

# The Albuquerque Area is an underserved market that needs 16,268 more additional multifamily rental units and is experiencing phenomenal rent growth from all of the new Netflix, Intel, Amazon and other jobs

#### **EDITORIAL**

## HOUSING CRISIS

#### More inventory the real key to tackling soaring rents

There's a housing crisis in Albuquerque, and it doesn't just involve those living on the streets or in their cars.

Out of sight but top of mind for untold thousands of New Mexicans are soaring rental costs. According to Rent.com, the average monthly rent for a one-bedroom apartment in the Duke City has gone up 42% during the pandemic, Mayor Tim Keller says rent in Albuquerque has increased an average of 22% just this year.

Renters of one-bedroom apartments in Albuquerque are paying an average monthly rent of \$1,155. That's up from \$1,064 a year ago and \$812 at the outset of the pandemic.

According to Albuquerque leaders, half of all renters in the city are paying more than 30% of their monthly income for housing — in addition to higher prices for everything else amid the worst inflation in 40 years. That's unsustainable.

The New Mexico Supreme Court in 2020 placed a moratorium on eviction cases related to nonpayment of rent. It was a necessary pandemic safeguard, but the moratorium was phased out this spring and now many Albuquerque residents are seeing their monthly rental costs increase by more than \$200.

A lot of renters are making hard choices, such as Albuquerque's Mia Augustson, who told a Journal reporter she and her spouse have given up their car, put off some health care and called off a planned 20th anniversary celebration after their landlord raised their rent earlier this year by more than \$200.

And while the idea of rent control emerged in Albuquerque as a remedy, it's a seeming short-term fix with long-term negative consequences. It bears pointing out that efforts at rent control in major cities across the U.S. have failed to address the need for more, and more affordable, housing inventory while creating an underground subleasing market.

In fact, local commercial developers and apartment managers say that even the words "rent control" have a chilling effect on expanding housing stock. The last thing the city needs is to put up a "closed for business" sign to investors and developers when the Albuquerque area needs between 13,000 and 33,000 more units. The City Council was correct to overwhelmingly reject a rent control resolution last month by a 7-2 vote.

So what should be done?

The Keller administration has proposed a Housing Forward ABQ initiative that could help with what the mayor calls the "low-hanging fruit" of converting hotels/motels into apartments. If successful, the effort could increase some housing stock in the short term, revitalize blighted areas, keep private properties on the tax rolls and ramp up housing and construction jobs through training programs.

It's an interesting proposition because the city has had real successes converting problem and underutilized properties

For example, the Metro Redevelopment Agency in 2016 purchased and rehabilitated the blighted El Vado motel into a boutique hotel with commercial tenants. The El Vado Place apartments have 32 units, 24 of which are affordable.

A similar development is underway for the Imperial Inn in East Downtown. It is a mixed-use development with 16 residential suites, 52 guest rooms, and more than 4,000 square feet of rentable commercial space for retail and restaurants. And the Sundowner was formerly a 110-room motor-court motel on Route 66 that was rehabilitated in 2014 into 71 mixed-income rental units, 60 of which are affordable.

All were vacant or run-down before their conversions, and all are public-private partnerships.

The aim of the city's Housing Forward ABQ initiative is to create 5,000 new housing units by 2025 above what the private housing market will provide. Two years ago, a study found Albuquerque was shy 15,500 affordably priced units to meet the need of its poorest residents. Albuquerque officials say that gap has only widened, and Keller recently said "this is a massive problem structurally."

The initiative also includes converting commercial and office buildings into apartments, and modifications of the city's Integrated Development Ordinance to allow for more "casitas" on single-family properties and to adjust parking requirements to promote higher-density housing. It makes sense to update the IDO to allow more flexibility, such as not requiring full kitchen facilities in converted housing units. For many, a microwave and toaster oven suffice in place of a full oven and stove.

And there is clearly a need. The City Council has appropriated \$15 million for housing vouchers, but city leaders say it's often difficult for voucher recipients to find rental properties that accept them. Meanwhile, city leaders estimate there are 22,000 unhoused households needing permanent supportive housing.

Keller says about 40 new people move into the Albuquerque area every day. Todd Clark of New Mexico Apartment Advisers points out jobs from Netflix, Amazon, Facebook and Intel are great, but they also create pressure on the housing market. "The reason we have double-digit rent growth and 30% appreciation in single-family (units) is because we have all these phenomenal new jobs that our economy hasn't seen in well over a decade," he said.

