

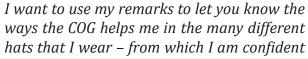


Dear Friends and Neighbors,

I deliver to you the COG's Annual Report to highlight the tremendous work they do to move forward our region. I want to take this opportunity to thank all present and past Board members that volunteer their time and expertise, including Doctor William "Doc" Amsden Hall, who will always be warmly referred to by the COG family as our beloved "Chairman Emeritus". He built the foundation to which we all stand today; I am greatly honored

to have known him and have the upmost respect for the

positive shadow he has cast.



you will glean value in their hard work:

- Executive Director (NWNM Solid Waste Authority) as a dues paying affiliate member, the COG spawned my organization in the early 1990s - recognizing that a regional solution could be created to meet our local need for solid waste services. Staff helps on an annual basis with infrastructure planning and financing, recycling, illegal dumping, business planning, etc. They have even stepped back in, time and again to help right the ship.
- McKinley County Commissioner (District 1) both formerly and now again, the COG has been an integral part of getting things done in my District, which includes 22 Navajo Chapters and numerous unincorporated rural communities. The COG has been the force behind making Navajo-Gallup Water Supply Project a reality. They also are a key strategist in getting County school bus routes funded, recently showcased in several millions of dollars of funding for County Road 19, Deersprings Road, and Johnson Road. This was made possible by developing a multi-agency partnership across jurisdictions and attracting investments at all levels.



• Transportation Commissioner (District 6) - with Governor Martinez's appointment, the COG through its role as the Regional Transportation Planning Organization (RTPO) has been exceptional. Being able to upload their institutional knowledge on projects and funding strategies, helped to position me with the information I needed, in order to, go to bat for our communities and needs. Again, fruits should be borne soon on the value added by COG, including critical funding for 1st and 2nd Streets in Grants and the Zuni Mountains Trail Project.

I firmly believe that by working together we can make great things happen and with the COG supporting us -- we can achieve what others say is impossible,

~ Billy Moore, Chairman of the Board



As we conclude the 46th year in the life of the Northwest New Mexico Council of Governments, a year in which I completed my 28th year with this august institution, we grieve the passing of our beloved "Doc," Dr. Bill Hall, our longtime Board member and Chairman Emeritus at the Council of Governments for 3 decades.

Doc was like a father to me personally,

and I have fond and lasting memories of many trips together across the country - many of which included former COG Director Patty Lundstrom, where (in addition to our time in national conferences and in meetings with Congressmen and Foundation executives!) he customarily served as Tour Guide and



Dr. William A. "Doc" Hall

Historian on visits to battlefields, air museums and other historic sites in nearly every major region and city in the country. Seems like he was a frequent and knowledgeable guest everywhere we went!

Following a distinguished and moving gravesite service with military honors, I was joined by Patty and her husband Ron, as well as by our Board Treasurer Louie Bona-

guidi, and over 100 other guests at the memorial service held at the Emmanuel Baptist Church in Farmington in Doc's honor on June 2nd, 2018. There we witnessed an outpouring of affection and appreciation for this man of character and graciousness, to which we were able to add our grateful remembrances.

We will miss Doc's gentle strength, his passion for public service and for American history, his deep kindness and courtesy - even in times of disagreement – and his knowledgeable and dignified

representation of the people's interests in Farmington and northwestern New Mexi-

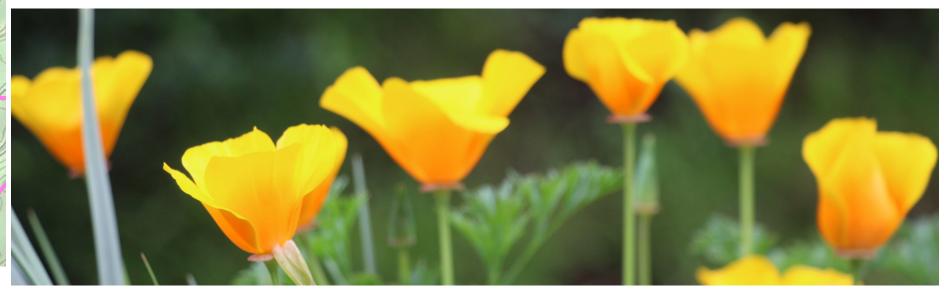
co. And I will miss his companionship and mentorship on this journey of life.

