

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

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

The MRGHC is still in the process of seeking its next Executive Director. That said, the MRGHC held a Special closed session meeting at 11:00 am, Thursday, April 23 to review Executive Director applications and determine the next process steps for finalists.

Afterward the special closed session, the regular MRGHC meeting was convened at 1:00 pm. All five current MRGHC Commissioners were in attendance: Lawrence Rael, Chair, Ian Robertson, Steve Anaya, Dan Majewski and Connie Chavez. Other attendees were: Tommy Cummins, County staff; and Monica Montoya and Rick Giron of the City of Albuquerque. The Commissioners approved the April 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting minutes. Lawrence Rael provided an update from the Special closed session held at 11 am regarding the MRGHC Executive Director candidate review and selection process. He reported that there were 15 applicants for the Executive Director position and the goal was to select the top five candidates. The Collaborative anticipates conducting the remaining interviews in the next couple of weeks.

Chair Rael requested housing fund expenditures and development updates, per the Agenda item, CABQ and Bernalillo County.

- County staff, Tommy Cummins, reported that the New Mexico Department of Workforce Solutions will be releasing a Statewide Request for Proposals the first week of May that will be offering the \$130M 2026-27 Legislative allocation to all eligible entities across the State for Affordable Housing production and Homeless services. It should be noted that there is no set aside of funding for MRGHC in this RFP. Rael cited a recent housing forum regarding homeownership and requested Mr. Cummins ask Mike Loflin, Executive Director of Homewise to make a presentation on the status of homeownership initiatives to the MRGHC at a future meeting.
- Monica Montoya, City of Albuquerque, provided an update on last year's legislative allocation to the City for the Gateway continuum of homeless services and programs as well as a status of housing projects funded by Federal funds such as HOME, HOME ARP, etc. The City is in the process of releasing an RFP for HOME funds and for the City Bond funded Workforce Housing program for housing development and homeownership.

Going forward Chair Rael requested regular updates from the City and County regarding their 2026 Legislative allocation expenditures and housing development projects.

**LWVNM Housing Position:** *The League of Women Voters of New Mexico supports current and future efforts to increase the availability of safe, decent affordable housing for moderate and low income households.*

The next regular meeting of the MRGHC will be May 28, 2026 at 1:00 pm at the MRCOG Board Room and virtually via Zoom.

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