

2023 IMPACT REPORT



DOÑA ANA COUNTY COMMISSION 2023



Doña Ana County

DOÑA ANA COUNTY is governed by a five-member Board of Commissioners. The five commissioners are elected at-large to four-year terms of office. The Board Chair is the presiding officer of the board at meetings. All commissioners reside in the districts they represent.

BOARD RESPONSIBILITIES

- Sets policy for the county
- Enact ordinances to meet local conditions and exercise authority vested in the board by the legislature
- Represent the interests of residents in their districts
- Establishes county rules, regulations, ordinances, policies and procedures
- Appoints boards, commissioners and task forces

COMMISSIONER MEETINGS

BOARD MEETINGS - The Board of Commissioners meet regularly at 9 a.m. on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month. Meetings are held in the Commission Chambers on the ground floor of the Doña Ana County Government Center, 845 N. Motel Blvd., in Las Cruces.

The public may view meetings online at <https://www.youtube.com/@DonaAnaCountyGovernment>. Meetings are advertised in advance at www.donaanacounty.org.

COMMUNITY MEETINGS - Commissioners hold and attend community meetings at convenient locations in their districts throughout the year.

The meetings are open to the public and provide an opportunity for resident to ask questions and discuss items that are important to their community.



Board Chair Susana Chaparro

(District 4) Commissioner Susana Chaparro works as a certified court interpreter and owns an interpreting and trial consulting firm. She also held office as a Doña Ana County magistrate judge from 1999 to 2006. As a magistrate judge, Commissioner Chaparro became the first judge in the country to put Spanish speakers on jury panels, created the state's first domestic violence court. She has served on the county's drug court and the board of La Casa Inc. She currently serves as chair of the Camino Real Regional Utility Authority (CRRUA) board.



Vice Chair Christopher Schaljo-Hernandez

(District 1) Commissioner Schaljo-Hernandez has served a variety of community nonprofits around Las Cruces and surrounding areas, including the Red Ribbon Bash, Southern New Mexico Pride Board, and the Community Foundation of Southern New Mexico. He is the co-owner of Salud! De Mesilla restaurant.



Commissioner Diana Murillo

(District 2) Commissioner Murillo brings to the commission combined experience as a trustee since 2010 and current Mayor of Anthony, N.M. since 2016. She is a small business entrepreneur, an advocate for women, youth, people with disabilities, and DWI Victim Impact Panels.



Commissioner Shannon Reynolds

(District 3) Commissioner Reynolds has more than 40 years of industry management and training experience that inform his decisions and guidance to the county. Commissioner Reynolds is a US Air Force Vietnam Era Veteran, 1975-1979. Commissioner Reynolds holds the following certifications: NM Edge Certified Public Official, NM EDGE Certified County Commissioner and NM EDGE in Advocate for Public Ethics.



Commissioner Manuel A. Sanchez

(District 5) Commissioner Sanchez was first appointed commissioner by Gov. Michelle Lujan Grisham in 2019 and won the election in 2020. He regularly holds community meetings to gather feedback from constituents on how the County can better serve them. Commissioner Sanchez is an alum of MIT and currently works for GE Vernova.



Reflections

Outgoing Board Chair

I am pleased to present Doña Ana County's first annual Impact Report. The report reflects on some of the highlights and accomplishments of the previous year. It will also provide some insights into what we will be working toward in fiscal year 2024.

We made great strides in the previous year thanks to the hard work and dedication of County employees and community partners. During the COVID pandemic, and as we transition out of it, there has been significant emphasis on supporting residents. The Emergency Rental Assistance Program has provided financial assistance for rent and utilities to residents affected by the pandemic. As of December 2023, over 4000 households were assisted with \$24 million in aid. The pandemic also highlighted the need to expand access to high speed, affordable internet service in the unincorporated areas of the County. In coordination with internet service providers, a feasibility study was conducted, and grants have been secured to expand connectivity. Additionally, in a move to become a fully staffed career firefighter force, Fire & Rescue Services now operates five fully staffed stations with three more fire stations scheduled to become fully staffed for 24/7 emergency response by August 2024. These are just a few of the accomplishments that you will see in the report.

In the coming year, we will continue to make investments in infrastructure and public safety to improve residents' access to resources needed to thrive. We continue work and are committed to addressing issues such as economic development, access to mental health care, and affordable housing. These are complex problems that require collaboration and innovation, and I am confident that we have the leadership and commitment to address them.

It is an honor to have served as Chair of the Board of County Commissioners for the past year. I welcome the new chair, Christopher Schaljo-Hernandez. Thank you for your continued support and contributions toward making Doña Ana County a great place to live and work. My fellow commissioners and I look forward to continuing to enhance the health, safety, and quality of life for all residents.

Sincerely,
Susana Chaparro
Board of County Commission District 4

Moving Forward

Incoming Board Chair



Doña Ana County, I am honored to serve as your newly elected County Commission Chair. I want to thank Commissioner Chaparro for her leadership of the Commission in 2023. I have grown greatly while serving in the role as vice chair. I know she will continue to display the same compassion and leadership for our community as she continues to serve District 4.

As I step into this role, I am deeply aware of the great responsibility and commitment it demands. I am ready to commit and continue to work together with my fellow elected officials, County leadership, County employees, and the community to achieve a vision that represents fairness and transparency to help make our goal a reality.

My vision for Doña Ana County is for a united and forward-thinking community where we can encourage entrepreneurship and support our local businesses, improve infrastructure, and focus on the health and welfare of our residents.

The only thing we are missing, is you. Your input, ideas, and participation are necessary to make our community everything we need and desire for the success of our county. Together, we will be a county government that not only addresses current challenges but works to put policies in place that will help to make Doña Ana County an even better place to live, grow, work, and flourish.

Sincerely,

Christopher Schaljo-Hernandez
Board of County Commission Chair

A Look Ahead

I thank the dedicated employees who commit to delivering high-quality results, as they ensure our county continues to provide the essential services that residents rely on. I am honored to work with elected officials, community leaders and other agencies to maintain the quality of life that makes our county such a wonderful place to live, work, and raise a family or retire.

It is my pleasure to provide an update on the progress and accomplishments we have achieved over the past year.

In addition to our economic and infrastructure investments, we are also committed to ensuring that our community is safe and healthy. We made impactful investments in our public spaces renovating community centers and enhancing parks. We strengthened public safety infrastructure, building new fire stations and strengthening first responders' resources while continuing to seek ways to provide better access to healthcare and information for our residents.

Our County is a welcoming and inclusive community. We value diversity and recognize the important contributions that everyone makes in our community. We will continue to work tirelessly to ensure that everyone has access to the opportunities and resources they need to succeed.

