discuss topics of priority.

January concluded with meetings with the various departments reviewing their operating budget requests. It is good to get an early start to the budget development process, and I offer my sincere 'thank you' to all the staff involved in organizing and preparing so well.

Warm regards,



Anne Laurent
County Manager

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COMMUNICATION AND ENGAGEMENT

General County

Los Alamos County social media channels recorded a decrease in engagement from 1.6% in December to 0.8% in January.

The post with the highest engagement was on the Los Alamos Fire Department Facebook post recognizing Division Chief James Thwaits for receiving a certificate of appreciation for 20 years of service.

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: 54% of 2,343 subscribers
- Economic Development – No edition issued in January
- Sustainability: 72% of 125 subscribers
- Library – Off the Shelf: No edition issued in January.

Record Management

Records requested: 129

Carryovers from previous month: 12

Records pulled for review: 1842

Boxes intake for storage: 24

Internal requests: 4

Records provided: 15

Permit requests: 12

Clerk's Office

Records & Filings: 253

eRecordings: 88

Marriage Licenses: 7

Probate Cases: 4

Council County / Board Meetings: 3

Total Registered Voters: 16,385

Voter Record Transactions: 2,796

Social Media Posts: 3

Facebook Followers: 653

Instagram Followers: 386

Threads Followers: 77

Customer Visits: 65

Community Development Department

@LosAlamosCountyCommunityDevelopmentDepartment

215 Reached this month

18 Content interactions this month

Community Services Department

New Social Media Followers: 46

E-Activity Guide Reads:

Winter e-reads: 161

Alcohol Permits: 3

Environmental Services

Social Media Followers: 1.3k

Fire Department

Social Media Followers: 17 IG, 45 FB

Social Media Report

Los Alamos County, NM | February 1st, 2026

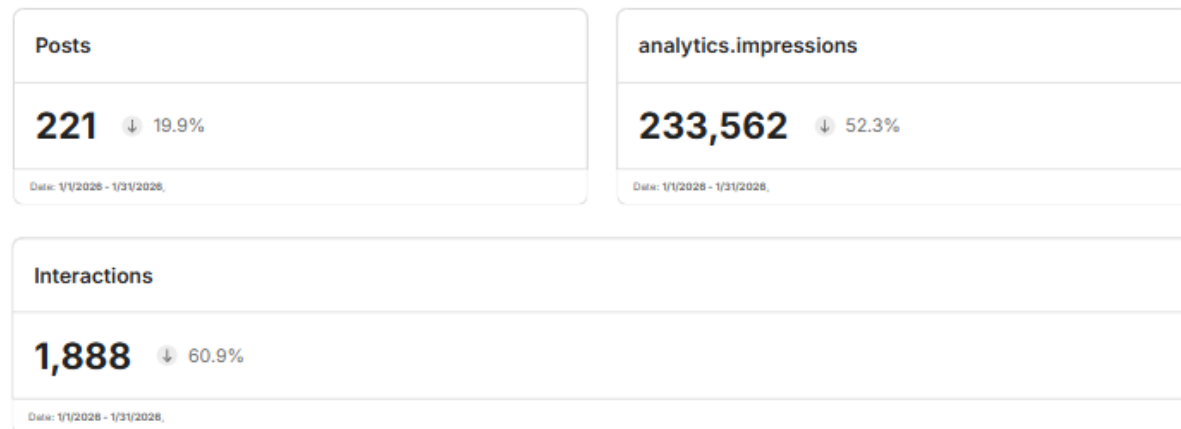
Social Media Performance Report



Top metrics in the selected accounts

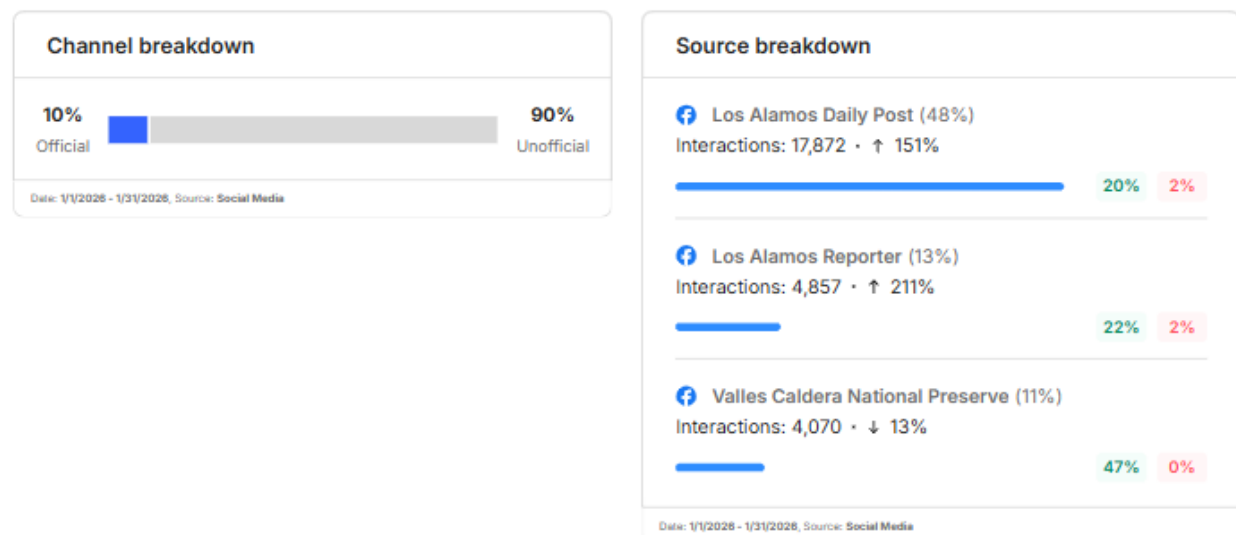
The number of posts, impressions and interactions during the report period, along with the conversion rate from impressions to interactions.

Impression simply means the content appeared on a user's screen, even if only for a moment. There is no minimum requirement for an impression to be counted. If the post loads in someone's feed, even if they scroll past it instantly, it counts as an impression



Where the conversation is happening


Most popular channels and sources



Leading posts from official County social media accounts

The top performing posts during the report period.

Impressions: 30,637 | Interactions: 124 88% 0%


 **Visit Los Alamos**
Jan 2, 2026 Post

Float, relax, and make a splash at an adults-only movie night in the Leisure Lagoon! Watch The Fifth Element while floating in the pool and enjoy treats included with your admission. It's a fun, one-of-a-kind way to spend a Friday night. 🌊

Join us Friday, January 9, 2026, from 7 to 9 p.m. at the Aquatic Center. Space is limited to 60 participants. Cost is \$5 per perso...

👍👍👍 98 ➦ 11 💬 10


Impressions: 11,379 | Interactions: 157 94% 0%

 **Los Alamos County Fire Department**
Jan 20, 2026 Post

Chiefs Meeting this morning started with a recognition. Division Chief James Thwaits received a certificate of appreciation for 20 years of service with Los Alamos County, and Los Alamos Fire Department! Congratulations Chief Thwaits!

👍👍👍 133 ➦ 2 💬 21

Impressions: 8,331 | Interactions: 34 56% 0%

 **Los Alamos County**
Jan 9, 2026 Post

The County Manager has ordered a 10 A.M. START TIME for FRIDAY, JANUARY 9th for all non-essential Los Alamos County government services and facilities.


Atomic City Transit: All services (fixed routes, ACT assist & ACT MyRide) will begin at approximately 7 a.m. For specific route...

👍 21 ➦ 11

Leading posts from unofficial social media accounts

The top performing posts during the report period.


Interactions: 3,969 8% 3%

 **Los Alamos Daily Post**
Jan 11, 2026 Post

Scenes Of Peaceful Protest Organized Primarily With The Message To 'Keep ICE Out' Of Los Alamos
<https://ladailypost.com/scenes-of-peaceful-protest-organized-primarily-with-the-message-to-keep-ice-out-of-los-alamos/>


👍👍👍 1144 ➦ 31 💬 568

Interactions: 2,306 0% 0%

 **Los Alamos Daily Post**
Jan 30, 2026 Post


Scenes From ICE Protest By Students At Ashley Pond Park

👍👍👍 804 ➦ 18 💬 205



Scenes From ICE Protest By Students At Ashley Pond Park

Interactions: 1,385 12% 2%

 **Los Alamos Reporter**
Jan 27, 2026 Post

More Than 125 People Participate In Sunday's Anti-ICE Protest In Los Alamos

Scene from Sunday's Anti-ICE protest in Los Alamos that was attended by more han 125 people. Courtesy photo Scene from January 25 anti-ICE protest on Trinity Drive in Los Alamos. Courtesy...

👍👍👍 686 ➦ 16 💬 196

More Than 125 People Participate In Sunday's...

INTERGOVERNMENTAL, TRIBAL, AND REGIONAL RELATIONS

State

Chair Ryti, Anne Laurent, and Danielle Duran attended a meeting with NM Environment Department Secretary Kenney and staff to discuss cleanup priorities and maintaining a strong disposal schedule to WIPP.

The state legislative session started on January 20, 2026. Along with financial issues, the Governor put out a call for public safety, health care access, among other policies to be considered. Many of the issues LAC has supported for years are being supported.

Federal

The IA Manager identified the Water Development Resource Act (annual) legislation as a possible pathway to support the plan, design, and eventual development of a new water well. With DPU, the paperwork was submitted to Senator Lujan's office for consideration.

LAC Federal Lobbyists continue to push for the FEMA grant for the Jemez Mountain Fire Protection Project. Only one state has had any FEMA grants authorized within this past year.

Tribal and Regional

County Management and Council Chair continued to meet with the Pueblo de San Ildefonso regarding the hexavalent chromium plume.

FISCAL STEWARDSHIP

Administrative Services Department (ASD) Overview

The ASD Director participated in the annual New Mexico Counties (NMC) Legislative Conference and participated in the Finance & Purchasing and Treasurer Affiliate meetings. Some takeaways were presentations by the newly established NM State Dept. Of Finance & Administration's Infrastructure Planning and Development Division (IPDD), which outlined state support for capital planning, ICIP (Infrastructure Capital Improvement Program) system implementation, federal grant navigation, and expanded funding tools for local governments, particularly rural communities. The New Mexico Office of the State Auditor's (OSA) update highlighted key audit compliance requirements, implementation of the Public Finance Accountability Act (HB 493), federal single audit guidance delays, common county audit findings, and best practices to strengthen financial accountability and reporting timeliness.

Budget: Budget Meetings with Departments and the CMO began the last week of January. Department have been working hard on preparing and working with the budget team to prepare for these meeting. The Popular Annual Financial report was submitted to GFOA for award for FY2025. Kudos to Tara and Rachel in CMO for

working hard to reformat and make the report look clean and updated to match the standards of Los Alamos County.

