

Village of Los Lunas



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Village Ordinances Create A Quality Community

When people think of laws they often think of laws enacted by Congress or the New Mexico State Legislature. Municipalities also have laws which are called ordinances, as they are referred to in Los Lunas.

Los Lunas ordinances cover revenue and finance; business licenses and regulations; animals; health and safety; public peace, morals and welfare; vehicles and traffic; streets; sidewalks and public places; public ser-

vices; buildings and construction; subdivisions; and zoning.

The village ordinances are available on the website — loslunasnm.gov, but in an effort to inform the public this newsletter includes a variety of information about the ordinances which make the village a quality place to live. The 2008 village calendar will have more about the ordinances.

Animal Control Ordinance Limits Pets

Many residents of Los Lunas love living here because they have larger lots for their homes so their animals can roam.

The Village Animal Control Ordinance says “no person or household shall own, harbor, or keep more than two dogs or cats in any combination thereof over the age of three months on property less than one-half acre in size.”

If the property is greater than one-half acre then up to four dogs or four cats or any combination is permitted if the property is zoned “agriculture/residential.”

Animals that continuously bark, howl or disturb the peace or are kept in such a way that noxious or offen-

sive odors are produced or endanger people’s health and welfare are declared to be an animal nuisance.

Owners are to keep animals on their premises. No animal is to run at large or unleashed anywhere in the village. Any animal found running at large can be impounded by the animal control or municipal police officer. Cats are not required to be leashed, but are to be confined to the owner’s property.

All dogs and cats shall be vaccinated as required by state law.

Any person harboring or maintaining any dog over three months of age, within the village, shall obtain a license for each dog.

\$16 Million

Village officials accepted a “check” in October for a loan to make improvements to the municipality’s wastewater treatment system and plant. Pictured are village officials as well as staff from the New Mexico Environment Department.



Business Licenses Required in Village

One of the nice things about living in Los Lunas is the great variety of businesses now available. Those businesses should all have a license to operate issued by the village. All businesses, whether Mom and Pop or multi-national, pay the same fee, \$25.

A license is required for "all persons, firms, corporations or associations of any character engaged in any of the various pursuits, businesses or occupations" in

the village before March 15 every year.

In the event that any license fee is not paid by the fifteenth day of March, a penalty in the amount of ten percent of the license fee due shall be added for late filing, according to the village ordinance.

Licenses are renewed annually. Village staff send out notices in the latter part of the year to make it easier to renew.

Water, Sewer Hookups Make Life Easier

Living in the village has many advantages and that includes not having to deal with a messy septic system or figuring out your well so you have water to drink.

The Public Service portion of the Village's ordinances contains the necessary details to run the village's utilities as well as the impact fee regulations and the emergency water shortage plan.

The Water System Service section outlines the service charges, payment of bills, line extensions, meter locations and requirements, service discontinuance and liens for nonpayment of charges as well as other pertinent items.

The Sewer System Service section talks about drainage discharge, unauthorized disposal, installation and connection of toilet facilities, private sewerage disposal, public sewer use and user fees.

Impact Fees Charged for New Construction

Impact fees are charged for new construction so the municipality can supply an adequate level of services for water, sewer and parks facilities throughout the village and so new development occurs in a manner consistent with the village's general land use plan.

Included in the Impact Fee section are impact fees capital improvement plan and the citizen advisory committee for that plan, impact fee collection, admin-

istration, schedules, exemptions, refunds, credits, administrative appeals and enforcement provisions.

Emergency Water Shortage Plan

The Village's Emergency Water Shortage Plan is intended to provide a means for the governing body to implement measures to manage water use in response to emergencies or catastrophic events that may disrupt the municipal water supply system.

Village Administrator Phillip Jaramillo is authorized to implement the plan should it be necessary.

The three stages begin with Stage 1, a Water Shortage Advisory requiring voluntary compliance.

Stage 2 is a Water Shortage Alert requiring mandatory compliance while Stage 3 is a Water Shortage Emergency with mandatory compliance.

Conservation Is the Key

New Mexico has experienced drought situations over the years. This year snow and rain have fallen in various parts of the state so the situation is not as bad as other times.

Water users in the village need to conserve that precious commodity every day. Conservation can help prevent situations such as needing to use the Emergency Water Shortage Plan.



Attend A Council Meeting!

The Los Lunas Village Council meets twice a month in the council chambers in the Administration Building on the corner of Don Pasqual and Main Street.

Remaining meeting dates for 2007 are:

November 1 & 29 December 6 & 20

Meetings begin at 6 p.m. Once in a while meetings are rescheduled so check with village officials at 839-3840 to be sure a meeting has not been changed.