Godspeed your way, Doc, and with love and best wishes for God's blessings on your precious Suzanne and your wonderful family, and on your large family of friends around the country and the world.

Seff Xiely and the COG Family



In his speech as outgoing NADO President, Jeff honored Doc & Suzanne Hall at the NADO Conference in San Antonio, TX October 2016



MEMBER GOVERNMENTS

COUNTIES

Cibola County

McKinley County

San Juan County

MUNICIPALITIES

City of Gallup

City of Grants

Village of Milan

MUNICIPALITIES

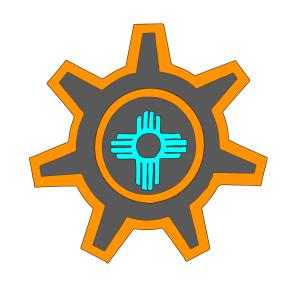
City of Farmington

City of Aztec

City of Bloomfield

AFFILIATE MEMBERS

Northwest New Mexico Regional Solid Waste Authority



REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLANNING ORGANIZATION

JOINT POLICY & TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Cibola County
McKinley County

COUNTIES

San Juan County

MUNICIPALITIES

City of Gallup

City of Grants

Village of Milan

TRIBAL ENTITIES

Pueblo of Acoma

Pueblo of Laguna

Pueblo of Zuni

Navajo Nation

CHAIRMAN

Jeff Irving
McKinley County

VOTING REPRESENTATIVES

Robert Armijilo Cibola County

Anthony DimasMcKinley County

Carol Bowman-Muskett
McKinley County

Larry Hathaway San Juan County

Joshua W. Ray City of Aztec

Dorothy NobisCity of Bloomfield

Dr. Bill HallCity of Farmington

Yogash Kumar City of Gallup

Allan LandavazoCity of Gallup

Maryann Ustick
City of Gallup

Michael LewisCity of Grants

Modey HicksCity of Grants

Robert GallegosVillage of Milan



AITFRNATES

vacantCibola County

Doug DeckerMcKinley County

Doug DeckerMcKinley County

Kim Carpenter San Juan County

Austin RandallCity of Aztec

Donica SharpeCity of Bloomfield

Rob MayesCity of Farmington

Jackie McKinney City of Gallup

Laura JaramilloCity of Grants

Helen DayanVillage of Milan

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

Billy MooreMcKinley County

IMMEDIATE PAST CHAIR

GloJean Todacheene San Juan County

SECRETARY

Jeff Kiely NWNMCOG

1ST VICE-CHAIR

Genevieve JacksonMcKinley County

2ND VICE-CHAIR

Martha Garcia Cibola County

TREASURER

Louie BonaguidiCity of Gallup

Top Ten Highlights of 2018 Session & Interim Committees



- 4. Increasing one-time road funding for statewide maintenance and doubling the local government road fund.
- 5. Investment in critical projects throughout the region.
- 6. Restoring State's reserves to 10% while providing sensible salary increases to teachers and other critical State workers.
- 7. Passage and enactment of the Local Election Act.
- 8. Passage of moving Motor Vehicle Tax to the State Road Fund annually increasing it by \$6.4M
- 9. Increasing funding to Gallup Inter-Tribal Indian Ceremonial up to \$77,000.
- 10. Hosting the interim Legislative Finance Committee in Gallup on May 9-11.

Your Council of Governments participates and maintains a presence for the entire Session, as a service to our members, our rural and tribal communities, and our Legislators. We are here to serve your needs and track items of interest for our members. Our organization does not lobby, but we understand our region and communities, making us valuable to Legislators, staff, and your hired Lobbyists as an informational resource.