Finance: County Council accepted the FY2025 ACFR and Single Audit reports during the January 27, 2026 Council meeting. These reports are separate for FY2025 due to the government shut down which affected the timing of the reporting for federal grants in the Single Audit. The reports can be found on the County website:

<https://www.losalamosnm.us/Government/Staff-Directory-and-Departments/Administrative-Services/Finance-and-Budget/Reports-and-Budgets>

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:

1059 Purchase Orders Issued
352 PO Change Orders
2111 Inventory Pick Tickets
63 Agreements Completed
27 Amendments Completed
75 Solicitations/Amendments in Progress

Trends:

Purchase Orders increased from 932 (FY25) to 1059 (FY26)
PO Change Orders decreased from 399 to 352
Inventory Pick Tickets Processed & Delivered increased from 2048 to 2111
Agreements Completed increased from 52 to 63
Amendments Completed decreased from 21 to 27
Solicitations/Agreements/Amendments in Progress increased from 84 to 75
Anticipated Projects decreased from 44 to 37
Property Disposal Requests Received increased from 15 to 29

January 2026				January 2025	
Accounts Receivable	Number of Transactions	Dollar Amount	Variance Over Prior Year Increase (Decrease)	Number of Transactions	Dollar Amount
Gross Receipts Tax Received	4	\$ 5,869,700.78	1%	4	\$ 5,819,834.31
Electronic Payments Received (EPAY)	34	\$ 3,656,981.87	-39%	43	\$ 5,995,966.82
Property Tax Received	227	\$ 183,900.67	-38%	139	\$ 294,766.59
Lodgers Tax Received	6	\$ 30,696.66	1%	4	\$ 30,304.85
Accounts Payable					
Number of Invoices Paid	586	\$ 22,250,060.96	15%	766	\$ 19,348,528.79
Wire Payments Processed	21	\$ 6,027,024.52	-21%	31	\$ 7,584,409.06
Electronic Fund Transfers (EFT) Processed	156	\$ 8,765,436.08	86%	113	\$ 4,716,288.47
Normal Print Checks Processed	291	\$ 7,457,600.36	6%	397	\$ 7,047,831.26
Total Disbursements	468	\$ 22,250,060.96	15%	541	\$ 19,348,528.79
P-Card Transactions	1,120	\$ 415,363.50	-8%	1,275	\$ 453,167.09

EFFECTIVE, EFFICIENT, AND RELIABLE SERVICES

CLERK

Update

A primary area of focus for the Clerk's Office this year is tied to the implementation of New Mexico's new semi-open primary system. In response, the Clerk's Office is proactively developing a public information campaign designed to clearly explain the changes, outline voter options, and provide guidance on important deadlines and requirements. Early planning allows the office to create clear, consistent messaging and coordinate outreach efforts across multiple platforms to reach as many voters as possible.

To support this work, the Clerk's Office has participated in a variety of County Clerk affiliate meetings, both in person and online. These meetings provide opportunities to discuss proposed legislation, share best practices, and exchange information with clerks from across the state on emerging issues affecting elections, records management, and public service. Participation in these forums helps ensure the Clerk's Office remains informed, prepared, and aligned with statewide efforts.

The Clerk's Office is closely monitoring the 2026 legislative session to stay informed about proposed bills that may affect elections, public records, and access to County services. Legislative changes at the state level often have direct impacts on how local governments operate, requiring updates to procedures, technology, staffing, and voter education. By following the session in real time, the Clerk's Office can anticipate potential changes and begin planning well before new laws take effect.

Staying engaged throughout the legislative process and connected with professional clerk networks enables the Clerk's Office to assess operational impacts, coordinate with state partners, and ensure compliance with new mandates. This proactive approach helps reduce confusion, supports a smooth transition to updated election procedures, and reinforces public trust as changes to election law are implemented ahead of the 2026 election cycle.

Connecting with the Public

Beginning in 2026, New Mexico's primary elections will operate under a semi-open system, marking a significant change in how primary elections are conducted in the state. Under this new system, voters who are registered as "decline to state" or independent will have the option to participate in a major political party's primary election. However, voters who are registered with a political party will continue to vote in their own party's primary.

Semi-open primaries are designed to broaden participation by allowing more voters to take part in the candidate selection process. Primary elections often play a critical role in determining which candidates appear on the general election ballot. By expanding access to primary elections, the semi-open system gives independent voters a voice while preserving party affiliation choices for registered party members.

As this change approaches, the Clerk's Office is committed to ensuring voters understand how the semi-open primary system works and what it means for them. The office will provide clear, timely information about voter options, important deadlines, and any actions voters may wish to take before the primary election. Through ongoing public outreach and education efforts, the Clerk's Office aims to support informed participation and help ensure a smooth and successful transition to the new primary system.

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

February 3, 2026	County Council Meeting
February 6, 2026	Clerk's Office Closed from 10AM-12PM for Staff Meeting
February 10, 2026	Council Work Session
February 16, 2026	County Offices Closed in Observance of President's Day
February 17, 2026	County Council Meeting

HUMAN RESOURCES

Updates

Human Resources is currently recruiting for Deputy HR Manager and a Senior Office Specialist.

Casey Salazar joined HR on January 5, 2026, as our HR Analyst 2 within our Training area.

HR is preparing for the upcoming FY27 Budget hearings.

The Personnel Board has two members whose terms will end on March 31st. The team is currently recruiting for two new Board members to fill these upcoming vacancies.

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

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

Updated longevity rates during the first full pay period of January. Rates are calculated based on years of service as of January 1, 2026.

Processed year- end accrual rollovers during the first full pay period of January.

Assisted the Payroll team with mandatory OBBBA overtime system updates/changes.

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.

The Benefits team is beginning the solicitation process for RFP for dental, vision, and long-term disability insurance providers, as well as benefit consulting services.

Labor Relations is preparing for upcoming negotiations with the United Association of Plumbers and Pipefitters Local Union No. 412 whose contract expires on June 30, 2026.

Training Stats:

The team has launched a new Customer Service training initiative. This is a County wide training initiative that will improve employee customer service skills and allow us to better serve the community. Employees can register at LAC University.

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

County employees are currently 90% compliant with required training, with 10% of assignments currently overdue.

PLANNING

January Stats

Planning staff reviewed and acted on the following:

13 New Business License Reviews

16 Permit Reviews

5 Planning Inspections

4 Development Applications

Updates

The Planning Division remains on track with all work program goals, with an active focus on project coordination and community engagement to support the 2026 Comprehensive Plan Update and the Historic Master Plan. The Comprehensive Plan Update is underway, with initial Technical Advisory Committee and Steering Committee meetings completed and future community meetings scheduled. The Historic Preservation Master Plan is progressing as planned, with a discovery site visit scheduled for February 2026.

The Planning Division recently completed successful recruitment for Associate Planner. Krystal Klem will start with County on March 2nd. The team is very excited to welcome her to the team. Designing Local will be in Los Alamos February 9-11, 2026 for the Historic Master Plan kick-off and discovery visit.

Upcoming

February 4, 2026, Historic Preservation Advisory Board Meeting

February 11, 2026, Planning and Zoning Commission Meeting

INFRASTRUCTURE ASSET MANAGEMENT

INFORMATION MANAGEMENT

Infrastructure Update

Telephony Survey Completed

The upcoming telephony needs to replace County Voice Over Internet Phone system (VoIP) Survey concluded on January 30, 2026, with an impressive 189 responses received which will help factor in decisions on efficiencies and areas needing more support as the team transitions County phone system over the next year.

Security Patch Applied

A critical security patch has been successfully applied to our virtual infrastructure, ensuring enhanced protection and system stability.

Intune Implementation Progress

The team continues to collaborate closely with the Service Desk and Applications Team on the Intune implementation project, driving improved device management and security, which will impact all users of county issued devices.

Application Update

Applied software updates to Tyler Enterprise ERP, Tyler Cashiering, Enterprise Forms, and Fullcourt Enterprise (Municourt) systems used by various departments including Finance, Procurement, HR, Payroll, Utilities, CDD, and Courts.

Scheduled upgrade of Tyler Enterprise ERP SQL Server to SQL Server 2022 during March maintenance; all on-premises SQL database servers will also be patched.

Supported RFP and software evaluations for Finance, Police, Public Works, Assessors, CMO, and Courts.

Assisted LAFD with PIV card scanning on Getac devices using built-in and LANL-provided USB scanners to meet MFA requirements for LANL First Due software.

January Stats

485 New Service Desk Tickets

0 Open tickets

485 Closed Tickets

AIRPORT

Take-offs and Landings – December activity at the Los Alamos County Airport remained strong, with operations recorded through Virtower data at a total of 320 operations, reflecting continued use by both based and visiting aircraft. Seasonal weather patterns contributed to typical winter fluctuations while maintaining steady levels of general aviation and helicopter (106 operations) activity.

Updates

Projects and Operations

Construction planning and coordination efforts for both the eight-unit T-Hangar project, and the Taxiway-F relocation and design work continue to move forward steadily. These projects remain central to long-term airfield development and capacity expansion at the County Airport.

While physical construction activity has been limited due to supply chain issues, progress continues behind the scenes through design development, funding coordination, and contractor engagement to keep both projects on track.

Strategic Partnerships and Community Engagement.

During the month, the Airport Manager met with representatives from Cape Air to explore the potential for future commercial air service between Los Alamos County Airport (KLAM) and Albuquerque (ABQ). Discussions were supported by travel demand data from the LANL Travel Office and early indicators suggest promising long-term feasibility and support from the NMDOT. Further discussion regarding any potential service will continue.

The Airport Manager also attended a reception associated with New Mexico Aviation Day at the Roundhouse, engaging with the Lieutenant Governor and other state leaders. The event highlighted strong statewide momentum, funding opportunities, and long-term support for aviation and aerospace initiatives across New Mexico. In addition, the Airport Manager facilitated an after-hours informational meeting at the terminal for local pilots and community members interested in forming a flying club. While the County is not directly involved in organizing the club, the airport provided space and coordination support to encourage community collaboration and increased general aviation activity.

FACILITIES

January Stats:

Current work orders in queue – 176
New work orders since last report – 67
Completed work orders – 77
After hour call outs – 5
Emergency call outs – 3

No additional updates

CUSTODIAL

January Stats

Fuller Lodge – 41
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 January decreased from December after the holiday parties/events concluded. Reservations for January and February typically slow down until picking up again in March.

The Ice Rink was detailed cleaned for their winter season.

The Los Alamos Little Theater was cleaned and floors refinished after the renovations.

New dispensers were installed at the Golf Course Clubhouse.

