

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

Prepared for Quay County by



2018 Update

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Quay County

Comprehensive Plan, 2018

County Commission

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Executive Summary

Quay County has a rich history and a local economy based on agriculture, tourism, interstate transportation and outdoor recreation. Named after Matthew S. Quay, the County was created in 1903. The County has ebbed and flowed throughout history with changes in tourist activities, agricultural trends, and economic patterns. The County has recently declined in population and seeks improved economic drivers to strengthen and sustain the community. This section of the plan provides an introduction to the layout of the plan, the core themes, and the methods of engagement that were utilized.

Public Engagement

An initial kickoff meeting with staff and a presentation to the County Commissioners were held on December 11, 2017. The intent of this meeting and presentation was to meet with the County Manager, introduce the Comprehensive Plan update, and gather initial input on how to proceed with the community engagement process.

The first community meeting was held on Tuesday, February 6th at 6:00 pm in the Fair Barn near the Convention Center in Tucumcari. The meeting was advertised through multiple avenues including through the community announcements on the local radio station, the Tucumcari Chamber of Commerce, the Quay County Sun, local stakeholder advertising, the Quay County website and social media pages, and County Manager notifications to communities. There were 35 attendees in total. The National Park Service also set up a table with informational resources and an engaging board to gather input from citizens about what uses they'd like to see at the 5-Mile Park in Tucumcari. More information on this project can be found in the Vibrant Economy section of this plan. The meeting began with a short presentation by the Sites Southwest staff regarding what a comprehensive plan is, the core plan themes, and the county-wide accomplishments. The attendees then broke into groups of 5-7 people to answer the following questions. The answers are listed in **red**.

- 1) How do you envision Quay County 20 years from now?
 - a. What does the economy look like?
 - Thriving, growing, and diversified economy with an increasing population that provides for the retention of youth with job availability.
 - Expand and continue viable schools, hospital, medical services, college
 - Thriving, growing, more businesses, more jobs, increasing population, bring in qualified medical staff, infrastructure, racetrack/casino
 - Niche industries such as renewable energy and agriculture fueling a small but thriving economy.
 - Health industries important part of economy
 - Bowling alleys etc. drawing young people, growing farmers market

- County thriving with young farmers, agri-tourism, aquaponics, and offshoot businesses for value added products (food, delivery, bookkeeping).
- Improving, jobs in renewable energy
- More jobs for young people
- Niche businesses creating small but thriving economy
- Small businesses and unique industries
- Shift towards younger generations entertainment (laser tag, family entertainment etc.)
- Businesses that export products
- Shift towards light industries, minor expansions, expanding cheese plant for example (people to teach these things)
- Renewable energy partnering with city to export energy
- Exporting energy services
- People coming here to start new, higher population, thriving life with employment opportunities
- Thriving, diversified (tourism, agriculture, warehousing, wind, solar, new transmission lines, downtown revitalization, night life (evening activities)).
- Hope it looks better. The economy on the upswing on jobs, retail and industry.

b. What things that you care about were protected?

- Private landowner rights reserved
- Sustainable drinking water
- Maintain our small town/ rural atmosphere
- Protect lakes and streams, irrigation waters & rights
- Protect open spaces
- Ag community
- Water, schools, jobs, hospital, health care, state parks
- Disc golf
- Agriculture
- Museums
- College
- Water
- Wind energy, renewable energy industries
- Quality of life preserved, still have the rural, close feeling of community even with changing dynamic
- Hospital and healthcare industries maintained
- Lower cost of living
- Still family community
- Lake, water supply, infrastructure (including roads), other natural resources, historic & cultural resources (distinctive things like neon), Route 66, health care
- Ute Lake, recreational/ water conservation
- Land that should be farmed is farmed
- Water resources
- Protecting and improving the canal
- Route 66/ tourism
- Renewable energy

c. What makes living and working here so great?

- Climate
- People

- Affordability
- Natural resources
- Rural area with accessibility to cities
- Community support of youth and activities
- Education availability- post secondary
- Short commutes
- Better education
- 2 close-by lakes
- 2 golf courses
- Excellent city water
- Low taxes,
- Low crime rate
- Climate
- So close to everything- very short commute
- All of the space
- Family friendly
- Strong familial bonds
- Sense of community- so tight knit
- Working is better because there are less middlemen between you and "the boss"
- Able to make changes
- Low cost of living, wide-open space, outdoor recreation, climate, people
- Small communities- small tie
- Good schools
- Low cost of living
- Low crime rate per capita

2) What are the County's greatest opportunities for making this vision a reality?

- Continuing work ready community- ACT
- Transportation hub- availability- I/40; Hwy 54; Hwy 209; Railroad; Airport; Hwy 104
- Mesalands college
- Excellent, sustainable water source
- Recreation Opportunities
- Alternative energy growth
- Tourism accommodation attracting people here already
- Community leaders promoting growth and opportunities
- County, city, private working partnerships working toward goals
- Water source
- Grant funding
- ACT testing for better job placement
- Land availability
- Low taxes
- College
- There are young people getting involved, making changes and things happen. People willing to collaborate
- "fun" industry is expanding, so we could grow that
- Add public transit
- Technology for kids so they can learn and take advantage of new industries, technologies
- Introduce young people to the renewable energy industries and get them interested- education and field trips

- Form relationship between the people in towns and all of the space that creates the rest of the county
- Program to teach about agriculture ranching- let the young people experience the land
- I-40(Tucumcari is first major city in NM)
- Location and resources (I-40, Hwy 54, trains, airport),
- Education (Mesalands and others)
- Water (long term resources)
- Cooperation among communities
- Good water resources
- Develop route 66/ I-40/ Hwy 54
- More home business or remote offices via internet
- Making good use of the land
- Getting transmission lines for more wind energy

3) What public and private investments are needed to take advantage of these opportunities?

