

# Popular Annual Financial Report

Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2013



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Bernalillo County, New Mexico

## 2012 Award



The Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) of the United States and Canada has given an Award for Outstanding Achievement in Popular Annual Financial Reporting to Bernalillo County for its Popular Annual Financial Report for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2012. This is a prestigious national award recognizing conformance with the highest standards for preparation of state and local government popular reports.

In order to receive an Award for Outstanding Achievement in Popular Annual Financial Reporting, a government unit must publish a Popular Annual Financial Report, whose contents conforms to program standards of creativity, presentation, understandability and reader appeal.

An Award for Outstanding Achievement in Popular Annual Financial Reporting is valid for a period of one year only. This was Bernalillo County's second award. We believe our current report continues to conform to the Popular Annual Financial Reporting requirements and we are submitting it to GFOA.



### Publication

The 2013 Popular Annual Financial Report is published by the Bernalillo County Accounting Department.

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### Visit Bernalillo County's official website [www.bernco.gov](http://www.bernco.gov)

The county's website is your source for information about county policies, services and events. You can also find information on employment opportunities, community events, Board of County Commissioners agendas, meeting schedules, tax information, operating hours, and much more.

Our mailing address is:

**Bernalillo County**  
**One Civic Plaza NW - 10th Floor**  
**Albuquerque, NM 87102**  
**(505) 468-7000**

For more information on financial matters of Bernalillo County visit the Finance Division website at:

[www.bernco.gov/finance-division/](http://www.bernco.gov/finance-division/)



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## About this report:

This report is largely based on the county's 2013 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR), however, this report is not prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles ("GAAP"). Only the financial data for the general government is included in this report and, therefore, the county's business-type activities are excluded. Additionally, information is presented in a summarized manner and certain financial statements and note disclosures required by GAAP are omitted. A copy of the county's audited 2013 CAFR, which is prepared in accordance with GAAP, is located at <http://www.bernco.gov/cafr/>.

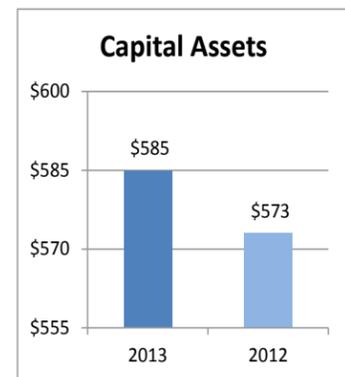
# Letter to the Residents of Bernalillo County

To our Residents of Bernalillo County:

We are pleased to present the Popular Annual Financial Report (PAFR) for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2013. This report provides a summary of the county's revenue, spending and financial condition, and also includes supplementary information on local economic conditions, major accomplishments by the county government, and other reference information for your usage.

The information in this report is derived from the county's Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2013, which was audited jointly by Moss Adams LLP and the New Mexico Office of the State Auditor, and received an unmodified (clean) audit opinion. The PAFR is for your use in understanding the finances and operations of the county and is not intended to replace the CAFR. The PAFR is produced to communicate with our citizens and relay confidence in the governing body of Bernalillo County. It is also important for us to demonstrate the role county government is playing in supporting its residents and businesses in making Bernalillo County a great place to live and work.

The county has received the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting by the Government Finance Officers Association for nine consecutive years, and received the Award for Outstanding Achievement in Popular Annual Financial Reporting for the past two years. Achieving these exceptional financial reporting results is one factor that has a direct correlation to the county's ability to attain low interest rates on projects that we build. This means that more dollars go to projects versus interest payments, making better use of our funds.



The county's capital assets increased by \$11.7 million in fiscal year 2013. Investing in and receiving transfers from other governments of capital assets, demonstrates our commitment to improve infrastructure such as roads, buildings, and equipment that deliver county services. However, improvements and maintaining service levels come with a cost.

Changing economic times require changing solutions to meet and exceed our commitments to the people and businesses of Bernalillo County.

In recent years, economic conditions have challenged the county's resilience to withstand economic impacts related to funding sources and mandated service expenses. Planned expenses approved by the County Commission in fiscal year 2013 and a decline in market value of our investments have reduced the county's net position by \$24.1 million. The net decrease in fair market value of investments accounted for \$12.8 million of the total decrease in net position. Planned expenses for various county projects included the implementation of the new Vendor Invoice Management System (VIM), the implementation of the new Mobile Asset Management System, the implementation of the Governance Risk Compliance (GRC) Internal Access Controls solution, the purchase of heavy equipment, vehicles, and machinery and equipment for the Fire Department, and additional expenses incurred at the County's Metropolitan Detention Center (MDC). All which have been integral in delivering our committed level of service.

Despite a decline in the fiscal year 2013 fund balance, the county maintained a strong ability to operate without taking drastic measures of cutting services or staffing levels and was able to maintain its required reserves.

This year, our team developed a roadmap for long term success by developing a strategic plan. Approved by the Board of County Commissioners in April 2013, the plan serves as a tool to



help us focus on priorities that help build a better community for our residents by setting goals for projects and services, and reinforcing our commitment of being a good steward of taxpayer dollars.

We continue to seek ways to refine and optimize the execution of our strategic plan to reinforce Bernalillo County's commitment to operational productivity and accountability.

Every day we hear about how the county has made a difference – providing services, helping small businesses, and generating economic growth. We remain committed to making financial decisions that protect the interests of those we serve, and to each other.

