

**2016 APPROVED
WORK PLAN AND MEETING SCHEDULE
for the
LAND GRANT COMMITTEE**

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Work Plan

The Land Grant Committee was created by the New Mexico Legislative Council on May 9, 2016. The committee proposes to focus on the following topics.

A. Economic Development

The committee will examine the threshold requirements to access various governmental and nonprofit funding programs and private venture business opportunities. The goal would be to identify key capacity obstacles within land grants-mercedes that can be addressed. Specific programs and business opportunities that the committee proposes to review include:

1. various programs offered by the Economic Development Department, including the potential to develop Local Economic Development Act, commonly referred to as "LEDA", projects;
2. United States Department of Agriculture Rural Development grant programs;
3. private nonprofit grant programs and the potential for nonprofit-public partnerships to build capacity;
4. development of location and vendor relationships with the film industry, including the possibility for regional liaison offices to work with land grants, tribes and counties; and

5. analysis of a proposal for transfer of the United States Forest Service visitor center and museum in Abiquiu to create a tourist center and business incubator for land grants-mercedes.

B. State and Federal Land Access: Traditional and Cultural Uses

The committee proposes to:

1. continue a dialogue with the Department of Game and Fish regarding cultural uses within wildlife management areas and the department's "cultural use" proposal;
2. receive an update on the revision process for the forest management plans for the Cibola, Santa Fe and Carson national forests. In particular, the committee proposes to discuss engaging the United States Forest Service regarding the inclusion of forest-dependent communities, such as land grants-mercedes, in the development of the revised forest plans; and
3. receive updates from the United States Bureau of Land Management regarding cultural and traditional uses on public lands.

C. Strengthening Land Grant-Merced Governance Capacity

The committee proposes to continue:

1. a dialogue with the Office of the Attorney General on the plans for an expanded Guadalupe Hidalgo Treaty Division in fiscal year 2017;
2. examining methods to strengthen internal financial structures within small governmental bodies, including land grants-mercedes and acequia associations;
3. analysis of land use planning and other "governance" capacities within land grants-mercedes;
4. a dialogue with the University of New Mexico School of Law regarding curricula and programs geared toward addressing legal issues experienced by small political subdivisions; and
5. reviewing capital infrastructure funding for land grants-mercedes and examining where gaps may exist within the planning or reporting processes for infrastructure capital improvement plans for both recipients and funding administrators.

D. Reports from Individual Land Grants-Mercedes and Associated Entities

The committee proposes to:

1. receive reports from various land grants-mercedes;
2. review the Land Grant Council's programs and receive updates from the New Mexico Land Grant Consejo and the University of New Mexico Land Grant Studies Program, including a report on the progress of land grant mapping and surveys; and
3. receive reports from the Acequia Commission and the New Mexico Acequia Association and explore opportunities to leverage each entity's ability to provide financial management and other professional training for acequia associations.

**Land Grant Committee
2016 Approved Meeting Schedule**

<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>
June 9	Santa Fe
July 5-6	Penasco
August 1-2	Atrisco
October 11-12	Anton Chico (joint meeting with ERDC)
November 21-22	Santa Fe