And a housing shortage makes it more difficult to create and attract jobs.

Albuquerque, like many other cities in New Mexico, has underutilized commercial and office properties. Downtowns are struggling all over the state and need revitalization. And the housing crisis needs to be addressed to meet immediate housing needs — from perennially expensive Santa Fe to the currently booming oil patch.

Albuquerque's effort at public-private property conversions could fill in the immediate gaps and work as a template for other communities. Only through boosting the housing inventory will skyrocketing rental costs stabilize and ensure more people have a steady place to live.

EBA For Albuquerque Area		updated 10/29/2022			
	# of			Non	
	new		Basic	Basic	Total
	jobs	Basic	Jobs	Jobs	Jobs
F.A.A.(I).N.G effect					
Facebook Construction (est.)	500	N		500	500
Facebook Data Center Operations	35	Y	35		35
Fidelity Investments	240	S	106	134	240
Amazon Fulfillment Center - Project Chico	1,500	Y	1,500		1,500
Amazon Sortation Center - Project Nico	200	Y	200		200
Amazon Los Lunas - Project Charlie	600	Y	600		600
Amazon Airport	?				
Intel Construction	1,000	N		1,000	1,000
Intel Expansion	750	Y	750		750
NBC Universal Studio	330	Y	330		330
NetFlix Construction	1,000	N		1,000	1,000
NetFlix Production	1,500	Y	1,500		1,500
Lancs Industries	70	Y	70		70
LQ Digital	100	Y	100		100
Blue Halo additional jobs (over 260)	64	Y	64		64
MTX Group Inc (Downtown)	250	Y	250		250
Manna Capital LL	950	Y	950		950
Curia	270	Y	270		270
Vexus Fiber Optic	200	N		200	200
KAFB Space Force	100	Y	250		250
	9,659	-	6,975	2,834	9,809
EBM (Bernalillo County)			7.84	1.00	
Total New Jobs			54,681	2,834	57,515
P/E Ratio =					2.17
Total New People					124,808
# of persons per household					2.52
Total New Households					49,527
% that own					35%
# of new single family residences needed					32,193
% that rent					35%
# of new apartments needed at 100% occupancy					17,334
Occupancy Rate at ideal market balance					95%
# of new apartments needed at 95% occupa	ıncy				18,247
# of apartments built in 2020-2022	•				1,979
NEW Gap					16,268
•					•

# For Sale - Sierra Vista Apartment site 24.59 acre site supporting 400 high density units—\$6,000,000



On behalf of the owners, NM Apartment Advisors and Maestas Real Estate Services is pleased to present one of the largest multifamily zoned sites in the Greater Albuquerque Metro Area.

This 24.59 acre site is part of the Sierra Vista Area plan which covers a larger 272.3 acre master plan which is located just north of *Cerro de Los Lunas Preserve* in Los Lunas, NM. The site is adjacent one of the highest concertation of employment growth in the area with a new Amazon distribution facility, Meta/Facebook data centers, Wal-mart distribution center and a planned rail park.

