

Albuquerque & Bernalillo County Affordable Housing Initiatives June 2024 Updates

City of Albuquerque Affordable Housing Development Funding Update

Despite the advocacy efforts of a number of community organizations including the League of Women Voters Central New Mexico (LWVCNM), the Albuquerque Affordable Housing Coalition and others to increase funding for the development of new affordable housing in the City of Albuquerque's 2024-25 City Budget, no new funding was added. This means that the City will be unable to meet the Mayor's Housing Forward annual goal of creating 1,000 affordable housing units in the FY 2024-25 without the needed \$20,000,000 set aside in the Budget. For the City's Health, Housing and Homeless Department, funding increases were primarily focused on addressing the shelter, housing and behavioral health support services needs of unhoused persons in Albuquerque.

The Mayor and City Staff reported on the progress of the Housing Forward Fund for FY 23-24 via Interoffice Memo EC 24-116 submitted to City Council on June 3 that \$20,000,000 had been allocated to create 291 affordable housing units, i.e. 90 units at the Los Altos Lofts/former Sure Stay Motel; 128 units for the West Mesa Ridge Apartments rehabilitation project; 73 units at the Quality Suites acquisition/conversion project.

Middle Rio Grande Housing Collaborative (MRGHC) Update

The meeting scheduled for Thursday, June 13 was CANCELLED. There is no date set yet for the next MRGHC meeting.

Since at this time there is no official website for the Middle Rio Grande Housing Collaborative and no Executive Director has been hired, City and County staff are jointly posting Meeting announcements, Agendas and Minutes on their respective websites. The current County website address is: <https://bernalillocountynm.iqm2.com/Citizens/Default.aspx>.

The Joint City/County Administrative Resolution passed by the Albuquerque City Council, February 22, 2023 regarding the formation of the MRGHC, states that the "focus of this collaborative effort shall be long-range planning for the development and re-development of property for the purpose of planning, creating, and preserving affordable housing"; and, "to advance mutual interests in the provision of safe, sustainable, and affordable housing within the incorporated and unincorporated areas of Bernalillo County, including but not limited to through the funding, development, acquisition, construction, rehabilitation, and delivery of affordable housing to qualified individuals and families".