

NORTH CENTRAL NEW MEXICO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT



Message from Executive Director Monica Abeita

On June 25, 2021, NCNMEDD adopted its Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) for 2021-2025. I'm inspired by our new strategy, which builds on the region's traditions and strengths while pursuing new, ambitious opportunities. I want to thank everyone who participated in the CEDS meetings and provided helpful input during the comment period. We look forward to working with you on the most important phase of the CEDS—implementation.

At the end of July, NCNMEDD will reach a major turning point with the retirement of Community Development Director Lesah Sedillo. After 14 years with NCNMEDD, Lesah will be greatly missed by us all. I am pleased to announce that we have hired Chris Madrid as our new Community Development Director. Chris will start with us on July 12, 2021 to ensure a smooth transition. Please join me in thanking Lesah for her commitment to our region and in welcoming Chris to our family.

We very much look forward to seeing all of you in person at our August 27, 2021 board meeting. As we open up, please be sure to stop in and say hello.

Best Regards,
Monica Abeita

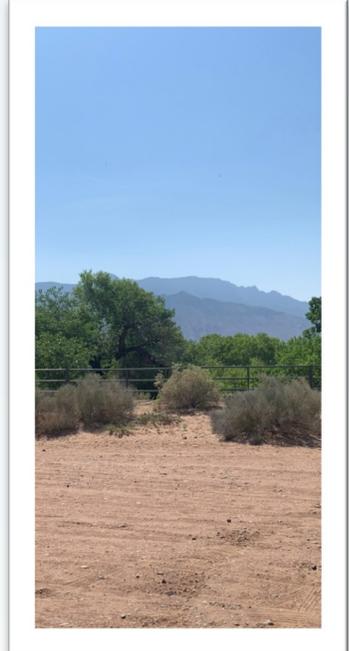
Inside NCNMEDD

Non-Entitlement Funds for Fiscal Recovery are Available!

Although vaccine rates are continuing to increase and local businesses are able to operate more freely, as of April 2021 there were still 8.2 million fewer jobs throughout the U.S. than compared to pre-pandemic levels. This job loss has affected every facet of life including housing security, ability to maintain utilities payments, mental health and substance abuse, and the health of our small business community. The pandemic affected local governments as well, with the need for increased services alongside often substantial declines in revenue. The Fiscal Recovery Funds (FRF) program, established through the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, provides funds to support State, local, and Tribal governments in their recovery from COVID 19. Funds can be used:

- (a) To respond to the public health emergency or its negative economic impacts, including assistance to households, small businesses, and nonprofits, or aid to impacted industries such as tourism, travel, and hospitality;
- (b) To respond to workers performing essential work during the COVID-19 public health emergency by providing premium pay to eligible workers;
- (c) For the provision of government services to the extent of the reduction in revenue due to the COVID-19 public health emergency relative to revenues collected in the most recent full fiscal year prior to the emergency;
- (d) To make necessary investments in water, sewer, or broadband infrastructure.

Additional guidance on Non-Entitlement funds, the award process, and use of funds can be found [here](#) and the request for distribution form can be found [here](#). The deadline for FRF form submissions is **Friday, July 2, 2021**. Contact [Kenny Pin](#) at (505) 356-9098 if you have questions about the process.



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Transportation Updates

With the support of NCNMEDD staff, tribal and local public agencies from the north central region submitted a total of 40 Transportation Project Fund applications for state funding to New Mexico Department of Transportation, from bridge replacements to sidewalk improvements. After the Northern Pueblos and Northeast Regional Transportation Planning Organizations rated and ranked their respective projects, NCNMEDD staff sent the applications to the NMDOT Districts for their review. The Districts submit their suggestions to NMDOT Cabinet Secretary Michael Sandoval, who in turn will submit his suggestions to the State Transportation Commission. After the Commission makes its final decisions, award letters will go out in the first week of September 2021.