# The Property

Address: Highway 6 & Emily Avenue

Total Site Size: 24.5955 acres

**Site Drainage Area** ~4.0000 acres

Net Developable Site Area ~20.5955 acres

Parcel #: R302199

Legal: Tract D-1,

Legacy at Sierra Vista, Valencia County, NM

Zoning: Per Area Plan

Ask Price: \$6,000,000

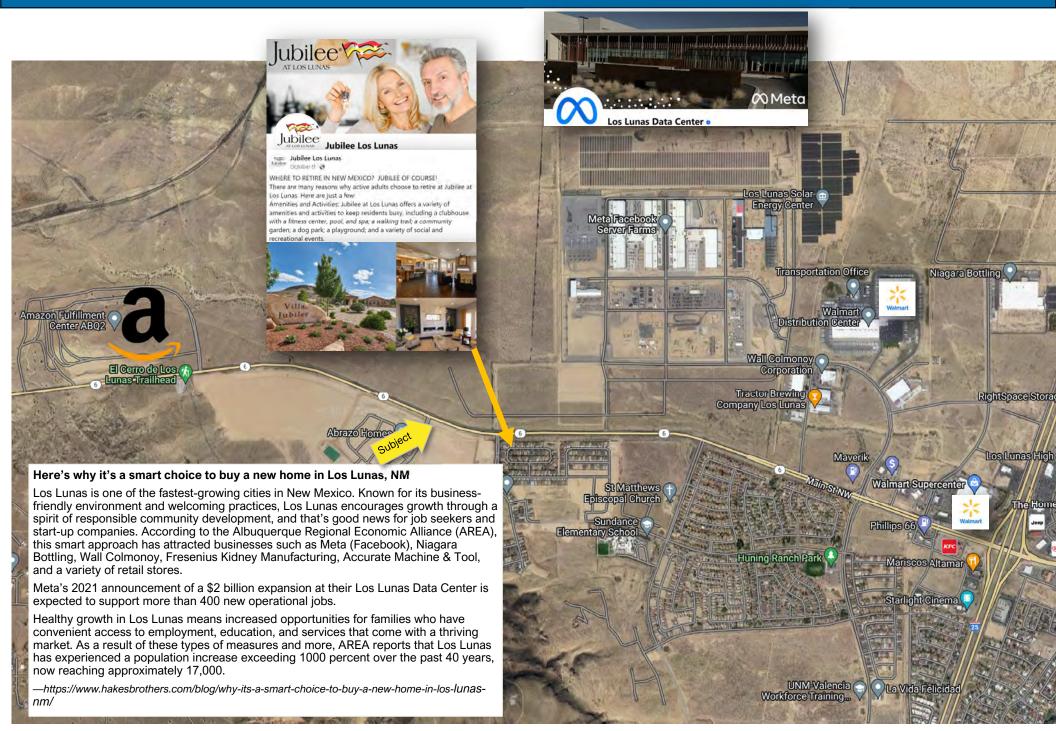
**\$/ unit:** \$15,000

**\$ /sf:** \$5.61

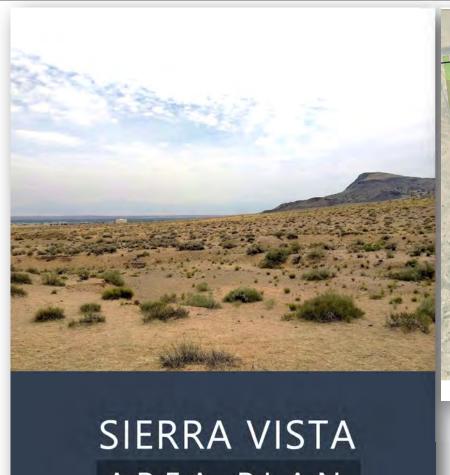




### For Sale - Sierra Vista Apartment site Area Map



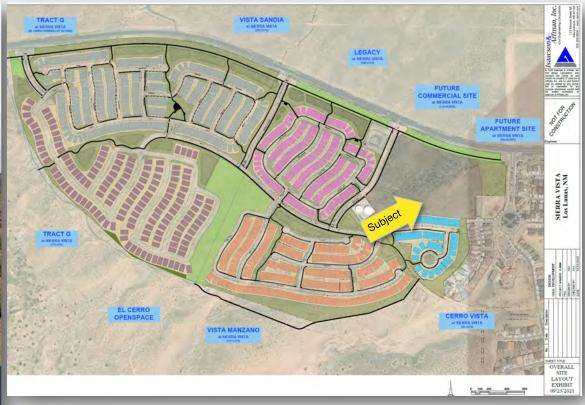
### For Sale - Sierra Vista Apartment site Documents available in Confidential Document center:





LOS LUNAS, NEW MEXICO

Approved September 6, 2018



- Approved Area Plan
- Geo tech report  $\boxtimes$
- Vested Water ordinance Available for \$840/per unit
- Final Recorded Plat
- **HOA** documents



