

VILLAGE OF ENCINO COMPREHENSIVE PLAN



2020

**COMPREHENSIVE PLAN
for the
VILLAGE OF ENCINO, NEW MEXICO**

Adopted by the Village Council
October 14, 2020

This document was prepared by the Mid-Region Council of Governments staff.



MID-REGION COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS OF NEW MEXICO
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ONE INTRODUCTION

"A comprehensive plan is a local level policy document that guides both short and long-term development of a community. A comprehensive plan addresses desired development over the next 20 or more years. The principle audience of the comprehensive plan is the entire community. This encompasses residents, private developers, and local elected officials."

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INTRODUCTION

• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • In 2009, the Village of Encino adopted its very first comprehensive plan, which was developed to guide anticipated development within the jurisdictional boundaries. However, like many rural communities throughout the Intermountain West Region, the Village of Encino has experienced a reduction in development activities and economic growth over the past decade. The Village of Encino has also experienced significant population loss resulting in new issues to be remedied.

With current conditions hindering development activities, the Village is in need of an updated comprehensive plan to ensure future prosperity.

With the help of the community and local area experts, this comprehensive plan aims not only to maintain the Village's existence but also to ensure that existing and future residents are provided with the physical, social, and economic health required to live a prosperous life in rural Torrance County.



Village Hall, 2019

What is a Comprehensive Plan?

A comprehensive plan is a local level policy document that guides both short and long-term development of a community. A comprehensive plan addresses desired development over the next 20 or more years. The principle audience of the comprehensive plan is the entire community. This encompasses residents, private developers, and local elected officials.

The comprehensive plan provides the community with a snapshot of itself as it currently sits. This is completed by using readily available United States Census Bureau data along with other forms of qualitative and quantitative information. A comprehensive plan also allows the community to establish a vision for future growth by way of an in-depth community engagement process.

With a community vision in place, the comprehensive plan guides policy makers, developers, residents and other parties with decisions regarding land use, housing, transportation, infrastructure, public services and facilities, and

economic development. To achieve an effective guiding policy, an in-depth community engagement process will result in the development of locally prioritized goals, objectives and action strategies. These goals, objectives and action strategies will work towards achieving the community vision.

Once adopted by the community, the comprehensive plan becomes an advisory document and is used as a guide for all future development, programs, and policies within the community. The comprehensive plan should be reviewed annually and updated every five years or as necessary to ensure the plan reflects current conditions, visions, and governing policies.

Comprehensive Plan Contents

Comprehensive plans come in many variations; some broad and simplistic, some detailed and complex. No two comprehensive plans are the same. The Village of Encino outlined the following framework to develop a comprehensive plan that fits the scale of the community:

Community Profile

The community profile presents a “snapshot” of the community in its current state. It also showcases past and present socio-economic data. This information is included to help the community develop a common vision and form realistic goals, objectives, and action strategies. Information within this section of the comprehensive plan is derived from the United States Census Bureau, local surveys, and other qualitative and quantitative resources.

Land Use

The land use section includes information regarding past, present, and future development patterns including general descriptions of types, acreage, and other pertinent information. This section is included to assist the community in identifying appropriate development areas.



Housing

This section focuses on housing in the Village and documents the number of homes, the types of homes, condition of homes, and other pertinent information. This information will be used to determine the need for future development of housing.



Transportation and Circulation

The transportation and circulation section examines the existing transportation networks, both motorized and non-motorized, within the Village of Encino. An inventory of roadways, railways, and pedestrian and bicyclist infrastructure is listed. This information will be used to determine priority transportation facilities within the Village.



Public Facilities and Services

This section covers a variety of public facilities and services including local government operations, water supply and wastewater disposal, stormwater management, parks, recreation and open space, law enforcement, hazards mitigation, solid waste disposal, street maintenance, healthcare, communications and energy, and institutional facilities and services. Existing services will be presented to assist the community in identifying areas of need.



Hazard Mitigation

The hazard mitigation section identifies the existing and future hazards that work against the sustainability and resiliency of the community. This element identifies methods to mitigate these hazards and preserve Village assets should such events occur.



Economic Development

This section will explore feasible economic development strategies that can be employed within the jurisdictional boundaries of the Village. A regional examination of the economic conditions will be included to assist in the identification of economic development partnerships that may provide opportunities for Encino residents.



Previous Plans

In 2009, the Village of Encino Trustees approved and adopted the Village's first comprehensive plan. The plan, which was written by the Mid-Region Council of Governments (MRCOG), was the result of a year-long planning process that resulted in a unified vision that provided guidance for future development within the Village of Encino. The comprehensive land use plan incorporated the following planning elements: land use, transportation, housing, public facilities and services, and economic development. Village Trustees and residents identified goals and objectives based on internal dialogue and the most recent demographic and socio-economic data available.

This is the first update since the 2009 "Village of Encino Comprehensive Land Use Plan" was adopted by the Village.

Village of Encino Comprehensive Land Use Plan

adopted: April 14, 2009



2009 Village of Encino Comprehensive Land Use Plan

Methodology and Process

To develop the 2020 comprehensive plan, a two-part survey was sent out to Encino residents. The first section of the survey asked residents how many people lived within their home and the age of each person. This data was used to supplement the population data provided by the American Community Survey. The second section of the survey

that was sent out after the first, asked open-ended questions about Encino's community character. This tool was used to determine the overall feelings of residents towards Encino, and to determine wants and needs of the community. The survey revealed that many residents like that Encino has a small-town feel. Many mentioned that they enjoy the quiet, friendliness, and little crime that come with living in a small town. The survey also revealed that residents wish Encino was closer to shopping, healthcare, and businesses, and residents would like to see more business within the Village. The addition of a sewer system and road repair were also commonly mentioned among residents.

In addition to the surveys, a steering committee was created to give input for the plan. Typically, a comprehensive planning steering committee is appointed by the Village Council to oversee the planning process. Because of the rural nature and small size of the Village, the MRCOG planning staff worked directly with the Village Council and staff to develop the Encino Comprehensive Plan. MRCOG planning staff also facilitated a public meeting at the Village of Encino. At the meeting, planning staff presented the results of the community survey and the community demographics. The survey results, discussions from the meeting and with Village Council and staff, and research by MRCOG staff were used to guide the development of the goals and objectives mentioned throughout the plan.

The plan was presented to the Village Council and adopted by resolution on October 14, 2020.

Legal and Administrative Framework

The legal and administrative framework for developing comprehensive plans in the state of New Mexico is established by state statutes. Specifically, these state statutes establish the authority of a local government to prepare a comprehensive plan and engage in comprehensive planning activities.

TWO COMMUNITY PROFILE

Prior to evaluating particular strategies for managing future development, it is necessary to assess both the historical background and present-day conditions of Encino. The following community profile is a broad overview of Encino's population, and is intended to promote a common understanding of the Village and its residents, and how it functions as a small municipality in the State of New Mexico.

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REGIONAL SETTING



The Village of Encino's jurisdictional boundaries are comprised of approximately 1.99 square miles or 1,274 acres located in the Estancia Basin between the Estancia Valley and the Pecos River Watershed. The Village is situated southeast of the Pedernal Hills and sits at approximately 6,119 feet above sea level.

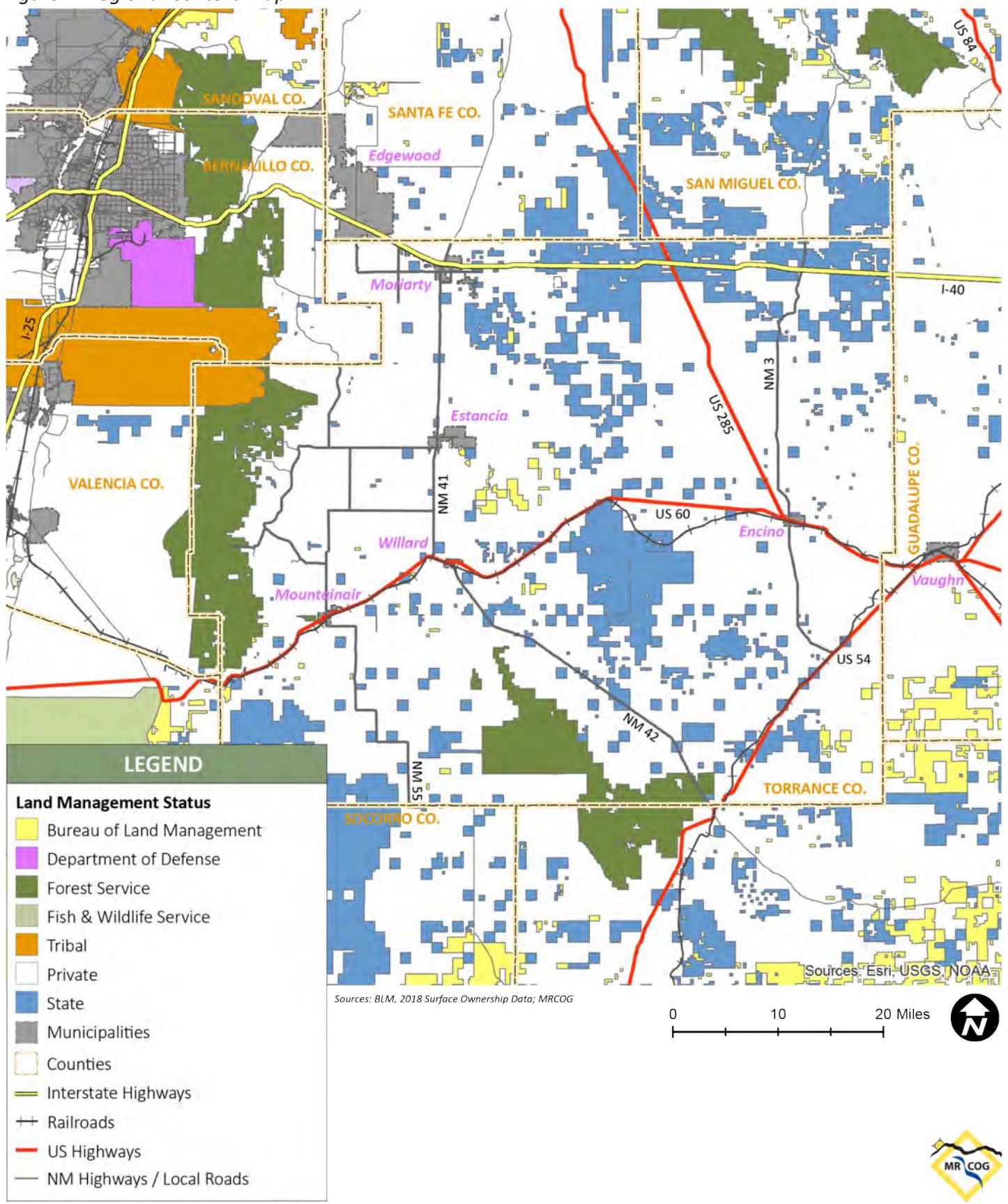
The relatively high elevation provides the Village with an average annual high temperature of 66.9 degrees fahrenheit and an average annual low of 35.1 degrees fahrenheit, creating a moderate climate for much of the year. In addition to a moderate climate, the Village receives 13.97 inches of rainfall and 28 inches of snow fall annually, which is in line with state averages (US Climate Data, 2019).

Situated in the east central portion of Torrance County, New Mexico, the Village of Encino is located at the crossroads of US Highway 285, US Highway 60, and NM Highway 3. The Village is relatively isolated

with the closest community being the Town of Vaughn, which is approximately 15 miles (15-minute drive) east of Encino. The closest metropolitan area is the City of Albuquerque. To access the metropolitan area, residents of Encino travel a little more than 90 miles (1 hour and 21 minute drive) via US Highway 285 and Interstate 40 (See Figure 1). Encino residents rely on neighboring communities for necessary goods and services.

The Village of Encino's total population is ranked 393rd out of the 443 cities, towns, and census designated places in New Mexico. This ranking indicates that the Village is only larger than 50 other places in New Mexico.

Figure 1: Regional Context Map



The Village of Encino does not have many amenities available for its residents. However, the various communities located nearby provide necessary goods and services to the residents of Encino. Fresh produce and other grocery items are not sold in the Village. Residents must travel great distances to obtain these goods from one of the various stores within a 60-mile radius. The closest large-scale grocery store is located approximately 52 miles away in the City of Moriarty. Almost equally distant, a smaller local grocery store is located in the Town of Mountainair, approximately 50 miles to the west. The nearest hospitals are located in Albuquerque (88.2 miles) and Santa Rosa (54.4 miles). The Guadalupe County Hospital in Santa Rosa is about a 51 minute drive from Encino. Presbyterian Hospital in Albuquerque, which is a much larger hospital, is approximately a 1 hour and 14 minute drive. The Village no longer has educational facilities, therefore the children of Encino must attend the nearest elementary, middle, and high schools located in the Town of Vaughn.



R.C. Dillon & Co., 1936

As many communities in the Middle-Rio Grande region began to grow, the Atchison Topeka and Santa Fe Railway began construction of the “Belen Cut-Off” in 1905. The completion of this project resulted in a rail line that navigates around the southern edge of the Manzano-Sandia Mountains and over Abo Pass. Subsequently, a train depot was constructed in Encino with its sole purpose being a water stop for the steam powered trains of the Atchison Topeka and Santa Fe Railway. This required stop contributed to the expansion of the Village and the creation of new businesses, mostly along what is now Railroad Avenue (*Boyle, 2016*).

HISTORY



The Village of Encino has a history of railways and ranching. Throughout the 1800s, Encino was used as a grazing and rest area for travelers as they made their way to Santa Fe. As time passed, many ranchers of sheep and cattle began to settle in the plains surrounding the area that would become the Village of Encino. Families that were migrating from Spain officially settled in Encino in the early 1900s. This area was covered with low oak brush, a defining feature that presumably is why the Village came to be called “Encino”, the Spanish word for oak (*Boyle, 2016*).

The Village’s first retail business was opened by the Bond brothers in 1905. In 1907 the Encino Post Office was established. This post office, which sits at the corner of US Highway 285 and 2nd Street, still stands today, but operations have been moved to a newer building. In 1908, A.R. Cecil, a local entrepreneur opened Encino’s second business, which was a lumber business. Around this time, Richard C. Dillon, who would become the eighth governor of New Mexico in 1927, started the R.C. Dillon and Company general store. This store was located on what is now called Railroad Avenue, formally Front Street. This corridor became home to many of the town’s businesses during this period and remained so until 1936 when US Highway 285/60

was re-routed through the community. This re-route from Front Street to Oak Street resulted in many businesses relocating or closing (Boyle, 2016).

The 1930s was a time of growth and success for the Village. A public school was constructed in Encino in 1926. This educational facility provided kindergarten through twelfth grade curriculum. As the Village's population increased, a separate high school was constructed in 1936. The original educational facility continued to be used as the elementary school for quite some time (Boyle, 2016).

Also during the 1930s, multiple businesses began sprouting up. Most notably, a large mercantile store called Tom Montoya and Son's Grocery and Dry Goods Store and the Rio Pecos Service Station were opened. The Rio Pecos Service Station originally faced Front Street and the railroad, but the re-route of the highway caused the business to relocate to face the new corridor. The station was surrounded by several tourist cabins and featured a café that was a common place for travelers and locals to spend time (Boyle, 2016).

As a result of the rise of the automobile and the introduction of new technology, the Atchison Topeka and Santa Fe Railway began to downsize in the 1960s and closed many depots along the Belen Cutoff route. In 1965, the Village of Encino was hit hard with news that the rail depot would officially close. The closure of the depot resulted in many residents leaving the Village to find new jobs in surrounding communities. With fewer residents, many of the existing stores were forced to close due to a decrease in clientele and revenues. These closures quickly impacted the economic environment of the community.

In 1982, significant population decline forced the educational facilities in Encino to suspend service.



Our Lady of Guadalupe Church, 2019

The remaining students were then required to attend school in the Town of Vaughn. The Village repurposed the original school and placed the administrative headquarters and the Village Library in the building. The original high school was demolished in 2013 due to safety issues. The Village has continued to lose population since 1982, resulting in the closing of more businesses and the loss of public facilities and services.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS

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The Village of Encino is an incorporated municipality in Torrance County, New Mexico. Encino has a mayor-council form of government consisting of the mayor and four councilors. The mayor and council are elected for four-year, staggered terms. In the mayor-council form of government, the mayor is the chief executive and administrator. The mayor presides at the governing body meeting and votes only in case of a tie. The Village Council elects one of their members to serve as mayor pro tempore, to perform duties of the mayor in his or her absence. The Council controls all finances and property and passes ordinances and resolutions.

Currently, Encino does not have land use controls such as a zoning and subdivision ordinances. However, if the Village adopts such ordinances, land use decisions will be made by the Village Council. Residential and commercial building permits in the Village are handled by the State of New Mexico Construction Industries Division. The installations of manufactured homes are issued by the State of New Mexico Manufactured Housing Division. The Village does not have a municipal judge; cases are handled by the Torrance County court system. Currently, Encino has three staff members: Clerk/Treasurer, Assistant Clerk/Treasurer, and a Maintenance Person. Staff are appointed and hired by the mayor upon the consent of the Village Council.

The Village provides minimal street maintenance, such as filling potholes. At one time, there were several memorandums of understanding (MOU) with Encino and Torrance County to help maintain Village streets and provide other services. Village services include individual trash pickup and vegetation removal on Village properties.

The municipal park provides recreational opportunities. The park has a pavilion with picnic tables and a fenced children's play area that includes

a slide and swings. A public library is located on the second floor of the Village Hall.

Law enforcement for the Village is provided by the Torrance County Sheriff Department and New Mexico State Police. Fire and rescue services are provided by Village volunteers. The Torrance County Dispatch is contacted in case of an emergency involving the BNSF Railway which also passes through the community. The Village does not have a health care facility, and residents requiring health care travel to larger towns such as Estancia in Torrance County, Edgewood in Santa Fe County, or Albuquerque in Bernalillo County.

Drinking water for Village residents is provided by a regional water distribution system administered by the Town of Vaughn, and wastewater is treated by individual septic systems. Solid waste disposal is handled by the Estancia Valley Solid Waste Authority (EVSWA). The Central New Mexico Electric Cooperative Inc. (CNMEC) provides electricity to the Village. Telephone and internet service is provided by Plateau Wireless Company.



Encino Fire Department, 2019

DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

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Population

According to the United States Census Bureau, Encino had 82 residents in the year 2010. The population of Encino has experienced a steady decrease in residents over the past 70 years. Figure 2 shows the decennial census data for the Village since the 1940s. The Estancia Valley experienced a severe and sustained drought during the 1950s, which contributed to population decline in Encino. Such population declines place a burden on the remaining community with costs of maintaining basic infrastructure and public services.

From the years 2000-2010 Encino experienced a 12.77 percent decrease in population, dropping from 94 residents in 2000, to 82 residents in 2010. Figure 3 demonstrates the historic population

changes in Torrance County. Generally, population declines in the southern communities of Torrance County have been typical for several decades. However, the Village of Willard and the Town of Estancia have seen increases in population from 1990-2010. The Town of Mountainair also experienced a short period of growth from the year 1990-2000, but this was followed by a decline in population from 2000-2010. The Town of Estancia has seen the largest increases in population with a 98 percent increase from 1990-2000, and another 4.4 percent increase from 2000-2010. This is due to the opening of a prison near the community. While some areas are experiencing growth, the Village of Encino and the Town of Vaughn have seen steady declines in population since 1980.

Figure 2: Village of Encino Historical Population

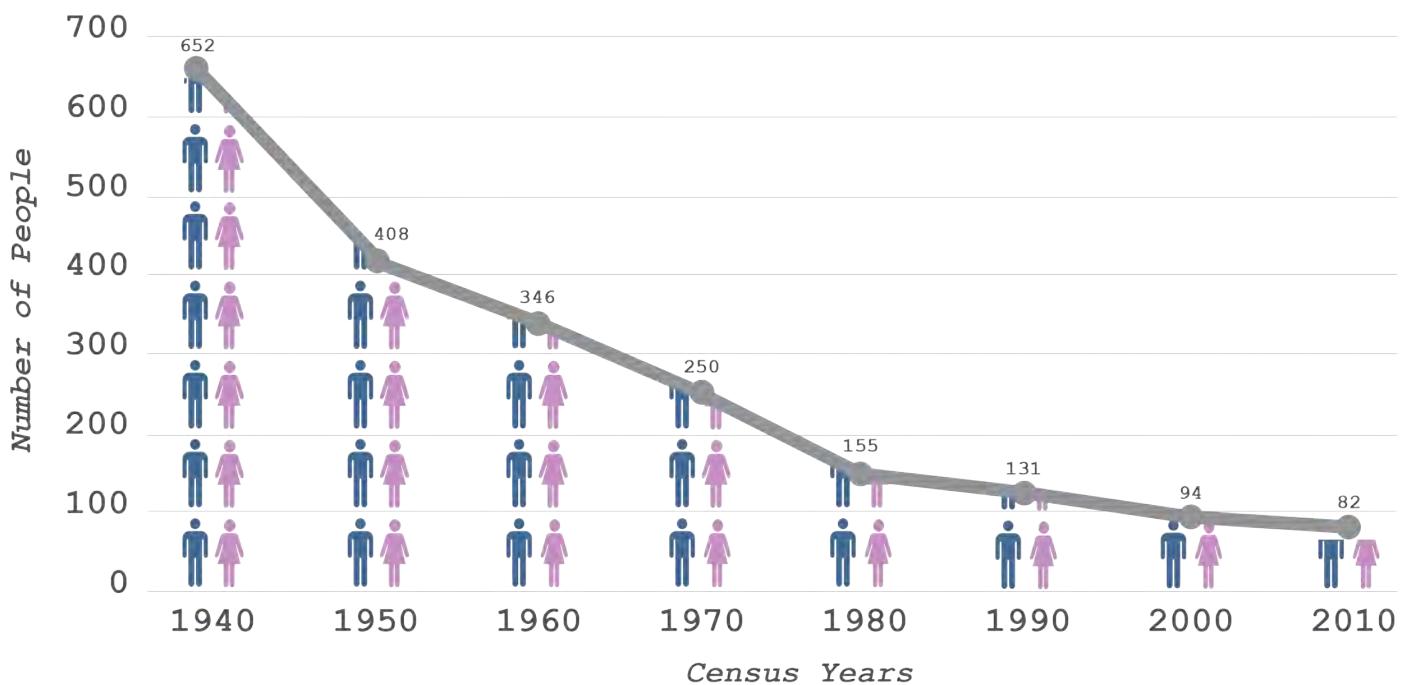
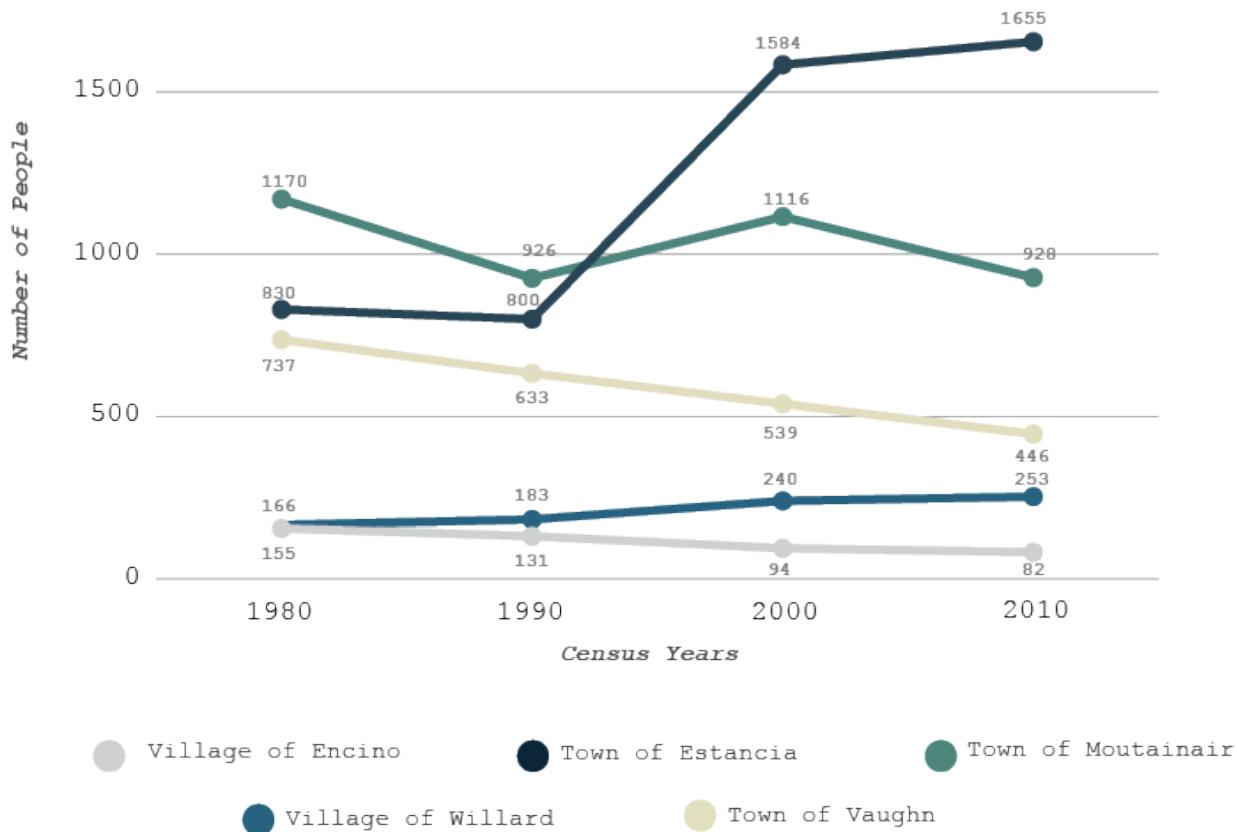


Figure 3: Historical Population in Comparison with Other Communities



Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Census Bureau, 1980–2010 Census

Figure 4: Encino 2010 Median Age

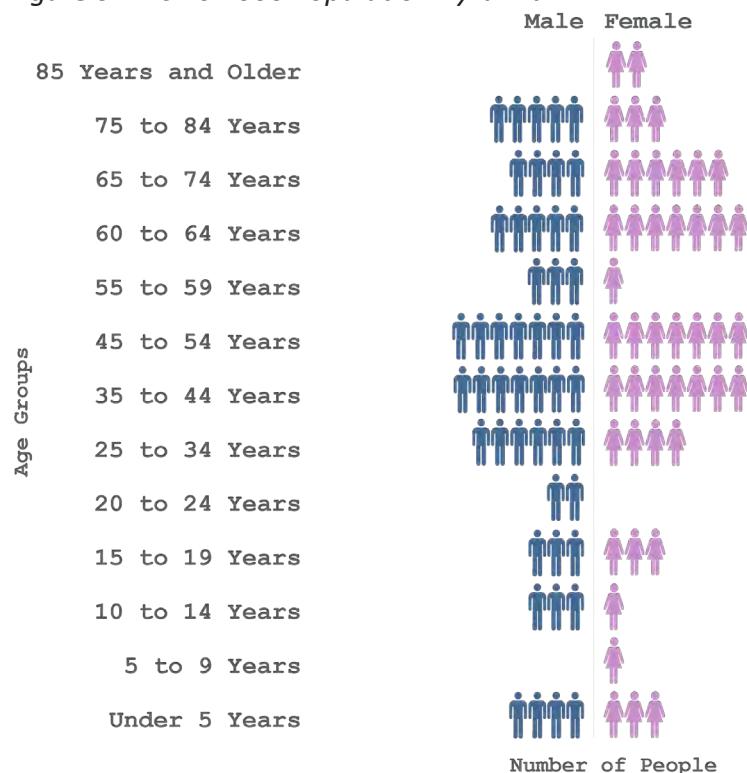


Median Age

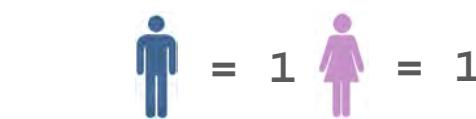
The median age in the Village of Encino in 2010 was 55.8 years old. The median age for men was 57.5 years, while it was slightly lower for women at 55.3 years. These numbers are much higher than median age in New Mexico at 36.7 years, and in Torrance County at 41.6 years. These numbers show that the Village has an aging population.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau. 2010 Census

Figure 5: Encino 2000 Population Pyramid



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 Census



Age & Sex

Population pyramids show the distribution of the total population of a community categorized by gender and age. In order to analyze the population of Encino, two population pyramids have been created for the years of 2000 and 2010.