Floor work is scheduled for the Golf Course restaurant area, Little Theater and Fuller Lodge. This includes the wood flooring and concrete patio at the restaurant.

FLEET

January Stats

Work orders entered – 189

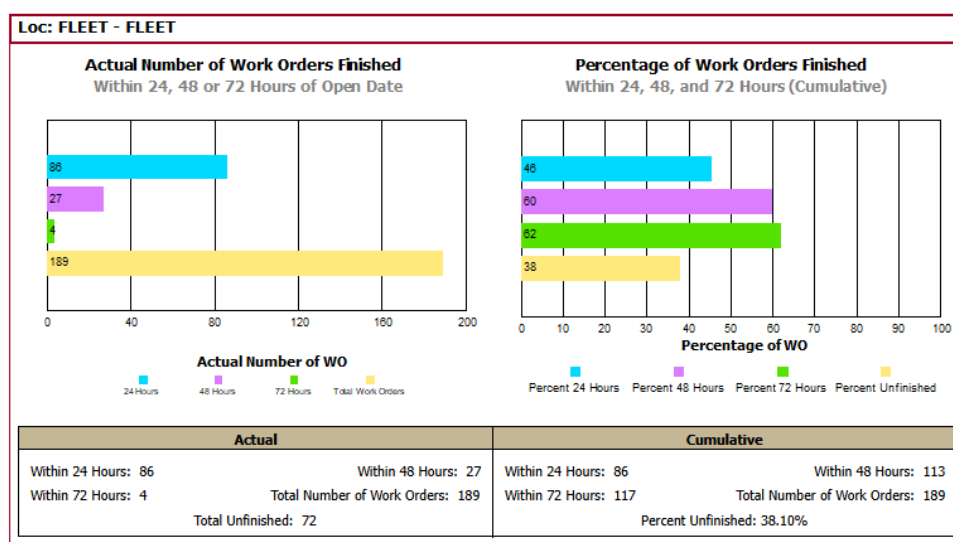
Work orders completed within 72 hours -117

Work orders that remain open - 19

Work orders that are considered preventive maintenance – 30

Work orders that are considered repairs – 158

Work orders due to accidents – 1



TRAFFIC AND STREETS

January Stats

Customer calls – 93
Traffic Control & Excavation Permits processed – 11
Permits extended – 1
Locates performed – 51
Asphalt used – 12 tons
Concrete used – 2 yards
Perma Patch used – 840 lbs.
Signs fabricated and installed – 94
Lights and fixtures that were replaced –
Work orders received – 19
Work orders completed - 12
Streetlight bulbs replaced – 6

Streets crews reconstructed a storm drain at 36th Street and Questa as well as completing sidewalk repairs at Cheryl Drive and Lejano Road. Utility water break asphalt patches were repaired at Tiffany Court and North Road. Crews also removed 850 tons of concrete and asphalt construction waste from a county-owned parcel on DP Road in preparation for a potential sale. Additional support included assisting surveyors with storm drain and sewer manhole access on Trinity Drive and removing a steel plate from Central Avenue to allow inspection of a damaged storm vault.

Maintenance activities included vegetation mowing and shoulder sweeping at the airport and golf course, as well as countywide pothole repairs using 840 pounds of perma-patch. Traffic and Streets crews performed snow removal operations during the January 8 snowstorm and completed maintenance on all snow removal equipment in preparation for future events.

The Signs and Markings crew replaced 94 sun-damaged and knocked-down signs countywide, including ACT bus stop signs. The team extended two pole locations on State Road 4 near South Monte Rey for license plate reader installations and installed two new crosswalks on North Mesa Road near Hawk Drive and Terry Lane.



Due to staffing shortages of two traffic electricians, the Traffic Manager and crew members completed repairs to pedestrian pushbutton poles at Trinity Drive and Knecht Street, as well as at Diamond Drive and 38th Street, in addition to replacing 6 streetlight bulbs.

Administrative staff processed and issued 11 permits for work within the county right-of-way and extended one existing permit

EMPLOYEE RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION

January Highlights

- Fire Pre-Academy Day was held on January 31, 2026, and was a success. 14 Recruit Candidates attended.
- 12 Job Postings created
- 309 Applications received
- Average applications per job posting=25
- 11 Promotions
- 1 Employee Transfer
- 1 Employee Status Change from Regular >Casual
- 7 New Hires
- Recruitment continued to assist all County departments with hiring and promotional needs.

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 completed and accepted. The due diligence period is expected to take until April 2026. [Goals: Downtown Revitalization, Local Business, 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. The team currently has multiple applications in process for both the Home Rehabilitation and Homebuyers Assistance programs. [Goals: Housing.]

North Mesa Update: Wilson and Company has finalized the North Mesa Transportation and Utilities Study. The final report provides preliminary designs and cost estimates for the system upgrades needed to serve the site with utilities and to mitigate the project's impact on the transportation system. [Goals: Housing, Intergovernmental Relations.]

A-8-A: County staff have removed site spoils and materials related to County projects that had been stored on the site. Materials were variously taken to the Eco Station or trucked to appropriate waste facilities off the hill.

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.

The development proposal includes a total of 380 units comprised of 1-, 2-, and 3-bedroom units. 120 units will be permanently deed restricted for households earning between 60%-100% Area Median Income (AMI) with an average of 80% AMI. The goal of the project is flexible income eligibility with low rent requirements, not exceeding 30% AMI of income for market rate units. [Goals: Housing.]

Public Meeting

There will be 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 - Barela continued to assist applicants in their fulfilling their applications process. *[1.1 Communication and Engagement]*

New Mexico State Creative Industries - Barela met with Creative Industries Division people on January 7th, to learn more about the grants that are being offered to residents of New Mexico. The grants are meant strengthen for-profit creative businesses and organizations, enhancing their infrastructure, marketing, and long-term sustainability. *[1.1 Communication and Engagement]*

Resource Fair for NM LEEP and LANL Entrepreneurs - Barela met with post-docs and Entrepreneurial Scientists and Innovators at the New Mexico LEEP resource fair on January 13th. The New Mexico Lab-Embedded Entrepreneur Program (New Mexico LEEP) runs a two-year fellowship that helps deep-tech startup founders advance their innovations by working with the expertise, and facilities of Los Alamos National Laboratory. *[1.1 Communication and Engagement]*

Meet with DP Road Businesses - Barela and Dan Osborn from Housing walked along DP Road on January 28th, to meet local business owners and inform them about a Neighborhood Meeting scheduled for February 5. The meeting will provide information about the upcoming development of parcel A-8-A. *[1.1 Communication and Engagement; 3.2 Local Business]*

2026 Legislative Reception in Santa Fe - Barela and Felton attended the legislative reception on January 26 which is annually held to connect business professionals with governmental policymakers. *[1.1 Communication and Engagement; 3.4 Tourism and Special Events]*

2026 Business Day in Santa Fe - Barela and Felton attended Business Day in Santa Fe on January 27. It is the New Mexico Chamber's annual policy event, bringing business, civic, and government leaders together at the start of the legislative session. Start the session informed with timely insight into the priorities, economic outlook, and policy. *[1.1 Communication and Engagement; 3.4 Tourism and Special Events]*

MyCity Business/Nonprofit/Events Directory – Barela and Felton worked with MyCity to update information on the Directory to the County and Visit Los Alamos Webpages. During these meetings the group determined categories for the pages and location for

where the information would be held on the websites. The site is expected to live to the public on February 2. [1.1 Communication and Engagement]

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

TransRockies New Mexico SingleTrack Race – Felton organized a meeting between the TransRockies series and various County staff to discuss how the team can partner for the three-day mountain bike race. The first stage of the race will be held in Los Alamos on September 19, 2026. [1.1 Communication and Engagement; 3.4 Tourism and Special Events]

Outdoor Recreation & Tourism Day at the Roundhouse - Felton boothed a table with Discover Los Alamos on January 26. During the event, it provided them the opportunity to share information about Los Alamos and connect with representatives, other organizations, locals, and tourists at the capital. [1.1 Communication and Engagement; 3.4 Tourism and Special Events]

New Mexico Hospitality Association TRENDS Conference - Felton attended the conference for hospitality and tourism professionals on January 27 in Santa Fe. The conference highlighted ways to improve tourism as well as information about tourism on the state level. [1.1 Communication and Engagement; 3.4 Tourism and Special Events]

Upcoming

Online Directory for businesses, nonprofits, and events set to go live on February 2

Directory Information Session to be held February 4 in Room 110 of the Municipal Building and Virtually

Next Tourism Influencer from NMTrue CoOp Grant funding coming February 13-15

Directory Information Session to be held Virtually February 18

EDUCATIONAL, ARTS, CULTURAL, & HISTORICAL AMENITIES

Upcoming Nature Center Programs

Helping Butterfly Conservation Take Flight -March 5, 2026

Night Sky in March - March 6, 2026

Cosmic Mashups - March 7, 2026

Climate Cafe - March 12, 2026

Mayan Archeoastronomy - March 14, 2026

How to Make a Good iNaturalist Observation - March 14, 2026

Mars: The Ultimate Voyage - March 21, 2026

Adak, Birthplace of the Winds - March 24, 2026

Strange New Worlds: NASA's Exploration of the Solar System -March 27, 2026

Explore - March 28, 2026

Library January Stats:

Public Programs and Events: 56

Total Program Attendance: 1,157

Physical Items Circulated: 21,979

Digital Items Circulated: 9,897

Total Items Circulate: 31,876

Updates

In January, the Library paused most programming, except for recurring series such as Music and Movement, Storytime, and several adult programs, in order to plan programming and outreach for the year ahead.

Additionally, in January, the Step-Up Gallery featured Magic Paint Brush: Painting Peace and Healing, an exhibition of artwork by Feather Redfox. The gallery welcomed 974 visitors during the month.

The Library also introduced new free online classes for all ages and skill levels through the Craft and Hobby online resource. These classes are available via a website offering more than 20 engaging categories, including health and wellness, knitting for kids, DIY home projects, paper crafts, drawing, baking, and more.

Looking Ahead

Library staff have begun preparations for the 2026 Annual Summer Reading Program. This program offers activities, resources, and curated reading, viewing, and listening recommendations for all ages. The theme for this year's challenge is Plant a Seed, Read!

In early March, the Los Alamos County Seed Library will launch its fourth season with a series of programs and celebrations for all ages. The Seed Library is a volunteer-driven collaboration between the Library, PEEC, and a dedicated corps of seed stewards, including Master Gardeners, Bee City volunteers, and local garden enthusiasts.