- Continue support of IRB for growth
- Continue exploring options through CDBG
- Continue JTIP and LEDA Funding Efforts
- Maintain partnerships with EDC
- Maintain LGRF Funding Sources
- State and federal funding for agriculture with state and local government for all funding sources
- Grants
- Capital outlay
- Severance tax
- Bonds
- LEDA Programs to help with projects
- Grants for integrating technology into businesses etc.
- Outside investors
- Take advantage of grants
- Invest time! Individuals taking time to do what they can
- Investment from our government, government initiative and support
- Invest in community activities similar to Santa Rosa's Summer Programs @ 5 mile Park
- Support investment from the state and feds
- Expansion of Mesalands
- Private investment (individuals and businesses)
- Property owners to use their land or sell it for a fair rate
- More retail outlets for local and online
- Increase in civic pride
- Individuals that own land
- NRCS collaboration with Quay County land owners
- More fiber optics to all who want that service

Attendees recorded answers and a short sharing session followed where Sites Southwest staff recorded top answers for each question. Although there were varied answers, core goals for the County that were addressed by multiple groups and participants were:

- Creating a thriving economy with more jobs, retail, and services for the community
- Protecting water resources and maintaining agricultural land uses

- Promoting renewable energy growth
- Preserving sense of community
- Promoting tourism opportunities

On February 6th and 7th, interviews with key stakeholders were conducted to gather input on the County's needs, opportunities, challenges, and vision. Stakeholders that were not available to meet with the Sites Southwest team were interviewed by phone following the Quay County site visit. Stakeholders' answers and the community input from the public meetings helped inform the content in this comprehensive plan.

Core Themes

The previous Quay County Plans addressed many topics, goals, challenges, and opportunities. After reviewing the previous plans and gathering input from community members and stakeholders, three overarching core themes emerged that address the topics, goals, challenges, and opportunities from the previous plans in Quay County and are still relevant to the community's goals. These core themes are:



Vibrant Economy



Environmental Sustainability



Quality of Life

The themes are addressed in this plan to help organize the document based on the community's goals and serve as an umbrella for the traditional comprehensive plan components that are described in more detail within each core theme section.

Vibrant Economy



A vibrant economy is at the heart of a growing, thriving community. Multiple sources of revenue help to create a community that has diverse community services, an array of job choices, and opportunities for community members. Quay County has multiple strengths that provide the foundation for creating a vibrant economy. To create a vibrant economy, Quay County can support businesses, workers, and the quality of life of its citizens. To support businesses, Quay County can continue to attract new entrepreneurs to the region, target specific markets, and help businesses with job creation. To support workers, Quay County can continue to expand its workforce development to help provide workers with a large range of skills and education levels to provide workforce for incoming businesses and industries. Additionally, to

support the quality of life of the citizens of the County, Quay County can continue to expand its support for creating vibrant retail centers and downtowns and can continue to create a desirable region to live in through the support of better community services, open spaces, art, medical institutions, entertainment, transportation, infrastructure, tourism opportunities, housing and cultural resources. By focusing on target economic drivers, Quay County can develop into a vibrant, economically sustainable region.

Since entrepreneurship grows organically from within a community, Quay County's role is to primarily support initiatives that promote the County's goals. The following comments from the public highlight core goals of the community regarding creating a vibrant economy.

- Expand and improve education- increase enrollment
- Improve hospital and medical services
- Create more jobs
- Retain and attract youth
- Create more tourist opportunities
- Create more entertainment opportunities
- Shift toward light industries
- Export energy services
- Reverse the trend of declining population

Environmental Sustainability



The environmental sustainability of Quay County is a key theme in the overall sustainability and vitality of the region. Environmental sustainability includes the topics of natural resources, land uses, hazard mitigation, alternative energy, and environmental protection. For a community to continue to thrive, the sustainability of these resources is vital.

The public's goals regarding environmental sustainability are listed below.

- Protect drinking and recreational water quality
- Protect natural waters from pollution & degradation
- Protect and create open spaces for community use
- Protect agricultural lands and community
- Promote renewable energy resources
- Protect & maintain recreational pool
- Improve the Arch Hurley canal to increase delivery of irrigation water to users

Quality of Life



The Quality of Life for Quay County's citizens depends on multiple factors including community services, connectivity (transportation, facilities, and roads & infrastructure), and housing resources for the community. To ensure a strong quality of life for the citizens

of Quay County, a holistic approach to goal setting and implementable actions is necessary.

Key public goals regarding the quality of life in Quay County include:

- Preserve and improve upon family services available for the community
- Improve public infrastructure (roads)
- Improve health care for citizens- attract more high-quality doctors and services
- Provide more senior services
- Provide activities for youth
- Create more diverse housing options
- Improve upon the quality of K-12 education

Previous County Comprehensive Plans

Quay County Regional Comprehensive Plan Update 2010 Addenda

The most recent document that Quay County has completed is the Quay County Regional Comprehensive Plan Update 2010 Addenda which updated their 2005 Comprehensive Plan. This document specifies goals, objectives, and policies for the County. This policy document demonstrates the changes over time relative to Land Use, Economic Development, Water Management, Inter-Governmental Cooperation, Housing, County Services and Infrastructure. The 2010 Addenda relied heavily on the 2000 and 2010 Census to determine what changes, if any, occurred from 2005 to 2010. In addition, specific goals, objectives, and policies were updated and many remained the same from the 2005 Comprehensive Plan. One of most notable changes was the construction of wind farms in Quay County during the period from 2005-2010. These are located in the southern part of the County; the one southwest of House is called the New Mexico Wind Energy Center and is a 204-Megawatt facility and the Caprock Wind Farm is located south of San Jon and is an 80-Megawatt facility. In addition to these wind farms, the North American Wind Research and Training Center (NAWRTC) recently opened at the Mesalands Community College which will facilitate wind energy research and provide training in wind energy for future workers in the emerging green economy. Additionally, the plan discusses the Ute Pipeline Project, officially known as the Eastern New Mexico Water Utility Authority (ENMWUA). The ENMWUA is a 151-mile-long pipeline project that provides a sustainable municipal and industrial water supply for several eastern New Mexico communities and a military base. ENMWUA went to the state legislature and they approved it as a utility company so they have the same powers as a government which include emit domain. Water will be pumped from the Ute Reservoir to the cities and towns of Clovis, Portales, Melrose, Texaco, Grady, and Elida, as well as to the Cannon Air Force Base and Curry and Roosevelt counties. The entities involved in the Project have a combined population of about 73,000. The Congress authorized major federal funding for the Ute Pipeline in the Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009. This important milestone for the project was reached after about 45 years of effort.

