

**Curry County Commission
Resolution #2016 – 04**

ADOPTING THE CURRY COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

WHEREAS, Curry County has been working on a countywide Comprehensive Plan to provide guidelines and develop a coordinated and harmonious plan for the County as a whole, which will in accordance with existing and future needs; best promote the health, safety, order, convenience, prosperity, and general welfare as well as efficiency and economy in the process of development; and,

WHEREAS, the work on the Curry County Comprehensive Plan was funded through a grant from the New Mexico Finance Authority; and,

WHEREAS, Curry County's last Comprehensive Plan was completed in 2007 and, due to the changes that have occurred over the last eight (8) years, the County applied for and received a grant from the New Mexico Finance Authority to update/prepare a new Curry County Comprehensive Plan; and,

WHEREAS, due to the long range nature of master plans, the County Commission may amend, extend or add to the Curry County Comprehensive Plan to carry any part of the subject matter in greater detail; and,

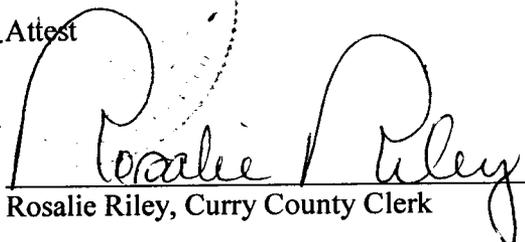
WHEREAS, after the full and comprehensive study of existing conditions, future growth, as well as input from County residents, Curry County Elected Officials, Department Heads and staff, the Board of County Commissioners hereby adopts the Curry County Comprehensive Plan to include all sections of said Plan, together with all accompanying maps, charts, descriptive and explanatory matter, to be used as a guide to lead future projects and development in Curry County.

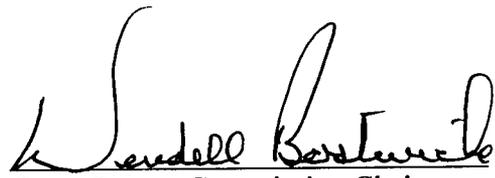
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Governing Body of Curry County meeting in regular session this 14th day of January, 2016,

1. The Curry County Comprehensive Plan is hereby approved and adopted by the Board of Curry County Commission.
2. Copies of the Curry County Comprehensive Plan shall be available for inspection at the Curry County Administration Office during normal and regular business hours.
3. The Curry County Comprehensive Plan will be posted on the County website at www.currycounty.org.

ADOPTED THIS 14th DAY OF JANUARY, 2016.

Attest


Rosalie Riley, Curry County Clerk


Wendell Bernstein
Curry County Commission Chairman



CURRY COUNTY, NM COMPREHENSIVE PLAN



2015 UPDATE



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

COUNTY COMMISSION

Angelina Baca, District 1

Ben McDaniel, District 2, Chairman

Chet Spear, District 3

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY



A comprehensive plan is an official public document adopted by a local government as a policy guide to decision-making primarily about the physical development of the community. Over time, plans have come to include policies regarding community services as well. Comprehensive plans indicate in a general way how a community and its elected leaders want the community to develop over the next 20 to 30 years.

1. OVERVIEW

This plan is an update to the 2007 Curry County Comprehensive Plan, which was adopted by the County Commission in July 2007. This Comprehensive Plan (the Plan) addresses and responds to several key issues that impact the County including those encompassing the following planning areas, each of which is organized into a corresponding chapter. For each of these elements, the Plan describes existing conditions and issues, identifies the desires of County residents, and provides strategies designed to bring about the desired outcomes of County residents. A central goal of the plan is to show how each plan element involves interrelated issues that should be addressed in a holistic manner by multiple County partners and stakeholders.

1. **Planning Process and Public Engagement:** Describes the process used to engage County residents and staff in developing this plan and its goals.
2. **Community Profile:** Describes the County, its history, demographics, government structure, and population projections for the future.



3. **Water and Natural Resources:** Profiles the County's geography, geology and soils, vegetation, climate and precipitation, the water supply, other natural resources, public and private land ownership and renewable energy issues.
4. **Land Use:** Assesses how land is currently used for housing, agriculture, industrial and commercial purposes; describes existing land use controls such as subdivision regulations.
5. **Housing:** Profiles the number, type and condition of housing units in the County and whether they are rented, owned or vacant. It also projects the County's housing needs for the future.
6. **Economic Development:** Charts trends in jobs and gross receipts by industry in the County, major employers, and industry changes. It also describes recent economic studies and the major organizations working on economic development in the County.
7. **Community Services:** Describes the various social service programs and facilities as well as recreational facilities supported by the County. Notes additional needs or services requested by citizens.
8. **Transportation & Infrastructure:** Describes the current transportation network and upcoming and planned projects as part of the County's Infrastructure Capital Improvements Plan (ICIP).
9. **Hazard Mitigation:** Identifies the natural, human-made, and human-caused hazards that exist and develops strategies to reduce or eliminate either the hazards themselves or the damage potential they pose.



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

How can the community attract jobs? Do local businesses need assistance?



HOUSING

What is the quality of housing? Is there enough?



GROWTH

What will be the population of the county in 30 years? Is growth occurring in an orderly way?



HAZARD MITIGATION

What are the risks of fire, flooding, and other hazards? Who is responsible for emergency preparedness?



COMMUNITY SERVICES

Are police and fire services adequate? Are there enough parks and community centers?



LAND USE

What are the main uses of land? Where should future housing and businesses be located?



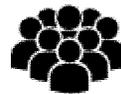
TRANSPORTATION & INFRASTRUCTURE

Are road conditions good? Are new roads needed? Do water and wastewater facilities have capacity to meet future growth?



NATURAL RESOURCES

Are there natural resource concerns, including water supply and quality?



PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

What are the goals and vision of County residents? How were community concerns incorporated into the plan?

2. PURPOSE

Maintaining the rural traditions of Curry County, while planning for future growth and diversification of the economy is crucial for Curry County. To help confront changes that occur, the primary purpose of the Comprehensive Plan is to:

1. Protect and enhance the desired way of life, identified by its residents, including protecting private property rights.
2. Protect the existing economic structures of ranching and agriculture, while expanding and diversifying the economic base.
3. Identify capital projects necessary to serve the County.
4. Ensure that an adequate and safe water supply is available to serve existing and future residents and businesses.
5. Plan for a safe and efficient transportation system to move people and goods throughout the County.
6. Ensure that County residents have access to quality housing that meets their needs.
7. Ensure that community services are available to serve the public.
8. Lead to intergovernmental policies that attract new residents and businesses into the County.
9. Help County leadership prioritize decisions relating to growth, development, and public spending.

3. KEY ISSUES

Since the 2007 Comprehensive Plan was adopted, a number of changes have occurred within the County.

1. Cannon Air Force Base has received a new mission and has seen an increase in total personnel. Saving the base from a proposed closure was a huge win for the County, which is dependent on the base for a large number of jobs and its huge economic multiplier effect within the County.
2. Although moving slowly, the Ute Lake Pipeline project has moved forward with the construction of an intake station at Ute Lake. The future pipeline has also secured additional funding and may begin construction of the first phase of the pipeline in 2016.
3. Two small-scale windfarms have been constructed in the County, with a proposal for a large-scale wind farm near Grady in the near future. The Tres Amigas electrical transmission superstation has been proposed near Clovis, which will generate jobs and franchise fees for the County.
4. The economy of the Curry County has diversified slightly since 2007, with new regionally competitive businesses emerging including value-added food manufacturers (e.g., Southwest Cheese), renewable energy, healthcare, and light manufacturing.
5. The County population has increased from an estimated 45,000 in 2007 to over 50,000 in 2013 with a projected population of over 60,000 by 2040. The County must plan for facilities and infrastructure to accommodate the growth that will take place in unincorporated areas. The W.D. Gattis Middle School is an example of new facilities that have been built in the County for the County's growing population.

Despite these changes, many of the issues identified within the 2007 plan remain relevant and are addressed within this comprehensive plan. Some of these issues include:



1. Water supplies are crucial to the continued wellbeing of the County’s residents and economy. New sources and/or conservation of existing water resources must be identified and acquired.
2. Agriculture (especially cattle and dairy operations) remains a base industry for the County and had the highest sales receipts of any county in NM, despite challenges with water availability, land use conflicts, and national-scale economic changes. Finding ways to maintain the rural agricultural traditions of the County will be important as agricultural markets evolve and water supply concerns continue.
3. Curry County has a majority of its population concentrated primarily in and around the City of Clovis. As growth continues to occur, the interface between Clovis and the County is becoming increasingly important to manage.
4. The rural nature of the County makes it challenging to maintain roads and other infrastructure and provide certain services. County roads especially need additional funding to support regular maintenance and additional surfacing treatments (chip seal or caliche surfacing).
5. The County is seeking ways to identify and attract new businesses that are compatible with existing businesses and resident skills and should continue to focus on job training programs. While agriculture is the County’s primary industry, Cannon Air Force Base, BNSF Railroad, primary and secondary education, and retail also contribute significantly to the County’s economy.

4. PLAN TIMELINE

This plan is intended to provide a general guide for the County Manager’s Office, County Commissioners, and County Staff as they address issues over the next 5-10 years. While the implementation actions and goals detailed below have relatively short time frames, many of the plan’s goals are ongoing and will evolve as new needs, challenges, and issues arise. Therefore, this document also outlines in a general way the community’s vision for how they would like to see Curry County develop over the next 20-30 years.

5. SUMMARY OF IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS

The following table summarizes the Curry County Comprehensive Plan Implementation Actions for each comprehensive plan element. It is important to note that implementation of these goals is dependent on available resources such as grants and funding as well as staff resources and available partnerships. Each of the goal areas and its corresponding strategies include three different components: the action the County can take, the timeframe for implementation, and possible collaborating agencies and partners.

ACTIONS

Describes a general series of actions the County needs to take to implement this strategy. Actions include: 1) adopting a resolution; 2) additional planning efforts; 3) changes or updating County practices or operations; 4) collaborating or participating with other agencies and partners; 5) providing information and promoting County programs; 6) creating a new County program or project; 7) constructing infrastructure; and 8) financing a project or program.



TIMEFRAME

The timeframe refers to implementation measures that can be accomplished within 1 year (short); 2-3 years (medium), 4+ years (long); or will be implemented on an ongoing basis.

AGENCIES & PARTNERS

Refers to other agencies (including governments and non-profits) the County should look to collaborative with to implement this goal.

Table 1: Implementation Table

* Items in *italic* indicate items that were included in previous comprehensive plan.

NATURAL RESOURCES & WATER	ACTIONS	TIMEFRAME	AGENCIES/PARTNERS
GOAL 1: PROTECT LIFE AND PROPERTY FROM STORM WATER RUN-OFF.			
Action 1.1: <i>Require terrain management plans addressing drainage at the time of new development.</i>	» Ordinance	Medium	» County Manager's Office » County Commission » City of Clovis
Action 1.2: <i>Develop a County-wide Drainage Plan, in conjunction with the communities in the County, to ensure drainage from storm events are prepared and planned for.</i>	» Plan » Ordinance	Medium	» County Manager's Office » County Commission » Local Communities » EPCOG
Action 1.3: Work to update roadway construction drainage best practices.	» Practices	Medium	» Road Department » NMDOT » EPCOG
GOAL 2: INCREASE WATER CONSERVATION IN THE COUNTY.			
Action 2.1: Identify potential water use reduction through the upgrading of systems or implementation of newer technology.	» Practices » Info/Promotion	Medium	» EPCOR
Action 2.2: Work with EPCOR to determine potential future water reuse and grey water systems, including irrigation of County facilities and road application.	» Practices » Info/Promotion	Medium	» EPCOR
Action 2.3: <i>Establish and maintain water conservation education programs and work cooperatively with the State Engineer's Office in promoting water resource education and water conservation programs in the County.</i>	» Collaboration » Info/Promotion	Short	» State Engineer's Office » County Manager's Office
Action 2.4: Work with landowners to implement key conservation recommendations of EPCOG's Source Waters Protection Plan.	» Collaboration » Info/Promotion	Long	» EPCOG » County Manager's Office
GOAL 3: PARTICIPATE IN REGIONAL WATER PLANNING.			
Action 3.1: Support Northeast New Mexico Regional Water Plan and plan recommendations.	» Collaboration » Info/Promotion	Ongoing	» County Manager's Office » State Engineer's Office
Action 3.2: Support recommendations of EPCOG's Source Waters Protection Plan.	» Collaboration » Info/Promotion	Ongoing	» County Manager's Office » EPCOG



Action 3.3: Work towards development of a 40-year water plan for the County.	» Plan Collaboration » Program	Medium	» County Manager » Commissioners » Local Communities
GOAL 4: SUPPORT UTE PIPELINE PROJECT AND SECURE FUTURE WATER SUPPLIES.			
Action 4.1: Seek ways to store and distribute Ute Pipeline water purchased by the County.	» Infrastructure » Financing » Collaboration	Short/ Medium	» ENMWUA » County Manager's Office
Action 4.2: Continue to support Ute Pipeline Project, including funding and lobbying.	» Info/Promotion » Financing » Collaboration	Ongoing	» ENMWUA » County Manager's Office » CIDC/Chamber
GOAL 5: PROTECT EXISTING WATER SUPPLIES.			
Action 5.1: <i>Work with the state to ensure that old or failing septic systems are upgraded or repaired.</i>	» Practices & Operations	Medium	» County Manager's Office » New Mexico Environment Department
Action 5.2: <i>Identify and abate all abandoned underground fuel tanks.</i>	» Project/Program	Medium	» County Manager's Office » New Mexico Environment Department
Action 5.3: <i>Require distance separation between wells and potential pollution sources, including wastewater drain fields.</i>	» Ordinance	Medium	» County Manager's Office » County Commission » New Mexico Environment Department
Action 5.4: <i>Encourage residents to connect to a city/EPCOR water system if available nearby.</i>	» Practices & Operations	Short	» County Manager's Office » EPCOR
GOAL 6: PROMOTE RENEWABLE & OTHER ENERGY DEVELOPMENT.			
Action 6.1: Pursue County-wide renewable energy development	» Info/Promotion	Medium	» County Manager's Office » EPCOG
Action 6.2: Promote utility scale wind, solar, and biogas/biofuel operations.	» Info/Promotion	Ongoing	» County Manager's Office » EPCOG » CIDC/Chamber
Action 6.3: Explore other energy development opportunities including oil, gas, and alternative energy operations.	» Info/Promotion » Collaboration	Ongoing	» County Manager's Office » EPCOG » CIDC/Chamber
Action 6.4: Invest in 3education and promotion of rural residential solar and biogas/biofuel operations. Provide homeowner resources.	» Info/Promotion	Medium	» County Manager's Office » EPCOG » Electric Co-op



Action 6.5: Develop an Energy Conservation Plan for County Facilities, including the County Events Center, Courthouse, Detention Center, etc.	» Info/Promotion » Practices	Medium	» County Manager's Office » EPCOG
GOAL 7: EXTEND WATER SUPPLIES TO COUNTY RESIDENTS.			
Action 7.1: Explore possibility of forming a water cooperative similar to Roosevelt County Water Cooperative.	» Plan	Medium	» County Manager's Office » Local Communities » EPCOG
Action 7.2: Research, partner, and apply for grants to assist in developing additional water infrastructure, including a pipeline to extend EPCOR service to residents of the County who have run out of water.	» Project Infrastructure	Short	» County Manager's Office » EPCOG
GOAL 8: SUPPORT PLAYAS RESTORATION AND CONSERVATION BEST PRACTICES.			
Action 8.1: Connect landowners with Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Playas conservation programs including Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) incentives.	» Info/Promotion	Ongoing	» NRCS
Action 8.2: Continue to participate in NRCS workgroup meetings to help prioritize rangeland management and playa conservation practices.	» Info/Promotion » Collaboration	Ongoing	» NRCS
Action 8.3: Implement recommendations of Wetlands Conservation Plan to increase aquifer recharge.	» Info/Promotion » Collaboration	Long	» NRCS » Playa Lakes Joint Venture
LAND USE	ACTIONS	TIMEFRAME	AGENCIES/PARTNERS
GOAL 1: ENSURE THAT DEVELOPMENT IN THE COUNTY OCCURS IN A LOGICAL, WELL-PLANNED MANNER.			
Action 1.1: Update the Curry County/City of Clovis Joint Action Guide, especially in regards to water, housing, and development within a five-mile radius of the City.	» Plan » Resolution		» County » City of Clovis
Action 1.2: Regularly review and update the County's subdivision regulations. The County should establish a working committee that includes representatives from incorporated communities in the County to strive to achieve consistency in regulations throughout the County.	» Collaboration » Practices	Ongoing	» County Commission » County Manager's Office » Assessor
Action 1.3: Establish staff level committees with the City of Clovis and other communities that review adopted regulations for consistency between jurisdictions.	» Collaboration » Practices	Short	» County Manager's Office » Assessor
GOAL 2: SAFEGUARD THE COUNTY'S NATURAL RESOURCES AND HISTORICAL AGRICULTURAL PRACTICES.			
Action 2.1: Complete and adopt land use plan and policy to allow the County to engage with Federal agencies regarding natural resource and land management issues.	» Plan » Ordinance » Collaboration	Short	» County Manager's Office » Landowners » Federal Agencies » County Commission
GOAL 3: IMPROVE THE PHYSICAL APPEARANCE OF THE COUNTY.			



Action 3.2: Continue to promote City/County sponsored clean up, weed and litter, and hazardous waste disposal events to encourage the community to work together to improve the appearance of the County.	» Collaboration » Info/Promotion	Ongoing	» County Manager's Office
GOAL 4: SUPPORT LAND USE THAT IS COMPATIBLE WITH CANNON AIR FORCE BASE OPERATIONS.			
Action 4.1: Support private property rights while working with Cannon Air Force Base.	» Collaboration	Ongoing	» County Commission » CAFB
HOUSING	ACTIONS	TIMEFRAME	AGENCIES/PARTNERS
GOAL 1: SUPPORT DEVELOPMENT OF HOUSING THAT MEETS THE NEEDS OF COUNTY RESIDENTS.			
Action 1.1: Continue to provide timely review of housing development in the County, including coordination with the City of Clovis and the New Mexico Construction Industries Division.	» Collaboration	Ongoing	» County Manager's Office
GOAL 2: SUPPORT THE EFFORTS OF MUNICIPALITIES WITHIN THE COUNTY WHEN REQUESTED.			
Action 2.1: Coordinate with local communities when they request County support for housing projects.	» Collaboration	Ongoing	» County Manager's Office
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT	ACTIONS	TIMEFRAME	AGENCIES/PARTNERS
GOAL 1: ENSURE THE CONTINUED VIABILITY OF EXISTING BUSINESSES AND INDUSTRIES.			
Action 1.1: <i>Protect existing farms and ranches to ensure their continued viability and success as the County's base industry.</i>	» Resolution	Ongoing	» County Commission
Action 1.2: <i>Continue to support Cannon AFB operations and recruit businesses that provide services to the AFB personnel or support the mission of the base.</i>	» Collaboration » Resolution	Ongoing	» County Commission » CAFB
Action 1.3: <i>Protect the educational backbone of the community, including the college, in order to educate and train future workers for the area.</i>	» Resolution » Collaboration	Ongoing	» Clovis Community College » Eastern NM University » CIDC/Chamber
Action 1.4: Continue to support redevelopment efforts of Clovis Main Street.	» Collaboration	Ongoing	» Clovis Main Street
Action 1.5: <i>Continue to assist and retain existing businesses and industries.</i>	» Collaboration	Ongoing	» CIDC/Chamber
GOAL 2: ATTRACT NEW BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY INTO THE COUNTY.			
Action 2.1: Maintain close working relationships with the Clovis/Curry County and Portales Chambers of Commerce, CIDC, and EPCOG.	» Collaboration	Ongoing	» County Manager's Office » CIDC/Chamber » EPCOG
Action 2.2: Consider additional staffing to attend economic development meetings and support initiatives.	» Practices & Operations	Short	» County Manager's Office » County Commission



Action 2.3: Review and update the County's Local Economic Development Act (LEDA) ordinance.	» Ordinance	Short	» County Manager's Office » County Commission » CIDC/Chamber
Action 2.4: Create an economic development fund to assist Chamber or local development efforts.	» Resolution » Financing	Short	» County Manager's Office » County Commission » CIDC/Chamber
Action 2.5: Update and/or revise County Industrial Revenue Bond (IRB) process and procedures to assist potential development projects.	» Resolution	Short	» County Manager's Office » County Commission » CIDC/Chamber
Action 2.6: Pursue strategies to attract small scale retail for rural communities such as a Family Dollar.	» Collaboration » Financing	Long	» County Manager's Office » County Commission » CIDC/Chamber
GOAL 3: DIVERSIFY THE ECONOMY OF THE COUNTY.			
Action 3.1: Explore new energy-related industries such as wind farms, biodiesel facilities, oil and gas, and hydrogen fuel cells, as well as other new businesses for the area.	» Collaboration	Long	» County Manager's Office » County Commission » CIDC/Chamber
Action 3.2: <i>Curry County should work with NM True to develop an ad campaign to increase opportunities for developing tourism (especially agricultural tourism).</i>	» Collaboration » Project/Program	Medium	» County Manager's Office » County Commission » CIDC/Chamber » NM True
GOAL 4: ENSURE THE LOCAL WORKFORCE IS WELL TRAINED AND QUALIFIED TO FILL NEW JOB OPENINGS.			
Action 4.1: <i>Partner with the State Economic Development Office to fully utilize regional job recruitment and retention incentives.</i>	» Collaboration » Project/Program	Short	» County Manager's Office » Economic Dev Dept. » CIDC/Chamber
Action 4.2: Ensure adequate workforce training in partnership with the City of Clovis, Clovis CC, and CIDC.	» Collaboration	Ongoing	» County Manager's Office » Economic Dev Dept. » CIDC/Chamber
Action 4.3: Continue to partner in hosting job fairs in the Clovis-Portales Microplex at least twice a year.	» Collaboration	Ongoing	» County Manager's Office » Economic Dev Dept. » CIDC/Chamber
COMMUNITY SERVICES	ACTIONS	TIMEFRAME	AGENCIES/PARTNERS
GOAL 1: ENSURE ADEQUATE LEVELS OF EMERGENCY SERVICES ARE AVAILABLE.			
Action 1.1: <i>Continue to maintain relationships with other area emergency service providers.</i>	» Collaboration	Ongoing	» Sheriff » Rural Fire Departments
Action 1.2: <i>Continue to train all emergency service providers and improve equipment.</i>	» Collaboration » Practices & Operations	Ongoing	» Sheriff » Rural Fire Departments
Action 1.3: Fund Part Time Fire Marshall Position to help volunteer fire departments with grant proposals, training, compliance with regulations, etc.	» Practices & Operations » Financing	Short	» County Commission » Rural Fire Departments
Action 1.4: Partner with the City of Clovis or other entities to provide EMS/Ambulance services throughout the County.	» Collaboration	Medium	» County Manager Office » Clovis » EMS Providers



GOAL 2: PROVIDE COUNTY SOCIAL SERVICE & PREVENTION PROGRAMS.				
Action 2.1: Continue to provide and coordinate programs for County seniors, adults, and youth.	» Practices & Operations	Ongoing	» Detention Center » Youth Services » County Manager Office	
Action 2.2: Continue to provide youth prevention programs.	» Practices & Operations	Ongoing	» Detention Center » Youth Services » County Manager Office	
Action 2.3: Work with existing community support groups and District Court to develop Drug Rehab Program for Detention Center Inmates.	» Practices & Operations	Medium	» Detention Center	
Action 2.4: Continue to support Wellness Committee efforts.	» Practices & Operations	Ongoing	» Health Council » County Manager Office	
GOAL 3: EXAMINE FEASIBILITY OF RURAL TRANSIT SERVICE.				
Action 3.1: Research providing scheduled transit service to Cannon AFB, Clovis Municipal Airport, and other anchors.	» Plan	Long	» EPCOG » Clovis » CAFB	
Action 3.2: Research extending Clovis Area Transit Service (CATS) into the County.	» Plan	Long	» City of Clovis » CATS » EPCOG	
GOAL 4: SUPPORT RECRUITMENT EFFORTS FOR QUALIFIED MEDICAL STAFF.				
Action 4.1: Support recruitment efforts of the Plains Regional Medical Center and other health care providers to ensure quality health care is available.	» Collaboration » Info/Promotion	Ongoing	» Presbyterian Hospital » County Manager's Office	
GOAL 5: SUPPORT SENIOR CENTERS & UPGRADE COUNTY FACILITIES.				
Action 5.1: Continue to upgrade County facilities as described in the ICIP and facility master plans.	» Infrastructure » Financing	Ongoing	» County Commission » Facility Maintenance » County Manager's Office	
Action 5.2: Support upgrades for senior centers, clinics, and other social service providers.	» Practices & Operations	Medium	» Senior Centers » County Manager's Office » Facility Maintenance	
Action 5.3: Become fiscal agent for Melrose Senior Center to help Center secure future funding and perform facility upgrades.	» Resolution	Short	» Melrose Senior Center » County Manager's Office » County Commission	
GOAL 6: SUPPORT UPGRADES COUNTY EVENTS CENTER FACILITIES.				
Action 6.1: Complete upgrades and improvements identified in the 2010 Events Center Master Plan.	» Infrastructure » Financing	Ongoing	» County Commission » County Events Center » County Manager's Office	
Action 6.2: Support additional covered horse stalls and other improvements that have the potential to generate operating revenue for the center.	» Infrastructure » Financing	Medium	» County Commission » County Events Center » County Manager's Office	
TRANSPORTATION & UTILITIES		ACTIONS	TIMEFRAME	AGENCIES/PARTNERS
GOAL 1: UPDATE DESIGN & DRAINAGE STANDARDS FOR ROAD CONSTRUCTION.				



Action 1.1: Review road standards for adequate capacity and construction (durability).	» Practices & Operations	Short	» Road Department
Action 1.2: Review critical traffic patterns and loading on roads in the County and communities.	» Practices & Operations »	Ongoing	» Road Department » NMDOT » EPCOG
Action 1.3: Research ways to direct runoff from roads to playas in an environmentally sustainable way.	» Plan » Practices & Operations	Medium	» Road Department » County Manager's Office » NMDOT » NRCS
GOAL 2: ENHANCE THE COMPREHENSIVE ROAD MAINTENANCE PROGRAM.			
Action 2.1: Continue to improve the road condition database (including signage and pavement markings).	» Practices & Operations	Ongoing	» Road Department » EPCOG
Action 2.2: Establish a long-range maintenance and funding plan for road improvements.	» Practices & Operations	Medium	» Road Department » EPCOG
Action 2.3: Adopt an asset management plan for roads, with inventory of road conditions, maintenance standards, and schedule.	» Plan » Practices & Operations	Long	» Road Department » EPCOG
Action 2.4: Establish contact with rural landowners to assist the County in prioritizing maintenance of roads.	» Practices & Collaboration	Short	» County Manager's Office, Road Department
GOAL 3: ENSURE PROPER RURAL ADDRESSING.			
Action 3.1: Install, update, and replace intersection signs on all county roads.	» Infrastructure » Financing	Medium	» Road Department
Action 3.2: Consider adopting a county ordinance requiring rural residents to install and maintain visible address numbers to enable effective law enforcement and emergency service response.	» Ordinance	Medium	» County Commission
GOAL 4: BEAUTIFY AND ENHANCE MAJOR CORRIDORS AND ENTRANCES INTO THE COUNTY.			
Action 4.1: Continue to support median beautification program along US 80/64 with CAFB.	» Collaboration	Ongoing	» CAFB » NMDOT
Action 4.2: Work with NMDOT on updating maintenance agreement for state highways including US 84/60, US 70, and NM 206.	» Collaboration	Short	» NMDOT » Road Department
Action 4.3: Pursue federal funding through the State Transportation Improvement Plan for the widening of US 84/60 from two lanes to four lanes from Grier to the Curry/Roosevelt County line	» Collaboration » Financing	Medium	» EPCOG » NMDOT » FHWA
Action 4.4: Pursue safety improvements on NM 467 at the Southgate of CAFB.	» Infrastructure » Financing	Medium	» NMDOT » CAFB
GOAL 5: ENSURE UTILITY PROVIDER COMPLIANCE WITH FRANCHISE AGREEMENTS.			
Action 5.1: Review franchise agreements to check for compliance with franchise agreements, permits, etc.	» Practices & Operations	Short	» County Manager's Office
Action 5.2: Review County right-of-way agreements for compliance.	» Practices & Operations	Short	» County Manager's Office



HAZARD MITIGATION	ACTIONS	TIMEFRAME	AGENCIES/PARTNERS
GOAL 1: CONTINUE TO ENSURE ADEQUATE LEVELS OF EMERGENCY SERVICES AND FACILITIES ARE AVAILABLE TO SERVE THE COUNTY.			
Action 1.1: Continue to maintain relationships with other area emergency service providers.	» Practices & Operations	Ongoing	» Sheriff » Rural Fire Departments
Action 1.2: <i>Continue to train all emergency service providers and improve equipment.</i>	» Practices & Operation	Ongoing	» Sheriff » Rural Fire Departments
Action 1.3: The Fire Departments and Disaster/Emergency Planning Department should work with medical center officials to determine if there is a need for new facilities in outlying county areas.	» Practices & Operation	Short	» Sheriff » Rural Fire Departments » County Manager's Office
Action 1.4: The County should continue to seek funding for emergency services training and capital equipment expenses through federal, state, and private grants.	» Practices & Operation	Ongoing	» County Manager's Office » County Commission » Sheriff
Action 1.5: Support supplemental emergency service providers, such as air transport, that partner with local EMS providers and hospitals to serve County residents.	» Practices & Operation	Ongoing	» County Manager's Office » County Commission
Action 1.6: Fund a part time Fire Marshall to assist rural community volunteer fire departments.	» Practices & Operation » Financing	Short	» County Commission
Action 1.7: Implement reporting to the County from the Office of Emergency Management, which manages emergency services throughout the County.	» Practices & Operation	Short	» County Manager's Office
GOAL 2: IMPLEMENT KEY RECOMMENDATION OF HAZARD MITIGATION PLANS.			
Action 2.1: Implement key components of hazard mitigation plans.	» Practices & Operation » Collaboration	Long	» County Manager's Office » County Commission » Rural Fire Departments » Sheriff
Action 2.2: Map fire districts to ensure all communities are covered by fire departments.	» Project/Program	Short	» EPCOG » Assessor
Action 2.3: Continue to provide training and updated equipment to the Road Department for fighting wildfires in the County.	» Practices & Operation	Ongoing	» Road Department
GOAL 3: PURSUE EXPANDED TRAINING FOR VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENTS.			
Action 3.1: Update and pursue MOU with CAFB regarding joint training between base and emergency service personnel.	» Practices & Operation	Short	» CAFB » County Manager's Office



CHAPTER 1

PLANNING PROCESS



Comprehensive planning by counties is authorized by state statute. While guidelines define a general list of topics or elements that should be covered in a comprehensive plan, these plans take on a shape and form based on a community's resources, capacities, needs, and values. As such, no two communities' comprehensive plans are alike. New Mexico now requires a comprehensive plan no more than five years old in order for counties and municipalities to be considered for state funding, particularly through Community Development Block Grants. Curry County contracted with Sites Southwest, a community planning, environmental, and landscape architecture firm, in the spring of 2015 to update the 2007 version of this plan.