New Art Sculpture at PEEC

TOURISM AND SPECIAL EVENTS

January Stats

@VisitLosAlamos Facebook:

15,619 followers to date

63,381 reached in January 2026

510 engagements in January 2026

@VisitLosAlamos Instagram:

1,573 followers to date

2,228 reached in January 2026

152 engagements in January 2026

Visitlosalamos.org Website:

8,025 Users

4,563 Engaged Sessions

37 seconds Average Engagement Time/Session

Visitor Center Visitation

Los Alamos: 643

White Rock: 229

Updates

Los Alamos County established an interdepartmental Tourism Working Group and a separate external attractions group to coordinate tourism planning and communication.

Progress to Date:

- Mar 2025: Consolidated online calendars

- Mar 2025: Updated visitlosalamos.org to include Activity Guide content
- Oct–Nov 2025: Engaged TransRockies MTB Series on 2026 race planning

Next Steps:

- Dec 9–11, 2025: Joint meetings with DestinationiQ
- Dec 2025: Virtual follow-up with TransRockies; race confirmed after USFS approval
- Determine need for full tourism-season debrief in Jan/Feb 2026

COMMUNITY BROADBAND

CBN – Staff continued working with vendor Bonfire on Low Level Design. Review of Bonfire’s first permit package (power poles) produced some good feedback for subsequent permit packages. Dept of Public Utilities and Public Works staff continue to provide quality and timely responses to specific questions related to construction design.

San Ildefonso Pueblo fiber line – weekly status meetings continued. The San I team reported that the Rio Grande River crossing portion was completed, going with power poles to span the river since problems were encountered attempting the crossing via underground boring. Fiber optic cable has been installed in the entire 11 mile path. Testing of the entire line’s fiber cable is coming soon

HEALTH, WELLBEING, AND SOCIAL SERVICES

January Stats

5 Contractor Public Programs and Events
388 People Attended Programs and Events

Updates

Social Services continued assisting clients in December, with the majority of new and returning clients seeking support for housing, food and other emergency basic needs, and income assistance services.

Health, Wellbeing, and Social Services in the Community

The Social Services Division has been working in partnership with the Los Alamos Community Foundation on a county-wide suicide prevention initiative. In the first six months of partnering, 24 people were trained as trainers, and 110 people were trained in the actual ABC Suicide Prevention training!

Social Services Manager Jessica Strong attended the two-day New Mexico Alliance of Health Councils convening in Santa Fe on January 26th and 27th, along with Los Alamos County Health Council Chair Lisa Hampton. It was a great opportunity to connect with health council leaders from tribes and counties across the state.

Social Services staff look forward to training with New Mexico's Aging & Long-Term Services Department's NE Regional State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP) Coordinator, Stephanie Gonzales in March.

Contractors:

Los Alamos Public Schools Prevention (LAPS)

LAPS Foundation Provides Yoga Equipment – Ongoing

LAPS received 20 yoga mats and 40 yoga blocks from the LAPS Foundation through a mini-grant. This equipment is supporting students during Yoga-WIN sessions and is also being used by teachers participating in the Breathe for Change training. The mats and blocks are available for checkout by anyone in the district, helping expand access to wellness and mindfulness practices across the school community.

Participants: 40

Upcoming Event: Arrive Alive Car at LAHS – February 27, 2026

YMCA Los Alamos Teen Center (TC)

Super Smash Brothers Tea Party – January 28, 2026

The Teen Center hosted a themed tea party inspired by the video game Super Smash Bros. Teens baked cupcakes and decorated them with icing to resemble favorite characters and game elements, including Mario spikes, Koopa shells, and Kirby. Fruit was also used to create edible sculptures inspired by the Piranha Plant. The activity encouraged creativity and conversation in a relaxed social setting.

Participants: 13

Upcoming Event: Bug-Themed Tea Party – March 25, 2026

Family Strengths Network (FSN)

Reasons to Gather – January 8, 2026

Reasons to Gather is a new monthly program designed for caregivers to relax and socialize without children. Each session features a different activity, such as a craft project, a game, or a guided discussion topic.

Participants: 15

Family Strengths Network (FSN)

Pack Play Picnic – January 8, 15, 22, and 29, 2026

Pack Play Picnic is a new program created to give families an opportunity to eat lunch together and build connections. The program also allows FSN staff to engage with families in a casual, community-focused setting.

Participants: 45

Upcoming Events: February programming will include ongoing FSN programs, including Reasons to Gather and Pack Play Picnic

INCLUSION, ACCESS, AND BELONGING

The Inclusivity Task Force met once in January. The Task Force is working to complete their final report which will include any recommendations. This final report is scheduled for the March 17th Council Work Session.

MOBILITY

Atomic City Transit Stats

Unlinked Passenger Trips (UPT) - 15,713

Fixed-Route UPT - 15,086

Demand-Response UPT- 627

Special UPT - 0

Service Days - 22

UPT per Service Day - 714

UPT per Service Mile - .38

Service Disruptions - 1

On-time Timepoint Departures – 78%

On-time Paratransit Trips – 94%

Buses with Defective ITS Systems – 10%

Customer Complaints – 3

Updates

Atomic City Transit (ACT) continues to evaluate and review potential service on Saturday's. This service is expected to provide more options for the community. Currently, ACT is seeking options to plan a study on ways to improve our service and possible expand our on-demand services.

ACT is coordinating with the National Monument on the upcoming seasonal shuttle service. Bandelier National Monument and Los Alamos County work together each year to provide seasonal shuttle service that helps manage visitor access and parking congestion — especially during the busier season.



Christmas potluck during the Holiday Season

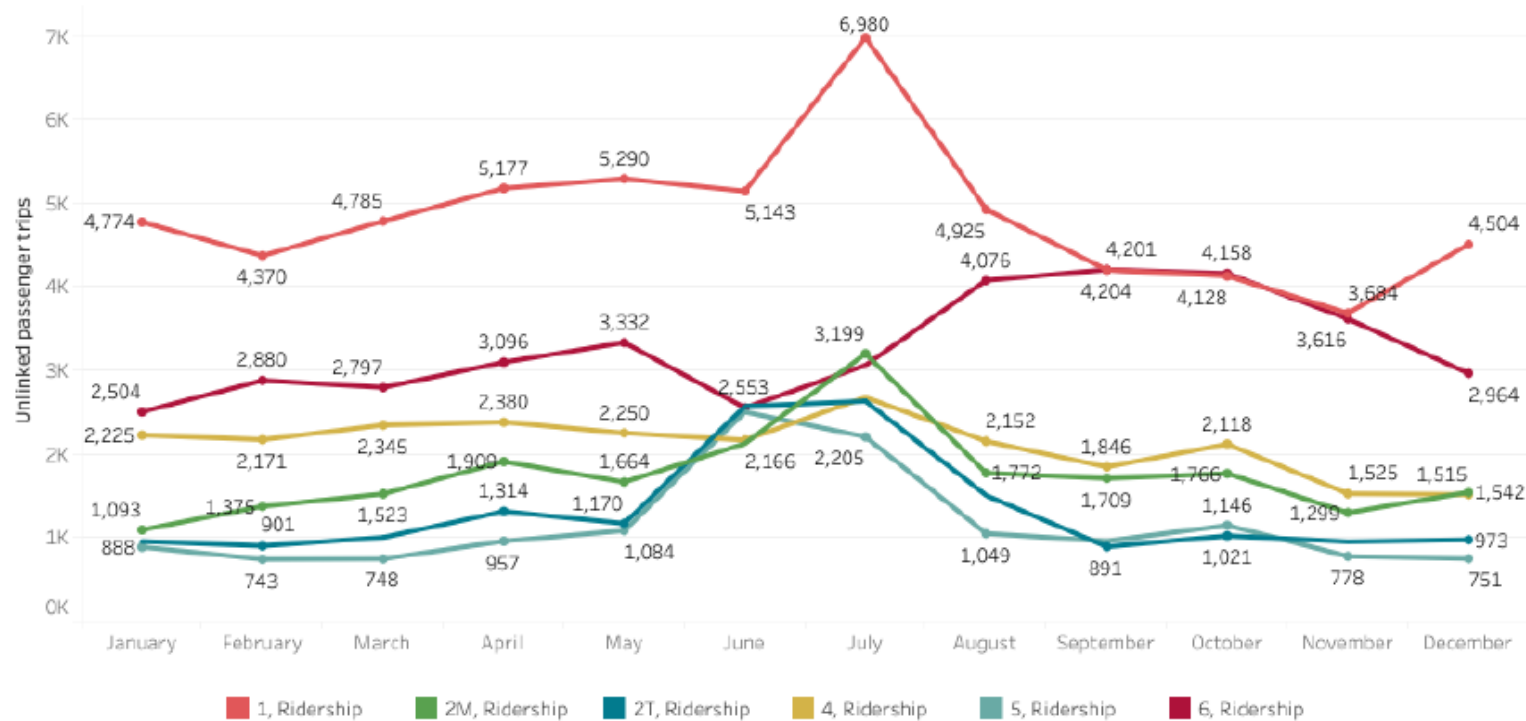
Atomic City Transit Ridership Report

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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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

		1	2M	2T	4	5	6	Grand Total
December	2019	4,157	1,717	1,088	2,218	1,553	5,394	16,127
	2024	4,673		1,287	1,781	647	2,150	10,538
	2025	4,504	1,542	973	1,515	751	2,964	12,249