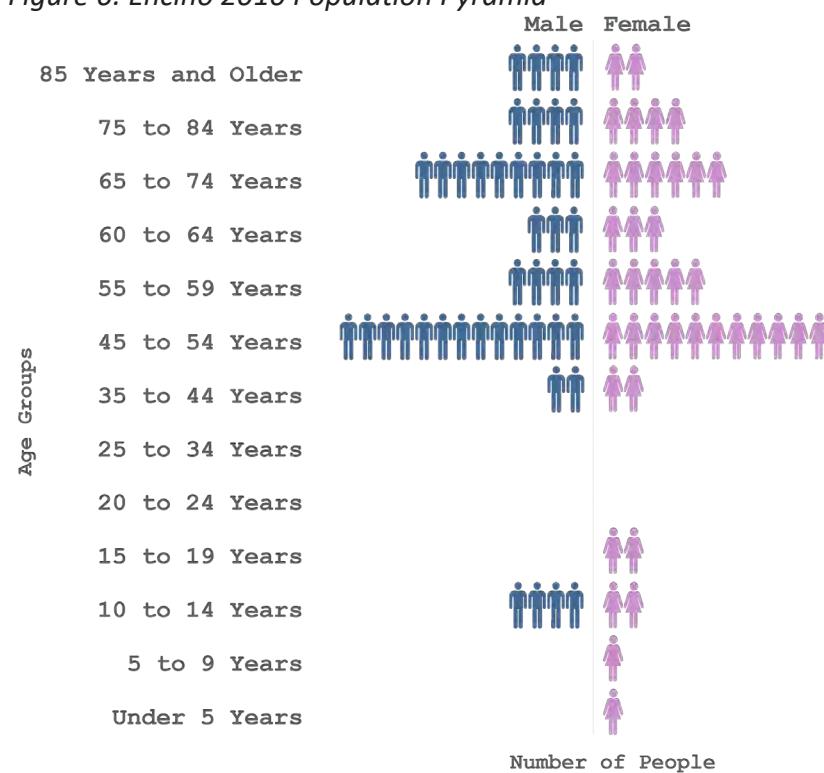
In 2000, 21.28 percent of Encino's population was over the age of 65, and 12.77 percent was under the age of 14, meaning 34.05 percent of Encino residents were of non-working age. In 2010, the population over 65 increased to 35.37 percent, and the population under 14 increased to 9.76 percent, increasing the non-working age bracket to 45.13 percent.

In 2010 the age bracket of 20-34 years had 0 people in it. However, in 2000, there were 10 people in the 10 -19 years bracket. This shows that this group left Encino between the years 2000-2010. This decrease may be attributed to school-age children graduating from high school and moving away to seek employment or to continue their education. This trend leaves Encino with a decreased number of working people in the community.

Population Projections

Linear population projection modeling calculates that by the year 2040 the population of Encino will be four people. A logarithmic approach to the population projection predicts that the Village population will be 48 people by the year 2040. While these two predictions vary, we can see the population of Encino is predicted to continue to decrease in size to a dramatically small population.

Figure 6: Encino 2010 Population Pyramid



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010 Census

Figure 7: Encino Linear Population Projection

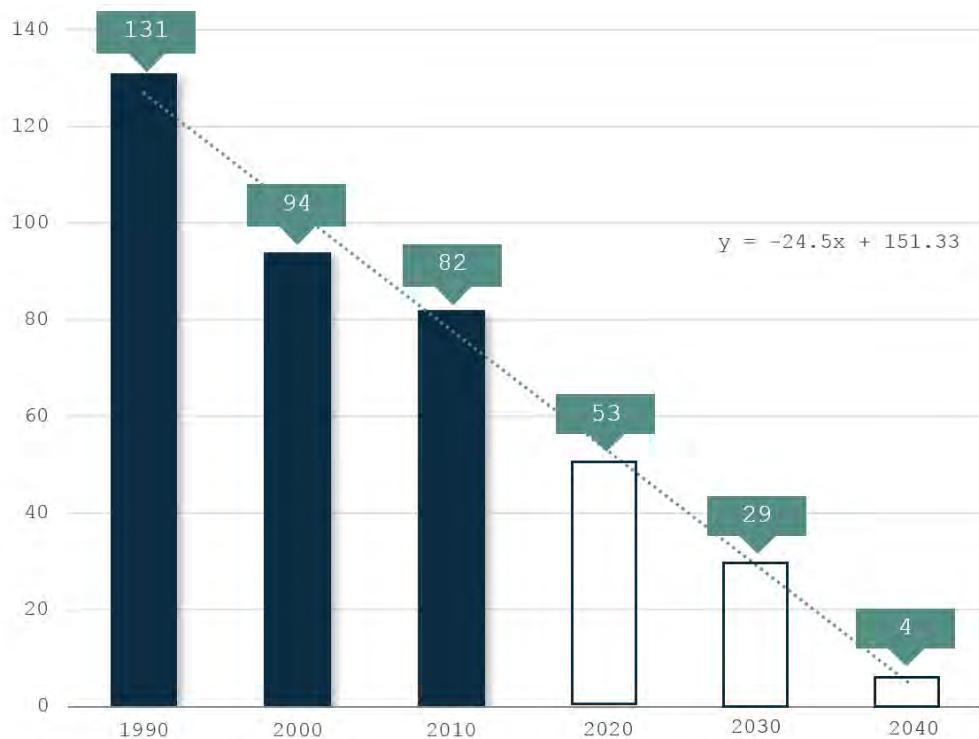
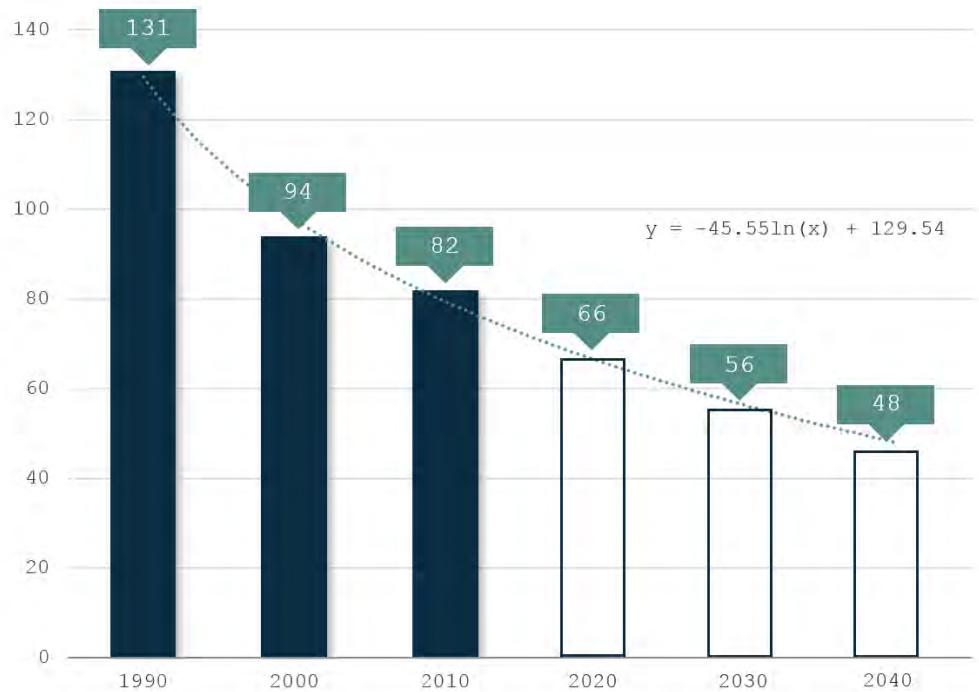


Figure 8: Encino Logarithmic Population Projection



THREE LAND USE

The purpose of this land use analysis is to guide future land use decisions in the Village of Encino over the next 20 years. This section of the comprehensive plan will assist the Village to best utilize public and private holdings, the timing of development, and the associated uses surrounding development. The land use section provides a snapshot of the current distribution of land uses and discusses the impacts of future land use decisions on the residents of the community. Additionally, this section provides a vision for future distribution of land within the Village and describes how these decisions align with the goals of the community.

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INTRODUCTION

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Communities that are prosperous are often well-planned. Residential, commercial, institutional and public amenities within these thriving communities seamlessly flow together in a connected and integrated development pattern. Development patterns, whether organic, or a result of other land use decisions, are integral in binding a community together and establishing a sense of place. Without guidance and forward thinking of land use decisions, conflicts between uses, users, and the environment can arise, resulting in inefficiencies in services and a reduced quality of life.

In order to visualize the development patterns of Encino, a current land use map has been prepared for this comprehensive plan (See Figure 11). This land use map is based on Torrance County Assessors data, geospatial data, field surveys, and analysis of aerial imagery. The land use map utilizes the following land use categories: residential, mixed use, commercial, institutional, rangeland, other non-residential, vacant, transportation, utilities, and parks

and open space. The land use categories are color-coded to assist with visual representation of current development patterns.



Former Encino US Post Office, 2019

EXISTING CONDITIONS

Land Area

Over the past decade, the Village of Encino has not engaged in activities to expand the jurisdictional boundaries of the Village. The Village remains approximately 1,274 acres, or 2 square miles. Should the Village engage in annexation to expand their jurisdictional boundaries, much of that additional land would likely be rangeland and would contribute minimally to the revenues of the Village (*Torrance County Assessors Data, 2017; MRCOG*).

Land Status

A majority of the platted residential, commercial, and rangeland/agricultural lots within the Village of Encino are privately owned. The remaining parcels are publicly owned by the Village of Encino, the New Mexico State Land Office, and the New Mexico

Department of Transportation. These publicly owned parcels are used for the municipal headquarters, various forms of public infrastructure, a community park, two community cemeteries, the state highway, and rangeland/agricultural land.

Immediately adjacent to the Village of Encino are vast tracts of privately-owned range and agricultural land with intermittent state holdings. The nearest communities are as follows:

- Vaughn: approximately 16 miles to the east
- Duran: approximately 15 miles to the South
- Willard: approximately 36 miles to the West
- Cline's Corners: approximately 28 miles to the North

Figure 9: 1938 Encino Platted Blocks Map



Parcels

Land within the Village of Encino has been subdivided, and parcels vary considerably in size and shape. Most of the private and publicly owned residential, commercial, and institutional parcels are located in the center of the community, while larger rangeland and agricultural parcels lay outside the core developed area. Residential parcels, which are mostly located north of US Highway 285 average approximately 0.75 acres in size. In some instances, multiple residential lots have been combined for expanded residential use. The Village's main thoroughfare, US Highway 285, is lined with residential, commercial, and vacant parcels. Much like the rest of the Village, the parcels along the highway vary in size and shape and are generally no more than 1 acre. See Table 1 for the full breakdown of land distribution in the Village of Encino.



Vacant lot north of Railroad Avenue, 2019

Figure 10: 2017-18 Parcel Map



General Land Use Pattern

The Village of Encino displays typical land use patterns of an early twentieth century railroad town. Much like other railroad towns throughout the state of New Mexico, the Village of Encino developed along the northern side of the Burlington Northern Santa Fe (BNSF) Railroad (formerly the Atchison Topeka and Santa Fe Railroad (AT&SF). The Village of Encino's main street was originally located along Railroad Avenue, servicing the employees and passengers of the railroad. Residential and other non-commercial uses were developed north of the Village's main street corridor. During this time, much of the development of the Village remained compact and centered near the railroad. In 1936, US Highway 285 was designated one block north of Railroad Avenue. The result of the designation was the establishment of a new main street corridor running parallel to Railroad Avenue, stretching length of the Village boundaries. There are little to no physical obstructions that hinder land use development within the jurisdiction of the Village. Outside of the core development area lies vast tracks of range/agricultural land (*2009 Village of Encino Comprehensive Land Use Plan*).

Residential Neighborhoods:

- A majority of the residences are located north of US Highway 285. These neighborhoods are comprised mostly of single-family homes, some of which are manufactured dwellings.
- There are also residences located south of US Highway 285. This area contains fewer residential parcels with single-family homes.

Commercial areas:

- Previous commercial activity was centered along Railroad Avenue facing south. There are no longer any commercial uses along the corridor.
- The current commercial corridor lines US Highway 285. Previously, various commercial activities

have been located along the corridor ranging from a small motel to a local mercantile.

Rangeland/Agricultural areas:

- All of the range/agricultural areas lay on the outside of the core developed area. Vast tracts of range/agricultural land can be found on all sides of the Village boundaries. A majority of parcels dedicated to range/agriculture use are privately owned. However, there are parcels north of the core developed areas that are owned by the state of New Mexico and are likely leased for grazing purposes.

Institutional and Other Non-Residential areas:

- Institutional and other non-residential uses are scattered throughout the Village with the majority located in the core developed area.
- The two public cemeteries are located in the southern section of the Village.

Land Use Regulation

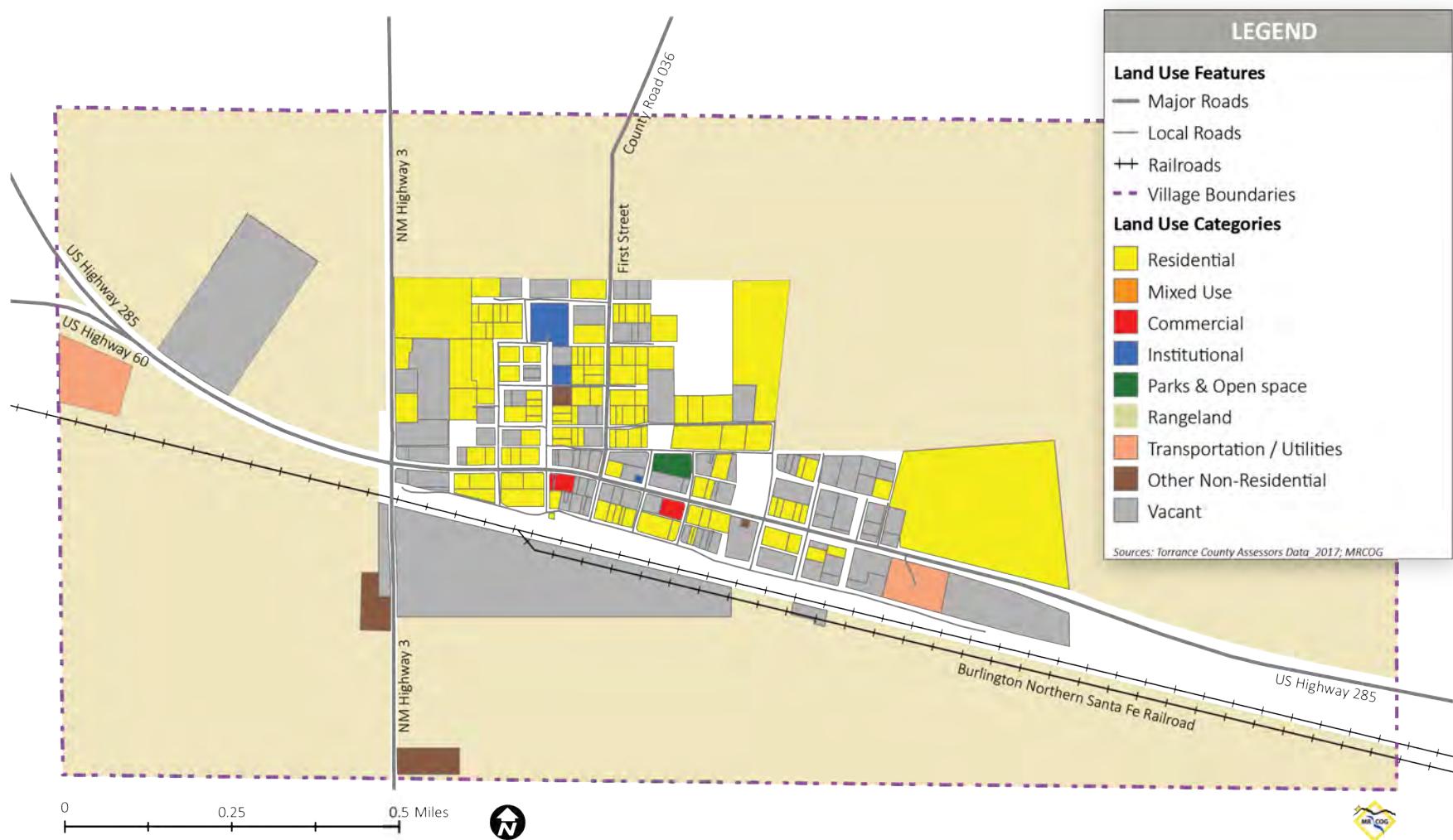
Due to the past and present development activity and the size of the community, the Village of Encino chooses not to regulate land use through zoning. Additionally, the Village has opted not to develop and adopt a subdivision ordinance.

Table 1: 2017 Land Use Breakdown

YEAR STRUCTURE BUILT	# OF PARCELS	ACREAGE	% OF TOTAL
COMMERCIAL	4	1.20	.10%
INSTITUTIONAL	3	2.78	0.24%
OTHER NON-RESIDENTIAL	6	4.92	0.43%
PARKS AND OPEN SPACE	2	1.17	0.10%
RANGELAND / AGRICULTURAL	12	932.27	81.06%
RESIDENTIAL	116	90.97	7.91%
TRANSPORTATION	2	9.48	0.82%
VACANT	96	107.27	9.33%
TOTAL =	241	1150.07	100%

Source: Torrance County Assessors Data 2017

Figure 11: 2017 Land Use Map



CHALLENGES and OPPORTUNITIES

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Challenges

- **Vacancy** – There are approximately 96 vacant properties within the Village of Encino, many of which are owned by absentee land owners. Many of the vacant properties have dilapidated buildings on them. As many of these properties face US Highway 285, the poor visual aesthetics deter travelers and potential residents. These vacant properties and dilapidated buildings also have negative impacts on the property values of adjacent active properties (*Torrance County Assessors Data, 2017; MRCOG*).
- **Diverse Uses** – Current land use within the Village of Encino lacks diversification. A majority of the land (approximately 1,023 acres) is dedicated to residential and range/agricultural activities. There are very little commercial, institutional and other non-residential activities within the Village of Encino. This has resulted in little to no employment opportunities, no revenue generation, a lack of amenities, and little access to everyday necessities.
- **Isolation** – The Village of Encino is located in the east-central portion of Torrance County. This area



Vacant building along US Highway 285, 2019

of the county is geographically isolated with the nearest amenities approximately 16 miles away in the Town of Vaughn. The nearest small urban areas are the City of Santa Rosa – 56 miles away and the City of Moriarty – 60 miles away. The nearest urban/metropolitan area is the City of Albuquerque which is approximately 88 miles away.

- **Infrastructure** – General infrastructure within the Village of Encino is in need of repair or replacement. Subsurface utilities such as water and wastewater lines need to be improved for residential and commercial use. Roads in the Village of Encino need to be repaired or reconstructed. The Village utilizes multiple variations of road surface types ranging from asphalt to gravel. The Village does not have internal funds to improve roads, and they are limited in their ability to secure outside funds for improvements.
- **Demographics** – The Village of Encino showcases demographic trends that are found in many rural communities throughout the Intermountain Region. The Village has an aging population and a rapidly decreasing labor force. This has resulted in out-migration and a lack of local level entrepreneurship. Additional services are needed within the Village to meet the needs of the aging population.
- **Land Use Regulations** – The Village of Encino does not regulate the use of land in any way. The Village has not developed and adopted a subdivision or zoning ordinance. It remains to be seen whether or not the adoption of such regulations would positively or negatively impact land use development in the Village.

Opportunities

- **US Highways 285 & 60** – US Highway 60 extends from one end of the state to the other and is a heavily used thoroughfare for travelers. In addition to US Highway 60, US Highway 285 filters into the Village of Encino increasing the volume of traffic within the Village. US Highway 285 also provides the Village with the opportunity to establish a more inviting commercial corridor that can attract travelers and residents from neighboring communities. These corridors provide potential clientele for services that cater to travelers.



Former Encino Motel along US Highway 285, 2017

- **Main Street** – The Main Street corridor, which leads to Village Hall has the potential to become one of the Village's priority corridors. The Village could focus public facilities and services along this corridor and develop vacant properties as needed. By creating a corridor that houses most of the public facilities provided to residents, the Village can establish a more vibrant community.



Main Street looking north, 2019

- **Village Hall** – Village Hall, located on Main Street, has the potential to anchor a future village center. Improving utilization of the building and improving the surrounding area could result in a vibrant village center. Possible options include re-opening a senior center and housing it in the Village Administration Building and/or moving the programming activities of the community center and housing them in the auditorium space.

- **Non-Residential Land Uses** – The Village has an adequate amount of housing to meet the needs of its residents. With the need of housing met, development efforts can be focused on commercial and public service activities. Activities may focus on developing jobs and revenue.



Village Administration Building, 2019

PREFERRED DEVELOPMENT SCENARIO

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Preferred Development Area

As a result of the existing conditions analysis of land use within the Village of Encino, a preferred development area has been recommended to encourage development along the two main corridors within the Village. These corridors, US Highway 285 and Main Street, provide the opportunity to concentrate non-residential development including commercial, public services, and other non-residential uses.

US Highway 285, which has the highest traffic volume, was identified as a potential commercial and mixed-use corridor in the 2009 Comprehensive Land Use Plan. Since its adoption in 2009, the Village has sporadically engaged in activities to promote the corridor as the prime commercial and mixed-use area. Current analysis demonstrates the need for the Village to improve its efforts to designate and promote the corridor as such.

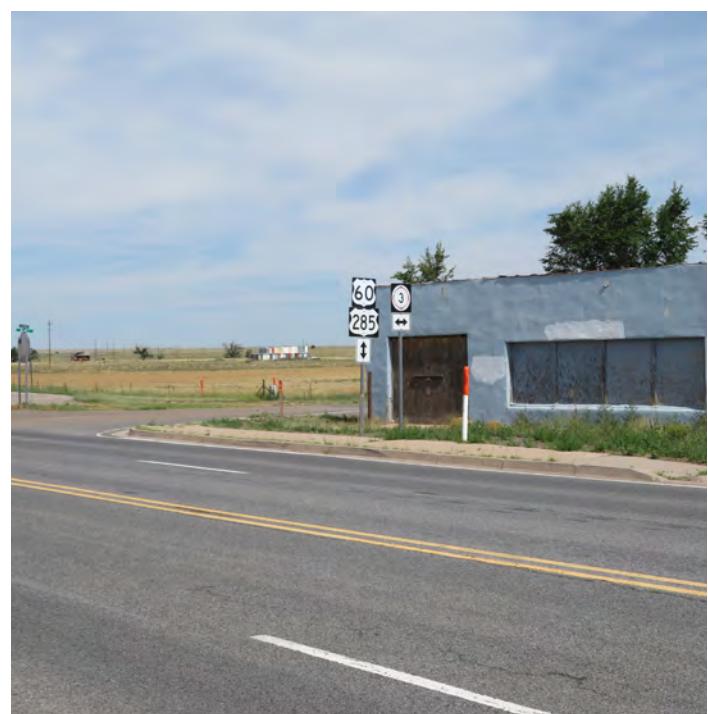
The Main Street corridor, which leads to the Village's administrative offices has also been identified as a priority corridor. However, unlike the US Highway 285 corridor, Main Street is recommended to become the corridor that houses a majority, if not all, public facilities and services within the Village of Encino. By doing so, the Village has the opportunity to establish a village center, anchored by the Village Hall. Along with promoting and developing public facilities and services along this corridor, the Village could opt for increasing the utilization of existing facilities including Village Hall and the community center.

Figure 12 showcases the boundaries of the preferred development area. The following transportation routes delineate the boundaries of the

preferred development area:

- US Highway 285 and Main Street acting as the area's backbone;
- Cedar Avenue establishing the northern boundary;
- NM Highway 3 and Julian Street establishing the western boundary;
- First and Eighth Street establishing the eastern boundary; and
- US Highway 285 establishing the southern boundary.

It is recommended that the preferred development area encompass parcels within a half-block on either side of a few of the Village's main thoroughfares: US Highway 285 between NM Highway 3 and Eighth street, and Julian, Main, and First streets between Cedar Avenue and US Highway 285 (See Figure 12).