In conclusion, I am proud to report that the state of our county is strong, and we are committed to building a better future for all residents. Thank you for your continued support, and I look forward to working with you in the years ahead.



Fernando R. Macias
County Manager

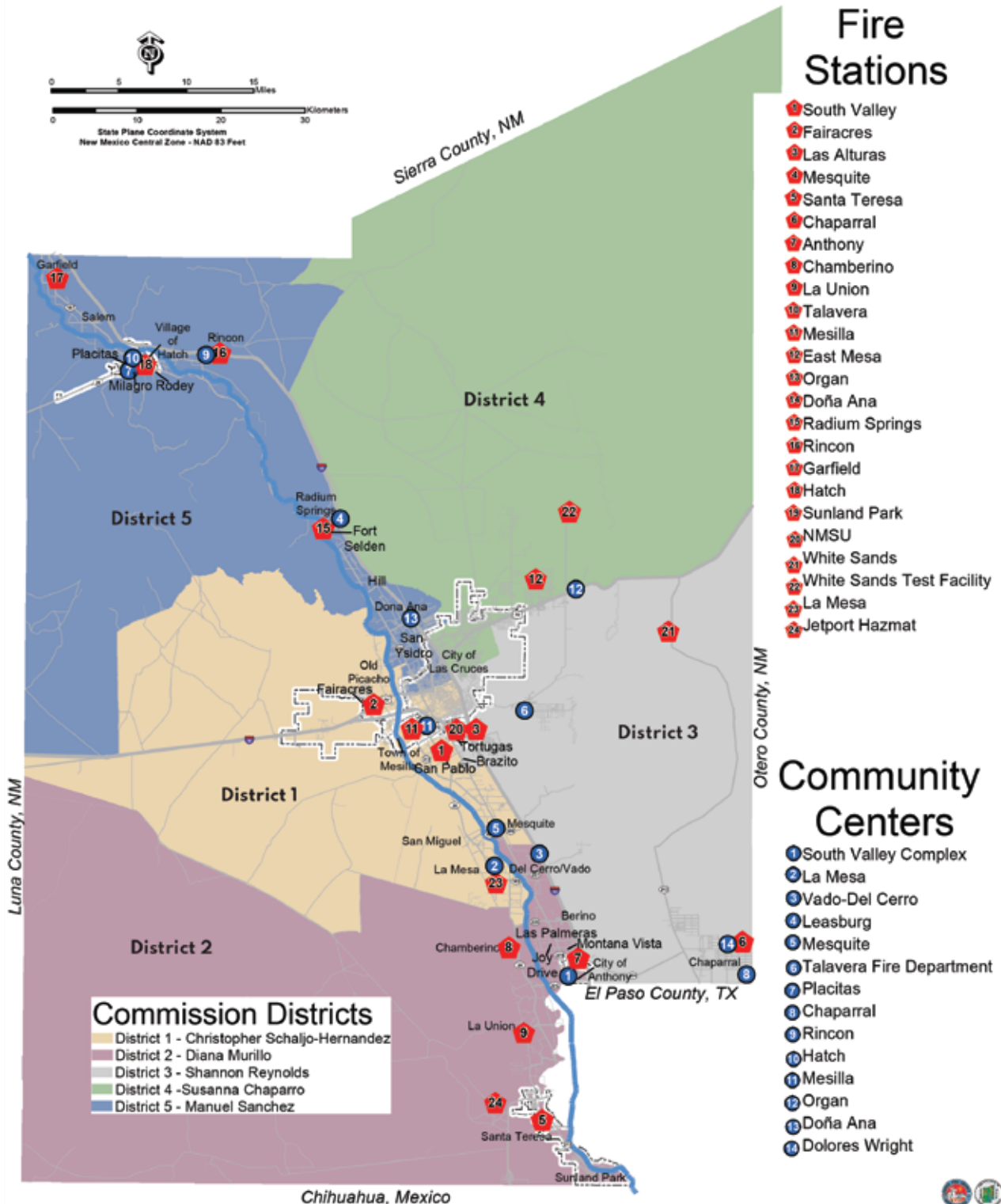


Jonathan Macias
Assistant County Manager



Deborah Weir
Assistant County Manager

Doña Ana County Map



Elected to Serve

Eugenia “Gina” Montoya Ortega

Assessor Ortega was elected in November of 2022. The Assessor’s Office determines the property value of homes, businesses and taxable properties in Doña Ana County. They also prepare tax rolls for the County Treasurer for real property (land and improvements), personal property (business equipment), livestock, and mobile homes.

Chief Deputy Assessor, Ruben Reyes, was appointed in January of 2023.

Amanda López Askin, Ph.D.

Dr. Askin was appointed clerk in 2018 and was elected for a four-year term in November of 2020. The Office of the County Clerk keeps records such as resolutions, ordinances, deeds and marriage licenses. The office also issues several types of permits and licenses, such as permits for parties, licenses for liquor establishments, etc. The Doña Ana County Clerk’s Office also receives nominations and petitions related to elections. The office supervises and prepares ballots and voting machines and trains election workers.

Chief Deputy Clerk, Caroline Zamora, was appointed in November of 2022.

Kim Stewart

Sheriff Kim Stewart leads the Doña Ana County Sheriff’s Office. Since 1852, sheriffs and deputies have committed to preserving the safety of the residents of Doña Ana County. Elected in 2018, Sheriff Stewart is the first woman to be sheriff of Doña Ana County. In partnership with the community, DASO endeavors to enhance the quality of life for residents by providing emergency responses and promoting public safety.

Tessa Abeyta was sworn in as the Undersheriff of Doña Ana County on December 18, 2023.

Eric L. Rodriguez

Treasurer Rodriguez became the Chief Financial Officer of Doña Ana County in 2016 after serving as the Chief Deputy Treasurer. The Treasurer’s Office is the property tax collector for Doña Ana County, the City of Las Cruces, Public Schools Districts in Las Cruces, Hatch and Gadsden, the State of New Mexico and other taxing agencies in Doña Ana County. The Treasurer’s Office also collects money due to other county departments including fees for services, licenses and revenues from bond issues and special assessments.

Chief Deputy Treasurer Marisol Richardson was appointed in January of 2023.

Judith Ann Baca

Judge Baca was elected in November of 2022. The Doña Ana County Probate Judge decides legal matters related with estates of deceased persons. In 2023, the Probate Office filed over 300 probate cases of persons seeking appointment as personal representative to obtain authority to act on behalf of a decedent’s estate. The Probate Judge also performs weddings as community service, counting more than 40 ceremonies in 2023.