Sincerely,

*Tom Zdunek*  
Tom Zdunek  
County Manager

*Teresa Byrd*

Teresa Byrd  
Deputy County Manager for Finance





**Board of County Commissioners**  
L to R: Lonnie C. Talbert, District 4; Debbie O'Malley, Vice Chair, District 1; Maggie Hart Stebbins, Chair, District 3; Art De La Cruz, District 2; Wayne A. Johnson, District 5

"Bernalillo County government is committed to providing honest, transparent and accountable management of taxpayer resources, and exceptional customer-oriented services. We strive for continuous improvement in every department so we can provide the exceptional facilities, opportunities, and services that county residents deserve," Maggie Hart Stebbins, Chair.

# Bernalillo County Government

The division of counties in New Mexico can be traced back to the time of Mexican rule. The first subdivision of the New Mexico Territory was made in 1837 when two "partidos" or districts were created. In 1844, New Mexico was re-divided into three districts. Eventually, these districts were further subdivided into areas that included boundaries similar to today's counties. One interesting note is that the first Bernalillo County boundaries were much larger than today's boundaries.

When New Mexico entered the union in 1912, the New Mexico Constitution vested the law-making power of the state in the legislature. Bernalillo County derives its authority from the State Constitution. Counties are subject to the will of the legislature, modified only by the state constitution, the courts, and the legislative process.

The county provides sheriff and fire protection to county residents, highways and streets, sanitation, cultural and recreational services, public improvements, building, planning and zoning, and general administrative services. The county also operates the largest jail in the state with a bed count of over 2,500 inmates.

The county has a Commission-Manager form of government in which most of the day-to-day administrative duties are delegated to the County Manager. All legislative power within the county is vested in a Board of County Commissioners (Board), each of whom is elected to four-year terms from single member districts, with a two-term limit. The executive functions are divided; the powers are shared by the Board and five elected county officials: the Treasurer, Assessor, Clerk, Probate Judge, and Sheriff.

**Tom Zdunek**  
County Manager

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**Elected Officials**

**Tanya R. Giddings**  
Assessor

**Maggie Toulouse Oliver**  
County Clerk

**Willow Misty Parks**  
Probate Judge

**Dan Houston**  
Sheriff

**Manny Ortiz**  
Treasurer

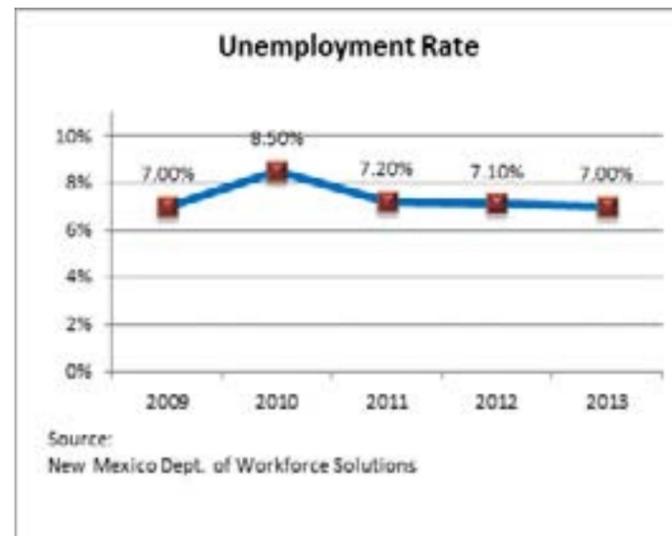
## Economy

Bernalillo County, with the City of Albuquerque making up 82 percent of its population, serves as a hub for commerce and industry in the Southwest. It accounts for nearly half of all economic activity in New Mexico. Its success can be attributed to a diverse economic base consisting of government, services, trade, agriculture, tourism, manufacturing, and research and development.

In the 2013 Forbes List of "Best Places for Business and Careers," Albuquerque placed 135th out of the 200 ranked metro areas in the country and was ranked 66th in the "Cost of Doing Business" category and 170th in the "Job Growth Expected" category.

With an estimate population of 673,460 in 2012, Bernalillo County is the 92nd most populous county of the nation's 3,143 counties. It comprises 32 percent of New Mexico's population and 75 percent of the Albuquerque Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) comprised of Bernalillo County and portions of Sandoval, Torrance and Valencia counties.

Forecasts by the University of New Mexico's Bureau of Business and Economic Research suggest that the Albuquerque Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) will experience a fairly sharp increase in reported job numbers in 2013. The economy is expected to add 4,806 jobs. In the longer-term, the Albuquerque MSA economy is forecasted to add a total of nearly 34,000 jobs in total by 2018. The unemployment rate in June 2013 was 7.0 percent—lower than the national rate of 7.6 percent but still .2 percent higher than the statewide rate of 6.8 percent. Forecasts indicate the rate will slowly decline annually reaching 5.5 percent in 2018.



## Statement of Net Position

The Statement of Net Position represents governmental activities (excluding business type activities). This statement provides information on all of the county's assets and liabilities, with the difference between the two reported as net position.

