

VALENCIA COUNTY Board of County Commissioners Agenda Request Form



Commission Sponsor: Gerard Saiz, Chairman

Department Head: Jhonathan Aragon, County Manager Individual Making Request: Gerard Saiz, Chairman

Presentation at Meeting on: February 5, 2025

Date Submitted: January 31, 2025

Title of Request: Approval of Resolution 2025-13: In Support of the Transfer of the Property Referred to Locally as "The Grasslands" From the State of New Mexico General Services

Department to the Village of Los Lunas for Economic Development, Family-Friendly Amenities,

and Community Growth

Action Requested of Commission:

Approval of Resolution 2025-____: In Support of the Transfer of the Property Referred to Locally as "The Grasslands" From the State of New Mexico General Services Department to the Village of Los Lunas for Economic Development, Family-Friendly Amenities, and Community Growth

Information Background and Rationale

The Village of Los Lunas and Valencia County has expressed its strong commitment to positioning Grasslands as a prime candidate for the New Mexico State Fair, offering an accessible, family-friendly alternative to other proposed locations, with substantial economic and tourism benefits for Valencia County and the larger region. Regardless of the final selection of the New Mexico State Fair site, the transfer of Grasslands to the Village of Los Lunas would facilitate the creation of a comprehensive development plan that includes industrial, commercial, recreational, and community amenities, directly benefiting Valencia County residents and the Board of County Commissioners of Valencia County recognizes the importance of regional collaboration to maximize economic development opportunities and improve infrastructure for the benefit of all county residents.

What is the Financial Impact of this Request?

Legal:

NMSA 1978, Section 4-37-1 (1975) grants the Board the authority to approve this resolution in support of its sister government if it determines the goal is in the best interest of the County government and its inhabitants. (Adren Nance)

Finance:

If approved, the real property will need to be added as a Capital Asset for Valencia County as is required for accurate accounting in financial statements. (Michelle Hueston Green)

Purchasing:

Any purchases that may result from these funds in the future shall adhere to the VC Purchasing Policy
Limits and the NM State Procurement Code. (Rustin Porter)
☐ Not Applicable – Agenda Item Does Not Include the Purchase of Goods and/or Services
☐ Procurement Complete as Described Below:

Do you recommend approval of this Agenda Request? Yes No

Are you seeking direction from the Commission on this Agenda Request? Yes If so, what?

No

Commissioner requesting this agenda item? If yes, the Commission will need to discuss further. No Yes



VALENCIA COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS RESOLUTION № 2025-____

IN SUPPORT OF THE TRANSFER OF THE PROPERTY REFERRED TO LOCALLY AS "THE GRASSLANDS" FROM THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO GENERAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT TO THE VILLAGE OF LOS LUNAS FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, FAMILY-FRIENDLY AMENITIES, AND COMMUNITY GROWTH

WHEREAS, the Valencia County Commission met upon notice of a Regular Meeting duly published on February 5, 2025 at 5:00 P.M. in the Valencia County Administration Building, 444 Luna Avenue, Los Lunas, New Mexico 87031; and,

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners of the County of Valencia exercises the powers of the County as a body politic and corporate pursuant to NMSA 1978, Section 4-38-1 (1884); and,

WHEREAS, NMSA 1978, Section 4-37-1 (1975) provides that, "[a]ll counties are granted the same powers that are granted municipalities except for those powers that are inconsistent with statutory or constitutional limitations placed on counties. Included in this grant of powers to the counties are those powers necessary and proper to provide for the safety, preserve the health, promote the prosperity and improve the morals, order, comfort and convenience of any county or its inhabitants;" and,

WHEREAS, Parcel 1008040066233000000, legally described as Tract: UNNUMBERED IN SEC 17 & S: 18 T: 7N R: 2E, consisting of 286.00 acres, commonly referred to locally as "The Grasslands," is located adjacent to the Village of Los Lunas municipal boundary (hereinafter "Grasslands"); and,

WHEREAS, Grasslands is currently owned by the State of New Mexico General Services Department and has remained vacant for several years despite its strategic location and development potential; and,

WHEREAS, Grasslands is positioned in a key area where Valencia County and the Village of Los Lunas can provide road infrastructure, water utilities, and municipal services, ensuring its viability for future development; and,

WHEREAS, the location of Grasslands is a critical site for a possible future northern I-25 interchange, which would serve the Los Lunas industrial parks, provide traffic relief, and enhance regional transportation connectivity; and,

WHEREAS, the development of Grasslands would present significant opportunities for economic growth, including the potential to establish a publicly owned industrial park that aligns with the State of New Mexico's site readiness goals and job creation initiatives; and,

WHEREAS, the Village of Los Lunas and Valencia County has expressed its strong commitment to positioning Grasslands as a prime candidate for the New Mexico State Fair, offering an accessible, family-friendly alternative to other proposed locations, with substantial economic and tourism benefits for Valencia County and the larger region; and,

WHEREAS, regardless of the final selection of the New Mexico State Fair site, the transfer of Grasslands to the Village of Los Lunas would facilitate the creation of a comprehensive development plan that includes industrial, commercial, recreational, and community amenities, directly benefiting Valencia County residents; and,

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners of Valencia County recognizes the importance of regional collaboration to maximize economic development opportunities and improve infrastructure for the benefit of all county residents.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF VALENCIA COUNTY, NEW MEXICO, AS FOLLOWS:

- 1. The Board of County Commissioners formally supports the transfer of Grasslands from the State of New Mexico General Services Department to the Village of Los Lunas for development into a business and recreational hub and as a potential location for the New Mexico State Fair.
- 2. The County Commission recognizes the Village of Los Lunas' commitment to developing Grasslands with the necessary infrastructure, including a multipurpose event center, family-friendly amenities, and industrial opportunities that will enhance regional economic growth.
- 3. The County Commission supports the Village of Los Lunas' continued engagement with the New Mexico State Legislature, the General Services Department, and other stakeholders to advance this request and ensure that the transfer of Grasslands aligns with countywide development priorities.
- 4. The County Commission authorizes Valencia County representatives to collaborate with the Village of Los Lunas on planning efforts related to infrastructure improvements, transportation access, and economic development strategies for Grasslands to ensure its successful utilization for the benefit of the region.

5. The Board of County Commissioners urges the New Mexico State Legislature and other relevant agencies to facilitate the transfer of Grasslands to the Village of Los Lunas to ensure that this vital economic development project moves forward efficiently and effectively.

PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED THIS 5^{TH} DAY OF FEBRUARY BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF VALENCIA COUNTY, NEW MEXICO.

Gerard Salz

Chairman, District I

Troy Richardson

Vice-Chairman, District II

Morris Sparkman

Commissioner, District III

Joseph Bizzell

Commissioner, District IV

Dante Berry

Commissioner, District V

Attest:

Mike Milam, County Clerk