2023 IMPACT REPORT



Production of this Impact Report is managed by the Public Information Office of Doña Ana County.

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Learn more about Doña Ana County Government
www.donaanacounty.org

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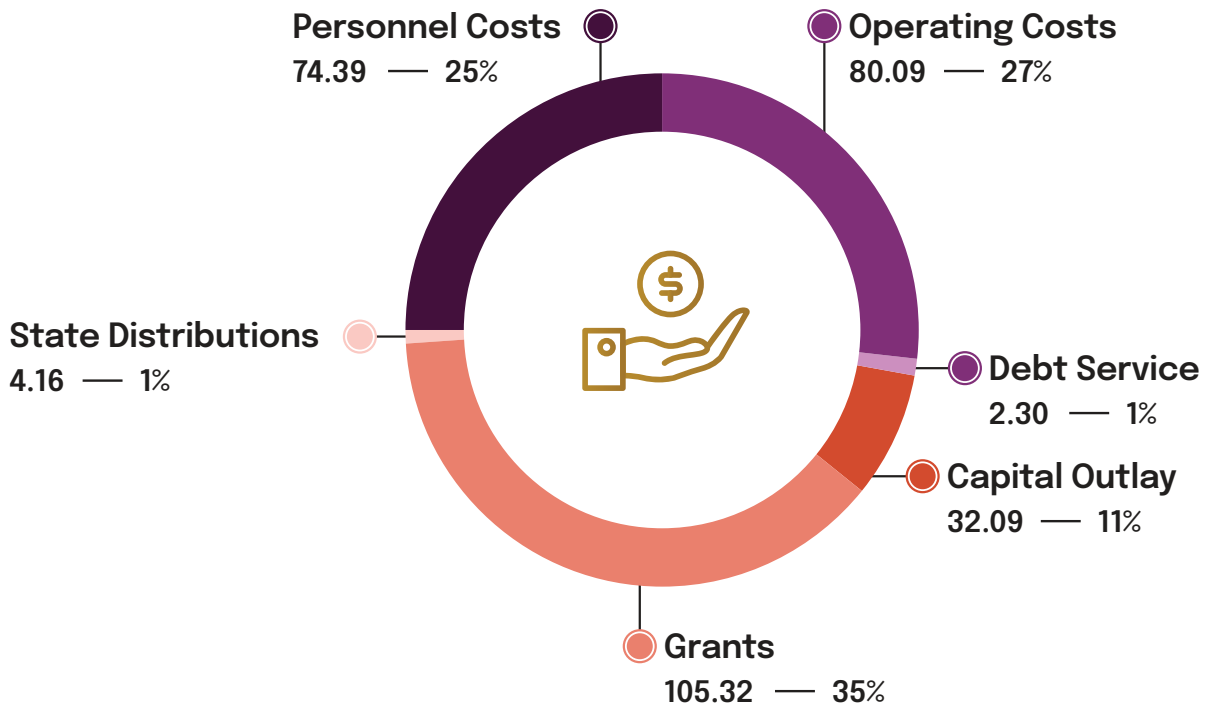




Doña Ana County's Budget

The County's two largest recurring revenue sources stem from Gross Receipts Tax and Property Taxes. These two sources combine to make up 55% of the total revenue budget for Fiscal Year 2023. The chart below reflects each revenue source as a percent of total revenue budgeted.

FY2023 Adopted County-Wide Expenditure Budget | \$298.35 (millions)





Fiscal Year 2023 Budget Highlights

On March 11, 2021, President Biden signed into law the state and Local Coronavirus Recovery Funds legislation—a component of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA)—in order to address the adverse impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the nation’s public health and economy.

The total award for Doña Ana County is \$42,381,821 for Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds. The County received \$21,190,910 on May 19, 2021 and \$21,190,910 on June 10, 2022 from U.S. Department of the Treasury. Of the \$42,381,821.00 in ARPA Funds, \$20,860,566 has been paid out; purchase orders for \$5,281,394 have been issued; and the remaining balance of \$10,588,079 was earmarked for projects. There is capacity available of \$5,651,782 that can be allocated to projects. Doña Ana County must make plans for American Rescue Plan Act funds under capital projects no later than December 31, 2024, with full pay-out on such outstanding purchase orders by December 31, 2026.



Doña Ana County American Rescue Plan Act Plan Summary Highlights:

- Live-saving equipment for cardiac arrest and other COVID-19 secondary impacts
- Three (3) patient transport capable vehicles and three (3) first-response vehicles
- Purchase of three (3) pumper trucks
- Fleet for increased public safety
- Ventilation improvements to the Public Health Office building (and HVAC upgrades to the Government Center.
- Common area reconfiguration within the Detention Center
- Equipment for a hazard shelter
- Build out mobile responsive units for faster deployment during a surge or disaster
- Address health & safety concerns with uninhabitable structures (by Spring 2024)
- 4-Day Recovery Center assessment, mobile triage crisis unit, behavioral health services.



Fiscal Year 2023 Budget Highlights (cont.)

- Affordable housing development to increase supply of affordable high-quality units-\$2.3 million contracts with Peachtree housing and Tierra Del Sol Housing
- Improve processes for small businesses to grow their operations (encumbered)
- Invest in flood mitigation for lower-income communities:
 - Lily pond project part of Vado/Del Cerro plan complete by Summer/Fall 2024
 - Project complete by Summer/Fall 2024
- Support county-wide broadband accessibility and county-wide broadband feasibility study & implement findings (Northern Broadband project in partnership with Ethos Broadband)
- Construct communication tower in Hatch/Salem for I-25 & broadband (encumbered) \$ 425,000



Additional funding highlights:

- Electric Vehicle Charging Station
- District Court Expansion Architectural Services
- Chaparral Library Construction
- Mesquite Transfer Station Monitoring Wells
- Roads Initiative, Road Vehicles and Equipment
- Land Development Software for Community Development
- Doña Ana Sheriff's Office Vehicles
- Fairgrounds Covered Arena Lighting Upgrade
- Doña Ana Baseball Park Lighting Upgrade



Electric vehicle currently in use by the Office of Emergency Management

Fiscal Year 2023 Budget Highlights (cont.)



Left to right, Doña Ana County Assessor Gina Ortega, County Manager Fernando Macias, NM State Auditor Joseph Maestas, County Commission Chair Susana Chaparro, County Treasurer Eric Rodriguez, County Commission Vice Chair Christopher Schaljo-Hernandez and former NM State Auditor Brian Colon, far right.

In January 2023, Doña Ana County received the large county audit and accountability award from the New Mexico Association of Counties (NMAC) and the State Auditor's office, in recognition of large, mid-size and small counties for outstanding work in their audits, submitting timely audits and sustaining excellence with the highest audit opinions.



