

**Affordable Housing Report submitted: September 15, 2024**  
**Janie McGuigan**

### **Middle Rio Grande Housing Collaborative (MRGHC) Update**

The MRGHC met on Thursday, August 22, 2024 after a 3 month hiatus from their last meeting on May 9, 2024. In the interim, Serg Martinez, one of the original MRGHC members had resigned and was replaced by Steve Anaya. The following MRGHC members were present at the August meeting: Talia Friedman, Dan Majewski, Lawrence Rael, Ian Robertson and Steve Anaya. The Interim Chair, Talia Friedman asked for nominations for Officers for the MRGHC and the following persons were elected: Talia Friedman, President; Dan Majewski, Vice-Chair; and Ian Robertson, Secretary.

Updates and Action Items: The Middle Rio Grande Council of Governments (MRCOG) has agreed to be the Fiscal Agent for the MRGHC and a draft agreement is being finalized. The MRGHC finalized and approved the Executive Director position job description as an action item. It was also agreed that the MRCOG will be the official hiring entity for the MRGHC Executive Director but the City and County Human Resources Departments will be responsible for collaboratively advertising the position. The MRCOG will provide office space for the Executive Director.

Also at the August meeting Lawrence Rael was instrumental in encouraging the MRGHC to get prepared to make fiscal/grant requests for affordable housing development at the 2025 New Mexico Legislative Session. The MRGHC members discussed the desire to request an allocation of affordable housing development funds which would then be released via RFI. The intent is to use the State funds as leverage to extend financial support across numerous new and rehabilitated multi-family construction projects. Both the City and County staff will be asked to submit proposed multi-family affordable housing projects by November 15, 2024.

At its next meeting on Thursday, September 26, 3:00pm @ MRCOG, the MRGHC will be seeking more information and education about affordable housing development processes, so they have invited Joseph Montoya, Deputy Director of Housing, City of Albuquerque, Health, Housing and Homelessness Department, to make a presentation at the meeting.

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### **New Mexico Opportunity Enterprise and Housing Development Loan Fund RFP Released September 4, 2024**

The **Housing Development Revolving Loan Fund** (a part of the Opportunity Enterprise and Housing Development Initiative) was created by HB195 in the 2024 NM Legislative Session

and signed into law by Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham to address the affordable housing crisis in many of New Mexico's communities.

The Housing Development Loan Fund offers up to \$15 million per loan amount for the construction of workforce housing and for infrastructure for affordable housing and is offered to both non-profit and for-profit housing developers. The program is governed and overseen by the Opportunity Enterprise and Housing Development Review Board and is administered by New Mexico Finance Authority.

Round 1 of the Housing Development Loan Fund opened on September 4 and will close on October 16, 2024. More information is available at:

<https://www.nmfinance.com/opportunity-enterprise-housing-development-revolving-fund/> or via email [OERF@nmfa.net](mailto:OERF@nmfa.net) .

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