US Highway 285 looking west, 2019

Figure 12: Preferred Development Area Map



Preferred Development Pattern

Figure 13 showcases the recommended development pattern which clearly designates land use activities in certain areas of the Village. The recommended pattern focuses commercial and mixed-use activities along the US Highway 285 Corridor. Much of this activity is centralized near existing commercial development including the Encino Fire House Deli and Mercantile located on US 285. The recommendation is based on the Village's designation of the corridor as its premier commercial area. Additional commercial parcels have been recommended on both the east and west edges of the preferred development area. This was recommended based on the desire for the Village to establish gateways on both ends of the core developed area.

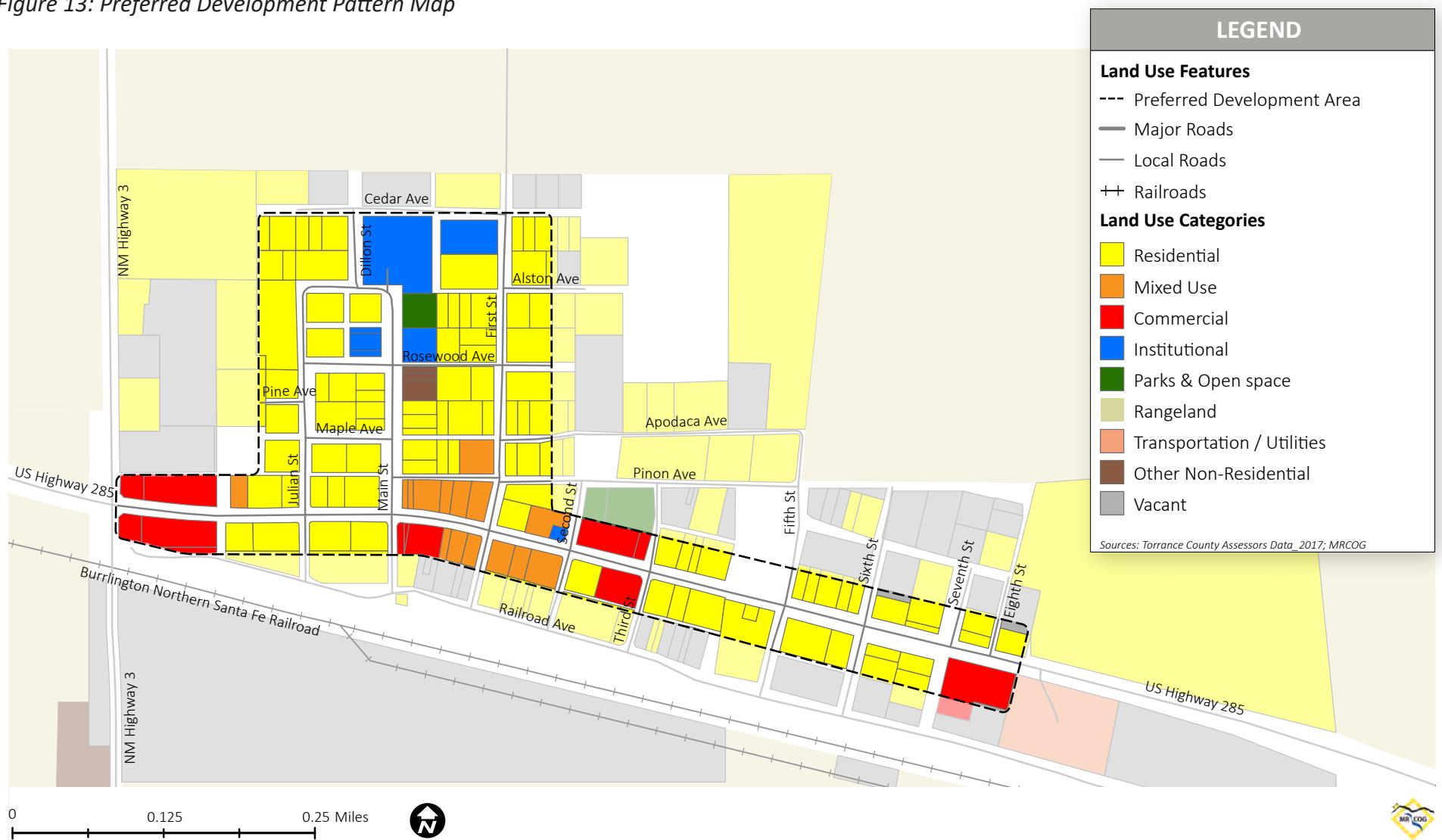
The recommended future land use pattern calls for additional public facilities and services to be housed on existing vacant property east and west of Main Street. Locating new facilities and services near Village Hall provides the Village with the opportunity to develop a village center.

The remainder of the preferred development area is dedicated to residential use. It is recommended that remaining vacant parcels be utilized for residential use. By doing so, the Village will establish a village core with the density required to ensure longevity of both the built and social environment.



The Encino Fire House Mercantile and Deli, 2019

Figure 13: Preferred Development Pattern Map



LAND USE GOALS and OBJECTIVES



LU-1

Strategically encourage land use development activities in the preferred development areas

LU-1a: Encourage commercial development along the US Highway 285 corridor

- » Improve the appearance of the corridor
- » Conduct a commercial stock analysis along the corridor
- » Partner with the Estancia Valley Economic Development Association to promote commercial development within the Village of Encino
- » Improve signage along the corridor to promote local businesses

LU-1b: Encourage public facilities and services development along the Main Street corridor

- » Purchase vacant property adjacent to Village Hall and along the Main Street corridor
- » Consolidate public facilities and services within and adjacent to Village Hall and along the Main Street corridor
- » Improve wayfinding throughout the Village

LU-1c: Encourage compact residential development within and/or adjacent to the preferred development areas

- » Promote mixed-use development along the US Highway 285 and Main Street corridors
- » Identify vacant lots suitable for compact residential development

LU-2

Establish a village center utilizing Village Hall as the anchor tenant

LU-2a: Improve the appearance and increase and promote the use of the Village Hall's interior and exterior space

- » Conduct a utilization study to determine the amount of space available for permanent or temporary use
- » Develop an improvement plan to renovate the building

LU-2b: Develop multipurpose areas that create spaces for pop-up, or special event, programming space to allow for temporary activity

- » Develop a civic/communal space such as a park or plaza adjacent to Village Hall

LU-3**Improve the aesthetics of the Village**

LU-3a: Establish a beautification program to improve the appearance of the Village by way of volunteer activities

- » Research government activities that encourage property owners to improve and maintain their property
- » Become a New Mexico Economic Development Department Frontier Community
- » Participate in the New Mexico Tourism Department's Clean and Beautiful grant program
- » Focus on activities that can easily be achieved such as weed eradication, tree planting, facade improvements, public art installations, and education and awareness activities
- » Partner with youth organizations from other communities like 4-H to engage in beautification activities

LU-3b: Reduce the number of dilapidated structures within the Village of Encino

- » Identify and contact owners of properties with dilapidated structures to determine their willingness to properly demolish structures and/or improve the site
- » Identify funding sources for property owners to properly demolish structures
- » Partner with Torrance County and the Estancia Valley Solid Waste Authority
- » Utilize volunteers to assist in demolition activities

FOUR HOUSING

The purpose of the housing element is to identify existing and future housing needs within the Village of Encino. The identification of current needs is based on data collection and analysis along with field research. Future needs are based on projected demographic changes and general development patterns. This section is intended to guide the Village in endeavors that aim to reach the short and long-term goals and objectives.

- 1 Introduction
- 2 Community Profile
- 3 Land Use
- 4 Housing**
- 5 Transportation and Circulation
- 6 Public Facilities and Services
- 7 Hazard Mitigation
- 8 Economic Development
- 9 Appendices

INTRODUCTION

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Housing is the foundation of any community. Other than places of employment, a person's home is the place where residents of a community spend a majority of their time. Rightfully so, within the realm of community building, the home is considered the "first place," while one's place of employment is considered the "second place," and social surroundings are considered "third places" (Oldenburg, 1997).

With housing being such an important factor in community development, it is crucial to ensure that a community provides housing options for all residents. Communities should have available stock and various types of housing at all levels of affordability. Furthermore, housing is to be tightly integrated into the rest of the fabric of the community. As previously noted, well-planned communities seamlessly interweave residential, commercial, institutional, and public amenities in a connected and integrated development pattern.



Manufactured home in the Village of Encino, 2019

EXISTING CONDITIONS

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From 2000 to 2010, the Village of Encino has experienced a slight decrease in the total number of housing units. Housing units have decreased from 70 units in the year 2000 to 62 units in the year 2010. During that time period, the average household size fell from 2.19 persons in the year 2000 to 1.82 persons in 2010. The housing trends of the Village of Encino are reflective of the Village's declining and aging population.

Figure 14: Average Household Size



The Village of Encino's total occupied housing units increased by two units from 2000 to 2010. In the year 2000, there were 43 occupied housing units, and in the year 2010 the occupied units increased to 45. Vacant housing units within the Village of Encino significantly decreased from 27 vacant units in the year 2000, to 17 vacant units in the year 2010. However, when paired with population data, this decrease in vacancies may be a result of housing units becoming uninhabitable and demolished and/or manufactured homes being transported out of the Village.



Single-family homes in the Village of Encino, 2019

Age of Housing Stock

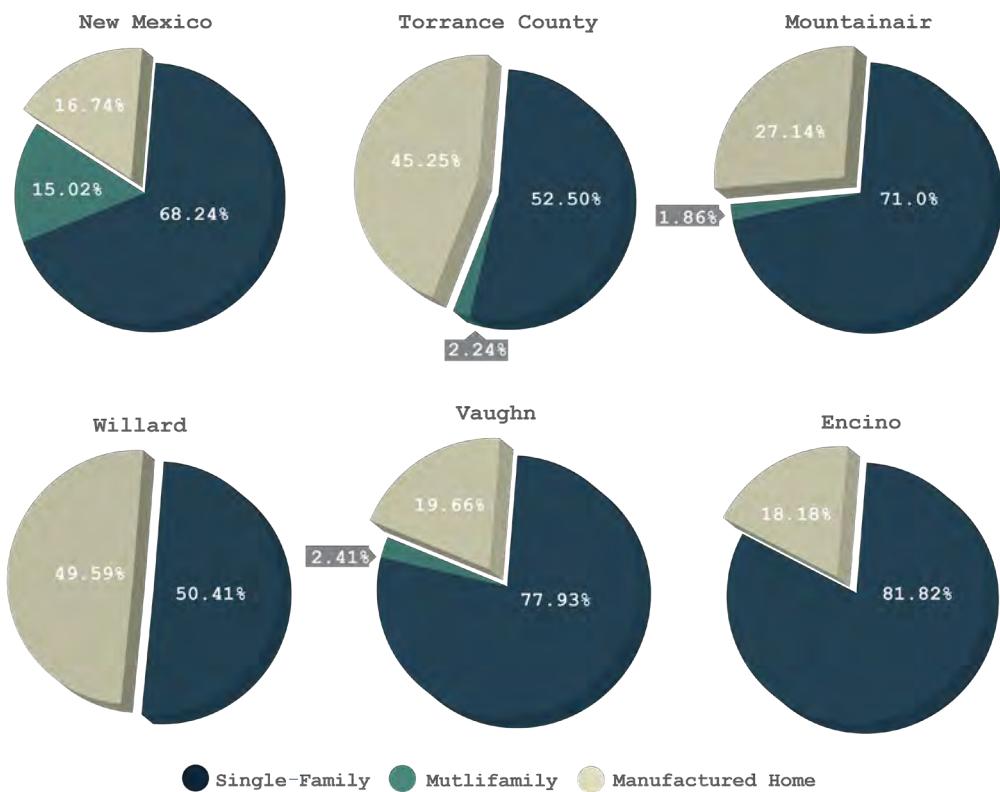
According to the United States Census Bureau's American Community Survey, in 2010 it was estimated that 48.5 percent of the homes within the Village of Encino were built in 1939 or earlier. A large portion of the remaining homes, 43.9 percent, were estimated to have been built between the years 1940 and 1979. This information indicates that there has been minimal housing development since the 1980s, and the Village has not seen many new residents relocate to the area (See Table 2).

Table 2: Age of Housing Stock

YEAR STRUCTURE BUILT	PERCENT OF TOTAL
2005 OR LATER	0%
2000 TO 2004	6.1%
1990 TO 1999	1.5%
1980 TO 1989	0%
1970 TO 1979	18.2%
1960 TO 1969	0%
1950 TO 1959	13.6%
1940 TO 1949	12.1%
1939 OR EARLIER	48.5%
	100%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2006-2010 American Community Survey

Figure 15: Housing Type Comparison



Source: U.S. Census Bureau 2006- 2010 American Community Survey

Housing Type

Being a railroad town with historical presence, the Village of Encino is comprised of mostly single-family permanent homes (81.8 percent). The remaining 18.2 percent of the homes are classified as single-family manufactured homes (mobile homes). No other housing types are present within the Village of Encino (See Figure 15).

Home Value

Of the 40 plus occupied homes within the Village of Encino, approximately 66.7 percent of them are valued at or below \$50,000. The majority of the remaining homes (31.1 percent) are estimated to be valued between \$50,000 and \$149,999, and 2.2 percent are estimated to be valued between \$200,000 and \$299,999. This information, coupled with housing type information, indicates that many of the single-

family permanent homes are in need of repair, and the remaining manufactured homes are valued at the low-end. In addition to the low value of homes, the Village of Encino has relatively inexpensive property. Inexpensive property and homes needing repair/renovations have resulted in current value trends (See Table 3).

Table 3: Home Value

VALUE	PERCENT OF TOTAL
LESS THAN \$50,000	66.7%
\$50,000 TO \$99,999	20.0%
\$100,000 TO \$149,999	11.1%
\$150,000 TO \$199,999	0%
\$200,000 TO \$299,999	2.2%
\$300,000 TO \$499,999	0%
\$500,000 TO \$999,999	0%
\$1,000,000 OR MORE	0%
	100%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2006-2010 American Community Survey

Housing Costs

Housing is considered affordable when no more than 30 percent of a household's total income is dedicated for housing costs, which includes mortgage, rent, utilities and maintenance. According to the United States Census Bureau's American Community Survey, in 2010, approximately 31.1 percent of households within the Village were considered housing cost burdened. The remaining 68.9 percent of households were classified as being affordable. This information indicates that many of the occupied homes do not have mortgage costs.

The *Housing + Transportation Index* is a tool often used by planning professionals to determine an area's housing and transportation affordability. According to the tool, housing and transportation costs are affordable if they are less than 45 percent of a person's total income. In 2015, households within the Village of Encino dedicated roughly 16 percent of their total income towards housing costs. In comparison, Torrance County households dedicated approximately 20 percent of their total household income, while the City of Albuquerque households dedicated 26 percent of their total income to housing

(See Table 4). In addition to housing costs, many residents of Encino have additional transportation costs, especially those residents who work outside of the Village.

Vacancy

In 2010, decennial census information indicated that the Village of Encino had approximately 17 vacant housing units, amounting to 27.4 percent of the total housing units within the Village. This is a relatively high number of vacant housing units when compared to Torrance County, which has approximately 19.7 percent vacant housing units. This information highlights previous findings that the Village of Encino is losing population, has large numbers of absentee landowners, and has a large number of dilapidated structures (*Torrance County Assessors Data, 2017; MRCOG*) (See Figure 16).

Table 4: Housing Cost as Percent of Income

POLITICAL BOUNDARIES	% OF TOTAL INCOME
BLOCK GROUP: 350579637001	16%
TRACT: 35057963700	20%
MUNICIPALITY: ENCINO, NM	16%
COUNTY: TORRANCE, NM	20%
CBSA: ALBUQUERQUE, NM	26%
U.S. HOUSE DISTRICT: 11	26%
	100%

Source: <https://htaindex.cnt.org/>

The information above does not take into consideration the quality of the homes, but only displays the cost to reside within the available housing stock.



Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Census Bureau.

CHALLENGES and OPPORTUNITIES

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Challenges

- **Demographic Trends** – As noted in the previous sections of the comprehensive plan, existing demographic trends suggest that the population of the Village of Encino will continue to decline if no action is taken. In addition to a reduction in population, the Village of Encino will become more of an aged community with a majority of the residents falling into the 65 and older age group. This becomes a challenge as the sustainability of a community relies on its ability to internally increase its population, and at the same time, attract new residents.
- **Absentee Landowners** – Absentee landowners are a common issue in many rural communities in the Intermountain Region. The Village of Encino is unfortunately no exception. This is seen from assessor's data collected for Encino that shows many land owners in Encino do not list their land as their place of residence. With the Village of Encino as small as it is, any property that lacks active representation does not contribute to the sustainability and resiliency of the Village. On many occasions, these properties have dilapidated structures that create an uninviting community presence. Additionally, landowners are not around to be active participants in the community. (*Torrance County Assessors Data, 2017; MRCOG*)
- **Maintenance and Repair Assistance** – A majority of the housing units within the Village of Encino are in need of maintenance and repair. The Village does not have a program in place that assists residents with maintenance and repairs on their homes. With an aging population, many of the residents are no longer in the labor force,

therefore, income levels remain relatively low, and the ability to complete maintenance and repairs is limited.

- **Demolition** – Demolition of dilapidated structures is always a challenge for small rural communities. Often, the cost to properly demolish and dispose of material, much of which contains contaminants, deters public assistance. In many cases, the local governing body does not have the funds to conduct such activities and often seeks outside resources to complete demolition.
- **Infrastructure** – General infrastructure within the Village of Encino is in need of repair or replacement. Subsurface utilities such as water and wastewater lines need to be improved for residential and commercial use. Roads in the Village of Encino need to be resurfaced or reconstructed. Lastly, the Village does not have internal funds to improve infrastructure and is limited in their ability to secure outside funds for improvements.
- **Recruitment** – Considering all of the challenges above, the Village of Encino will likely continue to face difficulties recruiting new residents, especially families, to reside within the community. Geographic isolation, lack of amenities, and few economic opportunities are just some of the issues that plague recruiting efforts.

Opportunities

- **Housing Availability** – According to the research conducted as part of this section, it has been determined that the Village of Encino does not immediately need new housing. With a declining population and little to no in-migration, the Village may be in a position where it has a surplus of housing. This provides the Village of Encino the opportunity to focus development efforts on economic development and public service activities. It will also provide the Village the opportunity to develop a mechanism that assists current residents in conducting maintenance and repairs of existing homes. Lastly, the Village can focus on demolishing vacant and dilapidated structures to improve the aesthetics of the community.
- **Continue Acceptance of Manufactured Homes** – As previously noted, the Village of Encino has two types of housing units, single-family permanent homes and single-family manufactured or

mobile homes. Manufactured homes make up approximately 18.2 percent of the total housing stock within the Village. Continued acceptance of manufactured homes could be a way to increase population, provide affordable housing, and improve the aesthetics of the community. If the goal is to increase population, the Village is more apt to recruit new residents if they remain open to manufactured homes.

- **Relatively Affordable Housing Costs** – According to the *Housing + Transportation Index*, housing costs in Encino are relatively affordable when compared to Torrance County and the City of Albuquerque. According to the index, residents within the Village commit approximately 16 percent of their income to housing costs, compared to 20 percent for Torrance County as a whole and 26 percent for the City of Albuquerque. The affordability of housing can free up income to be used on transportation, good and services, and entertainment.



Single-family home in the Village of Encino, 2019

HOUSING GOALS and OBJECTIVES



H-1

Recruit new families to the Village

H-1a: Increase housing availability and type

- » Conduct a complete housing stock analysis
- » Maintain acceptance of manufactured homes
- » Encourage the need for improvements to existing housing stock

H-1b: Improve quality of life amenities for residents of the Village

- » Increase public services targeted to families
- » Partner with Torrance County to promote regional amenities and services

H-1c: Reduce the number of dilapidated structures within the Village of Encino

- » Identify and contact owners of properties with dilapidated structures to see about their willingness to properly demolish structures and/or improve the site
- » Identify funding sources to assist property owners with properly demolishing structures
- » Partner with Torrance County, Estancia Valley Solid Waste Authority, and the Vaughn landfill to properly dispose of waste
- » Utilize volunteers to assist in demolition activities

H-2

Improve the existing inhabited and vacant housing stock

H-2a: Establish a maintenance and renovation assistance program

- » Research assistance programs and funding sources
- » Promote the need for an assistance program
- » Recruit volunteers to assist in maintenance and renovations

H-3

Preserve existing neighborhoods and reduce the negative impacts of non-residential activities

H-3a: Promote the preferred development areas as the proper place for non-residential development

- » Encourage compact residential development within, or adjacent to, the preferred development areas
- » Encourage mixed-use development within the preferred development areas for those that wish to live along the main thoroughfares
- » Increase connectivity throughout the Village to maintain separation of land use activities

FIVE TRANSPORTATION & CIRCULATION

The purpose of the transportation element is to identify existing and future transportation needs within the Village of Encino. This section provides guidance for improvements to roads and highways, bicycle and pedestrian facilities, regional transit services, and other activities that strengthen the local and regional transportation network.

- 1 Introduction
 - 2 Community Profile
 - 3 Land Use
 - 4 Housing
 - 5 Transportation and Circulation**
 - 6 Public Facilities and Services
 - 7 Hazard Mitigation
 - 8 Economic Development
 - 9 Appendices

INTRODUCTION

- The resiliency of a rural community often depends on its ability to easily connect residents to adjacent rural, suburban, and metropolitan centers. Many of these surrounding centers provide rural residents with employment and educational opportunities, medical, financial and community services, and retail and leisure activities. Additionally, transportation networks are integral when it comes to local and regional economic development activities. Without a well-planned collaborative effort to ensure regional connection, many rural communities would find it difficult to retain and attract residents.

Internal systems of movement are also very important for the sustainability of a rural community. Providing the option for residents to move about their community via walking, biking, or other forms of travel is crucial for one's enjoyment, safety, and convenience. Transportation networks and corridors are integral elements of a well-planned community.

These elements must align with existing and proposed land use development patterns to best serve the residents.



1st Street and Railroad Avenue looking south, 2019

EXISTING CONDITIONS

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Regional Connectivity and Travel Patterns

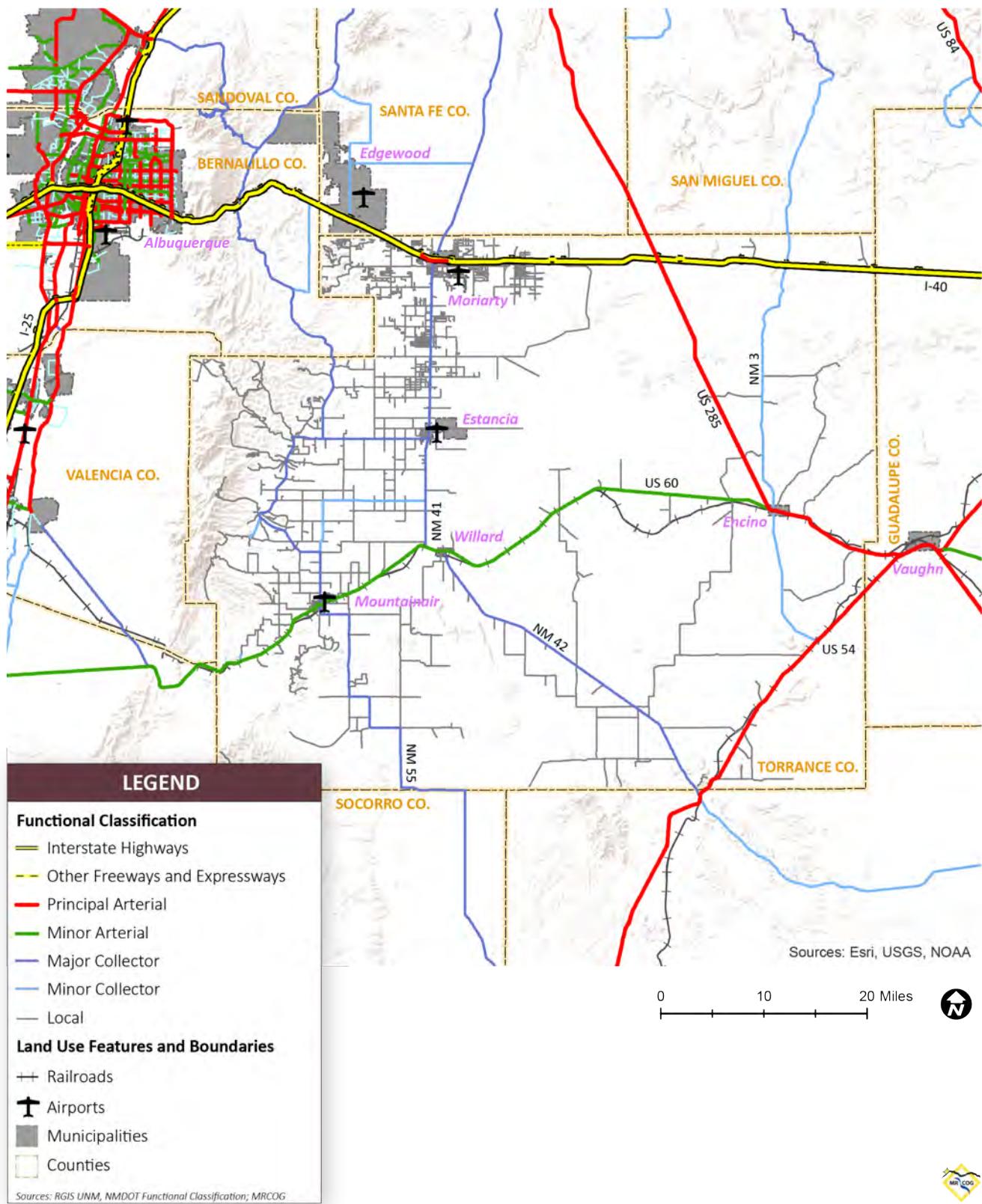
The Village of Encino is located in east central Torrance County at the crossroads of three major highways, US Highways 285 and 60, and State Highway 3. These major corridors connect the Village to surrounding communities that provide amenities including the towns of Vaughn, Estancia and Edgewood, the cities of Santa Rosa and Moriarty and the Albuquerque metropolitan area. Figure 17 shows the regional transportation system, including corridors and their functional classification, and the Village of Encino's relationship with the rest of the region.

As previously noted, regional connectivity is crucial for the existence of small rural communities like the Village of Encino. With current demographic trends indicating rapid population decline, it is imperative that current and prospective residents are connected to the larger regional area. Access to services such as hospitals, schools, grocery stores, and financial institutions, is necessary in order to live a prosperous life in rural New Mexico. Most of these services are located in the larger municipalities, requiring substantial amounts of travel.