Below are the three components of net position and their respective fiscal year 2013 ending balances for governmental activities:

### Statement of Net Position (in thousands)

	Fiscal Years		
	2013	2012	Change
<b>Assets:</b>			
Current and other assets	\$ 330,786	\$ 363,613	\$ (32,827)
Capital assets	584,634	572,890	11,744
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>915,420</b>	<b>936,503</b>	<b>(21,083)</b>
<b>Liabilities:</b>			
Long-term liabilities	271,967	268,603	3,364
Other liabilities	56,731	57,115	(384)
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>328,698</b>	<b>325,718</b>	<b>2,980</b>
<b>Net Position:</b>			
Net invested in capital assets	369,110	357,168	11,942
Restricted	133,137	140,369	(7,232)
Unrestricted	84,475	113,248	(28,773)
<b>Total net position</b>	<b>\$ 586,722</b>	<b>\$ 610,785</b>	<b>\$ (24,063)</b>

### Net investment in capital assets

This component of net position represents the amount that is unavailable for reducing debt or paying for services because it is the value of the capital assets themselves (e.g., infrastructure, land, buildings, machinery, and equipment), not liquid like cash or equivalents that could be used to pay bills. The county uses these capital assets to provide services to citizens. Although the county's Net investment in capital assets is net of related debt, it should be noted that the resources needed to repay this debt must be provided from other sources, since the capital assets themselves cannot be used to liquidate these liabilities. The balance of \$369,109,799 represents 62.9 percent of the county's total net position.

### Restricted net position

This component of net position represents the amount that is available for use only as allowed by creditors, grantors, contributors, or laws and regulations of other governments, and restrictions imposed by law through constitutional provisions or enabling legislation. Restricted net position in the amount of \$133,136,883 or 22.7 percent of total net position, represent resources that are subject to external restrictions on how they may be used.

### Unrestricted net position

This component of the county's net position is the amount that is available and may be used to meet the county's ongoing obligations to citizens and creditors. The balance of \$84,474,976 in this category accounts for 14.4 percent of the county's total net position.

Over time, increases or decreases in net position may serve as a useful indicator of whether or not the financial position of the county is improving.



Fall on the Rio Grande River

# Statement of Activities

The Statement of Activities represents governmental activities (excluding business type activities). The statement provides a general understanding of how available resources are used to provide services. These sources of funds are categorized into two forms of revenue: Program Revenues are derived directly from county programs or from outside the county, and General Revenues are primarily raised through property taxes, gross receipt taxes and other revenues not reported as program revenues. Once the county collects taxes and other revenues the monies must be spent efficiently to provide services to the citizens and businesses of the county.

As of June 30, 2013, the county's revenues totaled \$320.4 million, a decrease of \$7.8 million from the previous year. The decrease was primarily driven by a \$12.8 million decrease in unrealized investment loss as a result of the change in fair market value of the investment portfolio. An increase was recognized in property taxes of \$3.0 million as a result of an increase in the mill levy rate and an increase in the collection rate. An increase in gross receipt taxes of \$3.1 million was a result of a slightly improving econo-

my and the accrual for this year's state equalization distribution. Net grant revenues decreased by \$0.2million. Other revenues increased by \$12.7 million. The increase was primarily attributed to \$9.7 million recognized as miscellaneous revenue to capitalize as a non-cash donation the Public Safety Center (land and building) which was transferred to the County from the State of New Mexico through passed legislation. Also, the increase is attributed to \$1 million recognized as miscellaneous revenue to capitalize machinery, equipment and infrastructure as non-cash donations. In addition, the county recorded a revenue accrual of \$1.5 million for cash received from the City of Albuquerque in August 2013 for the return of a portion of health insurance premium payments made which exceeded the cost of claims and administration for the fiscal years 2007 through 2013.

During the fiscal year ended June 30, 2013, the county expended \$344.4 million, an increase of \$29.9 million from the previous year. The increase was attributed to \$6.5 million in capital outlay expense for other entities, heavy equipment purchases for the Fire Department, and county wide increase in operating expenses.

County government must ensure that adequate services are being provided to the county residents and businesses in order to maintain the local economy. A large portion of county's expenditures provides for public safety, health and welfare, public works, and culture and recreation.

## Statement of Activities (in thousands)

Revenues (by sources)	Fiscal Years		
	2013	2012	2011
<b>Program Revenues:</b>			
Operating grants	\$ 26,165	\$ 22,786	\$ 25,459
Capital grants	7,942	11,537	16,359
Charges for services	16,405	15,539	25,411
<b>General Revenues:</b>			
Property taxes	132,625	129,586	122,275
Gross receipts taxes	120,150	117,087	113,354
Other taxes	5,512	5,418	5,414
Interest income	5,624	19,404	2,244
Net decrease in the fair market value	(12,815)		
Other	19,593	6,932	10,540
Transfers	(842)	(117)	-
<b>Total revenues</b>	<b>320,359</b>	<b>328,172</b>	<b>321,056</b>
<b>Expenses (by function):</b>			
Public safety	153,629	145,585	145,727
General government	67,394	57,591	69,097
Public works	45,883	44,481	43,730
Health and welfare	45,279	43,128	41,952
Culture and recreation	21,361	12,756	13,347
Interest on long-term debt	10,876	10,990	12,421
<b>Total expenses</b>	<b>344,422</b>	<b>314,531</b>	<b>326,274</b>
Change in net position	(24,063)	13,641	(5,218)
Net position beginning of year	610,785	597,144	602,362
<b>Net position end of year</b>	<b>\$ 586,722</b>	<b>\$ 610,785</b>	<b>\$ 597,144</b>

Readers wanting more detailed financial information should refer to the county's FY 2013 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) available at the Accounting Department's website at: <http://www.bernco.gov/cafr/>

Efficient use of funds delivers value to the many county services provided. The source of these funds referred to as revenue, are primarily generated through grants and taxes.