COG Director Jeff Kiely facilitated the meeting of the McKinley County-Gallup Day delegation with Governor Susana Martinez, who spent the duration of the 75minute meeting cradling this baby girl in her arms. Legislative

Four Corners Geotourism Website Upgrade

This year, under contract with McKinley County through a NM Tourism Department grant, COG staff contracted with Old Town Creative to upgrade the NAT-GEO Four Corners Geotourism website to a 2.0 platform. The upgrade included:

Website Upgrades

- 1. Secure 128 bit SSL encryption protection,
- 2. Responsive mobile version of the website,
- Improved search engine optimization from technology updates,
- 4. Optional ad banners and supporter badges,
- 5. Robust trip planner / itinerary builder,
- 6. Sub-region pages allowing trip planning for smaller areas within the Four Corners region,
- 7. Larger images and an interactive map viewer, and
- 8. Ability to embed selected content in other websites.

We are asking agencies and stakeholders to take a look and spread the word about utilizing this with unique businesses, places, and beneficiaries within your areas. Going forward, COG staff will continue to work with the Four Corners Geotourism Stewardship Council, to develop a website maintenance plan, with management from participating agencies in all four states. Secondly, the COG will develop a financing plan

to sustain the website through nominal annual contributions from participating agencies, and contributions from private sector organizations that benefit from this marketing. Lastly, the COG and its partners will reinvigorate the Stewardship Council, who will continue to collaborate to maintain, update and manage the website content in collaboration with National Geographic, allowing the site to keep all our marketed attrac-

tions current and consistent with our New Mexico True brand standards.

Go to

https://fourcornersgeotourism.

to view this international marketing tool that we hope will take our regional tourism and hospitality industries to a whole new level.



Northwest Regional Transportation Planning Organization Highlights

In the Rear View

- Milk Ranch & McGaffey Trail Groundbreaking: RTPO staff supported and attended the groundbreaking on June 2nd (National Trails Day).
- Grants Thoroughfare Plan: On April 5th, RTPO staff participated in a transportation visioning session with City leadership and Wilson & Company Engineering to develop a thoroughfare plan for the City of Grants including short-term, mid-term, and long-term actions, priorities, and financing strategies. Based on this session, RTPO staff were able to coordinate two follow-up meetings to discuss funding strategies with NMDOT and Local Government Division.
- Gallup Transportation
 Safety Plan: RTPO staff
 assisted the City of Gallup
 and DOT staff to recruit
 and setup a project in the
 City of Gallup to involve a
 new practice for ramping

- up proactive community-wide safety planning and project design. The Kick-off meeting took place on April 11th.
- Four Corners Transportation Plan: RTPO staff engaged a new four-State initiative to collaboratively improve transportation and public transit connectivity across our mega-region. RTPO provided an updated stakeholders list from our regional planning work.
- Infrastructure Capital Improvement Program:
 COG staff worked with

COG staff worked with several regional development organizations (RDO's) and state agencies to support an upgrade for the state's ICIP system to make it more streamlined, flexible, and useable at multiple levels for multiple reasons.

Tribal Infrastructure
 Fund Grant Applications:
 Staff assisted in developing and supporting applications for two critical

McKinley County road priorities, which were funded, notably:

- •Deerspings Road (Mexican Springs Chapter): \$1,139,627
- •County Road 19 (Casamero Lake and Littlewater Chapters): \$1,209,101
- MAP Funding Agreement: Staff developed an MOA between Gallup, Grants, Milan and Reserve (Catron County) to share MAP funding in a manner where over a 4-year period each community takes it's

turn at utilizing all of the funds for their respective year. This method significantly increases the value of MAP funding for completing a more significant project,

- rather than applying a portion of the funding to a small phase accomplishment.
- Statewide RTPO Roundtable: Northwest RTPO hosted this quarterly meeting at the COG Office, including a presentation on Federal Lands Access Program, which will issue a three-year call for projects in the coming months for about \$24M in project funding.