NM Highway 3 facing south, 2019

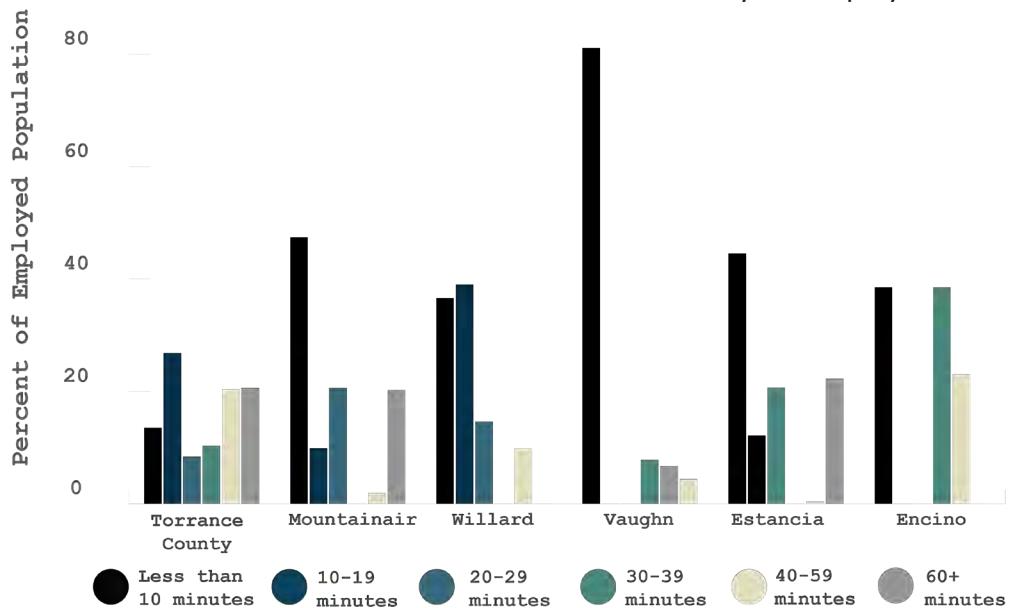
Figure 17: Regional Transportation System Map



The following are amenities and services that residents of the Village frequent, along with the distances from the Village (See Figure 19):

- Regional Hospitals** – The nearest regional hospitals are located in the City of Santa Rosa (56 mi.) and in the City of Albuquerque (89 mi.)
- Clinics / Pharmacies** – The Town of Estancia (48 mi.) is home to the nearest healthcare clinic. The Town of Mountainair (49 mi.) and the City of Moriarty (51 mi.) also provide healthcare options.
- Grocery Store** – The nearest grocery store is located in the Town of Mountainair (49 mi.). Additional options for fresh produce can be found in the City of Santa Rosa (56 mi.) and the City of Moriarty (51 mi.).
- Financial Institutions** – The nearest financial institutions are located in the Town of Vaughn (16 mi.) and the Town of Estancia (48 mi.).
- Post-Secondary Education Institutions** – Options

Figure 18: Travel Times to Work Comparison



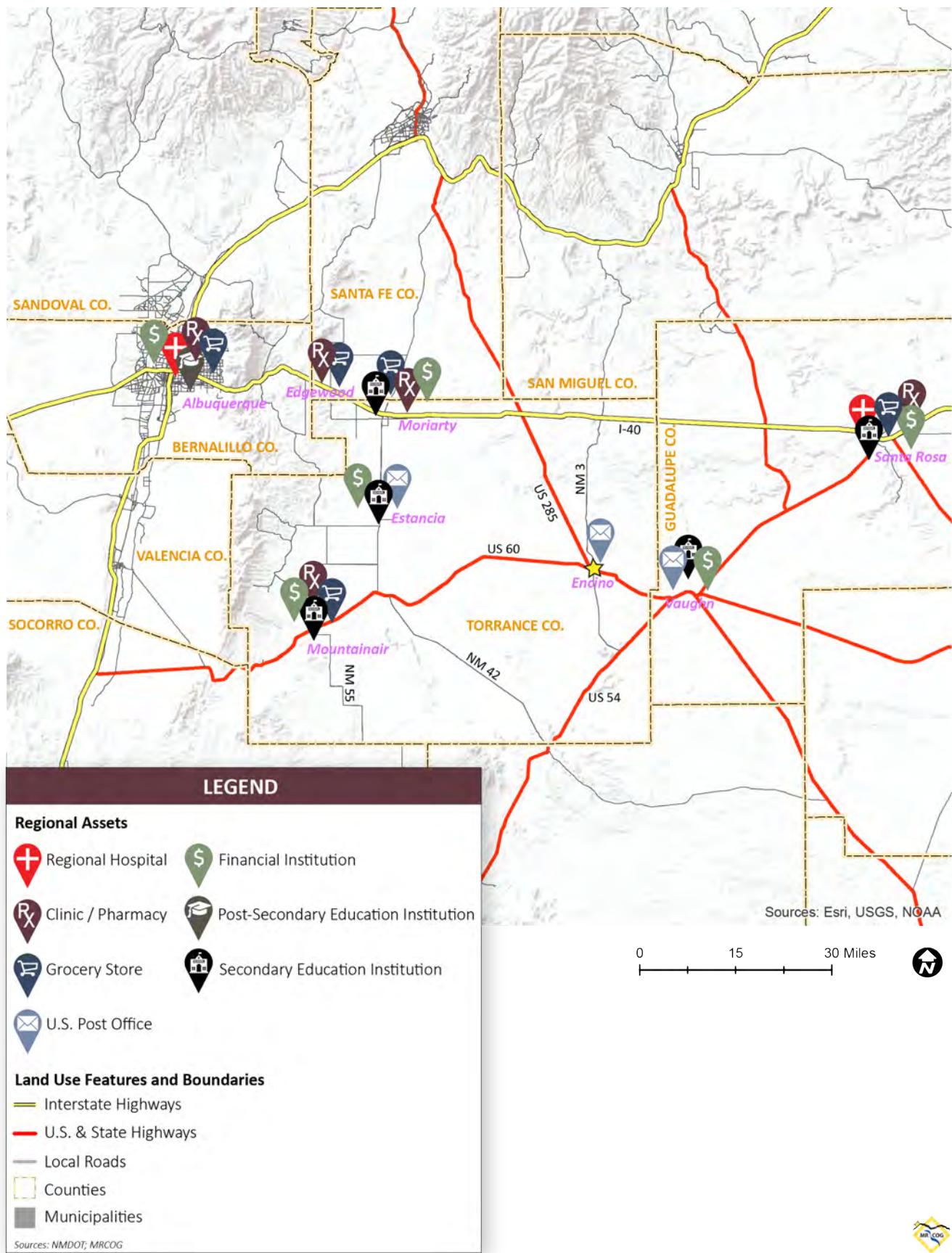
for post-secondary education can be found in the City of Santa Rosa (56 mi.) and the City of Albuquerque (89 mi.).

- Secondary Education Institutions** – The nearest high schools are located in the Town of Estancia (48 mi.) and the Town of Vaughn (16 mi.).

Commuting to Work

In 2010, 38.5 percent of Encino residents had less than a 10-minute commute to work. An equal number of residents had a 30 to 39-minute commute to work, and the remaining 23 percent had between a 40 to 59-minute commute. Using the On the Map tool, provided by the Census Bureau, which allows us to see the amount of inflow and outflow of the community for work, we can see that there are little to no residents that work and live in Encino. Most of the residents who are employed, commute to areas outside of the Village. There is also no inflow of commuters to the Village, meaning there is no one who lives outside of the Village commuting into the Village for employment. This shows that there are very little employment opportunities within the Village of Encino, forcing residents to look outside the community for employment.

Figure 19: Regional Asset Map



Road Conditions

The Village of Encino has approximately 3.90 miles of local roads and 3.52 miles of federal, state, and county roads. These include a mixture of road surface types including asphalt, chip seal, gravel, and dirt or earthen material. Corridors that utilize asphalt are those that have the highest volume of traffic such as US Highways 60 and 285, and NM Highway 3. These regional corridors, which account for 3.52 lane miles, are maintained by state and county agencies, therefore they remain in fair to good condition. See Figure 20 for examples of road surface types. The New Mexico Department of Transportation classifies US 285 as a principal arterial, US 60 as a minor arterial, and NM3 as a minor collector.

The remaining 3.9 miles of roadway are comprised of chip seal, gravel, and dirt. Chip seal has been used on the most traveled roads including Julian Street, Main Street, and First Street. Chip seal has also been used intermittently throughout the Village. Chip seal is a cost-effective way to repair asphalt roadways by applying and sealing chips or gravel to an existing road.

Shorter and less traveled roads that intersect chip sealed roads are constructed of gravel. These roads vary in condition and are periodically improved.

Figure 20: Road Surface Type



Gravel



Chip Seal



Asphalt

Various roads found throughout the Village, 2019

The life of a gravel road is short when compared to asphalt and chip sealed roads. However, the Village chooses to use gravel on certain roads due to the minimal traffic volume of these roads and the relatively low upfront cost.

The remaining roads, which have little to no development, are dirt or earthen material. A majority of these corridors are in poor condition and are in need of repair. The Village has chosen to postpone improvements to these roads until development occurs on adjacent parcels. In most cases, these roads will only be improved to gravel status.

Financial constraints have limited the Village's ability to use asphalt and have also limited the ability to increase the use of chip seal on local roads. Coupled with financial constraints, overuse, weather, and not having a roads department has resulted in a large number of local roads being in poor but usable condition.

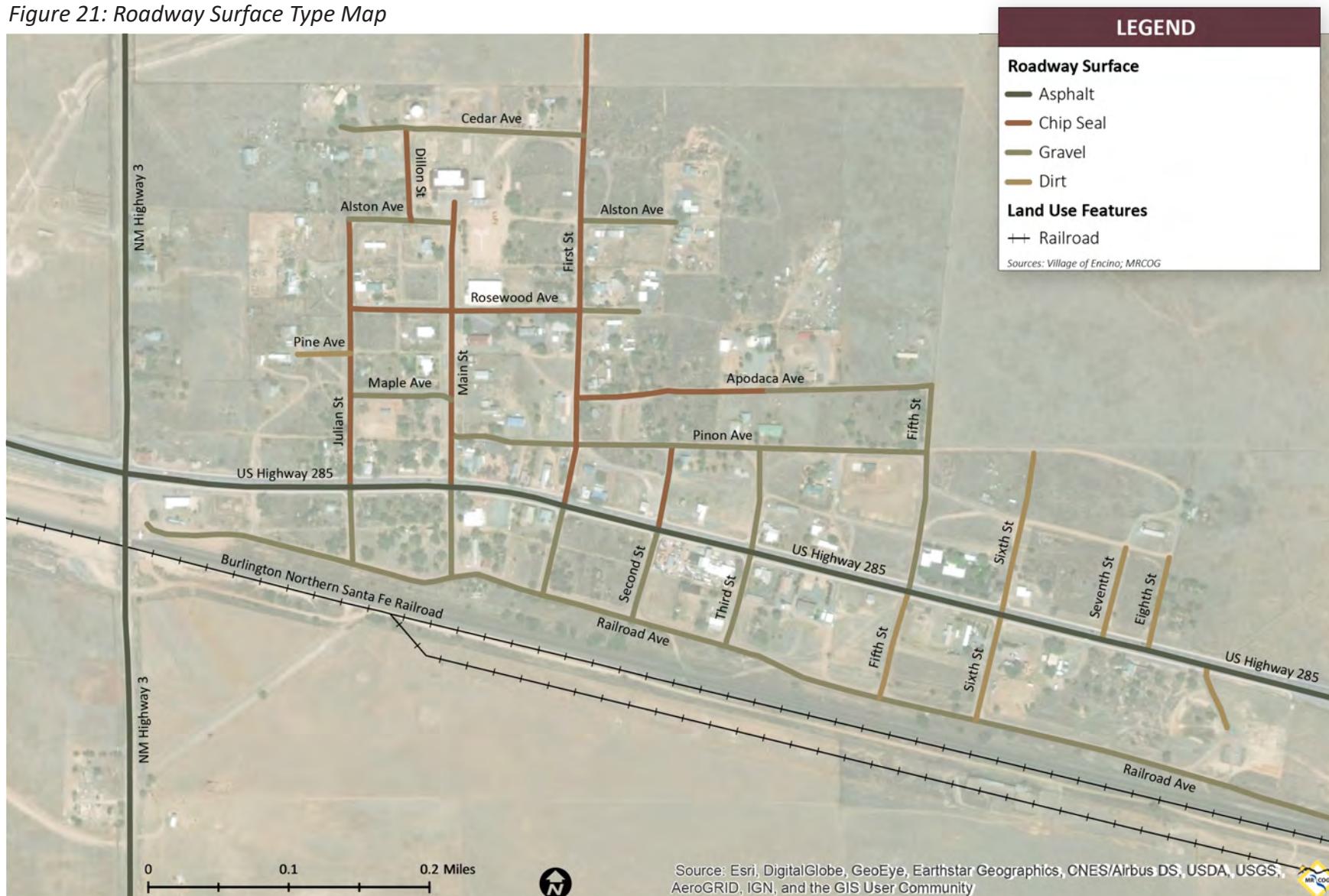
A road inventory analysis has been conducted to assist in the determination of existing and future roadway needs (See Table 5).

Table 5: Village of Encino Road Inventory

VILLAGE OF ENCINO ROAD INVENTORY						
	ROUTE NAME	LENGTH (ft)	LENGTH (mi)	DIRECTION	SURFACE TYPE	CONDITION
1	Alston Avenue E	355.64	0.07	East to West	Gravel	Good
2	Alston Avenue W	392.04	0.07	East to West	Gravel	Fair
3	Apodaca Avenue	1333.23	0.25	East to West	Chip Seal/ Gravel	Fair
4	Cedar Avenue	911.97	0.17	East to West	Gravel	Good
5	Dillon Street	349.38	0.07	East to West	Chip Seal	Fair
6	Eighth Street N	356.37	0.07	North to South	Dirt	Fair
7	Eighth Street S	247.05	0.05	North to South	Dirt	Fair
8	Fifth Street N	778.45	0.15	North to South	Gravel	Fair
9	Fifth Street S	414.88	0.08	North to South	Gravel	Fair
10	First Street N	1394.47	0.26	North to South	Asphalt	Good
11	First Street S	343.44	0.07	North to South	Asphalt	Good
12	Julian Street N	1003.27	0.19	North to South	Chip Seal	Fair
13	Julian Street S	287.77	0.05	North to South	Gravel	Poor
14	Main Street N	1066.16	0.20	North to South	Asphalt	Good
15	Main Street S	337.86	0.06	North to South	Asphalt	Good
16	Maple Avenue	382.14	0.07	East to West	Gravel	Good
17	Pine Avenue	198.10	0.04	East to West	Dirt	Fair
18	Pinon Avenue E	1314.88	0.25	East to West	Gravel	Fair
19	Pinon Avenue W	472.96	0.09	East to West	Gravel	Fair
20	Railroad Avenue E	3243.75	0.61	East to West	Gravel	Good
21	Railroad Avenue W	1534.26	0.29	East to West	Gravel	Good
22	Rosewood Avenue E	220.90	0.04	East to West	Gravel	Good
23	Rosewood Avenue W	860.78	0.16	East to West	Chip Seal	Good
24	Second Street N	318.91	0.06	North to South	Chip Seal	Poor
25	Second Street S	352.39	0.07	North to South	Gravel	Fair
26	Seventh Street	354.54	0.07	North to South	Dirt	Fair
27	Sixth Street N	617.36	0.12	North to South	Dirt	Fair
28	Sixth Street S	407.77	0.08	North to South	Dirt	Fair
29	Third Street N	391.26	0.07	North to South	Gravel	Fair
30	Third Street S	365.80	0.07	North to South	Gravel	Fair
		20,607.78 ft	3.9 mi			
FEDERAL, STATE AND COUNTY ROADS						
1	US Highway 285	11,340.52	2.15	East to West	Asphalt	Good
2	US Highway 60	644.35	0.12	East to West	Asphalt	Good
3	NM Highway 3	5265.67	1.00	North to South	Asphalt	Fair
4	CR036 / Derramadero Road	1321.39	0.25	North to South	Chip Seal	Fair
		18,571.93 ft	3.52 mi			

Source: NMDOt Road Data 2017-18; MRCOG 2020

Figure 21: Roadway Surface Type Map



Transit

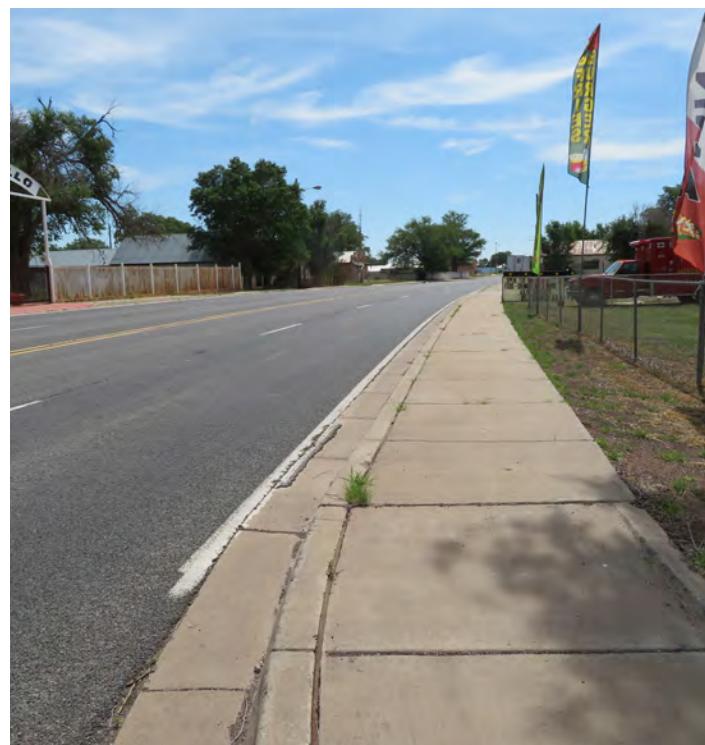
Transit has long been, and continues to be, an important topic of discussion within the region. The area's most recent transit program, the Torrance County Rural Public Transportation Program or TCPO to Go ended service in 2010. This fixed-route, demand-response, and modified fixed-route ran from 2006 to 2010. The transit program serviced the communities of Moriarty, Estancia, Mountainair, Edgewood, Willard, Manzano, Torreon, Tajique and Chilili. Since the program's end, the residents of Torrance County, including the Village of Encino, have been without the transportation services it provided and have unfortunately been unable to establish or attract other programs.

Due to the size of the Village of Encino and its geographic distance from larger populated centers, the viability of public transportation is minimal. However, this does not mean there is not a need for such services. Presently, there are no transit providers based within the Village of Encino and very few transit providers that service residents of Torrance County.

Like the Village of Encino, there are other communities within Torrance County that are geographically isolated, have an aging population, and have residents who need public transportation to obtain goods and services. At the top of this list are those residents who are in need of transit services to get to and from medical providers, many of which are located in the City of Santa Rosa, the City of Moriarty, the Town of Edgewood, and the City of Albuquerque.

Non-Motorized Transportation Options

The Village of Encino has minimal infrastructure in place to support alternative transportation modes such as walking and biking. The only available sidewalks within the Village are those that line US Highway 285 from NM Highway 3 to approximately 600 feet past Eighth Street. Proper shoulders that could be utilized for non-motorized travel along locally maintained roads are nonexistent. Discussions revealed that there is some non-motorized travel within the Village. The destinations residents walk or bike to include the Village Hall, local religious institutions, the US Post Office, and the Fire House Mercantile and Deli. This information could result in the Village identifying a few corridors to direct pedestrian and bicycle movement.



Sidewalks along US Highway 285, 2019

Rail

Rail was integral to the development of the Village of Encino. As previously noted, transportation by rail was introduced to the Village in 1905 as part of the “Belen Cut-off,” which navigates the southern foothills of the Manzano-Sandia Mountains. For many years after the rail’s arrival, the Village of Encino was a necessary stopping point for acquiring water for the steam engines and to drop off and pick up travelers and goods (*2009 Village of Encino Comprehensive Land Use Plan*).

With the introduction of the automobile, personal travel by rail became almost nonexistent. As a result, the Burlington Northern Santa Fe railway no longer stops in the Village of Encino. Rail services still bypass the Village of Encino, but the once bountiful benefits brought by the railway are no longer felt.



Railroad crossing on NM Highway 4, 2019



Chemical transportation through the Village of Encino, 2019

Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP) Route

US Highway 285 is a designated Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP) route. This designation means that commercial trucks are allowed to travel this corridor while carrying low-level radioactive waste. Commercial trucks pass through the Village of Encino on their way to the WIPP facility located 26 miles southeast of the Town of Carlsbad. The New Mexico WIPP facility is the world’s first underground repository licensed to safely and permanently dispose of residual radioactive waste from research and development of nuclear energy production and weaponry.

CHALLENGES and OPPORTUNITIES

Challenges

- **Financial Capacity** – The Village of Encino does not have the financial capacity to ensure all roadways are in *very good* condition. The Village instead leverages their funds to obtain state and federal transportation resources. Depending on financial savings and revenues, the Village averages between one and three road maintenance projects a year. These projects are typically chip seal and/or gravel improvements.
- **State and Federal Funding Sources** – Federal and State transportation funding sources for the implementation of rural transportation projects continues to decrease. Rural communities are often left to compete statewide for few funds and are required to commit matching funds. This combination has led to a large percentage of Village of Encino roads in need of repair or reconstruction.
- **Maintenance** – The Village does not have a maintenance schedule in place to ensure that roadways and other transportation infrastructure are maintained in a timely manner. The lack of a maintenance schedule has resulted in a deteriorated road network.
- **Safety** – Bicycle and pedestrian safety has been an ongoing issue within the Village of Encino. Specifically, residents feel unsafe when navigating the US Highway 285 corridor. There are no designated pedestrian crossings, and speed has been an issue within the developed area of the corridor.

- **Bike & Pedestrian Infrastructure** – The Village of Encino does not have any existing bicycle or pedestrian infrastructure in place, making the promotion of non-motorized travel within the Village difficult. Improving road conditions to allow for more non-motorized travel might prove to be too expensive for the Village to encumber.
- **Public Transit** – Public transit to and from the Village of Encino may not be a viable option for residents. The Village's proximity to other populated centers presents difficulties in establishing and maintaining service. Additionally, there is likely not enough ridership within the Village to warrant a fixed-route or modified fixed-route public transit service.

Opportunities

- **Alternative Surfaces** – The Village of Encino has utilized alternative road surfaces such as chip seal and gravel in the past. Identifying the preferred alternative surface type to utilize throughout the Village could lead the Village to improve a larger percent of their roadways. Alternative surface types will significantly reduce the cost associated with improved roadways within the Village. Alternative surface types could also be utilized as part of a bicycle and/or pedestrian system within the Village.
- **Active Living Lifestyle** – Based on the Village's demographic make-up, there is the potential to promote active living, specifically bicycling and walking as a means to improve health and prevent medical issues.

VILLAGE OF ENCINO | comprehensive plan

- **US Highway 285** – US Highway 285, which bisects the Village of Encino has become the Village's commercial corridor. Because this corridor is federally owned, it is continually maintained. This provides the Village the opportunity to capitalize on this commercial corridor to attract more visitors.
- **Local Government Transportation Project Fund** – In 2019 the New Mexico State Legislature passed House Bill 694, which was signed by Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham. The legislation

created the Local Government Transportation Project Fund, which was an appropriation of \$50 million for qualifying projects. Language within the legislation calls for a reoccurring annual appropriation should funds be available. The Village of Encino could capitalize on this funding source to improve existing roadway infrastructure since there is not a match requirement.



US Highway 285 looking east, 2019



TRANSPORTATION GOALS and OBJECTIVES

T-1

Provide an efficient transportation network for residents and visitors of the Village

T-1a: Develop a mechanism for prioritizing roads and other transportation improvements

- » Attend asset management training
- » Develop an asset management plan
- » Ensure the asset management plan guides the development of the Infrastructure Capital Improvement Plan (ICIP)
- » Implement the identified maintenance and replacement schedule

T-1b: Develop financing strategies for road improvements

- » Incorporate a phased approach to road improvements
- » Focus efforts on the most heavily utilized corridors
- » Leverage local and state funds to obtain larger federal grants

T-1c: Work with NMDOT to maintain and improve the US Highway 285 corridor

- » Continue dialogue with NMDOT and the MRRTP to ensure the corridor is maintained accordingly and included on the Regional Transportation Improvement Program Recommendations (RTIPR) and the State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP)

T-2

Provide a safe transportation network for residents and visitors of the Village

T-2a: Conduct a village-wide transportation safety audit

- » Partner with NMDOT and the MRRTP to obtain funding to conduct the audit

T-2b: Improve lighting along the US Highway 285 and Main Street Corridors

- » Work lighting into the next road improvements for each corridor
- » Research and become familiar with NMDOT lighting agreements and identify permanent funding for maintenance and operation
- » Determine feasibility of utilizing photovoltaic lighting throughout the Village

T-2c: Maintain and improve signage within the Village

- » Develop a sign inventory with a replacement schedule

T-2d: Improve safety along the US Highway 285 corridor

- » Partner with NMDOT to implement traffic calming measures along the corridor
- » Partner with NMDOT to reduce the speed limit on the corridor within the developed area
- » Engage in dialogue with WIPP and NMDOT to ensure safe use of the corridor by WIPP logistics

T-3

Provide alternative transportation options for residents of and visitors to the Village

T-3a: Enhance infrastructure along the identified multimodal corridors

- » Incorporate context sensitive pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure as part of larger roadway projects
- » Prioritize corridors that increase internal connectivity
- » Prioritize routes that feed into the preferred development areas
- » Include safety elements and crosswalks in prioritized routes

T-3b: Encourage alternative transportation between destinations within the Village

- » Inform and educate residents about the benefits of walking and/or biking to destinations

T-3c: Encourage partnerships to provide public transit services to residents

- » Conduct a feasibility report to determine the type of transit service needed
- » Partner with NMDOT's Transit and Rail Division to obtain funding to establish and/or expand services

SIX PUBLIC FACILITIES & SERVICES

The Public Facilities and Services element analyzes existing public facilities (certain infrastructure elements) and services to better understand the challenges and opportunities associated with providing amenities to the residents of the Village of Encino. Identification of current and future needs is based on data collection and analysis along with field research. This section is intended to guide the Village in the implementation of public facilities and services that improve the quality of life of residents.