Monthly On Time Performance

		1	2M	2T	4	5	6	SYSTEM
December	2025	80%	66%	75%	75%	87%	82%	78%

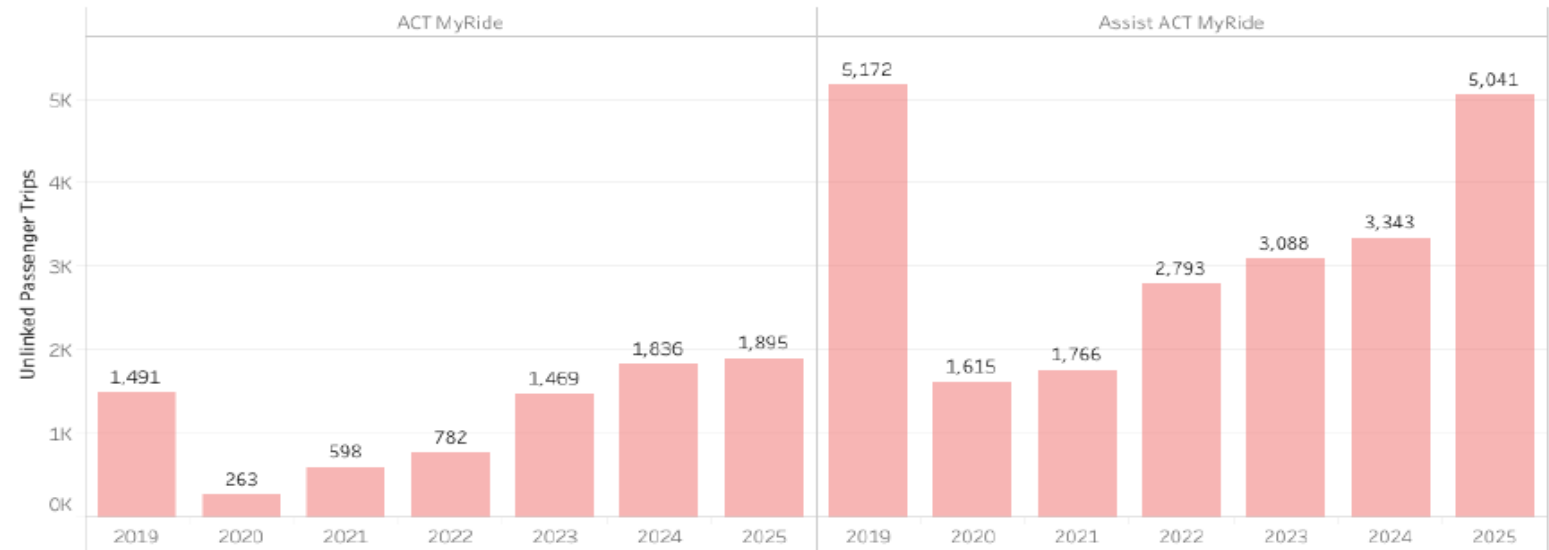
Atomic City Transit Ridership Report

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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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
December	2019	119	361	480
	2024	166	304	470
	2025	132	495	627

Monthly On Time Performance

		ACT MyRide	Assist ACT MyRide
December	2025	91%	96%

System Total
Ridership Analysis Ov..

System Total
Ridership Yearly Com..

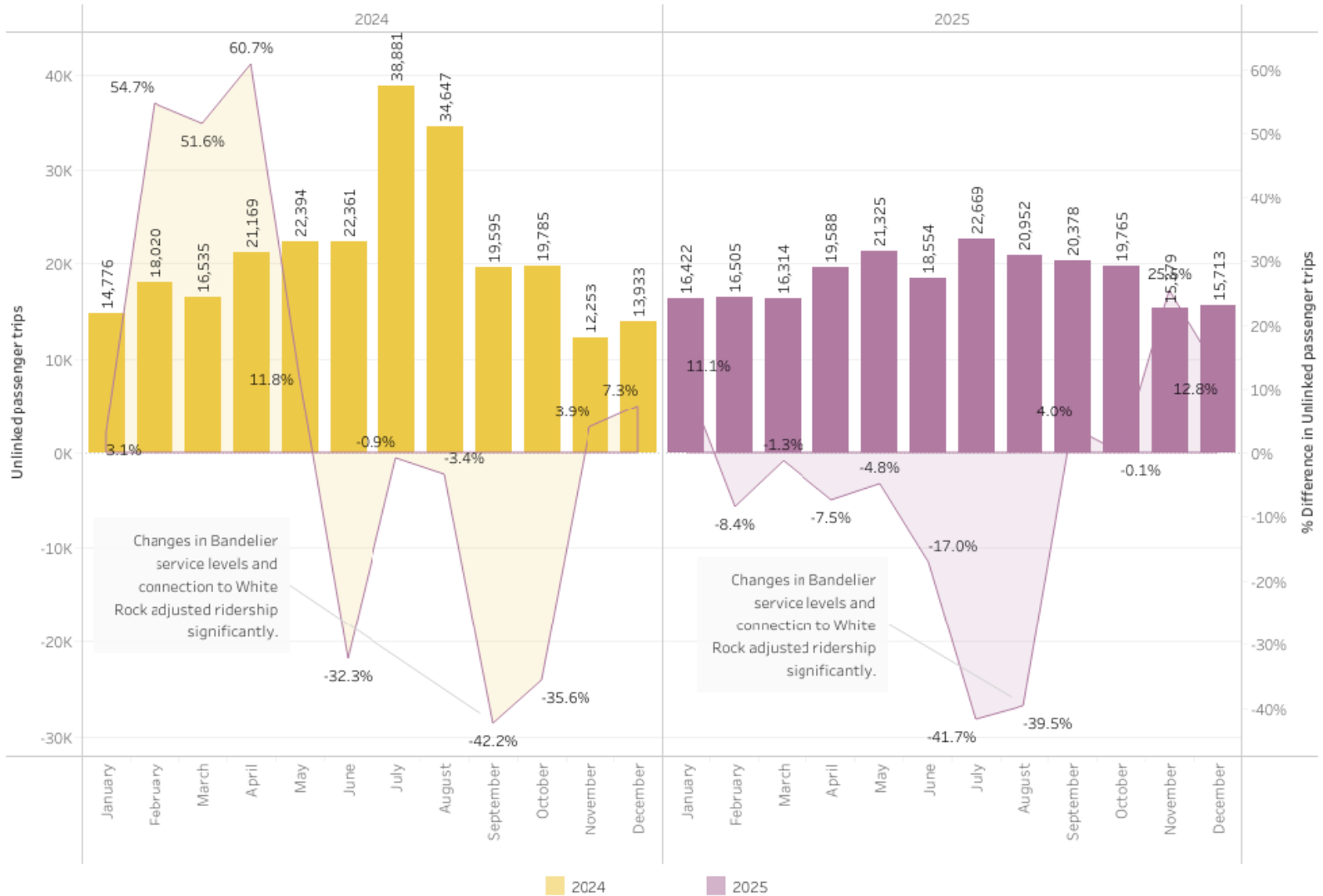
Fixed Route Monthly
Analysis

ACT MyRide Monthly
Performance Metrics

Seasonal Services
Monthly Performance..

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 show percent difference in ridership compared to the prior year so 2024 shows comparatively to 2023 and 2025 shows comparatively to 2024.



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

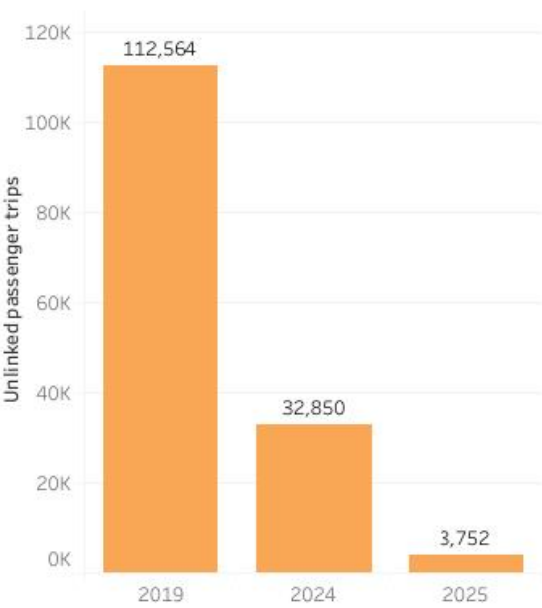
Express Routes 7-11, 2025

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 during park service hours May to October.



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
December 2019		612	588	688	774	0	2,662
2024	743	655	538	446	543		2,925
2025	700	511	359	652	605		2,827

There were 10 unassigned riders in December 2025. 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.

OPEN SPACE, PARKS, AND RECREATION

ADMINISTRATION

The Art in Public Places Board added “Raven Dialogues, Friendly Advice” by Abiquiu artist Star York to the Los Alamos Public Art Collection. A ribbon cutting is being planned in partnership with PEEC to accompany their Earth Day celebrations.

CSD hosted a collaborative public listening session to discuss the North Mesa Picnic Grounds project. This session provided an opportunity for residents to learn and provide public input.

Connecting with the Public

Nature at Night - January 7, 2026

Nature at Night featured after-hours, in-person activities at the nature center and marked the launch of a new weekly themed series. Participants of all ages enjoyed crafts, games, and outdoor exploration designed to encourage curiosity and connection with nature in the evening setting.

Participants: 11

Backcountry Film Festival - January 22, 2026

This in-person screening showcased short films celebrating human-powered backcountry snow sports and outdoor adventure. The event was presented in partnership with SALA Event Center and Pajarito Brewpub and Grill and drew a large audience from the community.

Participants: 257



Backcountry Film Festival

Packrafting Arctic National Wildlife Refuge - January 27, 2026

This in-person and live-streamed presentation explored packrafting adventures in some of the most remote and least-disturbed wilderness areas in North America. The program was presented in partnership with Los Alamos Mountaineers and highlighted expedition planning, environmental stewardship, and extreme backcountry travel.

Participants: 118

Looking Ahead:

Black Holes - January 10, 2026

Climate Café - January 15, 2026

Mysteries of the Brain - January 17, 2026

Backcountry Film Festival - January 22, 2026

Seeing - January 24, 2026

Sowing Wildflower Seeds - January 24, 2026

Packrafting Arctic National Wildlife Refuge - January 27, 2026

Forward! To the Moon - January 31, 2026

OPEN SPACE, PARKS AND TRAILS

January Stats

Parks Acres Maintained: 248

Repairs due to Vandalism: 3

Volunteer Hours Worked in

- Parks: 9

-Trails: 9

Funeral Services: 5

Headstone/Niche Installation: 6

Updates

Assist Parks and Recreation Board Liaisons with the working group's questions or needs. Through community meetings, participate in the Open Space and Trails Project, Brewer Arena, North Mesa Picnic Area Master Plan, North Mesa Recreational Area Master Plan, Artificial Turf exploration, and Cemetery Master Plan.

IFB28-18 - Athletic Field Renovations approved by County Council on 11/19/24.

This is a three-year sports field renovation plan to address field leveling/laser grading, replacement of sod, and irrigation adjustments. The work will begin on May 23, 2025.

The timeline was not achieved, and the department is working with the vendor to complete the contract. During 2026, Spirio Soccer Field will be evaluated, and Bun Ryan will be completed. No additional fields will be renovated until 2027.

The 37th Street and Pinon Playground renovations were identified as needing improvements to meet Americans with Disabilities Act accessibility requirements and were based on the Community Services Department's Integrated Master Plan. The renovation will improve safety, access, and update amenities. Through IFB#25-55, LA Landscape and More, LLC was awarded the contract in the amount of \$2,218,882 (including a 5% contingency). Removal of the old playground equipment has been completed at both sites. Construction will continue as weather allows, with a completion date of April 30, 2026. The project is on schedule as of 1/6/2026.

AGR24-23, Site Southwest Open Space and Trails Management plan is in the final stages. The contractor has conducted multiple community engagement meetings and is working on final reviews and edits of the plan. The plan was presented to the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board on August 14 for support and approval. A few edits were requested and made. The plan will be on the September agenda for the Parks and Recreation Board meeting for review, no action required. The plan was presented and approved by County Council on October 28, 2025. Staff is working with the Open Space Working Group on the Adopt a Trail Program.