Human Resources

For the third year in a row, the Human Resources Department has facilitated a Summer Enrichment Internship Program, made possible by funding from the New Mexico Public Education Department.

The popular program serves as a model across the state, made up of a cross-section of the county with students from Las Cruces Public Schools, Gadsden Independent School District, Hatch Schools, charter schools and homeschooled students.

Students are placed in diverse career sites which allow them to gain valuable work experience by working in various industries such as government, education, medical, manufacturing, and nonprofit organizations.



Human Resources also hires a corps of coordinators with experience as teachers, counselors or other careers which support young people, to serve as the liaison between the County and the business partners.



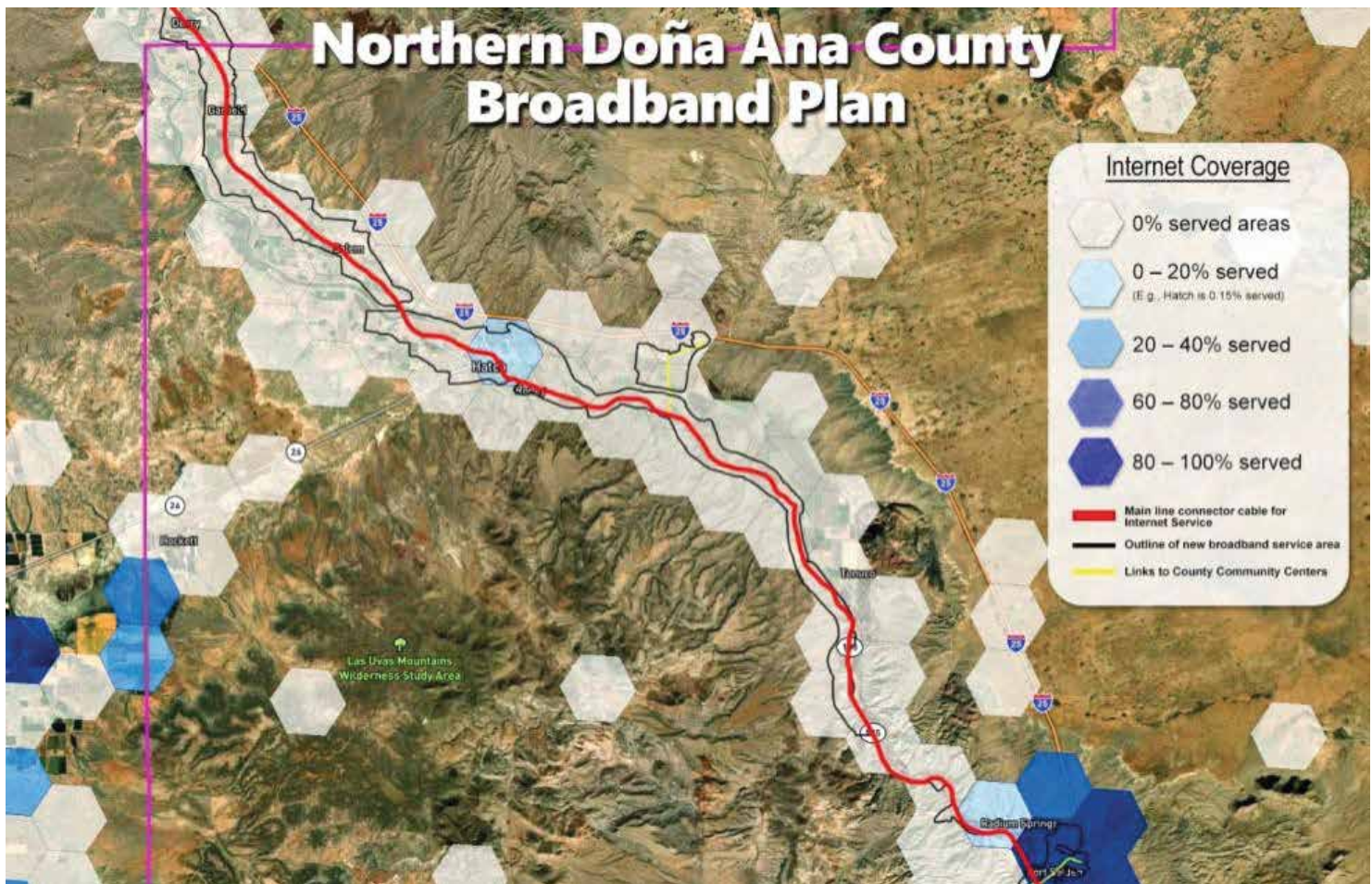
An intern with the Public Information Office, captures the moment and gains valuable work experience!

The success of the program hinges largely on the participation of the many organizations and businesses in Doña Ana County, who offer a great training ground for our future workforce to develop their skills alongside industry professionals that will benefit them throughout their academic and professional careers.

Internship Program Stats:

2021	 520 STUDENTS	 \$10.50 /HOUR UP TO 120 HOURS
2022	 850 STUDENTS	 \$13 /HOUR UP TO 200 HOURS
2023	 1380 STUDENTS	 \$15 /HOUR UP TO 200 HOURS

Information Technology



Broadband - Focus on digital inclusion, awareness, and education

Broadband connectivity is essential infrastructure in Doña Ana County. Affordable prices, universal access to connected devices and a community equipped with digital skills are vital to having healthy communities across the County. Lack of reliable connectivity can affect educational outcomes, limit students' ability to learn remotely. It can affect health outcomes, when health care workers can work with patients remotely to improve their physical and mental health. Economic outcomes can be impacted because broadband can enable residents to search for opportunities and apply for jobs.

In 2023, the Board of County Commissioners committed \$4 million to infrastructure and broadband enhancement to rural areas. The County is participating in the Northern County Broadband project. The funds for this project will support building 28 miles of broadband infrastructure connecting Salem to Radium Springs. The County partnered with SWC TelesolutionsEthos Broadband to build the fiber

backbone stretching from Radium Springs to Salem. This backbone will enable Ethos to connect more than 1,600 homes, 20 anchor institutions and more than 100 small businesses in Hatch, Rodey, Rincon, Salem, Placitas, Garfield and Radium Springs leveraging USDA Reconnect 4 grant funding.

In 2021, Doña Ana Broadband (DAB) was formed as a grassroots initiative. DAB collaborated with Digital El Paso, a similar grassroots effort focused on broadband in El Paso. In FY 2023, the Doña Ana Broadband and Digital El Paso groups came together to plan and create Borderplex Connect, a nonprofit organization focused on digital inclusion, because of our common interests and the need to engage more collaboratively in addressing broadband access and equity challenges.