Cruising Forward: The Northwest RTPO staff an-

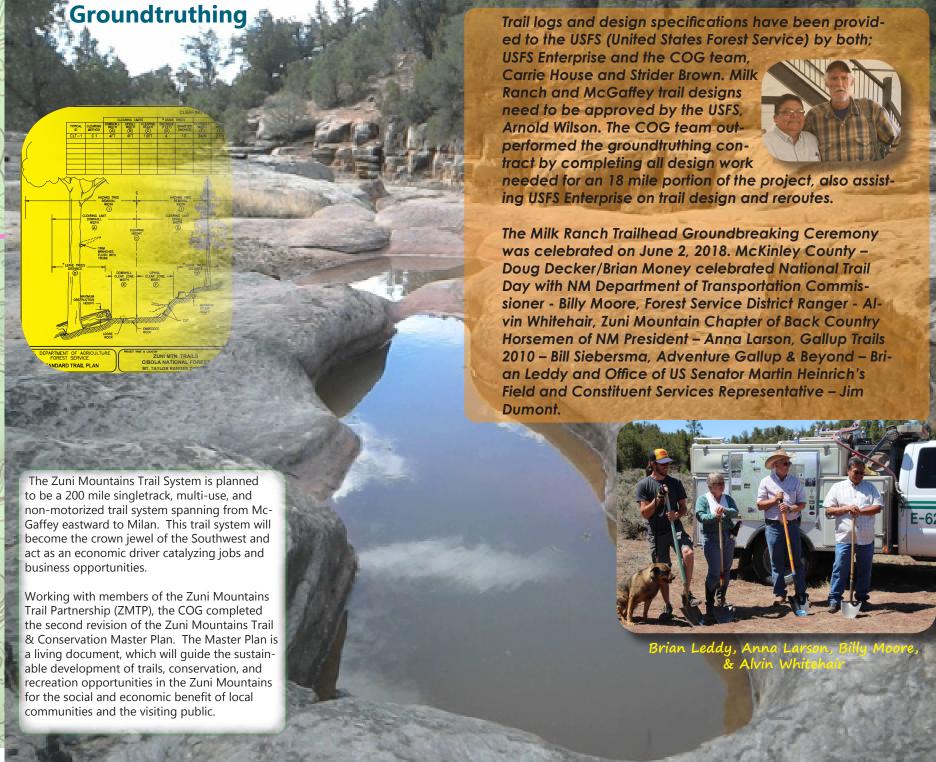


nounced its biennial "Call for Transportation Projects" in June 2018 for FFY2020 & 2021. This open call for projects is for any transportation project that meets functional classification and/or other requirements of specific programs (such as Transportation Alternative Program, Recreational Trails Program, Highway Safety Im-

provement Program, Congestion Mitigation & Air Quality (CMAC), etc.). Please contact RTPO Program Manager ~ Robert Kuipers, with any questions regarding requirements and coordinate submissions through your associated RTPO representatives. Information coming soon to our Call for Transportation Projects section of http://www.nwnmcog.com/important-documents.html

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POWER / House Memorial 72



Scope-of-Work (Deliverables):

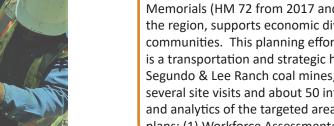
- Identify available workforce skill-sets (Workforce Assessment)
- Identify compatible industries for recruitment (Target Industry Analysis)
- Identify complimentary businesses for recruitment (Supply-Chain Analysis)
- Identify location for business siting (Master Site Plan)

Target Industry Analysis and Workforce Assessment (15% each)

> **Supply Chain Analysis** (30%)

> > Site Plan (40%)