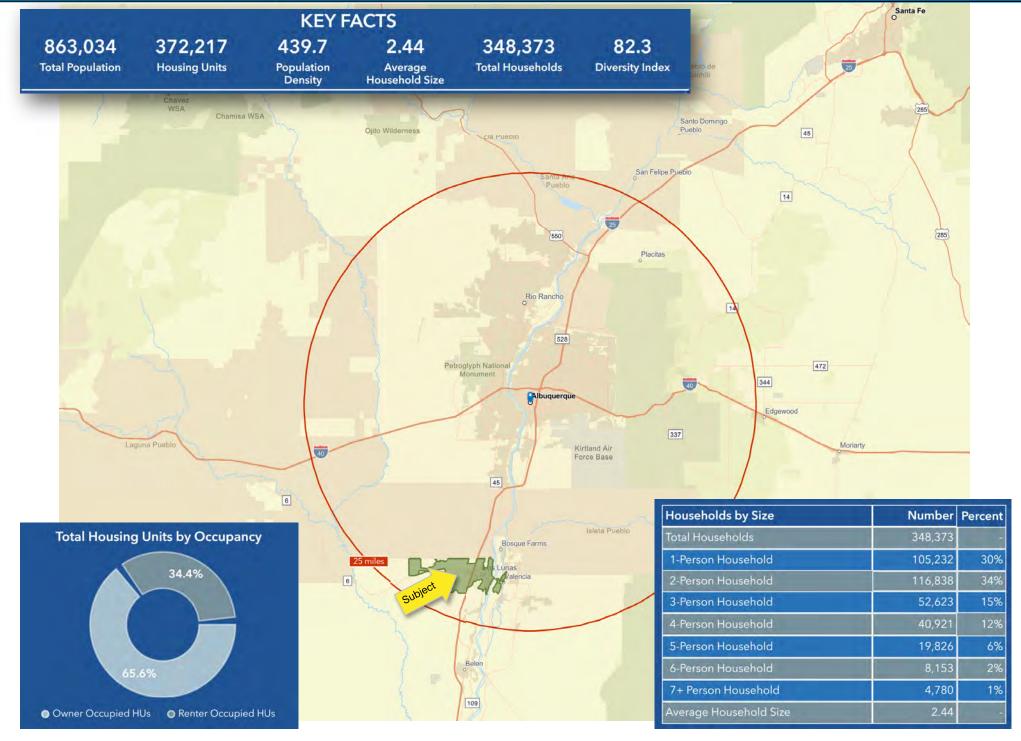


### 2020 Census Summary

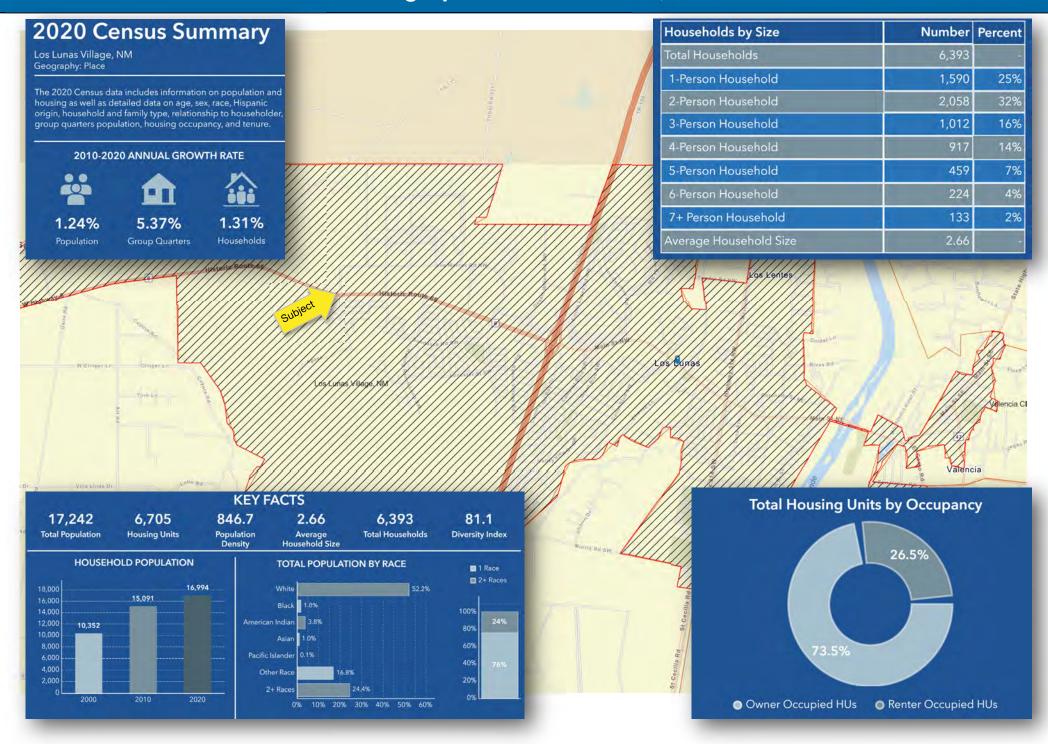
Albuquerque, New Mexico Ring of 25 miles