Quay County Comprehensive Plan 2005

The Quay County Comprehensive Plan was written in 2005. Several issues were identified throughout the course of the planning process. These issues represent critical factors that the Comprehensive Plan's policies and implementation attempt to address. Many of these issues were specific to municipalities in the County, but there are regional issues that each community may also address. All communities except for Logan have experienced population decline and a decline in economic opportunities. The County outlined several assets and opportunities within this plan that are expected to reverse these trends and provide economic and population growth in the County. Quay County and the incorporated community's economies are driven by the agricultural industry, retail trade industry, public administration, the hospitality industry, and education industries in 2005. The Ute Lake Water Project was identified as a primary solution to solving the region's water issues and involves the pumping of water from the Lake to communities throughout Eastern New Mexico including those in Quay County, Curry County, and Roosevelt County. If a pipeline existed from Ute Lake Ranch to Tucumcari The State Interstate Stream Commission (ISC) recently completed a State-wide water plan and specific water plan called the Northeast New Mexico Regional Water Plan, which includes Quay County. The plans focus on water conservation techniques for the area and provides ways for each community to work with the Commission and State Engineer Office to conserve water. Additionally, future population growth in the County will require that new housing subdivisions and a range of housing types be made available, specifically for the increasing proportion of senior citizens.

Other Relevant Plans

Quay County 40-Year Water Plan

Quay County completed a 40-year water plan in 2004 to address water issues, goals, and recommendations. The plan outlines what the water supply available to the region is, what the region's current and projected future demand for water is, what the region's alternatives are for using available supplies to meet projected future water demands, including reduction of demand, to the extent needed, to live within available supplies, what the advantages and disadvantages of each alternative with respect to local values and criteria are, and what the best water supply alternatives are and how will they be implemented.

Ute Lake Drought Management Plan

A drought management plan has been completed (2013) for the Eastern New Mexico Water Utility Authority and the Ute Reservoir Water Commission. The planning process examined a variety of strategies for managing Ute Reservoir water during times of drought.

Northeast New Mexico Regional Water Plan

The Northeast New Mexico Regional Water Plan was completed in 2016. The purpose of the document is to provide new and changed information related to water planning in the Northeast New Mexico region, and to evaluate projections of future water supply and demand for the region using a common technical approach applied to all planning regions statewide.

Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy

The Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy, created by the Eastern Plains Council of Governments, provides background information on current regional infrastructure and the state of the economy for each county, municipality, and the overall region. Additionally, resiliency and economic development strategies are included, which are intended to support and expand the economic strengths and resiliency of the region. The second component identifies potential economic threats to the district and explores their regional impact.

Northeast New Mexico RTPPO Coordinated Public Transit— Human Services Transportation Plan

The Transportation Plan prepared by the New Mexico Department of Transportation identifies the transportation needs of older adults, individuals with disabilities, households without vehicles, and persons living under the poverty line. The plan also provides strategies for meeting the needs of these disadvantaged population groups and prioritizes transportation services for funding and implementation.

SECTION 1

County Profile



The County Profile section of the plan establishes a context for the recommendations within the Comprehensive Plan. This section provides a brief description of Quay County's history, provide data tables and a brief analysis of the demographics of the county, and discuss incorporated places within the county.

Background

Quay County

Quay County is a historic, rural community of roughly 8,500 people (covering 2,882 square miles) located on the eastern side of Northern New Mexico. Union, Harding, San Miguel, Guadalupe, De Baca, Roosevelt, and Curry counties border Quay County. The City of Tucumcari is the County Seat. The history of the town is filled with agriculture, ranching, the railroad, and more recently, Rt. 66. Over the past few decades, the population has declined and the median age has increased. In the past decade, Quay County has focused on redeveloping main streets, improving the quality of life for citizens, and rebuilding the economy through diversified economic ventures. There are four incorporated communities within the county limits. These include the Village of House, the Village of Logan, the Village of San Jon, and the City of Tucumcari. Descriptions of these towns are below. Other communities include Nara Visa, Bard, Endee, Forrest, Glenrio (partly in Deaf Smith County, Texas), McAlister, Montoya, Quay, and Wheatland.

Village of House

The Village of House is located in the southwestern part of Quay county and had a population of 41 in 2017 which decreased from 68 in 2010. It has total area of 0.9 square miles. John Lee House and Lucie Jordan House arrived as the first homesteaders in the region in 1902. The Village of House is a center for production of alternative energy, including the 204 MW New Mexico Wind Energy Center, and the 50 MW Casa Mesa Wind Project. The New Mexico Wing Energy Repower Project will replace older and obsolete equipment, with over 80 percent of the wind energy equipment being upgraded. This upgrade will increase by productivity of the Wind Energy Center by 20 percent. The Casa Mesa project, which will be paired with 1 MW of storage, will be part of the renewables being purchased by the Los Lunas Facebook data center through PNM.

Village of Logan

The Village of Logan was founded in 1901 when Chicago, Rock Island and Pacific Railroad completed bridge construction over the Canadian River. Eugene Logan, a Texas Ranger, helped build the bridge and the village was ultimately named after him. The bridge is currently being replaced with a new \$20 million bridge to be located alongside the existing bridge. The population is roughly, 1,100 and has a total area of 8.4 square miles. The construction of the Ute Dam and the Ute Lake State Park in 1963 and 1964 was a significant development for the Village of Logan. Ute Lake and Ute Lake State Park are popular tourist attractions in New Mexico.