1. PUBLIC MEETINGS

The public input phase of the Curry County Comprehensive Plan consisted of four public meetings, meetings with key stakeholders, and several meetings with County staff. Two of the public meetings were held in Clovis, and one in Melrose and Grady. A meeting in Texico had very low attendance and no input was received. All public meetings were advertised and open to the public.

1.1 FIRST PUBLIC MEETING - CLOVIS

The first public meeting was held in the evening on August 25th at the County Commission Chambers in the Clovis Library North Annex. The meeting drew 45 attendees. Participants included elected officials, residents, business owners, representatives of County departments, and representatives of local economic development and social service organizations. During the meeting, the consultants outlined the general components of the comprehensive plan, and shared initial results of the community survey (described below). Residents were



then asked to identify key issues facing the County, including those related to economic development, community services, roads and utilities, and County buildings and facilities. The discussion generated a number of ideas summarized in each chapter of this document.



1.2 SECOND PUBLIC MEETINGS – OCTOBER 7-9TH

A second series of public meetings were held in Clovis, Grady, and Melrose to elicit community feedback on draft goals and strategies for the plan. The planning consultants discussed each element of the plan and presented several strategies and actions the County could take in the future to address community concerns. Strategies were chosen based on resident input obtained during the first public meeting in Clovis and from the community survey. This process helped the planning consultants prioritize community goals and develop a more complete list of actions the County should take as part of this plan's adoption. Overall, about 30 people attended the second round of public meetings.

1.3 STAKEHOLDER MEETINGS – OCTOBER 8-9TH

The planning team met with representatives of the Clovis Industrial Development Corporation (CIDC) and the Clovis/Curry County Chamber of Commerce to discuss economic development within the County, as well the Eastern Plains Council of Governments (EPCOG). One meeting was also held with representatives from Cannon Air Force Base to discuss the specific concerns of the base.

2. COMMUNITY SURVEY

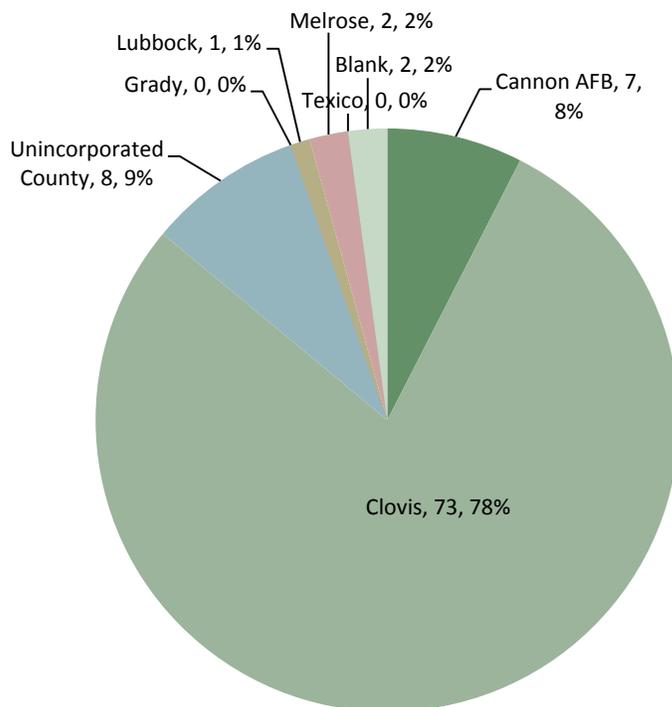
As part of the comprehensive plan update, an open-ended survey was distributed to residents asking them to describe what they like about the County, what they wanted to see preserved, and what they wanted to see improved. Residents were also asked about specific concerns and ideas surrounding economic development,

quality of life and housing, roads and utilities, and community services. Surveys were distributed at the County Fair in August, through the County website and an email blast, and at the public meeting in Clovis on August 25th. The survey was available online as well as a printed paper version. A total of 93 surveys were completed.

2.1 RESPONDENTS' LOCATION

The geographic distribution of the returned surveys was similar to the geographic distribution of the County population as shown in Chart 1. There were few responses from the smaller municipalities, although residents of the County near the municipalities of Grady, Melrose, and Texico filled out surveys. Responses of “near Melrose,” “east of Grady,” and similar are counted as “unincorporated county.” Results of the survey are summarized below with the relative frequency of responses visualized graphically using “word clouds.”

Chart 1: Geographic Distribution of Survey Responses



Note: The responses are a small sample of the County population and are not considered to be a statistical representation of all County residents. However, comments were remarkably consistent in several areas. These responses were combined with other public input to provide a better picture of resident priorities and concerns.

2.2 QUALITY OF LIFE

People like the small town and rural atmosphere of the County, along with the people and their friends. They appreciate the light traffic and ability to move easily around the County, as well as the weather, Cannon Air Force Base, and their own neighborhoods.





2.7 ROADS AND UTILITIES ISSUES

Repair and maintenance were the key issues related to roads. People suggested that drainage could be handled better to keep roads from flooding and that better paving would provide a longer term fix than what is being done now. Specific roads mentioned include a truck bypass and improvements to US 84/60 to Cannon Air Force Base. Cleaner, more attractive entrances into Clovis were also mentioned. Depending upon location, this could be the responsibility of the City of Clovis, the County, or the State. Concerns related to utilities include dwindling water supply and the cost of electricity and gas.



2.8 COMMUNITY SERVICES ISSUES

There are a variety of community services people want to see in the County provide or support through other entities. The biggest needs identified were public transportation, youth programs and services, medical and mental health services, and more activities. Life skills and job skills training were also identified as needs. Improvements to the detention center were mentioned.



The plan recommended that the Microplex establish a growth management organization that would oversee land use issues related to growth adjacent to Cannon AFB and would assist in the development of a regional growth plan. In addition, the plan recommended that a housing task force be created that could address the housing needs of military personnel by marketing local housing needs to developers and working with local owners of 801 military housing. The plan also promoted improvements to community facilities including the Clovis Municipal Airport and area roads. Additional recommendations included supporting recruitment efforts of physicians, dentists, and mental health providers; creating an outpatient drug and alcohol treatment facility; supporting workforce training programs; and developing a series of indicators that could be reviewed every three years to ensure implementation efforts were on track.

3.4 CANNON AFB JOINT LAND USE STUDY, 2011

This 2011 study reviewed potential land use conflicts between Cannon AFB, the Melrose Air Force Range, and the surrounding civilian communities. The overall goal of the study was to find ways to safeguard the military missions at these two sites while fostering sustainable and compatible civilian development in the region. As a major goal, the study sought to find ways to prevent future encroachment of the military base while still protecting private property rights (see Land Use Chapter for more information).

The plan recommended local governments, including Curry County, work with the AFB to ensure the Accident Potential Zones surrounding the base's runways were protected from incompatible development and flight paths were not inhibited in the future by tall structures such as wind turbines. To help mitigate potential conflicts, the study recommended including Cannon AFB representatives on technical review committees for proposed developments. The study also recommended future comprehensive plans consider infill opportunities, the housing needs of military personnel, updating subdivision ordinances, and adopting lighting standards for new development.

3.5 EASTERN PLAINS COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS (EPCOG) COMPREHENSIVE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY, 2012

This plan outlines an economic development strategy for counties within New Mexico's Eastern Plains, including Curry County. The plan summarizes many of the existing conditions within the County and the County's active economic development programs. Economic development resources are also listed, which have informed the Comprehensive Plan.

3.6 LESSER PRAIRIE CHICKEN CONSERVATION PLAN, 2013

After several years of negotiations between stakeholders, a range-wide conservation plan was adopted in 2013 to implement incentive-based landowner programs that would preclude the need for the species to be listed as threatened under the Endangered Species Act. The conservation plan involved a voluntary program for landowners to sign a Certificate of Participation and enter into a conservation agreement with the Western Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies (WAFWA).

3.7 CURRY COUNTY HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN, 2014

The County's Hazard Mitigation Plan was developed in 2014 to identify hazards (wildfire, drought, storms, floods, and other natural disasters), assess the risk of each hazard, and outline mitigation steps to reduce the loss of life or property in the event of a disaster. The plan noted a high risk of future droughts, severe storms,



and a moderate risk of flash floods. Details of this plan are outlined in the Hazard Mitigation Chapter of this document.

3.8 PLAYAS CONSERVATION PLAN, 2015

A 2014 Wetlands Action Plan for Playa Lakes in Curry County detailed the importance of preserving the County's playas from future degradation. The plan outlines several strategies for conservation that include education about or on the benefits of playa preservation, erosion management strategies, improved rangeland management, avoiding the construction of new roads near playas, and protecting rural playas with a vegetative buffer to minimize contamination from farmland runoff.

3.9 SOUTHEAST REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLAN, 2015

This plan outlines existing conditions of the regional transit system and provides general recommendations for future transportation system investments.

4. APPROVAL PROCESS

The final draft of this plan was made available to the County in electronic format to post on the County website and to copy for distribution to interested members of the public. Legal notice was given in accordance with County standards. Individuals who gave an e-mail address at the public meetings were also contacted with a link to a draft of this document.

Two public hearings were held by the County Commission on December 1st and December 15th, 2015. During these meetings, the County Commissioners discussed the draft plan and the final draft.



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CHAPTER 2

COMMUNITY PROFILE



Curry County is located among the gently rolling plains of east-central New Mexico adjacent to the Texas border (see Map 1: Curry County Context). The County encompasses 1,408 square miles, making it the fourth smallest county in New Mexico by area. The County is predominantly rural with an economy based largely on agriculture and Cannon Air Force Base (CAFB), which employs approximately 6,000 military and civilian personnel. The County had an estimated population of 50,969 people in 2014, making it the twelfth most populated county in New Mexico.

COMMUNITY CONCERNS



- › The County's population is growing, but slower than New Mexico as a whole.
- › Cannon Air Force Base has seen a large increase in total personnel associated with its new mission.
- › The City of Clovis accounts for approximately 78% of County residents. Unincorporated areas within the County have about 13% of the County's total population in 2014.
- › The County has a younger population than other counties in New Mexico, with a healthy distribution of young adults between the ages of 20 and 34 years old.



1. COUNTY BACKGROUND

The County seat of Clovis is also the largest community in the County (population 39,860 in 2014). The County includes four incorporated communities: Clovis, Grady (108), Melrose (657), and Texico (1,137), as well as several smaller unincorporated communities including Bellview, Broadview, Gallaher, Pleasant Hill, Portair, Ranchvale, and St. Vrain. Although not a traditional city, Cannon Air Force Base (population 2,245 in 2010)¹, located near Clovis, provides many of the services that can be found in other small communities. Services that cannot be found within the County are generally provided in Lubbock, TX and Albuquerque, NM, which are approximately 94 miles and 220 miles from Clovis respectively.

1.1 BRIEF HISTORY OF THE COUNTY

Curry County has a long history of settlement by native peoples. An occupation site of the Clovis culture was discovered in the 1930s to the southwest of Clovis, and is one of the oldest Paleo-Indian occupation sites excavated in the Americas. Carbon dating shows the Clovis people occupied the area approximately 13,000 years ago. Some of the more famous sites of Clovis culture occupation sites are the Blackwater Draw

CURRY COUNTY CONTEXT



Archaeological Site and the Blackwater Draw Museum, which are located south of Clovis.

In 1541, Francisco Vasquez de Coronado led an expedition that passed through the area. He named the area *Llano Estacado* or “Staked Plain” after the many yucca plants that covered the landscape. Later, around 1700, Comanche Indians lived and hunted in the area for herds of buffalo that still roamed across the Great Plains.

Settlement by European descendants began in the late 1800s when cattlemen began grazing the area, taking advantage of the abundant grasslands, ample water supplies, and buffalo herds. This period witnessed the decline of the vast buffalo herds that roamed the Great Plains and a gradual shift in the grassland ecosystems of the area due to the effects of grazing, fire suppression, and later farming operations.

¹ The total military and civilian personnel stationed at CAFB is approximately 5,800; however, not all personnel live on base and Census estimates may underestimate the total base population, which rose quickly after the base was given its new mission.

More concentrated development occurred primarily after the Atchison, Topeka, and Santa Fe Railroad came to the area around 1900. The railroad spurred development of Clovis and many smaller communities as it provided a means of getting cattle, and later agricultural products, to the markets to the east. A major railroad switching yard was constructed in Clovis during this time that is still in use today.

Following the introduction of the railroad, the County was established in 1909 and named after George Curry, the territorial governor of New Mexico at the time. After being established, the County's population steadily increased, with most of the growth occurring in and around Clovis to support the railroad and agriculture production.



Figure 1: Clovis Air Force Base, 1943

Source: Wikipedia. CC BY-SA 3.0

During World War II, the County again experienced a period of rapid growth with the establishment of Clovis Army Air Field, later to become Cannon Air Force Base. After the war, the air field was closed, but reopened several years later and quickly became an important part of the regional economy and a major regional employer. A wide variety of military units have called Cannon AFB home since then. Most recently, the base has obtained a new mission home to the 27th Special Operations Wing. This new mission was assigned to the base after the Department of Defense Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) Commission initially recommended a closure of the base. Local politicians and communities, however, successfully prevented a closure of the base, which would have had large negative repercussions for the economy and identity of the County.

2. DEMOGRAPHICS

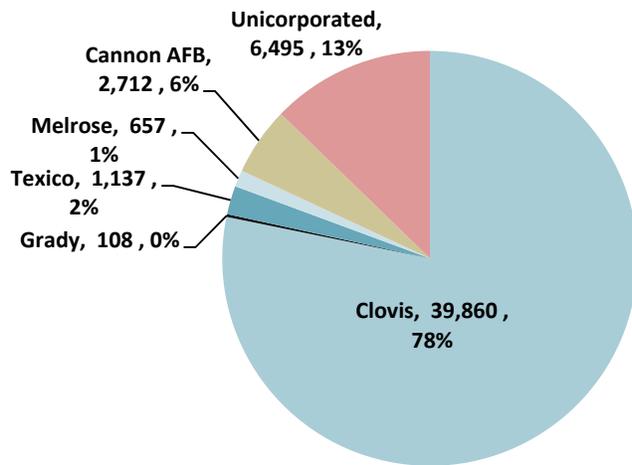
2.1 CURRENT POPULATION & HOUSEHOLD SIZE

According to estimates from the US Census Bureau, there were 50,969 people living in Curry County in 2014, representing 19,380 households. The average household size in the County is 2.63 people. The average family size is 3.18 people.

The largest municipality is Clovis, with 39,860 people in 2014, or about 78% of the County's total population. By comparison, nearby Texico had 1,137 residents, Grady 108, and Melrose 657. Cannon Air Force Base's population has fluctuated, but had 2,245 people in 2010, with 2013 estimates putting the population at 2,712 residents. With the population concentrated in and around Clovis, unincorporated areas of the County contained an estimated 6,500 residents or about 13% of the county's total population in 2014.



Chart 2: Population by Municipality & Unincorporated Areas



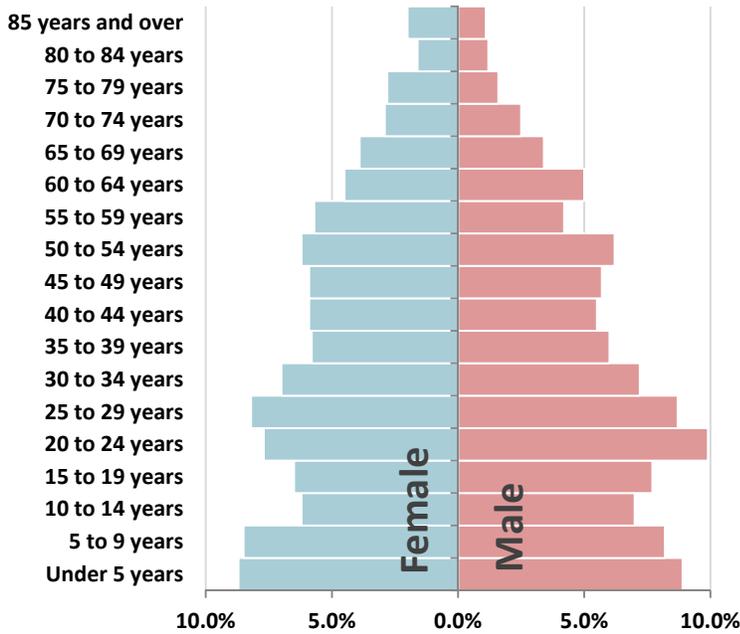
Source: U.S. Census 2014 Population Estimates and American Community Survey, Five Year Estimates 2009-2013

2.2 AGE

The median age of Curry County residents is younger than most other New Mexican counties, with a median age of 30.9 years, compared to a median age of 36.7 years for the state. Surprisingly, unlike many other counties within New Mexico, the median age of the population in 2010 was similar to the median age in 2000 (30.8 years), although the percentage of those over 55 years old has increased. The increase in those older than 55 has been complemented by a slight increase in the number of young children under 10 years old, and a slight increase in young adults between the ages of 25 and 34.

Overall, the County's population is well distributed by age and shows healthy growth among most age cohorts, especially for young adults (see Chart 3). Although perhaps skewed by a large number of younger personnel at Cannon Air Force Base, Curry County has a large population of young adults and does not seem to be affected by the outmigration that has challenged many other rural New Mexican counties. This is a positive trend that also represents an opportunity to invest in economic initiatives that take advantage of younger residents' skills and growing spending power.

Chart 3: Population Distribution by Sex, 2009-2013 Average

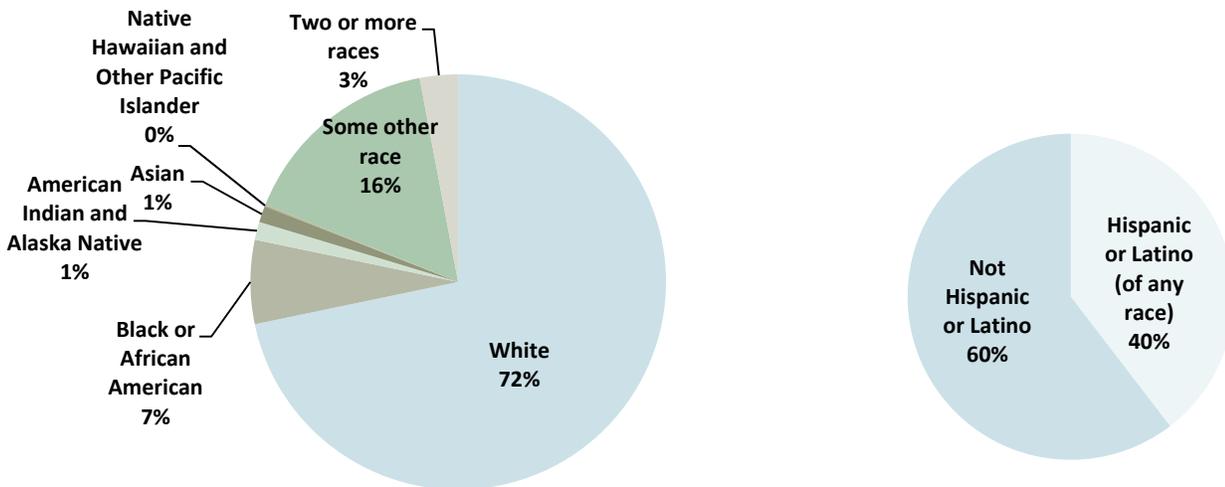


Source: U.S. Census American Community Survey, Five Year Estimates 2009-2013

2.3 RACE & ETHNICITY

A majority (71.7%) of Curry County residents reported their race as white, 6.3% African American, 1.2% American Indian, and 1.2% Asian (see Chart 4); 39.5% (of any race) considered themselves Hispanic or Latino. These statistics indicate an increase in the Hispanic or Latino population from 2000 (30.4%).

Chart 4: Population by Race & Ethnicity, 2009-2013 Average



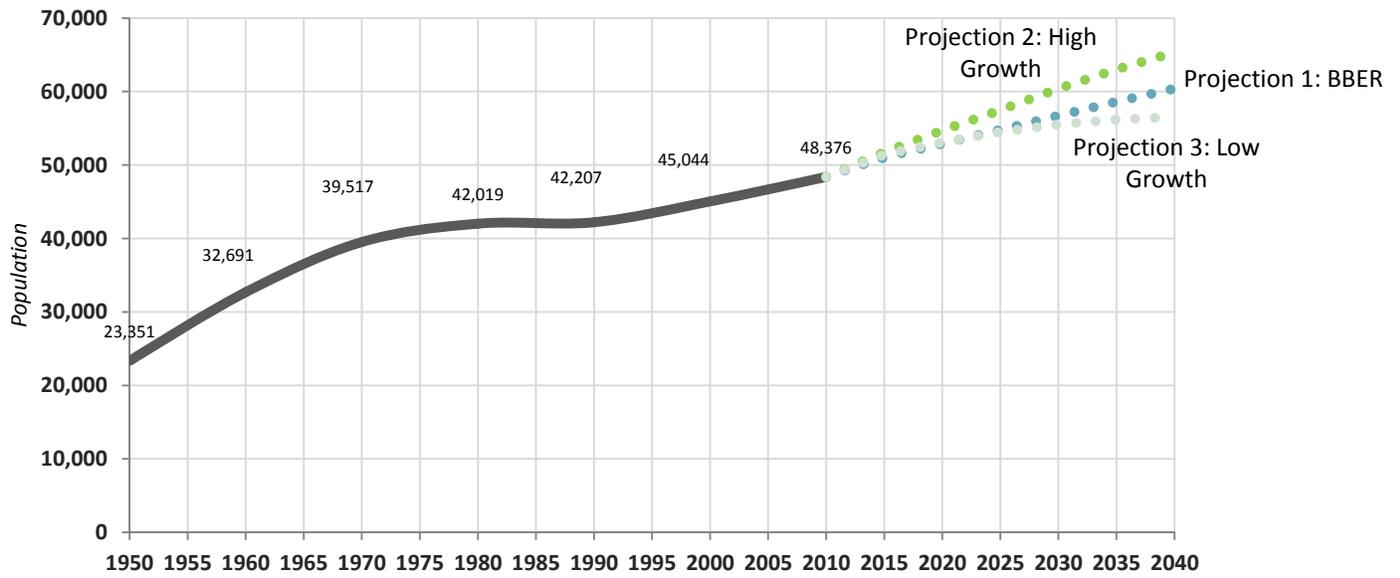
Source: U.S. Census American Community Survey, Five Year Estimates 2009-2013



2.4 POPULATION GROWTH PROJECTIONS

As shown in Chart 5, the County has been growing continuously for the last several decades. The growth rate between 2000 and 2010 was 7.4%. Although growth has slowed across the state, between 2010 and 2014 Curry County was one of the few rural counties in New Mexico that recorded positive population growth. Much of this growth has occurred in and around Clovis, home to about 75% of County residents since the 1950s.

Chart 5: Historic Population and Projections



Source: U.S. Census 2010 and Bureau of Business and Economic Research (BBER), Nov. 2012

Official growth projections for the State of New Mexico are developed by the Bureau of Business and Economic Research at the University of New Mexico (BBER). BBER's projections rely on historic growth and assume that growth rates will continue to follow historic trends. County-wide developments could change these projections in the near future. For example, the expansion (or reduction) of operations and personnel at Cannon Air Force Base could change the number of County residents substantially. In addition, Clovis, the largest community in the County, has been growing rapidly and may continue to attract residents at a faster rate than the County as a whole. Growth in the next 25 years will need to be supported by a sustainable water supply including conservation and the securing of additional supplies.

2.4.1 SCENARIO 1: MODERATE GROWTH – BBER PROJECTION

If historical trends continue, BBER projects a modest average annual growth rate of 0.7% for Curry County between 2015 and 2040. This is slightly lower than the 1.0% average annual projected growth rate for New Mexico as a whole, but follows Curry County's annual growth rate of 0.7% between 2000 and 2013.² However, even with this modest growth projection, the County can expect to welcome an additional 10,000 residents by 2040, a total increase in population of approximately 23%. This represents a total of 60,395 residents and

² It is also worth noting this is a substantial revision from previous projections by BBER, which suggested the County could actually lose population between 2025 and 2030.



approximately 22,963 households. Much of this population growth could be expected to occur in and around Clovis, as this has traditionally been the largest and fastest growing municipality in the County.

2.4.2 SCENARIO 2: HIGHER GROWTH – NM GROWTH RATE

Although BBER's growth scenario is modest, employment increases due to changes at Cannon Air Force Base or successful business recruitment or startups could attract additional jobs and residents. Increased immigration may lead to a faster growth rate that more closely follows New Mexico's growth rate as a whole. If Curry County grows at the same rate as New Mexico, it can expect to see approximately 16,000 more residents by 2040, an increase of approximately 32.5%. This represents a total of 65,333 residents and approximately 24,841 households. Once again, much of this growth would be expected to occur in and around Clovis.

2.4.3 SCENARIO 3: LOWER GROWTH – PERCENTAGE OF NM POPULATION

A third scenario is a low growth scenario that projects the growth of population based on Curry County's historical proportion of New Mexico's population as a whole. This proportion has been declining steadily since New Mexico became a state. In 2010 Curry County represented 2.35% of the state's entire population. If this proportion continues to decline at a rate of about 3.0% every decade³, the County's population will experience lower growth than in the other projections and will flatten off by 2040. This scenario projects a population of 56,529 in 2040 or an approximate increase of 15%. This represents approximately 21,494 total households.

Table 2: Population Growth Projections, Curry County

	2010	2015	2020	2025	2030	2035	2040
Scenario 1: BBER	48,941	51,001	52,900	54,778	56,707	58,611	60,395
	(n/a)	(+4.2%)	(+3.7%)	(+3.6%)	(+3.5%)	(+3.4%)	(+3.0%)
Scenario 2: Higher Growth	48,376*	53,558	56,276	59,132	61,699	63,960	65,333
	(n/a)	(+4.7%)	(+5.8%)	(+5.1%)	(+5.1%)	(+4.3%)	(+3.7%)
Scenario 3: Low Growth	48,376*	51,413	53,106	54,481	55,526	56,205	56,529
	(n/a)	(+6.3%)	(+3.3%)	(+2.6%)	(+1.9%)	(+1.2%)	(+0.6%)
New Mexico	2,065,826	2,208,450	2,351,724	2,487,227	2,613,332	2,727,118	2,827,692
	(n/a)	(+6.5%)	(+6.1%)	(+5.4%)	(+4.8%)	(+4.2%)	(+3.6%)

Source: Bureau of Business and Economic Research (BBER), University of New Mexico (Nov. 2012)

*This number is drawn from the 2010 Census and is slightly lower than BBER's estimate.

³ This assumption follows nation-wide trends of increasing numbers of people migrating to urban areas, which are also seeing the fastest increases in population. This trend continues to be seen across NM as a whole.



3. SOCIOECONOMIC INDICATORS

3.1 INCOME

The median household income in Curry County is \$39,871 (mean \$55,088), while the average household income for New Mexico for the same reporting period was \$44,927 (mean \$61,682). The median household income for the County has been steadily rising, but has lagged behind the state as a whole. However, the distribution of income is similar to that of the state, with a higher percentage of those with middle incomes between \$50,000 and \$100,000. The poverty rate in the County was 18.9%. The percentage of children living in poverty was 29.8%. Although higher than the US average, these rates are comparable to New Mexico.

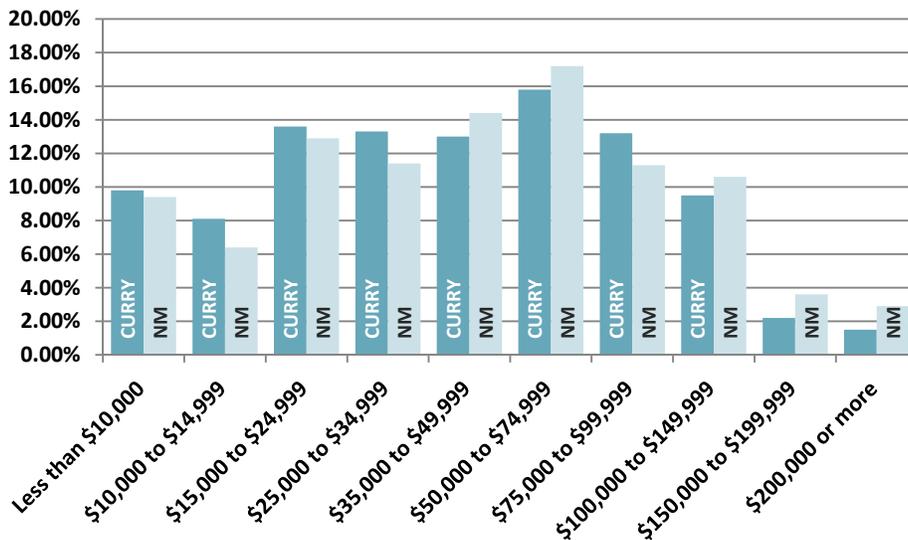
Table 3: Household Income, 2009-2013 Average

INCOME	NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS	CURRY CO. %	NM %
Less than \$10,000	1,771	9.8%	9.4%
\$10,000 to \$14,999	1,466	8.1%	6.4%
\$15,000 to \$24,999	2,443	13.6%	12.9%
\$25,000 to \$34,999	2,397	13.3%	11.4%
\$35,000 to \$49,999	2,352	13.0%	14.4%
\$50,000 to \$74,999	2,841	15.8%	17.2%
\$75,000 to \$99,999	2,372	13.2%	11.3%
\$100,000 to \$149,999	1,717	9.5%	10.6%
\$150,000 to \$199,999	403	2.2%	3.6%
\$200,000 or more	265	1.5%	2.9%
Median Household Income	-	\$39,871	\$44,927
Mean Household Income	-	\$55,088	\$61,682
Poverty Rate	-	18.9%	20.1%
Children In Poverty	-	29.8%	30.1%

Source: American Community Survey 2009-2013, 5 year estimates



Chart 6: Household Income, Curry County and New Mexico



Source: U.S. Census 2010 and Bureau of Business and Economic Research (BBER), Nov. 2012

3.2 UNEMPLOYMENT

According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, the unemployment rate in the County in May 2015 was 4.5%, which is lower than New Mexico’s unemployment rate of 7.2% (not seasonally adjusted). Historically, Curry County has been one of New Mexico’s counties with the lowest overall unemployment.