The 37th Street and Pinon Playground renovations are on target for completion this spring. 37th Street Playground has completed grading, with new sidewalks, logs, and basic play elements installed.

RECREATION

January Stats:

Programs and Events: 29

Participation:

-Recreation: 7,042

-Aquatics: 408

Open Gym Programs: 13

Vendors: 2

People Utilizing the Ice Rink: 22,000

Round of Golf: 0

Ice Rink Updates:

The Ice Rink is winding down for the season, and the team has begun to log the melt-off due to the sun-load.

Updates:

At the end of February, staff will begin the process of ice removal and summer preparations.

The main pool re-plaster project is set to start on Monday, March 2nd, and continue through the end of October.

Adult Dive-In Movie “The Fifth Element” - January 9, 2026

Participants: 8

Family Dive-In Movie “Finding Nemo” - January 16, 2026

Participants: 45

Mountain Club Swim Meet - January 17, 2026

A swim meet hosted by Mountain Club featuring 10 teams and 270 athletes from Albuquerque, Santa Fe, Taos, Artesia, Los Alamos, and Roswell.



LAGC staff are gearing up for the 2026 season. Golf shop staff are selling annual passes, getting the golf shop stocked up, and preparing our golf car fleet. The maintenance team is pruning trees, hand-watering greens and new trees daily, and fine-tuning our maintenance equipment.

Connecting with the Public

The Ice Rink’s New Year’s Eve party brought participants together to celebrate the start of the new year.

The Ice Rink's UNM tournament rallied the community to support the Lobos who competed against UCLA, CSUN, and SMU.

The Ice Rink's adult tournament brought in participants from around the state on January 29th.

Multiple patrons approached the Aquatic Management staff on January 21 to share positive feedback, noting that the lifeguard team handled the busy conditions on MLK Day exceptionally well. Staff closely monitored pool occupancy, maintained a clean facility, encouraged circle swimming during peak times, and ensured all activities were conducted safely.

Closures

Ice Rink Season Closure – February 16, 2026

Aquatic Center Facility Closure - March 2nd. The facility will be for the Main Pool re-plaster project through October 2026.

PUBLIC SAFETY

BUILDING SAFETY

There were a total of 4 Commercial Building permits that were issued in January 2026 with a total valuation of \$112,000.78

There were a total of 26 Residential Building permits that were issued in January 2026 with a total valuation of \$592,239.17

0 Certificate of Occupancies was issued in January 2026

102 Building Inspections took place in January 2026

CODE ENFORCEMENT

Community Development is currently recruiting for Economic Development Administrator, and two open Code Compliance Officer positions. Planning Division has recently hired an Associate Planner who will start in early March.

With the recent retirement of both Code Compliance Officers, the department is addressing code compliance matters on a complaint-only basis while the recruitment is underway.

A big thank you to Michael Marquez and Robert Franks for stepping in and assisting with Code Compliance while the department is short-staffed—their help is greatly appreciated.

POLICE

Update

In January of 2026, the Traffic Unit of the Police Department conducted 223 traffic stops and wrote 253 citations. This included 76 at speeds more than 15 m.p.h. over the speed limit. Additionally, multiple school zone extra patrols were conducted along with school bus route patrols.

The unit made two arrests for drivers with a revoked license.

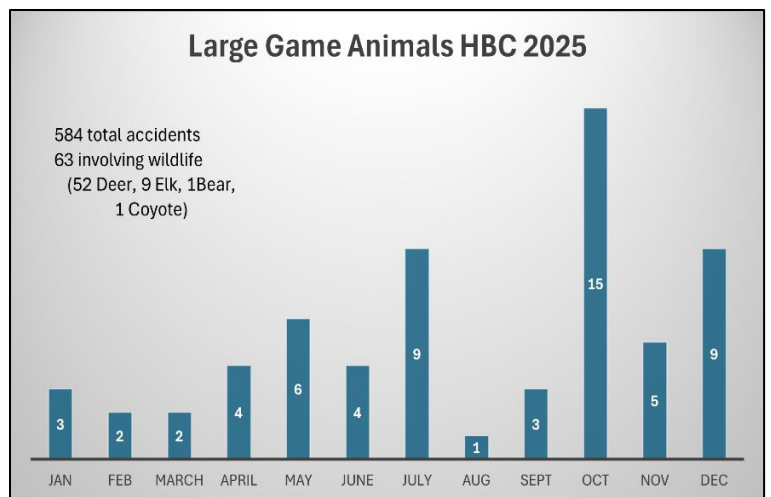
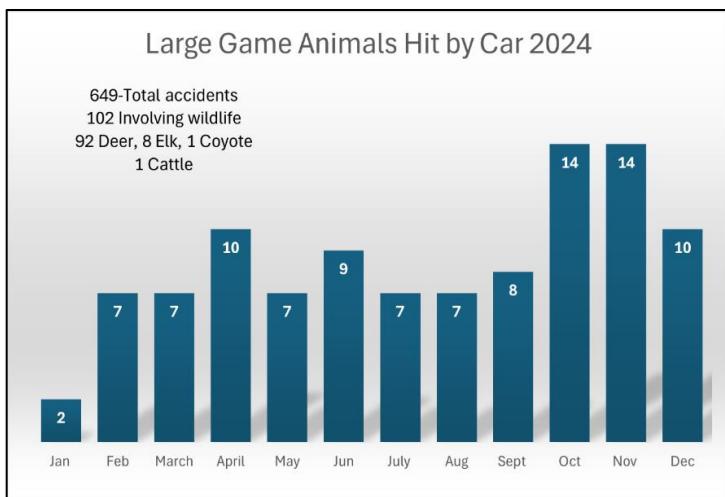
Additionally, the County Council approved the additional FTEs within the Police Department's FY26 budget to help address traffic safety in Los Alamos. Since its inception, the Traffic Unit has employed a strategy of enforcement, education, and prevention to enhance traffic safety.

OFFICERS	TOTAL
MONTH	26-Jan
Custodial Fel Arrests	0
Custodial Mis Arrests	1
DUI	0
Traffic Stops	223
Traffic Citation issued	253
Warning Cites issued	28
Case Reports	2
CFS	244
CRASH INJURY	0
NON-REPORTABLE	1
SPEED 1-5	1
SPEED 6-10	24
SPEED 11-15	26
SPEED 16-25	63
SPEED 26-30	10
SPEED 30+	3
INSURANCE	28
REGISTRATION	16
STOP SIGN	3
OTHER CITATIONS	18
DAYS	14

In 2025, animal versus vehicle accidents decreased significantly. Along with a nearly 10% reduction in overall accidents, deer versus vehicle accidents decreased from 92 to 52. Total animal versus vehicle accidents, which also included elk, bear, coyote, and cattle, decreased from 102 in 2024 to 63 in 2025.

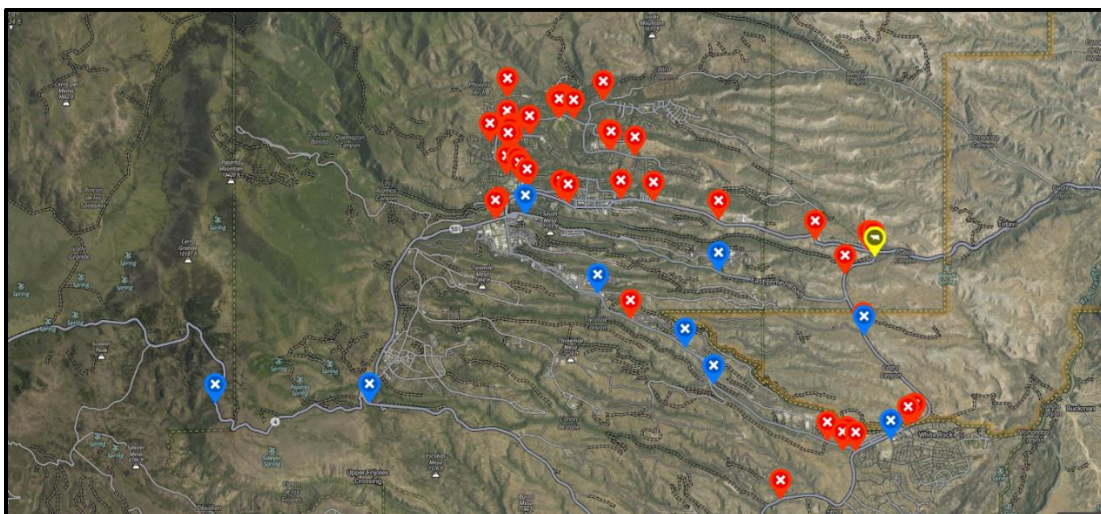
More accidents tend to happen during the fall due to the increased movement of deer during the rut season. Drivers are reminded to focus on defensive driving: slow down particularly at dawn and dusk, stay alert and scan ahead, use high beams when safe to do so, brake firmly rather than swerve if an animal appears, and watch for groups of animals.

The Los Alamos Police Department thanks the community for their part in reducing animal versus vehicle accidents. Traffic safety is everyone's responsibility.



Of the 63 animals versus vehicle accidents, 13 were struck near the golf course.

Note: Red is Deer and Blue is Elk



FIRE

LAFD Responded to 200 calls for service in January:

134 EMS Calls
32 Public Service Calls
15 False Alarm/Good Intent Calls
17 Hazardous Condition Calls (No Fire)
2 Fire Calls
62 New Social Media Followers (17 IG, 45 FB)

Updates

LAFD Pre-Academy

This weekend, the Los Alamos Fire Department conducted a Pre-Academy Day for prospective fire academy candidates as part of our preparation process for the upcoming 26-week academy. The objective of this event was to provide candidates with a realistic overview of academy expectations, training standards, and operational demands.

The day began with formal introductions of the Training Cadre and an orientation covering the schedule, performance expectations, and safety considerations. Candidates then participated in a structured physical training session and distance run to establish baseline conditioning and reinforce the physical requirements of academy participation.

Following the initial PT session, candidates rotated through multiple practical training stations designed to simulate core academy components. These stations included confined space operations, a wildland pack test, ladder truck climbing evolutions utilizing the 105-foot aerial apparatus, and rescue operations scenarios. Each station was supervised by qualified personnel and focused on both safety and performance standards.

Midday activities included a working lunch and a classroom-based cognitive session to highlight the academic and decision-making aspects under pressure of academy training. The afternoon concluded with an additional high-intensity physical training block intended to mirror the cumulative fatigue and performance expectations typical of a full academy day.