- 1 Introduction
- 2 Community Profile
- 3 Land Use
- 4 Housing
- 5 Transportation and Circulation
- 6 Public Facilities and Services**
- 7 Hazard Mitigation
- 8 Economic Development
- 9 Appendices

INTRODUCTION

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Effective and efficient facilities and services such as utilities, municipal facilities, public safety services, and healthcare programs improve the quality of life for residents of any community. They increase the affordability of residing within the community and enhance the desirability of the community to prospective residents. Moreover, public facilities and services can help create a healthy and resilient community, both of which are needed to ensure lasting success in many rural communities throughout the Intermountain Region.

The purpose of the public facilities and services element is to assess the Village's physical assets and community services to guide short and long-term improvements. With the challenge of maintaining, improving, constructing, or establishing new public facilities and services, it is imperative that the Village

take a comprehensive look at the existing system. Analysis of the existing conditions has assisted in the identification of challenges and opportunities associated with providing adequate public facilities and services. Additionally, goals and strategies have been identified utilizing this comprehensive analysis.

EXISTING CONDITIONS

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Water Management

The Village of Encino lies within the enclosed Encino Basin, a small sub-basin formed by an ancient lake perched between the Estancia Valley and the Pecos River watershed. There are no perennial streams in the Encino Basin, but intermittent springs and streams occasionally flow within this basin. A small salt lake similar to this in the Estancia Basin is located about two miles south of the Village and at times holds water in the form of a playa lake (*2009 Village of Encino Comprehensive Land Use Plan*).

Potable Water System

In 1962, the Village of Encino became a partner of a regional water distribution system. The system is administered by the Town of Vaughn and supplies potable water to approximately 115 - 120 people

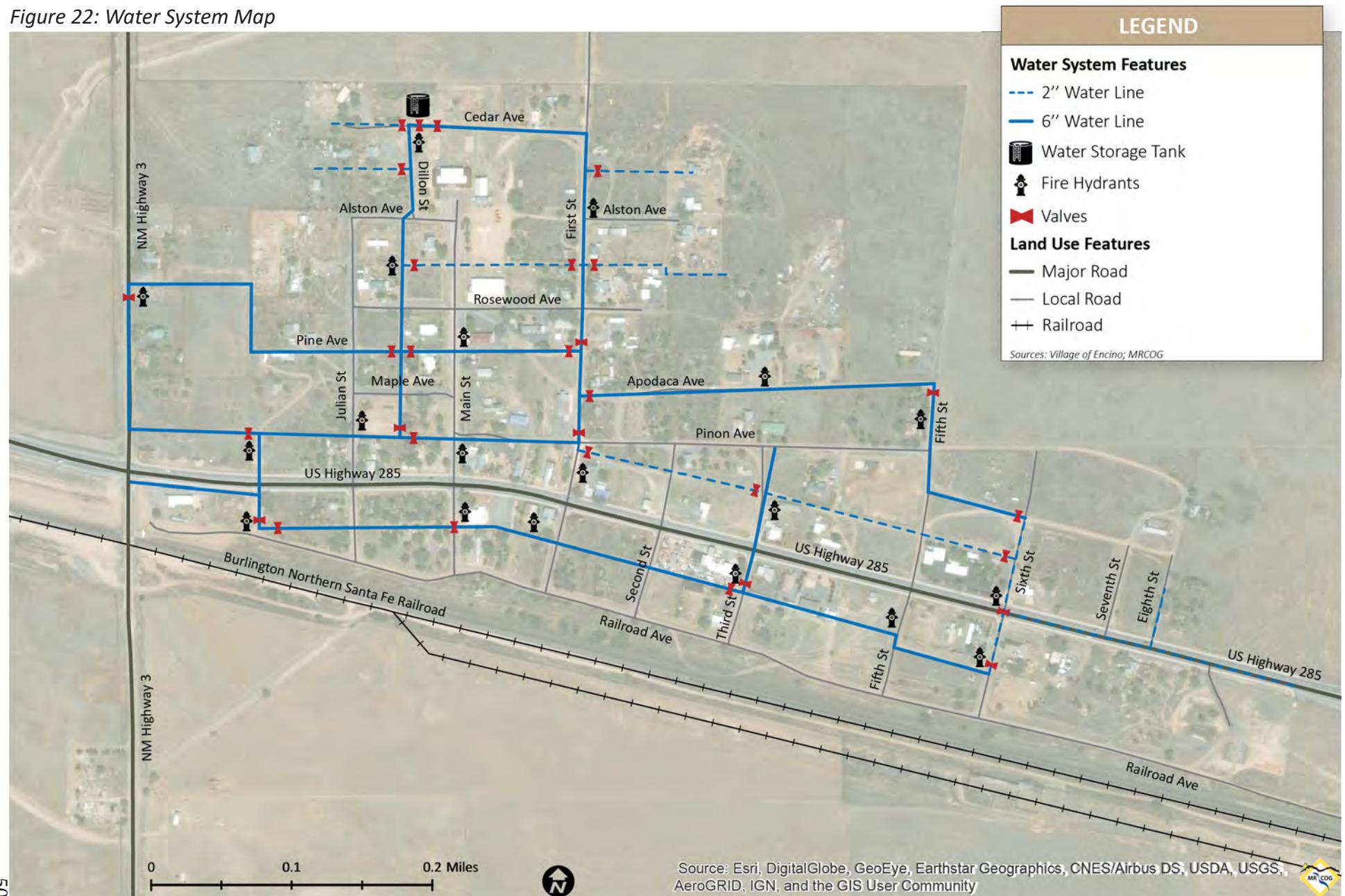
(*U.S. Census Bureau 2010 Census*) in both the Encino and Duran communities. The Village of Encino bills residents for water service on a monthly basis and payment is then made to the Town of Vaughn (*2009 Village of Encino Comprehensive Land Use Plan*).

The drinking water supply comes from the Negra Well field located about six miles northwest of the Village of Encino. The quality of the drinking water from the well is fair but does get additional treatment prior to being distributed to residences. Additional treatment to the water is required to meet the drinking water standards outlined by federal and state agencies (*2009 Village of Encino Comprehensive Land Use Plan*).



Village of Encino above surface water storage tank, 2019

Figure 22: Water System Map



The Village of Encino's internal water distribution system was upgraded in 2001 to accommodate the acquired water from the Town of Vaughn. An above surface water well that holds approximately 250,000 gallons of water is located adjacent to Village Hall. The Village is currently supplying water to approximately 50 connections. On average, the Village consumes approximately 9,300 gallons of water daily or 284,000 gallons of water on a monthly basis. Much like other water distribution systems, Encino's water rates vary by the amount of water consumed. At a minimum, connections are charged \$21.20 for 2,999 gallons and residents are charged an additional \$2.90 per 1,000 gallons consumed.

Wastewater

The Village does not have a municipal wastewater collection system. Due to financial constraints and low population, the Village has opted for individual septic systems for all structures in the Village. The Village has had discussions in the past about constructing a waste water collection and treatment system, but other financial obligations have consumed the Village's financial capacity. Recent discussions have resulted in the desire to begin construction of a wastewater collection system along US Highway 285. This area has been suggested as a logical starting point due to its designation as the commercial corridor. The construction of a wastewater collection system along this corridor could aid in the sustainability and the recruitment of businesses, but it would also be a large expense for the Village to bear.

Stormwater Management

Stormwater water management is an important responsibility that contributes to the resiliency of a community. The Village has benefited from small scale stormwater management activities. These activities include the construction of flood diversion dikes to the north and west of the community. These

diversion dikes direct flood waters to a retention pond just north of the Village. There are not many mechanisms in place within the core developed area to mitigate stormwater runoff. Without an internal wastewater collection system in place, the Village is left to mitigate stormwater runoff through the use of minor interventions such as roadside drainage and diversion. Such interventions are adequate for typical rain storms, however, these are not intended to mitigate the effects of intense rain storms. The aftermath of these storms results in ponding in low areas near residences and on local streets (*2009 Village of Encino Comprehensive Land Use Plan*).

Energy

Electricity

Village residents receive electricity through the Central New Mexico Electric Cooperative (CNMEC). The CNMEC, which provides service to various communities in Chavez, De Baca, Lincoln, Socorro, Valencia, Torrance, Guadalupe, San Miguel, and Santa Fe Counties, has been in existence since 1945. Prior to services being provided by the CNMEC, electricity was available to residents of the Village by a distribution facility called the Vaughn Light and Power Company. In 1949, four years after incorporation, the CNMEC began a study to acquire the Vaughn Light and Power Company. The CNMEC took over in 1949, however, the existing infrastructure from the Vaughn Light and Power Company needed serious improvements (www.cnmec.org).

The CNMEC also offers its members the option of participating in a renewable energy program by purchasing green power at an additional cost. The green power is produced from wind, solar, geothermal, small hydroelectric, and biomass resources. Various energy reduction programs are also provided to offset the cost of converting to newer and more energy efficient appliances and devices.

Over the years, the CNMEC has continued to acquire smaller private electric companies to expand their service area. The CNMEC now has 19,424 connections with 17,320 meters, 4,279 miles of distribution lines, and 121 miles of transmission lines (www.cnmec.org).

Fuel

The Village of Encino does not have access to natural gas resources. Geographical isolation has resulted in the Village being left out of natural gas distribution plans. The nearest provider is the EMW Gas Association which provides natural gas service to various communities in Torrance and Santa Fe Counties. EMW Gas' nearest possible connection is in the Village of Willard, approximately 35 miles away.

With access to natural gas currently unavailable, Village residents utilize propane to fuel their homes and businesses. This fuel source is delivered by commercial distributors around the region with the closest location in the City of Moriarty.

Renewable Energy

Over the last decade, renewable energy production and consumption in New Mexico has been on an upward trajectory. Torrance County has been a beneficiary of this sought-after commodity. At the time of the adoption of the previous comprehensive plan, Torrance County had approximately 40 wind turbines, which were a result of the High Lonesome Wind Farm (2009) project. Since then, the number of wind turbines has increased by approximately 355% due to the completion of the El Cabo Wind Farm (2017), which added an additional 142 wind turbines. In terms of renewable energy production over the last decade, Torrance County has increased their wind energy portfolio from 100.0 megawatts to approximately 400.00 megawatts (www.awea.org).

Guadalupe County, which neighbors Torrance County to the east, is home to the next closest wind farm, the Argonne Wind Farm. This renewable energy production facility was constructed in 2006 just northeast of the Village of Encino. The facility, which was one of the earliest wind energy production facilities in New Mexico, produces 90 megawatts via 90 wind turbines (www.awea.org).

Representatives from Pacific Winds Renewables (owners/contractors for the El Cabo Wind Farm) have recently approached Torrance County to get approval for modifications of their special-use permit. The modifications to the special-use permit would allow Pacific Wind Development LLC to increase wind energy production at the El Cabo site an additional 306 megawatts (www.torrancecountynm.org).

Large scale solar energy production in Torrance County was non-existent until 2018, when the Estancia Solar Project came online. The facility, which produces 2.5 megawatts of solar energy, sits on approximately 18 acres just north of the Town of Estancia. The power generated will be not be exported out of the state; rather the power will be directed towards members of the CNMEC.

The Village of Encino does not have large scale solar production facilities located within their jurisdiction, and residential solar panel installations have not been documented. However, according to the National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL), the Village of Encino is situated in a prime solar energy production area. NREL indicates that the Village has an average Direct Normal Irradiance (DNI) rate of 7.32. DNI is the amount of solar radiation received per unit area by a surface that is always held perpendicular to the rays that come in a straight line from the direction of the sun at its current position in the sky. Most areas of the U.S. have a rating between 4.0 and 6.0, with the highly sunny areas having

a rating of 6.5 or more. With a high DNI rating of 7.32, the Village has great potential for solar energy production (www.nrel.gov).

Solid Waste

Regional Landfill

The Village of Encino is provided solid waste service by the Estancia Valley Solid Waste Authority (EVSWA). The solid waste authority, which is stationed in the Town of Estancia, runs and operates the EVSWA Regional Landfill east of Moriarty. The EVSWA has also established localized transfer stations in the communities of Moriarty, Estancia, Edgewood, Mountainair, Tajique, Punta De Agua, Duran, and Encino. Most transfer stations accept typical household waste, however a few have yet to incorporate recycling infrastructure. In such cases, residents are required to recycle material at another location.

Transfer Station

The Village of Encino has a local self-service transfer station provided in partnership with the EVSWA. The facility is located in the eastern part of the core developed area and is open 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Disposal fees are set at \$12.00 for residential waste and \$14.00 for commercial waste. Most major types of solid waste are accepted at this facility. Exceptions at the Encino transfer station include construction and demolition waste, hazardous chemicals, and animal carcasses. Additionally, natural vegetative waste is collected at another location just west of the transfer station. All solid waste is then loaded and hauled approximately 45 miles to the regional landfill east of Moriarty.

Municipal Facilities

Village Administrative Office

The Village of Encino's administrative headquarters are situated in the former Encino

Elementary School located at the northern end of Main Street. The facility houses the Village's administrative offices including office space for the Mayor, Clerk, and Deputy Clerk. Additionally, it acts as office chambers for the Village Trustees. The largest room, which was formerly the gymnasium is periodically used for public meetings and local events. The rest of the facility is used for storage and other flexible uses such as temporary offices.

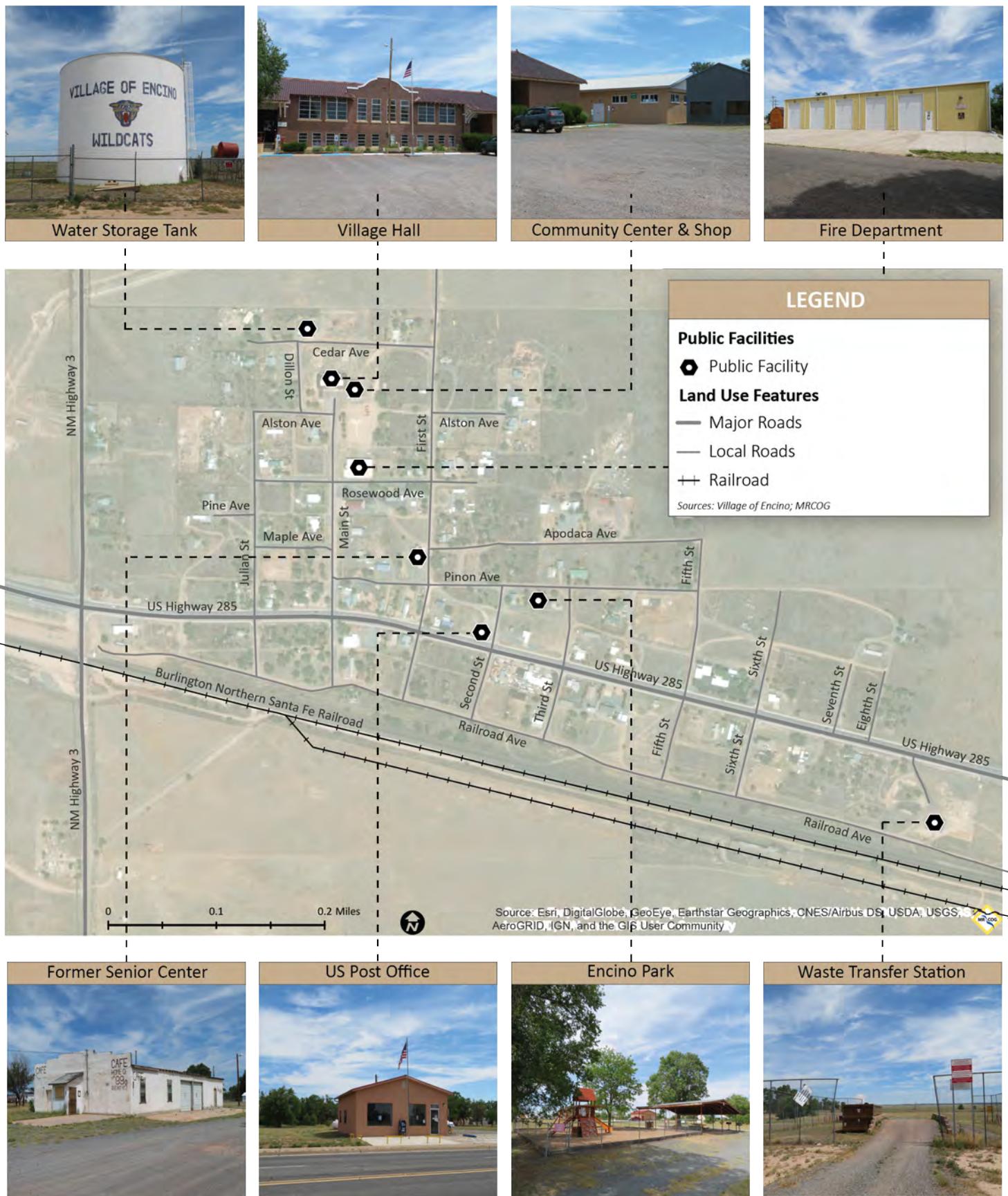
In order to preserve the facility, the Village intends to continue to house administrative functions within the building and may incorporate additional uses to maximize its utilization rate. The approximate 10,500 sq. ft. facility is in good condition and improvements to the roof were conducted in 2018. However, exterior improvements such as window repair are required to maintain usability.

Community Center

The Village of Encino Community Center, which is located adjacent to the Village Administrative Offices, was established in 1984 to provide a gathering space for residents of the community. The space is approximately 2,400 sq. ft. and is intended to host both community and private events such as public meetings, art fairs, farmers' markets, birthday parties, wedding receptions, and other events. The facility is equipped with a kitchen to allow for food preparation, storage, and serving. It also has a dining area to accommodate large events and a stage for live performances and presentations.

The Community Center is in good condition and does not require immediate improvements to sustain quality and usability. Cosmetic improvements such as installation of trimming, fixtures, lighting, and additional landscaping can improve the appearance of the center.

Figure 23: Public Facilities Map



Former Senior Center

In August of 1996, the Village of Encino's Senior Center suspended services. The senior center was located at the corner of Pinon Street and 1st Street. Since then the facility has been vacant and is deteriorating. The building will require significant improvements to become usable for any type of activity. An alternative facility would be recommended should the Village establish a new Senior Citizens Center. Possible locations include space within Village Hall and the existing Community Center.

Since its closing, senior services have not been provided within the Village of Encino. The nearest senior citizen services are provided in the Town of Vaughn, approximately 16 miles east of the Village.

Village of Encino Park

The Village of Encino owns and maintains one community park located on the corner of 2nd Street and Pinon Street. The park is approximately one-half acre in size and is comprised of large shade trees and a pavilion with several picnic tables and outdoor cooking areas. The park includes a fenced play area with slides, swings, and other play equipment. The park also features a small basketball court.

The Encino park has been periodically improved and maintained by the Village of Encino, but it does show signs of wear. Minor landscaping improvements would improve the quality of the park.

Transportation Services

Public Transportation

Currently, there are no public or private transportation services operating in the Village of Encino. Most travel outside the Village is with a personal vehicle. However, some residents are intermittently served utilizing various regional

demand-response transit services. Typically, these transit services are only utilized by residents who are in need of medical assistance located outside the Village and county. Non-medical trips are not provided to residents of the Village. More detail about transit can be found in the Transportation chapter of the Comprehensive Plan.

NMDOT Maintenance Yard

The New Mexico Department of Transportation has established a maintenance yard within the Village of Encino. The facility, which provides maintenance and construction activities to the US and State Highways within the region, is located at the intersection of US Highways 285 and 60. Because the maintenance yard is within the Village's jurisdiction, the Village receives several benefits such as US Highway 285 and State Highway 3 being adequately maintained within the Village. These roads bisect the Village of Encino and are important thoroughfares for local and regional travel.



Village of Encino Park, 2019

Telecommunication Services

Internet

There are two internet providers that service residents of the Village. The first and most utilized provider is Plateau Telecommunications, which provides internet via DSL and has download speeds

of up to 10 Mbps. The second provider is Viasat, which provides service via satellite and has download speeds of up to 25 Mbps.

Wireless Telephone

Village residents are provided wireless telephone service via the major carriers including AT&T, Verizon, and T-Mobile. According to coverage maps provided by various wireless carriers, 4G connectivity is available in the Village. However, other sources for coverage of the top wireless phone providers indicates that only two of the major carriers, T-Mobile and Verizon, have the ability to supply 4G connectivity to residents of the Village. AT&T has the ability to provide 3G connectivity to the Village (www.whistleout.com).

Public Safety Services

Law Enforcement

The Village of Encino does not provide internal law enforcement services due to its small size. The Village has opted to partner with the Torrance County Sheriff's Department and the New Mexico State Police to provide its residents with public safety services. These services include police protection and intermittent patrol. The Village does not provide a police sub-station for County and State officers to utilize when patrolling east Torrance County. This could be an opportunity to increase the presence of law enforcement in the Village.

Fire Protection

The Village of Encino provides fire protection services by way of the Encino Volunteer Fire Department, which has a Fire Protection Rating of 5 determined by ISO/CRS. An ISO rating is a score that determines how well a local fire department can protect the community and its assets. A rating of one means a community is very well protected, while a rating of 10 means the local fire department

cannot meet minimum protection requirements. The department is currently staffed by 24 volunteers and is equipped with two fire engines, two brush trucks, one 1,500-gallon tanker and one pumper. In 2018, the volunteer fire department responded to approximately 18 calls, including residential and open space fires, emergency medical assistance, vehicular crashes, rescue missions, and general welfare checks.

Emergency Medical Services

In addition to fire protection, the volunteer fire department provides basic emergency medical and first response services. The Village owns and operates a medical transport vehicle, which is used to stabilize patients until proper transportation can be arranged.

Healthcare Services

Regional Medical Providers

The Village does not have medical services located within the limits of the Village. Residents of Encino must turn to the surrounding communities for these services. The regional medical providers that serve Encino include Guadalupe County Hospital in Santa Rosa, and the various hospitals located in Albuquerque including Presbyterian Hospital, Lovelace Medical Center, and the University of New Mexico Hospital. Guadalupe Hospital is located 54.4 miles away from Encino. This hospital is a 10 bed, general acute care hospital that provides emergency and inpatient care. The hospitals located in Albuquerque provide emergency and inpatient care as well as more specialized services. These hospitals are located about 90 miles from the Village of Encino.

Clinics and General Practice Providers

The residents of Encino find general health care and family medicine providers in nearby communities. The nearest health centers are located



Village of Encino Post Office, 2019

in the Town of Mountainair and the Town of Moriarty, each about 50 miles away. These centers provide general non-emergency health care. Families can seek additional clinics and services in the cities of Albuquerque and Santa Rosa.

Emergency Trauma Centers

The University of New Mexico Hospital is the only level one trauma center in the State of New Mexico. This means that they are capable of providing care for all aspects and through all stages of an injury (American Trauma Society). The University of New Mexico Hospital receives 93,000 emergency visits, 7,000 trauma cases, 18,000 surgeries, and 491,000 outpatient visits annually (hsc.unm.edu).

Educational Services

Early Childhood Education

The closest early childhood education program is located in the Town of Vaughn. Vaughn provides a pre-k and kindergarten program that is about fifteen minutes from Encino. Other preschool and early education opportunities are provided in the towns of Estancia and Mountainair and the cities of Moriarty, Santa Rosa, and Albuquerque.

K-12

The Vaughn Municipal School system offers grades

K-12. Vaughn Municipal Schools are the closest and most convenient option for the Village of Encino residents. Residents can seek additional public, private, or charter schools in Estancia, Mountainair, Moriarty, Edgewood, Santa Rosa, and Albuquerque. Because current data indicates that Encino has little to no youth, this should not be an issue. However, should the Village wish to recruit families, this could become one.

Post Secondary

The primary post-secondary education options in New Mexico are the University of New Mexico in Albuquerque, New Mexico State University in Las Cruces, the New Mexico Institute of Mining and Technology in Socorro, New Mexico Highlands University in Las Vegas, and Eastern New Mexico University in Portales. All of these schools are public institutions providing 4-year programs. Various university branches and junior colleges are located throughout the state in smaller towns, and online options are also available.

Other Facilities

Post Office

The existing US Post Office, located at the crossroads of US Highway 285 and 2nd Street, was constructed in 1959. The approximately 800 sq. ft. facility currently provides residents with services including delivery and distribution, carrier and route service, money order sales, postage sales, and gifting of burial flags for recently deceased veterans.