3.3 EDUCATION

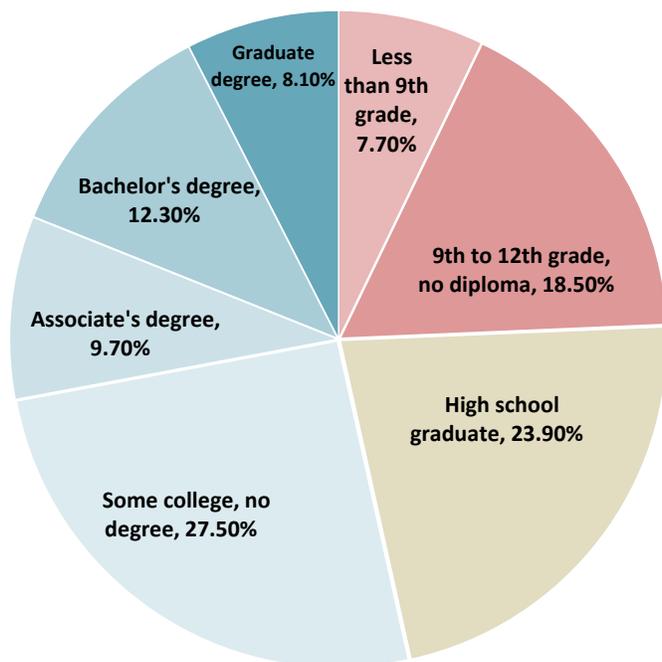
Educational attainment in Curry County is similar to New Mexico as a whole. Of the population 25 years and older, 81.5% had a high school degree or higher, while 20.4% had a bachelor’s degree or higher. However, 7.7% had less than a 9th grade education. The good news is the educational attainment in the County has improved since 2000, with a higher percentage of the population having completed high school or obtained a college degree, both rising between 2000 and 2013.

3.3.1 HIGHER EDUCATION

Clovis Community College is the County’s public higher education institution. Current enrollment is about 4,175 students, most of whom are part time. The college offers classes in 27 subjects. Eastern New Mexico University in Portales offers bachelor and master degrees and has an enrollment of about 5,075 students. Wayland Baptist University also has a campus in Clovis.



Chart 7: Educational Attainment, 2009-2013 Average



Source: American Community Survey 2009-2013, 5 year estimates

4. HEALTH INDICATORS

The New Mexico Department of Health's Indicator Based Information System (IBIS) records health data for the state, making county-wide comparisons possible from year to year. These data indicate that health outcomes in Curry County are generally positive, with some areas for concern. Specifically, teen birth rates are higher than other parts of the state; there are a higher number of diabetes related deaths; incidents of heart disease and related deaths; and higher rates of obesity.

Additionally, residents at community meetings expressed concern about the need for health providers within the County, especially mental health care providers and specialists. Although the Plains Regional Medical Center offers healthcare services, the variety of specialist services is limited, meaning some residents have to travel to Lubbock or Albuquerque to treat certain conditions. Residents also revealed that several providers have left the County, including pediatric services, mental health services, and vision services. Although prevalence of alcohol and drug use is lower than the state, many residents expressed the need for an alcohol and drug treatment facility or rehab program.

Table 4: Health Indicators, 2014

	CURRY COUNTY	NEW MEXICO	UNITED STATES
Infant Mortality per 1,000	5.3	5.9	6.2
Incidence of Diabetes (%)	9%	8%	8.30%
Diabetes Death Rates per 100,000	41	27.5	21.2
Heart Disease Deaths per 100,000	176.8	151	169.8
Alcohol Related Deaths per 100,000	35.3	52.2	ND
Road traffic Deaths per 100,000	18	18	11.6
Life expectancy (years)	77.9	78.6	78.8
Prevalence of Smoking (%)	20.30%	19.40%	ND
Obesity (%)	33.80%	26.60%	26.9
Self-Reported Poor and Fair Health (%)	22.70%	20.60%	16.70%
Adult Daily Physical Activity (%)	59.40%	46.40%	50.80%
Teen Birth Rate per 1,000 (among 15-17 yr olds)	44.7	26.3	15.4
Low Birth Weight (%)	8.30%	8.80%	8.0%
Percentage of Pop. Uninsured (%)	20.30%	21.90%	16.80%
Ratio of Primary Care Providers to Pop.	1883:1	1409:1	1067:1
Ratio of Mental Health Care Providers to Pop.	180:1	295:1	386:1

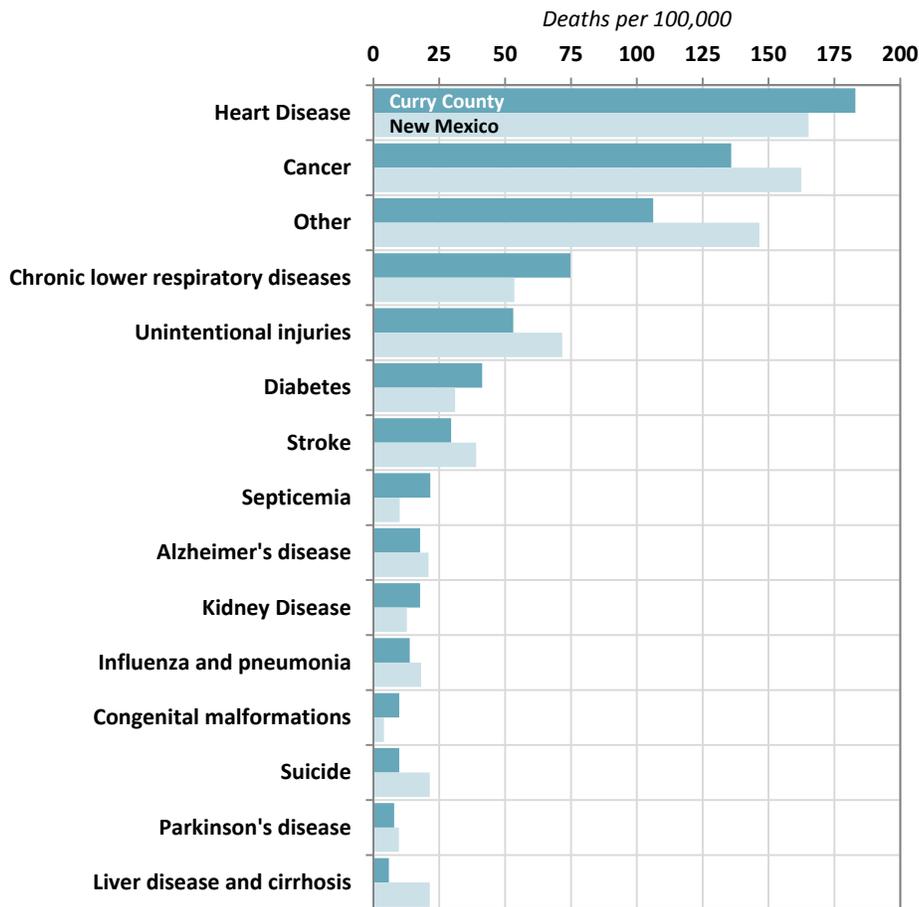
Source: New Mexico Department of Health Indicator Based Information System (IBIS), 2015. Items in red are higher than the state average and may be cause for concern.

4.1 LIFE EXPECTANCY & CAUSES OF DEATH

Life expectancy in Curry County is 77.9 years, which is slightly lower than the state's 78.6 years. Leading causes of death are similar to the rest of the state and nation, with heart disease, cancer, respiratory illnesses, and unintentional fatal injuries the leading causes of death (see Chart 8). The death rates for diabetes related causes, septicemia, kidney disease, and chronic respiratory diseases are all higher than the state. However, Curry County has lower death rates for cancer, stroke, suicide, and liver disease.



Chart 8: Leading Causes of Death by Gross Death Rate, 2014



Source: New Mexico Department of Health Indicator Based Information System (IBIS), 2015.

5. GOVERNMENT STRUCTURE

The County government currently provides a range of services including: administration, emergency services, public safety, staffing for the County detention center, property assessment, County courts, and road maintenance. County government consists of the County Commission made up of five members that meet twice a month and the County Manager who oversees the day-to-day operations. In addition, there are several County committees that oversee additional matters such as public safety, community health, and County finances. County staff totaled about 184 full time employees in 2014. The county organization is displayed in Figure 2. This chart will be updated in early 2016.

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CHAPTER 3

NATURAL RESOURCES



Curry County's natural resources and vast amount of open land have been the bedrock of its farming and ranching economy, culture, and history. Natural resources—especially water—will continue to exert a strong influence on its future as the County addresses water supply issues, renewable energy producers look for open areas of land on which to collect and transmit wind and solar power, and new residents continue to move to the County.

COMMUNITY CONCERNS

- › Water is a major concern for the County. Water supplies in the region are declining rapidly, although conservation efforts in both Clovis and on irrigated agriculture land have reduced overall demand.
- › Domestic wells south of Clovis are growing dry, and some residents have to haul water.
- › The Ute Pipeline Project is moving forward, but has a 20-30 year construction horizon and depends on ongoing federal funding.
- › The County has a wealth of wind, solar and biomass energy resources that are important assets. The ability to continue to develop these and other energy-related assets is important to the community.
- › The County's playas were mentioned as areas that recharge the aquifer and should be preserved.

1. CLIMATE & GEOGRAPHY

The topography of Curry County is largely rolling plains that generally drain from the northwest to southeast. Elevations range from 4,100 to 4,800 feet above sea level. There are no significant rivers or lakes within the County. However, several larger draws, including the Running Water Draw, Frio Creek, Catfish Draw, and



Tierra Blanca Creek, add some variation to the landscape and drain water from the western reaches of the County to the east (see Map 2: Terrain & Drainage). The principle source of surface water is the region's many playa wetlands which recharge the Ogallala Aquifer and provide habitat for wildlife.

1.1 LAND COVER

Much of the County consists of developed agricultural lands, including farms and rangeland for cattle. 60% of the County is rangeland, 39% is cultivated farmland, 5% consists of urban development and roads, and 1% is covered by playas (see Map 6: Generalized Land Use).⁴ Cultivated agricultural lands within the County consist primarily of dryland farming, with only 18% consisting of irrigated farmland. The primary crops include: wheat, sorghum, corn, and forage land for livestock. Ranching and dairy operations historically important to the County have grown in the last several decades with the expansion of dairies and cattle operations. There are now more than 200,000 head of cattle in Curry County which account for a large percentage of the County's total agricultural cash receipts.

The County's rangelands are representative of the Southern Shortgrass Prairie Ecoregion and the Western Great Plains Shortgrass Prairie Terrestrial Habitat Type.⁵ Dominate grasses in this ecoregion include buffalo grass, blue grama, and western wheatgrass.



Figure 3: Rangeland, Curry County

Source: Wikipedia. CC BY-SA 3.0

⁴ Playas Conservation Plan. These totals do not add up to 100% given some overlap between rangelands and cultivated farms lands.

⁵ Wildfire Protection Plan



Figure 4: Playa Wetland

Source: Wetlands Action Plan for Playa Lakes Curry County, New Mexico. Tish McDaniel.

1.2 PLAYAS

The County's playas provide an important source of surface water, aquifer recharge, flood control, and wildlife habitat, especially for migratory bird species. According to a Fish and Wildlife survey, there are 506 playas in Curry County, with an average size of 16.7 acres (see Map 2: Terrain & Drainage). Although natural water storage features, most playas contain water infrequently, depending on rainfall for replenishment.

Unfortunately, many playas are imperiled due to nutrient loading, storm water runoff, sedimentation, invasive species and drainage issues with some roads.⁶ Development over the past 100 years has changed the drainage patterns in the region, which has resulted in some playas being bypassed during storm events and not contributing to aquifer recharge.

A 2014 Wetlands Action Plan for Playa Lakes in Curry County detailed the importance of preserving the County's playas given their importance as wildlife habitat and their role in aquifer recharge. The plan outlines several strategies for conservation that include education of the benefits of playa preservation, erosion management strategies, improved rangeland management techniques, avoiding the construction of new roads near playas, and protecting rural playas with a vegetative buffer to minimize contamination from farmland runoff. Future conservation efforts by the County should seek to protect the playas' active role in aquifer recharge and mitigate any harmful effects of wind energy or other developments.

The Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) in Clovis has also been involved with playa management best practices and has been helping local landowners implement conservation projects through the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP). Together with the Central Curry Soil & Water Conservation District, the NRCS has helped direct \$250,000 toward playa restoration since 2005. Funds have

⁶ Playas Conservation Plan



been used to provide grazing deferral incentives to ranchers to not graze livestock near playa buffer areas sensitive to damage and disruption. These incentives are generally funded for three years and are awarded to landowners on a competitive basis. In addition, the NRCS has been involved in ongoing education efforts with landowners who want to protect the condition of soils, water supply, and wildlife habitat on their lands.

The Playa Lakes Joint Venture is another partnership that is dedicated to conserving playa habitats for migratory birds and has several programs in place to promote land management best practices.

1.3 SOILS

The dominant soils of Curry County are sandy loams and clay loams. The clay soils are fine-textured and high in organic material and the sandy soils are coarse and low in organic matter. These soils are highly susceptible to wind erosion when the native vegetation is removed, especially the sandier soils in the southern and western margins of the County.

Playa basins are lined with a layer of hydric clay soil that is usually classified as Randall Clay, but is also classified as other clay types. This clay layer expands when saturated and contracts when dry leaving a network of large cracks on the playa floor. During a large rainfall event, the cracks and fissures in the clay layer allow water to penetrate the surface and reach the aquifer. The hydric clay layer within the playas is prone to sedimentation if mismanaged due to drainage practices, erosion issues, or improper rangeland management. Once filled with water, playas may remain wet for several months depending on weather conditions and the geomorphology of the playa.

1.4 CLIMATE

The climate of Curry County is characterized by low rainfall, a high percentage of sunny days, a relatively long growing season, and high winds. Annual rainfall averages about 17 inches a year, and annual snowfall averages about 11 inches per year. A majority of precipitation usually occurs between April and October, with drier conditions prevailing from November through March. Thunderstorms occur about 54 days a year, mostly in the summer months. Temperatures are moderate, with the first frosts usually occurring by the first of November, and the last by mid-April. This results in an average growing season of about 175-200 days. Ever-present winds are a critical part of the climate for the region and increase the potential for soil erosion.

1.5 WILDLIFE

The rangelands of Curry County are home to a variety of wildlife, including prairie dogs, mule deer, mice, bats, several bird species, and a high number of reptile species. In addition, the wetland ecosystems created by the region's playas provide a home for many types of amphibians, reptiles, and migratory bird species. The region's grasslands were once home to large herds of bison, pronghorn, several bird species, and healthy populations of wolves and other predators. However, the ranges of these species has declined or been fragmented due to development pressures and changes to the grassland habitat across the Western United States.

The Lesser Prairie Chicken, a species that had a historic range across the western plains, was listed as a threatened species by the US Fish and Wildlife Service (see Land Use Chapter below). This designation has since been lifted. Ongoing conservation measures involving the species have a potential to impact landowners



in Curry County. Other candidate species for protection under the Endangered Species Act include the Least Tern and Sprague's Pipit, both bird species.⁷

2. WATER SUPPLY

County residents, including farmers, ranchers, and County communities, depend upon groundwater from the Ogallala Aquifer for their drinking water, livestock, irrigated agriculture, and business needs (see Map 5: Wells and Water Infrastructure). The County is in a critical situation with its groundwater supply as the Ogallala Aquifer has been declining dramatically since the 1950's, with an estimated depletion of 137,000 acre-feet per year (afy) within the County.⁸ Recharge rates have been much lower, at an estimated 40,000 afy. This corresponds to an average depletion rate of between 0.5 and 6 feet per year depending on the well location (average of 2.5 feet). Given the rate of decline, the groundwater supply for some wells is expected to only be productive for another 10 years before depletion, with possible exhaustion of wells around Clovis and Portales between 2033 and 2040.⁹ Unfortunately, recharge to the Aquifer within Curry County is limited because of low rainfall, wind, and high evaporation rates. Most research indicates that the playas are the primary source of recharge for the Aquifer, but are dependent on the proper channeling of rainfall to replenish their supply.

Farmers who depend on irrigation for crop production are facing challenges with the decline of the Aquifer. The County's municipal supplies are also constrained. Some residents south of Clovis have also seen their domestic wells run dry and are now having to haul water. Unfortunately, drilling new wells no longer guarantees a sustainable water supply. A 2009 Eastern New Mexico Rural Water System Environmental Assessment noted that new wells are no longer economical to operate after 8 years, given the declining water levels. The Ute Lake Pipeline Project detailed below is designed to address water supply needs, but the project has moved slowly and may not be fully constructed for another 20 years.

2.1 REGIONAL WATER PLANNING

The importance of water planning in New Mexico is recognized by the New Mexico Office of the State Engineer, which regulates private wells and reviews new subdivisions to verify development provides adequate information on the water supply and expected future demands. The State Engineer also requires water conservation to be addressed with water-saving fixtures and appliances, low-water use landscaping, and careful consideration of hot tubs, swimming pools, and water gardens. This has slowed some development and makes it less likely that large subdivisions will be constructed in unincorporated areas of the County in the future unless they can provide a long terms source of water.

To address water supply concerns, the State has adopted regional water plans. These plans detail the expected future water budgets needed to meet demand and measures that can be taken to secure future supplies. The Northeast New Mexico Regional Water Plan for the area that includes Curry County was adopted in 2007. This plan is currently being updated by the Office of the State Engineer (OSE). Projections and recommendations from the 2007 plan are detailed below.

⁷ US Fish and Wildlife Service IPaC application

⁸ Regional Water Plan

⁹ Eastern New Mexico Rural Water System Environmental Assessment. 2009



The Eastern Plains Council of Governments (EPCOG) is drafting a Source Waters Protection Plan that is expected to be completed in January of 2016. This plan will document new well data from the region regarding groundwater depletion rates and water quality. It will also provide a series of voluntary conservation practices that landowners may follow to conserve water on their properties.

2.2 WATER USERS & DEMAND

Although total water consumption rates have been falling for both agriculture and municipal uses, Curry County still has high water demands due to the large amount of irrigated agriculture. Well data from the State Engineer's Office shows that irrigated agriculture accounts for about 93% of total water uses, and livestock and dairies account for about 2%.¹⁰ Domestic, commercial, and municipal supplies only account for around 4-5% of the total water use. Although agriculture is generally the largest water user around the state (and nationally), this may be changing as water supplies become constrained and the economics of agriculture change.

Table 5: Estimated Water Use, 2000

USE	WITHDRAWALS ACRE FEET PER YEAR	PERCENT
Commercial	232	0.11%
Domestic	529	0.25%
Irrigation	195,886	93.35%
Municipal	8,416	4.0%
Utility	0	0.00%
Livestock	4767	2.27%
Total	209,830	100.00%

Source: NE New Mexico Regional Water Plan, 2007

The good news is that municipal water demand in Clovis has been dropping since 2002 and is now between 90-100 gallons per capita per day. This is a rate comparable to the City of Santa Fe (known for its water conservation practices) and is better than most cities in the nation. A similar decline in withdrawals for irrigated agriculture is another ongoing trend, even though total cultivated acres have not declined significantly. Although promising trends, given that only about 5% of the County's water supply is used for non-agricultural uses, conservation efforts among agricultural users will still have the largest impact on future water demand and withdrawal rates.

Table 6: Active Wells in Curry County Recorded in OSE WATERS Database

USE	ALLOCATED ACRE FEET PER YEAR	EQUIVALENT GALLONS PER DAY	WELLS	AVERAGE WELL DEPTH	AVERAGE WATER DEPTH	PERCENT
Commercial	465	415,029	9	382	295	0.1%
Construction	270	241,041	2	223		0.1%
Dairies	3,478	3,104,540	20	425	330	0.7%
Domestic	1,721	1,536,412	704	374	317	0.3%

¹⁰ This does not include water used for growing animal feed.



Exploration	11,246	10,039,349	34	353	275	2.2%
Irrigation	484,689	432,702,912	657	394	329	94.5%
Municipal	9,515	8,494,058	27	364	277	1.9%
Utility	291	259,556	1	320	232	0.1%
Livestock Totals	741	661,523	213	307	269	0.1%
Total	512,716	457,583,332	1,782	365	300	100%

Source: New Mexico Office of the State Engineer WATERS Database, 2014. These numbers are for recorded, active wells only. Wells without a recorded well depth start date, or use was not included, meaning these totals may be a slight underestimate of water allocations. Because there is not a water monitoring program in place within Curry County, these are for allocated water rights only and not usage.

2.3 WATER UTILITIES

Each incorporated community in the County has its own water supply, storage and distribution system. The water to the County is provided by individual water associations for small communities and private wells for County residents. County residents outside of communities provide their own water from private wells. Descriptions of the each community water systems from EPCOG's 2012 Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Document include:

1. Water in the Village of Melrose is currently supplied from five groundwater wells located south and southwest of the village limits and is stored in a 250,000-gallon elevated steel tank. A gas chlorine injection system is used to treat the water before it enters the storage tank. Water is distributed by gravity flow from the 250,000-gallon elevated tank. A noticeable decline in water levels at all the production wells is a major concern. The Village is currently working on drilling a new well to supplement the current water supply. Melrose will receive water from the Ute Pipe Line Project once operational.
2. The Village of Grady has a water system comprised of three wells; one liquid chlorine injection unit, one 200,000-gallon storage tank, and a distribution-piping network. The wells and tank are located inside the village limits. The water is distributed to customers using gravity flow out of the 200,000-gallon storage tank. The Grady water system facilities are new, except for the chlorine disinfection system. All are believed to be in good condition. Grady will receive water from the Ute Pipe Line Project once operational.
3. The current Texico water system consists of three production wells, one 50,000-gallon elevated storage tank, a 325,000-gallon standpipe, one booster pump, a gas chlorination system, and transmission and distribution piping. The water system is fully automated. The current water delivery system is old and in need of major repair. Texico is also a member of Eastern New Mexico Water Utility Authority (ENMWUA), and will receive water from the Ute Pipe Line once it is operational.
4. Cannon Air Force Base has its own water system, consisting of seven wells and a distribution system. They operate and maintain their systems for the base operations and residents. Cannon Air Force Base is putting water conservation into action by implementing water-saving fixtures and utilizing treated waste water to irrigate parks and public landscaping.
5. Clovis has a private firm that provides the water wells, water supply lines, water distribution system, services, and storage for the City along with the operation and maintenance. The firm, EPCOR Water, based in Canada, pumps its water from the Ogallala Aquifer and has about 16,000 billed customers. As with other communities, water supplies have been declining rapidly, and the utility has had to drill several new wells in recent years. Clovis is part of the ENMWUA and will receive water from the Ute Pipeline once it is completed.



Recently, some domestic wells in the County have begun to run dry, leading to the need to find alternative means to supply water to residents in this area. To help facilitate water delivery to those whose wells are no longer productive, there has been some discussion of creating a rural water cooperative to supply residents with a more sustainable source of water. Such a water cooperative has been formed in Roosevelt County to address their declining water supply and could be a successful strategy for Curry County to pursue.

WATER QUALITY

As part of the U.S. Geological Survey's National Water Quality Assessment (NAWQA) Program, High Plains Regional Ground-Water Study, 74 domestic-supply wells were sampled to assess the broad-scale water-quality conditions in the Ogallala Formation. The overall water-quality in the Ogallala Formation exhibited little variability over the entire study area and rarely exceeded national drinking-water limits. The Ogallala Aquifer has historically provided good quality water for Curry County. Reports from EPCOR Water, the private supplier of water for the City of Clovis, also showed compliance for all measured substances.

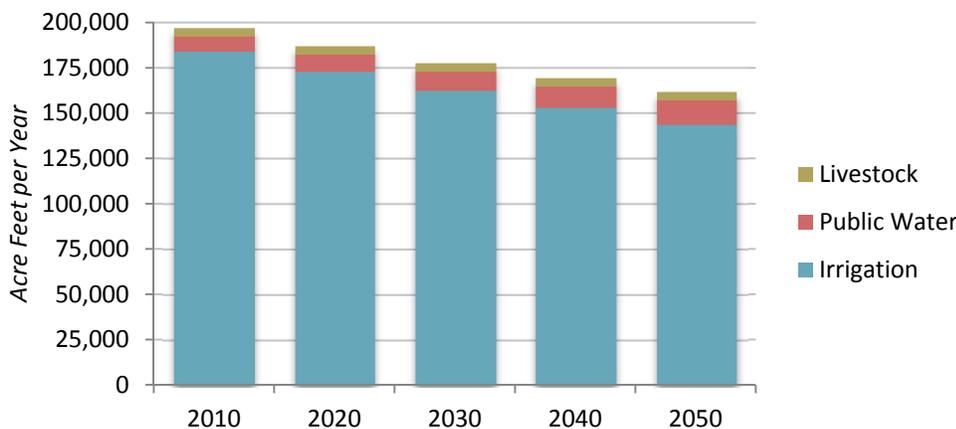
Updates to water quality testing will be part of EPCOG's upcoming Source Waters Protection Plan to be released in 2016.

2.4 FUTURE WATER DEMAND

Although the population of the County is expected to grow in the next 25 years, this could be constrained by a shortage of the water supply. This complicates projections of future population growth and water demand as they both affect one another. Conservation practices, for instance, may actually lower future water demand even as the population continues to increase. The impact of conservation practices has already been seen in Clovis which has lowered its daily water use to between 90 and 100 gallons per capita per day.

The State's Regional Water Plan for the region that includes Curry County estimates future demand in Curry County will grow for public water users and domestic wells, but will *decline for irrigated agriculture users*. Overall, the plan projects total demand will decrease given modest population growth. Even under a high growth scenario, water consumption is only expected to increase marginally. Overall, this seems to be a likely scenario as conservation measures are gradually adopted to reduce total demand and additional irrigated agricultural lands are either converted to dryland farming or transfer their water rights to new users.

Chart 9: Water Use Projections, Curry County



Source: NE New Mexico Regional Water Plan, 2007



FUTURE WATER PROJECTS

Given the declining groundwater levels and the need to protect future municipal supplies, three key water supply projects and strategies have been proposed in Curry County:

1. The Ute Lake Pipeline project (detailed below) is a \$550 million project that seeks to supply water from the Ute Lake Reservoir to communities within Curry and Roosevelt counties. This pipeline would supply about 16,500 acre feet of surface water to these communities. However, the project has an estimated construction time of 20-30 years and is dependent on future federal funding. The plan does not address agricultural water demands.
2. To address the immediate needs for securing future water supplies, the City of Clovis has created the Llano Estacado Water Conservation Initiative that would establish a critical water conservation area northwest of the city. This plan would offer landowners an incentive to defer irrigation or sell water rights to the city. This would potentially reduce the amount of aquifer drawdown and allow some aquifer recharge.
3. Conservation efforts have been put in place to lower overall rates of consumption (see below).

2.5 WATER CONSERVATION

Given the water supply within Curry County is severely constrained and declining, conservation measures are the primary course of action County residents can take to reduce the strain on groundwater supplies. EPCOG's Source Water Protection Plan will include detailed conservation recommendations for landowners. A few conservation measures in place or worth pursuing aggressively include:

1. Municipal water conservation, using education, water rates, conservation incentives, upgrading appliances (showerheads, toilets, etc.), reusing greywater, and implementing landscape watering restrictions.
2. Agricultural conservation including changes in farming practices to use more efficient irrigation systems or converting to dryland farming.
3. Groundwater management focusing on buying water rights from agricultural users and encouraging conversion to dryland farming.
4. Rangeland and watershed management focusing mainly on playa rehabilitation and restoration for improved aquifer recharge.
5. Cannon AFB conservation measures using many of the same conservation strategies as municipal supplies.

2.6 UTE PIPELINE PROJECT

The Ute Pipeline Project is a 151 mile long pipeline project designed to transport water from the Ute Lake Reservoir north of Tucumcari to cities and towns in Curry and Roosevelt counties (see Map 5: Wells and Water Infrastructure). The plan is to pump 16,450 acre-feet per year of water from the reservoir over the rim of Caprock Escarpment to a water treatment facility in Grady. Water would then be supplied to communities in the south. Together, the project consists of an intake station at Ute Lake, three pumping stations, a central pipeline, several lateral connections, a water treatment plant, and storage facilities. Overall, the total cost of the project is estimated at \$557.7 million in 2015 dollars. The project is expected to be funded with 75% federal funds, 15% state funds, and 10% local funds. The project has an estimated construction time of 20-30 years, depending on how quickly additional funding can be secured and construction documents finalized.



Each community within the area served by the pipeline has reserved future water rights, most of which are allocated for large population centers such as Clovis. The County has reserved 240 acre feet of water from the project to serve rural residents. However, infrastructure to store and distribute this water still needs to be constructed. This is a small amount of water, but could be used for domestic purposes, including providing water to residents south of Clovis, where wells have begun to run dry.

2.6.1 PROJECT COMPONENTS

1. About 150 miles of water conveyance pipelines.
2. A raw water intake structure and pump station at the south shore of Ute Reservoir, with a flow rate of 28 million gallons per day (mgd).
3. A 28 mgd raw water booster pump station at the base of the Caprock and a 1 million-gallon storage tank at the top of the Caprock in Quay County.
4. A 28 mgd water treatment plant in Curry County with a finished water booster pump station to service downstream municipalities.
5. Finished water booster pump station in Roosevelt County to convey finished water to Elida.
6. Pressure reducing stations, where required, to serve Cannon Air Force Base and the communities of Clovis, Elida, Grady, Melrose, Portales, and Texico.

2.6.2 PROJECT STATUS

The project is being managed by the Eastern New Mexico Water Utility Authority (ENMWUA), which was formed in 2010 to issue local bonds for project construction and represent member governments (incorporated municipalities and Curry and Roosevelt counties). Since the ENMWUA was established, the project has finished planning and design construction documents for several phases of the project and is now beginning construction of the first phase. Estimated overall design is at 30% for the entire project as of 2015.

The first phase of the project involves the construction of a \$14 million intake station at the reservoir. This phase began construction in February 2013 and was sustainably complete by February 2015. Work has also begun on phase two of the project which involves the construction of a pumping station and segments of the pipelines between Melrose and Clovis, as well as between Cannon AFB and Portales. This phase is designed to complete sections of the pipeline that connect major water users and existing groundwater pumping stations. Phase three involves full buildout of the pipeline and connection to the pumping station at Ute Lake. This is the most expensive phase by far, accounting for about \$430 million of the \$550 million total project cost.





Figure 5: Ute Pipeline Project Intake Station at Ute Lake.

Source: Quay County Sun, photographer Steve Hansen

2.6.3 PROJECT FUNDING & ALTERNATIVES

Funding remains the primary barrier to completing the project in a timely manner. Given the large cost of the project, additional federal funding is crucial to finish construction of all phases of the pipeline network. Although funding has been secured from state, local, and federal appropriations totaling about \$45 million, this is a small portion of the total project cost. Future support from state congressional leaders and the Bureau of Reclamation will be required to ensure an ongoing stream of sustainable federal funding for the project.

