

# IT'S TIME.

# BERNCO at a Glance

MAY 2017



May is Mental Health Awareness Month

Volume 8 • Issue 5

**ZONING ADMINISTRATOR HEARING**  
Second Wednesday of month  
Wednesday, May 10, 9 a.m.

**BERNALILLO COUNTY COMMISSION MEETINGS**

**ZONING MEETING**  
Tuesday, May 9, 3 p.m.

**BOARD OF FINANCE MEETING**  
Tuesday, May 9, 4:30 p.m.

**ADMINISTRATIVE MEETING**  
Tuesday, May 9, 5 p.m.

**ADMINISTRATIVE MEETING**  
Tuesday, May 23, 5 p.m.

*All meetings listed above are held in the Vincent E. Griego Chambers in the basement of the city/county government bldg. One Civic Plaza Fifth Street and Marquette NW, unless indicated otherwise*

County offices will be closed on Monday, May 29 in observance of the Memorial Day holiday

**BERNCO**  
at a Glance

### May is National Mental Health Awareness Month

*One in five Americans lives with a mental health condition.*

What Is Mental Health? Mental health includes our emotional, psychological, and social well-being. It affects how we think, feel, and act. It also helps determine how we handle stress, relate to others, and make choices. Mental health is important at every stage of life, from childhood and adolescence through adulthood. Over the course of life, if mental health problems are experienced, one's behavior, mood and thinking could be affected. Many factors contribute to mental health problems, including biological factors, such as genes or brain chemistry; life experiences, such as trauma or abuse and/or a family history of mental health problems. BernCo wants everyone to know that mental illnesses are real, that recovery is always the goal, and that there is help. Throughout the month of May, BernCo will make several exciting announcements about the progress of the countywide behavioral health initiative that is helping to address some of the issues of mental health. On Tuesday, May 23, a special event will take place in downtown Albuquerque on Civic Plaza from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. The event will feature information tables about services and resources within our community, testimonials from individuals sharing their mental health experiences, activities, food trucks and music. The community is invited and encouraged to attend the event and learn more about mental health and wellness.

### BernCo Appreciates Behavioral Health Initiative Volunteers

Four subcommittees staffed with community volunteers who are consumers, family members, subject matter experts and technical advisors have been volunteering their time since May 2016 and are gearing up for a second round of commitments. From attending meetings to vetting project proposals, the members are instrumental in crafting the framework being built through the behavioral health initiative. They will continue to provide insight and feedback on new projects and begin to review outcomes as approved projects begin to take shape. Bernalillo County is extremely grateful for all of the time and effort these subcommittee members have brought to the behavioral health initiative and looks forward to the future.



### FREE Mental Health First Aid Course

Saturday, May 20, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

(must attend full eight hours to receive certification)

**Bernalillo County Sheriff's Office Regional Training Academy, 415 Tijeras Ave. NW, 4th floor**

An eight-hour training certification course which teaches participants the potential risk factors and warning signs for a range of mental health problems, including depression, anxiety and trauma, psychosis, eating disorders, substance use disorders and self-injury. Space is limited and pre-registration required. Contact Margarita Chavez by phone (505) 468-7033 or via email [margchavez@bernco.gov](mailto:margchavez@bernco.gov) to register or for more information. This training is cost-free.



Not following us yet? Find us on Facebook (Bernalillo County NM) and Twitter (@BernCounty)

**BERNALILLO COUNTY**



WE'RE MORE THAN YOU THINK

#breakthestigma



**BERNALILLO  
COUNTY OFFICIALS**

**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

Debbie O'Malley, Chair, Dist. 1  
Steven Michael Quezada,  
Vice Chair, Dist. 2

Maggie Hart Stebbins, Member, Dist. 3  
Lonnie C. Talbert, Member, Dist. 4  
Wayne A. Johnson, Member, Dist. 5

Main office: (505) 468-7000

**COUNTY ASSESSOR**

Tanya R. Giddings  
Main office: (505) 222-3700

**COUNTY CLERK**

Linda Stover  
Voting  
(505) 243-VOTE (8683)  
Recording & Filing  
(505) 468-1290  
Marriage Licenses  
(505) 468-1243

**COUNTY TREASURER**

Nancy Marie Bearce  
Main office: (505) 468-7031

**COURT OF WILLS, ESTATE  
& PROBATE**

Probate Judge Willow Misty Parks  
Main office: (505) 468-1232

**SHERIFF**

Manuel Gonzales III  
Main office (non-emergency):  
(505) 468-7100

Visit [www.bernco.gov](http://www.bernco.gov)  
for more information

**South Valley Pool and Rio Bravo Facilities Master Plan Meeting**

**Wednesday, May 3 beginning at 6 p.m.**

**Rio Bravo Meal Site, 3910 Isleta Blvd. SW**

Discussions about the master planning, design and construction of improvements to the South Valley Pool, South Valley Skate Park, Rio Bravo Park and South Valley Little League facilities.

