

News Brief

November 04, 2021

NMFA Business Recovery Grant Program Administered by NM Finance Authority, the state of New Mexico designed the Business

Recovery Grant Program to help cover businesses' rent, lease, or mortgage payments to help businesses rehire the workforce they need. The average grant award is \$50,000 and does not need to be paid back.

The last application round will be **open until December 7, 2021**. Grant applications will be reviewed and prioritized after December 7, and grant awards will be made. Grants will be paid on a quarterly basis with no more than 25% of the total grant award being paid during any quarter. The grant amount is based on a combination of the revenue decline experienced by the business, the number of new FTE positions hired, and the hourly wages of the new positions.

Minimum eligibility requirements: Businesses or nonprofits operating in NM, at least one FT or PT employee but fewer than 75, employee reduction or layoffs due to pandemic, and more. Learn more at MMFinance.com/Recovery

Infrastructure Bill Gets it Right on Rail ~SFNM My View Joy Esparsen, NMC Dep. Ex. Dir.

It's a busy autumn for our leaders in Washington, D.C. Among urgent tasks like raising the debt ceiling and funding the government, they are working on historic infrastructure legislation while also addressing economic recovery and climate change.

These issues are complex and crosscutting. The transportation sector, for example, is a critical pillar of our economic recovery and also the leading contributor to U.S. emissions. It's important for policymakers to get the nuance right on these challenges. That's why it's good news that the Senate, including Sens. Martin Heinrich and Ben Ray Luján, passed the bipartisan Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act in August. If passed by the House, the bill will support long-term economic growth and help the U.S. compete abroad. Critically, it also gets the nuance right when it comes to our nation's railroads.

Six different freight railroads and just under 2,000 miles of rail track connect New Mexican counties from McKinley to Eddy to Santa Fe. These railways are vital economic corridors that support jobs and development, hauling 40 percent of U.S. intercity freight while accounting for under 2 percent of transportation-related emissions. They're critical to facilitating international trade, a key economic driver for our state. Not to mention they take 8 million trucks off New Mexico roads annually, relieving some of the burden on our underfunded roadways. The infrastructure bill gets a few things right for freight railroads, starting not with funding but with getting out of the way. Read More HERE

ICYMI-Clerks Affiliate Chair on the radio & next up Sheriff Sierra County Clerk Shelly Trujillo joined host Grant County Assessor Raul Turrieta on **GMCR.org** this morning to chat about the local election, voting, and election integrity.



Next up on **Thursday, Nov. 11**, 2021 from 9AM-10AM is Grant **County Sheriff** Frank Gomez, a US Army Ranger, who will talk about being a veteran on Veterans Day and why he became a county sheriff. You won't want to miss this!

Bernalillo County open position for Senior Financial Accountant with the Housing Department. Closes Nov. 10, 2021 <u>Click here</u>

Appointment for Curry County Commissioner for District 2

The Governor has appointed Thomas W. Martin III to fulfill the term for Curry County Commissioner District 2 replacing James Ridling who passed away.

USDA opens funding opportunity notice for the ReConnect Program

The ReConnect Program will provide a total of \$1.15 billion in loans, grants and loangrant combinations to help rural communities gain access to high-speed internet through the promotion of broadband deployment.

Tue Nov 9 NACo Webinar: Affordable Housing as a Driver of Economic Mobility; Tools for Counties & Cities 1PM-2PM

Wed Nov 17 NACo Webinar: Counties Can <u>Improve Economic Mobility through Adult</u> **Literacy** 11AM-Noon

Verizon to Use Amazon Satellites to **Expand Rural Broadband** ~Govtech.com This partnership will allow Verizon to use Amazon's satellite system, Project Kuiper, to

expand the reach of its data networks. Amazon received approval from the FCC to launch around 3,200 satellites.

So you ask, what is a LEO satellite system and how does it work? Low earth orbit (LEO) is a designation for communication satellites whose locus extends from approximately 300 miles above the earth's surface up to an altitude of 1,491 miles. Because LEO satellites orbit at altitudes of less than 1,200 miles above the Earth's surface, they circle the planet several times a day. As a result, each constellation requires hundreds or thousands of satellites, blanketing the entire globe, to provide continuous connectivity for any given area.

In two years, the number of active and defunct satellites in LEO has increased by over 50%, to about 5,000 as of March 30, 2021. And yes, you can see these as they pass overhead at night.

Smart farms bringing tech to agriculture!



Outdoor Request for Proposals Economics CONFERENCE 2022 Outdoor Economics **Conference Host**

Open to All NM Counties: Benefits/ **Requirements for the Host Community**

- Statewide visibility and recognition
- Quality outdoor recreation and activities
- Facilities capable of hosting 300+ attendees and Outdoor Expo for organizations/sponsors
- Local/regional funding support to help underwrite conference costs; the Outdoor Economics Conference costs approximately \$100,000 a year to organize, produce, and fund (Control/click RFP above)

Email letter of interest to: <u>Jeff@outdoornm.org</u> by Dec. 1, 2021. Questions, call 575.635.5615

Link to NMC Meetings Annual Calendar Link to NMC Loss Prevention Trainings RSVP

All trainings open to county elected officials & employees

Thu Nov 4 NICE Webinar: <u>Digitally Transforming</u> Public Safety & Justice Noon-1PM

Virtual NMCIA Board meeting 8:30AM Thu Nov 4 Tue Nov 9 **Virtual NMC Executive Committee meeting** 2PM

Virtual NMC /NMML Joint Legislative Wed Nov 10 meeting 9AM

Mon Nov 15–19 Training for Trainers (T4T) Holiday Inn ABQ 8AM-5PM, register: ccorn@nmcounties.org

Thu Nov 18-19 Online CPR Instructor Development 8AM-

Tue Nov 30 Advisory Council meeting 11 AM TBD Wed Dec 8 NMCIA Board meeting 8:30 AM NMC Santa Fe TBD

Tue & Thu Jan NMEDGE Classes Live Online, Jan. 11, 13, 17,

Mon Jan 17-18 NM EDGE Classes Live Online only NMC Legislative Conference Hybrid-In person & virtual, Santa Fe County Legislative Session Begins Noon Tue Jan 18-20

Tue Jan 18 Tue Jan 18 NMCIA Membership meeting 9AM TBD NMC Board of Directors meeting 2PM Tue Jan 18 Thu Jan 27 NMC Executive Committee virtual meeting

11AM Wed Feb 2 Deadline for Bill Introduction

Sat Feb 5 NMC Board of Directors meeting 2PM Santa

Fe County

Share your county news and photos at Submit county job postings **here** View recent job postings here New Employee? Add Directory updates here

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