

Affordable Housing Report submitted: February 15, 2025

Middle Rio Grande Housing Collaborative (MRGHC)

The MRGHC met at 3:00 pm, Thursday, January 23, 2025 at the MRCOG Board Room. All MRGHC Commissioners were present at the meeting: Talia Friedman, Dan Majewski, Lawrence Rael, Ian Robertson and Steve Anaya. Other public officials present were Marcos Gonzales, Executive Director of the Bernalillo County Economic Development Department, Ken Martinez, County Attorney and Joseph Montoya, Deputy Director of Housing, City of Albuquerque.

Agenda Item Updates: The minutes for December 19, 2024 were reviewed and approved. The Collaborative approved the Annual Open Meetings Act Resolution for MRGHC as an action item. Commissioners were informed that the MRGHC's account set up via MRCOG as fiscal agent will be set up by the end of January so that the allocations for the MRGHC's administrative costs [\$500,000 from the City of Albuquerque and \$500,000 from Bernalillo County] can be accepted and deposited.

MRGHC Chair Friedman said that one new application was received for the MRGHC Executive Director position. She stated that their resume will be sent out to Commissioners and the interview with the candidate will be set up in the first week of February.

A contract for Legislative Consultant Services during the upcoming 2025 NM Legislative Session will be executed by Bernalillo County as stewarded by Commissioner Baca on behalf of the MRGHC. The consultant will represent MRGHC's interests during the session.

Commissioners discussed the MRGHC's \$200M 2025 Legislative funding request to the 2025 NM Legislative leadership. The request is to address the affordable housing funding needs in the City and County as detailed in the consolidated list of proposed housing projects developed last year. It was decided that there would be a joint funding request from the City of Albuquerque and Bernalillo County through the MRGHC for the following projects and programs:

- **Middle Rio Grande Housing Collaborative:** A joint project with the City of Albuquerque, the project would build 2,000 new housing units and rehab over 800 others in neighborhoods throughout each city quadrant. The county seeks \$100 million to close a \$261 million funding gap. Of the \$100 million, \$51 million would be used to complete eight projects under construction within a year. The balance of that funding would go to 13 other projects in the planning and design phase.
- **Affordable Housing for Seniors:** A \$1.5 million funding boost would build a 60-unit complex on county-owned property at Sixth and Coal for low- to moderate-income senior citizens.
- **International District Housing:** \$2 million to buy land, build cottages, and renovate a former clinic for use as affordable and transitional housing.
- **El Centro and Seybold Village Housing:** \$500,000 requested to renovate 75 housing units, including new flooring, interior walls, countertops, bathroom upgrades, paint and HVAC for the community of low-income seniors and handicapped-disabled citizens.
- **CARE Campus Transitional Housing:** \$20 million for 30 units serving individuals in recovery for up to two years.
- **Family and Senior Wellness Hotel:** \$7 million to convert a hotel offering 100-150 rooms for families and seniors for up to six months

- Tiny Home Communities: \$6 million for three mobile tiny home communities, serving up to 90 individuals in recovery for nine months

The next MRGHC meeting date will be Thursday, February 27, 2025 @ 3pm at MRCOG Board room.