**Paradise Hills Mobility Study and Master Plan Meeting**

**Wednesday, May 17 beginning at 6 p.m.**

**Paradise Hills Community Center, 5901 Paradise Blvd. NW**

Planning, design and construction of improvements to Paradise Hills Community Center, Paradise Hills Park and Park Lane, including parking, Rx Prescription Walk/trail, outdoor stage area, recreation improvements and site amenities.

**Well and Wastewater Permitting Workshop**

**Thursday, May 25 from 6 - 8 p.m.**

**Deputy James McGrane Public Safety Center, 48 Public School Road, Tijeras**

This FREE workshop will discuss the permitting process and its common problems, and situations where residents are required to connect to sewer. Open to all Bernalillo County residents, septic contractors and real estate agents. For more information about septic systems, please visit [www.bernco.gov/wastewaterFAQs](http://www.bernco.gov/wastewaterFAQs).



**All BernCo outdoor swimming pools will be open for the summer beginning Saturday, May 27 going through Aug. 13.**

**Youth Beat Dance Camp for Elementary-Age Boys and Girls**

**Tuesday, May 30 – Friday, June 2 from 9 – 11 a.m.**

**Raymond G. Sanchez Community Center, 9800 Fourth St. NW**

\$30 registration fee includes free music CD; parent performance on Friday, June 2

**Dance-It-Up Dance Camp for Middle and High School Dance Teams and Solo Dancers**

**Tuesday, May 30 – Friday, June 2 from 12:30 – 4:30 p.m.**

**Raymond G. Sanchez Community Center, 9800 Fourth St. NW**

\$60 registration fee includes free music CD

Friday, June 2 the dancers will have a public performance

**2017 Movies in the Park**

**Saturdays beginning June 3 - August 26; Movies begin at dusk**

FREE event for all families. Food vendors will be available. All movies begin at dusk and are subject to cancelation due to inclement weather. Keep an eye out for the full schedule that will be available soon or call the Movies in the Park hotline at (505) 314-0477, info will be updated weekly.



**14th Annual Jimmy Nieto Summer Softball Blowout**

**June 9 - 11 at the Tom Tenorio Softball Complex, 2900 Arenal Road SW**

Registration is going on now – tournament will be limited to the first 72 teams. Team categories include men's recreation, men's competitive, co-ed recreation, co-ed competitive and women's. Cost is \$250 per team. The event is a fun time for the entire family. There will be food vendors, jumpers for the kids, RV and camping spots, and music. For more information, call Ruben Trujillo at (505) 314-0397 or email [rutrujillo@bernco.gov](mailto:rutrujillo@bernco.gov).



Summertime fun begins at BernCo Open Space -- more details about these activities at [www.bernco.gov/OpenSpace](http://www.bernco.gov/OpenSpace)

### Family Fun Days at Bachechi Open Space | May's theme is Tracking

Every Sunday from noon – 5 p.m. at Bachechi Open Space, 9521 Rio Grande Blvd. NW  
Follow the evidence of animals around the park, make a map of their tracks, and do some investigations into what our animals are up to. Learn how to identify tracks by making your own, and play a real game of hide and seek.

### Geology Walk at Carlito Springs Open Space

May 6, 11:30 a.m. – 1 p.m., 82 Carlito Springs Road in Cedar Crest

*Presenter: Geoffrey Rawling, Senior Field Geologist, New Mexico Bureau of Geology and Mineral Resources*

Carlito Springs is located on the southern end of the Sandia Mountains and showcases fascinating geology include tufts, faults, and rock walls. Come and rock it with geologist Geoffrey Rawlings.

### Basic Map and Compass Skills at Sabino Canyon Open Space

May 6, 2 – 3:30 p.m., 34 Forest Road 252 (Manzano Mountains)

*Presenter: Jim Patrick*

Presenter and master naturalist Jim Patrick will cover all the basic skills and tools for navigation using a map and compass. These are essential skills for anyone who likes to adventure into the outdoors.

### Safeguarding our Natural and Cultural Heritage in a Holistic Environment

May 14, 5 – 6:30 p.m. at Bachechi Open Space, 9521 Rio Grande Blvd. NW

*Presenter: Mark Allison with New Mexico Wild*  
Join New Mexico Wilderness Alliance in a discussion about New Mexico's wild public lands and wilderness areas.

### Recycled & Natural Building Materials in the Garden & Garden Design

May 20, 9 a.m. – noon at Gutierrez-Hubbell House, 6029 Isleta Blvd. SW

Learn how to save money and be creative with the materials you select that will make your site stand out. Participants will also present their own landscape plans specific to their space to spur on additional ideas gleaned from the Landscape for Life course.