## Program Revenues

**Operating grants** are funds provided from state, federal, or other governments, and private contributions to fund specific programs.

**Capital grants** are funds provided from state, federal, or other governments, and private contributions specifically for capital purposes to purchase, construct or renovate capital assets.

**Service charges** are revenues received from fees charged by the county for services, issuing of permits, licenses, fines and penalties.

## General Revenues

**Property Tax** - The County Treasurer collects and distributes property taxes to other governmental entities and for the county's own operation. Property taxes are received by the county two times a year, due November 10th for the first half of the tax year and April 10th for the second half of the year.

**Gross Receipts Tax** - New Mexico is one of the few states that has a gross receipts tax instead of sales tax. The tax liability belongs to the business instead of the customer. State statute does not prevent a business from recovering the tax from the customer as it would any other overhead expense. Passing the tax to the customer at the time of sale is the prevalent practice.

**Other taxes** are primarily generated from an allocated percent of motor vehicle taxes and fees collected by the New Mexico Taxation and Revenue Department, Motor Vehicle Division. From the gas tax imposed by the state, each county is entitled to receive an amount equal to its proportionate share of miles of public roads maintained.

**Investment Income** is generated from investment activity of the County Treasurer.

## Expenses

**Public Safety** includes the protection of life and property. The Sheriff's Department and Fire and Rescue Department act to prevent danger, enforce laws and provide public education. The county operates the Metropolitan Detention Center and the Regional Juvenile Detention Center. The Office of Emergency Management coordinates efforts in the event of natural or human caused disasters, including acts of terrorism. The Department of Substance Abuse Programs provides services and activities related to DWI enforcement, substance abuse prevention and treatment, alternative sentencing, compliance monitoring, evaluation and coordination, and planning. Animal Care Services enforces humane animal treatment and promotes responsible pet ownership.

**Public Works** projects involve a wide range of services that includes the design, construction and proper maintenance of roads and storm sewers. They are also responsible for the replacement and repair of fleet vehicles for all county departments as well as maintenance of all buildings and facilities utilized by the county. Other services provided include a comprehensive solid waste management program and an anti-graffiti program.

**Health and Welfare** is provided through the county's financial support to a variety of social service programs. The purpose is to improve the quality of life for low and moderate income residents of the county. This is funded by a health care gross receipt tax as well as other sources.

**Culture and Recreation** programs are administered by the county's Parks and Recreation Department, which is responsible for providing recreation, leisure, community services and facilities necessary to promote public well being and quality of life for youth, adults, and senior citizens. The department oversees projects to construct and maintain parks, trails, community centers, and also manages the public arts program.

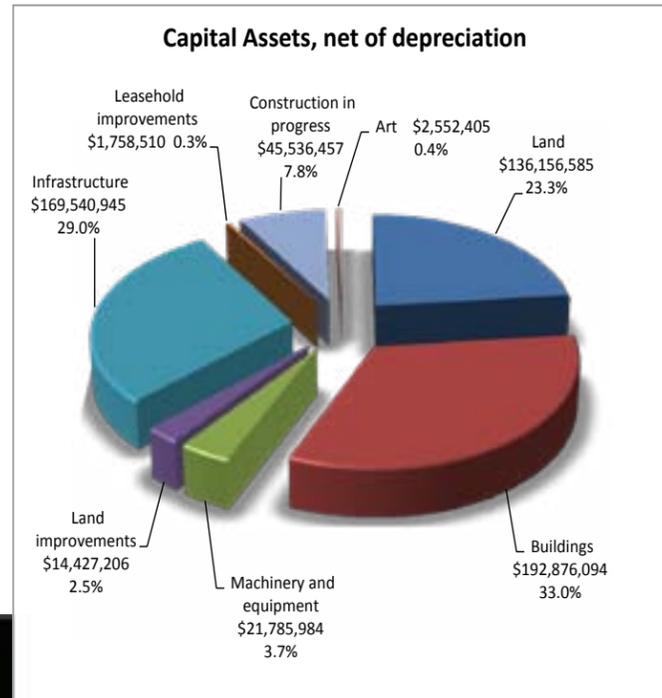


## Capital Assets

The county's cumulative investment in capital assets for its governmental activities as of June 30, 2013 amounts to \$584,634,186 (net of accumulated depreciation). This represents the value of the county's land, buildings, improvements, machinery and equipment, construction in progress, and infrastructure.

Major budgeted projects under construction in fiscal year 2013 include:

- Cordero Mesa water system project- \$3.7 million
- Vista Del Rio drainage project- \$2.6 million
- Alameda trail project- \$1.8 million
- County wide road improvements- \$4.3 million



