

Affordable Housing Report submitted: October 15, 2024

Middle Rio Grande Housing Collaborative (MRGHC)

The MRGHC met at 3:00 pm, Thursday, September 26, 2024 at the MRCOG Board Room. The following MRGHC members were present at the meeting: Talia Friedman, Dan Majewski, Lawrence Rael, Ian Robertson and Steve Anaya.

Updates and Action Items: The MRGHC approved the final Fiscal Agency Agreement between the MRGHC and Middle Rio Grande Council of Governments (MRCOG) and authorized the MRGHC Chair, Talia Friedman, to execute the Agreement and any subsequent amendments associated with the Agreement.

Recruitment for the MRGHC Executive Director position is still in process via MRCOG with the support of both the City and County Human Resources Departments collaboratively advertising the position. The position application window will close on October 25, 2024. Members discussed hiring the Executive Director initially as a contractor and later making the position permanent.

As requested by the Collaborative members at the August meeting, the MRGHC members were presented with a list of: a) possible Affordable Housing Projects that need gap financing/funding; b) vacant, available land for housing development and 3) a draft Resolution that would be presented to both County Commissioners and City Council. The lists were created by both City staff (Joseph Montoya) and County Economic Development staff (Carolyn Tobias). The lists included 25 possible affordable housing projects and 11 separate parcels of vacant land. After review and discussion, the members agreed to delete one proposed housing project (The Downtowner, 101 Silver Ave SW) because it was deemed market rate vs. specifically affordable housing, reducing the total dollar amount of housing projects to \$261,733,675.00. The members agreed to only focus their efforts on supporting the creation of affordable housing projects and mixed income (including affordable) housing projects.

The Resolution and lists of proposed affordable housing projects and vacant land parcels was presented by County Commissioner Barbara Baca at the October 8 Commissioners meeting as one of the Bernalillo County's 2025 Legislative Priorities. After discussion and a language amendment to the Resolution encouraging collaboration with both the NM Governor's Housing Office as well as the New Mexico Legislature the Resolution and lists were approved.