Village of San Jon

The Village of San Jon was founded in 1902, and ultimately grew because of the expanding railroad. However, San Jon saw its larger growth with the historic Route 66 creating multiple economic drivers including cafes, motels and gas stations for tourists. However, population and local economy began to decrease due to the construction of interstate 40 which bypassed the village. The current population is roughly 400 people in an area of 2.6 square miles

City of Tucumcari

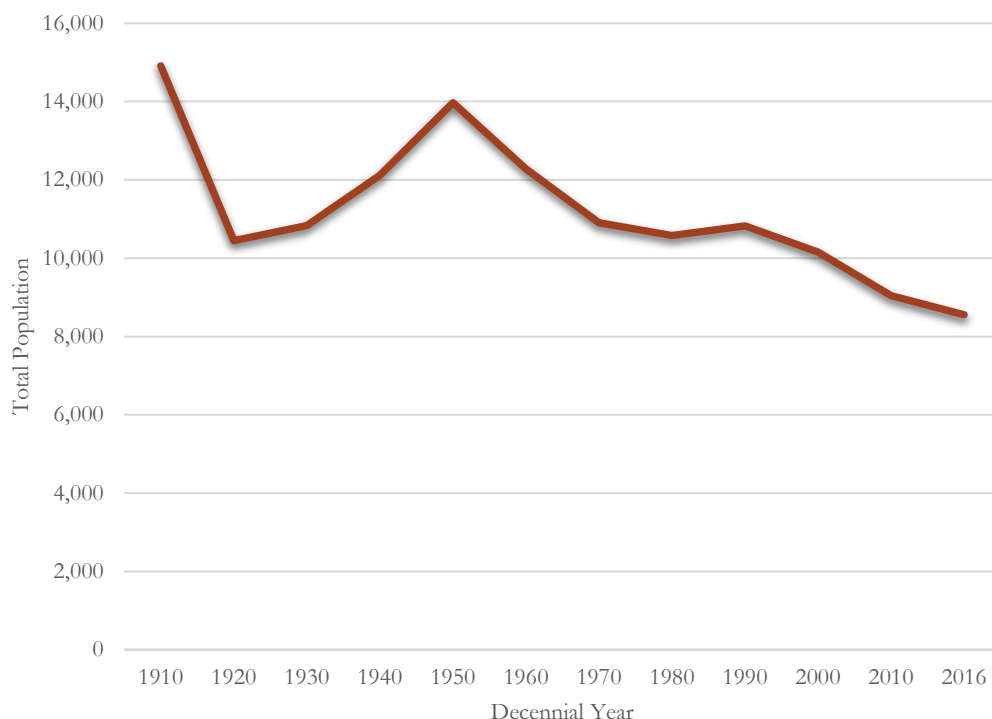
Tucumcari is located approximately 175 miles east of Albuquerque. It was founded in 1901 and is a surrounding home to Apache and Comanche Indians. The name Tucumcari is derived from the Comanche word, “tukanukaru,” meaning “lie in wait for something to approach.” (Tucumcari, Quay County Chamber of Commerce). The town’s name has evolved from “Ragtown” to “Six Shooter Siding” and was finally to be named Tucumcari. It has been known as a major railroad center for the region. Today, Tucumcari has a population of roughly 5,500 residents in an area of 7.6 square miles and is home to Mesalands Community College and the Mesalands Dinosaur Museum. It also has historic and Route 66 Museums and has also been named the “City of Murals”.

Demographic Analysis

Population Trends & Analysis

Population in Quay County has decreased since 1950 as shown in Figure 1¹. Many factors have contributed to population loss including the decline of the agriculture industry, a decline in Route 66 related businesses, and the decline of railroad-related industries.

*Figure 1: Quay County Historical Population
1910-2010 Census*



¹ U.S. Census, 1910 to 2010 Census

Population in the County is projected to continue to decrease through the year 2040 according to data from the University of New Mexico. Figure 2² shows that population is projected to decrease to 7,323 by 2040, while population in the State is expected to increase to over 2.4 million by the same year, as shown in Table 1³.

Figure 2: Quay County 2040 Population Projection

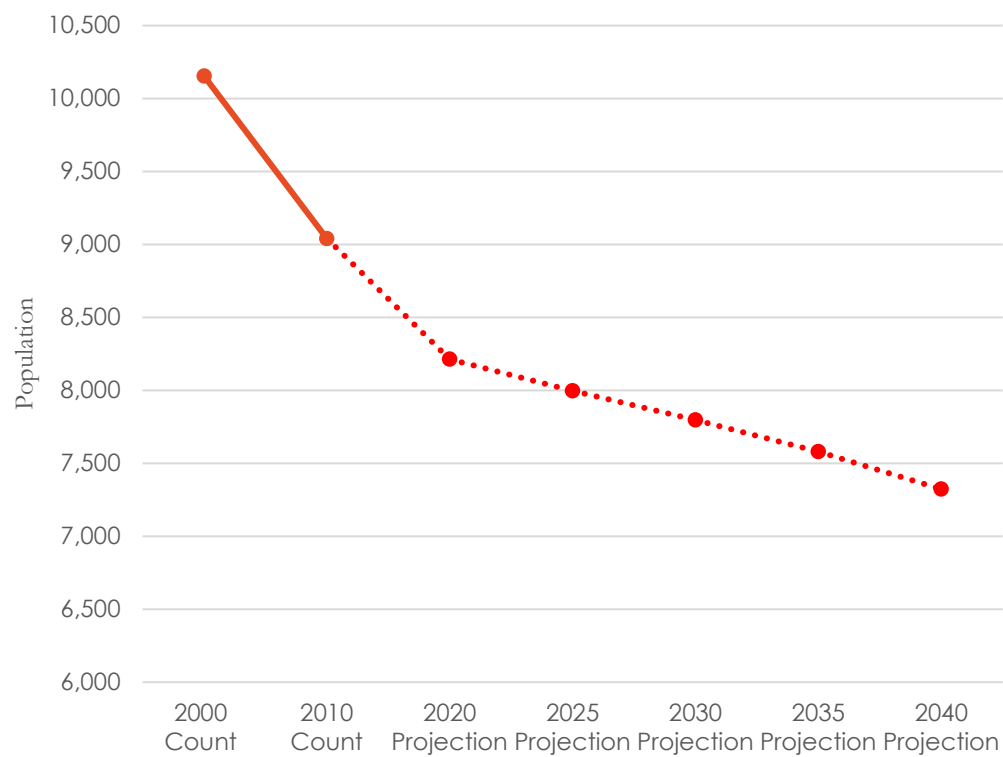


Table 1: Quay County 2040 Population Projection

	2000 Count	2010 Count	2020 Projection	2025 Projection	2030 Projection	2035 Projection	2040 Projection
Quay County	10,155	9,041	8,213	7,997	7,797	7,580	7,323
State Total	1,819,046	2,059,179	2,187,183	2,247,564	2,308,475	2,360,091	2,401,480

