

## **Affordable Housing Report: February, 2026**

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

The MRGHC met at 1:00 pm, Thursday, February 26, 2026 for a regular meeting virtually via Zoom. The four current MRGHC Commissioners attended: Lawrence Rael, Interim Chair, Dan Majewski, Ian Robertson, and Steve Anaya. Other attendees were: Cindy Chavez, Bernalillo County Manager; Tommy Cummins, County staff and Barbara Baca, County Commissioner and City of Albuquerque Councilmember Tammy Fiebelkorn, and City staff Erin Engelbrecht, Rick Giron, Abigail Stiles and Monica Montoya.

After the Agenda and Minutes from the February meeting MRGHC were approved and there were no public comments, County Manager Chavez stated that the MRGHC did not receive an allocation from the State for 2026-27. That said the MRGHC staff, both County and City, are assessing the 2026-27 housing related allocations of approximately \$210 M as listed in the HB2 budget (from the 2026 NM Legislative session). Staff will investigate whether those housing allocations are in alignment with the MRGHC's housing development and homeless program goals; how the funds are disbursed; and, offer a partnership between MRGHC and the various state agencies and housing entities (Housing NM, Department of Workforce Solutions, NM Health Care Authority, etc.) that did receive an allocation regarding expenditure of those funds as appropriate that impact Bernalillo County.

As a follow up to the vacancy created by the resignation of MRGHC commissioner Talia Friedman in December, 2025, City staff has nominated Connie Chavez, CEO of Heading Home, as a replacement Commissioner pending approval by City Council.

Finally, the MRGHC Interim Chair stated that MRCOG, as the administrative funding entity for MRGHC, will be posting the MRGHC Executive Director position in the next week and confirmed that ongoing funding is continuing for that position. It was suggested that Commissioners revisit the white paper that was developed by Kelly O'Donnell, PhD as to the core functions of the MRGHC that were listed in the Joint Powers Agreement between the City and the County as a way to further define the role of the MRGHC and a framework for moving into the future.

The next MRGHC meeting date will be Thursday, March 26, 2026 @ 1pm, in person at the MRCOG Board Room and virtually via Zoom.

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