The high cost of the project, as well as potential impacts to the Ute Late Reservoir and surrounding communities, has raised concerns the project will not be able to adequately meet the needs of local communities in a timely fashion. However, a cost-benefit analysis of the project and possible alternatives revealed the pipeline was the most viable long term solution for the region. Proposed alternatives included retiring agricultural water rights to supply local communities and lower overall water consumption. This would involve removing about 300,000 acres of agricultural land from production which is politically and socioeconomically unfeasible. Purchasing the water rights in this scenario was found to be more expensive (close to \$1.5 billion to meet demand) than building the pipeline and would change the makeup of the County's economy and agricultural identity significantly.



3. RENEWABLE ENERGY RESOURCES



Curry County has the potential to develop future wind, solar, and other renewable energy resources. These resources are a huge investment opportunity for the County, as most states, including New Mexico, have renewable energy portfolio standards that have generated increased demand for renewable energy supplies. These standards require a set amount of electricity be produced by renewable sources by a set date. For example, New Mexico has a renewable energy portfolio standard that calls for 20% renewable sources by 2020 (for investor owned utilities). California, the largest electricity market in the Country, has a standard of 33% renewables by 2020. These standards create demand for new renewable energy projects including utility scale wind farms, solar photovoltaic (PV), and biofuel operations.

The County has seen investment in several wind farm projects, and may soon be home to the Tres Amigas Electrical Superstation north of Clovis that will allow transmission of electricity to utilities in California (and other parts of the country). Continued County support of these projects will help the County diversify its economy and transition towards clean, renewable energy sources that provide long term value.

3.1 WIND ENERGY

The County is located in a region with wind energy resources that could be developed in the future. There are currently two wind farms in the County that have a capacity of 20 Megawatts (MW), which is a small fraction of the 750 MW of wind energy installed in New Mexico in 2015. A proposed 500 MW project for Curry County has also been presented by National Renewable Solutions LLC. The \$550 million Broadview Energy project consists of 200 wind turbines on approximately 39,000 acres that are expected to generate 200 construction jobs and 20 permanent jobs. Additional wind farm projects are also being proposed for other areas of the County. These projects are expected to supply power to utility customers in California to meet the state's portfolio standards.

3.2 SOLAR

The County's solar resources are more modest than its wind energy sources, but still substantial. Although there is currently no utility scale PV installations within Curry County, there is the potential for future installations on state trust land and on residential and commercial properties. Although there are issues with utility scale solar power plants, including high upfront costs and efficiency issues, there is still potential in investing in solar power as an alternative energy source. As with wind power, these plants do not necessarily supply electricity to local users; instead they may be sold to out of state utilities to meet their demand.

Santa Fe County's *Solarize Santa Fe!* Program promotes the installation of residential solar, conservation measures, and seeks to bring solar power companies to Santa Fe County. A similar program for Curry County might be helpful to promote solar development in the County. Such a program could include promotional efforts to bring solar companies to Curry County, either as hub for installers of rural system or as a supplier of related parts.

3.3 BIOMASS

Curry County's agricultural industries generate waste in the form of non-food crops, crop residues, and other waste that can be used for biomass power production. In addition, given the County's large dairy and ranching industries, there is a huge potential for biogas power production from methane sources.

Biomass from crop residues (and some primary farm products) can be used to generate power, some types of commercial chemicals, or other products. While most crop residues are left on the field to recycle nutrients, some residues can be reused without harming soil productivity. The energy content of crop residues varies widely depending on moisture content, but is comparable to the energy content in wood, and in some cases low grade lignite coal sources.

Biogas is produced in anaerobic digesters which capture methane and other gases as manure decomposes. The captured biogas can be used to generate power, produce heat, or can be used in some internal combustion engines (such as those for agricultural equipment). It is a renewable energy source that reduces greenhouse gas emissions by lowering the amount of methane that escapes into the atmosphere as manure decomposes. Small scale anaerobic digesters can be installed on rural sites to power farm operations or produce biogas that can be sold to larger utility scale operators. In addition, waste from dairies and cheese production facilities may profitably be used to produce energy or heat onsite, reducing disposal costs and pollution.

The National Renewable Energy Laboratory estimates that the total biomass residue in Curry County is around 75,000,000 tons per year, with 55,000,000 tons of crop residue and 14,300,000 tons of manure residue in addition to urban waste sources. Although the amount of power that can be generated varies by the type of fuel and specific material composition, dairy manure can generate about 48 kWh per metric ton. This means that the 14,300,000 tons of animal manure could generate about 624,000 kWh of energy per year (or enough to fuel a power station generating about 70 MW). Needless to say, this is a significant amount of waste product that could be used to generate electricity and/or create biofuels for sale.

3.4 OTHER ENERGY SOURCES

Energy production of other types including oil and gas, while not currently active in the County, have the potential to be developed in the future. The oil and gas program at the New Mexico Bureau of Geology and Mineral Resources has identified frontier basins with many of the geologic characteristics common to oil and gas producing basins in the State. The Tucumcari and Sin Nombre basins include portions of Curry County. In the future, these frontier basins may represent a significant part of the state's oil and gas production.



4. GOALS & ACTIONS

CURRENT COUNTY ACTIONS



- › Continuing to research, partner and apply for grants to assist in supplying water to County residents.
- › Ongoing lobbying for Ute Pipeline Project.
- › Support for wind energy development and reasonable approaches to land use issues.
- › ICIP \$250,000 in 2017 for water infrastructure investments to secure future water supplies for County residents.

NATURAL RESOURCES & WATER	ACTIONS	TIMEFRAME	AGENCIES/PARTNERS
GOAL 1: PROTECT LIFE AND PROPERTY FROM STORM WATER RUN-OFF.			
Action 1.1: <i>Require terrain management plans addressing drainage at the time of new development.</i>	› Ordinance	Medium	› County Manager's Office › County Commission › City of Clovis
Action 1.2: <i>Develop a County-wide Drainage Plan in conjunction with the communities in the County to ensure drainage from storm events are prepared and planned for.</i>	› Plan › Ordinance	Medium	› County Manager's Office › County Commission › Local Communities › EPCOG
Action 1.3: <i>Work to update roadway construction drainage best practices.</i>	› Practices	Medium	› Road Department › NMDOT › EPCOG
GOAL 2: INCREASE WATER CONSERVATION IN THE COUNTY.			
Action 2.1: <i>Identify potential water use reduction through the upgrading of systems or implementation of newer technology.</i>	› Practices › Info/Promotion	Medium	› EPCOR
Action 2.2: <i>Work with EPCOR to determine potential future water reuse and grey water systems, including irrigation of County facilities and road application.</i>	› Practices › Info/Promotion	Medium	› EPCOR
Action 2.3: <i>Establish and maintain water conservation education programs and work cooperatively with the State Engineer's Office in promoting water resource education and water conservation programs in the County.</i>	› Collaboration › Info/Promotion	Short	› State Engineer's Office › County Manager's Office
Action 2.4: <i>Work with landowners to implement key conservation recommendations of EPCOG's Source Waters Protection Plan.</i>	› Collaboration › Info/Promotion	Long	› EPCOG › County Manager's Office
GOAL 3: PARTICIPATE IN REGIONAL WATER PLANNING.			
Action 3.1: <i>Support NE New Mexico Regional Water Plan and plan recommendations.</i>	› Collaboration › Info/Promotion	Ongoing	› County Manager's Office › State Engineer's Office



NATURAL RESOURCES & WATER	ACTIONS	TIMEFRAME	AGENCIES/PARTNERS
Action 3.2: Support recommendations of EPCOG's Source Waters Protection Plan.	» Collaboration » Info/Promotion	Ongoing	» County Manager's Office » EPCOG
Action 3.3: Work towards development of a 40-year water plan for the County.	» Plan » Collaboration » Program	Medium	» County Manager » Commissioners » Local Communities
GOAL 4: SUPPORT UTE PIPELINE PROJECT AND SECURE FUTURE WATER SUPPLIES.			
Action 4.1: Seek ways to store and distribute Ute Pipeline water purchased by the County.	» Infrastructure » Financing » Collaboration	Short/ Medium	» ENMWUA » County Manager's Office
Action 4.2: Continue to support Ute Pipeline Project, including funding and lobbying.	» Info/Promotion » Financing » Collaboration	Ongoing	» ENMWUA » County Manager's Office » CIDC/Chamber
GOAL 5: PROTECT EXISTING WATER SUPPLIES.			
Action 5.1: <i>Work with the state to ensure that old or failing septic systems are upgraded or repaired.</i>	» Practices & » Operations	Medium	» County Manager's Office » New Mexico Environment Department
Action 5.2: <i>Identify and abate all abandoned underground fuel tanks.</i>	» Project/Program	Medium	» County Manager's Office » New Mexico Environment Department
Action 5.3: <i>Require distance separation between wells and potential pollution sources, including wastewater drain fields.</i>	» Ordinance	Medium	» County Manager's Office » New Mexico Environment Department
Action 5.4: <i>Encourage residents to connect to a city/EPCOR water system if available nearby.</i>	» Practices & » Operations	Short	» County Manager's Office » EPCOR
GOAL 6: PROMOTE RENEWABLE & OTHER ENERGY DEVELOPMENT.			
Action 6.1: Pursue County-wide Renewable Energy Development.	» Plan » Info/Promotion	Medium	» County Manager's Office » EPCOG
Action 6.2: Promote utility scale wind, solar, and biogas/biofuel operations.	» Info/Promotion	Ongoing	» County Manager's Office » EPCOG » CIDC/Chamber
Action 6.3: Explore other energy development opportunities including oil and gas, and other alternative energy operations.	» Info/Promotion » Collaboration	Ongoing	» County Manager's Office » EPCOG » CIDC/Chamber

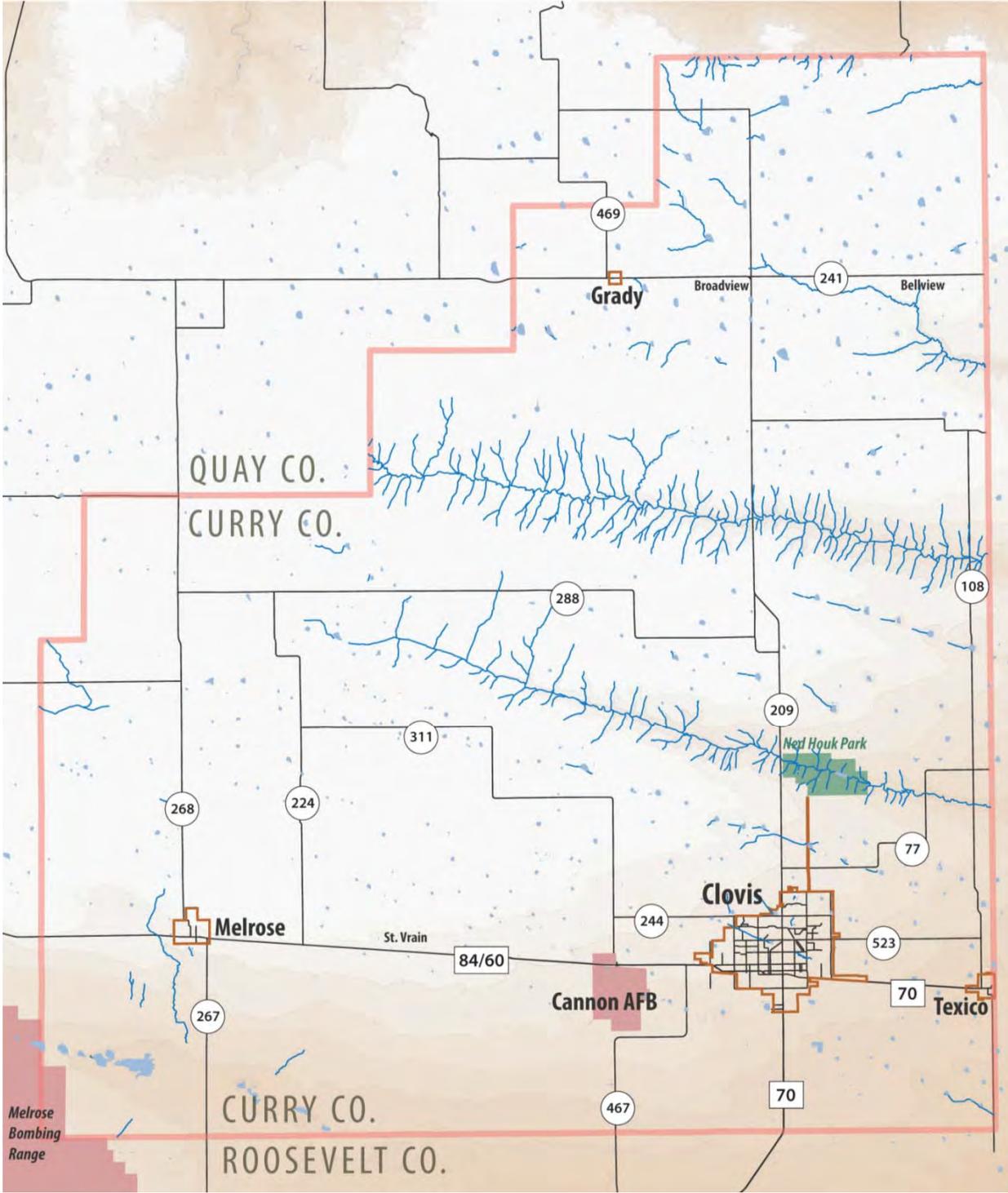


NATURAL RESOURCES & WATER	ACTIONS	TIMEFRAME	AGENCIES/PARTNERS
Action 6.4: Invest in education and promotion of rural residential solar and biogas/biofuel operations. Provide homeowner resources.	» Info/Promotion	Medium	» County Manager's Office » EPCOG » Electric Co-op
Action 6.5: Develop an Energy Conservation Plan for County Facilities, including the County Events Center, Courthouse, Detention Center, etc.	» Info/Promotion » Practices	Medium	» County Manager's Office » EPCOG
GOAL 7: EXTEND WATER SUPPLIES TO COUNTY RESIDENTS.			
Action 7.1: Explore possibility of forming a water cooperative similar to Roosevelt County Water Cooperative.	» Plan	Medium	» County Manager's Office » Local Communities » EPCOG
Action 7.2: Research, partner, and apply for grants to assist in developing additional water infrastructure, including a pipeline to extend EPCOR service to residents of the County who have run out of water.	» Project Infrastructure	Short	» County Manager's Office » EPCOG
GOAL 8: SUPPORT PLAYAS RESTORATION AND CONSERVATION BEST PRACTICES.			
Action 8.1: Connect landowners with Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Playas conservation programs including Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP).	» Info/Promotion	Ongoing	» NRCS
Action 8.2: Continue to participate in NRCS workgroup meetings to help prioritize rangeland management and playa conservation practices	» Info/Promotion » Collaboration	Ongoing	» NRCS
Action 8.3: Implement recommendations of Wetlands Conservation Plan to increase aquifer recharge.	» Info/Promotion » Collaboration	Long	» NRCS » Playa Lakes Joint Venture



TERRAIN & DRAINAGE

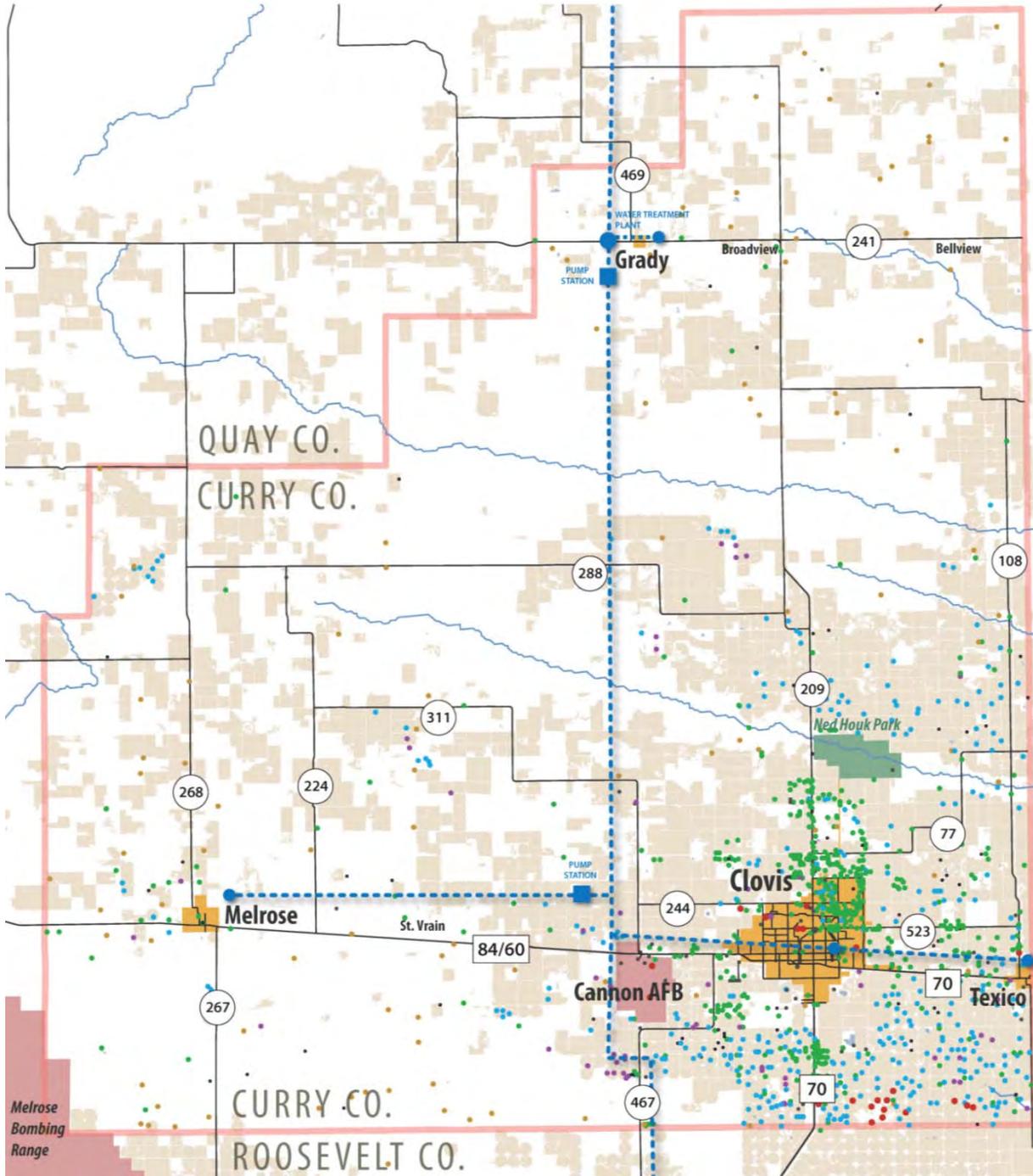
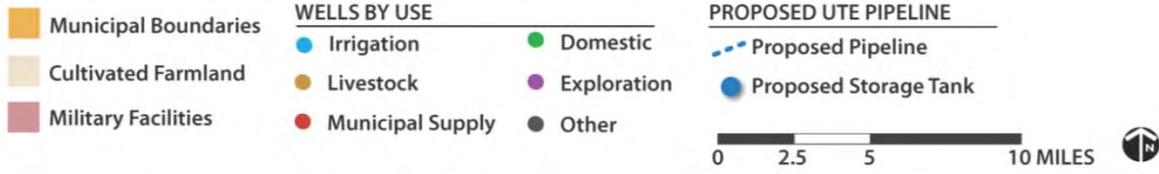
-  Municipal Boundaries
-  Drainage Path
-  Open Space
-  Playa
-  Military Facilities



Map 2: Terrain & Drainage



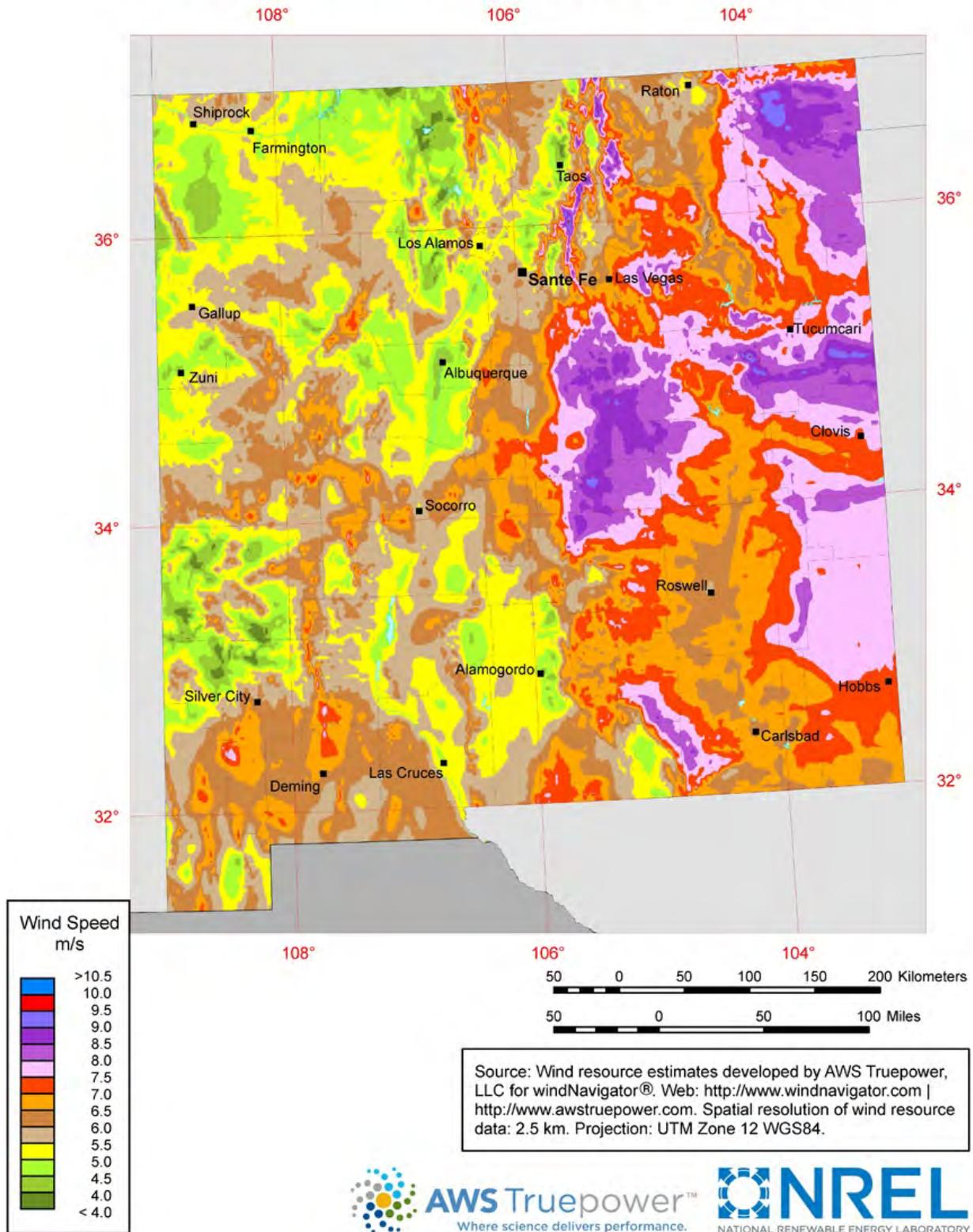
WATER INFRASTRUCTURE



Map 3: Water Infrastructure



New Mexico - Annual Average Wind Speed at 80 m



Map 4: New Mexico Wind Energy Potential



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CHAPTER 4

LAND USE



Land use is a fundamental component of comprehensive planning and provides an underlying framework for the entire document. Land use patterns influence such things as a community's economic base, the cost of providing public services and the location of future development. Analyzing existing patterns helps to determine how and in what direction a community is growing and whether the pattern should be continued or changed. Because of the specific concerns regarding the impacts of federal requirements on County property owners and businesses, a separate land use study is being conducted by the County to focus on those issues.

COMMUNITY CONCERNS



- › Property owners in Curry County value private land rights.
- › Even though the County residents do not support restrictive land use regulations, there is a need to control illegal dumping and visible trash and junk on properties, specifically along well traveled corridors.
- › Ranchers and rural land owners are concerned about federal mandates that could affect their ability to operate their businesses. In particular, there is concern about regulations related to the Endangered Species Act and Waters of the US.
- › Residents do not want to see regulations that would inhibit future wind farms or renewable energy development.

1. EXISTING LAND USE

As a rural county founded on agriculture, the predominant land use within Curry County is agricultural production, accounting for 39% of the land uses within of the county. Approximately 18% of this cultivated farmland is irrigated; however irrigated land is decreasing largely due to declining underground water levels of the Ogallala Aquifer. Developed areas such as the City of Clovis and Cannon AFB make up about 5% of the total land uses within the County. The rest of the county is undeveloped land, consisting mostly of open



rangeland. Most of the land in the county is privately owned (93.0%) with 7% owned by the State of New Mexico. State lands are primarily leased for agriculture and grazing.

1.1 LAND USE CATEGORIES

The following are the general land use categories within Curry County (see Map 6: Generalized Land Use). For the most part, these categories simply designate current land use conditions within the County and do not have separate land use regulations beyond those provided by the County subdivision ordinance and municipal zoning codes.

1.1.1 RURAL DEVELOPED

The Rural Developed category designates private lands that are characterized by ranches, agricultural activities, dwellings, limited commercial development, and limited government facilities. Areas designated rural developed may have subdivisions at higher density than the surrounding areas, but are still much less dense than a typical urban area. Only near existing communities has higher density residential development occurred. In particular, surrounding the City of Clovis, businesses and single-family dwellings are located along the major roads. While these developments usually have a higher density than the surrounding ranch and farm developments, density is still much lower than the more urban New Mexican counties.

1.1.2 RURAL UNDEVELOPED

Rural undeveloped areas include those areas with very low population densities that are not currently cultivated or used for ranching or residential development. This includes western segments of the County that do not have the intensity of cultivated farmland found in the eastern portions of the County. These areas may also be used for grazing.

1.1.3 INCORPORATED URBAN AREAS

Incorporated Urban Areas represent the current corporate limits of the cities within the County. The four areas are Clovis, Texico, Melrose, and Grady and are the primary population centers within the County outside of Cannon AFB. The County does not have land use authority in these areas. However, within areas of influence and extra-territorial areas (see below), the County should work with the incorporated municipalities to ensure that development does not conflict with existing land uses in the County.

1.1.4 EXTRA-TERRITORIAL ZONE (ETZ)

Extra-Territorial Zones (ETZ) correspond to areas surrounding incorporated communities where State law allows the municipality to have influence over some land use decisions that occur. This includes reviewing subdivision applications, plats, and building permits. Extra Territorial Zones often contain higher density development than is found in adjacent rural designated areas. Extra-Territorial Zones also designate those areas that may be annexed into the adjacent community in the future, giving the adjacent municipality an interest in new developments that meet that municipality's development standards.

Within Curry County, the ETZ functions as a two tiered "sphere of influence" that gives municipalities the ability to review proposed development. Within a one mile distance from the City of Clovis boundaries, the City of Clovis reviews all subdivision plats for conformance with City standards. Within 2-5 miles, the City reviews building permit applications to the State Construction Industries Division (CID). The sphere of influence radius shows the City has a direct interest in development that occurs in this area as land uses will directly and indirectly impact the City through additional residents and increased traffic.



1.1.5 PARKS & OPEN SPACE

Parks and open space represent state parks and county facilities used for recreation. Ned Houk Park owned and annexed by the City of Clovis, is the County's only designated open space.

1.1.6 MILITARY FACILITIES

Cannon AFB and the Melrose Bombing Range are federal facilities that are not subject to County land use regulations. However, because there are potential land use conflicts that can occur between the AFB and nearby uses, military facilities can be considered a distinct land use that requires special consideration with adjacent future development.

1.1.7 ACCIDENT POTENTIAL ZONES

The Joint Land Use Study report describes three zones that are special concern to base operations. These zones extend from the end of the base's runways and have varying degrees of potential impact. The zone nearest the runway is the Clear Zone (CZ). After the CZ is Accident Potential Zone I (APZ I), and furthest from the runway's end is Accident Potential Zone II (APZ II). The Air Force has made recommendations as to what uses may be compatible in the three different zones. In the early 1990's Curry County purchased easements within these APZ's and deeded them to the Air Force Base. These easements were purchased to protect air space from encroachments.

1.1.8 MILITARY FLIGHT PATHS/RESTRICTED AIRSPACE

Although not a traditional land use category, the flight paths and restricted airspace around Cannon Air Force Base and the Melrose Air Force Range have implications for development of tall structures such as wind farms and cell towers that may interfere with base operations. Due to the mission at the base which involves lower altitude training operations that often happen at night, property owners, the base, developers and other stakeholders are working collaboratively to avoid hazards to training operations.

2. LAND USE REGULATIONS AND GUIDELINES

Curry County has a long history of support for private property rights. Consistent with this philosophy, current land use regulations are minimal and include the County's subdivision ordinance, joint use agreements between the City of Clovis and Cannon Air Force Base, and powers granted by state enabling laws, such as building construction standards. The majority of residents in the County value private property rights and do not want to see additional regulations that might limit their ability to use and develop their land.

2.1 SUBDIVISION ORDINANCE

Curry County has an adopted subdivision ordinance that ensures adequate water, access, liquid and solid waste disposal, fire protection, and storm water management facilities are provided for new subdivisions. As with most subdivision regulations, the ordinance has specific requirements for new infrastructure, including roads and drainage reviewed by the County Commission. The ordinance does not designate allowed uses, but does direct land use through specific requirements related to water availability, infrastructure provisioning, and some provisions for agricultural land. The subdivision ordinance was last updated in 2013.



2.2 CURRY COUNTY/CLOVIS JOINT USE AGREEMENTS

The extraterritorial zone around Clovis allows the municipality to direct land use development within a 1 mile buffer around the City. This allows the City to ensure development on its fringes is compatible with existing land uses and conforms to standards for drainage, road construction, infrastructure provisioning, etc. in the eventuality the City annexes adjacent land. In addition, between 2-5 miles, the City reviews building permit applications to the New Mexico Construction Industries Division. Because most of the future growth in the County is expected to be in and around Clovis, the working relationship between the County and Clovis is important to ensure development is compatible with the goals of both local governments. To help facilitate the goals of the County, a Joint Action Guide was completed as part of the 2007 Comprehensive Plan. This guide, along with its recommendations, should be revised by both local governments to help direct growth in the future.