Table 2⁴ shows the rate of population change in Quay County and the four incorporated places within the County. The County’s population has declined 11% from 2000 to 2010 and has declined close to

² University of New Mexico, Bureau of Business and Economic Research (BBER)
³ University of New Mexico, Bureau of Business and Economic Research (BBER)
⁴ 2012-2016 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates

5.4% from 2010 to 2016. Tucumcari's population decline is similar to Quay County's at 10.5% from 2000 to 2010. It has declined close to 5% from 2010 to 2016. Close to 60% of Quay County's total population resides in Tucumcari. House, Logan and San Jon each show declining population trends similar to Quay County.

Table 2: Population of Quay County Places

	2000	2010	rate of change	2016	rate of change
Quay County	10,155	9,041	-11%	8,555	-5.38%
Village of House	72	68	-5.60%	41	-39.71%
Village of Logan	1,094	1,042	-4.80%	924	-11.32%
Village of San Jon	306	216	-2.90%	211	-2.31%
City of Tucumcari	5,989	5,363	-10.50%	5,091	-5.07%

Age Structure

The population of Quay County is aging relative to the state, with a higher percentage of residents over 60 and a lower percentage of young adults.

As shown in Table 3⁵, the median age in New Mexico has increased from 34.6 in 2000 to 35.54 in 2009. This increase continued to 37.2 in 2016. The Village of House and Tucumcari both follow this median age trend with 34.6 in House and 39.6 in Tucumcari in 2000 and 53.2 in House and 43.4 in Tucumcari in 2009. The largest change of median age was the increase in median age in the Village of House 62.6 in 2016. San Jon has experienced the opposite effect with the youngest median age being 26.9 in 2016, decreasing in each time period.

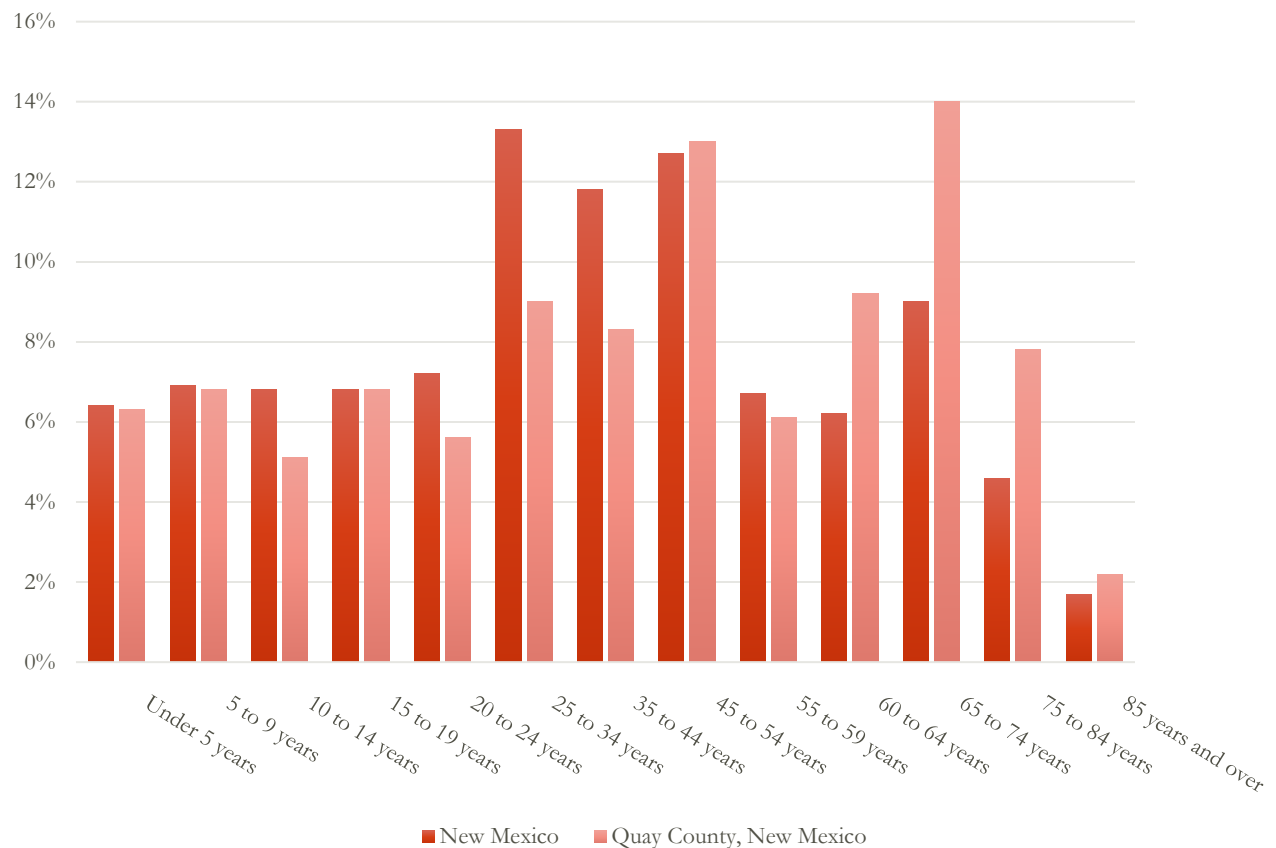
*Table 3: Median Age-
New Mexico and Quay County Places*

	2000	2009	2016
New Mexico	34.6	35.5	37.2
Quay County	41.5	45.1	46.5
Village of House	34.6	53.2	62.6
Village of Logan	48	44	56.3
Village of San Jon	36.3	41.6	26.9
City of Tucumcari	39.6	43.4	44.4

⁵ 2000 U.S. Census, 2005-2009 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates; 2012-2016 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates

The population distribution in Quay County shown in Figure 3⁶ shows that a higher proportion of the population in Quay County is over 60 than the New Mexico average. In addition, the population of young adults age 20 to 44 years is less than the New Mexico average as a percentage of total population.