The facility is in good condition and provides quality service to the residents of the Village. A resident of the Village owns the building that houses the post office, and they are responsible for the upkeep and maintenance of the building. The building is leased to the Federal Government

CHALLENGES and OPPORTUNITIES

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Challenges

- **Aging Infrastructure** – A majority of the facilities owned and maintained by the Village have reached, or are reaching, their life expectancy. An asset management plan, which includes a list of all Village assets and their life expectancy has not been completed. This plan is crucial in understanding the number of improvements needed, identifying a schedule for conducting improvements, and estimating the cost associated with those activities. Without this plan, it is difficult to prioritize and anticipate capital improvements. Many of the Village's facilities require substantial improvements or complete replacement to provide an acceptable level of service. The Village's aging infrastructure and the improvements and/or replacements needed are accompanied by a considerable price tag.
- **Financial Capacity** – Encino does not have the financial capacity to ensure that all facilities are optimally maintained. With revenue generation at a minimum, the Village is required to bank funds for years prior to any sort of major improvement. In other instances, the Village is required to leverage local funds to obtain larger state and federal capital. Additionally, the services and programs that are operated and maintained by the Village are often subsidized by state and federal funding resources. Many of these funding sources are not guaranteed and are often secured after undergoing a rigorous application process.
- **Renewable Energy Infrastructure** – Should the Village of Encino be interested in producing and increasing the consumption of renewable energy via wind or solar, the cost of the infrastructure required to do so exceeds the amount the Village can feasibly commit.
- **Demolition** - Demolition of dilapidated structures is always a challenge for small rural communities. Often, the cost to properly demolish and dispose of material, much of which contains contaminants, deters public assistance. In many cases, the local governing body does not have the funds to conduct such activities and often seeks outside resources to complete demolition.
- **No Public Works Department** – The Village of Encino does not have a public works department. Instead, the Village relies on administrative staff to ensure assets are operated and maintained accordingly. Without a public works department or employee, the Village risks improper asset operation and maintenance.
- **No Senior Services** – Since the closure of the Encino Senior Center, elderly residents have had little to no internal services provided to them. Meal preparation, healthcare check-ups, transportation, and physical activity programs have all been eliminated as part of the closure.
- **Isolation** – The Village of Encino is located in east-central Torrance County. This area of the county is geographically isolated with the nearest amenities approximately 16 miles away in the Town of Vaughn. The nearest small urban areas are the City of Santa Rosa – 56 miles away and the City of Moriarty – 60 miles away. The nearest urban/metropolitan area is the City of Albuquerque, which is approximately 88 miles away. Geographical isolation has made it difficult for transit agencies to provide services to Encino residents.
- **High Speed Internet** – Although the Village does have access to internet service, the download speeds provided are not conducive for economic

- development, business recruitment, and supporting institutional facilities and services.
- **No Internal Law Enforcement Presence** – The Village of Encino does not have internal law enforcement presence. This aspect of public safety is crucial for community well-being and sense of place. Without law enforcement presence, residents feel unsafe within their own community.
 - **Access to Healthcare** – Like many rural communities in New Mexico and the Intermountain Region, the Village of Encino has no access to internal healthcare providers. Residents of the Village must travel to neighboring communities or counties to obtain healthcare services.
 - **Existing On-Demand Transit Service** – Although there are some on-demand services within Torrance County, they do not service all areas and service is not always convenient or reliable for residents. The services that exist are specifically for medical purposes or can only be used by seniors. More research is required to determine the feasibility of providing more transit services for residents.
- ## Opportunities
- **Minimal Water Infrastructure Network** – Although the cost to improve the Village's water management system is large in comparison to municipal revenues, the relatively small network of lines, valves, hydrants, wells, and pumps can be improved through multiple phases, therefore spreading out the cost and making it more manageable for the Village.
 - **Renewable Energy Potential** – The Village of Encino is situated in a prime renewable energy production area. Both wind and solar energy production potential is present in Torrance County and areas adjacent to the Village. This could be a potential revenue generator for the Village. Rooftop solar could also help residents reduce their reliance on energy providers and save money on energy usage over the long-run.
 - **Consolidate Facilities & Services** – The Village's administrative building has the capacity to house the community center or a newly established senior center. By incorporating multiple uses into the building, there is no need to construct a new facility. Additionally, the Village could seek to consolidate facilities and services along the Main Street Corridor, thus establishing a community core.
 - **Target Senior Population** – With an aging population, the need for senior services is greatly needed. As noted in the community profile, the Village of Encino has approximately 35 percent of the total population over the age of 65. An additional 18 percent of the total population will enter this age group in 10 years. By this time, just over half of the total population will be considered elderly.
 - **Mobile Healthcare Services** – The Village could seek partnerships with healthcare providers to provide intermittent healthcare service to residents of the Village. This service could be provided by way of mobile health vehicles. This would also provide a temporary use of municipal facilities.
 - **Partnering with Other Communities** – The Village can partner with surrounding communities to obtain services not provided within the Village. Services could range from health care, law enforcement, financial guidance, child care, recreation, and educational services. Additionally, the Village could partner with Torrance County to assist with public work activities or in the hiring of a public works employee to maintain the Village's assets.



PUBLIC F&S GOALS and OBJECTIVES

P-1

Develop a mechanism for prioritizing capital improvements

P-1a: Develop location maps for all surface and subsurface assets

- » Seek funding to initiate mapping of surface and subsurface utilities and facilities
- » Partner with an outside agency to prepare maps
- » Partner with MRCOG to store, print, and make modifications to the maps as needed

P-1b: Develop an asset management plan

- » Seek funding to develop an asset management plan for the Village
- » Incorporate mapped facilities into the asset management plan
- » Utilize plan to prioritize capital improvements

P-2

Maintain a safe and sustainable water source for Village residents

P-2a: Develop and implement a water management system for the Village

- » As part of the asset management plan, prepare a detailed water system improvement program and schedule
- » Conduct a water assessment to determine water quality and necessary wastewater treatment facilities for the Village
- » Develop and adopt a water conservation ordinance and drought contingency plan
- » Construct a wastewater system along the US Highway 285 Corridor

P-3

Ensure effective and efficient public safety for residents of the Village

P-3a: Maintain and improve law enforcement presence within the Village

- » Work with area law enforcement to establish a police sub-station within Village hall
- » Continue to support community watch group to improve the safety and welfare of the community

P-3b: Maintain and improve fire protection and emergency medical services provided to residents of the Village

- » Conduct an analysis of the capital assets that allow volunteers to provide fire protection and emergency medical services to residents
- » Improve and/or repair assets as needed
- » Recruit new volunteers and assist with the certifications required to perform fire protection and emergency medical services

P-4

Ensure effective and efficient public facilities and services for residents of the Village

P-4a: Develop and implement a public facilities program for the Village

- » As part of the asset management plan, prepare a detailed public facilities improvement program and schedule
- » Ensure adequate staffing to provide and perform necessary operations and maintenance of facilities

P-4b: Improve the utilization of Village facilities

- » Conduct a utilization study to determine the amount of space available for permanent or temporary use
- » Increase the utilization of space within Village Hall
- » Consider consolidation of public facilities and services

P-4c: Increase the number and frequency of services provided to residents of the Village

- » Establish or designate a facility for temporary use by outside agencies
- » Actively seek mobile service providers that provide healthcare, financial, education, workforce, and other services required to improve quality of life
- » Encourage community organization groups to establish volunteer led programs for residents

P-5

P-5: Ensure effective and efficient energy services for residents of the Village

P-5a: Continue to improve the Village's partnership with the Central New Mexico Electric Cooperative (CNMEC)

- » Seek increased and improved electric service from CNMEC
- » Promote existing CNMEC Renewable Energy programs to Village residents

P-5b: Engage in Village owned renewable energy production activities

- » Conduct a feasibility report to determine the Village's potential to produce renewable energy via solar and wind power
- » Partner with CNMEC and other area renewable energy providers to implement renewable energy activities outlined in the aforementioned feasibility study

P-5c: Encourage renewable energy consumption within the Village

- » Partner with CNMEC to provide better access to renewable energy
- » Research incentive programs to increase residential solar

P-6

Improve access to healthcare providers and services

P-6a: Partner with regional healthcare providers to establish a mobile healthcare service within the Village of Encino

- » Conduct a survey to determine the type of healthcare services needed within the community
- » Identify a facility to be utilized by a mobile healthcare service provider

P-6b: Participate in the Partnership for Healthy Torrance Communities (Torrance County Health Council)

- » Actively engage in monthly meetings with the PHTC committee
- » Host community health and wellness events

P-6c: Establish a community-organized health and wellness education program

- » Partner with the PHTC to develop preventative wellness programs
- » Recruit volunteers to staff and facilitate programs
- » Engage in area health and wellness events
- » Have a defibrillator in the Village Hall, and provide trainings to residents for proper usage

SEVEN HAZARD MITIGATION

The primary purpose of the hazard mitigation element is to identify existing and future hazards that work against the sustainability and resiliency of the community. Additionally, this element identifies methods to mitigate these hazards and preserve Village assets should such events occur. Guidance in the form of goals, objectives, and strategies are presented to assist the Village in the preservation of capital assets and maintaining the health and welfare of the community.

- 1 Introduction
- 2 Community Profile
- 3 Land Use
- 4 Housing
- 5 Transportation and Circulation
- 6 Public Facilities and Services
- 7 Hazard Mitigation
- 8 Economic Development
- 9 Appendices

INTRODUCTION

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Purpose of Hazards Mitigation Planning

A Hazard Mitigation Plan identifies risks and vulnerabilities that are created by natural disasters. The plan creates strategies that aim to help prevent loss from natural and man-made disasters. The planning process allows for communities or entities to become prepared for the event of a disaster. This preparation allows for loss of life and reduced property damage in the community. Ultimately, hazard mitigation planning lessens the impact that disasters have on a community.

Federal Requirements for Hazard Mitigation

According to the Torrance County Hazard Mitigation Plan, the plan was developed in accordance with the state and federal rules and regulations governing local hazards mitigation plans. The following are regulations that provide local entities with the authority to complete and adopt such plans:

- Section 322, Mitigation Planning, of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and

Emergency Assistance Act, as enacted by Section 104 of the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 (*P.L. 106-390*)

- Local Mitigation Planning requirements found in 44 CFR art 201.6 (*Torrance County, 2017, p. 27*)



Torrance County Emergency Management Logo

Torrance County Hazards Mitigation Plan

In 2016-2017 Torrance County, in partnership with the Town of Estancia, the City of Moriarty, the Town of Mountainair, the Village of Willard, the Village of Encino, and the Claunch-Pinto Soil and Water Conservation District identified the Hazard Mitigation Plan's area of interest. The Hazard Mitigation Plan was adopted by area agencies in November and December of 2017. "The plan, which analyzes the nine natural hazards that present the greatest threat to communities within Torrance County, includes a detailed representation of each hazard, a risk assessment that describes potential losses to physical assets, people and operations; a set of goals, objectives, and actions that will guide the county and participating jurisdiction's mitigation program in the coming years. Additional detailed strategies for implementation and monitoring are included in the plan" (*Torrance County, 2017, p. 16*).

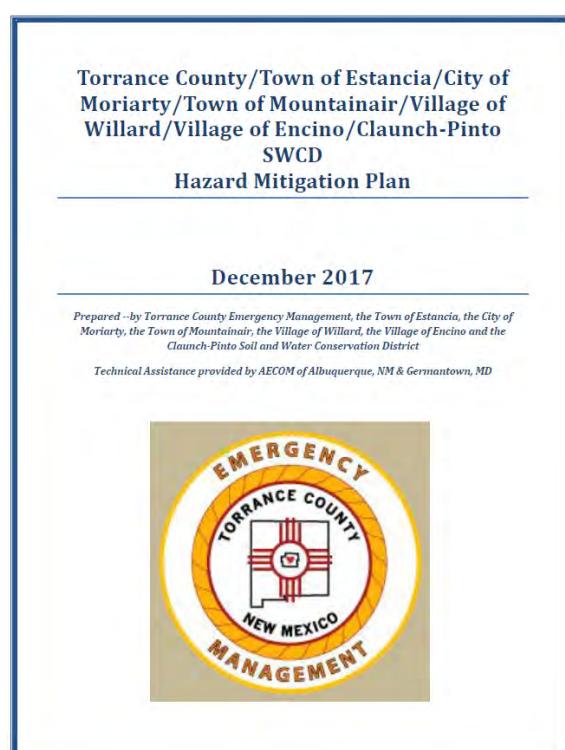
"In summary, the purpose of the Torrance County Hazard Mitigation Plan is to:

- Break the cycle of repetitive natural hazards
- Protect life, safety and property by reducing the potential for future damages and economic losses that result from hazards
- Make the county a safer place to work, visit, and live
- Restore and preserve Torrance County's natural and recreational resources
- Help the county thrive economically
- Support preservation of hazard prone natural areas
- Reduce future vulnerability by guiding development and redevelopment
- Avoid interruptions caused by hazards
- Qualify for mitigation grant funding in both the pre-disaster and post-disaster environment
- Document coordination efforts with other stakeholders in the hazard mitigation effort

- Speed recovery following disaster events
 - Develop broad based community support for hazard mitigation
 - Record successful hazard mitigation projects and programs
 - Demonstrate a firm commitment to hazard mitigation principles
 - Comply with state and federal legislative requirements for hazard mitigation plans"
- (*Torrance County, 2017, p. 17*).

Participation in the Torrance County Hazard Mitigation Plan allowed the Village of Encino to obtain valuable technical assistance and a complete analysis of the nine natural disasters and how they impact the Village and its residents.

The following subsections are summarized information from the 2017 Torrance County Hazard Mitigation Plan. Information regarding hazards that impact the Village of Encino have been extracted and are included in this chapter.



EXISTING CONDITIONS

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Flood

Flooding within the Village of Encino has a moderate risk level, according to the Torrance County Hazard Mitigation Plan. Because the Village has yet to be mapped, the designated risk level could be modified upon completion of mapping flood areas within the Village. As noted in the Public Facilities and Services chapter of this plan, the Village has undergone small-scale flood mitigation activities including the construction of flood diversion dikes to the north and west of the community. However, flood

mitigation measures are not as prevalent within the core developed area of the community. The Village relies on minor interventions such as simplistic roadside drainage to mitigate internal flooding, which have proven to be ineffective in occasions of brief intense storms (*Torrance County, 2017, p. 42*).

Figure 24: Flood Hazard Areas at the Municipal Boundaries of Encino



Flood areas mapped up to the municipal boundaries of Encino, 2017

Table 6: Torrance County Previous Flood Events

LOCATION	DATE	EVENT TYPE	PROPERTY DAMAGE
CLINES CORNERS	08/12/1997	Flash Flood	\$0
ESTANCIA	08/22/1997	Flash Flood	\$0
MORIARTY	06/02/2000	Flash Flood	\$0
ENCINO	07/03/2002	Flash Flood	\$0
ENCINO	06/26/2005	Flash Flood	\$0
ENCINO	07/26/2005	Flash Flood	\$0
ENCINO	08/05/2005	Flash Flood	\$0
ENCINO	07/18/2010	Flash Flood	\$1,500
MCINTOSH	07/28/2010	Flash Flood	\$1,000
CLINES CORNERS	07/02/2013	Flash Flood	\$0
TAJIQUE	07/24/2013	Flash Flood	\$0
TAJIQUE	08/10/2013	Flash Flood	\$15,000
TORREON	08/10/2013	Flash Flood	\$5,000
MCINTOSH	09/11/2013	Flash Flood	\$20,000
WILLARD	09/11/2013	Flood	\$0
TAJIQUE	08/04/2014	Flash Flood	\$5,000

Source: National Climatic Data Center (NCDC); Torrance County Hazard Mitigation Plan 2017

Previous Occurrences

According to the National Climatic Data Center (NCDC), there have been 16 reported flood events in Torrance County from January 1, 1996 through August 1, 2015. The following table lists the locations of events along with damages associated with each event:

As one can see, the Village of Encino has experienced five reported flash floods since 2002. According to the data provided by NCDC, it seems as though property damage was not reported prior to 2010. Therefore, the cumulative damage (\$1,500) recorded for the Village's five reported flash floods is likely to be much more (*Torrance County, 2017, p. 47*).

Probability of Future Events

According to the Torrance County Hazard Mitigation Plan, the Village of Encino, through analysis of existing conditions and future infrastructure plans, indicated that the future probability of flooding is rated as "Possible." Unlike larger communities, the Village of Encino has not undergone flood mapping activities and therefore has decided not to rate the probability of flooding as "Highly Likely."

The plan also points outs that due to the nature of the built environment and geographical terrain in Torrance County and the participating communities, "many communities can expect damages from as little as six inches of water." Additionally, "flood levels can be expected anywhere between a few inches and several feet depending on the location within the county and the type of flooding" (*Torrance County, 2017, p. 48*).

Vulnerability and Impact

The Torrance County Hazard Mitigation Plan indicates that the planning area as a whole "has risk potential from flooding that exceeds \$123,084,000 in value." However, this value is based only on the communities that have undergone flood mapping activities (communities include Torrance County, Moriarty and Estancia). The value of risk from flooding for the Village of Encino cannot be identified without the completion of flood mapping (*Torrance County, 2017, p. 48, 49*).

Wildfire / Wildland-Urban Interface Fire

Wildfires and Wildland-Urban Interface Fires are one of the most devastating natural disasters that commonly occur in New Mexico. According to the Torrance County Hazard Mitigation Plan, “a wildland fire is a wildfire in an area in which development is essentially nonexistent, except for roads, railroads, power lines and similar facilities. A wildland-urban interface (WUI) fire is a fire in an area where structures and other human development meet or intermingle with wildland or vegetative fuels” (*Torrance County, 2017, p. 49*).

Droughts increase the probability of wildfires and wildland-urban interface fires. “The typical mixture of dry air and wind exacerbate the risk of fire as dry wind creates a hairdryer effect and further dries out vegetation and pushes fire outward” (*Torrance County, 2017, p. 49*). The Torrance County Hazard Mitigation Plan utilized the Keetch-Bryam Drought Index Fire Rating System, which can be seen in Table 7. This rating system was specifically designed to assess fire potential of any given area. The system utilizes a “number representing the net effect of evapotranspiration in producing cumulative moisture deficiency in deep duff and upper soil layers. It is

a continuous index, relating to the flammability of organic material in the ground” (*Torrance County, 2017, p. 50,51*).

Probability and Extent of Future Events

Torrance County and the participating communities typically have conditions between the months of September through December that warrant a 200-400 KBDI rating, while the rating between the months of January through August, which tend to be much dryer, climbs to 400-600 KBDI. According to the plan, the months of May through July occasionally host a KBDI rating of 600-800. This likely occurs during periods of major drought and extreme heat (*Torrance County, 2017, p. 50-52*).

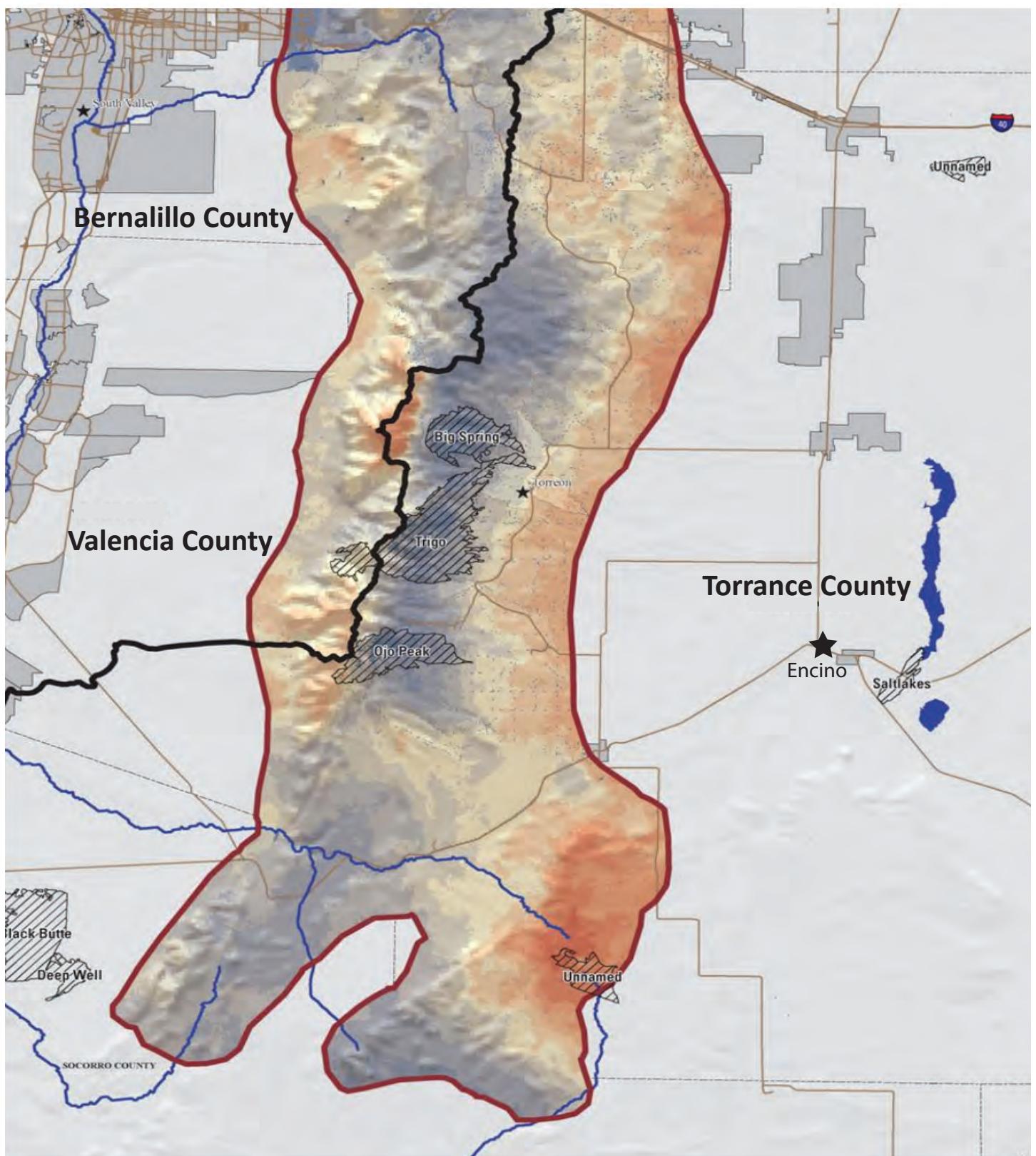
Fortunately for the Village of Encino, analysis of the wildfire and wildland-urban interface fire data has resulted in a “Low Risk” for fire rating. A majority of the risk lies west of the Village in communities that boarder the Manzano Mountains. See Figure 25 for a map of burn probability.

Table 7: Keetch-Byram Drought Index Fire Rating Index

Keetch-Byram Drought Index Fire Rating System	
0 – 200	Soil and fuel moisture are high. Most fuels will not readily ignite or burn. However, with sufficient sunlight and wind, cured grasses and some light surface fuels will burn in spots and patches.
200 – 400	Fires more readily burn and will carry across an area with no gaps. Heavier fuels will still not readily ignite and burn. Also, expect smoldering and the resulting smoke to carry into and possible through the night.
400 – 600	Fire Intensity begins to significantly increase. Fires will readily burn in all directions exposing mineral soils in some locations. Larger fuels may burn or smolder for several days creating possible smoke and control problems.
600-800	Fires will burn to mineral soils. Stumps will burn to the end of underground roots and spotting will be a major problem. Fires will burn through the night and heavier fuels will actively burn and contribute to fire intensity.

Keetch-Byram Drought Index Fire Rating System used in the Torrance County Hazard Mitigation Plan, 2017

Figure 25: Burn Probability and Historic Fire Perimeters in Manzano Mountains including Torrance County



Source: Torrance County Hazard Mitigation Plan 2017; USGS Publication entitles Potential Post Wildfire Debris Flow Hazards)

Previous Occurrences

Because the Village of Encino is located in east central Torrance County and away from areas that present major fire potential (Manzano Mountains and transition areas between ponderosa pine and pinon juniper trees), wildfires or wildland-urban interface fires have not occurred. Most of the recorded fires have occurred within the areas identified in the map shown in Figure 25.

Probability of Future Events

According to the Torrance County Hazard Mitigation Plan “the potential for wildfire is present throughout Torrance County. The major concern caused by wildfires has historically been focused in the Manzano Mountains area. Recently, the County has had concerns with grassland fires, but these fires are easier to spot and contain.

“The probability of another wildfire in the entire planning area of Torrance County and its participating jurisdictions is “Highly Likely” (*Torrance County, 2017, p. 54*).

As noted earlier, the Village of Encino has a “Low Risk” rating for fire potential. Therefore, the statement above is most likely excluding the eastern communities and is more applicable for western communities that are within or border the Manzano Mountains.

Vulnerability and Impact

In 2003, an assessment was conducted in Torrance County to identify areas of wildland-urban interface. This assessment along with United States Census data, local expertise, and other studies were used to conduct a vulnerability assessment as part of the Torrance County Hazard Mitigation Plan. The plan states that “Torrance County is comprised of approximately 2,150,624 acres of land. Of this land, 6,268 acres are located in “High Risk” areas,

32,411 acres are located in “Medium Risk” areas, and 13,136 acres are located in “Low Risk” areas. Of the 2,150,624 acres, there is approximately 51,815 located in wildland-urban interface areas (*Torrance County, 2017, p. 55*).

The Torrance County Hazard Mitigation Plan indicated that “there are no Critical Facilities (infrastructure and public facilities) within Torrance County that have been identified as vulnerable to wildfire. However, the plan also states that detailed information typically used to determine vulnerability was not available at the time.

To obtain a dollar amount of potential loss due to wildfires, the Hazard Mitigation Plan utilized the 2003 Torrance County WUI Assessment and 2010 US Census data. “The estimated dollar loss for homes in the WUI areas is based on the median value of homes, \$105,200 and the percent damage expected from different hazard ratings.” The plan utilizes a “100% destruction for homes in the “High Risk” areas, 50% for homes in the “Medium Risk” areas and 20% for homes in the “Low Risk” areas. Total potential dollar amounts are shown in Table 8 (*Torrance County, 2017, p. 56,57*).