Bernalillo County Court House

**\$585 million**  
in capital assets

## County Debt

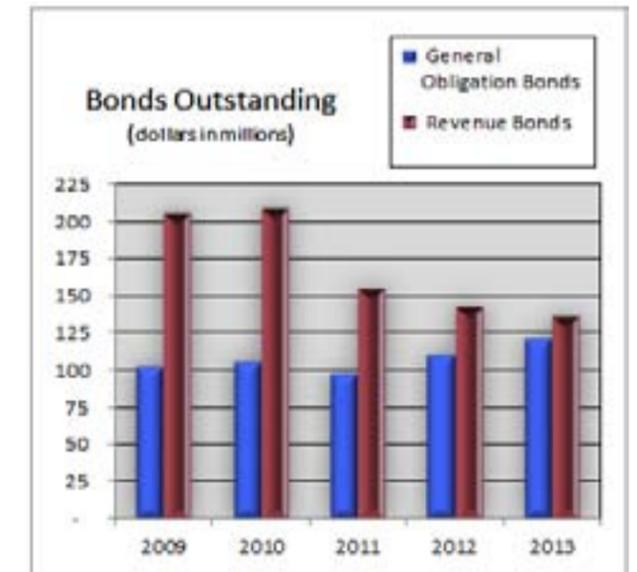
On June 30, 2013 the county's outstanding debt totaled \$256 million, excluding compensated absences and other liabilities.

General Obligation (GO) Bonds are direct obligations of the county for which its full faith and credit are pledged and are repaid from taxes levied on property located within the county. The county issues GO bonds to provide funds for the acquisition and construction of major capital facilities, as well as the purchase of library books. The balance of \$120,525,000 represents 47% of the county's outstanding debt.

On November 6, 2012, the following GO bond was approved by voters and was unissued as of June 30, 2013:

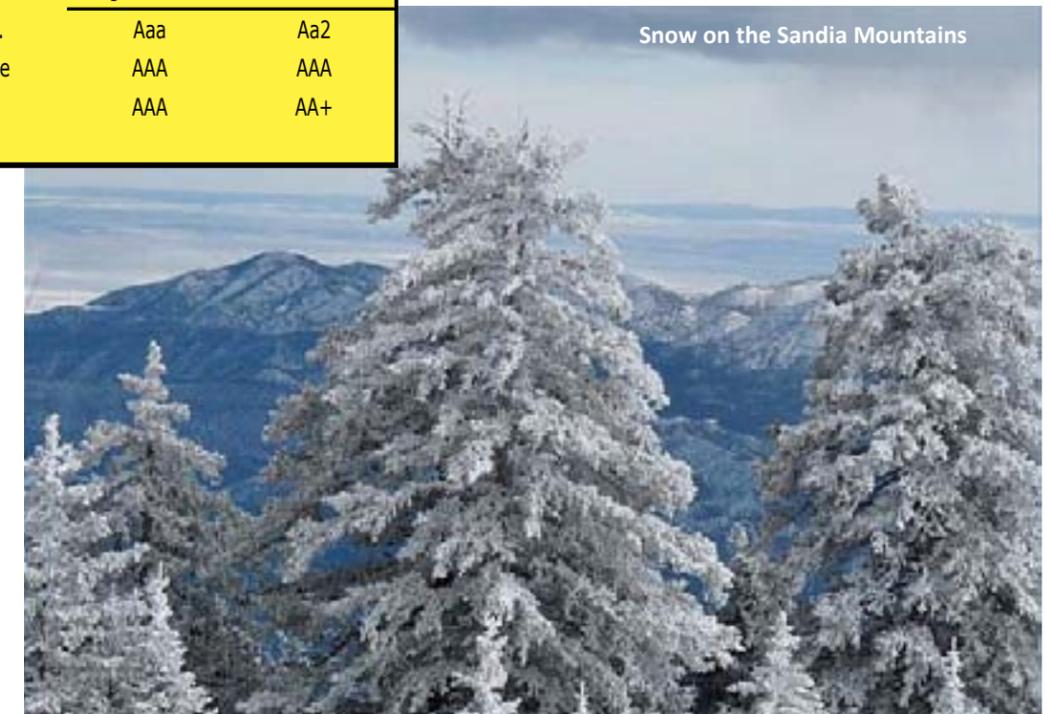
Purpose	Authorized
Road Bonds	\$ 5,000,000
Storm Drain	2,500,000
Library Bonds- Books	800,000
Facilities Improvements- ADA	400,000
	<u>\$ 8,700,000</u>

Gross Receipts Tax Revenue Bonds are limited obligations of the county, repaid solely from gross receipts tax revenues. These bonds are used for the acquisition and construction of major capital projects. The balance of \$135,670,000 represents 53% of the county's outstanding debt.



### Credit Ratings Maintained by the County

	General Obligation Bonds	Revenue Bonds
Moody's Investors Services, Inc.	Aaa	Aa2
Standard & Poor's Rating Service	AAA	AAA
Fitch Agency	AAA	AA+



Snow on the Sandia Mountains

## Property Taxes

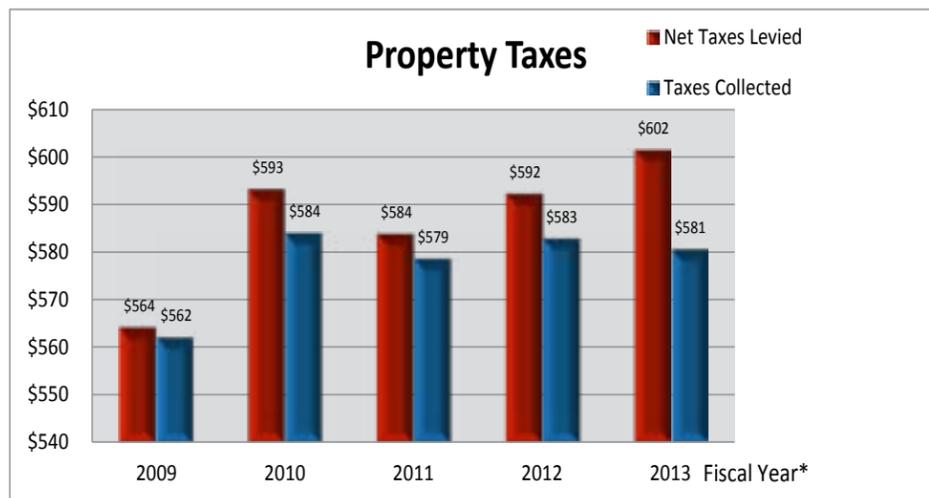
The county is responsible for assessing, collecting and distributing property taxes for other governmental entities and for its own operational purposes.