Figure 3: New Mexico and Quay County Population by Age Cohort



Educational Attainment

In Quay County, 37.8% of residents are high school graduates, 16.5% have less than a high school diploma, 23.2% have some college but no degree, and 22.5% of residents have at least an Associate's degree as shown in Figure 4⁷.

⁶ American Community Survey, 2012-2016 5-Year Estimates

⁷ American Community Survey, 2012-2016 5-Year Estimate

Figure 4: Educational Attainment, Quay County Residents 25+ Years

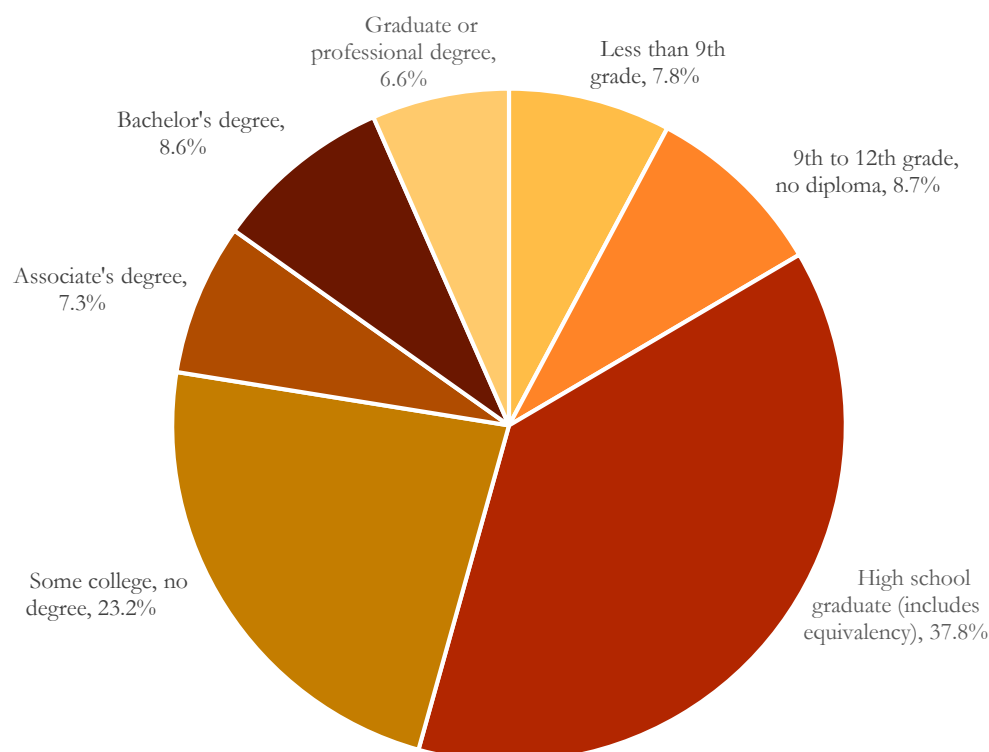


Table 4⁸ shows educational attainment in New Mexico, Quay County, and places within Quay County. In Quay County, the percentage of people that were high school graduates or higher increased from 73.8% in 2000 to 78.5% in 2009. The trend continues into 2016- 83.4% of Quay County residents have a High School Diploma or Higher. While the percentage of residents that had a bachelor's degree or higher went from 13.7% in 2000 to 14.9% in 2009, Quay County continued to increase to 15.2% in 2016. Logan followed the trend in 2000 to 2010. Since then, the percentage of residents that were High School graduates or higher is 94.4%.

In 2016, 15.2% of residents in Quay County had a Bachelor's degree or higher. In House, the percentage of residents with a Bachelor's degree or higher increased from 2000 to 2010 and the percentage of residents with a High School diploma or higher decreased. In 2016, House experienced an increase in the percentage of residents with a High School Diploma (89.7%) and an increased percentage of residents with a Bachelor's degree or higher (28.2%). San Jon experienced an increase in the percentage of residents with a High School diploma or higher from 2000 to 2010 and continued to rise in 2016 to 77.4%. Tucumcari experienced an increase in the percentage of

⁸ 2000 U.S. Census, 2005-2009 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimate, 2012-2016 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimate

residents with a High School diploma or higher from 69.4% in 2000 to 73.5% in 2010. The percentage of residents with a High School diploma or higher continued to increase to 81.0% in 2016.

Table 4: Educational Attainment

Percent High School Graduate or Higher	2000	2009	2016
New Mexico	78.9%	82.1%	84.6%
Quay County	73.8%	78.5%	83.4%
Village of House	82.7%	64.4%	89.7%
Village of Logan	76.0%	82.5%	94.4%
Village of San Jon	72.1%	76.7%	77.4%
City of Tucumcari	69.4%	73.5%	81.0%
Percent Bachelor's Degree or Higher	2000	2009	2016
New Mexico	23.5%	25.1%	26.7%
Quay County	13.7%	14.9%	15.2%
Village of House	9.6%	14.9%	28.2%
Village of Logan	11.0%	15.2%	15.6%
Village of San Jon	13.4%	11.4%	20.9%
City of Tucumcari	13.0%	11.4%	11.8%

Income

As shown in Table 5⁹, the median household income of Quay County increased slightly from 2000 to 2009 but decreased from 2009 to 2016. During the same time period, the labor force decreased 21.5%. The percentage of individuals below poverty level decreased from 2,085 in 2010 to 1,638 in 2016, but per capita income remained essentially flat. Median income in Quay County is approximately 62% of the state median income. Figure 5¹⁰ shows that nearly 60% of households in Quay County have incomes below \$35,000 compared to the state percentage of 40% in this income range.