The agenda will be available at least twenty-four (24) hours prior to the scheduled meeting from the bulletin board in the lobby of the Administration Building, at 660 Main Street NW, Los Lunas, NM; the Los Lunas Library located at 460 Main Street NE; and posted on the village website (address: www.loslunasnm.gov).

VILLAGE OFFICIALS

Louis F. Huning **Mayor**

Councilors

Cecilia CC Castillo *Charles Griego*

Gerard Saiz *Robert Vialpando*

Municipal Judge *Jeff Aragon*

Village Administrator

Phillip Jaramillo **Master Municipal Clerk**

Chief of Police *Nick Balido*

Subdivisions Built According to Ordinance

Maybe you live in a home located in a subdivision built within the last fifteen years. If you don't, you probably know someone who does.

There are rules for building subdivisions in Los Lunas and those rules are found in the ordinances.

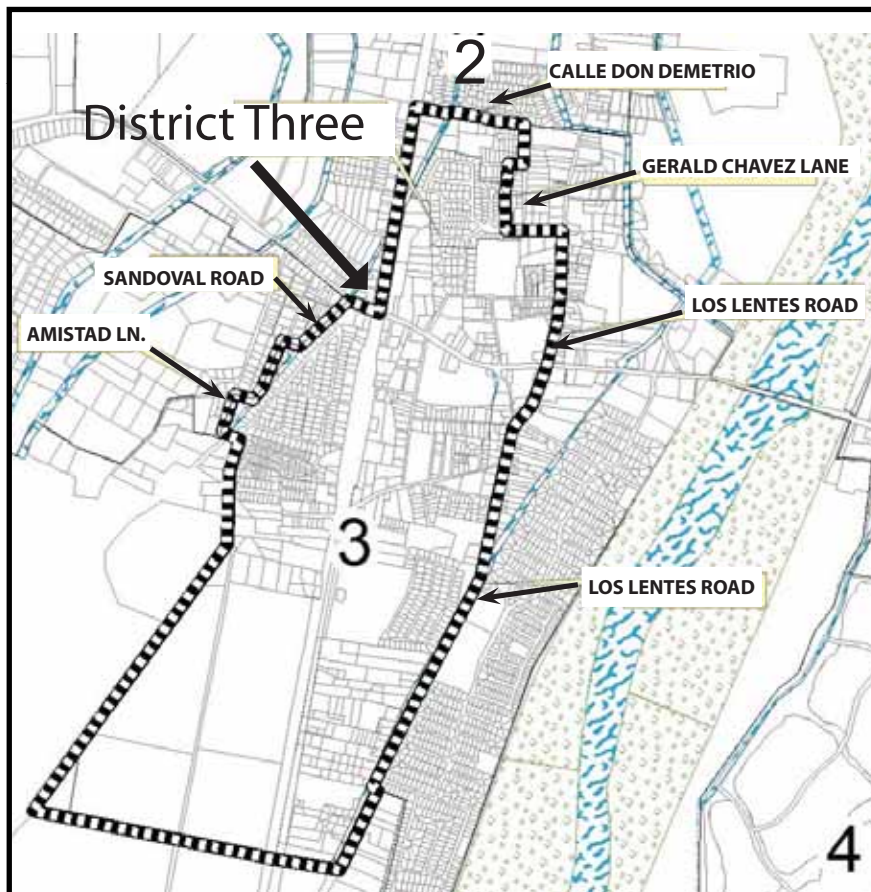
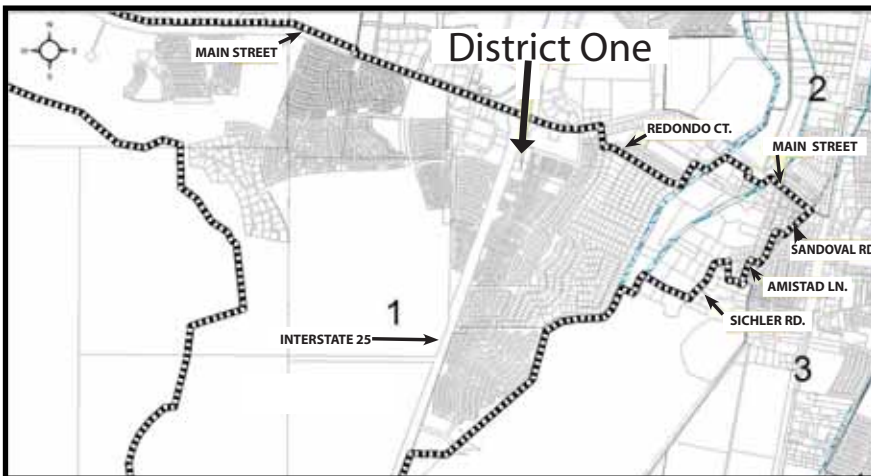
The rules governing subdivisions cover administration and enforcement, preapplication procedure, preliminary plat procedure, final map procedures, improvements, design standards, plat vacation and water rights.