The New Mexico Department of Finance and Administration (DFA) sets the tax rates each year by September 1st. The county commission subsequently certifies the tax rates and a written order imposing the tax rates is then delivered to the County Assessor.

The tax year begins on November 1st and ends on October 31st. In the 2012 tax year (which is reported in fiscal year 2013), property taxes increased \$3 million from \$129.6 million in fiscal year 2013 to \$132.6 million in fiscal year 2013, a 2.3% increase. The increase

was attributed to a state imposed increase in the county's operational residential mill levy and operational non-residential mill levy. The increase in revenue was offset by the expiration of the residential and non-residential open space mill levy and a decrease in the assessed taxable valuation within the county.

Property taxes are anticipated to make up 51.8% of general fund revenue in fiscal year 2014 and are projected to increase by 4.9% in fiscal year 2014. Even in these uncertain economic times, the county has been a conscientious steward of tax revenue by maintaining sufficient reserve funds and being conservative in revenue projections.



51.8% of the county's revenue is from property taxes

\* The tax year ends on October 31st of the fiscal year



## Grants

The county receives funding in the form of grants from federal, state and other grant funding sources and contributions. A grant is money given to the county for a specific purpose. How the awarded money is to be used is specified in the grant agreement or contract.

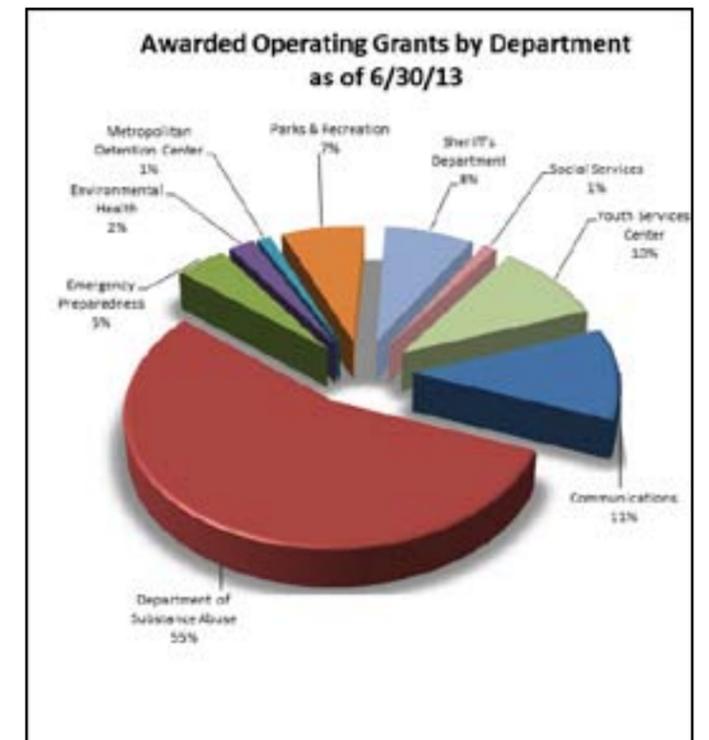
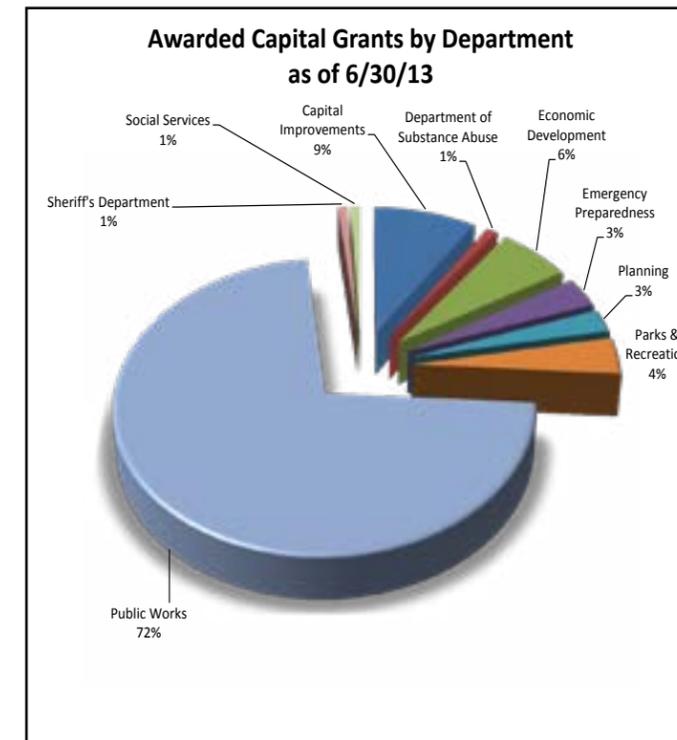
For fiscal year 2013, Bernalillo County reported on its governmental activities financials (excluding business type activities) \$34.1 million in grant and contributions revenue. Of the total, \$26.2 million was allocated as operating and \$7.9 million was dedicated as capital.