Another call for funding is now open for three Federal Aid Highway Programs, administered by NMDOT: Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP), Recreational Trails Program (RTP), and Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) Program. While they are separate programs, they have some overlap in terms of eligible projects. Broadly speaking, TAP is focused on non-motorized transportation facilities, supporting infrastructure and programs. \$5,875,811 was previously funded statewide by TAP. RTP supports the development of pedestrian and equestrian paths, as well as trails for non-motorized and motorized vehicles, and \$1,588,144 was previously funded with RTP. CMAQ supports projects that reduce the number of motorized vehicle trips or miles traveled, and otherwise reduce emissions and congestion. Approximately \$11 million is funded yearly with CMAQ.



Tribal and local governments, transit agencies, school districts, and other state and federal government entities are eligible applicants. Nonprofits and RTPOs are not eligible project sponsors. If awarded, eligible project expenses are reimbursed by NMDOT to the project sponsor. As these are federal funding sources, there are federal requirements to consider. Among them are the need for non-Tribal applicants to submit an Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Transition Plan or Policy (depending on the number of employees by the sponsoring agency), and a Title VI Plan. Title VI and ADA Plans or Policies are due to NMDOT Title VI and ADA Coordinator by July 12, 2021, which is the same day that Project Feasibility Forms (PFFs) and Environmental Level of Effort forms are due to NCNMEDD staff. [Lesah Sedillo](#) and [Paul Sittig](#) are available to answer any questions and support Tribal and local agencies with this process.

Community Development Updates

Small Business Basics Program

NCNMEDD held our first in person workshop for Spanish speaking small business owners in and around Santa Fe on June 9, 2021. We will be holding another workshop on **June 30, 2021 at 9am**. For more information, visit our [website](#) or reach out to our consultant Trish Abbin by email at fatcatenterpriseslc@gmail.com or by phone at 505-280-6502.

Leaf & Hive LLC receives *Working Now* Loan

The *Working Now* revolving loan program continues to gain momentum with a recent loan to Leaf & Hive LLC in Santa Fe. Continue to spread the word about this funding opportunity to our local small business owners.

Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan—North Central Regional Town Hall

The pandemic has hit our tourism industries particularly hard. Please [register to join](#) the Virtual Town Hall meeting to learn about what the Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation team heard from residents during the survey process and to let them know what more is needed in your community.

NCNMEDD 2021 Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy

Thank you to everyone who submitted comments to improve our 2021-2025 Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy and to all those who attended our public comment meeting. The final document can be found at our website [here](#).

Available Positions with NCNMEDD

[Disaster Recovery Coordinator](#)

This position will help the NCNMEDD region recover from the impacts of the coronavirus pandemic by assisting with business recovery efforts, resiliency planning, economic diversification and project management.

[NonMetro AAA VISTA Member](#)

The AmeriCorps VISTA program works across the US on anti-poverty efforts. NonMetro AAA is hiring a VISTA to address gaps in food security, healthcare, and transportation systems and services. Contact [Crystal Sanchez](#) for more information.

[Transportation Intern](#)

NCNMEDD Interns are students pursuing an associate's or bachelor's degree. We are hiring an intern to assist with regional planning, grant writing, and implementation of Regional Transportation Work Programs. Contact [Paul Sittig](#) for more information.

Positions for NonMetro AAA can be found at the [NCNMEDD website](#).



Local Government Resources

[American Rescue Plan Fact Sheet](#)— American Rescue Plan aid to state, local, territorial, and Tribal governments can be difficult to navigate. The [ARP fact sheet](#) and [FAQ](#) has been updated as of **June 24, 2021** to help define what can and cannot be funded using aid dollars and sheds light on additional programs that may supplement these funds. If you have questions about how to best use your locally allocated funds we encourage you to reach out to [Kenny Pin](#), Disaster Recovery Coordinator, for assistance.

Funding Opportunities—Loans

During our recovery, loan products provide funding in various dollar amounts with low interest rates to help businesses.

[Employee Retention Tax Credit](#)

Deadline: July 31, 2021

If your business did not receive or qualify for PPP you may qualify for the Employee Retention Tax Credit in order to support employee wages and related health insurance costs. The credit is taken against the employer's share of Social Security tax.