Enhancing Digital Communication



The County website has been redesigned to offer visitors a better viewing experience.

The redesigned website features:

- ReachDeck: An all-in-one-digital resource that helps improve accessibility, readability, and reach of our online content
- Quick reference buttons
- “I Want To” search feature for the most frequently asked questions
- More frequent key announcements on the home page
- Better organized department and services information
- Visible and easily accessible calendar
- Video slideshow



ReachDeck: An all-in-one-digital resource



Responding to Residents

The County's Community & Constituent Services (CCS) department is charged with handling resident input and responding to questions or concerns. Residents can contact the office by emailing input@donaanacounty.org.

CCS also administers the County's external ethics and reporting hotline known as EthicsPoint. The EthicsPoint reporting platform provides employees and the public with the opportunity to report allegations of violations of County Human Resource Policies and Procedures by a County staff member or County elected official.

Towards the end of FY23, the County made an investment to enhance its constituent services tracking and outreach system to improve communication with and increase engagement opportunities for the public, provide opportunities for public involvement in decision-making activities, and better training of constituent inquiries through casework process.

Inspection of Public Records Act (IPRA)

By law, under the Inspection of Public Records Act, IPRA, every person has the right to inspect public records of Doña Ana County. **The New Mexico Inspection of Public Records Act, NMSA 1978, Chapter 14, Article 2**, provides that a person desiring to inspect public records may submit a request to the records custodian orally or in writing.

Visit <https://recordbook.donaanacounty.org> to submit requests online.

The public may also mail or hand-deliver your request directly to:

Doña Ana County

IPRA Custodian

845 N. Motel Blvd., Box #17, Las Cruces, NM 88007

Online Permitting System

The Board of County Commission funded and approved a contractor to implement new land development software. The new software will make the application process more efficient to include faster processing and a more user-friendly experience including:



- A public portal for applicants to submit applications, plans, and payments online.
- An integrated electronic plan review platform that will allow for simultaneous notification and review when applications are accepted.
- Applicants will receive a notice when plan review comments are posted.
- Applicants will be able to submit revised plans through the portal.
- Inspectors will be able to send an electronic notice to contractors when inspections are conducted with comments or verification of inspection approval.

In the last fiscal year, 3,169 permits were issued.

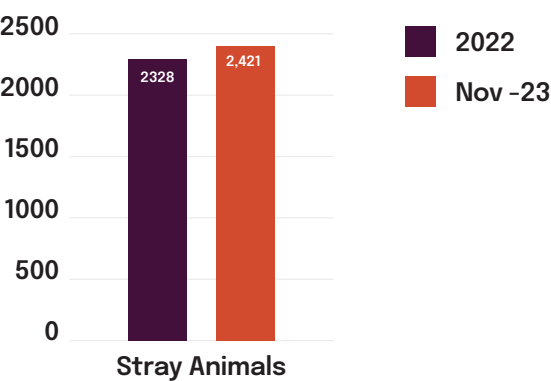
Permit Type	Issued: No. of Permits	Permit Fees	Valuation
Single-family Dwellings	236	\$171,372	\$182,590,678
Commercial Permits	21	\$121,363	\$121,363
Mobile Home Permits	193	\$22,400	\$22,400
Electrical Permits	1730	\$160,125	\$160,125
Mechanical Permits	984	\$61,216	\$61,216
Total	3,169	\$536,476	\$536,476



Community Services

The mission of the Animal Control Department is to provide protection for county residents and their property from the dangers and nuisances caused by stray animals, to protect pets from the cruelty they may face from irresponsible citizens, and to educate the public in the responsibilities of pet ownership, animal control, care, and welfare. To spare dogs and cats from suffering and death that overpopulation causes, the County offers spay and neuter services for the animals of residents of the County in partnership with the Spay and Neuter Action Program (SNAP).

Fiscal Year 2023 Animal Control Stray Animal Pick Ups



- a. As of the end of November in 2023, Doña Ana County Animal Control Officers picked up 2,421 stray animals.
- b. As of the end of December 2023, 266 cat spay and neuters, 419 dog spay and neuters, 435 Rabies Vaccinations and 314 Microchips were completed.

Keeping Doña Ana County Beautiful

Keep Doña Ana County Beautiful, an affiliate of Keep America Beautiful, is funded by a grant to support neighborhood improvement through clean-up efforts, partner with local organizations year-round. The County's Environment Codes Enforcement Division supports neighborhood clean-up events by providing reflective vests, collection containers, trash grabbers, gloves, trash bags, and other supplies to any group or individual for voluntary clean-up initiatives.

Request supplies for a clean-up event in your neighborhood by calling Enforcement Codes at (575) 525-6106.

Since 2011, the County has been a part of the Illegal Dumping Partnership (IDP). Resources for creating awareness and fighting illegal dumping is provided by the IDP and the Bureau of Land Management. The current partners are Doña Ana County, Camino Real Environmental Center, Bureau of Land Management, South Central Solid Waste Authority, Mesilla Valley Regional Dispatch Authority, Commissioner of Public Lands, New Mexico State Land Office, Doña Ana Codes.



Carlos the Coyote and Lizzy the Lizard, mascots used to spread awareness about illegal dumping and the importance of recycling

Community	Date of Event	Tires (in tons)	Trash (in tons)
Rincon	09/24/2022	0	1.39
Garfield	10/29/2022	0.47	1.46
Salem	11/19/2022	2.79	5.16
Radium Springs	1/28/2023	.42	3.17
Organ	2/25/2023	1.15	2.27
Butter Field	3/25/2023	1.13	4.47
Vado	3/25/2023	1.54	2.76
Village of Doña Ana	4/29/2023	4.12	3.6
Tortugas	5/27/2023	1.9	3.2
Rodey	10/28/2023	2.70	5.06

Upcoming Community Events

1/11/2024	Thursday	Jan.	Anthony Area
1/20/2024	Saturday	Jan.	Clean-up with Carlos Day
2/15/2024	Thursday	Feb.	Anthony area - Follow-up day
3/21/2024	Thursday	March	Chamberino Area
3/30/2024	Saturday	March	Clean-up with Carlos Day
4/18/2024	Thursday	April	Chamberino area - Follow - up day
5/16/2024	Thursday	May	Organ Area
5/25/2024	Saturday	May	Clean-up with Carlos Day
6/20/2024	Thursday	June	Organ area Follow-up day
6/27/2024	Thursday	June	Clean-Up with Carlos Days Workshop