2.3 CANNON AIR FORCE BASE LAND USE COMPATIBILITY

The 2011 Cannon AFB Joint Land Use Study included a number of compatibility guidelines for properties located in the Accident Potential Zones of the base and within nearby noise zones. These compatibility guidelines are not mandatory, but are intended to ensure different land uses can coexist adjacent to one another safely and non-invasively.

3. LAND USE ISSUES

County residents wish to protect and maintain their rural lifestyle. During public meetings, property owners stated they value private property rights and do not want to see increased regulation of private property. However, some residents are concerned about the appearance of some properties within the County, especially near gateways into communities (such as the US 80/64 corridor between CAFB and Clovis). Residents feel if community entry ways are not maintained, it will impact the ability to attract and keep businesses in the communities and County.

The meetings also revealed that residents felt a need for protection of existing rights, including the ability to develop wind energy resources, solar, and biofuel operations. Some residents expressed frustration over the designation of the Lesser Prairie Chicken as a threatened species under the Endangered Species Act. In addition, EPA regulations related to Waters of the US are a concern for farmers.

Because of the specific concerns regarding the impacts of federal requirements on County property owners and businesses, a separate land use plan is being prepared by the County to focus on those issues. This plan will help the County have a say in land use decisions that affect the County and involve federal agencies such as the US Fish and Wildlife Service. The updated plan is expected to be completed in mid-2016.

3.1 CANNON AIR FORCE BASE

In the 2011 Joint Land Use Study commissioned by Cannon Air Force Base, the base identified their needs related to military operations. The plan identified three conflict zones: 1) Accident Potential Zones surrounding the runways of the Base, where there is a risk for damage to private property or loss of life from plane crashes,



accidents, etc.; 2) noise contour zones around base operations and runways that impact adjacent land uses, and 3) flight paths of military vehicles that could be affected by future renewable energy development.

The County Commission did not adopt the Joint Land Use Study. However, the base is working with landowners on issues such as the location of wind farms.

3.2 THREATENED & ENDANGERED SPECIES

Disputes over the listing of the lesser prairie chicken as a threatened species under the Endangered Species Act (ESA) have been an ongoing land use issue for eastern NM counties and surrounding states for the past several decades.

After several years of negotiations between these stakeholders, a range-wide conservation plan was adopted in 2013 to implement incentive-based landowner programs that would preclude the need for the species to be listed as threatened under the Endangered Species Act. The conservation plan involved a voluntary program for landowners to sign a Certificate of Participation and enter into a conservation agreement with the Western Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies (WAFWA). Those enrolled in the voluntary range-wide conservation plan would be exempt from the provisions of the Endangered Species Act as long as they continue to conduct activities in accordance with the plan.

Despite the conservation plan's incentive mechanism and positive signs of population recovery, the US Fish and Wildlife Service listed the species as threatened in March of 2014, which triggered restrictions on activities that significantly modify habitat or impair the lesser prairie chicken's "essential behavior patterns." Because 90% of lesser prairie chicken habitat is on private lands, the listing of the species as threatened met with resistance from private land owners who felt the regulations went too far, were unnecessary, or directly affected the economic use of their properties.

In 2014, Curry County, along with several other New Mexico counties and governments in other states, joined in a lawsuit challenging the listing of the lesser prairie chicken as threatened. The lawsuit argues the Fish and Wildlife Service did not fairly consider the benefits of ongoing conservation efforts and recent indications the species' population has increased in the past decade. In September 2015, a US District Court judge ruled that the US Fish and Wildlife Service acted prematurely and vacated the decision to list the species as threatened. County residents have requested the County remain advocates for them in opposing regulations that impair the economic viability of their land and businesses.

3.3 CLEAN WATER ACT

The Environmental Protection Agency, acting under provisions of the Clean Water Act (CWA), has proposed a new definition for "Waters of the United States," which currently includes all streams, lakes, rivers, etc. the EPA can regulate for water quality. The proposed new rule would expand the definition of Waters of the US to include "adjacent waters" that drain to navigable waters or groundwater sources. Given ambiguity in the definition of adjacent waters, this expanded definition could involve increased regulatory control over the County's playas and draws which could impact land owners and dairies. However, a recent ruling by the Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals has issued a stay stopping the enforcement of the new CWA Rule. Given this recent court action it is highly unlikely the new CWA Rule will be enforced within Curry County.



3.4 RENEWABLE ENERGY

Renewable energy, including wind energy, is compatible with the agricultural land uses in the County. The Coalition of Renewable Energy Landowner Associations represents landowners in eastern New Mexico counties in advocating for renewable energy development. Property owners in Curry County support future renewable energy development, seen as a key industry for the future of the local economy. Property owners, energy development firms, public agencies, Cannon AFB and other local stakeholders are working cooperatively to incorporate this land use into the County.

4. GOALS & ACTIONS

CURRENT COUNTY ACTIONS



- › Updated subdivision ordinance in 2013 to better address storm water, drainage, infrastructure, and water supply issues.
- › Reviewed a Joint Land Use Study with CAFB concerning areas of encroachment around the base, but the plan was not adopted by the County.
- › Involved in a joint lawsuit challenging the listing of the lesser prairie chicken as threatened, which has resulted in the species being delisted.
- › Started creating a separate land use plan to address State and Federal natural resources and management issues. The objective is to ensure effective legal standing with respect to the requirements for federal agencies to consider local planning efforts under federal environmental and land management laws and regulations.

LAND USE	ACTIONS	TIMEFRAME	AGENCIES/PARTNERS
GOAL 1: ENSURE DEVELOPMENT IN THE COUNTY OCCURS IN A LOGICAL, WELL-PLANNED MANNER.			
Action 1.1: Update the Curry County/City of Clovis Joint Action Guide, especially in regards to water, housing, and development within a five-mile radius of the City.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> › Plan › Resolution 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> › County › City of Clovis
Action 1.2: Regularly review and update the County's subdivision regulations. The County should establish a working committee that includes representatives from incorporated communities in the County to strive to achieve consistency in regulations throughout the County.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> › Collaboration › Practices 	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> › County Commission › County Manager's Office › Assessor
Action 1.3: Establish staff level committees with the City of Clovis and other communities to review adopted regulations for consistency between jurisdictions.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> › Collaboration › Practices 	Short	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> › County Manager's Office › Assessor



LAND USE	ACTIONS	TIMEFRAME	AGENCIES/PARTNERS
GOAL 2: SAFEGUARD THE COUNTY'S NATURAL RESOURCES AND HISTORICAL AGRICULTURAL PRACTICES.			
<p>Action 2.1: Complete and adopt land use plan and policy to allow the County to engage with Federal agencies regarding natural resource and land management issues.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Plan » Ordinance » Collaboration 	<p>Short</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » County Manager's Office » Landowners » Federal Agencies » County Commission
GOAL 3: IMPROVE THE PHYSICAL APPEARANCE OF THE COUNTY.			
<p>Action 3.2: Continue to promote City/County sponsored clean up, weed and litter, and hazardous waste disposal events to encourage the community to work together to improve the appearance of the County.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Collaboration » Info/Promotion 	<p>Ongoing</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » County Manager's Office
GOAL 4: SUPPORT LAND USE THAT IS COMPATIBLE WITH CANNON AIR FORCE BASE OPERATIONS.			
<p>Action 4.1: Support private property rights while working with Cannon Air Force Base.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Collaboration 	<p>Ongoing</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » County Commission » CAFB

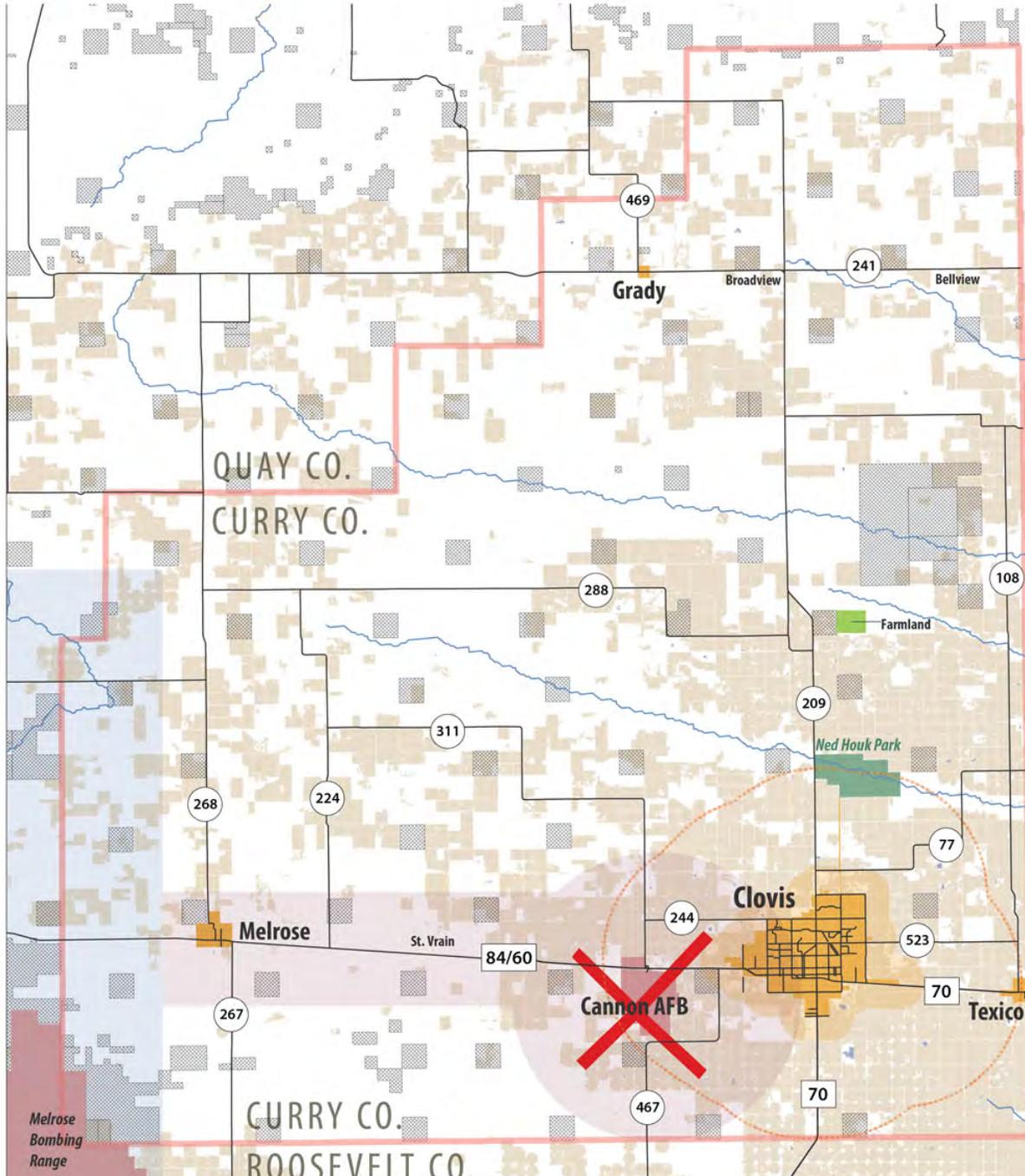




LAND USE



- Rural Undeveloped
- Incorporated Urban Areas
- Military Facilities
- State Land Office Owned
- Rural Developed
- Extra-Territorial Areas
- Military Flight Paths/Restricted Airspace
- Open Space
- Sphere of Influence
- ✗ Accident Potential Zones



Map 6: Generalized Land Use

Sources: New Mexico State Land Office; US Fish and Wildlife National Wetlands Inventory; USGS National Land Cover Dataset 2011. University of Kansas LPC Habitat Assessment Tool



CHAPTER 5

HOUSING



The Housing element of the Comprehensive Plan establishes goals, objectives and policies for ensuring that adequate housing opportunities are available for current and future residents of the County. This component identifies existing housing conditions and trends, analyzes how well available housing meets local needs, and projects future housing needs. It also establishes long-range goals and strategies for the County to follow in meeting those needs.

COMMUNITY CONCERNS



- › The influx of new residents and Cannon AFB personnel has led to a relatively fast growing housing market that has added new homes at a faster rate than the New Mexico average.
- › However, rental housing costs have increased rapidly. An expanded housing supply might help lower housing costs.
- › Most new housing outside of municipalities will be individual homes on existing parcels.
- › New subdivisions are not anticipated outside of municipalities or the service areas of municipal water systems.

1. HOUSING OVERVIEW

The condition, value, and availability housing are important to County residents. A county that has housing that is well maintained and moderately appreciating in value can be attractive to new residents, industries, and businesses.

The County has an estimated 20,243 total housing units, a slight increase from 2000, when there were 19,212 total housing units. As was the case in 2000, the most common type of housing is detached, single-family homes, representing 73% of all units (see Table 7). The total number of mobile homes has declined since 2000, to about 9% of all homes. During community meetings, there was some discussion of the need to track and manage mobile home permits, as some mobile homes have been vacated. The County has a lower percentage of multi-family dwellings than New Mexico, with 14% of units being multi-family.



Table 7: Units in Structure

TYPE OF HOUSING	2009-2013	PERCENT	2000	PERCENT
1-unit, detached	14,760	72.9%	12,943	67.4%
1-unit, attached	712	3.5%	1,390	7.2%
2 units (duplex)	713	3.5%	596	3.1%
3 or 4 units	927	4.6%	663	3.5%
5 to 9 units	614	3.0%	341	1.8%
10 to 19 units	293	1.4%	298	1.6%
20 or more units	213	1.5%	510	2.7%
Mobile homes	1862	9.2%	2,449	12.7%
Boat, RV, van, etc.	49	0.2%	22	0.1%
Total	20,243	100%	19,212	100%

Source: American Community Survey 2009-2013, 5 year estimates

1.1 OCCUPANCY

An estimated 89.1% of homes in Curry County are occupied. Vacancy rates are estimated to be 6.1% for rental units and 4.3% for owner occupied units. For comparison, the vacancy rate in 2000 for rental units was 10.0% and 4.6% for owner occupied units.

The County has an owner occupancy rate of 59.7%, and a renter occupancy rate of 40.3%, indicating there are a higher number of renters in Curry County than the state as a whole. Over two-thirds of households moved into their current dwelling after the year 2000, with 21% moving in after 2010. This is a somewhat higher average occupancy period than the state's average of 16.7% of households moving in after 2010.

1.2 CONDITION OF HOUSING STOCK

Over half of the County's housing was built between 1950 and 1979 and is beginning to age. Additionally, about 15% was built before 1949. About one-third of the housing stock in the County is less than 35 years old, built between 1980 and 2015. New residential construction slowed between 2000 and 2009, but increased significantly in recent years due to an increase in Cannon AFB personnel and new residents moving to the County. Because of the demand for housing, there has been an appreciation in median home prices.

Table 8: Year Structure Built

YEAR STRUCTURE BUILT	2009-2013	PERCENT	2000	PERCENT
1939 or earlier	1413*	7%	1262	6%
1940 – 1949	1525	8%	1768	9%
1950 – 1959	3164*	16%	3039	15%
1960 – 1969	3403	17%	3747	19%
1970 – 1979	3948	20%	4259	21%
1980 – 1989	2327*	11%	2267	11%
1990 – 1999	2339	12%	2870	14%
2000 – 2009	1834	9%	-	-
2010 or later	290	1%	-	-

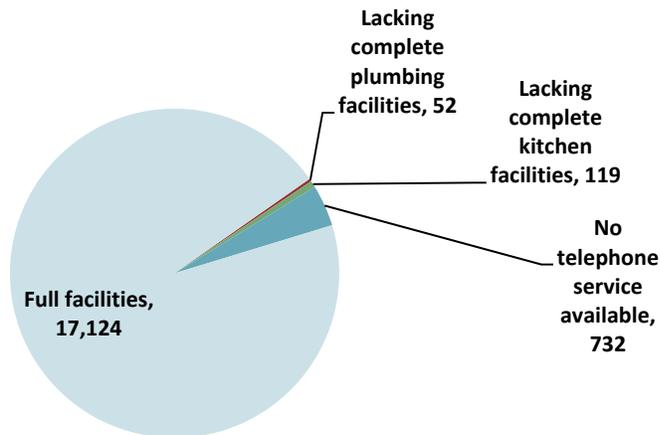
Source: American Community Survey 2009-2013, 5 year estimates

* Numbers from 2013 are slightly different than 2000 Census counts because of a change in Census methodology relying on survey results instead of a physical count as was the case during earlier censuses. Although it appears there were more homes built in earlier years, this is due to the slight margin of error the American Community Survey estimates produce.



Rehabilitation of many of the older homes may be needed, especially in rural parts of the County. The older housing may also need other upgrades and improvements to make the housing safer such as installation of smoke alarms, replacement of older plumbing and electrical systems, new insulation, roofs, and siding. In addition, the lack of complete plumbing facilities and/or complete kitchen facilities may be an issue with some older homes in the County. Chart 10 shows the estimated number of units that do not have these facilities.

Chart 10: Selected Housing Characteristics



Source: American Community Survey 2009-2013, 5 year estimates

1.3 HOME VALUE

The median value of owner occupied housing reported by the Census in 2013 was \$119,600, (compared to state median value of \$160,000). This is a larger appreciation than was experienced for the state as a whole during this same time period and higher than what would be expected with inflation alone. These data suggest that Curry County has experienced a stronger housing market than New Mexico since 2000, which is also supported by real estate data (see below). This can be explained by both the continued influx of new residents as part of natural population growth and the related increase in personnel at CAFB which has increased housing demand that has temporarily outpaced supply.

Table 9: Housing Value, Owner Occupied Units

VALUE	2009-2013	PERCENT	2000	PERCENT
Less than \$50,000	1673	15.6%	2,550	32.0%
\$50,000 - \$99,999	2764	25.7%	4,075	51.1%
\$100,000 - \$149,999	2069	19.2%	938	11.8%
\$150,000 - \$199,999	2116	19.7%	200	2.5%
\$200,000 - \$299,999	1378	12.8%	167	2.1%
\$300,000 - \$499,999	537	5.0%	27	0.3%
\$500,000 - \$999,999	174	1.6%	19	0.2%
\$1,000,000+	47	0.4%	2	>0.1%
Median	\$119,600		\$64,700	
Inflation Adjusted 2013 Dollars			\$87,528	

Source: American Community Survey 2009-2013, 5 year estimates



2. HOUSING MARKET

A review of homes for sale within Curry County was conducted in September 2015 to determine average listed price, number of bedrooms, and general condition. For the review, several online home listing sites were consulted including Trulia.com, Zillow.com, and Homes.com. A total of 315 homes were listed on Trulia.com with a price range between \$31,500 and \$1,800,000. Of the 315 listed homes, 58 were listed as in foreclosure. Only two of the listed homes were new construction. The vast majority of homes were for sale in Clovis with nine homes available in Melrose, six in Texico, two in Grady, and approximately fifteen in unincorporated areas.

Data from the Realtors Association of New Mexico shows the median housing price has increased 6.5% since 2009, although the number of houses sold has declined from a peak in 2009 (see Table 10). The good news is that the housing market has been stable, with an average of 465 homes being sold every year for the past five years. This indicates Curry County has maintained a robust market despite the housing bubble and great recession. It also indicates a steady appreciation in home values has been rising at about the same rate as inflation. Conversations with some community members during the planning process indicates the housing supply may have finally caught up with demand and may actually be oversaturated with new homes.

Table 10: Median Housing Price and Units Sold, 2009-2014

	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	CHANGE, 2009 - 2014
Yearly Units Sold	620	456	474	471	480	446	-28.1%
Median Reported Value	ND	\$149,700	\$145,000	\$154,500	\$159,900	\$159,450	6.5%*
Yearly Volume	\$90,880,957	\$67,829,108	\$70,370,359	\$71,539,938	\$76,509,845	\$70,933,165	-21.9%

Source: Realtors Association of New Mexico, *Housing Trends Report, 2014*

*Change from 2010 to 2014

2.1 HOUSING PROVIDERS

2.1.1 PRIVATE DEVELOPERS

The recent change in mission at Cannon AFB has increased the total number of personnel stationed at the base. While some military families choose to live on base, the influx of many new families has increased the local demand for housing and may have contributed to the recent rise in overall housing costs for both renters and homebuyers in the County. Fortunately, increased demand has led to the development of several new housing subdivisions on the north and western edges of Clovis. These have been primarily constructed by local developers who have purchased land on the outskirts of the city to develop larger subdivision projects with homes ranging from \$130,000 to over \$300,000. Recent development projects include the Raintree subdivision on Camino del Llano and the adjacent 128 unit Raintree Apartments.



2.1.2 CANNON AFB HOUSING

As a result of recent privatization efforts, the Air Force has sold base housing to Balfour Beatty Communities. This corporation now operates the six on-base housing neighborhoods for Air Force personnel. According to the 2009 Regional Growth Management Plan, before privatization the Air Force owned 1,232 on base units, which have since been disposed to Balfour Beatty Communities. Since privatization, the developer has redeveloped the Chavez West Housing Development by renovating 361 homes, demolishing 401 homes, and constructing 677 new units. Although new base housing has been provided for new personnel, the Air Force estimates that about 1/3 of families choose to live off base.

In addition, the new mission at CAFB has changed the demographics of the base. Instead of the larger families in the past, many of the new personnel are single airmen/airwomen who have different housing needs and preferences. Many of these airmen may be more interested in single-bedroom apartments and homes or may choose to live with roommates. With enlisted personnel salaries well known by the general public, some rents in and around Clovis may have been set to match the monthly income of base personnel instead of civilian workers.

3. PROJECTED HOUSING NEEDS

Given the projected population growth in Curry County, it is possible to estimate the number of new dwelling units that may be needed to meet future demand. These projections cannot account for sudden changes in the housing market, such as the 2008 market crash or a significant change in operations at Cannon AFB. Instead, they offer a rough projection of the total units that will be needed to house the expected population given current household sizes and housing trends.

Table II shows the net number of units that will be needed to house the projected population for each growth scenario given the current average household size of 2.63 people. Theoretically, the current 20,243 units available in the county are sufficient to accommodate population growth to at least 2020 in the BBER and low growth projections. However, this housing may not be located in the desired location, may be in poor condition, and/or may not be a suitable type to fit the needs of new residents. Therefore, given an expected vacancy rate of 5.0%, the County will need between 900 and 2,100 additional units by 2020 depending on actual population growth and changes in household size. By 2040, this need could increase to an additional 2,250 to 5,600 new units.

Given ongoing development trends, it is most likely the demand for new housing will continue to be in and around the City of Clovis, especially along the US 84 corridor to the west of the City, north of the city, and south of the city along US 70. As most of this land is currently within unincorporated areas of the County and also encompassed by Clovis' extraterritorial zone, it will be crucial for the County and City to work together to ensure future developments meet the needs of both jurisdictions. This will include reviewing future subdivision plans to ensure they adequately address the provisioning of new infrastructure, water supply, road connections, and mitigate potential drainage or other environmental concerns.



Table 11: Housing Demand Projections

SCENARIO	2010	2015	2020	2025	2030	2035	2040
Scenario 1: BBER Population	48,376	51,001	52,900	54,778	56,707	58,611	60,395
Total Non-Vacant Units*	18,394	19,392	20,114	20,828	21,562	22,286	22,964
Deficit	836.08	(162.02)	(884.07)	(1,598.14)	(2,331.60)	(3,055.55)	(3,733.88)
New Units Needed Per Year	-	200	144	143	147	145	136
Scenario 2: Higher Growth Population	48,376	53,558	56,276	59,132	61,699	63,960	65,333
Total Non-Vacant Units*	18,394	20,364	21,398	22,484	23,460	24,319	24,841
Deficit	836.08	(1,134.26)	(2,167.72)	(3,253.65)	(4,229.70)	(5,089.39)	(5,611.44)
New Units Needed Per Year	-	394	207	217	195	172	104
Scenario 3: Low Growth Population	48,376	51,413	53,106	54,481	55,526	56,205	56,529
Total Non-Vacant Units	18,394	19,549	20,192	20,715	21,113	21,371	21,494
Deficit	836.08	(318.67)	(962.40)	(1,485.21)	(1,882.55)	(2,140.72)	(2,263.92)
New Units Needed Per Year	-	231	129	105	79	52	25

Note: Total non-vacant units available assumes a vacancy rate of 5.0% to account for housing that is in poor condition and unoccupied or in transition from one resident to another. This conservative number underestimates the total housing supply while acknowledging the housing market is constantly in flux and must respond to supply and demand.

Table 12: Housing Units by Type, BBER Projection

HOUSING TYPE	PERCENT	2015	2020	2025	2030	2035	2040
Single Family	76.4%	14,815	15,367	15,913	16,473	17,026	17,544
2 units (duplex)	3.5%	679	704	729	755	780	804
Multifamily	10.5%	2,036	2,112	2,187	2,264	2,340	2,411
Mobile homes	9.2%	1,784	1,850	1,916	1,984	2,050	2,113
Other (Boat, RV, van, etc.)	0.2%	39	40	42	43	45	46
Total	100	19,392	20,114	20,828	21,562	22,286	22,964



4. GOALS & ACTIONS

CURRENT COUNTY ACTIONS



- > Has proposed health and safety ordinances to allow cleanup of abandoned properties in the County. Each of these has been tabled but could be reconsidered in the future.

HOUSING	ACTIONS	TIMEFRAME	AGENCIES/PARTNERS
GOAL 1: SUPPORT DEVELOPMENT OF HOUSING THAT MEETS THE NEEDS OF COUNTY RESIDENTS.			
Action 1.1: Continue to provide timely review of housing development in the County, including coordination with the City of Clovis and the New Mexico Construction Industries Division.	» Collaboration	Ongoing	» County Manager's Office
GOAL 2: SUPPORT THE EFFORTS OF MUNICIPALITIES WITHIN THE COUNTY WHEN REQUESTED.			
Action 2.1: Coordinate with local communities when they request County support for housing projects.	» Collaboration	Ongoing	» County Manager's Office



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CHAPTER 6

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT



The Economic Development chapter documents existing economic conditions and trends, identifies issues and opportunities related to the local and regional economy, and sets out economic development strategies for reaching these goals. A number of factors addressed in other chapters—including housing, transportation, infrastructure, community services and quality of life—are integral to the economic development goals.

COMMUNITY CONCERNS



- The most frequently mentioned economic development ideas revolved around having more options for local shopping, restaurants and night life. Responses noted the need to go to nearby larger towns for shopping. Attracting a Target store to Clovis was mentioned multiple times.
- Rural residents want a healthier business climate in their communities. The lack of local businesses in Grady was mentioned.
- There are staffing issues and effects on the local workforce related to drug use. Businesses have difficulty finding qualified workers. This is an issue for existing businesses and attracting new businesses
- There is a need for ongoing County collaboration with economic development groups.

1. ECONOMIC INDICATORS

Like other counties and the State as a whole, Curry County's economy contracted after the economic downturn in 2008. However, the County weathered the recession better than other mid-sized counties nationally and has



recovered much more quickly than the state as a whole. In 2014, the County's nominal GDP was \$2.4 billion, larger than Valencia County (a slightly more populous county). The annual GDP growth rate between 2001 and 2014 was 1.7%, once again higher than other mid-sized counties nationally and the state as a whole.

1.1 ECONOMIC BASE

Historically, agriculture has been a significant part of the economy of Curry County. Clovis has been the center of the agriculture-related businesses and product shipping for the region. Agricultural output is primarily from irrigated farmland producing wheat, cotton, corn, grain, sorghum, and alfalfa for market. Dairy products and beef cattle are also significant agricultural products produced in the County. The County is amongst the largest cattle and calves producers in the State. There are over 26 dairies in Curry County. A large portion of their output provides milk to the Southwest Cheese manufacturing facility.

The processing and shipping of agricultural products is reinforced by the close association with the Burlington Northern Santa Fe (BNSF) Railroad. More than 100 BNSF trains are routed through the Clovis rail yard each day, and the railroad employs an estimated 460 people locally.

Curry County has also had a long and close association with Cannon Air Force Base. The base has been in existence since World War II and recently obtained a new mission as a Special Operation Mission Support Group which has expanded the number of personnel stationed at the site. The base is currently the largest employer within the County with over 4,500 military related jobs and related contractor positions. Total personnel at the base are estimated to be 6,000.

The County's economy has been diversifying and has strengths in manufacturing (mainly agricultural value added products), transportation and warehousing, agriculture, and new emerging industries including real estate, professional services, and other services. Additional opportunities exist to expand renewable energy development (wind, solar, and biogas), attract additional retail businesses, and potentially to pursue additional value added food manufacturers.

1.2 INDUSTRY SPECIALIZATION

Table 13 shows a breakdown of industries that employ Curry County residents. This table shows overall employment and the *location quotient* (LQ) for each industry. An industry's location quotient shows an industry's relative employment specialization to a larger base economy during a set year (in this case, New Mexico is the base economy). In other words, it shows the specialization of each industry for that given year. Those industries with a high location quotient (over 1.0) that produce export goods or services represent the *base industries* and usually bring money into the local economy. The data in Table 13 accounts for civilian jobs and not those within the armed forces. Therefore, the industry data below does not directly show the impact of Cannon AFB.

Analysis of total employment by industry and industry location quotients reveal that:

1. Agriculture makes up a significant portion of the County's overall employment (1,438) and is the most specialized industry within Curry County. In 2012, there were 600 farms in Curry County, a reduction of 12 percent since the pre-crisis high in 2007. While the number of farms was reduced, the market value of products sold increased by 29% from \$347,323,000 to \$447,315,000, the highest in the state. In addition, the size of the average farm increased by 13% during that time. Despite the high level of



specialization, more people are employed in retail trade, health care, food services, and local government than in agriculture.

2. The second most specialized industry is transportation and warehousing, which employs an estimated 545 people and contributes \$136.7 million to the County's economy annually. Most of these workers are associated with BNSF operations.
3. Healthcare and social assistance is the third most specialized industry, employing an estimated 2,843 people.
4. Additional industries with high location quotients of note include: manufacturing, which has grown in total employment since 2008 mostly due to the Southwest Cheese Plant, retail trade, and other services. These numbers confirm Curry County's non-military base industries remain related to agriculture, with an increasing emphasis on transportation and warehousing, as well as healthcare and manufacturing.
5. Federal jobs have a high location quotient despite the exclusion of military jobs associated with personnel at Cannon AFB. Including the thousands of personnel employed at Cannon AFB shows the Base contributes significantly to the County's overall economy and has a huge impact on supporting industries.
6. Although not directly captured in these data, industries supported by (and supportive of) Cannon AFB include retail, accommodation, and food services jobs as well as some jobs related to construction, manufacturing, and transportation filled by Cannon AFB contractors. It is estimated that the total economic impact due to base operations is close to \$688 million a year.

