



BERNCO at a Glance

DECEMBER 2014

Volume 5 • Issue 12



BERNALILLO COUNTY COMMISSION

Administrative Meeting
Tuesday, Dec. 9, 5 p.m.

COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION

First Wednesday of month
Wednesday, Dec. 3, 9 a.m.

ZONING ADMINISTRATIVE HEARING

Second Tuesday of month
Tuesday, Dec. 9, 9 a.m.

Meetings 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

County offices will be
closed Christmas Eve Day,
Wednesday, Dec. 24,
Christmas Day,
Thursday, Dec. 25;

New Year's Day,
Thursday, Jan. 1, 2015

BERNCO
at a Glance

Prepare for Winter's Worst Weather Conditions

When bad weather hits our area this winter, visit the www.bernco.gov home page for notifications on conditions direct from our crews who are actually on the roads; as well as www.bernco.gov/WinterRoads, a web page dedicated to providing residents with tips on road closures; winter weather safety; and links to city, county and state road condition websites.

A downloadable and printable version of our **Winter Emergency Road and Winter Operation Procedures** is also available on the Winter Roads webpage. This brochure includes the county's priorities for winter snow removal, information on diversion of traffic during inclement weather, and preparation tips for both *being on the road and at home*.

For up-to-the minute status reports on Bernalillo County roads, sign up for **Nixle**, the county's alert system, by visiting www.nixle.com, or by calling (505) 848-1503. This is also the number to call to submit an unincorporated Bernalillo County road repair or maintenance request. You can also register for county emergency notifications by visiting www.bernco.gov/emergency-notification-opt-in.

To access city road status reports, or to submit a city road request within the Albuquerque city limits, dial **311**.

For information on state roads across New Mexico, including interstates and major roads, the State of New Mexico's Department of Transportation has several ways to access information. **The Road Advisory Hotline is available 24/7 by calling 511**. You can also visit <http://nmroads.com> for an interactive map of road conditions and to sign up for email/text alerts, or download the mobile app at <http://m.nmroads.com>.

NEED Assistance or Resources?

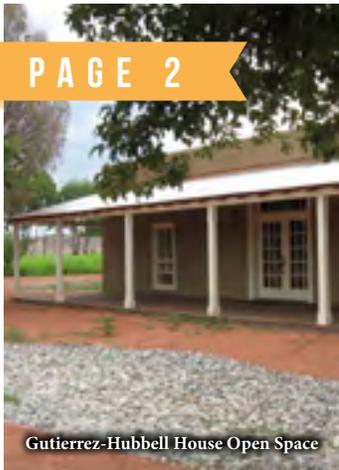
Contact Neighborhood Coordination Specialist Darrell Dady at (505) 468-7364 or at ddady@bernco.gov.



BERNALILLO COUNTY



WE'RE MORE THAN YOU THINK



Gutierrez-Hubbell House Open Space



BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Debbie O'Malley, Chair, Dist. 1

Art De La Cruz, Vice Chair, Dist. 2

Maggie Hart Stebbins, Member, Dist. 3

Lonnie C. Talbert, Member, Dist. 4

Wayne A. Johnson, Member, Dist. 5

Tom Zdunek, County Manager

ONE CIVIC PLAZA NW
10TH FLOOR
(505) 468-7000
WWW.BERNCO.GOV

BERNCO
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Bernalillo County Assessor Reminds Veterans of Tax Exemptions

Bernalillo County Assessor Tanya R. Giddings wants to remind all veterans living in the county that they can apply for a veteran tax exemption that can help reduce their property taxes.

Any Bernalillo County veteran who served a minimum of 90 days consecutive active duty days (other than for training), was honorably discharged, and is a legal resident of New Mexico qualifies for a \$4,000 reduction in the taxable value of their real property for Bernalillo County taxation purposes.

This benefit is also available to non-remarried surviving spouses of a veteran who would have otherwise qualified for this benefit.