Table 8: Potential Dollar Loss for Homes in WUI Areas

HAZARD RATING	% OF DAMAGE EXPECTED	# OF HOMES	VALUE
HIGH RISK	100%	357	\$37,556,400
MEDIUM RISK	50%	2,508	\$131,920,800
LOW RISK	20%	376	\$7,911,040
TOTAL		3,241	\$177,388,240

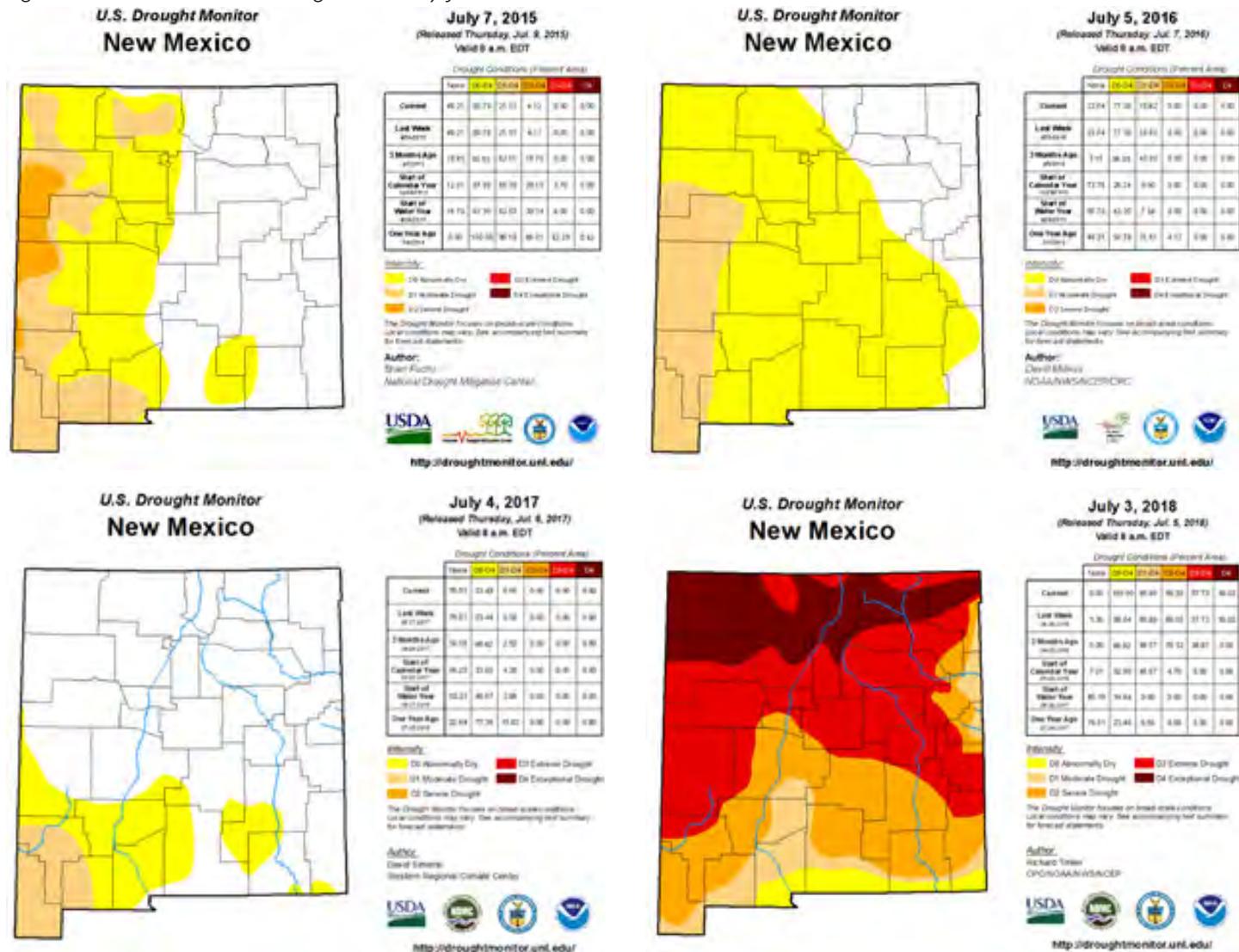
Source: Torrance County WUI Area Assessment 2003; 2010 US Census; Torrance County Hazard Mitigation Plan 2017

Drought

Torrance County and the Village of Encino are no strangers to drought. The Torrance County Hazard Mitigation Plan defines drought as “a period of prolonged dryness that contributed to the depletion of water supplies, both underground and on the surface.” The plan further states that “droughts are a natural condition caused by an extended period of limited rainfall (less than normal) in a broad geographical area. Factors that contribute to a drought such as high temperatures, increased winds, and low humidity increase hazard risks.

The Hazard Mitigation Plan utilized the National

Figure 26: New Mexico Drought Severity from 2015-2018



Drought Mitigation Center’s state-by-state weekly drought severity assessment. The assessment classifies drought by severability into 5 categories: D0 – Abnormally Dry, D1 – Moderate Drought, D2 – Severe Drought, D3 – Extreme Drought, D4 – Exceptional Drought. Figure 26 showcases drought severity in the month of July in New Mexico between the years 2015 - 2018.

Torrance County and the Village of Encino over the years have fallen in and out of drought. Both geographies have experienced everything from no drought to extreme drought intensities. In 2018, the County and Village were experiencing extreme drought.

Probability and Extent of Future Events

According to the Torrance County Hazard Mitigation Plan, the county and the participating communities are “Likely” to experience “recurring droughts with moderate to exceptional severity.” Additionally, the plan states that there is no predicting the length of droughts as they can vary from one season to 40 seasons. Lastly, the plan states that recovery periods are dependent on the “intensity of the drought, its length, and the quantity of precipitation received as the drought ends.” Scientific research has “suggested that prolonged periods of drought are increasingly likely in the future for Torrance County and the participating communities” (*Torrance County, 2017, p. 61*).

Vulnerability and Impact

Drought has been and will continue to be one of the more devastating hazards that residents of the Village will endure. Unfortunately, drought is a cyclical event that cannot be avoided through local intervention. Additionally, drought is not spurred by any specific topographic or geological feature. Therefore drought is generally a “broad geographic hazard” (*Torrance County, 2017, p. 60, 61*).

“Drought affects the entire community by placing a higher demand on the present water supply systems. Drought also limits the amount of growth that can be expected for the county and its municipalities due to the lack of recharge of an already finite water supply.” Additional consequences such as decreased water quality, reduced ability to fight wildfires, and difficulty navigating and engaging in recreational activities are felt when water supply is reduced via drought (*Torrance County, 2017, p. 60, 61*).

According to the plan, “it is extremely difficult to estimate the value of damage caused by drought

because of the slow-moving nature of the event and the lack of direct immediate impacts.” For Torrance County and the participating communities, drought impacts ranching and agricultural activities, reduces tourism and its associated economic benefits, and reduces aquifer recharge (*Torrance County, 2017, p. 61, 62*). The plan lists potential impacts that can occur to residents of the county and the participating communities:

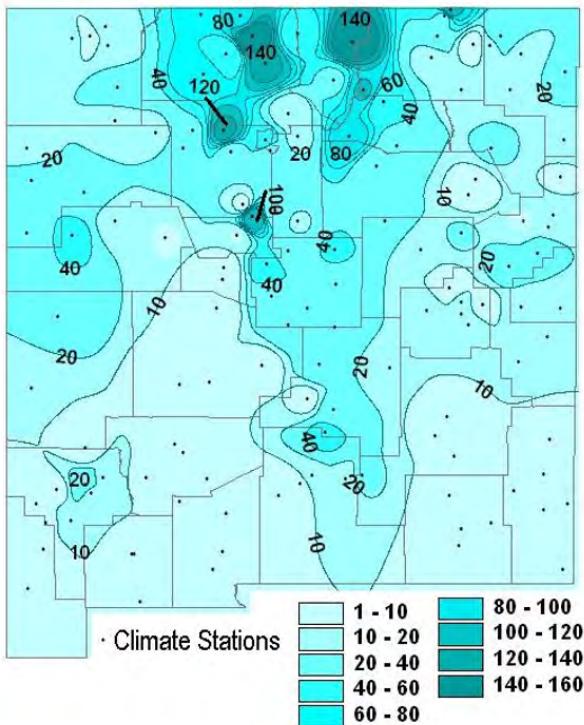
Table 9: Potential Impact of Drought

SUBJECT	POTENTIAL IMPACTS
HEALTH AND SAFETY OF THE PUBLIC	Increased number of wildfires; health problems related to low water flows and poor water quality; health problems related to dust
HEALTH AND SAFETY OF RESPONDERS	Increased wildfire risk coupled with limited water supply makes it more challenging for responders to fight fires and puts responders at greater risk
ENVIRONMENT	Animal habitat and food supply can dwindle causing species die-off; poor soil quality; loss of wetlands; increased soil erosion; mitigation of wildlife
ECONOMIC CONDITION	Decreased tourism; crop loss; decreased land prices; unemployment from drought-related declines in production; increased importation of food; rural population loss
PUBLIC CONFIDENCE	Reduced incomes; fewer recreational activities; increase in food costs due to loss of crops and livestock; loss of aesthetic values; loss of cultural sites

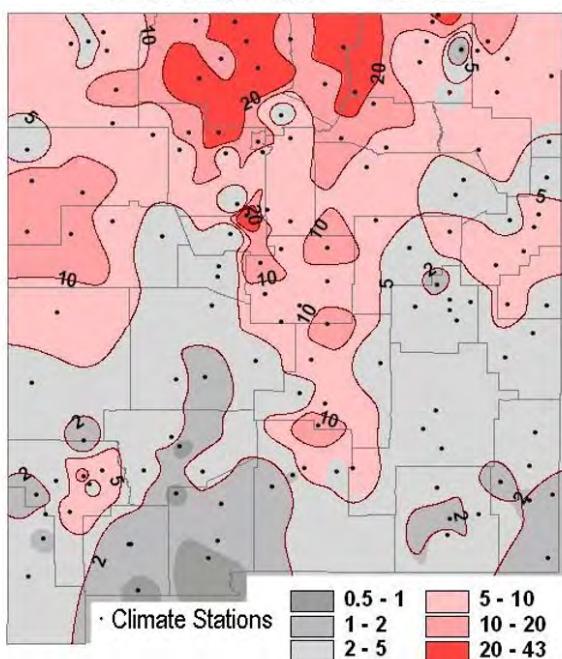
Source: New Mexico State Hazard Mitigation Plan 2013; Torrance County Hazard Mitigation Plan 2017

Figures 27 & 28: Average Annual Snowfall and Average Annual Number of Days with Snowfall greater than 1"

Average Annual Snowfall (inches)



Average Annual Number of Days with Snowfall ≥ 1.0 inch



Source: Torrance County Hazard Mitigation Plan 2017

Severe Winter Storms

New Mexico's complex geological and topographical structure coupled with climate patterns result in rapidly changing weather systems that differ over relatively short distances. "The weather may be relatively mild and sunny along the Rio Grande Valley with near blizzard conditions found across the high plains including much of Torrance County and the Village of Encino (*Torrance County, 2017, p. 67*).

According to the Hazard Mitigation Plan, "winter storms in New Mexico generally begin as low-pressure systems that move through the state following the jet stream." These pressure systems originate from the Pacific Ocean and traverse eastward by way of prevailing winds. Many pressure systems lose intensity as they cross the southwestern states, but occasionally these systems bring with them "bursts of heavy snow accumulating three to six inches in short periods of one to two feet in 12 to 24 hours." Figure 27 depicts the average annual snowfall in inches for the state of New Mexico.

According to the map, most of Torrance County and the participating communities average approximately 10 to 25 inches of snowfall annually. Some areas of Torrance County can expect 20 to 40 inches of snow on an annual basis. Much of the average snowfall in the lower elevations typically occurs over the course of 5 – 10 days that bring one inch or more of snow per day (not consecutive days). Areas that average 20 to 40 inches of snow annually see approximately 10 to 20 days of snowfall a year that bring one or more inches of snow per day (See Figure 28) (*Torrance County, 2017, p. 66*).

The 2013 New Mexico State Hazard Mitigation Plan provided seven categories of storms that occur in New Mexico. These categories were carried into the Hazard Mitigation Plan and are listed here:

Table 10: Types of Winter Storms

STORM TYPE	DESCRIPTION
HEAVY SNOWSTORM/ SNOWFALL	Accumulations of 6 inches or more in a 12-hour period, or 8 inches or more in a 24-hour period. The most common effects are traffic accidents; interruptions in power supply and communications; and the failure of inadequately designed and/or maintained roofing systems.
SLEET / SLEET STORM	Significant accumulations of solid grains or pellets of ice that form from the freezing of raindrops or partially melted snowflakes. While this ice does not cling to surfaces, it causes slippery surfaces, posing hazards to pedestrians and motorists.
ICE STORM	Significant accumulations of rain or drizzle freezing on exposed objects (trees, power lines, roadways), causing slippery surfaces and damage from the weight of ice accumulation.
BLIZZARD	Wind velocity of 35 mph or more, temperatures below freezing, and considerable blowing snow with visibility frequently below one-quarter mile, prevailing over an extended period of time.
SEVERE BLIZZARD	Wind velocity of 45 mph or more, temperatures of 10 degrees Fahrenheit or lower, a high density of blowing snow with visibility frequently measured in inches, prevailing over an extended period of time.
WIND CHILL	An apparent temperature that describes the combined effect of wind and low air temperatures on exposed skin.
FREEZING DRIZZLE/ FREEZING RAIN	The effect of drizzle or rain freezing upon impact on objects that have a temperature of 32° F or below.

Source: New Mexico State Hazard Mitigation Plan 2013; Torrance County Hazard Mitigation Plan 2017

According to the Hazard Mitigation Plan, “the most severe winter storm conditions would typically include snowfall of 10 inches or less” and rarely causes major disruptions to the health and welfare of residents in Torrance County and the participating communities. Because typical winter storms in New Mexico and in Torrance County rarely exceed 10 inches, the most significant hazard these storms bring is wind chill. “Wind chill is the combination of wind and temperature that serves as an estimate of how cold it actually feels to exposed skin.” These pressure systems can develop wind speeds that exceed 35 mph causing “heavy ice accumulation, toppling of trees, power lines and other utilities” that

have rising features. Area officials have designated wind chill values “below -10 degrees to be extremely dangerous to the population” (*Torrance County, 2017, p. 67, 68*).

Probability of Future Events

The Hazard Mitigation Plan states that there is “a 1.2% annual chance that heavy snowfall or extreme cold/wind chill events will occur in Torrance County and the participating communities.” Additionally, the plan states that “the probability of future severe winter storm events to the entire County is “Likely” (*Torrance County, 2017, p. 71*).

Vulnerability and Impact

Much like drought, a dollar value is difficult to predict for damages caused as a result of severe winter storms. The occurrence and severity of storms is difficult to predict, therefore assigning a value is nearly impossible. However, the Hazard Mitigation Plan states that “the entire county and planning areas are vulnerable to severe winter storms with wind and light snow or ice. The severity of winter storms may vary from mild impacts to an extremely dangerous storm that can bring wind, snow and ice that both create whiteout conditions, hazardous to safety and impacts to structures and infrastructure.” The following are impacts that Torrance County and the participating communities can expect following a severe winter storm:

- Overwhelm local capabilities to handle disruptions to emergency services, traffic, communications, and electric power when snow and ice-laden branches fall across power lines and interrupt service
- Cause school and business closures, as well as disruptions in transportation systems, electric power, telecommunications, and emergency services
- Residents potentially running out of basic

- supplies, including food and fuel
- Livestock suffer from severe cold and lack of feed
- In extreme cases, building roof systems fail due to snow loading

Thunderstorm (Hail/Lightning)

A more frequent event than severe winter storms, thunderstorms “are responsible for much of the severe weather across New Mexico,” especially during the New Mexico monsoon season which takes place between the months of July and September. These storms “are generally produced when dry and cool air converges with warm moist air. Large cold fronts moving through areas of warm moist air can produce long lines of thunderstorm cells.” New Mexico thunderstorms are comprised of “high winds, heavy rain, hail, lighting and on rare occasions, tornadoes.” According to the National Weather Service, a thunderstorm is categorized as severe when either downbursts with winds reach 50 mph or more, when hail reaches a size of 0.75 to 1 inch in diameter, or when a tornado has been reported. Much like the Hazard Mitigation Plan, this subsection focuses on hail and lightning due to the fact that floods and winds associated with thunderstorms have their own respective subsections (*Torrance County, 2017, p. 72*).

According to the Hazard Mitigation Plan, during the months of May and June, approximately 62 hail events, resulting in \$8.8 million in property damage and \$20,000 in crop damage, were reported in Torrance County between the years 1955 to 2014. The plan also stated that occasional lightning events occur throughout the county, but only two specific events were significant enough to be recorded. Both events occurred in 2013, and one resulted in \$10,000 dollars in damage (*Torrance County, 2017, p. 74*).

Probability of Future Events

The Hazard Mitigation Plan classifies the

entire County and all participating communities, including the Village of Encino as being susceptible to thunderstorms that bring with them hail and lightning. Additionally, the plan states that the area, including the Village of Encino, can certainly expect to be affected by thunderstorms that are “capable of producing lightning and hail severe enough to threaten safety and property.” The plan considers these events as “Likely” to occur (*Torrance County, 2017, p. 74*).

Vulnerability and Impact

As noted earlier, a few of the hazards brought by thunderstorm events have been covered in other sections within this chapter. The Hazard Mitigation Plan once again focuses its attention to hail and lightning. According to the plan, the potential impacts of hail and lightning to the County and the participating communities are listed below:

- Local capabilities to handle disruptions to emergency services, traffic, communications, and electric power are overwhelmed;
- Hail causes damage to property (particularly crops, roof systems of building, and vehicles);
- Lightning strikes a person or animal causing severe injury or death;
- Lightning directly strikes a building causing damage or strikes a tree that falls on a building, person, animal or vehicle.
- Lightning strikes ignite a wildfire that threatens the safety of people and destroy property; and,
- Lightning causes a power surge in a building’s electrical system that damages the system and/or electronic equipment plugged into the system (*Torrance County, 2017, p. 74*).

High Wind

As noted in the thunderstorm section of this chapter, “high winds in New Mexico are usually generated by severe thunderstorms or severe winter

storms." According to the 2013 New Mexico Hazard Mitigation Plan, Torrance County and the Village of Encino are situated in Wind Zone II, which is stated to be capable of producing winds speeds up to 160 mph (*Torrance County, 2017, p. 75*).

Damage from high winds can be considerable for communities within Torrance County. Damage to agricultural production, buildings, and infrastructure should be expected during these events. Additionally, high winds can endanger the safety of people and animals (both domestic and wild) (*Torrance County, 2017, p. 75*).

"Torrance County and the Village of Encino's location in Wind Zone II means a fairly low possibility of extreme winds speeds exceeding 160 mph." However, the Hazard Mitigation Plan states that all of Torrance County and the participating communities can "experience all 12 Beaufort Wind Scale categories." The Beaufort Wind Scale was one of the first scales to estimate wind speeds and the effects was created by Britain's Admiral Sir Francis Beaufort in 1805. The scale was developed to help sailors estimate the winds via visual observations. The Beaufort Wind Scale starts with 0 (calm-no force) and gets to 12 (hurricane-extreme force) (*Torrance County, 2017, p. 76,77; www.weather.gov/mfl/beaufort*).

According to the plan, "between the years 1950 and 2013, the National Climatic Data Center (NCDC) reported 19 Thunderstorm Wind events that occurred in Torrance County." The average estimated property damage was valued at \$5,700 per event. During the same reporting period, an additional 46 high wind events were recorded for areas within Torrance County and the participating communities. These events resulted in an average value of \$500 or less in property damage per event (*Torrance County, 2017, p. 77*).

Table 11: Beaufort Wind Scale

BEAUFORT NUMBER	MEAN WIND SPEED (MPH)	DESCRIPTION	LAND CONDITIONS
0	0 – 1	Calm	Calm; smoke rises vertically
1	1 – 3	Light Air	Direction of wind shown by smoke drift, but not by wind vanes
2	4 – 7	Light Breeze	Wind felt on face; leaves rustle; ordinary vanes moved by wind
3	8 – 12	Gentle Breeze	Leaves and small twigs in constant motion; wind extends light flag
4	13 – 18	Moderate Breeze	Raises dust and loose paper; small branches are moved
5	19 – 24	Fresh Breeze	Small trees in leaf begin to sway; crested wavelets form on inland waters
6	25 – 31	Strong Breeze	Large branches in motion; whistling heard in telegraph wires; umbrellas used with difficulty
7	32 – 38	Near Gale	Whole trees in motion; inconvenience felt when walking against the wind
8	39 – 46	Gale	Breaks twigs off trees; generally impedes progress
9	47 – 54	Severe Gale	Slight structural damage occurs (chimney-pots and slates removed)
10	55 – 63	Storm	Seldom experienced inland; trees uprooted; considerable structural damage occurs
11	64 – 72	Violent Storm	Very rarely experienced; accompanied by wide-spread damage
12	72 – 83	Hurricane	Massive widespread damage to structures

Source: National Weather Service; Torrance County Hazard Mitigation Plan 2017; MRCOG

Probability of Future Events

Due to the probability of thunderstorm and winter storm events in Torrance County and in the participating communities, the probability of future high wind events is reported as "Likely."

Vulnerability and Impact

The Hazard Mitigation Plan states that "the likely impacts of high winds in Torrance County and to the participating jurisdictions would be damage to manufactured homes, disruption of power and telephone services, highway closures, and disruptions to emergency communications capabilities" (*Torrance County, 2017, p. 78*).

Extreme Heat

Extreme heat is also a major hazard that plagues Torrance County and its communities. The Plan defines Extreme Heat "as temperatures that hover 10 degrees or more above the average high temperature for the region and lasts for an extended period of

time.” For New Mexico, it is noted in the 2013 New Mexico Hazard Mitigation Plan that “at elevations below 5,000 feet, individual daytime temperatures often exceed 100 degrees during the summer months. During the month of July, the warmest month in New Mexico, temperatures range from slightly above 90 degrees in the lower elevations to 70 degrees in the higher elevations (*Torrance County, 2017, p. 80*).

Significant health risks are associated with extreme heat. “According to the National Weather Service, heat is one of the leading weather-related events that result in death.” Extreme heat is gauged using the Extreme Heat Index. The Extreme Heat Index displays the relative danger of high heat in regard to Air Temperature and Relative Humidity (*Torrance County, 2017, p. 80*).

Probability of Future Events

In Torrance County, officials have declared “any extended period with temperatures above 90 degrees to be considered hazardous and should be a cause for concern.” The probability of extreme heat

in the future is “possible” and the spatial extent of damages for the County is “moderate” (*Torrance County, 2017, p. 81*).

Priority Risk Index

After analysis of the existing hazards that pose threats to Torrance County and the participating communities, a Priority Risk Index (PRI) was utilized to summarize potential hazards and provide each jurisdiction with a score to determine “the degree of risk for identified hazards.” The PRI is not a scientific calculation but was developed to be used for “classifying and prioritizing hazard risks in Torrance County based on standardized criteria.” (*Torrance County, 2017, p. 82*).

According to the Plan, “the numerical PRI results allow identified hazards to be ranked against one another (the higher the PRI value, the greater the hazard risk). PRI values are obtained by assigning varying degrees of risk to five categories for each hazard (probability, impact, spatial extent, warning time, and duration).” The highest possible PRI value is 4.0. Additional PRI tables for each of the participating communities can be found in the plan (See Table 12).

Table 12: Degree of Risk

	Table 4.15 Category/Degree of Risk for the Village of Encino					
	Probability	Impact	Spatial Extent	Warning Time	Duration	PRI Score
Flood	Possible	Limited	Small	Less than 6 Hours	Less than 24 Hours	2.2
Wildfire	Possible	Limited	Moderate	6 to 12 Hours	Less than 24 Hours	2.1
Drought	Likely	Limited	Large	More than 24 Hours	More than 1 Week	3.0
Earthquake	Highly Unlikely	Critical	Large	Less than Hours	Less than 6 Hours	1.6
Severe Winter Storms	Likely	Critical	Large	More than 24 Hours	Less than 1 week	3.0
Thunderstorm	Likely	Minor	Small	12 to 24 Hours	Less than 6 Hours	2.3
High Wind	Likely	Minor	Small	12 to 24 Hours	Less than 6 Hours	2.3
Tornado	Unlikely	Limited	Small	Less than 6 Hours	Less than 6 Hours	1.6
Extreme Heat	Possible	Minor	Moderate	More than 24 Hours	Less than 1 Week	2.1

Source: New Mexico State Hazard Mitigation Plan 2013; Torrance County Hazard Mitigation Plan 2017

High - PRI score over 2.5

Moderate - PRI score between 1.8 and 2.5

Low - PRI score 1.7 or below

CHALLENGES and OPPORTUNITIES



Challenges

- **Climate Change** – Scientific research has proven that global climate change is underway and intense climatic events are occurring more often. The Village of Encino must take the intensity of these events into consideration. This will require significant improvements to infrastructure and changes in behavior.
- **Infrastructure** – Infrastructure is an integral component to hazard mitigation. The Village of Encino does not have optimal infrastructure in place to mitigate flooding, severe winter storms, severe thunderstorms, high winds, extreme heat, and drought. The Village has provided some means of mitigation through minor infrastructure improvements, but what is currently in place is not enough to eliminate the potential for damages to property and community assets.
- **Condition of Structures** – As noted in the Torrance County Hazard Mitigation Plan, the condition of structures determine the extent and value of potential damages. Many of the structures within the core developed area are in need of significant repair. Should intense climatic events occur, these structures are likely to see significant damages. Many of the structures are residential and are habited, thus increasing the potential for harm.
- **Financial Capacity** – Financial capacity poses a challenge to the Village's attempts to mitigate hazards. As stated previously, with low revenue generation capacity, the Village is required to bank funds for years prior to any sort of major improvement. In other instances, the Village is required to leverage local funds to obtain larger state and federal resources. Many of these funding sources are not guaranteed and are often secured after undergoing a rigorous application process.
- **No Public Works Department** – The Village of Encino does not have a public works department. Instead, the Village relies on administrative staff to ensure the proper maintenance and operation of Village assets. Without a public works department or an employee, the Village risks reduced effectiveness of hazard mitigation programs.

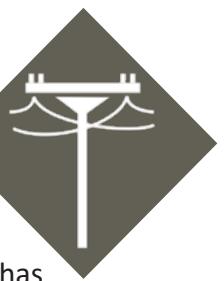
Opportunities

- **Proximity to Wildfire Prone Areas** – As noted in the Torrance County Hazard Mitigation Plan, the Village of Encino is located on the eastern edge of the County away from most of the wildfire prone areas (Manzano Mountains). This greatly reduces the potential for wildfires within the Village and limits such fires to grassland fires which are easier to spot, contain, and suppress.
- **Intergovernmental Collaboration** – The Torrance County Hazard Mitigation Plan was developed by way of a collaborative effort between the County and various communities including the Village of Encino. This collaborative effort has resulted in necessary dialogue to establish intergovernmental collaboration to mitigate hazards both locally and regionally. Additionally, much of the goals and actions listed in the Torrance County Hazard Mitigation Plan are written to include intergovernmental collaborations.
- **Geography and Topography** – The Village's location in the eastern plains of New Mexico means that the Village does not have significant landscape features that result in increased hazards caused by natural climatic events. Events such as flooding can easily be mitigated due to the relatively flat nature of the Village's terrain.
- **Usable Space for Staging Area** – The Village has ample interior and exterior space that can be utilized by emergency response crews should significant hazardous events occur in the eastern portion of the county. Large interior spaces within Village Hall and the Community Center can be utilized as an emergency shelter for residents in neighboring communities.



Encino Community Center can be used a temporary space during natural disaster events

HAZARD MITIGATION GOALS and OBJECTIVES



The Goals and Objectives outlined in this chapter reflect what the Village of Encino has agreed upon as part of its participation in the Torrance County Hazard Mitigation Plan. It is recommended that the Village of Encino work towards achieving the goals outlined in the Torrance County Hazard Mitigation Plan.

H-1

Conduct Hazard Mitigation activities that work towards achieving the goals and objectives outlined in the Torrance County Hazard Mitigation Plan on pages 94-126.