Grant funding was reduced by \$216,593 dollars from fiscal year 2012. This decrease in grant funds revenue was a combination of \$3.4 million increase in operating grants and a decrease of \$3.6 million in capital grants. The increase in operating grants was due

mainly to increased section 8 housing funding, reimbursements for elections, a grant from UNM for a residential treatment facility for women, and a Center of Disease Control grant used for a health study. The decrease in capital grants was due mainly to no reimbursements received in fiscal year 2013 from the Water Utility Authority for the South Valley Water Utility project.

A major portion of grant funding received is spent on capital improvements such as roads, buildings, parks, and open space. Grant funding is also received for operational purposes to support various health and welfare, emergency management, parks, public safety and other programs.

The following charts represent the percentage of active awarded grants from prior years through fiscal year 2013 for capital and operating grants allocated by department.



# Community

## EMCORE 2 Megawatt Solar Farm

The Eubank Landfill Solar Array project with EMCORE, supported by PNM's solar incentive program, is the largest commercial distributed power generation project in the State of New Mexico. The 2 megawatt solar farm is a pioneering solar energy project that transforms a former landfill into a clean energy producing site that relieves energy grid demand in Albuquerque while supporting the local economy. "Bernalillo County is proud to provide the tools for economic development and lead the way on job creation in Central New Mexico," Commission Chair Maggie Hart Stebbins says. "The county approved up to \$13 million in industrial revenue bonds to help make this project a reality. Jobs are the number one priority for Bernalillo County and I'm pleased to see our investments bearing fruit on a great project that brings both clean energy and jobs to Albuquerque." The industrial revenue bonds allow the company to abate certain taxes. Taxpayers will not finance the bonds.



### Public Safety

Sheriff stations	4
911 calls	68,900
Fire stations	12
Number of calls	13,306

### Public Works

Streets (miles)	730
Streetlights	501

### Parks and Recreation

Parks	25
Swimming pools	5
Community centers	8
Walking trails	18
Baseball fields	37
Soccer fields	27
Playgrounds	40
Picnic areas	37

## Community Inspired Mural

Bernalillo County unveiled a Community Inspired Mural at Raymond G. Sanchez Community Center. The mural depicts the connection between the past and the future, represented by character sketches of youth and elders in the community, as well as historical buildings and symbols related to the North Valley. Money was allocated to create and develop this mural to eradicate and prevent graffiti. The mural was designed and created by Albuquerque Youth artists from Warehouse 508, a city-funded urban arts center for young people in downtown Albuquerque.



## Children's Book Holiday

Commissioner Art De La Cruz gave out books to school children in Commission District 2, so that they can continue reading during spring break. "I believe in the importance of children having books of their own to read. My initiative is meant to improve literacy and provide these children with books that are fun and enjoyable, books that make them think and discover things, and develop a thirst to want to read more all the time," says Commissioner Art De La Cruz. The Children's Book Holiday project conducts two givaways per year which provide age-appropriate books for preschool through 8th grade students. 1,078 books were given to 539 children from Edward Gonzales Elementary School, Helen Cordero Elementary School, Rudolfo Anaya Elementary School, Alamosa Community Center and Westgate Community Center. "The commissioner hopes this effort will encourage and reinforce the importance of promoting literacy in school age children."



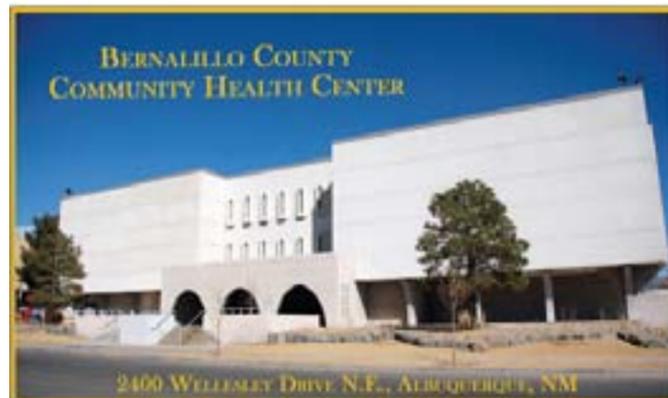
## Wildlife Refuge

The Bernalillo County Commission moved forward on contributing \$5 million toward the purchase of a new urban wildlife refuge and establishing a conservation easement at the site of the former Price's Dairy in the South Valley. Both moves would help protect 389 acres as open space, permanently. The money would go toward the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's efforts to acquire 389 acres and convert it to the first urban wildlife refuge in the southwestern United States. "This is a major step forward for new open space in Bernalillo County, and the purchase of this property can lead to new opportunities in recreation, tourism and education," Commissioner Art De La Cruz says. "Securing this open space means improving our quality of life and preserving a beautiful riverfront property just minutes away from the heart of New Mexico's largest city."