Community Development

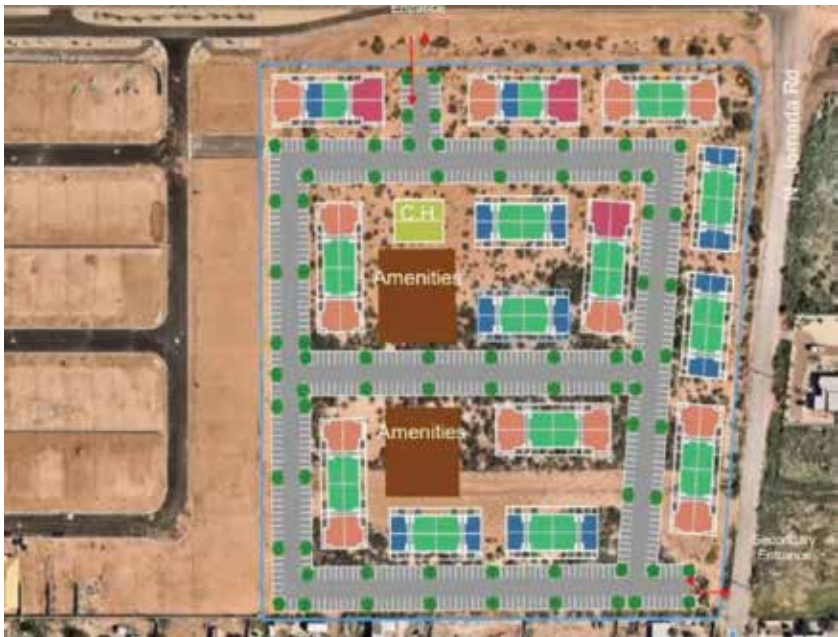
Affordable Housing in Doña Ana County

Doña Ana County committed \$1.5 million in America Rescue Protection Act (ARPA) funds to the New Mexico Housing and Community Development Corporation, (NMHCDC), in partnership with Thomas Development Group for the Peachtree Canyon Apartments. The project represents a partnership between the County, City of Las Cruces, and New Mexico Mortgage Finance Authority (NMMFA), to advance affordable housing goals in the County. The property to be developed is located at 7081 N Jornada Road in the City of Las Cruces. The apartments will be built to serve working family households with children.

There will be a total of 144 units comprised of 72 one-bedroom units, 60 two-bedroom units and 12 three-bedroom units. Buildings on the site are organized around the green open space. The property will be all electric and include EV parking and solar.

The total development cost for Phase I is estimated to be approximately \$28 million. Phase 1 will include construction of 144 affordable housing units. Another 144 units are expected to be completed in 2025.

Peachtree Canyon Apartments Proposed Layout



 **\$28**
MILLION

 **144**
UNITS

 **2**
PHASES



Connecting Communities



Pictured: The Family of Lino Murillo and centered: Doña Ana County Manager Fernando Macias, Doña Ana County Commissioner Diana Murillo, State Senator Carrie Hamblen, State Rep. Ray Lara and Rafael Leos, South Central Solid Waste Authority

The County engages in projects to create pedestrian connectivity to schools, parks, and other community facilities as part of its mission to encourage wellness and active living.

Avenida Murillo–The County opened and named Avenida Murillo as a new road in Chamberino. We joined residents of Chamberino to celebrate having a secondary access point in this community. This road will expand growth opportunities including job creation because of new transportation possibilities and improved access to the area.

Avenida Murillo was named after Mr. Lino Murillo, an early settler in Chamberino. Not only is the opening of this road and its naming symbolic, but it represents new opportunities for the community of Chamberino. Generations to come will see this street sign and recognize that Doña Ana County always looks to honor the best of our community like Mr. Murillo and others who make Doña Ana County a great place to live!

Accelerating Regional Innovation

The NM Tradeport lies within the Borderplex of North America, a region located at the mid- point of the United States/Mexico border. It extends from the Mexican border at Santa Teresa, NM, north to Las Cruces, NM, which are both located in Doña Ana County. Doña Ana County was awarded \$1.1 million for a regional innovation accelerator project. The funding will assist with furthering the goals of the NM TradePort which include fostering quality job growth, accommodating investment from diverse industries, improving the resiliency of the national supply chain, and reduction of CO2 emissions in the region while increasing economic and environmental justice for historically underserved communities.



Flood Commission

The mission of the Doña Ana County Flood Commission is to protect lives, property and commerce of the County from the effects of devastating floods. The Flood Commission consistently works to improve drainage ways and maintain infrastructure to pass water through the County while protecting property from damage.

Gardner Dam Breach/Gardner Pond Construction



Before



After

Flood Commission Projects

Gardner Dam Breach/Gardner Pond Construction

Timeline	Status	Budget
September 19, 2022 - October 2023	Completed	\$3,400,000 (State ARPA funds, allocated by Governor Lujan-Grisham)

Tellbrook Arroyo Improvements

Timeline	Status	Budget
April 24 - September 25, 2023	Completed	\$1,070,000 (Capital Outlay & Flood Tax Revenue)

Tellbrook Arroyo Improvements



Before



After

Elks Pond		
Timeline	Status	Budget
August 21, 2023	Under construction	Project was awarded to Crosstown Construction in the amount of \$378,633.91 at the July 25 BOCC. (Colonias Funding)

Hatch Waterline Construction		
Timeline	Status	Budget
April 2023 - March 2024	Under construction	Budget \$1.8 million (Capital Outlay)

Lily Pond in Vado		
Timeline	Status	Budget
September 2023 - July 2024	Under construction	\$2 million budget

Doña Ana County International Jetport



Groundbreaking event for additional aircraft hangars at the Doña Ana County Jetport. Pictured, Names: (Left to Right): Airport Manager William Provance, State Senator Carrie Hamblen, State Rep. Ray Lara, U.S. Senator Martin Heinrich, County Manager Fernando Macias, District 3 Commissioner Shannon Reynolds

Exciting developments are occurring to enhance transportation infrastructure for the region.

- Runway is expanding to 150-foot width and being strengthened to accommodate larger, cargo carrying aircraft up to the size of a Boeing 757 aircraft.
- New T-hangar construction to support a growing general aviation community.



International Jetport

Jetport developments continued

- Burrell Aviation to build cargo facilities for air cargo handling, cold storage, distribution and aircraft maintenance hangars.
- Franklin Mountain Management, Inc. to develop a logistics park on airport property.