H-1a: Reduce possibility of damage and loss to existing community assets including structures, critical facilities, infrastructure, and the possibility of injury and death due to wildfires

- » Support and/or implement the following Mitigation Actions and Projects outlined in the Torrance County Hazard Mitigation Plan: 7, 8, 9, 36, 42, 43, 44

H-1b: Reduce the possibility of injury and death due to severe weather including high wind, severe winter storms, extreme heat, and thunderstorms (lightning and hail)

- » Support and/or implement the following Mitigation Actions and Projects outlined in the Torrance County Hazard Mitigation Plan: 13, 17, 41, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63

H-1c: Reduce the possibility of drought and loss due to drought

- » Support and/or implement the following Mitigation Actions and Projects outlined in the Torrance County Hazard Mitigation Plan: 14, 31, 32, 34

H-1d: Reduce possibility of damage and loss to existing community assets including structures, critical facilities, and infrastructure due to flooding

- » Support and/or implement the following Mitigation Actions and Projects outlined in the Torrance County Hazard Mitigation Plan: 23, 28, 29, 30

H-1e: Promote disaster-resistant future development

- » Support and/or implement the following Mitigation Actions and Projects outlined in the Torrance County Hazard Mitigation Plan: 1, 2, 5, 10, 11, 12, 24, 25, 26, 27, 37, 38, 39, 47, 48, 49, 53, 57

H-1f: Promote hazard mitigation as a public value in recognition of its importance to the health, safety, and welfare of the population

- » Support and/or implement the following Mitigation Actions and Projects outlined in the Torrance County Hazard Mitigation Plan: 15, 18, 33, 40, 58

EIGHT ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

The main purpose of the economic development section is to identify existing and future indicators of the economic environment. A strong economic environment increases a community's standard of living and quality of life. A community's economic environment is typically measured by several indicators including jobs and workforce development, business climate, regional and global positioning, and quality of life. In order to have a healthy local economy, employment opportunities for residents are needed to create a stable tax base for the community. An analysis of the economic environment indicates if a community has enough economic activity to support its residents.

- 1 Introduction and Vision
- 2 Community Profile
- 3 Land Use
- 4 Housing
- 5 Transportation and Circulation
- 6 Public Services and Facilities
- 7 Hazard Mitigation
- 8 Economic Development
- 9 Appendices

VILLAGE BUSINESS ENVIRONMENT

The Village of Encino's location along US 285 gives the Village a great opportunity for providing services for highway travelers. However, with the declining population and poor building conditions, improvements to the appearance of this corridor are necessary to attract new business.

The Encino Firehouse Mercantile and Deli was opened in 2016 making it the second business operating within the Village. The Firehouse is typically open weekdays during lunch hours serving both residents and travelers along US 285. The opening of this business met the goal of the previous comprehensive plan of one new business opening in the Village. The second business in operation in the Village is the Morales Repair Shop, also located along the US 285 corridor. In order to continue attracting highway travelers, added signage, landscaping improvements, and surrounding building

improvements are necessary. Vacancies and unkept land can detract customers and potential land buyers. These improvements to the US 285 corridor could help to increase the number of customers and attract new businesses.



Encino Firehouse Mercantile and Deli, 2019

SOCIOECONOMIC DATA

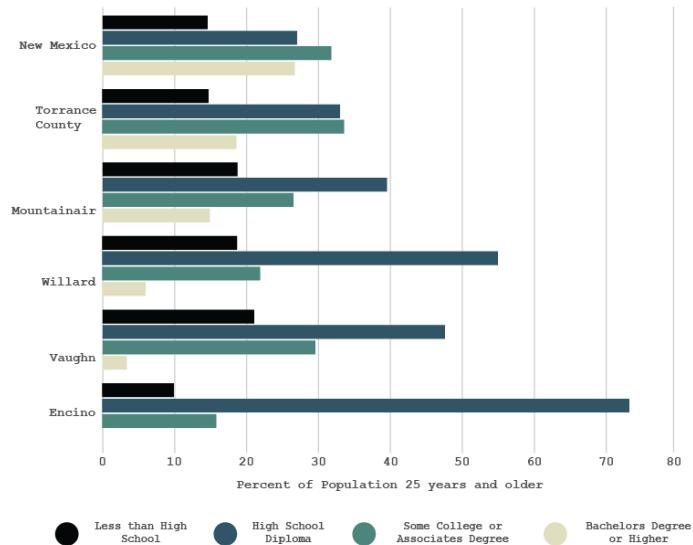
Standard of living is typically measured by a series of indicators including educational attainment, housing and neighborhood conditions, general health and safety, household income, employment opportunities, and wages. Of these factors, educational attainment, household income, and employment indicate the health of the Village of Encino's economy.

Education

Encino residents' educational attainment as compared to neighboring communities is shown in Figure 29 and Figure 30. While 73.8 percent of Encino residents have their high school diploma, very few residents have a higher level educational attainment. Only 16.4 percent of Encino residents have an education past a high school diploma, while 58.6 percent of New Mexico residents have some education higher than a high school diploma.

This low level of higher education in the Village can be attributed to high school graduates moving away to seek higher education and not returning to Encino once they have graduated with either an

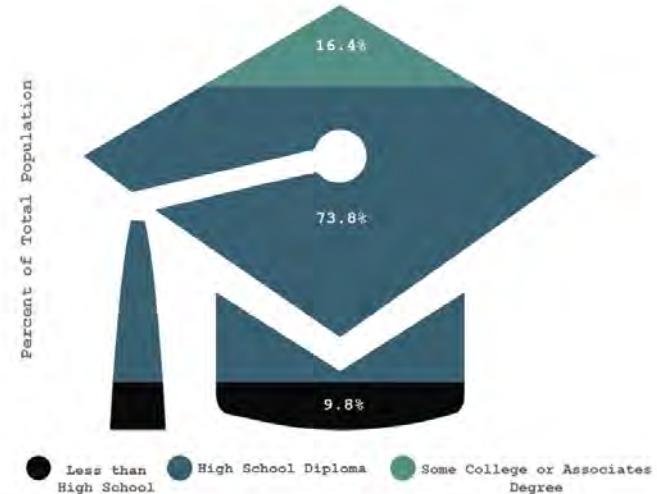
Figure 29: 2010 Educational Attainment



Source: U.S. Census Bureau 2006- 2010 American Community Survey

associate's, bachelor's, or master's degree due to the lack of jobs in Encino and the surrounding area.

Figure 30: Encino Educational Attainment 2010



Source: U.S. Census Bureau 2006- 2010 American Community Survey

It is important to focus efforts to increase the education and training for the Village of Encino community members to allow them to seek higher levels of employment inside and outside of the community. This will help to increase income levels throughout the Village of Encino.

Employment

Due to the high margins of error found in Encino-specific employment data from the US Census Bureau's American Community Survey (ACS) for the years 2011 to 2017, this section includes Torrance County data as a proxy. ACS data uses five-year estimates from data collected from samples of the population. Margin of error is the measure of potential variation of the estimate. This measure is determined by the sample size as well as response rates. Because of potential large variations from Encino estimates, employment statistics from Torrance County are used as a guide in observing trends that occur in the Village. Torrance County data

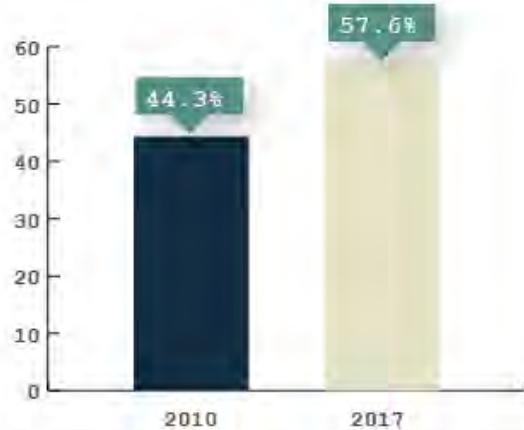
is compared to state and national data.

The labor force participation rate represents the percentage of all residents between ages 20 and 64 that are working. The Torrance County labor force participation rate has increased from 44.3 percent in 2010 to 57.6 percent in 2017. While this measure has increased in the County, it is still below the national rate of 63.5 percent. Labor force participation rates can be affected by the number of people in a community that cannot work because of a disability, people who retire early, and people who have stopped looking for work. The data used to calculate labor force participation also does not include those who may be working past the age of 64, meaning the portion of the population who is working may be higher than these values suggest.

The unemployment rate is a measure of those are willing and able to work, but cannot find employment. It does not include people who are not in the labor force. Discouraged workers who have stopped seeking employment are not counted in the unemployment rate. Torrance County had an unemployment rate of 9.2 percent in 2010. The unemployment rate dropped to 7.4 percent in 2017. This indicates that even though more workers were able to join the labor force, a higher percentage were also able to find employment in 2017.

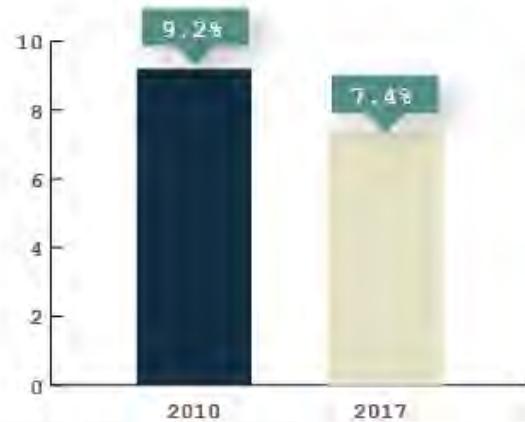
In 2017, the Village of Encino had approximately 26 people ages 20 to 64. There are not areas of employment for these working age people within the Village. In order to find work, residents must look to neighboring communities. The Village also does not have the necessary internet infrastructure to support telecommuting or at home internet businesses.

Figure 31: Torrance County Labor Force Participation Rates



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010 & 2017 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates

Figure 32: Torrance County Unemployment Rates



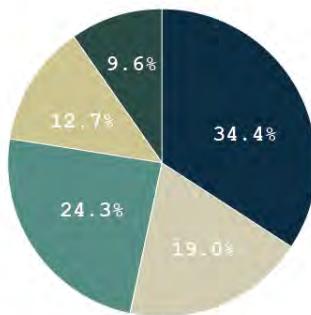
Occupation

In New Mexico and Torrance County, the proportions of workers in various occupations looked very similar in 2010. Both geographies had the highest number of employees working in a management, business, science, or art occupation. The state has slightly fewer people who are employed in a production, transportation, and material moving and natural resources construction, and maintenance occupation.

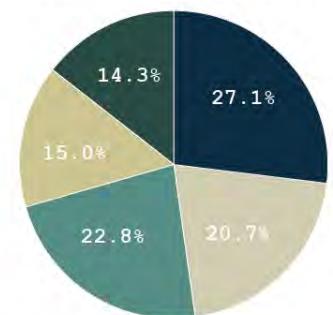
In 2017 the occupations of Torrance County residents looked quite similar to 2010, although the percentage of workers employed in a management, business, science, or art occupation increased. Occupations in both production, transportation, and material moving and natural resources construction, and maintenance decreased somewhat (Figure 33). However, this change in occupations did not come with increases in income as Torrance County's household income decreased from 2010 to 2017 (Figure 34).

Figure 33: Occupations

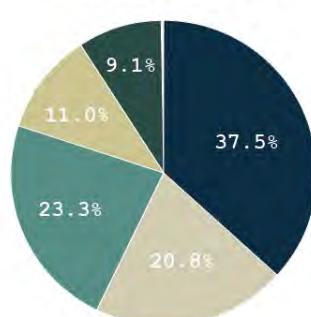
New Mexico 2010



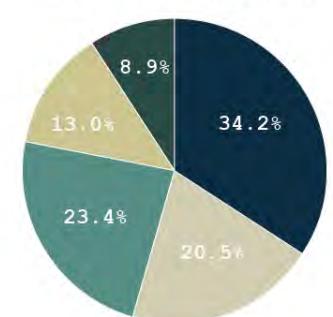
Torrance County 2010



New Mexico 2017



Torrance County 2017



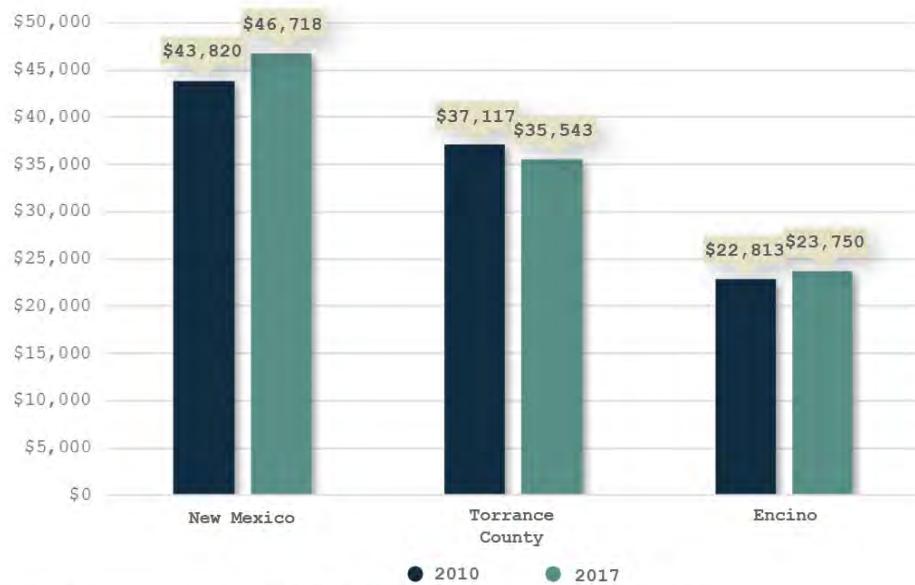
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010 & 2017 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates

Income

Median household income and per capita income are indicators of economic health in a community. A household is defined by the US Census Bureau as consisting of all people who occupy a housing unit. Household income is the sum of money received in a calendar year by all household members age 15 years and over. On average, Encino households make substantially less than the state average. In

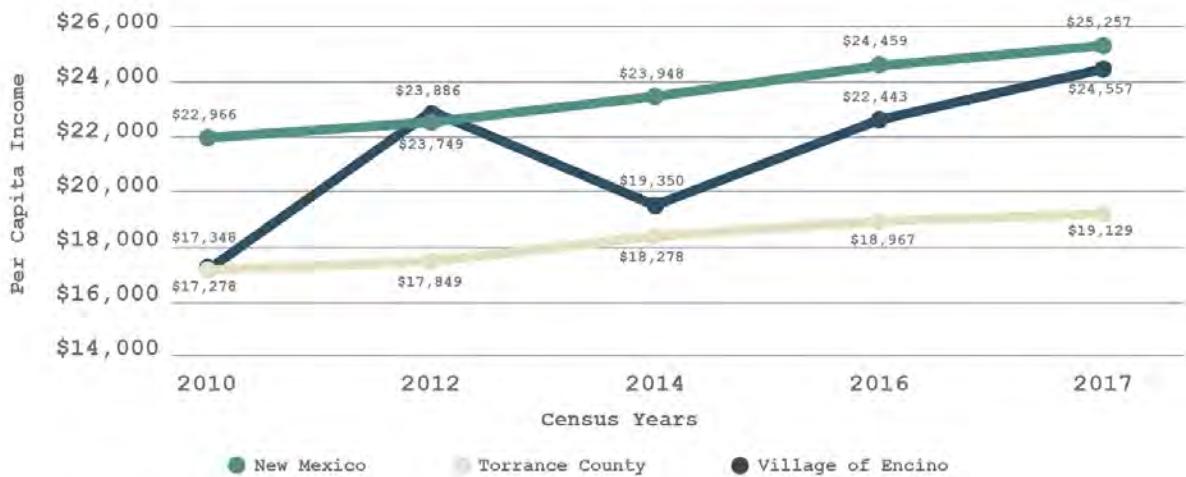
2010, median household income for New Mexico was \$43,820 and was only \$22,813 for Encino residents. This demonstrates that the average Encino resident is typically making 52.06 percent less than the average New Mexico resident. This can be attributed to lack of access to higher education and lack of job opportunities in Encino. This disparity decreased slightly to 50.84 percent in 2017 (Figure 33).

Figure 34: 2010 & 2017 Median Household Income



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010-2016 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates
& 2013-2017 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates

Figure 35: 2010-2017 Per Capita Income



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2010-2016 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates
& 2013-2017 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates

Per capita income is derived by dividing the total income for all people 16 years old and older by the total population in that area. The Village of Encino had a per capita income of \$24,557 compared to New Mexico at \$25,257 and Torrance County at \$19,129 in 2017. Encino's per capita income is much closer to the State's and County's per capita income

compared to median household income. This can be attributed to Encino's very small population. The people that are generating an income in Encino are divided by a much smaller population of non-working people than the State or County.

The majority of Encino households, 54.5 percent, make between \$10,000 and \$24,999. The next largest wage earning group of households, 38.7 percent, make between \$25,000 and \$49,999. Only 6.8 percent of Encino households make above \$50,000. This is much lower than New Mexico at 47.3 percent and Torrance County at 35.8 percent. Both Mountainair and Vaughn also have more households earning more than \$50,000, with Mountainair at 23 percent and Vaughn at 19.6 percent.

Table 13: Income Brackets

	New Mexico	Torrance County	Mountainair	Vaughn	Encino
Less than \$10,000	9.5%	13.4%	10.2%	8.8%	0%
\$10,000-\$24,999	18.6%	26.4%	41.2%	45.1%	54.5%
\$25,000-\$49,999	24.8%	24.5%	25.6%	26.4%	38.7%
\$50,000-\$74,999	17.3%	17.7%	7.4%	4.9%	0%
75,000-\$99,999	11.2%	8.1%	8.7%	14.7%	6.8%
\$100,000 or more	18.8%	10%	6.9%	0%	0%

Source: American Community Survey 2013 -2017 5-year Estimates

CHALLENGES and OPPORTUNITIES

Challenges

- Attracting Customers** - Encino has a very small population making it difficult to support businesses within the Village. Businesses must recruit customers from travelers who are passing through the Village. In order to achieve this, businesses must be located along the US 285 corridor. Businesses also must increase signage and improve landscaping and outer appearance to attract customers.
- Lack of Jobs** - The Village does not currently have any large employers located within Village limits. Residents must look outside of the community for work opportunities.
- Small Workforce** - The Village of Encino has a very small population of working age people. With the aging and decreasing population, it is a challenge to recruit new employers to the Village.
- Lack of Access to Higher Education** - Village of Encino residents must travel outside of Encino for higher education opportunities. This causes a decrease in the population of college age residents. Once residents leave for school they often do not return, instead looking for work in other locations.

Opportunities

- Passive Land Use** - The rural nature of Torrance County creates a desirable location for renewable energy production facilities. The location of renewable energy facilities near Encino can provide significant local economic impacts to the Village in terms of short-term and long-term employment. A solar or wind facility will require employment for both construction and maintenance. A wind turbine connected to the Encino electric grid could generate enough energy to power the Village and sell surplus energy back to CNMEC. This would allow Encino to become more self-reliant.
- Home-based Business and Telecommuting** - Encino residents have internet access, however internet speeds within the Village need to be increased. The Village should pursue initiatives to increase broadband access. They can then encourage home-based businesses that would utilize this internet access. This would allow residents to live and work in the Village. Residents also have the opportunity to work remotely for a larger company as this is becoming more popular in the current business environment.



ECONOMIC GOALS and OBJECTIVES

E-1

Improve Internal Revenue Generation

E-1a: Conduct an Economic Assessment of the Village and determine avenues for increased revenue generation

- » Partner with the Estancia Valley Economic Development Association (EVEDA) to identify and apply for federal and state funding sources to complete an economic assessment

E-1b: Identify the feasibility of renewable energy production within the jurisdiction of the Village

- » Conduct a feasibility study to determine production potential, revenue generation, and investment requirements and opportunities
- » Establish relationships with regional energy providers and renewable energy construction agencies

E-3c: Promote and improve the US Highway 285 Corridor

- » Promote US 285 as the Village's commercial corridor
- » Focus initial capital improvements to areas along or adjacent to the corridor
- » Partner with EVEDA to promote the corridor and increase business potential

E-2

Develop a more versatile and educated workforce within the Village of Encino

E-2a: Support programs that allow residents to improve their skills and abilities

- » Partner with agencies and organizations to support adult education, literacy, and skill development
- » Improve internet speeds and access to allow for remote work and home occupations

NINE APPENDICES



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- 2 Community Profile
- 3 Land Use
- 4 Housing
- 5 Transportation and Circulation
- 6 Public Services and Facilities
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Appendix A:

Resolution Approving Comprehensive Plan Update

Appendix B:

Resolution Adopting Comprehensive Plan

Appendix C:

Survey

Appendix D:

References



VILLAGE OF ENCINO

RESOLUTION No. 2018-07

APPROVING THE UPDATE OF THE
COMPREHENSIVE LAND USE PLAN
FOR THE VILLAGE OF ENCINO, NEW MEXICO

WHEREAS, the Village of Encino's current Comprehensive Land Use Plan was adopted on April 14, 2009; and

WHEREAS, the Village of Encino's current Comprehensive Land Use Plan utilizes United States Census Bureau's 2000 decennial census information; and

WHEREAS, the Village of Encino's current Comprehensive Land Use Plan is in need of an update to include 2010 decennial census information and updated community visioning and strategic objectives; and

WHEREAS, the Village of Encino has agreed to a No Cost Agreement with the Mid-Region Council of Governments (MRCOG) to update the Comprehensive Land Use Plan as part of the MRCOG State Grant in Aid work program; and

WHEREAS, this No Cost Agreement was agreed upon by both parties due to the size of the community and the limited capacity of finances and staff availability; and

WHEREAS, the Village of Encino will engage in activities to solicit community input through public meetings, opinion surveys, and a public workshops; and

WHEREAS, the updated Village of Encino Comprehensive Land Use Plan will outline the Village's long-term vision and will be used to provide a basis for strategic planning recommendations.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Village of Encino Council does approve the Village of Encino Comprehensive Plan update, hereby attached and made a part of this Resolution.

PASSED, ADOPTED, and APPROVED this 10th day of July, 2018, by the Village Council of the Village of Encino, New Mexico.

Boyd Herrington
Boyd Herrington, Mayor

Loretta Chavez
ATTESTED BY:
Loretta Chavez, Clerk/Treasurer



Village of Encino

RESOLUTION No. 2020 - 08

APPROVING THE UPDATE OF THE
COMPREHENSIVE PLAN
FOR THE VILLAGE OF ENCINO, NEW MEXICO

WHEREAS, the Comprehensive Plan for the Village of Encino has been completed following a planning process with the Village Council and various members of the community, and prepared by the staff of the Mid-Region Council of Governments (MRCOG); and

WHEREAS, a public information and citizen input process was carried out to ensure general public acceptance of the Village of Encino Comprehensive Plan; and

WHEREAS, Goals and Objectives for the Village of Encino Comprehensive Plan establish a basis for policy decisions regarding the future development of the Village; and

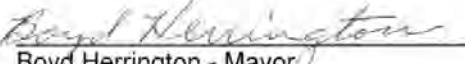
WHEREAS, Action Plan Strategies identify the key issues, proposed strategies, and potential policy directives for the Village; and

WHEREAS, all the required components of the Village of Encino Comprehensive Plan have been reviewed for completeness and factual information in a comprehensive document accessible to the citizens of Encino; and

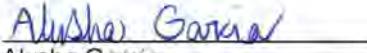
WHEREAS, the adoption of the Village of Encino Comprehensive Plan will provide a basis for establishing policy and implementation strategies for future development in the Village, for providing a framework for the integration of special purpose plans and programs for the Village, and for promoting a consistency with other plans at local, regional, state, and federal levels.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Governing Body does hereby adopt the Village of Encino Comprehensive Plan, attached and made a part of this Resolution, and approves such Plan for general public distribution.

PASSED, ADOPTED, and APPROVED this 14th day of October 2020, by the Village Council of Encino, New Mexico.


Boyd Herrington - Mayor

ATTEST:


Alysha Garcia
Clerk/Treasurer



VILLAGE OF ENCINO

COMPREHENSIVE LAND USE PLAN UPDATE

COMMUNITY SURVEY # 1 (Revised)

Introduction: The Village of Encino has contracted with the Mid-Region Council of Governments to update the Village of Encino Comprehensive Land Use Plan. The Comprehensive Land Use Plan is a local policy document that guides land use development into the future. This locally adopted plan presents a vision for the future through the use of goals and objectives for all activities that affect government and community decisions. The Comprehensive Land Use Plan will incorporate various types of planning including but not limited to general land use, community development, economic development, environmental and transportation. With the help of you, the community, we hope to develop a plan that reflects the collective vision of the community.

The Village of Encino seeks your participation to assist in the development of the Comprehensive Land Use Plan. The Village of Encino will be sending out a series of short surveys in an attempt to collect public input and valuable data needed to draft goals and objectives that guide development in the village.

Please complete this short survey and return to the Village of Encino Administration at your earliest convenience.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding this survey, please contact Loretta Chavez, Village Clerk at (575) 584-2980.

Q1): Household size: How many people currently live within this home?

1: ____ 2: ____ 3: ____ 4: ____ 5: ____

Q2): Age: What are the ages and sex of the people living in the home? (*Age group 60 – 64 Years has been added*)

Age Groups	Person 1		Person 2		Person 3		Person 4		Person 5	
	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>								
85 Year and Older										
75 to 84 Years										
65 to 74 Years										
60 to 64 Years										
55 to 59 Years										
45 to 54 Years										
35 to 44 Years										
25 to 34 Years										
20 to 24 Years										
15 to 19 Years										
10 to 14 Years										
5 to 9 Years										
Under 5 Years										

VILLAGE OF ENCINO

COMPREHENSIVE LAND USE PLAN UPDATE

COMMUNITY SURVEY # 2

Introduction: The Village of Encino has contracted with the Mid-Region Council of Governments to update the Village of Encino Comprehensive Land Use Plan. The Comprehensive Land Use Plan is a local policy document that guides land use development into the future. This locally adopted plan presents a vision for the future through the use of goals and objectives for all activities that affect government and community decisions. The Comprehensive Land Use Plan will incorporate various types of planning including but not limited to general land use, community development, economic development, environmental and transportation. With the help of you, the community, we hope to develop a plan that reflects the collective vision of the community.

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**If you have any questions or concerns regarding this survey, please contact:
Loretta Chavez, Village Clerk at (575) 584-2980.**

Q1): Community Character: What makes the Village of Encino unique (different from other surrounding communities)?

Q2): Community Character: What do you like about living in the Village of Encino?

Q3): Community Character: What do you dislike about living in the Village of Encino?

Q4): Community Character: What does the Village of Encino need to be a better place to live?

References

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