## New Community Health Center

Commission Chair Maggie Hart Stebbins and state officials celebrated the grand opening of the Bernalillo County Community Health Center, a newly-renovated building that will house the local New Mexico Department of Health office and a nonprofit adoption services provider. The 58,000 square foot facility at 2400 Wellesley Drive NE is completely renovated and will serve as a new home for many vital public health and community services provided to Bernalillo County residents by the Department of Health and La Familia. "We're pleased to offer our Bernalillo County families easier access to important health services," says Commission Chair Maggie Hart Stebbins. "This new facility is larger, more modern, and far more convenient than our old location and provides a much more appropriate setting for residents who need these services."



## County Fire Stations 41 and 46

In April 2013, the County broke ground on two new East Mountain fire station buildings. Originally built in 1975 and 1963 respectively, Station 41 at 10838 Highway 33 and Station 46 at 25 Frost Road, were in dire need of updating to better serve the needs of the community and accommodate future growth in the East Mountain area. Identical in design, the new stations are each 7,200 square feet in size, in addition to the square footage of the old stations, which will be left standing and used for office space and storage. The cost of the new stations will be \$5.6 million and is being funded by 2012 and prior General Obligation bonds and from the county's general fund. Lockwood Construction is the contractor on both projects and construction is expected to be complete by the end of July 2014.



## Community (cont.)

### Carlito Springs Open Space

The 180-acre Carlito Springs Open Space is nestled on the south slopes of the Sandia Mountains and features a perennial spring, ponds, historic buildings and lush vegetation. In 2013, Bernalillo County completed a Cultural Landscape Report that developed a three-phase plan for Carlito Springs that encourages both resource protection and public access. Phase 1 designs for a spring catchment box and trail network were developed in 2013 in anticipation of construction in early-mid 2014. Subsequent phases will include upgrading the water and utility systems to meet current standards, preserving the main house and cabins for public programming, installing interpretive signs and exhibits, and rehabilitating the surrounding vegetation and natural environment.



### Recyclebank Program

The county and Waste Management, Inc. have implemented a new recycling rewards program for the unincorporated areas of Bernalillo County. The Recyclebank program offers incentives that make recycling a rewarding experience by offering discounts on food, entertainment, restaurants, sporting goods and more. The program is open to customers who have curbside trash service through Bernalillo County. "Bernalillo County is proud to lead by example and be the first county in New Mexico to offer this program to our community as a way to reduce our impact on the environment," Commission Vice Chair Debbie O'Malley says. "We believe that Earth Day is every day and with the Recyclebank program, residents have more reason than ever to recycle."



### Eubank Boulevard Phase Two Construction

Eubank Boulevard, Phase 2 road construction was complete after four months of reconstruction and improvements. What was previously a simple paved road is now a divided vehicular road with added sidewalks, bicycle lanes and pedestrian trails that dramatically improves foot traffic safety. "Any type of road construction is challenging for everyone involved. The public's patience and understanding during this phase of construction on Eubank Boulevard is sincerely appreciated by the county," says District 4 County Commissioner Lonnie Talbert. "The road improvements will prove to be worth the wait."



### Summer Lunch Program

Bernalillo County's free summer meals program will provide healthy food for children at 55 locations throughout the county this year. "Bernalillo County is proud to offer free healthy meals to children during the summer break," Commission Vice Chair Debbie O'Malley says. "Our Youth and Senior Services staff has done a great job finding new opportunities to connect more children with healthy meals, from the North and South Valleys to the East Mountains." Most of the 55 locations are located outside Albuquerque city limits in unincorporated parts of Bernalillo County.



## Spotlight



The **Fixed Assets** section is a unique operation where all of the county's fixed assets are recorded, tracked and disposed. Located at 2400 Broadway SE, the Fixed Assets section is one of four sections in the Accounting Department. The section is headed by Fixed Assets Manager Martin Gallegos and has a staff of four employees. "Every asset purchased by Bernalillo County is recorded and tracked by the Fixed Assets section. On a daily basis we record the movement of assets between departments and prepare surplus assets for disposal when they are no longer usable by the county," says Gallegos.



This is a major undertaking since the county has 2,709 fixed assets with a net value of \$24.3 million. Once a year, the Fixed Assets section conducts a complete physical inventory of all county fixed assets. Their diligence in this area assures accountability and accuracy when the value of the asset is reported on the end of year financial statements.

A major program operated by the Fixed Assets section is Public Surplus. The county's automated auction site offers retired vehicles, office equipment, furniture and miscellaneous items to buyers online. Items can be viewed and bid on around the clock both nationally and internationally. "I was surprised when we received a bid from the Netherlands for a road grader. They even won the bid," says Gallegos. The revenue generated for the county from online auctions was \$581,055 in fiscal year 2013. The county also uses the online site for internal reallocation to departments of Bernalillo County by visiting what is called the "County Store". Items are not auctioned, but offered to departments on a first come first serve basis. "This is a great way of saving money on supplies and equipment when we can reallocate internally," says Gallegos. For more information on Public Surplus please visit the web site at: <http://www.publicsurplus.com/sms/bernalilloco,nm/browse/home>

Additionally, the Fixed Assets section maintains an active metals recycling program. One of the recycling programs they run is to break down large unusable or unsellable equipment and other items into component parts and collect any metals from the item; steel, aluminum, copper and brass. The metal is then sold as scrap to local dealers in the area. The metal recycling program has generated \$43,520 in additional revenue for the county in fiscal year 2013. In addition, the program keeps the local landfills free from having old equipment dumped there. The Fixed Assets section also recycles batteries and fluorescent light ballasts. What cannot be recycled or sold is compacted and disposed.