The COG is working with Foote Consulting Group, LLC (FCG) to assist with an integrated planning product that will directly benefit the bi-county area of Cibola and McKinley. This work is being underwritten by two NM Finance Authority planning grants and was empowered through two consecutive House Memorials (HM 72 from 2017 and HM 42 from 2018). This initiative continues the COG's POWER work in the region, supports economic diversification, and seeks to cushion the economic woes in coal-impacted communities. This planning effort will provide a deeper dive into the Prewitt Industrial Cluster area, which is a transportation and strategic hub for area base employers including Escalating Generating Station, El Segundo & Lee Ranch coal mines, and McKinley Paper Company. This summer, the project team conducted several site visits and about 50 interviews with area leaders. Next steps for FCG include digging into data and analytics of the targeted area and the two-county areas and producing working drafts of the four main plans: (1) Workforce Assessment; (2) Targeted Industry Study; (3) Supply Chain Analysis; and (4) Site Master



Planning for the Future of Northwest New Mexico

Throughout the 2018 fiscal year, the COG developed, co-developed and participated in various plan development initiatives throughout the region. From comprehensive planning to technical studies, the COG has been a key partner in planning for the future of Northwest New Mexico. With decades of valuable expertise, the COG is more than prepared to move the region forward. With requests from various local governments, affiliated members and outside organizations the COG was able to contribute to or obtain funding for the development of the following plans:



Comprehensive Plans

- McKinley County Comprehensive Plan Update
- City of Grants Comprehensive Plan Update
- Village of Milan Comprehensive Plan Update
- San Juan County Comprehensive Plan Update

Transportation Plans

- Northwest New Mexico Long Range Transportation Plan Update
- Grants Thoroughfare Plan
- Gallup Transportation Safety Plan
- Four Corners Transportation Plan

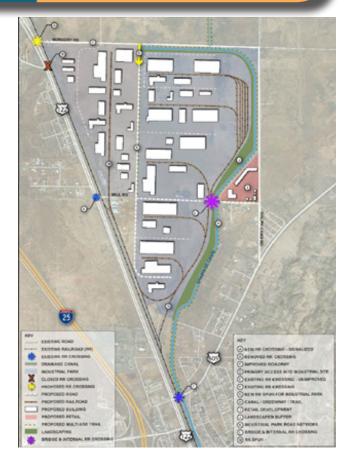
Economic Development Plans

- Milan Farm Industrial Park Master Plan (map pictured here of early alternative)
- La Ristra Northwest Regional Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Update
- POWER Regional Economic Assessment
- Prewitt Industrial Cluster Area Plan (House Memorial 41/72)
- Four Corners Futures Forum Report

Resource & Environmental Plans

- McKinley County Wildfire Protection Plan
- Gallup Drought Contingency Plan





Coal Avenue Commons

As writers, artists, and musicians know, downtowns are the heartbeats of communities. Downtown is where the energy is, where creativity resides, where the people are, and where possibility lives. And Gallup's downtown is full of possibility.



Last year, the City of Gallup, in partnership with gallupARTS and the Northwest NM Council of Governments, received a \$150,000 Our Town grant from the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA), supported by a \$25,000 grant from the McCune Charitable fund and matched by

local contributions, to re-design Coal Avenue in downtown Gallup as an "event street" through a creative placemaking process.

Now, the City and gallupARTS, along with their partners—McKinley County, the Gallup Business Improvement District, the Gallup MainStreet Arts & Cultural District, and the Northwest New Mexico Council of Governments—have broken ground on the "visioning" stage of the newly named "Coal Avenue Commons" project. Staff supported the Kick-off Event at the El Morro Theater, focus groups, ArtsCrawl events and activities, and the community engagement meeting. Follow our progress on the project website at: w w w . c o a l a v e n u e c o m m o n s . c o m



If you don't have a downtown, you really don't have anything. It's hard to build a community around parking lots and subdivisions.