The event concluded with a structured question and answer session, allowing candidates to engage directly with training staff and gain clarity on preparation strategies and program expectations. Overall, the Pre- Academy Day provided valuable insight and preparation guidance for participants.

Offer letters have been issued to the top 14 candidates, and the department is looking forward to the start of LAFD Academy Class 34 on April 13.



Pre-Academy Applicants in formation ready for an active day



Pre-Academy applicants doing some physical training while in Bunker Gear



Pre-Academy Applicants doing the Tire Flip

EMS Division

The LAFD EMS Division continues to make significant progress in both operational readiness and compliance initiatives. The team has worked closely with Procurement and County Legal to solidify the selection of PS Traxx as our controlled substance tracking software, ensuring proper accountability and management of controlled substance medications. The team is excited to move forward with PS Traxx, as its user-friendly design was a primary factor in its selection and will support ease of use for our responders. Implementation, including comprehensive training, is planned over the next couple of months.

Additionally, the EMS Division has been actively preparing for the upcoming DOE Active Assailant Response Workshop scheduled for May. This workshop will involve multiple DOE sites participating in scenario-based exercises designed to challenge critical thinking and operational skills. EMS Division members were selected by DOE to serve as subject matter experts in both scenario development and the creation of performance evaluation criteria, and the team is equally excited to send participating members to represent LAFD in this important training opportunity.

Los Alamos Fire Department Completes Annual Program Appraisals

The Los Alamos Fire Department has completed its Annual Program Appraisals for each division within the department. This comprehensive review evaluated current programs, operational practices, and service delivery across all divisions to ensure alignment with departmental goals and community needs.

As part of the appraisal process, each division conducted a detailed review of its annual operating budget and practices. These reviews were aimed at confirming fiscal

responsibility, identifying efficiencies, and ensuring that allocated resources appropriately support both current operations and future objectives.

The completion of the Annual Program Appraisals provided newly appointed Fire Chief Eric Litzenberg with an in-depth snapshot of the department's programs, budgets, and ongoing practices. This process offered valuable insight into divisional operations and established a strong foundation for informed decision-making, strategic planning, and continuous improvement moving forward.

The Los Alamos Fire Department remains committed to maintaining high standards of operational readiness, fiscal accountability, and service excellence through regular evaluation and proactive planning.

Taylor D Training Prop

The LAFD Training Division has received our new Taylor'D training prop, which provides hands-on training across multiple disciplines, including Denver drills, ladder bailouts, roof ventilation, confined space SCBA maze operations, mayday drills, garage door simulation, wall breaches, window training, hose management, and forcible entry. This prop will be heavily utilized during the upcoming Fire Recruit Academy and throughout the department for ongoing station-level training. A special thank you to the Los Alamos County Procurement Division for their assistance in successfully procuring this valuable training resource.



ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP

Environmental Sustainability Board

County Council Appointed Jack Grow to serve on the Environmental Sustainability Board

The ESB received a presentation from Adam Meyer of Waste Connections, the County's recycle processor, who recently conducted a recycling audit. He noted that the County's recycling rate is 17%, far less than the state average of 30%. He recommended continuous community outreach and education to further reduce contamination.

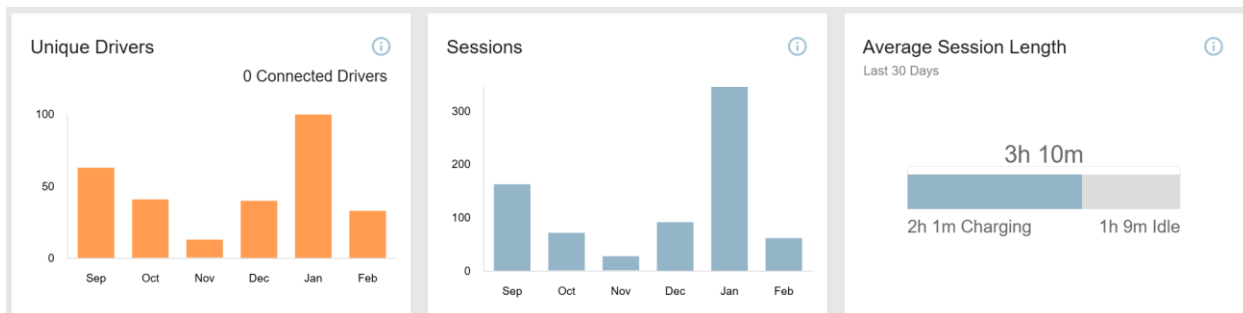
The ESB also approved their 2026 Work Plan which heavily supports climate action plan implementation.

Electric Vehicle

Staff continue to work on the implementation of the 2 Direct Current Fast Chargers at Mesa Public Library. Staff are working on design and procurement of equipment.

Stantec incorporated the final comments received from the community, ESB, BPU and Council into the final Fleet Conversion Study and Community Wide EV Charging Plan. The final plan will be presented to Council in March.

The 6 new Level 2 chargers at Municipal Building have been operational for one month. Below is the report from January 6 – Feb 6. GHG savings are 4,775kg.



Collaboration and Partnership

Sustainability Manager Angelica Gurule was invited to present at the Urban Sustainability Director's Network meeting on the Resilience, Adaptation and Wellbeing Strategies in Los Alamos County. The information was helpful to other communities beginning their journey to develop a Climate Action and Resilience Plan.

The County facilitated the NM Regional Sustainability Affinity meeting to share and collaborate on sustainability initiatives.

Food Composting

The County has restarted discussions on the development of a municipal food composting program for Los Alamos County.

WASTE MANAGEMENT

Environmental Services January Stats

Customer Service Emails – 69

Roll Cart Requests – 51

Household Hazardous Wasted Customers – 78

Recycle Coach App Users – 5,205

Recycle Coach App Interactions – 12,912

Overlook Visitors – 209

Transfer Station Visitors – 2,427

Yard Trimming Participants – 5,417

Social Media Followers - 1.3k

Update

Environmental Services supported post-holiday cleanup by providing the annual Christmas tree collection, providing residents with an easy and environmentally responsible way to dispose of natural trees. 16.81 tons of trees were collected from residents and prepared for chipping and reuse as mulch or compost, helping keep organic waste out of the landfill. The effort contributed to a cleaner community after the holidays while promoting sustainable waste management practices. Residents who missed the collection dates can still drop off Christmas trees at the Eco Station free of charge.

Environmental Services updated facility signage to improve clarity and make information easier to understand. The new signs provide clearer directions and more consistent messaging, helping visitors quickly identify the correct areas and services. These updates improve accessibility, reduce confusion, and support smoother, more efficient use of Environmental Services facilities.

Environmental Services recently underwent a facility inspection by the New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) and was found to be in compliance with NMED rules and regulations. The inspection reflects the department's commitment to maintaining high environmental and operational standards. This positive outcome highlights the effectiveness of ongoing maintenance, staff training, and adherence to state regulations.

Residential Sustainability Report



Residential Sustainability Report

Service Period: December 2025

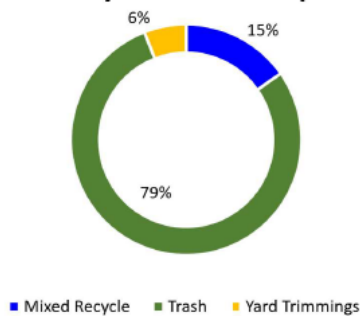


LOS ALAMOS

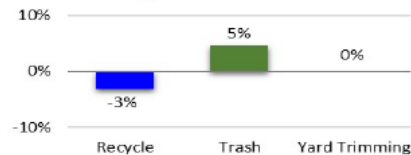
December Diversion Rate: **21%**

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

Monthly Collection Report

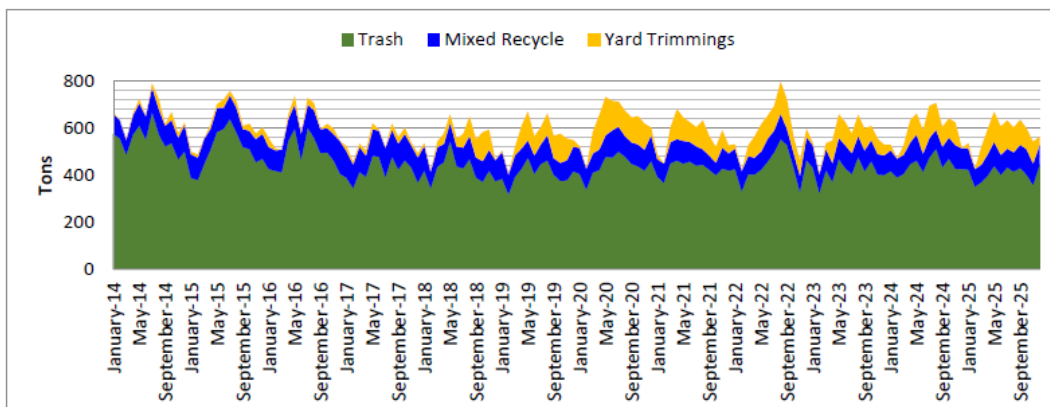


% Change Previous Year

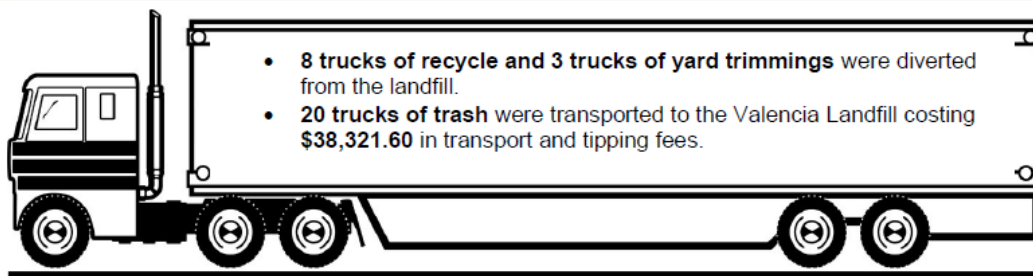


	Dec-24	Dec-25
Yard Trimming	0.00	33.31
Recycle	89.06	86.28
Trash	425.89	445.22

In December by recycling and composting Los Alamos County reduced GHG emissions by ~362 tons*



In 2025 by recycling and composting Los Alamos County reduced GHG emissions by ~5,645 tons*



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
NM-4 Crossing and Multi-Use Trail and Pinon Elementary School Trail Extension	PW	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 Pinon 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 Pinon 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.
Trinity Drive Safety and ADA	PW	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.
Finch Street	PW	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.
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 ([link](#)).

Matthew Valencia, the new member of the project management team, started his new role on January 20. Matt has been with the County for 13 years and brings extensive facilities experience to the Project Management team.

The project to continue the design development for an Emergency Operations Center adjacent to Fire Station 3 kicked off on January 16.