### Curanderismo: It IS your grandma's medicine...but it can be yours too!

May 21, 1 - 2 p.m. at Gutierrez-Hubbell House, 6029 Isleta Blvd. SW

*Presenter: Dr. Eliseo "Cheo" Torres*

Presentation will cover the revival of this traditional medicine practice with a brief discussion of its history from Mayan to Aztec to modern curanderos(as)/healers. Discussion will include some of the most common rituals like energetic cleansings (limpias), magical fright (susto), intestinal blockage (empacho) and have a brief demonstration on laugh therapy (risa terapia).

### Skywarn Training

May 21, 6 - 8 p.m. at Bachechi Open Space, 9521 Rio Grande Blvd. NW

*Presenter: Kerry Jones, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and National Weather Service*

Join hundreds of thousands of volunteers throughout the nation to become a weather spotter and provide weather reports. Learn how to read the sky and identify weather events.

### Evening Adaptations

May 25, 7:30 – 9 a.m. at Bachechi Open Space, 9521 Rio Grande Blvd. NW

*Presenter: Cass Landrum with Cottonwood Gulch*

An exploration of the senses beyond sight -- smell like a dog, hear like an owl and learn more about your own adaptations on a short walk.

### Plant Walk at Carlito Springs Open Space

May 27, 10 a.m. – noon, 82 Carlito Springs Road in Cedar Crest

Carlito Springs has a wide variety of native plants from the pinon, juniper and ponderosa forest to a historic orchard and abundant ornamental flowers. Join master naturalists in learning about these beautiful plants and trees.



BernCo  
Hotline  
Numbers

TO REPORT A ROAD  
MAINTENANCE  
ISSUE:  
(505) 848-1503  
(505) 848-1504

TO REPORT  
GRAFFITI:  
(505) 243-7273

PARK WATCH  
PROGRAM:  
(505) 468-7777

Or send an email to:  
[ContactCenter@bernco.gov](mailto:ContactCenter@bernco.gov)

BERNCO WEBSITE  
AND SOCIAL MEDIA  
HANDLES

[www.BernCo.gov](http://www.BernCo.gov)  
[www.BernCoBernie.com](http://www.BernCoBernie.com)



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## BERNCO NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS SURVEY

*BernCo wants to  
know what you think!*

*Please visit the  
online survey at  
[www.BernCo.gov/  
NewsSurvey](http://www.BernCo.gov/NewsSurvey)  
to answer a few  
questions about  
how BernCo  
can best  
communicate  
with you.*

*Look for the  
new BernCo  
neighborhood  
news format  
beginning  
in July.*

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## BERNCO PROJECTS UPDATES

### Alameda Adaptive Signal System

*Phase 2 installation will begin by early summer.*

The adaptive signal control system is a designated set of traffic signals that effectively communicate with each other to improve overall traffic flow along a respective corridor. The traffic signals adapt to the traffic flow, reducing the frequency of red lights when traffic volume is high. In the first phase, BernCo installed video detection cameras and the program software for the adaptive signal control system at seven major intersections along Alameda Boulevard between Loretta Drive and Second Street in the fall of 2013. As a result of this project, the traffic efficiency along Alameda has improved by 20 percent.

The second phase of this project will extend the adaptive signal system along Alameda Boulevard from Coors Road to Cottonwood Drive. Four new intersections will be served. The second phase of this project is federally-funded.

### Animal Care Shelter

*Construction is expected to begin this spring.*



The new animal shelter will be a 17,143 square foot facility and will include:

- Space for approximately 115 dogs and approximately 25 cats,
- Animal recreation and isolation areas, and
- Operational space for the Animal Care Services Department, veterinary care, and support services.

The site located near Second Street and Woodward was chosen after evaluating more than 15 potential properties.

The construction project will use general obligation bond money and is expected to cost about \$7.5 million including the land purchase.

### Rio Grande Boulevard Bike Lanes

This project has widened the roadway and provided bicycle lanes along Rio Grande Boulevard from the Los Ranchos boundary to Alameda Boulevard. The improvements included on-street bicycle lanes, widening and repaving of the existing roadway as well as improvements to the irrigation canals. The project is substantially complete and the roadway is fully open to the public. The county would like to thank the community for its support and patience through the construction process.



### Tiny Home Village

Currently, BernCo is developing the Request for Proposal that will identify the scope of services, selection criteria and a project timeline for an organization that would oversee the planning and development of the tiny home village site and operations project. A series of educational forums are being planned for the community to engage in discussions about how community and self-development programs can be utilized to assist the tiny home villagers' stabilization and progress. Volunteer efforts are also being coordinated.

In November 2016, voters approved a \$2 million general obligation bond to fund the development of the tiny home village project.

*For more information about these BernCo projects and others, please visit  
[www.BernCo.gov/Projects](http://www.BernCo.gov/Projects).*

## NEED Assistance or Resources?

Contact neighborhood coordinator Darrell Dady at (505) 468-7364 or [ddady@bernco.gov](mailto:ddady@bernco.gov).