There is also a 100 percent Disabled Veteran Property Tax Exemption available to any veteran who has been rated at 100 percent service-connected disabled by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, and is a legal resident of New Mexico. This exemption qualifies for a complete 100 percent property tax waiver on their primary residence.

State law requires that veterans apply for these exemptions within 30 days of the mailing of the Notice of Value, which is typically mailed out April 1 in order to receive the exemption for the current tax year; otherwise the exemption will be applied for the following tax year. Veterans can apply now for the exemption and see it reflected in next year's tax bill.

Please visit the assessor's website for additional information and to find the applications at www.bernco.gov/assessor-office.

BernCo Commission Approves Incentives for a New Downtown Grocery Store, Apartments

Project will create 62 full-time jobs, 150 construction jobs

At its Nov. 18, 2014 meeting, the Bernalillo County Board of Commissioners, approved an \$11.3 million industrial revenue bond package for a Downtown mixed-use development including new apartments and a grocery store at Silver and Second Street SW.

The bonds are privately financed and allow the developer, UR 205 Silver, to exempt property taxes.

The project will create 62 full-time jobs and 150 construction jobs, as well as a new grocery store and 68 mixed-income housing units.

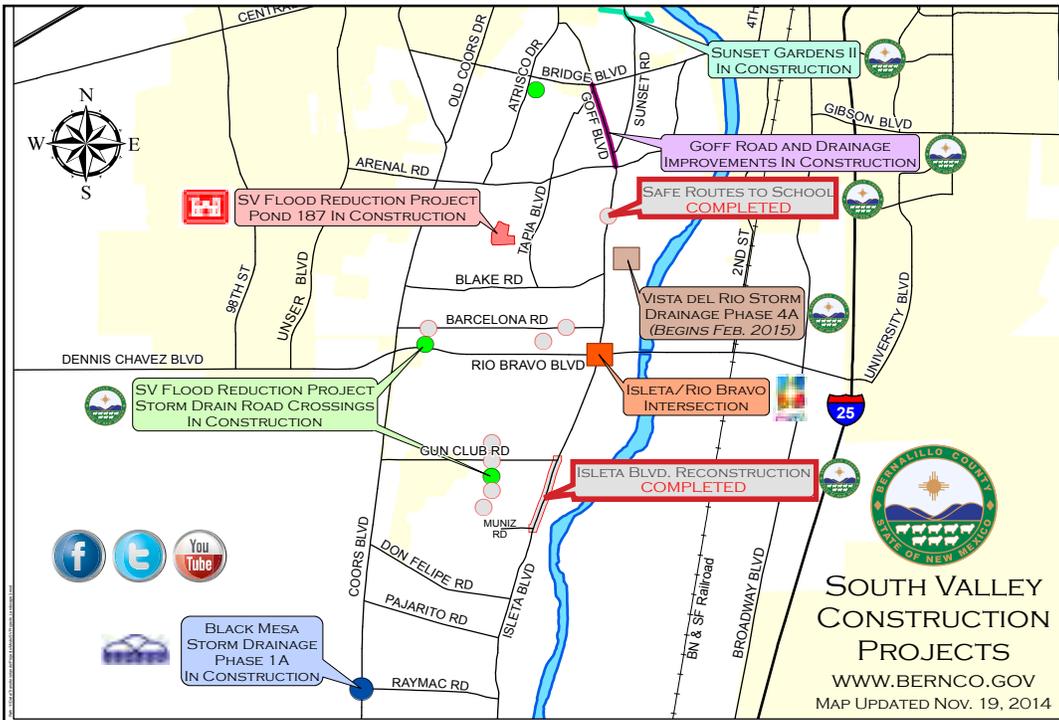
This project is part of a Downtown Albuquerque revitalization effort in which Bernalillo County is participating to help better serve our community. Earlier in November, BernCo officials and other community leaders cut the ribbon on the nearby Silver Moon Lodge apartments, which features 151 affordable apartments with amenities.