Accelerating Regional Innovation

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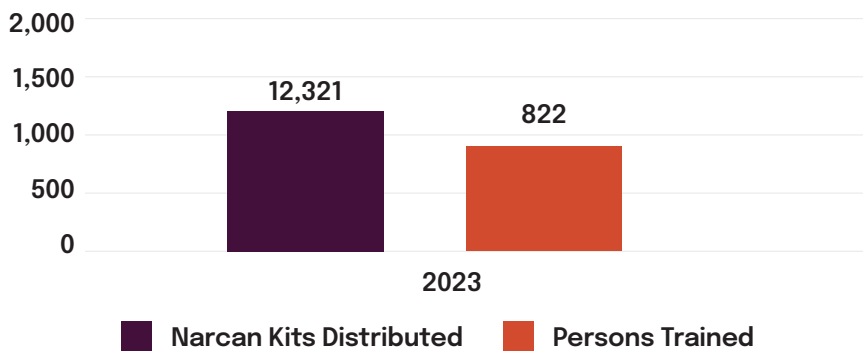
Health & Human Services

The Health & Human Services department is the County's arm for addressing residents' health and human service needs.

HHS offers ongoing outreach and education to the community to through substance use prevention and mental health first aid.

- Narcan education and distribution
 - Narcan is a medication designed to rapidly reverse an opioid overdose.

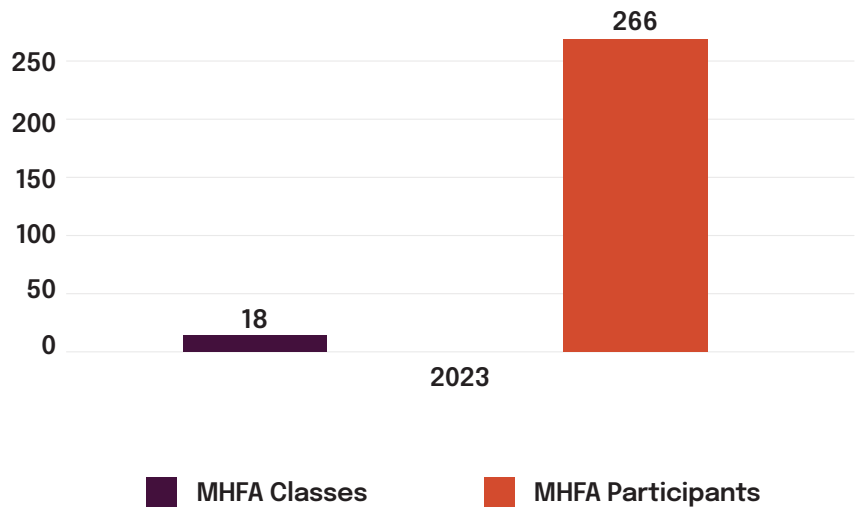
Narcan Education and Distribution



To request a training or to get Narcan, please call 575.525.5850 or email narcan@donaanacounty.org



Mental Health First Aid



1. Mental Health First Aid

- Adult and Youth Mental Health First Aid classes are offered to teach people how to identify, understand and respond to signs and symptoms of a mental health or substance use.
- Six (6) new instructors were certified, including staff at the county Detention Center, Las Cruces Public Schools, and Gadsden Independent School District.

2. Classes and encounters at six (6) community resource centers

In 2023, 1851 classes were taught, with 21,900 encounters.

Available Mental Health First Aid classes can be found here:





Building a Safer Future



Emergency Management

1. The All-Hazards Disaster Shelter is now in place and capable of congregate sheltering for people, pets, and livestock. This is the first time that the County has had a turnkey sheltering capability for 300+ people that includes cots, bedding, hygiene kits, a registration system, and related supplies, as well as the ability to deploy some components to other sites in the County to meet small disaster sheltering needs. The Office of Emergency Management is now pursuing funding to provide quiet, uncrowded space for individuals and families with disabilities as defined by the American Disabilities Act (ADA).
2. The County is moving the Sheriff's Department and the County Fire & Rescue Services Department to a statewide radio system that is much more robust and secure than the legacy system that has been used in the past. The new radios have been obtained by both agencies, and the new channels/talk groups have been created and are actively being tested. This project will positively impact all residents in the County, as it is how responders are dispatched to 911 calls for service, request assistance, and coordinate emergency/disaster responses. As of July 15, 2023, the new system covers approximately 99% of the populated areas of the county. As soon as the public safety answering point (Mesilla Valley Regional Dispatch Authority) is ready with their new equipment, the new system will go into service. This is expected to take place during FY2024.



Rendering of new Emergency Operations Center

- 3.** The initial design work of the new Emergency Operations Center (EOC) has been completed, and work is underway to secure the remaining funding needed to start construction. The new building will provide space for government leaders, emergency managers, first responders, and private sector partners to work together to address major disasters. It will also provide a location for warehousing and processing of equipment and supplies needed during a disaster. A classroom space is being included to improve the ability to offer disaster-related training classes for not only first responders in the County, but also for residents interested in becoming better prepared to take care of themselves, their families, and their friends during an emergency. This expanded and modernized space is a critical need for the County, as responses to the 2016 Church Bombings, the 2019 Migrant Crisis, the COVID-19 Pandemic, and the 2021 Flooding clearly demonstrated.

- 4.** Two significant flood mitigation projects were undertaken that involved the Office of Emergency Management (OEM). The first was a sandbag distribution program which provided sandbags to the public for use in protecting at-risk structures during the monsoon season. During the Summer 2022 effort, OEM changed from giving out filled sandbags that weigh 40–50 lbs. each, to giving out empty sandbags to residents.

The reason for the change was community feedback that the filled sandbags were hard to store, and that many people could not handle them or did not have a vehicle that could transport them. By moving to empty sandbags, residents can get more (limit raised from 10 filled sandbags to 20 empty sandbags per person) and are able to keep them inside and out of the way until needed. This has greatly increased participation in the program (from fewer than 2,500 sandbags given out in 2021, to over 7,000 empty sandbags given out in 2022), and feedback from participants has been very positive. OEM also provides sand piles for filling sandbags in areas as needed, along with equipment to simplify filling. Residents can then choose how much sand to put in a sandbag to make them more manageable.



This same approach was used during the 2023 Sandbag Distribution effort. The other flood control mitigation project was undertaken with the County Flood Control Department and consisted of obtaining funding through the joint effort of New Mexico Senators Martin Heinrich and Ben Ray Luján, in the form of Congressional Directed Spending to install a flood control system in La Union to reduce the danger to homes in the area. The County Flood Control is now working on the design of that project.