The renovation of all 13 showers at Fire Station has been completed.

The Fire Station 4 replacement project team is currently reviewing the 100% construction documents and readying bid documents. The invitation for bid is anticipated to be advertised in February.

Construction work to replace the HVAC system at the Golf Course Clubhouse started on January 20. The project will take 9 to 12 weeks to complete. The contractor has completed the removal of the old HVAC system and has started mounting the components of the new system in the Community Room side of the Clubhouse. The photos below show workers securing the air ducts to the ceiling space and a new branch controller installed in the Community Room.

A cubicle spaces reconfiguration at the Public Works and Community Development suite was completed to convert a double sized cubicle into two cubicles. The reconfiguration work consisted of the addition of partition walls and rerouting of

electrical receptacles. This reconfiguration will bring CDD and PW teams closer to facilitate communication and collaboration.

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 November.
Justice Center Emergency Dispatch CRAC Unit	PD	Design team is reviewing updated cost proposal from contractor.
Manhattan Project Era Dormitory Renovation	PW	100% construction documents anticipated by mid-February. The Architect is working on an updated construction cost estimate.
Golf Course Site Improvements	PW, CSD	There is a short list of warranty items to be initiated by Spring 2026 weather permitting.
Golf Course Clubhouse HVAC replacement	PW, CSD	Construction work started on January 20. Contractor has completed the removal of the existing HVAC units at the Community Room.
Ice Rink Permanent Chiller Replacement	PW, CSD	This project has been completed. A change order to acquire a spare compressor motor has been routed for approvals.
Ice Rink Floor Replacement and Shade Structure	PW, CSD	Staff is preparing and RFP for design –build services.
Fire Station 3 Snow Melt System Replacement	PW, FD	Contractor is preparing an alternative snow melt system for the engineer's review and approval.
Emergency Operations Center (EOC)	PW, PD, FD	The design development phase for this project started on January 16. The project team is reviewing the floor plan configuration.
Fire Station 4 Replacement	PW, FD	Project team is reviewing the 100% construction drawings and preparing bid documents. The bid advertisement is expected in February.
Aquatic Center Olympic Pool Restoration	PW, CSD	Pre-construction meeting scheduled for February 10. The start of construction is scheduled for March.
Los Alamos Little Theatre Fire Suppression and Asbestos Abatement.	PW, CSD	Project completed. Building has been handed over to the Little Theatre.
Betty Ehart Senior Center Renovation	PW, CSD	Project team is reviewing the consultant proposal to develop construction documents.

Betty Ehart Senior Center HVAC Replacement	PW, CSD	50% Construction Documents anticipated by the end of February.
Municipal Building EV Charger Installation	Sustainability , PW, DPU	Project completed.
Mesa Public Library EV charging Stations	Sustainability , PW, DPU	Design of electric system in progress. Project team is waiting on installation information from an EV chargers vendor.
Fire Station 3 Showers Renovation	PW, FD	Project Completed
Aquatic Center Pool Replacement Pumps Design	PW, CSD	Project team is reviewing a proposal to design the replacement pumps and ancillary filtering system.
Justice Center Parking Lot Lights Replacement	PW	Staff is evaluating alternatives to procure electrical contractor services for this project.
PCS Salt Bins Rust Correction	PW	Review 90% drawings in progress.
PCS Bus Canopy Snowmelt System	PW	Electric design for EV chargers and block heaters in progress.
Brewer Arena Improvements	PW/ CSD	Project will be presented for Council consideration on February 17.
Social Services Action Center	PW/ CSD	A request for the planning phase of this project has been sent out to on-call A/E consultants. Proposals are anticipated by mid-February.
Airport T-Hangars	PW	Contractor is ordering building materials and T-Hangar buildings.

ROADS

Updates

The Denver Steels Phase II project, which was awarded to TLC Plumbing and Utility (Spead D) held a pre-construction conference in January, with construction beginning in February, replacing the roadway, targeted replacement of concrete, ADA improvements, and replacement of aging waterlines and fire hydrants.

The NM-4 Crossing and Multi-Use Trail project was presented to County Council to request approval of the new HAWK signal (Pedestrian Hybrid Beacon). The project is anticipated to be advertised for construction in April 2026 and will be complete in Summer 2027.

Staff have been preparing 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.

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.

NEW STAFF & PROMOTIONS



Anthony Romero and Travis Portis

Atomic City Transit welcomes Anthony Romero and Travis Portis



Matthew Valencia, Project Manager

Congratulations to Matthew on his promotion to Project Manager with the Capital Projects and Facilities.



Henry (Kelso) Street, Operator 1

Congratulations to Henry (Kelso) Street. In December, Kelso was promoted to an Operator I. He completed all training of service which included CDL Entry Level Driver, Bus and Route training. Kelso successfully passed all exams. He is out driving on routes and ready to support the community with transit services. Next trip you take with Atomic City Transit, take time to say “hi” to Kelso. The team looks forward to working with him for many more years.



Mora Charnot, Library Associate

In January, the Adult Services team at the Mesa Public Library welcomed Moira Charnot as their new Library Associate. Moira has previously worked as a casual library employee and brings valuable experience to her new position.

ANNIVERSARIES

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

5 years

Michael Martinez
Victoria Montoya

10 years

Christopher Armijo

20 years

Daniel Archuleta

20 Year Anniversaries



LANL Training Division
Chief James Thwaits



Fire Marshal Chief
Colorado Cordova



Battalion Chief
Jeff Saiz



Captain Joseph Romero



Captain Michael Lewis



Captain Raul Manzanares



Captain Bert Quintana



Norma Covington, Adult Services Team Librarian

Norma Covington, Adult Services Team Librarian, was giving her service pin for five years of service in January

Congratulations to Zach Parlman on his one-year anniversary with Information Management in January. Zach currently holds CompTIA A+, Network+, Security+, and ITIL 4 certifications, reflecting a strong and well-rounded technical and service management foundation.

RETIREMENT

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

Kat Brophy: Administrative Services- Procurement
Stephen Marez- DPU

ACCOLADES

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

Luis Pena- (IM) – Customer Support
Eric Edmonds (IM) – Personal Development
Mandy Burnworth (IM) – Personal Development and Cooperation
Clare Buntrock (IM) – Personal Development and Cooperation
Louisa Martinez – Personal Development
Jeannette Aldaz – Cooperation

Your hard work directly contributes to advancing our goals and enhancing the quality of life for all residents. Thank you for your exceptional efforts and for being an inspiring part of our team.



Since 1880, the League of American Bicyclists has been people-powered, with a goal to make bicycling safer and easier as a means of transportation and recreation. Today, the League continues to improve lives and strengthen communities through bicycling. We are more than 200,000 members and supporters strong with more than 1,000 state and local advocacy groups and bike clubs as well as thousands of businesses, universities, and communities leading the movement to create a Bicycle Friendly America for everyone.



The League of American Bicyclists is pleased to renew Los Alamos's designation as a Bronze-level Bicycle Friendly Community. This decision involved careful review of your 2025 BFC application and supplemental materials, as well as consultation with local cyclists and bike advocates. As you know, this award is presented only to communities with strong commitments to bicycling. You should be very proud of this accomplishment.

Fleet: Jonathan Bailon and Gamaniel Mendoza

I would like to recognize two Fleet mechanics, Jonathan Bailon and Gamaniel Mendoza, for successfully completing the Electric Vehicle course at Santa Fe Community College. The course was conducted one day per week over a ten-week period and included classroom instruction, homework assignments, hands-on training, and knowledge-based assessments. Their commitment to professional development and advancement in electric vehicle technology is commendable.

Library

A patron just came up to the YS front desk and said, "Is it me, or is this library really busy? I've been here on Sundays, and there used to be like 2 or 3 families, but now it seems like there are people sitting in almost every little corner. It's GOOD! But I think you guys might need more staffing soon! "You're (library/staff) a wonderful resource to us all. Thank you!" from a patron who enjoyed bringing her visiting grandchildren to Noon Year's Eve in WR and who brought back bags of books they enjoyed while in town

A group of our regular attendees to chess every Tuesday night came to the realization they've been meeting here weekly for 6 months now! They took the time between games to reminisce about the people they've met, those who have come and gone (some LANL students), and the friendships they've made in this short time because of this space. A few newer players were in amazement and excited to be included, and everyone left with a "see you next week!!"

Aquatics

The front desk staff has been nominated for a Community Asset Award. This award recognizes individuals or groups serving our community who work tirelessly to provide excellent service to our patrons.

Golf Course

A thumbs up to our golf course maintenance team. They have been hand watering our greens and new trees diligently for the past couple of months, and will continue to do so until our irrigation system is charged back up. A daunting task that takes a lot of time day in and day out. So, thank you to the LAGC maintenance team for their efforts toward ensuring quality turf conditions for the 2026 season.

From: Park, Aaron <aaron.park@losalamosnm.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, December 30, 2025 2:17:06 PM
To: Claire Swinhoe <claireswinhoe@hotmail.com>; Henderson, Karen <karen.henderson@losalamosnm.gov>
Cc: Walker-Foster, Tim <tim.walkerfoster@losalamosnm.gov>
Subject: RE: Safety Mirror by Circle Drive on Rose Street

Hi Claire,

Thank you for the best wishes. I'm glad I could resolve this for the Circle Dr community and had one in stock.

Have a very happy New Year,

Aaron Park
Los Alamos County
Traffic Manager
PW - Traffic & Streets
505.662.8113 Main
505.662.8176 Direct
505.709.0949 Cell
aaron.park@losalamosnm.gov

From: Claire Swinhoe <claireswinhoe@hotmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, December 30, 2025 2:05 PM
To: Park, Aaron <aaron.park@losalamosnm.gov>; Henderson, Karen <karen.henderson@losalamosnm.gov>
Cc: Walker-Foster, Tim <tim.walkerfoster@losalamosnm.gov>
Subject: Re: Safety Mirror by Circle Drive on Rose Street

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

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

The Payroll Department, successfully distributed 250 W-2 forms during our recent in-person W-2 pickup event. Over the course of three dedicated days, employees had the opportunity to collect their forms and connect with our team. This initiative wasn't just about distribution, it was about employee engagement and outreach, and it truly delivered.

More than 100 employees signed up to receive electronic W-2s next year, a big step toward efficiency and sustainability.

This achievement was a huge undertaking that required exceptional teamwork and commitment. It would not have been possible without the valiant efforts of **Cat Valdez**, **Mindy Gray**, **Daniella Pitts**, who went above and beyond to make this event a success.

Finance Team

Kudos to the County's Finance Team for their 8th jointly issued NMC and OSA Continued Excellence in outstanding audit performance presented at the NMC Legislative Conference.