1.3 INDUSTRY CHANGES & COMPETITIVENESS

Shift-share analysis is another tool that can be used to analyze a region's overall competitiveness with the national economy. Like location quotients, shift-share analysis can show how individual industries are performing. However, unlike location quotients, shift-share can reveal how industries are changing over time, which can show larger trends such as emerging industry segments or industries that are declining. Such an analysis can help classify industries by group: emerging (low LQ, nationally competitive), declining (decreasing LQ, not competitive), transforming (high LQ, not competitive), and growing base (high LQ, competitive).

Table 13: Curry County Employment by Industry

INDUSTRY SECTOR	2014	2008	PERCENT CHANGE	LQ 2014, NM BASE	DIFFERENTIAL SHIFT
Total	17,017	16,825	1%	-	-
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting	1,438	1,542	-7%	6.03	-12%
Mining, quarrying, and oil and gas extraction	*	*	*	*	*
Construction	850	1,040	-18%	0.94	-4%
Manufacturing	668	594	12%	1.12	22%
Wholesale trade	484	600	-19%	1.05	-17%
Retail trade	2,174	2,293	-5%	1.10	-5%
Transportation and warehousing	545	329	66%	1.44	63%
Utilities	101	81	25%	1.07	26%
Information	123	166	-26%	0.46	-17%



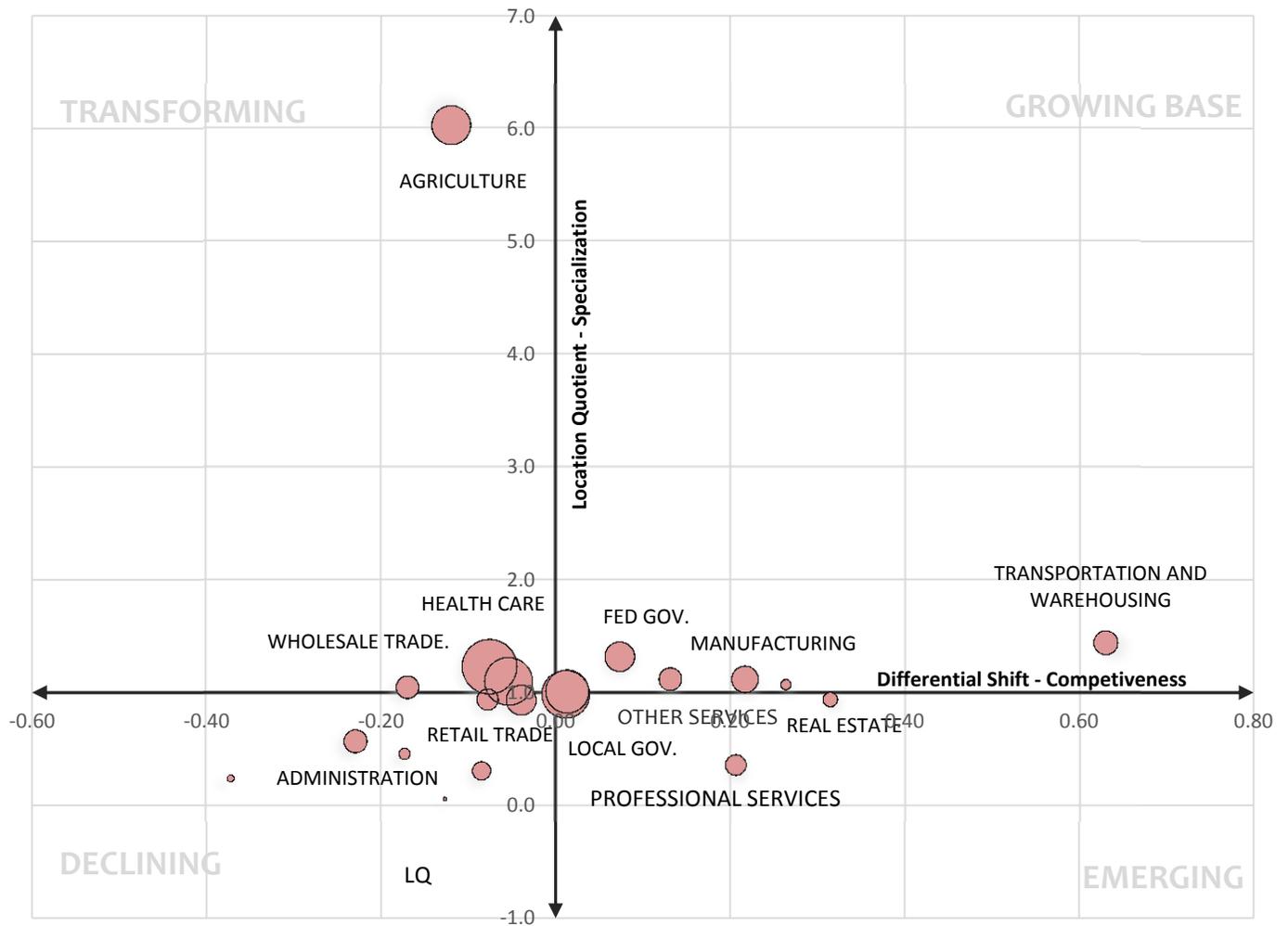
INDUSTRY SECTOR	2014	2008	PERCENT CHANGE	LQ 2014, NM BASE	DIFFERENTIAL SHIFT
Finance and insurance	433	490	-12%	0.94	-8%
Real estate and rental and leasing	201	157	28%	0.94	31%
Professional, scientific, and technical services	405	318	27%	0.36	21%
Management of companies and enterprises	*	*	*	*	*
Administrative and support and waste management services	505	599	-16%	0.57	-23%
Educational services	12	9	0%	0.06	-13%
Health care and social assistance	2,843	2,651	7%	1.23	-8%
Arts, entertainment, and recreation	46	67	-31%	0.24	-37%
Accommodation and food services	1,770	1,594	11%	1.01	1%
Other services, except public administration	488	454	7%	1.12	13%
Unclassified	0	1	0%	0.00	-5%
Federal*	830	782	6%	1.32	7%
State	320	358	-11%	0.31	-9%
Local	2,162	2,206	-2%	0.99	1%

Source: ACS 2009-2013 *Fluctuations in employment may yield a number slightly different from the total persons in the labor force. * Non Military

Shift share analysis once again shows the strong position of agriculture, which remains a base industry that is transforming. Additionally, it is clear that transportation and warehousing is becoming more specialized and makes up an increasing share of total jobs. Somewhat surprisingly, manufacturing seems to be competitive and growing slowly, due most likely to dairy and cheese production. Also of note is the rise in professional services, as well as real estate, which both saw a 27% increase in total employment between 2008 and 2014.



Chart 11: Industry Specialization & Competitiveness



Source: ACS 2009-2013

1.4 WORKFORCE & UNEMPLOYMENT

Curry County’s workforce is younger than New Mexico as a whole, with a larger percentage of working age adults over the age of 16 active within the workforce. The total civilian workforce over 16 years old is 22,611, which corresponds to about 61% of the total civilian population over 16. The total population over 16 not in the labor force is 12,504 or 34% of the total population, while about 4.8% of those in the civilian labor force are unemployed. A

1.4.1 OCCUPATIONS

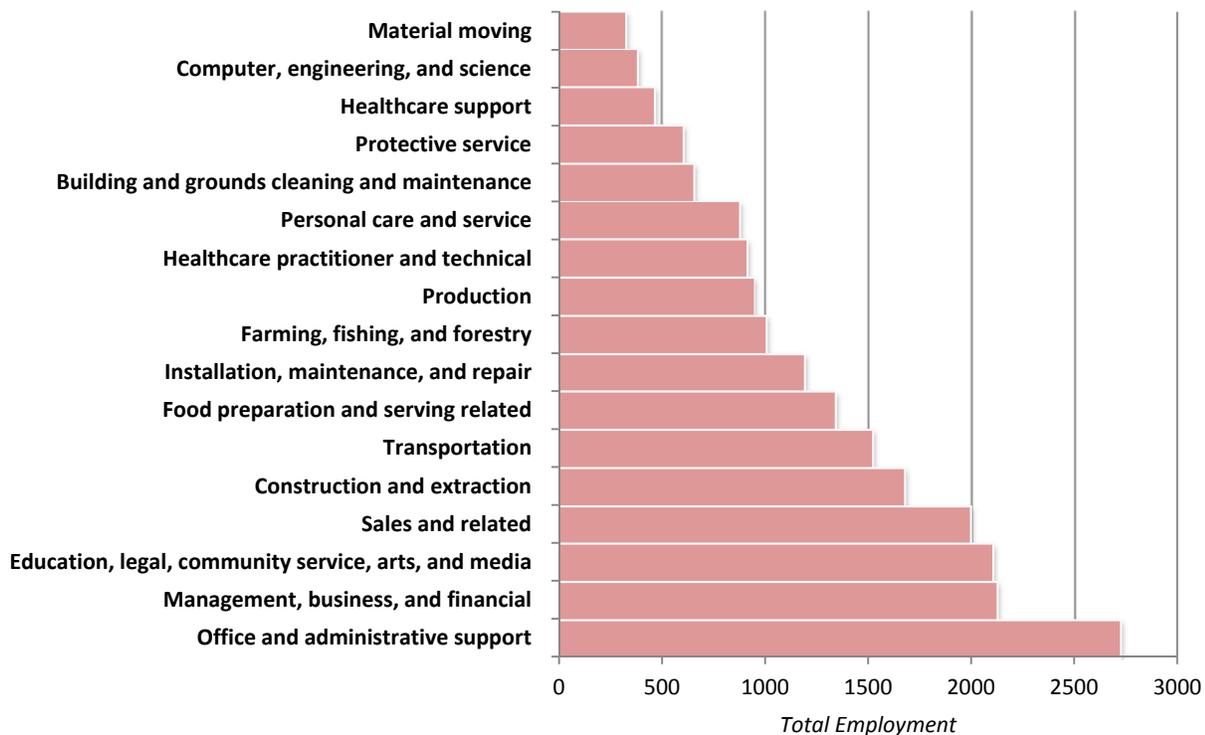
Major civilian occupations within Curry County follow the major industrial sectors outlined below. The occupations with the highest total employment are Office and administrative support; Management, business, and financial; Education, legal, community service, arts, and media; Sales and related; Construction and extraction; and Transportation. The occupations with the highest location quotients (OLQ) (indicating a



higher level of specialization) are Farming, Fishing and forestry; Transportation; Installation, maintenance and repair; Community and Social services; Construction; and Protective service. Together these data suggest that:

1. County residents' skills are within fields related to agriculture, natural resources, construction and maintenance. This makes sense given the County's agricultural history and the degree of specialization within that industry. It also indicates that resident skills within agriculture and related industries may be applied to new, diverse industry sectors related to manufacturing, construction, or maintenance.
2. Although the number of residents employed in office and administrative support occupations is high, it is comparable to New Mexico as a whole and does not indicate a high level of specialization. However, it may indicate that county residents' have existing skills to support the expansion or diversification of new businesses requiring administrative staff.
3. Again, although many residents are employed in health care related occupations, the level of specialization within the healthcare occupations is lower than the state as a whole, which may be reflective of the County's younger population. However, it may also indicate a potential skill shortage within the County with residents having to travel outside of the County for certain health care needs. In the future, attracting more healthcare jobs to serve the regional trade area may be a goal for Curry County.
4. The County has very few residents employed in computer, engineering and science occupations, and a low level of specialization in education, legal, arts, and media related occupations.

Chart 12: County Jobs by Occupation



Source: ACS 2009-2013



1.5 ECONOMIC GENERATORS

The specific economic generators identified in the Eastern Plains Council of Governments' (EPCOG's) Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy include agriculture, agricultural-value added products, healthcare, light manufacturing, military facilities, retail trade, and tourism. An additional economic generator is energy development, including renewables and energy transmission facilities. This industry represents a new opportunity to diversify the economy and create rural economic development, which is important to County residents. It also positions the County to be at the forefront of a rapidly expanding industry that utilizes cutting edge technology, is environmentally friendly, and utilizes existing resident skills.

2. CLOVIS TRADE AREA CHARACTERISTICS

As the largest city within the County, the City of Clovis represents the regional trade center for Curry County and the surrounding region. Together with Portales 20 miles to the south, Clovis is part of the Clovis-Portales Microplex area, forming the natural retail hub, events center, tourist destination, and place of employment for residents within a 60-mile radius. The Microplex area is home to approximately 72,000 people, while the 60 mile radius trade area represents approximately 130,000 residents, with those in Curry County accounting for about one quarter of the total population.

As the regional trade area, Clovis (and to a lesser extent, Portales) have the opportunity to expand in the future and offer additional services, retail diversity, and employment opportunities as the region grows. Future business expansion will allow Curry County businesses to attract additional customers, especially those who currently travel to Lubbock or Albuquerque for specialty products or services. In turn, this may increase gross receipt taxes for the County and increased investment within the Clovis area.

2.1 RETAIL TRADE

Retail businesses have become a dominant force in the Curry County economy. As noted above, approximately one in every ten persons are employed in the retail sector, primarily in Clovis. Local retail businesses rely heavily on the patronage of Cannon AFB personnel, which has increased the buying power of the Microplex, and attracted many national retail chain stores and restaurants. However, it also means that many retail businesses rely on the continued operation (and sustained personnel levels) of Cannon AFB to maintain sales.

Despite the presence of some national retail chains, respondents to the community survey desired a broader mix of restaurants, national retail stores, and specialty retail to meet local demand. Many residents noted that they travel to Lubbock for some shopping needs that cannot be met within Curry County. This community sentiment is confirmed by a 2007 UNM Bureau of Business and Economic Research (BBER) study, which showed that Clovis has an economic leakage of about \$36 million dollars a year. This means that money is actually flowing out of the County due to the lack of sufficient retail opportunities. However, as the population of Curry County grows and local incomes rise, the County has the opportunity to attract additional national stores that will provide additional buying options for residents.



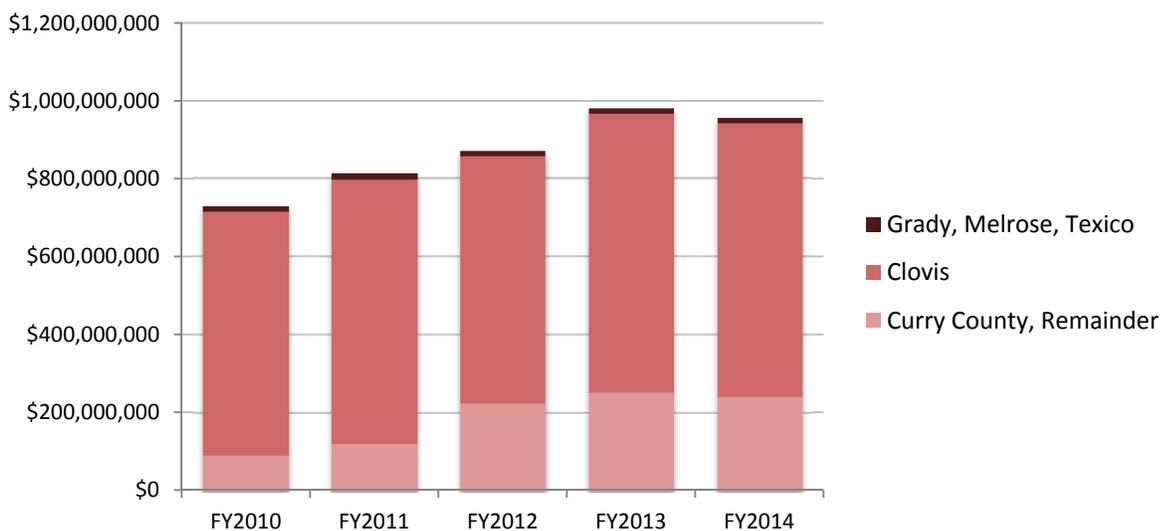
2.2 TOURISM

Tourism related activities currently do not have a large presence in Curry County. There is potential to develop more tourism offerings around agricultural tourism and the history of the railroad in the region (including the Harvey House in Clovis). Other attractions are associated with the Clovis Man site, and the Norman Petty Rock and Roll Museum. CAFB visitors are another potential tourist market that could contribute more to the local economy.

2.3 GROSS RECEIPTS

Total Gross Receipt Taxes for Curry County have been increasing since the 2010, showing a healthy rebound from the Great Recession. Most of these tax receipts are accounted for by Clovis, with Grady, Melrose and Texico as well as unincorporated areas of the County making up only about one fifth of the total tax receipts. There is some indication that total tax receipts have fallen recently, possibly due to a slowdown in new construction associated with homebuilding and construction at CAFB.

Chart 13: Total Gross Receipts FY2009 - FY2013



Source: State of New Mexico, Taxation & Revenue Department

2.4 MAJOR EMPLOYERS

The following are major employers within the Clovis Regional Trade area, most of which are located in or around Clovis. As outlined above, the major employers reflect the industry makeup of the County as a whole, with a large number of jobs related to Cannon AFB, healthcare, retail and hospitality, agriculture production, as well as state and local government.



Table 14: Major Employers in Clovis Trade Area

BUSINESS	EMPLOYEES, 2012	TYPE
Cannon AFB Duty Personnel	4,858	United States Air Force
Cannon AFB contractors (FT&PT)	4,350	Construction
Clovis Municipal Schools	1,100	Education
Community Homecare	700	Healthcare Services
Cannon AFB Civilian Personnel	650	United States Air Force
Plains Regional Medical Center	563	Healthcare
Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railway	459	Rail Transportation
Wal Mart Store #821	420	Customer Service
City of Clovis	433	Government
Southwest Cheese, LLC	365	Cheese Manufacturing
ENMRSH	340	Healthcare
ENMR-Plateau Telecommunications	260	Telecommunications
State of New Mexico	240	Government
Curry County	173	Government
Clovis Community College	173	Education
Lowe's Home Improvement	155	Customer Support

Source: Clovis Industrial Development Organization, Curry County Tax Assessor/NM Tax & Revenue Oct. 2012



2.4.1 CANNON AIR FORCE BASE

As the largest employer in the County, Cannon AFB personnel support the retail, accommodation, and food services industries, as well as real estate and educational services. Today, the base employs 533 civilians and another 4,189 active duty personnel. according to a Fact Sheet published in 2013 by Cannon Air Force Base, the total economic impact of the base is worth an estimated \$688 million - \$262.3 million in annual payroll; \$40.8 million in local job creation; and \$385 million in local expenditures.



Figure 6: Cannon Air Force Base Entrance

Source: U.S. Air Force photo, Tech. Sgt. Josef Cole.

2.4.2 SOUTHWEST CHEESE

One of the more recent non-retail additions to the Curry County economy is the Southwest Cheese Company (SCC). The business is a joint venture between Glanbia, an international dairy processing company based in Ireland, the Dairy Farmers of America, Inc., Select Milk Producers Inc., and dairy cooperative members of the Greater Southwest Agency, Inc.

The SCC manufacturing plant was constructed in 2004 and began operating in the last quarter of 2005. Since then, the plant has been operated successfully and generates \$450 million in sales according to the Eastern Plains Council of Governments. It underwent an expansion in 2010 and is due to complete a second expansion in 2016 bringing an additional 40 jobs to the region. Currently, the plant employs 365 people and processes over 3.8 billion pounds of milk annually, making it one of the world's largest cheese plants.



In addition to making an exportable value-added product from a local raw resource and employing a significant number of people in the local workforce, there are secondary economic benefits from the cheese plant operations. These include driving the need for local goods and services in support of operations and stimulating auxiliary industries that use the by-products of the cheese manufacturing process. A significant part of the economic benefit of the plant is derived from those businesses that supply the raw materials (milk) for making cheese.

The dairy and food processing industry generates direct economic and employment impact through direct purchase of feedstuffs, labor, and other inputs, and outputs from the direct sales of milk, animals, and others. The overall impact is reported on a regional base, including of Quay, Guadalupe, De Baca, Roosevelt and Curry County in the East Central region. The East Central region ranked first in the State for Agricultural Production and second for Food Processing.

Table 15. Curry County Economic Impact of Dairy Industry 2012/2007 (million \$/year)

	DIRECT EMPLOYMENT IMPACT*	TOTAL EMPLOYMENT IMPACT	OUTPUT DIRECT IMPACT	TOTAL IMPACT
AG Production	3,906	5,396	\$934,627,904	\$1,309,814,598
Food Processing	757	1,219	\$517,217,038	\$838,138,919

Source: ENMU, 2012

**It is estimated the dairy industry generates 14.9 jobs (FTE) for each \$1 million of sales in dairy products. This breaks down for every \$1 million in sales as follows: 2.5 jobs are generated directly; 4.9 indirectly; and 7.45 induced.*

2.4.3 PLAINS REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER

The 106-bed Plains Regional Medical Center (PRMC) provides state-of-the-art health care to more than 110,000 people living within a 50 mile radius of the City of Clovis. The Center employs an estimated 563 people. The PRMC is important to the regional economy because it represents economic diversification, complementing the agricultural and industrial transportation industries that have traditionally been a large part of the area’s economy. It is also an asset in attracting new businesses and residents to the region.



Figure 7: Plains Regional Medical Center Building

Source: Presbyterian Health Services



2.4.4 BNSF RAILROAD

The BNSF Railroad and its associated operations have been a longtime base industry for the County since its inception. The Railroad employs about 459 people and handles an average of 90-100 trains a day, making it one of the major rail stops and transfer stations in the state.

3. ENERGY DEVELOPMENT

Curry County's bountiful wind, solar and other renewable energy resources provide another economic development opportunity with both social and environmental benefits. Currently there are two small scale wind farms operating in Curry County – the 18 MW Brahms Wind project located five miles south of Grady and the 2 MW Llano Estacado project near Clovis. In addition, the 80 MW Caprock Wind Ranch is just north in Quay County.

A proposed 500 MW project for Curry County has also been proposed by National Renewable Solutions LLC and Pattern Energy. The \$550 million Broadview Energy project consists of 200 wind turbines on approximately 39,000 acres that are expected to generate 200 construction jobs and 20 permanent jobs.¹¹ Construction is expected to start in 2016 with a 1-2 year construction process. An upcoming wind farm project near Melrose is also in the early planning stages.

Another exciting energy project is the proposed \$500 million Tres Amigas electrical superstation north of Clovis. It will allow transmission of electricity to utilities in California. This project will enable the connection of the United State's three primary electricity interconnections and allow the transmission of renewable energy sources across the County's three transmission grids. A lack of available capacity on existing grids has been an ongoing obstacle in the development of renewable energy sources. By creating a new transfer point (and energy market), the Tres Amigas superstation will increase the incentive to build new transmission infrastructure for the transfer of renewable energy around the country.

3.1 WIND ENERGY

Wind farms promote economic development by generating property taxes, lease income for landowners, and through construction and full time operations and maintenance jobs. According to the NM Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department (NMNRD), the 204 megawatt New Mexico Wind Energy Center in De Baca and Quay counties generates \$450,000 per year in payments in lieu of taxes and \$550,000 per year in lease payments to landowners. In addition, the wind farm is estimated to provide \$500,000 in wages for permanent full time employees. This works out to about \$2,500 in taxes, wages, and lease income per MW installed or about \$18,000 total for an average 2.5 MW wind turbine.

Similarly sized windfarms in Curry County such as the proposed Broadview Energy project have the potential to generate a similar amount of taxes and rental income. The additional benefits of wind energy include the potential to provide stable, low cost energy production, local ownership, energy independence, clean air, and reduced greenhouse gas emissions.

¹¹ CIDC estimates 250 construction jobs, 40 permanent direct and indirect jobs, and \$52 million in gross receipts.



3.2 SOLAR ENERGY

In addition to Wind Energy Resources, Curry County has modest solar energy resources that allow for the future expansion of both utility scale and residential photovoltaic (PV) systems. As with wind turbines, solar power (PV) provides numerous benefits, including reduced greenhouse gas emissions, clean energy, construction jobs, a free fuel source, and the ability to be installed and used in rural areas. The cost of PV has been falling rapidly. New Mexico has begun to increase the amount of installed solar every year. The Macho Springs Solar Project in Deming, for example, was completed in 2014 and has 50 MW of installed capacity on about 500 acres of land. The project generated 300 construction jobs. The project is expected to generate \$10 million in lease payments over 40 years, or about \$5,000 per MW per year. The solar industry currently employs about 1,600 people in the State, which has also increased in the last few years.

3.3 OIL AND GAS

Although Curry County is not an oil and gas producing region of the state, the County benefits from tax revenue generated by oil and gas tax returns. A 2014 study showed that oil and gas tax receipts account for 31.5% of the State's General Fund Revenues, with a large percentage of this funding paying for local schools and higher education. This fund also pays for capital outlay projects, including the Ute Pipeline.

During public meetings, some residents mentioned testing wells for oil and gas have been drilled in the County on State Land Office land. Future development of the Tucumcari and Sin Nombre basins has the potential to bring the state's oil and gas industry to the County.

3.4 OTHER ALTERNATIVE ENERGY

Hydrogen is the third most abundant element on the earth's surface where it is found primarily in water and organic compounds. It is generally produced from hydrocarbons (such as methane, CH₄) or water (H₂O). There are several technologies with the potential to produce hydrogen to meet future energy demands. These technologies include: thermochemical, electrochemical, photoelectrochemical, and photobiological hydrogen production. Hydrogen fuel cells can be used to power vehicles, provide electricity, and heat buildings.

Research and commercial efforts are ongoing to lower the cost of hydrogen production, storage, and fuel cells and build the hydrogen fueling infrastructure that will make it practical for widespread transportation use. The Energy Conservation and Management Division (ECMD) of the New Mexico Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department (NMEMNRD) have a program to develop and implement clean energy programs including hydrogen. In the future, hydrogen could complement other alternative energy development in Curry County.

4. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STRATEGIES

The County government has a crucial role to play in economic development within Curry County. Although much of the economic activity is centered around Clovis as outlined above, there are still economic development strategies that County leadership can pursue to continue to ensure base industries remain regionally competitive and emerging industries are given the support they need to flourish.



In general, economic development strategies can be broken down into those that seek to address infrastructure needs within the County, business recruitment strategies, business incentives, and local business development programs. Many of these rely on working with existing economic development organizations including the Clovis/Curry County Chamber of Commerce and the Clovis Industrial Development Corporation (CIDC).

4.1 TARGET INDUSTRIES FOR CURRY COUNTY

CIDC has identified target industries for recruitment, retention and expansion efforts. These industries were targeted because they complement the County's existing agriculture, railroad and military installation industries, their compatibility with Curry County's assets, and their potential to diversify the local economy and provide high wage jobs. The identified targets are:

- Aviation/Aerospace and Defense
- Cannon Air Force Base and its Support Industries
- Manufacturing
- Logistics, Warehouse, Distribution, and Transportation
- Back Office and Customer Support
- Renewable Energy
- Value-Added Agriculture/Food Processing
- Retention and Expansion of Business and Industry
- Retail projects within a Curry County Municipality or Village with a population less than 10,000

4.2 INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENT

One way the County can encourage economic development is by investing in public infrastructure projects that create value and encourage reciprocal private investment. This can include upgrading infrastructure systems such as roadways and water systems, providing land, buildings, or expanding public facilities. Investment in the region's water supply and improvements to the County's roads are important investments that have received and will continue to receive ongoing County investment. Together, these can create a competitive environment to attract new businesses while also raising the quality of life for County residents.

4.2.1 LAND & THE CLOVIS INDUSTRIAL PARK

The City of Clovis acquired 240 acres for an Industrial Development Park to offer lots in the park as an incentive for businesses to locate in Curry County. The site itself is located outside of Clovis city limits in order to offer additional advantages to companies pursuing state and federal grants. The City of Clovis and the New Mexico Economic Development Administration invested over \$4 million in the site's infrastructure, which includes convenient roadway access, rail access, and utility access. Ongoing support and potential future investment in the park would have benefits for the County economy.

4.3 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATIONS

4.3.1 CLOVIS INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION (CIDC)

The Clovis Industrial Development Corporation is a private, nonprofit organization that works with qualified businesses on an individual basis to provide land, buildings, and financial incentives for industrial development. An economic development report from 2014 highlights the CIDC's accomplishments in



promoting job creation and diversifying the County's economy. For example, the CIDC was instrumental in helping attract Southwest Cheese to the Clovis area. The report highlights the CIDC receives about \$75,000 per year in public support for operations, but helps contribute to about \$500,000 in tax revenue – a 500% return on public investment.

Continued County support for the CIDC is crucial to help the organization attract future businesses, especially wind farm and other renewable energy projects. For instance, the CIDC has been actively involved in the Tres Amigas project, which will be a boon to the County if the project moves forward.

4.3.2 CLOVIS/CURRY COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

The Clovis/Curry County Chamber of Commerce is based in Clovis, and is responsible for economic development for both the City and County. Currently, the County contributes several thousand dollars to the Chamber each year to provide economic development services. These include promoting the County's events, updating content on the Chamber website, hosting training programs, and participating in regional economic development initiatives on the County's behalf. The existing range of services offered by the Chamber could be expanded with additional funding support by the County. This would mitigate the need for the County to create a dedicated economic development position, as the Chamber (with support from CIDC) already has many of the technical resources and staff to fill this role.

4.4 LOCAL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT & RECRUITMENT

To accomplish local business development, Curry County can take a “hyper-local” approach to economic development, focusing on existing businesses and local entrepreneurs who wish to expand or start new businesses. Such a strategy focuses on growing multiple small local businesses who may be able hire additional workers, instead of focusing on wooing one larger employer. Over the long run, the addition of these extra jobs can lead to more sustained growth that helps a wide range of local businesses that provide a diverse mixture of services and products.

4.4.1 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FUND

The County could create a dedicated economic development fund that can support ongoing economic development initiatives including the activities of the CIDC and the Clovis/Curry County Chamber. This fund could receive up to 10% of general fund allocations each year at the discretion of the County Commission. Such a fund would allow the County to begin funding programs that address the needs of rural residents including the need to bring businesses to rural County communities and diversify the economy. It could also be used to construct or upgrade County facilities related to economic development, such as a business incubator, housing redevelopment projects, and utilities for the Clovis Industrial Park.

4.4.2 JOB TRAINING

New Mexico has one of the most generous training incentive programs in the country. The Job Training Incentive Program (JTIP) funds classroom and on-the-job training for newly-created jobs in expanding or relocating businesses for up to 6 months. The program reimburses 50-75% of employee wages. Custom training at a New Mexico public educational institution may also be covered.

Working with the Chamber and CIDC, the County can focus on skill training classing and programs. Business training should be offered for interested business owners who wish to find ways to expand, diversify, or better promote their businesses to a wider market.



4.5 BUSINESS INCENTIVES & FINANCING

Business incentives are another tool the County can use to encourage development, either by lowering/abating taxes, providing tax credits, lowering regulatory controls, or through public private partnerships (P3s). Some of the following incentives can be explored:

4.5.1 INDUSTRIAL REVENUE BONDS

Curry County can issue Industrial Revenue Bonds (IRB) for the expansion and relocation of commercial and industrial projects. IRB financing is available for land, buildings, and equipment for headquarter office buildings, warehouses, manufacturing facilities, and service-oriented facilities not primarily engaged in the sale of goods and commodities at retail. IRB-financed projects are exempt from ad valorem tax for as long as the bonds are outstanding and title to the project is held by the issuing agency. Bonds may be issued in different series with variable principal amounts, interest rates, and maturities to accommodate the acquisition of assets with different useful lives.