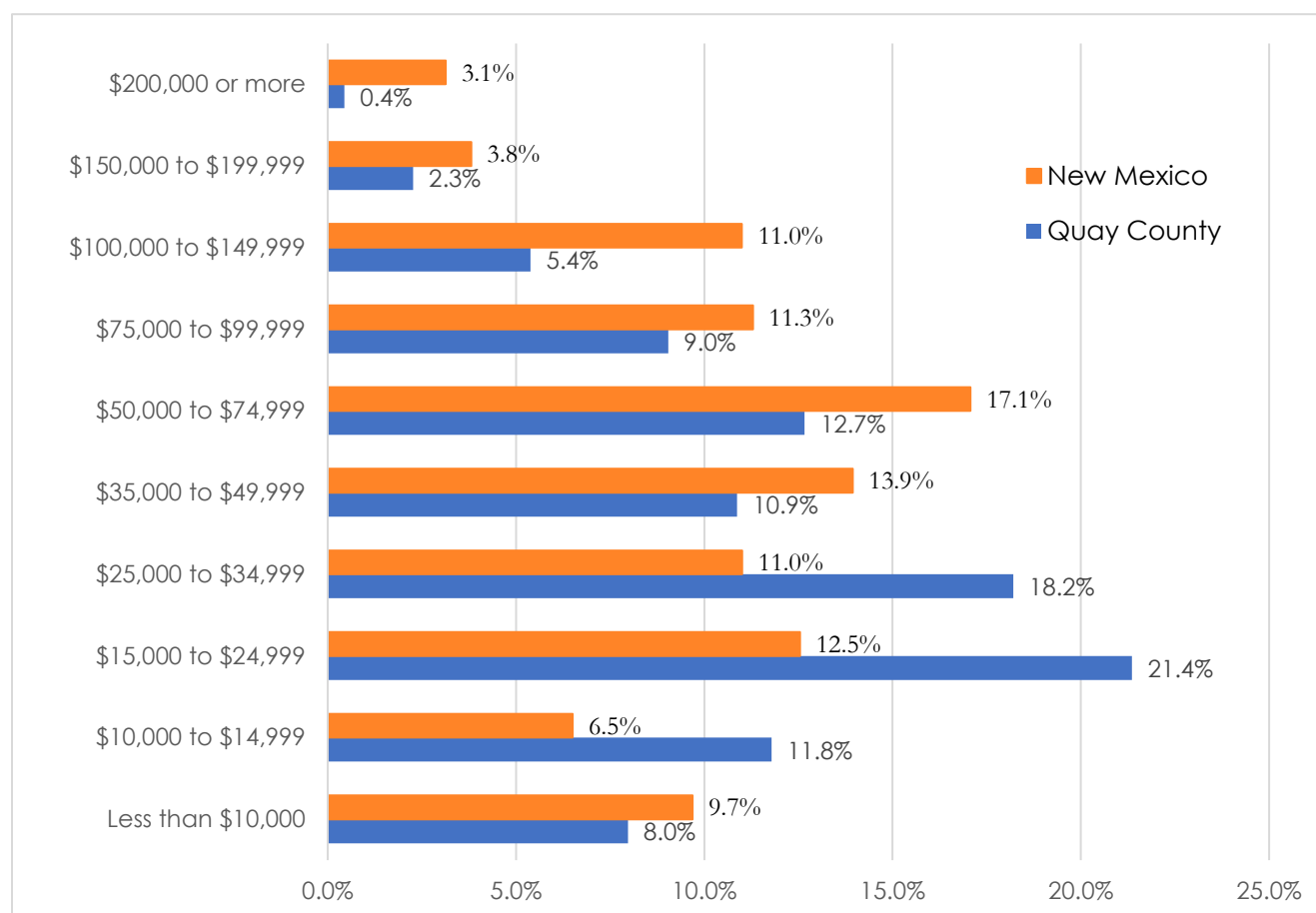
⁹ 2000 U.S. Census, 2005-2009 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimate, 2012-2016 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimate

¹⁰ American Community Survey 2012-2016 5-Year Estimate

Table 5: Income in Quay County

	2010	2016	
	New Mexico		Rate of Change
Population 16 years and over	1,561,181	1,637,594	4.89%
In labor force	61.90%	59.00%	-4.68%
Median household income	\$43,820	\$45,674	4.23%
Per capita income	\$22,966	\$24,459	6.50%
Percentage of People Below the Poverty Level	18.40%	20.90%	13.59%
	Quay County		Rate of Change
Population 16 years and over	7,291	6,914	-5.17%
In labor force	52.50%	44.90%	-14.48%
Median household income	\$28,773	\$28,159	-2.13%
Per capita income	\$18,234	\$18,285	0.28%
Percentage of People Below the Poverty Level	21.10%	19.30%	-8.53%

Figure 5: Estimated Household Income, 2016



Agriculture

Table 6¹¹ compares agricultural statistics for Quay, Curry, Harding, and Union Counties from the 2007 Agricultural Census to the 2012 Agricultural Census. Figure 6¹² shows the rate of change for all counties. The number of farms in Quay County decreased between 2007 and 2012; however, the land in farms has slightly increased. The market value of products sold increased by 2.5%, and the market value per farm increased by 18%. Government payments in Quay County increased 25%.

Table 6: Agriculture Conditions in 2012

	Quay	Curry	Harding	Union
Number of Farms	553	600	202	353
County Area (acres)	1,844,480	901,120	1,360,640	2,451,840
Land in Farms (acres)	1,518,085 (82.3%)	880,822 (97.7%)	1,034,059 (76.0%)	1,967,370 (80.2%)
Median Size of Farm (acres)	622	480	980	1,980
Market Value of Agricultural Products Sold	\$36,789,000	\$447,315,000	\$13,495,000	\$98,138,000
Market Value per Farm	\$66,526	\$745,526	\$66,807	\$278,013
Government Payments	\$6,471,000	\$8,250,000	\$1,289,000	\$2,900,000
Number of Farms Receiving Government Assistance	393	433	81	174
Government Payment per Farm	\$16,465.65	\$19,053.12	\$15,913.58	\$16,666.67

¹¹ American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates 2012-2016

¹²American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates 2012-2016

Figure 6: Change in Agriculture from 2007 to 2012



Labor Force

The labor force participation rate shown in Table 7¹³ from the 2000 U.S. Census showed a total of 4,278 Quay County residents in the labor force- a participation rate of 53.5%. According to the American Community Survey 2005-2009 5-Year Estimates, the total number of Quay County residents estimated to be in the labor force in 2009 had a total of 3,953, which was a decline of 325 workers. The 2012-2016 ACS estimated the labor force to be 3,102 in 2016, which is a 21.5% loss in the labor force in Quay County.