[NCNMEDD Working Now Loan](#)

The *Working Now* Revolving Loan Fund offers small, interest-deferred loans to pandemic-impacted businesses in the counties of Colfax, Los Alamos, Mora, Rio Arriba, San Miguel, Santa Fe and Taos. These are small loans of up to \$10,000 aimed at businesses affected by the pandemic. If your business is in need of additional funding please contact [Alison Turner](#) at (505) 716-5580.

[NMFA Small Business Recovery Loan Fund](#)

New Mexico owned businesses with net revenue of less than \$5 million and decline in revenue or disruption due to the coronavirus pandemic are eligible to apply for loans of up to three times average monthly business expenses at a 1.625% interest rate.

[Community Facilities Loan Program](#)

The Rural Community Assistance Corporation (RCAC) offers short-term loans for early property acquisition and predevelopment, interim construction costs and long-term permanent financing up to \$10,000. Nonprofit organizations, public agencies and tribal governments are eligible to apply. Contact [Georgianne McConnell](#) at (916) 917-4319 for more information.

Funding Opportunities—Grants

Grant funding opportunities can help with future local government projects. As we receive more information about state and federal grant programs, our office will continue to keep information up to date. If you have questions about any of the below opportunities contact [Alison Turner](#) at (505) 716-5580.

[Rural Placemaking Innovation Challenge \(RPIC\)](#)

Deadline: July 26, 2021

USDA Rural Development is accepting applications for eligible entities to provide planning, training and technical assistance to rural communities to foster placemaking activities .

[RDC's Tribal Economic Diversity Fund](#)

Deadline: August 2, 2021

Any business owned by a federally recognized Indian tribe or by an enrolled member(s) of a federally recognized Indian tribe of one of the eight northern pueblos can apply for a grant to pay for critical technical services or equipment to diversify a product line, decrease costs, increase revenues and/or add jobs. Awards are made on a competitive basis and this year's award size is between \$1,000 and \$8,000 .

[Consolidated Appropriations NTIA Grants—Broadband Infrastructure Program](#)

Deadline: August 17, 2021

The Broadband Infrastructure Program and Tribal Connectivity Program from the National Telecommunications & Information Administration is now available! These grants are eligible for covered partnerships - a partnership between a State or one or more political subdivisions of a State and a provider of fixed broadband service. We anticipate the Connecting Minority Communities will be forthcoming. For more information on the grants see the link above and to prepare for planning a community broadband roadmap see [this presentation](#).

[NM Emergency Rental Assistance Program](#)

Deadline: September 30, 2021

Rental and utility assistance is available for unpaid, current or future payments for households who are obligated to pay rent on a residential dwelling.

[FCC Emergency Broadband Benefit](#)

Applications will be accepted until funds are no longer available

The Emergency Broadband Benefit helps households pay for internet service and hardware during the pandemic. This benefit provides a discount of up to \$50 towards one month of broadband service for eligible households and up to \$75 per month for households on Tribal lands. Eligible households can also receive a one-time discount of up to \$100 to purchase eligible computer hardware.

[SBA Shuttered Venue Operators \(SVO\) Grant Program](#)

Applications will be accepted until funds are no longer available

Over \$16 billion in grants is available to shuttered live operators, theaters, live performing arts spaces, museums, zoos, and eligible talent representatives. Grants are available for either 45% of 2019 gross earned revenue or \$10 million, whichever is less.

[Restaurant Revitalization Fund](#)

Applications will be accepted until funds are no longer available

This program provides restaurants with funding equal to their pandemic-related revenue loss up to \$10 million per business and no more than \$5 million per physical location. Recipients are not required to repay the funding as long as funds are used for eligible uses no later than March 11, 2023. Reach out to your local SBA with questions.

Other Grant Finding Resources

- [The Grant Plant Inc. COVID-19 Emergency Grants](#)
- [Covid-Cap online Database of recovery resources](#)
- [NM Grant Makers Association](#)
- [State and Federal Grants Advisory](#)
- [GrantStation Database of COVID-19 Related Grant Opportunities](#)

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