4.5.2 PROPERTY TAX ABATEMENT

New Mexico communities can choose to abate all property taxes on a plant location or expansion up to 20 years subject to the discretion of the local community. This is not a tax freeze, but a true abatement on building, land, and equipment. While state law allows this incentive, each city or county government controls this tool. At the end of the abatement period, the company will be faced with paying New Mexico's relatively low property taxes.

4.5.3 LOCAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ACT (LEDA)

The New Mexico Economic Development Department administers Local Economic Development Act (LEDA) capital outlay funds to local to help stimulate economic development efforts. LEDA funds are provided on a reimbursable basis only and must be used to fund those projects that create "stable, full-time, private sector" jobs in targeted industries. The City of Clovis has a LEDA tax that could be expanded to the County. However, the amount of revenue this tax would generate for the County alone would be small, as there are few generators of gross tax receipts in unincorporated areas of the County. Business expansion in unincorporated areas could make such a tax more viable in the future.

The County LEDA ordinance was adopted in 1996 and should be updated to address recent amendments to the state law that add historical cultural facilities with historic downtown districts, downtown Metropolitan Redevelopment Areas and MainStreet Districts in the County and retail projects in County municipalities with a population less than 10,000 to the list of eligible projects under LEDA.

4.5.4 STATE TAX CREDITS

The State of New Mexico offers several different tax credits for qualified businesses that invest in businesses that hire additional employees within certain sectors. These tax credits are worth pursuing for new business development opportunities within the County.

1. Technology Jobs

A taxpayer who employs no more than 50 employees, has qualified expenditures of no more than \$5 million, and who conducts qualified research and development at a facility in New Mexico is allowed a basic tax credit equal to 5% of qualified expenditures, and an additional 5% credit toward income tax liability by raising its in-state payroll \$75,000 for every \$1 million in qualified expenditures



claimed. The tax credit doubles for expenditures in facilities located in rural New Mexico anywhere outside a three-mile radius of an incorporated municipality with a population of 30,000 or more.

2. Rural Jobs

This credit can be applied to taxes due on (state) gross receipts, corporate income, or personal income tax. Companies that are eligible include those that manufacture or produce a product in NM, certain green industries, and non-retail service based companies that export a substantial percentage of services out of state.

3. Renewable Energy Tax Credits

A corporate or personal taxpayer who owns a qualified energy generator is eligible for a tax credit in an amount equal to 1 cent per kilowatt hour of electricity produced by the qualified energy generator using a qualified energy resource in the tax year. A variable rate of credit is added for electricity produced using solar energy.

4. High Wage Jobs

The High Wage Jobs Tax Credit provides businesses with a tax credit equal to ten percent of the combined value of salaries and benefits. The value of the credit cannot exceed \$12,000 per job. Qualified employers can take the credit for four years. The credit can be applied against the modified combined tax liability of a taxpayer, including the state portion of gross receipts tax, compensating tax, and withholding tax. New Mexico companies located in communities smaller than 40,000 persons are eligible for a tax credit equal to ten percent of the wages and benefits paid for each new job created paying at least \$40,000 annually.

5. GOALS & ACTIONS

CURRENT COUNTY ACTIONS



- › Ongoing Industrial Park Development
- › Creation of Business Enterprise Center
- › Funds and participates in economic development groups, including CIDC, the Chamber, and Clovis Mainstreet

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT	ACTIONS	TIMEFRAME	AGENCIES/PARTNERS
GOAL 1: ENSURE THE CONTINUED VIABILITY OF EXISTING BUSINESSES AND INDUSTRIES.			
<i>Action 1.1: Protect existing farms and ranches to ensure their continued viability and success as the County's base industry.</i>	» Resolution	Ongoing	» County Commission
<i>Action 1.2: Continue to support Cannon AFB operations and recruit businesses that provide services to the AFB personnel or support the mission of the base.</i>	» Collaboration »	Ongoing	» County Commission » CAFB



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT	ACTIONS	TIMEFRAME	AGENCIES/PARTNERS
Action 1.3: <i>Protect the educational backbone of the community, including the college, in order to educate and train future workers for the area.</i>	» Collaboration	Ongoing	» Clovis Community College » Eastern NM University » CIDC/Chamber
Action 1.4: Continue to support redevelopment efforts of Clovis MainStreet.	» Collaboration	Ongoing	» Clovis MainStreet
Action 1.5: <i>Continue to assist and retain existing businesses and industries.</i>	» Collaboration	Ongoing	» CIDC/Chamber
GOAL 2: ATTRACT NEW BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY INTO THE COUNTY.			
Action 2.1: Maintain close working relationships with the Clovis/Curry County and Portales Chambers of Commerce, CIDC, and EPCOG.	» Collaboration	Ongoing	» County Manager's Office » CIDC/Chamber » EPCOG
Action 2.2: Consider additional staffing to attend economic development meetings and support initiatives.	» Practices & Operations	Short	» County Manager's Office » County Commission
Action 2.3: Review and update the County's Local Economic Development Act (LEDA) ordinance.	» Ordinance	Short	» County Manager's Office » CIDC/Chamber
Action 2.4: Create an economic development fund to assist Chamber or local development efforts.	» Resolution » Financing	Short	» County Manager's Office » County Commission » CIDC/Chamber
Action 2.5: Update and/or revise County Industrial Revenue Bond (IRB) process and procedures to assist potential development projects.	» Resolution	Short	» County Manager's Office » County Commission » CIDC/Chamber
Action 2.6: Pursue strategies to attract small scale retail for rural communities such as a Family Dollar.	» Collaboration » Financing	Long	» County Manager's Office » County Commission » CIDC/Chamber
GOAL 3: DIVERSIFY THE ECONOMY OF THE COUNTY.			
Action 3.1: Explore new energy-related industries such as wind farms, biodiesel facilities, oil and gas, and hydrogen fuel cells, as well as other new businesses for the area.	» Collaboration	Long	» County Manager's Office » County Commission » CIDC/Chamber
Action 3.2: <i>Increase opportunities for developing tourism (especially agricultural tourism) by working with NM True to develop an ad campaign.</i>	» Collaboration » Project/Program	Medium	» County Manager's Office » County Commission » CIDC/Chamber » NM True
GOAL 4: ENSURE THE LOCAL WORKFORCE IS WELL TRAINED AND QUALIFIED TO FILL NEW JOB OPENINGS.			
Action 4.1: <i>Partner with the State Economic Development Office to fully utilize regional job recruitment and retention incentives.</i>	» Collaboration » Project/Program	Short	» County Manager's Office » Economic Dev. Dept. » CIDC/Chamber
Action 4.2: Ensure adequate workforce training in partnership with the City of Clovis, Clovis CC, and CIDC.	» Collaboration	Ongoing	» County Manager's Office » Economic Dev. Dept. » CIDC/Chamber
Action 4.3: Continue to partner in hosting job fairs in the Clovis-Portales Microplex at least twice a year.	» Collaboration	Ongoing	» County Manager's Office » Economic Dev. Dept. » CIDC/Chamber



CHAPTER 7

COMMUNITY SERVICES



This section contains a description of existing community services either provided or supported financially by Curry County, current issues, and future goals. It is important to note other governmental entities, organizations, individuals, groups, and associations also play a role in providing many of the community services and facilities discussed here.

COMMUNITY CONCERNS



- › Medical facilities are needed. People travel to Lubbock for specialists. Previous providers have left, including child services, mental health services, dermatologists, and eye doctors.
- › Mental health services are needed for residents in the County. Many detention center inmates are there because of behavioral and mental health issues.
- › The Events Center needs to be upgraded to allow for a broader variety of entertainment.
- › Rural fire departments need upgraded equipment.
- › Expanded public transit options to key destinations (CAFB, Clovis Municipal Airport) were requested.



1. PUBLIC SAFETY

1.1 SHERIFF

The Sheriff's Office is located in central Clovis at 700 North Main Street. It is not anticipated that another station will be needed to serve the population during the life of this plan; however, this does not preclude the Sheriff's Office from establishing substations in the more populated areas to better serve the population.

The Curry County Sheriff's Office has 23 employees on staff. The Sheriff's Office owns 20 vehicles with an average age of approximately five years. Vehicles will need to be regularly replaced as they age. At this time, no special vehicle needs were identified.

1.2 DETENTION CENTER

The County detention center has a staff of 72 full-time positions and 11 contract personnel in the medical, mental health, kitchen and commissary departments. The male facility has 208 beds and the female facility was designed with 50 beds. The annex, which used to house the females, now houses the non-violent males. Females are now being housed at the main facility. The juvenile detention center has a staff of 16 full-time security positions. There are 17 beds within the juvenile facility housing an average of 10 juvenile offenders.



Figure 8: Broadview Fire Station Building

Source: Sites Southwest

1.3 FIRE DEPARTMENTS

Curry County has 3 volunteer fire departments with 34 active fire fighters. According to the Community Wildfire Protection Plan completed in 2008 and currently being updated, the County responds to approximately 100 fire incidents a year, most of which are grassland fires. In addition, these fire departments provide support to neighboring counties, especially in the case of larger fires. The need for a paid County

Administrator to oversee the volunteer fire department has been discussed. There is also a need for ongoing training for volunteers and facility upgrades to accommodate new equipment and fire department administration.

2. SENIOR SERVICES

The County has senior centers in each of the incorporated communities, including Melrose, Grady, Texico, and Clovis. These senior centers are an important community anchor in these towns, as they serve the local population and act as a community gathering place. During public meetings, it was mentioned that some of the senior centers may need additional support, including facility upgrades and ongoing funding. The senior center in Melrose, for example, does not receive funding from the town itself and is looking for a fiscal agent to help secure funding to upgrade the facility, replace the senior center van, etc.



Figure 9: Grady Senior Center & Solar Panels

Source: Sites Southwest

3. MEDICAL SERVICES

The Plains Regional Medical Center is the primary provider of medical services to the County and the surrounding region. The medical center is part of the Presbyterian Healthcare services headquartered in Albuquerque. The medical center provides primary care and the most commonly needed specialty care services. In addition, the center offers specialized services in home health, hospice, CT scanning, and a 24-hour physician-staffed emergency room.

Senior medical care is also important to many community residents. The County owns the Melrose Health Clinic building and the La Casa Family Health Center building in Clovis. The Melrose clinic is currently staffed by one general practitioner, but also has specialists travel from Albuquerque to see patients with specific conditions. The Clovis Family Health Clinic is a larger facility that provides pediatric care, OB/GYN health services, family practice, internal medicine, and dental care.



3.1 HEALTH CARE SPECIALISTS

The participants of the public meetings indicated that patients often have to travel outside the County to receive specialized care that is not available. Some indicated previous providers have left, including child services, mental health services, dermatologists, and eye doctors. A specific need mentioned is the need for better mental health services.

Although the County does not have the resources to recruit new medical practitioners directly, it can be involved in efforts to ensure qualified medical staff is available to residents. Support can include: inclusion of representatives from the medical center in economic development efforts; working with the Chamber of Commerce and medical center to provide information to medical professionals considering relocating to Curry County; working with Cannon AFB and federal officials to secure funding for the medical center; and working with education providers to ensure that trained professionals are available to work in the medical field.

4. RURAL TRANSIT

Public transit in the County is currently limited to the Clovis municipal limits. The Clovis Area Transit System (CATS) serves Clovis residents using a demand-response system and does not currently use fixed routes. This allows residents to schedule a trip beforehand by making a reservation online or over the phone. CATS currently have a staff of 15, which includes 10 drivers and 5 administrators. Ridership is about 68,000 trips per year.

Because CATS only serves residents within the Clovis City limits, a desire for transit service in other areas of the County was brought up as an issue at public meetings. Residents expressed the desire to see transit service that serves residents outside of Clovis.

Generally, given the low population density in rural areas, it is difficult to provide transit service to rural residents. Funding for such service is usually constrained by tight budgets, low ridership numbers, and a lack of support for the program given its need for ongoing subsidization. However, there are several rural transit districts in the state that provide transit service to residents in rural counties. These include Rio Metro, which serves Valencia, Torrance, and Sandoval County residents; North Central regional Transit District serving Santa Fe, Los Alamos, and Taos County; and Corre Caminos Transit (SW Rural Transit District) serving Grant, Hidalgo and Luna counties. The County could work with the City of Clovis to determine how transit service could be expanded.

5. PARKS & RECREATION

5.1 COUNTY FAIR GROUNDS & EVENTS CENTER

The County Fair Grounds and Events Center are located in the southeast quadrant of Clovis. The facility hosts the County Fair held each year in August. The Curry County Jr. Livestock Sale during the fair generates over \$300,000 for its young entrants. The Events Center is also the venue for the Clovis Winter Horse Sale, various roping, professional bull riding and rodeo events, and concerts. The Events Center is equipped to host rodeos,



livestock sales, dog shows, concerts, trade shows, and other events. The 96,000 square foot building is climate controlled and can seat 3,300 people.

Residents at the first community meeting and respondents to the survey indicated upgrades to the Events Center may be necessary to ensure it can continue to attract events. Proposed improvements include: updating the building's PA system to better host live entertainment, installing covered horse stalls, and expanding RV facilities near future horse barns. Some improvements are included in the FY 2016-2020 ICIP, which will allocate \$7,500,000 between 2016-2017 to construct horse stalls, complete the center's parking lot, and the build a "warm up" arena for future events. The goal is to create a facility that attracts visitors and generates economic development.

The County has requested additional covered horse stalls, which will generate revenue for the center. This revenue can help offset other services the County provides at the center such as the Progressive Agriculture Farm Safety Days for third graders.



Figure 10: County's Event Center and Fairgrounds

Source: Sites Southwest

5.2 PARKS & TRAILS

Curry County currently does not have any State or National Parks. However, Clovis has a number of parks including Ned Houk Park, a 3,200 acre site which is located north of the City. The park includes 370 developed acres with picnic tables, playgrounds, basketball courts, ball fields, an archery range, motor sports race track, trails, and a disc golf course. The park's central location with the County provides a large regional amenity for County residents.

The County does not have a trail and/or bike system in place. As pointed out in the 2007 Comprehensive Plan, it may be difficult to implement a county-wide trail plan because the majority of land in the County is privately held. Developing and maintaining a trail network would involve the purchasing of easements or agreements with multiple land owners to allow access through and across private property. In addition, many of the existing county roadways are inadequate to allow for establishing safe bike trails. However, state roads may be redeveloped in the future to include safe, well-maintained bike trails, or wide shoulders to facilitate recreational cyclists. This would have to be pursued in conjunction with the New Mexico Department of Transportation which owns and maintains these roads.



6. COUNTY FACILITIES

The County owns 23 sites and 59 buildings. Almost half of these comprise buildings at the Fairgrounds, including the Events Center and storage buildings. Several facility upgrades are planned or have been recently completed, including improvements to the Events Center and Fairgrounds, a renovation for the County Courthouse, and improvements to the County's detention center. A consolidated list of County facilities by location and occupancy is outlined below.

Table 16: County Facilities, 2015

FACILITY	ADDRESS	COMMUNITY	OCCUPANCY
Curry County Courthouse	700 North Main	Clovis	Occupied
Fairgrounds & Events Center	600 South Norris St.	Clovis	Occupied
Road Building	600 South Norris Street	Clovis	Occupied
Road Office	600 South Norris Street	Clovis	Occupied
Law Library	117 West 8th Street	Clovis	Occupied
County Health Office	1216 Cameo Street	Clovis	Occupied
Community Center	1120 Cameo Street	Clovis	Occupied
Adult Detention Center	801 W 8th Street	Clovis	Occupied
La Casa Family Health Center	1521 W 13th Street	Clovis	Occupied
Adult Detention Center Annex	820 North Main	Clovis	Occupied
Office and Storage	801 North Main St	Clovis	Occupied
Oasis House	1523 West 13th	Clovis	Occupied
District Attorney Office	417 Gidding	Clovis	Occupied
Sheriff Storage	800 North Main	Clovis	Occupied
Dwelling House #1 and #2	905 and 913 Mitchell Street	Clovis	Vacant
County Extension Office	818 North Main St.	Clovis	Occupied
Broadview Fire Station	3868 Highway 209	County	Occupied
Broadview Road Building	3899 Highway 209	County	Occupied
Pleasant Hill Fire Station	304 Highway 77	County	Occupied
Bellevue Fire Station	500 State Road 241	County	Occupied
Melrose Road Building	Highway 60/84	Melrose	Occupied
Field Fire Station	2560 Highway 224	Melrose	Occupied
Melrose Health Clinic	120 North Main	Melrose	Occupied



7. GOALS & ACTIONS

CURRENT COUNTY ACTIONS



- › Fairgrounds and Events Center Master Plan Completed in 2010
- › 2017 ICIP funding includes:
 - \$3,000,000 for Curry County Courthouse improvements
 - \$128,100 for Juvenile Center reroof
 - Continued support of County Medical Clinics and Senior Centers.
- › November/December 2014 Bond Issue, Hold Harmless Gross Receipts Tax for 22 ½ years that will provide \$4 million for renovations and additions for the County Administrative Office (Clerk, Assessor, Treasurer, and County Manager) and \$10 million for Adult Detention Center renovation and additions, and the Historic Courthouse Remodel/Renovation

COMMUNITY SERVICES	ACTIONS	TIMEFRAME	AGENCIES/PARTNERS
GOAL 1: ENSURE ADEQUATE LEVELS OF EMERGENCY SERVICES ARE AVAILABLE.			
Action 1.1: Continue to maintain relationships with other area emergency service providers.	» Collaboration	Ongoing	» Sheriff » Rural Fire Departments
Action 1.2: Continue to train all emergency service providers and improve equipment.	» Collaboration » Practices & Operations	Ongoing	» Sheriff » Rural Fire Departments
Action 1.3: Fund part time Fire Marshall position to help volunteer fire departments with grant proposals, training, compliance with regulations, etc.	» Practices & Operations » Financing	Short	» County Commission » Rural Fire Departments
Action 1.4: Partner with the City of Clovis or other entities to provide EMS/Ambulance services throughout the County.	» Collaboration	Medium	» County Manager Office » Clovis » EMS Providers
GOAL 2: PROVIDE COUNTY SOCIAL SERVICE & PREVENTION PROGRAMS.			
Action 2.1: Continue to provide and coordinate programs for County seniors, adults, and youth.	» Practices & Operations	Ongoing	» Detention Center » Youth Services » County Manager Office
Action 2.2: Continue to provide youth prevention programs.	» Practices & Operations	Ongoing	» Detention Center » Youth Services » County Manager Office
Action 2.3: Work with existing community support groups and District Court to develop Drug Rehab Program for Detention Center Inmates.	» Practices & Operations	Medium	» Detention Center
Action 2.4: Continue to support Wellness Committee efforts.	» Practices & Operations	Ongoing	» Health Council » County Manager Office



COMMUNITY SERVICES	ACTIONS	TIMEFRAME	AGENCIES/PARTNERS
GOAL 3: EXAMINE FEASIBILITY OF RURAL TRANSIT SERVICE.			
Action 3.1: Research providing scheduled transit service to Cannon AFB, Clovis Municipal Airport, and other anchors.	» Plan	Long	» EPCOG » Clovis » CAFB
Action 3.2: Research extending Clovis Area Transit Service (CATS) into the County.	» Plan	Long	» City of Clovis » CATS » EPCOG
GOAL 4: SUPPORT RECRUITMENT EFFORTS FOR QUALIFIED MEDICAL STAFF.			
Action 4.1: <i>Support efforts of the Plains Regional Medical Center and other health care providers in recruitment efforts to ensure that quality health care is available.</i>	» Collaboration » Info/Promotion	Ongoing	» Presbyterian Hospital » County Manager's Office
GOAL 5: SUPPORT SENIOR CENTERS & UPGRADE COUNTY FACILITIES.			
Action 5.1: Continue to upgrade County facilities as described in the ICIP and facility master plans.	» Infrastructure » Financing	Ongoing	» County Commission » Facility Maintenance » County Manager's Office
Action 5.2: Support upgrades for senior centers, clinics, and other social service providers.	» Practices & Operations	Medium	» Senior Centers » County Manager's Office » Facility Maintenance
Action 5.3: Become fiscal agent for Melrose Senior Center to help Center secure future funding and perform facility upgrades.	» Resolution	Short	» Melrose Senior Center » County Manager's Office
GOAL 6: SUPPORT UPGRADES OF COUNTY EVENTS CENTER FACILITIES.			
Action 6.1: Complete upgrades and improvements identified in the 2010 Events Center Master Plan.	» Infrastructure » Financing	Ongoing	» County Commission » County Events Center » County Manager's Office
Action 6.2: Support additional covered horse stalls and other improvements that have the potential to generate operating revenue for the center.	» Infrastructure » Financing	Medium	» County Commission » County Events Center » County Manager's Office

CHAPTER 8

TRANSPORTATION & INFRASTRUCTURE



The purpose of the Transportation and Infrastructure section of the Comprehensive Plan is to provide guidance for the County's capital infrastructure projects. While the County does not maintain water or wastewater systems directly, the primary emphasis of this section is to address any issues with the County's road network and State highways. Another important component of the Infrastructure Plan is addressing communications, particularly high speed internet and cell phone service.

COMMUNITY CONCERNS



- › Road repair and maintenance were the key issues related to roads. People suggested drainage could be handled better to keep roads from flooding and better paving would provide a longer term fix than what is being done now.
- › Road signs are missing or damaged. These need to be repaired or replaced.
- › Road crews need training on road design and maintenance.
- › Rural addressing in some areas needs to be updated. There may be a need for a County ordinance to establish a rural addressing procedure.
- › Clovis needs a new truck bypass or improvements to the existing one.
- › Comments related to utilities include concerns about a dwindling water supply in unincorporated areas south of Clovis.



1. TRANSPORTATION

1.1 TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM OVERVIEW

Transportation in Curry County is focused on the existing system of highways and roads, including Federal and State Highways and County roads (see Map 8: County Roads by Surface). The County does not have any interstate highways, but is served by several US and State highways. US Highway 60/84 traverses east-west in the southern portion of the County and serves as the primary automobile transportation route connecting the communities of Melrose, Cannon AFB, Clovis, and Texico. Traveling westward from Clovis, the highway splits in Fort Sumner (approximately 60 miles west of Clovis), with US Highway 84 connecting to US Interstate 40 and US Highway 60 continuing on to connect to US Interstate 25. US Highway 70 is another major arterial highway from the southwest (Roswell) which enters Curry County from Portales, passes through Clovis, and exits the County in Texico. Several County roads have been improved connecting to US Highway 70 south of Clovis providing access to/from the Southwest Cheese Factory.

A major railway line approximately parallels the US Highway and carries an average of 90-100 trains per day. The County has two major airports: Clovis Municipal Airport and Cannon Air Force Base.

1.2 ROAD CONDITIONS

1.2.1 US HIGHWAYS

- US Highway 84/60 is the main east-west route for the County and the most traveled road. It is a four lane roadway from Cannon Air Force Base to the state line at Texico. Traveling west from CAFB, the road becomes a two lane highway at Grier and continues through Melrose, Ft. Sumner and beyond. The need for widening the road to four lanes from Grier to the Roosevelt County line was mentioned as a need to improve conditions west of Cannon AFB. Overall, the road is maintained in good condition, although some residents expressed a desire to see better maintenance of the medians between CAFB and Clovis. Medians are currently maintained using an adopt-a-median program with the base's squadrons each responsible for the maintenance of various segments of the median.
- US Highway 70 is a four lane, north/south highway between Clovis and Portales. The road is maintained in good condition.

1.2.2 NM STATE HIGHWAYS

- New Mexico Highway 209 serves the eastern side of the County from Clovis to Grady and continues on to Tucumcari. This is a main transportation corridor in the eastern part of the County for the residents, farmers, and ranchers. This is a main corridor for individuals coming from the north east corner of the state to Clovis. This highway was renovated and widened for approximately nineteen miles in 2006. Another section is scheduled to be renovated this year. It is maintained in good condition and has very few curves.
- New Mexico Highway 268 transverses along the western area of the County running north/south from Melrose to Tucumcari. It is a main highway for those residents in that area of the County to travel to Melrose and Clovis. The highway is maintained in good condition but it is narrow with no paved shoulders.



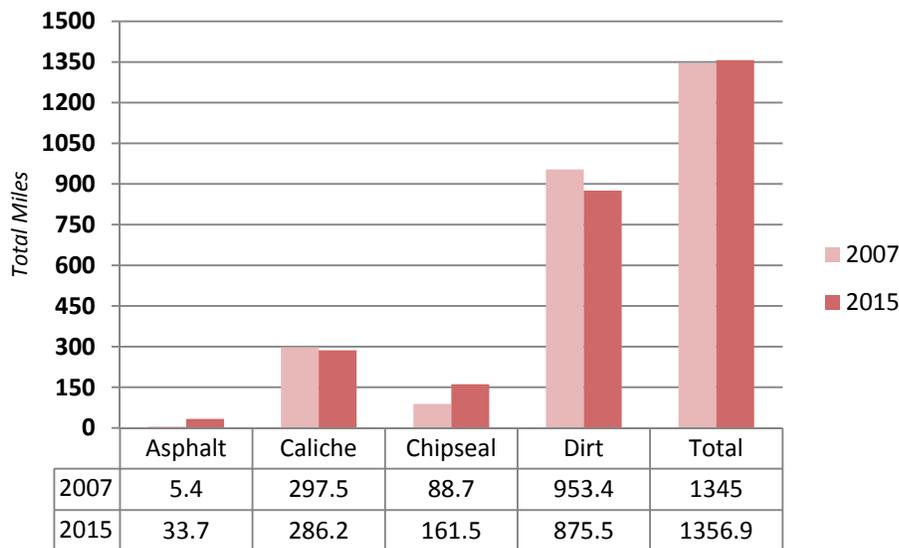
- New Mexico Highway 267 starts in Melrose and travels south to Portales. It provides access to the County residents and individuals traveling from the northeast corner of the state to Eastern New Mexico University (ENMU) and Portales. It is maintained in good condition but it has no paved shoulders.
- New Mexico Highway 288 travels from NM Highway 268 on the west side of the County to NM Highway 209 on the east side of the County creating a reliable transportation link for County residents to the City of Clovis. It is maintained in good condition, but it is narrow and has no paved shoulders.
- New Mexico Highway 469 goes from Grady north to the County line and on to San Jon. It is an access for north/south traffic to the mountains and lakes in the areas north of the County. It was resurfaced in 2005 and is in excellent condition, but has several ninety degree turns that must be traveled with caution.
- New Mexico Highway 275 starts in Broadview and proceeds north and west to the County line. It is a narrow road without paved shoulders.
- New Mexico Highway 241 provides access to the County from Texas. It starts at the County/State line and runs west to Broadview. It is maintained in good condition, but is narrow and does not have paved shoulders.
- New Mexico Highway 19 joins NM 108 to NM Highway 209 between Clovis and Grady. It is maintained in good shape and has two 90 degree turns. It is narrow and does not have paved shoulders.
- New Mexico Highway 523 connects NM 209 to NM 108 and is an alternate route between Clovis and Texico. It also is the main route to the Clovis Municipal Airport. It has a high traffic load. From the edge of Clovis east to NM 108, it is narrow and does not have paved shoulders.
- New Mexico Highway 245 runs from NM 209 on the north side of Clovis west to NM Highway 311. It provides an alternate route for traffic from the northern part of Clovis to and from Cannon Air Force Base. It is a four lane highway from NM Highway 209 to Martin Luther King Blvd., at which point it narrows to a two lane highway without paved shoulders.
- New Mexico Highway 311 starts at US highway 60/84 (Cannon Air Force Base) and travels north through Ranchvale to Fields.
- New Mexico Highway 467 starts in the southwest area of Clovis at the intersection with US Highway 60/84. It extends south and west into Roosevelt County. The south gate of Cannon AFB is accessed from NM 467 at County Road Q. The blind curve at the south gate was mentioned as a safety issue for people exiting the base.

1.2.3 COUNTY ROADS

Curry County has aggressively pursued improving its roads. Major County roads are paved/chip sealed as funds are available. By diligently budgeting funds and working with the state, the County is able to continue its road improvement program. County roadways are the completing component of the overall transportation network in the County. Curry County maintains over 1,356 miles of roads (see Map 8: County Roads by Surface). The various surface types and distances of roads (excluding the communities) are as follows:



Chart 14: County Roads by Surface Type



Source: Curry County Road Department, Roadway Certification data, 2015

The roads surfaced with asphalt and chip seal provide extended utilization with periodic maintenance. The caliche surfaced roads provide good access the majority of the time. They require some maintenance to keep them bladed and shaped. The dirt roads become difficult to navigate and maintain, especially in the winter and during rainy periods. Maintainers are used on a continuous basis to keep the dirt and caliche roads in shape. The County is striving to surface the dirt roads on a priority basis with caliche and to chip seal as many roads as funding allows. The County has decided to provide a network of County roads with a surfaced County road located at least every five miles (east to west and north to south). This is a top priority for the road department. The maintenance and improvements on the County roads is a major task. The County has the roads documented as to road name, length, and surface in a GIS data base updated on a regular basis to keep accurate records of the roads.

The incorporated communities of the County maintain their own streets. Melrose has been able to pave (and/or chip seal) all their streets. Grady has chip sealed all their streets and completed concrete turn outs at four intersections to New Mexico State Highway 209. Texico has paved the majority of their streets. Melrose, Grady, and Texico have developed plans to systematically maintain their streets. Cannon Air Force Base has paved their streets. Clovis has developed an improvement/ maintenance plan to systematically work/repair/ maintain their streets (covered in another section). These communities have planned and prepared their streets to provide all weather vehicle access for their residents.

During public meetings, residents continually expressed the need for improved roadway maintenance, especially in regards to drainage. Residents identified an ongoing need to hire and train County road crews that can properly grade and maintain County roads damaged by rain events or erosion. Some residents in the northern part of the County expressed frustration about the deterioration of roads in that part of the County, especially after recent rainstorms. Given limited funding and staffing issues, the County will continue to be challenged to keep all County roads in good condition without additional support.

1.2.4 RURAL ADDRESSING

Community residents mentioned the need to update and replace road signs at intersections throughout the County. Approximately 60-70% of these signs are damaged or missing. Navigation for residents and emergency personnel is difficult. The need for visible addresses was also discussed.