Detention Center

1. Kitchen Remodel – Allows for better provision of meal services for detainees and includes the capacity for future expansion.
2. Completion of the Energy Conservation Project – This reduces the consumption of resources such as water and electricity by the Detention Center through the installation of a number of “green” technologies to reduce greenhouse emissions needed to operate the Detention Center such as solar panels, LED lighting, reduced flow toilets to name a few.
3. Expansion of Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) for detainees – We have continued to expand the types of medications for the treatment of opiate abuse disorders and are moving to the provision of full MAT therapy, to include inductions and more.
4. Video System Upgrade – Allows for better monitoring of all areas of the facility to increase the safety of both staff and detainees and improve response time for incidents.



Fire & Rescue



Fire Station #2 rendering



In FY23, Doña Ana County Fire and Rescue continued its goal of modernizing community response systems by putting into place over \$10 million in new equipment. The equipment included cardiac monitors, automatic CPR machines, eight new state-of-the-art fire engines, three brush trucks (to enter into areas where larger heavy fire engines cannot), three patient transport capable rescues (first of their kind in Doña Ana County) and has placed in service 8 sets of fully electric, battery operated extrication tools. Nine fire stations were renovated with three more in progress.

Also, in FY23 the first new fire station in Anthony, NM since 2008 began construction. All these investments are part of the County's commitment to growing the fire response in proportion to the growth throughout the county.



Firefighter Academy 16

Increased career staffing

- a. Career firefighters began staffing Station 17 at the Jetport 24 hours a day in October 2022.
- b. Increasing the number of career staff improves fire and EMS response times.
- c. Provides for increased personnel and improves safety on emergency scenes.

Started construction on new Fire Station #2 near Anthony

- a. It is a central location in Southern Doña Ana County for training both career and volunteer firefighters.



Doña Ana County Sheriff's Office

The men and women of the Doña Ana County Sheriff's Office (DASO) are dedicated to service, with the protection and preservation of life being their number one priority. In November of 2023, the Doña Ana County Sheriff's Office was awarded accreditation by the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA). CALEA is the only internationally recognized credentialing authority that has developed professional standards for law enforcement services.



This award not only reflects that DASO has effective policies and leadership in place to minimize risks, but they are also compliant with all applicable standards set forth in law enforcement agencies nationwide.

Now Hiring!

Join a team of highly motivated professionals and help serve Doña Ana County. Empower and ensure the safety of our residents today!



Pictured: Sheriff Kim Stewart during live press conference for cold case.

In a significant achievement, DASO solved a 37-year-old Jane Doe cold case, bringing closure to the family of Dorothy Harrison.



Scan for more information and apply today!



Infrastructure and Maintenance

Projects completed in 2023:

These completed projects were brand new construction, using recycled pavement and base, and placing three (3) additional inches of new asphalt pavement on all these roads. Improvements to the existing drainage structures were also completed.

Additional Projects

In FY23, funding was awarded for the following projects:

- Elks Drive Multi-use Trail Phase II, Cost \$254,000
0.3 miles from Doña Ana School Road north to Thorpe Road, connecting to the recently NMDOT constructed sidewalks
- Airport Road Multi-use Trail, Cost \$390,000
0.5 miles from the Western most driveway of Santa Teresa High School to McNutt Road, connecting to the existing multi-use trail on McNutt
- Paseo Real + County Line Drive Multi-use Trail, Cost \$1.7 million
3.0 miles connecting to the existing Lisa Drive/County Line Drive Trail network

Chip Seal

- | | |
|----------------------------------|---|
| • Arroyo Yeso Rd., Garfield, NM | • Ulysses Ave., Hatch, NM |
| • Knight Rd., Garfield, NM | • B.B. Romig Dr., Salem, NM |
| • Lexington Rd., Garfield, NM | • Eisenhower Ave., Salem, NM |
| • Rio Viejo Rd., Garfield, NM | • Father Ramon Estivill Ave., Salem, NM |
| • Saratoga St., Garfield, NM | • Garfield Ave., Salem, NM |
| • Silverbell St., Garfield, NM | • Grande Ave., Salem, NM |
| • Walnut Grove Rd., Garfield, NM | • Hayes St., Salem, NM |
| • Florencio Ave., Hatch, NM | • Ogas Ave., Salem, NM |
| • Night Watchers Rd., Hatch, NM | • P.G. Lopez Rd., Salem, NM |
| • Salem St., Hatch, NM | • Rancho Bonito Rd., Salem, NM |
| • Sunday Dr., Hatch, NM | • Truman St., Salem, NM |
| • Two Counties Rd., Hatch NM | |

Facilities & Parks

The efforts of every section within the Facilities & Parks Department benefit the county government and residents by providing services for critical building infrastructure, improving public health, and supporting community needs for quality of life throughout Doña Ana County.



*Recently renovated community center in
Vado Del Cerro and Radium Springs*

County building attendants worked behind the scenes to ensure County facilities were kept clean and sanitized to promote safe and healthy work environments. Building attendants maintain 35 buildings, containing approximately 400,000 square feet of space, in addition to supporting professional and social events throughout the County facilities.

La Mesa Walking Path Dedication



The Projects and Property Management team completed the interior rehabilitation of:

- Eight community centers
- Completed upgrades to the Detention/Juvenile Center that are anticipated to reduce energy costs.
- Began the construction of a new fire station in the southern part of the county.
- Completed the sale of property assets, with the proceeds being used to fund other County maintenance initiatives.

Grounds Team enhancements included:

- Enhanced Casa Linda Park in Santa Teresa by clearing the property of unsightly overgrowth, installing a walk trail, a new full size basketball court, in addition to other park amenities for use by children and families.
- Delores C. Wright Park BMX Pump Track.
- The La Mesa Community Center walking trail and exterior solar lighting.
- The Mesquite Community Park concrete skate park.
- Grounds staff of six maintained the landscape appearance of 26 buildings to ensure a safe and pleasant outdoor environment for all facility visitors.

Delores C. Wright BMX Pump Track



CONNECT TO
DOÑA ANA COUNTY GOVERNMENT



DonaAnaCounty.org



DOÑA ANA COUNTY GOVERNMENT
845 North Motel Boulevard
Las Cruces, NM 88007
575- 647- 7200



County Staff volunteer art and design project on display at the Southern New Mexico Fairgrounds.

DOÑA ANA COUNTY

We've got a new attitude

Coming soon!!



In April of 2023, the Doña Ana County Commission, with the aid of the Public Information Office, coordinated a County-wide contest to re-design the County logo. A panel made up of one representative from each commission district, recommended logos to the commission. First, second and third place prizes were awarded to Megan Rupp and Natalia Guilmino.

The raw artwork was refined and vetted by the County Commissioners and an approved variation of the logo was voted on and approved on November 28, 2023. The approved updates consist of a finalized logo, based on the contest winner's artwork as well as a re-worked and modernized variation of the County seal.

We look forward to sharing our new vision for the future.