Since 2010, the Bernalillo County Commission has supported projects that have created more than 1,800 new jobs and nearly \$200 million in new private investment activity.

South Valley Construction Update

The Isleta/Rio Bravo Boulevard intersection construction project is on schedule to be completed by the end of December.

Follow Bernalillo County on Facebook and Twitter to get project updates and alerts as they happen, or visit www.bernco.gov/SVProjects for more information. Please remember to drive slowly through construction zones.



Carlito Springs Open Space



Check out the FREE comprehensive calendar and website ABQtodo.

To learn more go to www.abqtodo.com

REGISTER YOUR BUSINESS OR NONPROFIT, OR JOIN THE ARTISTS DIRECTORY, BY GOING TO REGISTER.ABQTODO.COM

Answers To Your Zoning, Building & Planning Questions

Q How do I apply for a zone change?

A A change in zoning is called "rezoning". Rezoning changes often involve changing a parcel or parcels of land from one land use qualification to another land use (i.e. from retail use to restaurant use, agricultural use to light industrial, or low-density to high-density).

To proceed with the application process, applicant must:

1. Submit an application and pay any accompanying fees.
2. Provide notice to all nearby property owners.
3. Attend a public hearing to present your case. This gives both you and your neighbors the opportunity to share any objections or concerns. Most people seeking a rezoning retain an experienced agent to assist them. The likelihood of success varies based on the facts and circumstances of each case.

BernCo Public Works Hotline #'s AVAILABLE 24 HOURS A DAY 7 DAYS A WEEK

CALL (505) 848-1503 OR (505) 848-1504 or send an E-mail to contactcenter@bernco.gov



BERNCO BERNIE BOOK COMING SOON

BernCo Bernie is getting a book! "The Adventures of BernCo Bernie," scheduled for publication in early 2015, will chronicle the adventures of Bernalillo County Open Space's official spokes-sheep.

The colorfully illustrated bilingual book will be aimed toward students in kindergarten through third grade and will focus on educating young people about the importance of preserving the county's Open Space properties.

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Don't Miss these Special Holiday Luminaria Walking Tour Events!

Friday, Dec. 12 from 6 to 8 p.m.

Enjoy the **South Valley MainStreet Holiday Celebration** being held at Gateway Park, Bridge and Isleta SW.

You'll hear holiday favorites performed by the mariachi group Severo y Grupo Fuego, as you enjoy walking the luminaria-lined pathways while enjoying free refreshments. Call (505) 217-2484 for more information.



Saturday, Dec. 13 from 5:30 – 7:30 p.m.

Don't miss the Ninth Annual **Acequia of Lights** while enjoying free refreshments and caroling. Your walk begins behind the Holy Family Church, 562 Atrisco Drive SW (at Sunset Gardens) and ends at Five Points Road SW. The event sponsored by the Vecinos del Bosque Neighborhood Association, Holy Family Church, Partnership for Community Action and Valle Vista Elementary School. Call (505) 681-3600 or (505) 550-5604 for more details.

BernCo Treasurer's Office Kicks Off 2014 Property Tax Collection Season

Treasurer Manny Ortiz recently announced that 12 area banks and credit unions are participating in this year's property tax collection season as part of his effort to expand options for people to pay their tax bills. Residents can also pay their taxes by mail, online or by simply coming into the Treasurer's Office in person in the basement of the City/County building at One Civic Plaza NW. For more information, call (505) 468-7031.

- Wells Fargo Bank, N.A.
- Peoples Bank
- U.S. Bank
- Rio Grande Credit Union
- Bank of Albuquerque
- NM Bank & Trust
- First Financial Credit Union
- U.S. New Mexico Federal Credit Union
- My Bank
- State Employees Credit Union
- Bank of the Rio Grande
- Sunrise Bank of Albuquerque

**BERNCO CULTURAL SERVICES
AND NEIGHBORHOOD COORDINATION
WISH YOU A HAPPY AND SAFE HOLIDAY SEASON!**

