

**Affordable Housing Report: January, 2026**

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

The MRGHC met at 1:00 pm, Thursday, January 22, 2026 for a regular meeting at the MRCOG Board Room. Four of five MRGHC Commissioners attended: Dan Majewski, Ian Robertson, Lawrence Rael, and Steve Anaya. Other attendees were: Cindy Chavez, Bernalillo County Manager; Barbara Baca, County Commissioner, Carla Martinez, CFO, City of Albuquerque and Ellen Braden, City of Albuquerque.

MRGHC personnel and staff updates include: Yasmine Armstrong, MRGHC Executive Director, resigned in December. Additionally Talia Friedman, Chair, resigned from the MRGHC. The nomination of a replacement Commissioner by the City of Albuquerque is pending.

At the January meeting, the MRGHC Commissioners selected a new Interim Chair, Lawrence Rael, and approved as written the November 20 Meeting Minutes. Updates were provided by County and City staff regarding the expenditure and/or obligation of last year's MRGHC Legislative allocation of \$110,000,000. The County report was provided by Cindy Chavez who stated that 79% (\$48,475,289) of the County's portion (\$61,524,317) from the State had been invested (expended and/or obligated) as of January 2026 in: infrastructure supports for 1 new housing development (725 units); gap funding for 5 new housing construction projects (625 units); operating housing costs to accommodate 192 families and 380 individuals; and homeless prevention funds for housing rehabilitation and rapid rehousing vouchers. The City housing expenditure update was provided by Carla Martinez, CFO, City of Albuquerque, who reported that: 37% (\$4.9M) of the City's allocation of (\$13,467,739) for Gateway Operations has been expended; and, 13% has been utilized for capital expenditures of \$3,371,865 for the remodeling of Gateway West and Medical Respite facilities. The Gateway Operations funds cited above are supporting the Gateway Men's housing and treatment navigation center, the Women's housing and treatment navigation center, First Responder Receiving Area, and the Young Adult housing and treatment navigation center. These centers provide a total of 523 beds/night.

At the 2026 New Mexico Legislative Session, the MRGHC will pursue a combined request of \$181,246,917 [City (\$87401,917) and County (\$93,845,000)]. This compares to the original 2025 legislative request of \$277M and receipt of \$110M. The 2026 funds will be used by the City and County for housing new construction gap financing, preservation and expansion of affordable housing, affordable housing vouchers and homeless prevention and rapid rehousing vouchers.

The next MRGHC meeting date will be Thursday, February 26, 2026 @ 1pm, virtually via Zoom only.

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