### **Map and Demographics for Greater Albuquerque Area**





### **Demographics for Los Lunas, NM**



# Reasons to invest in the Albuquerque Area

#### Albuquerque is home to

Three of the six F.A.A.N.G. tech companies:



Data Center



Distribution center under construction announced 1.000

Apple



announced \$1 Billion of new programming

Google

Due to Sandia and Los Alamos National (nuclear) Laboratories - New Mexico has more PhDs per capita than any other state.

#### #3rd place in United States for Film and TV

The city has made a major investment in its transportation corridor - along historic Route 66 the new A.R.T. or Albuquerque Rapid Transit has been installed - a \$130M investment and upgrade into this transit corridor. Did you know that apartment communities in the top 10% of walk, bike or transit scores achieve 25% higher rents?

Albuquerque offers over 300 days of sunshine, ski and golf in the same day, hundreds of miles of biking/hiking trails, more parks/open space per person and North America's

largest bosque forest.

**Forbes** Best Places for Business

Albuquerque, New Mexico in the news

☑ 9th best mid-sized city of the Future

Foreign Direct Investment magazine—03/2015

Travel+Leisure—03/2015

☑ America's best city for Global Trade for Skilled Workforce

Global Trade magazine—11/2014

☑ 3rd best city for rent growth

All Property Management as reported in ABQ Journal—

☑ 6th best city in US for connecting workers to jobs using **Public Transportation** 

Brookings Institute—July 2012

☑ One of the 10 best park systems in the nation

Trust for Public Land—2012

☑ 3rd most fittest city

Men's Fitness Magazine- 2012

3rd best city to make movies

Moviemaker.com- June 2012

☑ Top 25 best places to Retire

CNNMoney.com—Sept. 2011

☑ 15th best city in Bloomberg's Business Week (best cities)

Bloomberg's Business Week-2011

Bicycling Magazine—2010

☑ Top Ten for Being a Healthy Community

Outside Magazine—#6—August 2009

☑ One of the Best Cities in the Nation

Kiplinger Magazine—#2—July 2009

☑ Top 10 places to Live

U.S. News & World Report—June 2009

☑ AAA rates Albuquerque 2nd in vacation affordability

American Automobile Association—June 2008

☑ UNM Anderson School Ranked in Global 100

Aspen Institute, October 2007

44. New Mexico



**MILLIONAIRE HOUSEHOLDS: 40,450 TOTAL HOUSEHOLDS: 813,135** Concentration of Millionaires: 4.97%

RANK: 44 (+1 from last year)

MEDIAN INCOME FOR ALL HOUSEHOLDS:

\$47,169

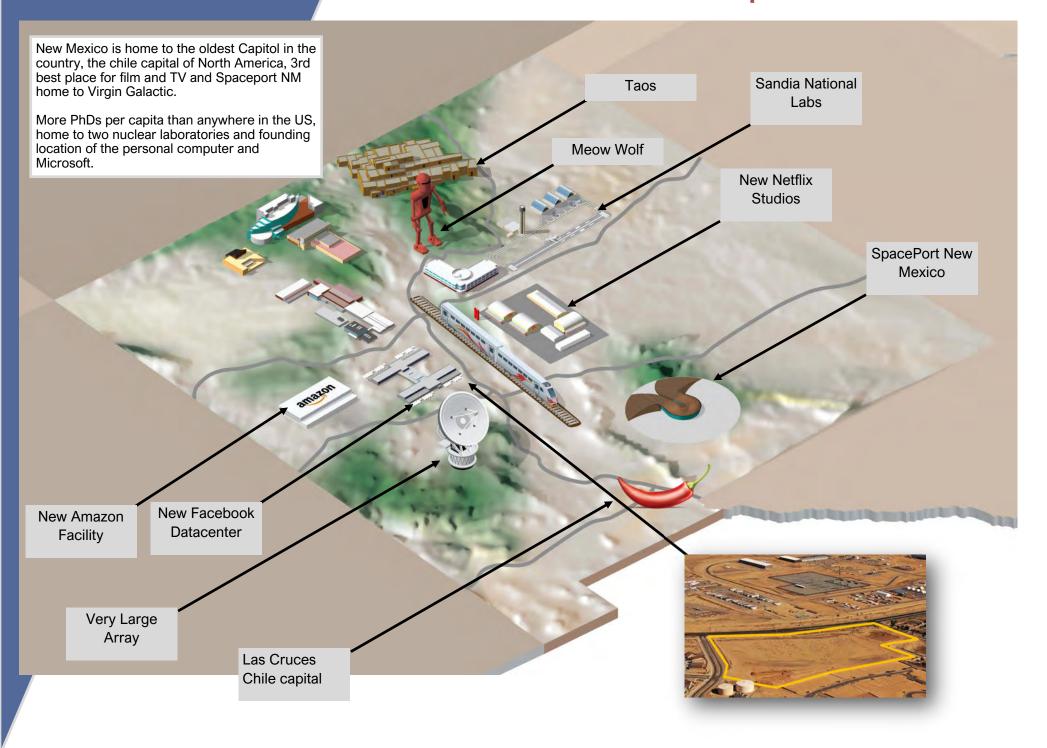
**MEDIAN HOME VALUE: \$174,700** 

New Mexico is a land of stark contrasts when it comes to its millionaire population. Los Alamos, New Mexico – best known for the world-famous Los Alamos National Laboratory – seems like an unlikely place to find a lot of millionaires. But at 13.2%, it has the second-highest concentration of millionaires per capita of any city in the U.S.

In addition to medicine, top-paying jobs are found in general internal medicine, engineering management and psychiatry.

Yet outside of Los Alamos, the state's concentration of millionaires puts it in the bottom 10 in the U.S. Fewer than 1 in 20 households claiming investable assets of \$1 million or more.

# New Mexico is on the international map



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Located 15 miles south of of downtown Albuquerque's and in the village of Los Lunas, NM. **Caution:** Please do not visit the site at 4pm during the weekdays as hundreds of Facebook/Meta and contactors to Facebook/Meta are leaving the site, headed north to find housing in Albuquerque. The very definition of an adaptive audience who would likely prefer housing across the street.

One particular investment that has added immense value to the town is the Meta (Facebook) Datacenter Campus which represents \$2.2 billion worth of investment. "They [Meta Facebook Campus Datacenter] just announced in October of last year that they were adding two additional buildings for a total of 3.8 million square feet," Gamboa reports.

Having the Meta Datacenter Campus on Los Lunas's doorstep has only benefited the tight-knit community and created growth opportunities moving forward. "Meta has honestly been the most amazing community partner and they try to invest and come up with great ideas to bring the community closer together," Gamboa reflects.

Not to stop there, Gamboa is also excited about the addition of the Amazon distribution center to the ranks of Los Luna's burgeoning commercial infrastructure initiatives. "The Amazon distribution center was my first big project," Gamboa illustrates. "It's a 1.3 million square foot distribution center that will be operational at the beginning of next year. Construction started September of last year, and it's an investment of \$235 million."

On the production side, Los Lunas will also be gaining a strong industrial presence with the recent announcement of Manna Capital Partners which will see the rollout of an aluminum rolling mill that will bring with it an estimated 950 jobs added to the local economy. "We are extremely excited about their [Manna Capital Partners] claim to be renewable. About 85% of their product will come from recycled aluminum," Gamboa says.

— https://businessviewmagazine.com/los-lunas-new-mexico-valencia-county/

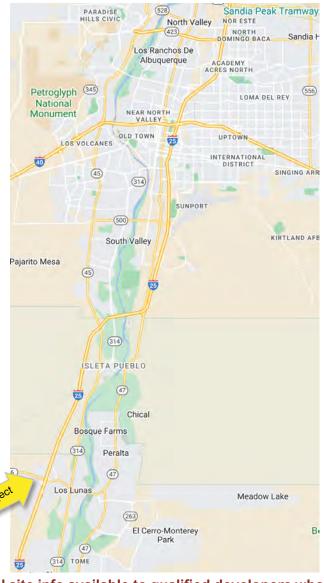


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