Figure 11: Roadway Improvements on NM 209 North of Clovis

Source: Sites Southwest

1.3 ROADWAY IMPROVEMENTS

Curry County is located in New Mexico Transportation Department District 2. The District is working with the County Commission and the incorporated communities to improve roads throughout the County. Projects are programmed for Fiscal Years 2014-2017, with a total funding of \$36,592,112. Curry County projects in the State Transportation Improvement Plan (STIP) include:

Table 17: STIP Projects for Curry County, FY 2014-2017

ROUTE	PROJECT	DESCRIPTION	LOCATION	TOTAL COST	MILES
NM 209	2100760*	Bridge Replacement Project, North of Clovis	County	\$3,600,000	NA
US 60	2100140	US 84, intersection with Prince St east to intersection with Norris St	Clovis	\$6,932,405	1.5
NM 209	2100400	From intersection of NM 245 & Llano Estacado	County/Clovis	\$11,875,000	4.7
NM 245	2101210	Intersection of Llano Estacado and Thornton St in Clovis	Clovis	\$663,142	0.4
US 60	2101270	West side of CAFB to intersection w/ 7th St	County	\$7,400,000	4.9
FR 6001	2101330	CAFB front gate	CAFB/County	\$897,483	NA
FR 6001	2101331	Main gate at CAFB	CAFB/County	1,000,000	NA
US 60	2101350	7th St east to Prince St	Clovis	\$6,840,000	3.3
US 70	2101400	Prince St overpass	Clovis	\$750,000	0.3
FL 4302	2101510	From 3rd St to 5th St facilities for pedestrians & bicycles	Clovis	\$234,082	NA
TOTAL				\$36,592,112	

Source: NMDOT STIP, FY 2014-2017 Amendment 9. *From previous FY STIP



The County has requested NMDOT conduct traffic studies on the following intersections because of concerns with safety and a high number of crashes.

1. US 70 and CR 4
2. US 60/84 and CR G
3. NM 311 and NM 245
4. US 60/84 and NM 467/CR N: NMDOT conducted a traffic study and found that the intersection warrants a left turn lane for eastbound traffic which will be completed in the early part of 2016.

The need to widen US 60/84 from Grier to the Roosevelt County line was mentioned at public meetings for the comprehensive plan. Widening of a US highway would be a project of the New Mexico Department of Transportation (NMDOT) and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA). The County can work through the regional transportation planning process conducted by Eastern Plains Council of Governments and the Southeastern Regional Transportation Planning District to enter this project as a priority for funding through the State Transportation Improvement Program.

1.3.1 COUNTY ROADS AND FLOOD DAMAGE

Heavy rainstorms between May and October 2015 damaged County roads – many beyond the financial and personnel capacity of the County’s road department to address. As a result, the County Commission declared the County a disaster area in October 2015 and requested federal and state funds to help repair the severe damage caused by these storms. A few of the most heavily affected roads were: CR L, CR D, CR B, CR X, CR 12, and CR 14.

1.4 REGIONAL AIRPORT

The Clovis municipal airport is located six miles east of Clovis on State Highway 523. It covers an area of 1,480 acres. The airport is serviced by Boutique Air, which replaced Great Lakes Aviation as the commercial airline operator in 2014. Boutique Air offers 3 daily flights to Dallas/Fort Worth on an 8 seat aircraft. The Municipal Airport in Clovis conducted an Airport Action Plan in 2006 that found one of the runways was too short to accommodate increasing traffic volumes. Following this report, the airport underwent a \$4 million runway expansion, completed in 2011. Currently, no major passenger carriers fly into the Clovis Municipal Airport, but this recent expansion may make regular commercial flights more attractive.

2. COMMUNICATIONS INFRASTRUCTURE

Unincorporated areas of Curry County are served by Plateau Telecommunications for phone land lines. CenturyLink serves Clovis. The County has three internet access providers: Suddenlink Communications, Plateau Internet, and CenturyLink. It is important to note phone and internet service is a product of the private sector. Private businesses must make the economic decision to install towers and fiber optic lines within the County. The County should actively recruit businesses to ensure restrictions do not hinder them from locating in the County.



3. SOLID WASTE

The City of Clovis operates a permitted landfill for residents and businesses in the area. The County does not provide any collection for the County residents. Grady has a private contractor collecting their solid waste. The Village of Melrose collects solid waste and transports the waste to the City of Clovis landfill. Solid waste (including junk cars, equipment, building materials, etc.) not properly disposed of is seen throughout the County. Community comments indicate that residents do not want these items to be visible from roads in the County.

The County road department currently handles waste/trash cleanup within the public right-of-way. In the case of illegal dumping, the County Sheriff may cite the offender if the illegal dumping can be traced.

4. WASTE WATER

Due to the potential to contaminate groundwater, extreme care must be taken to ensure waste water is treated correctly and the effluent is discharged safely and appropriately to prevent any contamination of ground or surface water. The New Mexico Environment Department is working in conjunction with the County and its residents to ensure waste water is properly treated and the effluent discharged appropriately. On-site waste water treatment is used for residential liquid waste generated by County residents living outside of the incorporated communities using septic tanks with discharge of effluent into leach fields. The incorporated communities have waste water collection and treatment systems which are operated and maintained by the community except for Grady, where the residents, school, and businesses utilize septic tanks with leach fields. The County ensures the developments follow safe and efficient waste water treatment and disposal processes according to the Environment Departments Regulations through the subdivision regulations and State liquid waste regulations.

The majority of the septic systems in the County were installed at the time houses were constructed. The septic tanks and leach lines are an average of 40 to 50 years old. Since these waste water disposal systems are not seen, they are taken for granted until the waste water does not flow out of the home. Thus septic tank systems operate without normal maintenance until something becomes overloaded and waste water backs up to the residence. It is difficult to tell the condition of the septic tank and associated leach field without a physical inspection. Solids are probably built up in the septic tank. Leach lines are partially plugged. Septic systems must be inspected if the property on which the system sits is sold. If the inspection determines the system is deficient, it must be corrected and brought up to code before the sale can be completed.

The communities of Melrose and Texico have waste water collection systems with lagoon treatment facilities. The lagoons are located south of the Village at Melrose. Texico lagoons are located in the northeast. Cannon Air Force Base has a waste water collection and treatment plant. The effluent from the treatment plant is disinfected and utilized to water parks and landscape in the base. Clovis has a waste water collection system and treatment plant located southeast of Clovis. The waste water collection and treatment will be discussed further in the Clovis portion of the report.



5. WATER INFRASTRUCTURE

As outlined in the Natural Resources and Water Chapter of this document, the County has reserved 240 acre feet of water from the Ute Pipeline Project to serve rural residents. Infrastructure to store and distribute this water still needs to be constructed. The location for this infrastructure has not been determined. With domestic wells running dry south of Clovis, this area may be the most logical place to construct additional infrastructure for residents.

6. INFRASTRUCTURE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PLAN (ICIP)

Most of Curry County's ICIP with regard to infrastructure deals with the need for immediate improvements to roads, water supply, and County buildings. The following table illustrates major investments programmed in the ICIP over the next five years.

Table 18: 2017-2021 ICIP

RANK	PROJECT	2017	2018	2019	2020	TOTAL
1	Curry County Courthouse	\$3,000,000				\$3,000,000
2	2017 Legislative Road Projects	\$1,435,000				\$1,435,000
3	Juvenile Detention Center Roof	\$128,100				\$128,100
4	2017 Water Infrastructure Water Supply	\$250,000	\$100,000	\$50,000		\$400,000
5	Event Center Entrance Economic Development	\$50,000				\$50,000
6	Fairgrounds Improvements 2017	\$2,400,000	\$4,000,000			\$6,400,000
7	Detention Center Renovations and Additions	\$5,000,000	\$4,500,000	\$500,000		\$10,000,000
8	Courthouse Roof	\$160,125				\$160,125
9	Information Technology Upgrades and Additions	\$815,000				\$815,000
10	Event Center Parking Economic Development	\$1,000,000				\$1,000,000
11	Broadview Volunteer Fire Department	\$150,000	\$475,000			\$625,000
12	Fairgrounds Parking Economic Development	\$88,739				\$88,739
13	Grant Department Facility	\$120,000	\$700,000			\$820,000
14	COOP Road Projects 2017	\$120,000				\$120,000
15	School Bus Road Project 2017	\$130,000				\$130,000
16	2017 CAP Road Project	\$305,000				\$305,000
1	Legislative Road Projects 2018			\$870,750		\$870,750
2	2018 Multi-Purpose Training Facility			\$900,000		\$900,000
3	2018 Grant Department Facility			\$700,000		\$700,000
4	2018 Water Infrastructure		\$100,000	\$50,000		\$150,000
5	CAP Road Projects 2018			\$250,000		\$250,000



RANK	PROJECT	2017	2018	2019	2020	TOTAL
6	COOP Road Projects 2018			\$140,000		\$140,000
7	Detention Center Renovations and		\$4,500,000	\$500,000		\$5,000,000
8	School Bus Road Projects 2018			\$125,000		\$125,000
9	Environmentally Friendly Initiatives			\$10,000		\$10,000
1	2019 Legislative Road Projects				\$130,000	\$130,000
2	2019 CAP Road Projects				\$240,000	\$240,000
3	2019 School Bus Road Project				\$120,000	\$120,000

6. GOALS & ACTIONS

CURRENT COUNTY ACTIONS



- > Updated Road Policy in 2014
- > Updated road mapping and certification in 2015
- > \$1,435,000 in 2017 Legislative Road Projects
- > \$120,000 in Cooperative Agreement Program (COOP) Road Projects
- > \$305,000 in County Arterial Program (CAP) Road Projects
- > \$130,000 in School Bus Road Projects

TRANSPORTATION & UTILITIES	ACTIONS	TIMEFRAME	AGENCIES/PARTNERS
GOAL 1: UPDATE DESIGN & DRAINAGE STANDARDS FOR ROAD CONSTRUCTION.			
Action 1.1: Review road standards for adequacy as pertains to capacity and construction (durability).	» Practices & Operations	Short	» Road Department
Action 1.2: Review critical traffic patterns and loading on roads in the County and communities.	» Practices & Operations »	Ongoing	» Road Department » NMDOT » EPCOG
Action 1.3: Research ways to direct runoff from roads to playas environmentally and sustainably.	» Plan » Practices & Operations	Medium	» Road Department » County Manager's Office » NMDOT » NRCS
GOAL 2: ENHANCE THE COMPREHENSIVE ROAD MAINTENANCE PROGRAM.			
Action 2.1: Continue and improve the road condition database (including signage and pavement markings).	» Practices & Operations	Ongoing	» Road Department » EPCOG
Action 2.2: Establish a long-range maintenance and funding plan for road improvements.	» Practices & Operations	Medium	» Road Department » EPCOG

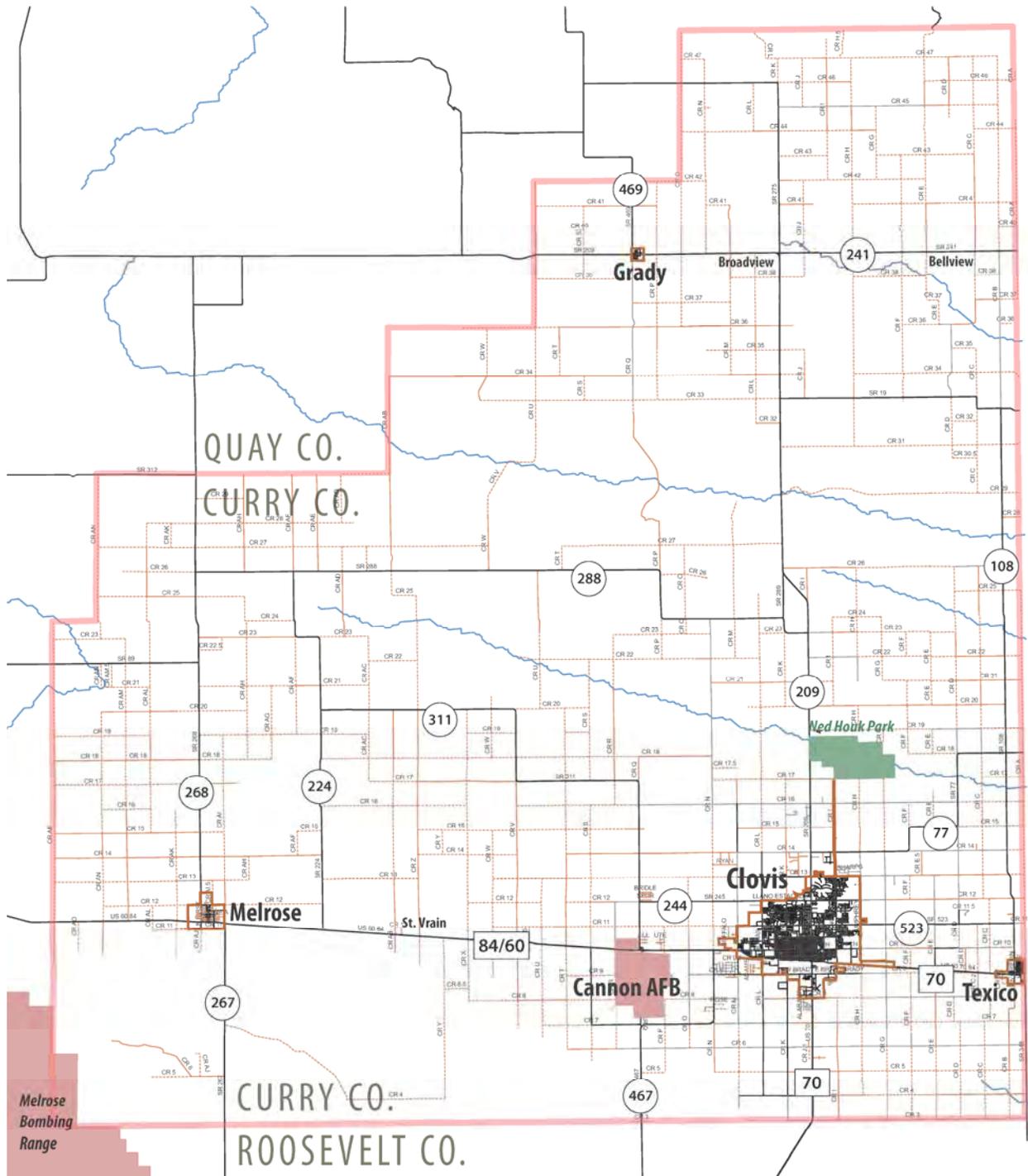


TRANSPORTATION & UTILITIES	ACTIONS	TIMEFRAME	AGENCIES/PARTNERS
Action 2.3: Adopt an asset management plan for roads, with inventory of road conditions, maintenance standards, and schedule.	» Plan » Practices & Operations	Long	» Road Department » EPCOG
Action 2.4: Establish contact with rural landowners to assist the County in prioritizing maintenance of roads.	» Practices & Collaboration	Short	» County Manager's Office, Road Department
GOAL 3: ENSURE PROPER RURAL ADDRESSING.			
Action 3.1: Install, update, and replace intersection signs on all County roads.	» Infrastructure » Financing	Medium	» Road Department
Action 3.2: Consider adopting a County ordinance requiring rural residents to install and maintain visible address numbers to enable effective law enforcement and emergency service response.	» Ordinance	Medium	» County Commission
GOAL 4: BEAUTIFY AND ENHANCE MAJOR CORRIDORS AND ENTRANCES INTO THE COUNTY.			
Action 4.1: Continue to support median beautification program along US 80/64 with CAFB.	» Collaboration	Ongoing	» CAFB » NMDOT
Action 4.2: Work with NMDOT for updating maintenance agreement for State Highways including US 84/60, US 70, and NM 206.	» Collaboration	Short	» NMDOT » Road Department
Action 4.3: Pursue federal funding through the State Transportation Improvement Plan for the widening of US 84/60 from two lanes to four lanes from Grier to the Curry/Roosevelt County line.	» Collaboration » Financing	Medium	» EPCOG » NMDOT » FHWA
Action 4.4: Pursue safety improvements on NM 467 at the Southgate of CAFB.	» Infrastructure » Financing	Medium	» NMDOT » CAFB
GOAL 5: ENSURE UTILITY PROVIDER COMPLIANCE WITH FRANCHISE AGREEMENTS.			
Action 5.1: Review franchise agreements to check for compliance with franchise agreements, permits, etc.	» Practices & Operations	Short	» County Manager's Office
Action 5.2: Review County right-of-way agreements for compliance.	» Practices & Operations	Short	» County Manager's Office



COUNTY ROADS BY SURFACE

- Municipal Boundaries
- Asphalt Surface
- Dirt Surface
- Open Space
- Chip Seal Surface
- Gravel Surface
- Military Facilities
- Caliche Surface



Map 8: County Roads by Surface



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CHAPTER 9

HAZARD MITIGATION



This section identifies the natural, human-made, and human-caused hazards that exist in Curry County, such as dust storms, drought, terrorism, and hazardous materials. In addition to identifying potential hazards, this section develops strategies to reduce or eliminate either the hazards themselves or potential damage.

COMMUNITY CONCERNS

- › Rural fire departments need upgraded equipment. Broadview needs a new fire station or fire station upgrades.
- › Recruitment and retention of rural fire department volunteers is an ongoing need.
- › There needs to be training for first responders following issues outlined in the hazard mitigation plan.
- › Volunteer firefighters need training on equipment maintenance. These volunteers need help with grant writing to fund training.
- › There is a need to continue to provide training and updated equipment to the Road Department for fighting wildfires in the County.
- › CAFB provides first responder training. There is an opportunity for CAFB and County to provide training together using a P4 model.



1. HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN

The County completed and adopted a hazard mitigation plan in 2014. The primary goals of the plan are to identify natural hazards (wildfire, drought, storms, floods, and other natural disasters), assess the risk of each hazard and outline mitigation steps to reduce the loss of life or property in the event of a disaster. The plan noted a high risk of future droughts, severe storms, and a moderate risk of flash floods in most areas of the County (see Map 9: Floodplains).



Figure 12: Flooding at Cannon Air Force Base Housing After Heavy Rainstorm in May 2015

Source: U.S. Air Force photo/Staff Sgt. Matthew Plew

1.1 HAZARD RISK SUMMARY

The plan compiled a composite list of generalized risk for each area in the County based on the identified hazards (see Table 19 below). This was developed based on the probable occurrence in the future, as well as through an assessment process during stakeholder meetings. For the most part, the hazards with the highest risk are related to droughts and severe storms. Flash floods, including those associated with severe rainstorms, are a medium risk for the communities in the County. Although most communities except Clovis are not built on or near floodplains, the risk of flooding is reduced, although drainage issues are of concern. Some communities (discussed below) also have a medium risk of wildfires.

Table 19: Generalized Hazard Risk Summary

	DROUGHT	EXCESSIVE HEAT	FLASH FLOOD	RIVERINE FLOOD	SEVERE STORMS	TORNADOES	WILDFIRES	WINTER STORMS
Curry County	High	Low	Medium	Low	High	Low	Low	Low
Clovis	High	Low	Medium	Medium	High	Low	Low	Low
Grady	High	Low	Medium	No Risk	High	Low	Medium	Low
Melrose	High	Low	Medium	No Risk	High	Low	Medium	Low
Texico	High	Low	Medium	No Risk	High	Low	Low	Low

Source: Curry County Hazard Mitigation Plan, 2014

1.2 MITIGATION ACTIONS

The 2014 plan outlines several mitigation actions for the County administration and municipal governments to reduce the risk of the identified hazards occurring in the future. These actions are intended to address specific associated hazards, and involve implementation measures from all jurisdictions.

The top actions identified include:

1. Upgrades to community alert, broadcast, and warning systems. Upgrades are intended to address floods, tornados, wildfires, and severe storms hazards.
2. Rainwater retention/detention projects and storm water drainage system upgrades to address drought and mitigate future floods.
3. Critical facility backup generator installation to deal with loss of power during natural disasters and storms.
4. Debris and natural fuels reduction program to reduce the risk of wildfires.
5. FEMA safe room projects to provide safe shelters from severe storms.
6. Transportation status and routing notification systems for flooding and severe storms and potential evacuations.
7. Tree wire installation and underground electrical transmission installation for severe storms and tornados.

Some of these issues were brought up during community meetings, especially regarding drainage issues and the need for better retention/detention areas. The need to address these issues surfaced in October 2015 after heavy rains led to flooding of some homes and damaged County roads. Some of these issues could be addressed with better drainage design practices, especially for dirt and caliche roads in the County. In addition, utilizing the area's playas more extensively as natural detention areas could mitigate some flooding concerns and lead to additional aquifer recharge. As natural waterbodies/wetlands, the playas have traditionally played a crucial role in flood control and as wildlife habitat (see the Natural Resources chapter).

An additional issue raised by residents was the status of the County's alert and warning systems. For example, a resident in Melrose said the municipality had warning sirens and an alert system, but it had not yet notified all residents of these warning systems. The alert system was also not being utilized by all residents.



Mitigation Project or Activity	1	2	3	4	5
Air Conditioning & Ventilation Modernization				Low Priority	
Alert, Broadcast, and Warning System		High Priority			
Critical Facility Backup Generator Installation			Medium Priority		
Debris & Natural Fuels Reduction Program			Medium Priority		
Defensible Spaces/Buffer Zones Program				Low Priority	
FEMA Code 361 Safe Room Projects			Medium Priority		
Insulation & Energy Efficiency Upgrade Program				Low Priority	
Low Flow Utilities Installation Program				Low Priority	
Purchase Repetitive Loss & Severe Repetitive Loss Properties			Medium Priority		
Rainwater Retention/Detention Project		High Priority			
Remote Water Monitoring Stations				Low Priority	
Snow Fence Installation Program				Low Priority	
Storm Water Drainage System Upgrade			Medium Priority		
Transportation Status & Routing Notification Systems			Medium Priority		
Tree Wire Installation			Medium Priority		
Underground Electrical Transmission Installation			Medium Priority		
Water Line Insulation Program				Low Priority	
Wildfire Structural Retrofit Program				Low Priority	
Xeriscaping				Low Priority	

Figure 13: Mitigation Strategies from Hazard Mitigation Plan

2. WILD FIRE MANAGEMENT

The County completed a Community Wildfire Protection Plan in 2008 to assess the risk of wildfires in rural areas of the County. The plan compiled with the federal Health Forests Restoration Act (HFRA) requiring community fire planning for areas including rangeland. The main goals of the project were to identify communities at risk in the event of wildfires, ensure proper training and safety of firefighters, promote community awareness, and increase the capacity of rural fire departments to respond to emergencies.

The Plan identified moderate hazard ratings for most communities in the County. Melrose was the only community with a high hazard rating.





Figure 14: Joint Training between CFB Personnel and Clovis Fire Department

Source: U.S. Air Force photo/Staff Sgt. Alexx Mercer

2.1 VERY HIGH PRIORITY ACTION ITEMS

The plan's very high priority action items included:

1. Create a County Fire Chiefs' association to coordinate fire program activities and communicate with the County Manager.
2. Develop a multi-agency annual operating plan to address operations, communications, training, fire prevention, and interagency agreements.
3. Work with the New Mexico Department of Transportation (NM-DOT) to promote the highest degree of Right of Way (ROW) maintenance their budget allows.
4. Encourage individual landowners to mow vegetation near homes and along roadways and fence lines for fuel reduction during times of high fire danger. CRP sections will need to follow the guidelines outlined in the Community Wildfire Protection Plan.

2.2 HIGH PRIORITY ACTION ITEMS

In addition, the high priority action items included:

1. Implement fire prevention, fire preparedness, and defensible space and hazard reduction recommendations for each community.
2. Ensure reflective address signs are present. Some homes will need signs at both the home and driveway.



3. Conduct fire prevention campaigns when fire danger is high. This should be done during the spring, for example, when fires can start in dry vegetation and spread rapidly in windy conditions. Create fire prevention messages in the local newspaper and on radio to raise public awareness of the danger of wildfires.
4. Provide proper education, training, and experience for all firefighters as outlined in the Community Wildfire Protection Plan.
5. Provide minimum wildland Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) for all career and volunteer firefighters.
6. Develop an equipment maintenance and replacement plan.
7. Consider a secondary means of retrieving water from the storage tanks in the event of a power outage. Some communities currently have a couple of different means. It is recommended that all elevated water tanks be able to flow water without the electric pumping system.
8. Ensure hydrants are operational. Test hydrants annually, and guarantee they are obstruction free and visible.

3. GOALS & ACTIONS

CURRENT COUNTY ACTIONS

- › Hazard Mitigation Plan adopted
- › Wildfire Protection Plan adopted
- › \$625,000 for Broadview fire station upgrades in 2017 ICIP
- › Loans to rural volunteer fire departments for new fire trucks

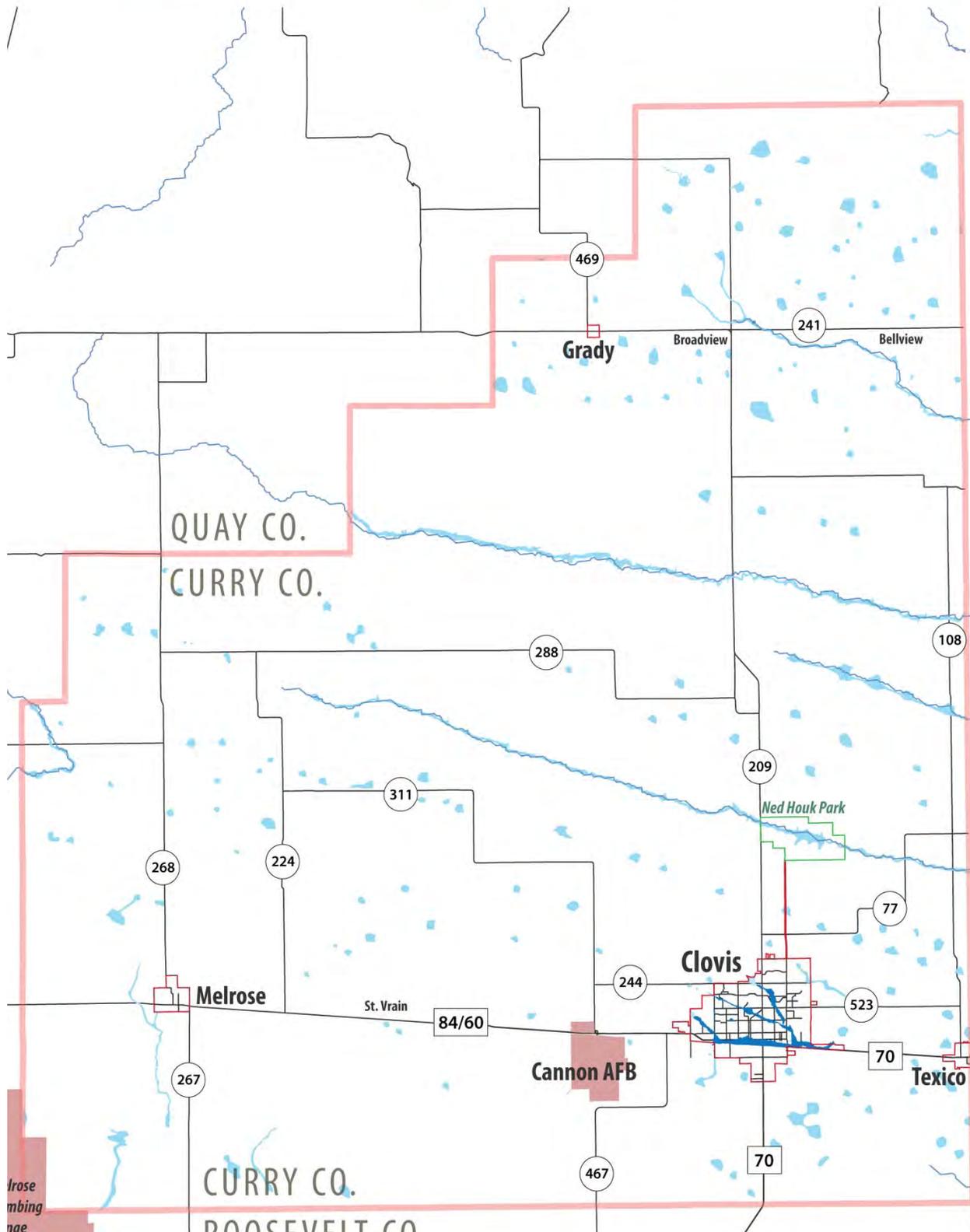


HAZARD MITIGATION	ACTIONS	TIMEFRAME	AGENCIES/PARTNERS
GOAL 1: CONTINUE TO ENSURE THAT ADEQUATE LEVELS OF EMERGENCY SERVICES AND FACILITIES ARE AVAILABLE TO SERVE THE COUNTY.			
Action 1.1: Continue to maintain relationships with other area emergency service providers.	› Practices & Operations	Ongoing	› Sheriff › Rural Fire Departments
Action 1.2: Continue to train all emergency service providers and improve equipment.	› Practices & Operation	Ongoing	› Sheriff › Rural Fire Departments
Action 1.3: The Fire Departments and Disaster/Emergency Planning Department should work with medical center officials to determine if there is a need for new facilities in outlying County areas.	› Practices & Operation	Short	› Sheriff › Rural Fire Departments › County Manager's Office
Action 1.4: The County should continue to seek funding for emergency services training and capital equipment expenses through federal, state, and private grants.	› Practices & Operation	Ongoing	› County Manager's Office › County Commission › Sheriff

HAZARD MITIGATION	ACTIONS	TIMEFRAME	AGENCIES/PARTNERS
Action 1.5: Support supplemental emergency service providers, such as air transport, who partner with local EMS providers and hospitals to serve County residents.	» Practices & Operation	Ongoing	» County Manager's Office » County Commission
Action 1.6: Fund a part time Fire Marshall to assist rural community volunteer fire departments.	» Practices & Operation » Financing	Short	» County Commission
Action 1.7: Implement reporting to the County from the Office of Emergency Management, which manages emergency services throughout the County.	» Practices & Operation	Short	» County Manager's Office
GOAL 2: IMPLEMENT KEY RECOMMENDATION OF HAZARD MITIGATION PLANS.			
Action 2.1: Implement key components of hazard mitigation plans.	» Practices & Operation » Collaboration	Long	» County Manager's Office » County Commission » Rural Fire Departments » Sheriff
Action 2.2: Map fire districts to ensure all communities are covered by fire departments.	» Project/Program	Short	» EPCOG » Assessor
Action 2.3: Continue to provide training and updated equipment to the Road Department for fighting wildfires in the County.	» Practices & Operation	Ongoing	» Road Department
GOAL 3: PURSUE EXPANDED TRAINING FOR VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENTS.			
Action 3.1: Update and pursue MOU with CAFB regarding joint training between base and emergency service personnel.	» Practices & Operation	Short	» CAFB » County Manager's Office



- Municipal boundaries
- Open Space
- Military Facilities
- ~ Stream
- A - 1% Annual Chance of Flood
- AE - 1% Annual Chance of Flood, Base Flood Elevation Known



Map 9: Floodplains