There is a twofold purpose to the subdivision ordinance:

- Assure harmonious and orderly development of the village and the surrounding area and thereby promote the health, safety, morals and general welfare of the village and the surrounding area.

- To secure equitable treatment of all subdivision plans by providing for uniform procedures and standards for observance by subdividers, the Planning and Zoning Commission and the Village Council.

District One & Three Voters Go To Polls March 4



Voters in Districts One and Three in the Village of Los Lunas will go to the polls March 4 to vote for a councilor who will represent their district for the next four years.

To the left are maps of Districts One and Three which were created after the 2000 Census. Only people who live within these areas will vote in the 2008 election.

Current councilors for these districts are Cecilia CC Castillo, District One, and Gerard Saiz, District Three.

The 2000 Census showed the village's population as slightly over 10,000. Once a New Mexico municipality goes over 10,000 then council seats must be districted rather than councilors running at large.

The March, 2002, election was the first when councilors ran in districts.

You can register to vote at the Bureau of Elections located at the Valencia County Clerk's office on Luna Avenue.

Literacy Council Invites All

The Valencia County Literacy Council will hold its annual Holiday Party, December 12, from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. at the Student Community Center at the University of New Mexico-Valencia Campus.

Everyone is welcome to the party which will be held regardless of the weather.

The organization helps people from all over Valencia County.

For more information about the council call 925-8926.

**WANT TO LEARN MORE
ABOUT ORDINANCES
AND OTHER VILLAGE INFO?
VISIT THE NEWLY REVISED
VILLAGE WEBSITE
www.loslunasnm.gov**

Uniform Traffic Ordinance Is The Law

Traffic in the village has increased the last few years, but village officials are working on relieving some of the pressure on the roads and the traffic ordinances help the police with maintaining order.

Section 10 of the Los Lunas Municipal Code concerns vehicles and traffic.

The heart of this ordinance is the fact the New Mexico Uniform Traffic Ordinance is the law when it comes to vehicles and traffic in the village.

During the last few years several intersections

have been improved thanks to the village and the New Mexico Department of Transportation.

Main Street is a state highway as is NM 47 and NM 314 so improvements are often made by the state.

No matter what improvements are made or how the traffic ordinances read, people driving the roads need to have safety as their number one priority.

Drivers should concentrate on driving, not the sandwich in your lap, the mascara in your hand or the cell phone ringing at your elbow.

Ordinance Makes Finding Houses Easier

You've made some new friends while exercising at Daniel Fernandez Park or met someone while eating at a local restaurant. You agree to visit them at their house. How difficult is that?

It's not difficult at all.

The village has a uniform and coordinated system of street naming and property numbering so that all naming and numbering can be done in conformity with the following requirements:

- All houses and buildings abutting on any street, avenue or public way shall be numbered in reference to a uniform grid system of approximately twelve blocks per mile with a range of one hundred numbers allocated to each block.

- All streets running generally east and west shall be considered streets and all streets running generally north and south shall be considered avenues.

- The village is divided into four quadrants, NE, NW, SE, SW, with the center line of Main Street dividing north and south and the center line of Highway 314 dividing east and west. All streets names should

include a quadrant designation in the form of a suffix to the name.

- Main Street constitutes the base line for numbering on the streets running north and south, and Highway 314 constitutes the base line for all numbering on the streets running east and west.

- The numbering of buildings on each street should originate and progress from its respective base line. Grid lines, as shown on the official reference map on file at the village offices, indicate the point at which numbers change from one hundred series to the next higher hundred series.

Gross Receipts Tax and You

When you make purchases you are charged Gross Receipts Tax (except on most food). New Mexico municipalities depend on Gross Receipts Tax money for a good part of the annual budget.

The tax rates and special Gross Receipts Taxes are set by ordinance.

The tax can be assigned to specific projects. In Los Lunas one-fourth percent is used for repair and replacement of infrastructure.



Christmas Light Parade

*Saturday, December 1
6:30 PM*

**Begins at Carson Drive
& Main Street**

**Heads West on Main Street
to Village Administrative Building
Call the Parks & Recreation Department
for information 352-3584**

VISIT WITH SANTA AT SANTA'S PARK



SATURDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2006

6:00 PM DANIEL FERNANDEZ PARK

1103 HIGHWAY 314 SOUTH LOS LUNAS

STOCKING GIVEN TO CHILDREN PRESENT