~ Ed McMahon

A basic timeline of deliverables:

July: Focus Groups, ArtsCrawl parklet demos, and Conceptual Site Plans

August: Final Focus Group Workshop and Community Engagement Meeting #2

September: Design of Selected Concept and City Council Presentation

October – December: Construction Document Development



Downtown Skatepark



In collaboration with the City of Gallup and the Southwest Indian Foundation, the COG participated in the development of a new Skate Park within the City's downtown district. The existing skate park was demolished as part of the reconstruction of the Lincoln Elementary, which created a void in the limited spaces available for the skating community. This void nas caused concern from by the skate community but also from the general public. Residents see social, health, and economic benefits from this new Skate Park project.

The COG assisted the City and area legislators in raising over \$350,000 in legislative and other grants on behalf of the City for construction of the Skate Park. The COG also played a major role in efforts to raise the remaining dollars needed to start construction, including a \$25,000 Tony Hawk Foundation grant and \$16,000 in crowdfunding that has been raised from the grassroots level. COG staff also introduced the

skating community to local arts events and provided the skating community with advocacy material such as flyers and business cards.

The project hit a major snag as site demolition unveiled some historic environmental concerns, which have all be mitigated. The City of Gallup has scheduled a ribbon-cutting ceremony for July 2018.

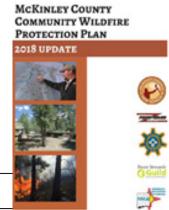
McKinley County Community Wildfire Protection Plan



The COG, NM Forest Guild, and McKinley County Fire & Rescue representatives continued collaboration as a project team to conduct the 2018 update to the McKinley Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) through a grant award from the NM Association of Counties. This year, the COG assisted Forest Guild consultants and McKinley County Fire Chief Jason Carlisle in spearheading a process to update the County's CWPP. The final version is being prepared for County approval in July 2018. Several keys are highlighted here:

Following CWPP guidelines, each community was assigned a community hazard rating (CHR) of low, medium or high wildland fire risk. Communities that were included in the 2013 plan were reassessed in 2018 to update

the original rating and several communities that were not previously assessed were added during the 2018 planning process. Shown here are only those communities rated high – see the final CWPP for all community ratings



Communities at Risk

2013 RISK RATING	2018 RISK RATING	VFD	
Medium	High	Bluewater VFD	
Medium	High	Bluewater VFD	
High	High	Cibola National Forest	
Medium/High	High	Ramah VFD	
Medium/High	High	Ramah VFD	
High	High	Timberlake VFD	
Medium High	High	Zuni	
Not Assessed	High	Zuni	
	Medium High Medium/High Medium/High High High High Medium/High	Medium High Medium High High High High Medium/High Medium/High High High High Medium/High High High High	

Priority Actions

The plan details priority actions around these focused areas:

- Fuels Treatments
- Human Sources of Ignition
- Campfires outreach and education
- Powerlines
- Volunteer Fire District Consolidation



@NWNMCOG wants to congratulate the Tribal Infrastructure Fund Board for funding road projects: Deersprings Road (Mexican Springs Chapter) and County Road 19 (Casamero Lake/Littlewater Chapters) to the tune of \$2.4M. If we all work together, it is easier to get out of the mud.

12:21 PM - Jul 5, 2018





Rural Recreation

NWNMCOG @NWNMCOG

As entrepreneurs, telecommuters and retirees look for a better quality of life closer to the outdoors, rural counties with recreation-based pewtrusts.org

NWNMCOG

@NWNMCOG





Many thanks to all the folks that made the Milk Ranch & McGaffey Trail groundbreaking happen and helped us celebrate on National Trails Day! #ZTMP

12:16 PM - Jul 5, 2018







Make Coal Avenue the greatest place to live, work, play, and stayl Kick-off Event (May 1 - 6PM) @ El Morro Theatre 10:53 AM - Apr 27, 2018

NADO NADO @NADOWeb

On a recent radio show, NADO members Jeff Kiely from @NWNMCOG & Cheryal Lee Hills from Region 5 Development Commission (MN) discussed the value of #regionalism, economic #diversification, nurturing #partnerships & more. Listen at: podbean.com/media/share/pb...

2:07 PM - Dec 19, 2017



NM Legislature studies road conditions and priorities through TRIP report. Allison Corridor, Carbon Coal/ US491, and NM118 rise to the top in District 6. #NWRTPO PR | ow.ly/mBbf30hZZCk



Landing Facebook has a ripple effect in Cibola County, NM. Another 50MW solar plant planned for development. #EDA #POWER |PR: ow.ly/22x130hS5P2

8:39 PM - Jan 18, 2018





Thank you to all our sponsors, presenters, panelists, and attendees for making the @GallupEDC Economic Roundtable on Workforce Development a success! goo.gl/q2ToKX #GallupNM #EconDev

11:51 AM - Jan 29, 2018



PNM wants to add wind and solar farms for Facebook facility

Two new wind farms and a solar facility may be built in New Mexico to supply another 266 megawatts of renewable energy to Facebook's abgiournal.com





The annual Spring Update of our CEDS 2015-2019 is complete and ready for use, distribution, and thoughtful contemplation of taking it to the next level in our 5-year update for 2020-2025. Link to Plan-- ow.ly/vGpK30jBoUn

3:19 PM - Apr 20, 2018

Aztec reduces dependency on fossil fuels dailytimes.com/story/news/loc...

11:01 AM - Oct 14, 2017



Aztec reduces dependency on fossil fuels

During a meeting, officials from Guzman Energy, told City Commission that the city could receive 40 percent of its power from wind in the daily-times.com





Powering Gallup with the sun, kudos to Gallup Solar for the passion, vision, and fortitude...#POWER #EDA, ow.ly/vDQy30fMolj

11:26 AM - Oct 10, 2017





Making it rain for the Village of Milan! @NWNMCOG #CDBG

5:43 PM - Sep 13, 2017



The event focuses on themes, like agriculture, art and culture, energy, health, infrastructure and tourism. ow.ly/xyKO30ginmH 8:45 PM - Nov 1, 2017



Four Corners Future Forum stresses importance of working to ...

Four Corners business and industry leaders are gathered today to discuss the future of the region during a two-day "Four Corners Future daily-times.com



Gallup awarded funds for life-saving & life-changing services via Indian Health Services \$1.5M grant. PR: ow.ly/d/6PvN #BHIZ 12:02 PM - Sep 28, 2017

See NWNMCOG's other Tweets

NWNMCOG @NWNMCOG · 27 Oct 2017

New Mexico governor dedicates new veterans cemetery



New Mexico governor dedicates new veterans cemetery

Northwestern New Mexico will have its own veterans cemetery by 2019 thanks to state funding and a multi-million-dollar federal grant.

kob.com



After a season of devastating Western wildfires, glad McKinley County, NM is taking proactive steps to prevention. ow.ly/d/6OUd

FINANCIAL REPORT Fiscal Year 2018

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Financial Wellness ~ FY2018

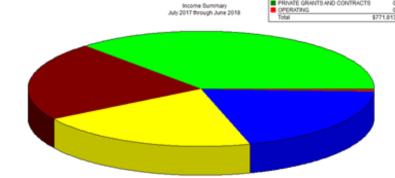
158,549.83
NET INCOME

| 771,813.86
INCOME
| 613,264.03
| EXPENSES

Overall Fiscal Health

Here are some snapshots from the COG's financial reports for FY2018. While overall income was down year-over-year due mostly to the loss of a major Federal grant (EDA POWER initiative) and reductions in member funds, the COG was able to manage its expenses wisely and bring in a substantial number of contractual projects and new services.





Income Summary:

STATE GRANTS AND CONTRACTS
FEDERAL GRANTS AND CONTRACTS

GENERAL

LOCAL GRANTS & CONTRACTS

PRIVATE GRANTS AND CONTRACTS