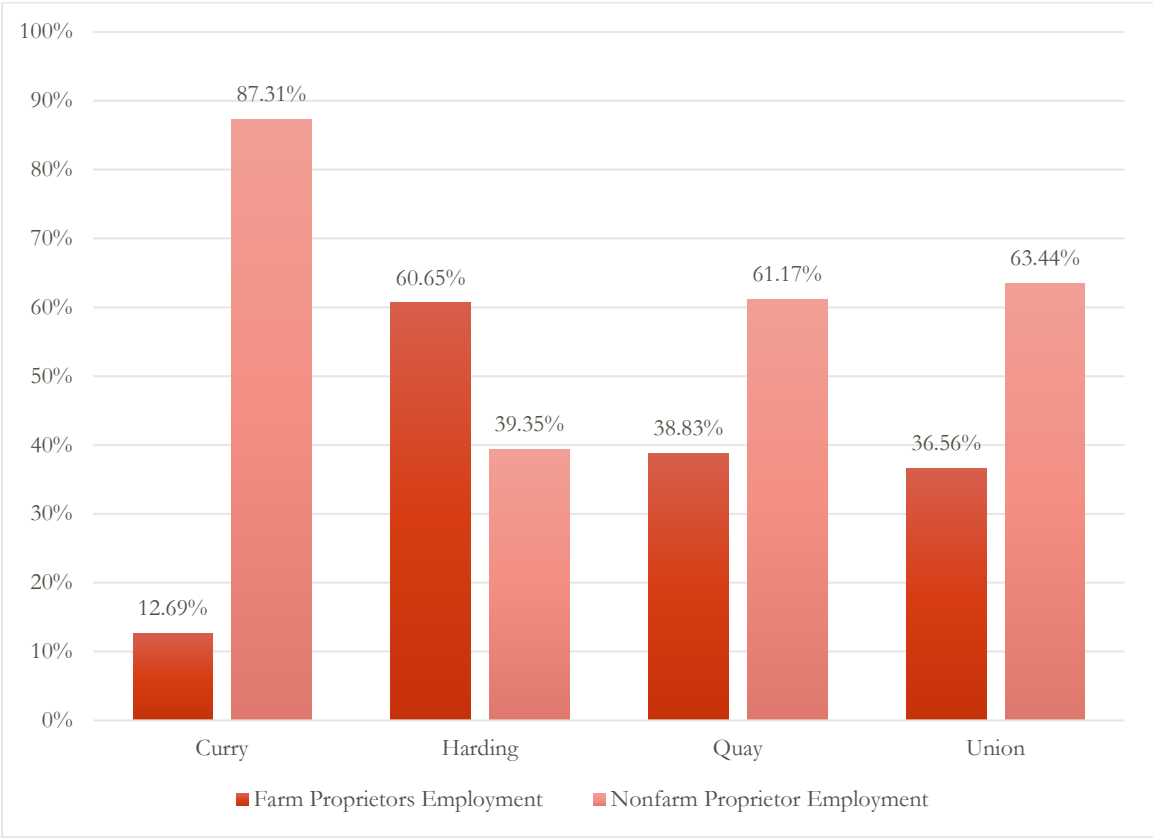
Table 7: Labor Force in Quay County

	Labor Force	Percent change
2000	4,278	
2009	3,953	-7.60%
2016	3,102	-21.53%

¹³ American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates 2012-2016

Sole proprietorships, partnerships and other small unincorporated businesses are important sources of income and jobs in rural areas but are not always counted in labor statistics. In Quay County, for example, proprietors account for nearly 30% of all employment, and farms are a significant percentage of that. Figure 7¹⁴ shows proprietor employment in Quay County for farm and non-farm proprietors compared to Curry, Harding, and Union Counties. In Quay County's farm proprietor employment is 38.83% of all proprietor employment.

Figure 7: Proprietor Employment- Farm and Nonfarm



Employment by Industry

Table 8¹⁵ compares employment in New Mexico and Quay County. The total employment has decreased by 5.47% in Quay County, compared to an increase in total employment in the state by 3.63% between 2010 and 2016. Farm proprietor's employment has experienced an increase in New Mexico of 11.65% and Quay County has experienced a decrease in farm proprietors' employment of 0.44%.

¹⁴ American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates 2012-2016
¹⁵ American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates 2012-2016

Table 8: Employment in New Mexico and Quay County

New Mexico	2010		2016		% Change
Total employment (number of jobs)	1,060,716		1,099,260		3.63%
By type					
Wage and salary employment	837,320	78.9%	862,115	78.4%	
Proprietors employment	223,396	21.1%	237,145	21.6%	
Farm proprietors employment	19,083		21,307		11.65%
Nonfarm proprietors employment	204,313		215,838		5.64%
Quay County	2010		2016		% Change
Total employment (number of jobs)	4,281		4,047		-5.47%
By type					
Wage and salary employment	3,075	71.83%	2,888	71.36%	
Proprietors employment	1,206	28.17%	1,159	28.64%	
Farm proprietors employment	452		450		-0.44%
Nonfarm proprietors employment	754		709		-5.97%

Table 9¹⁶ shows employment by industry in Quay County in 2010 and 2016. The largest employment sectors are: Government (21.47%), Agriculture (14.13%), Accommodation and Food Services (12.77%), and Retail Trade (11.79%).

Table 9: Employment by Industry

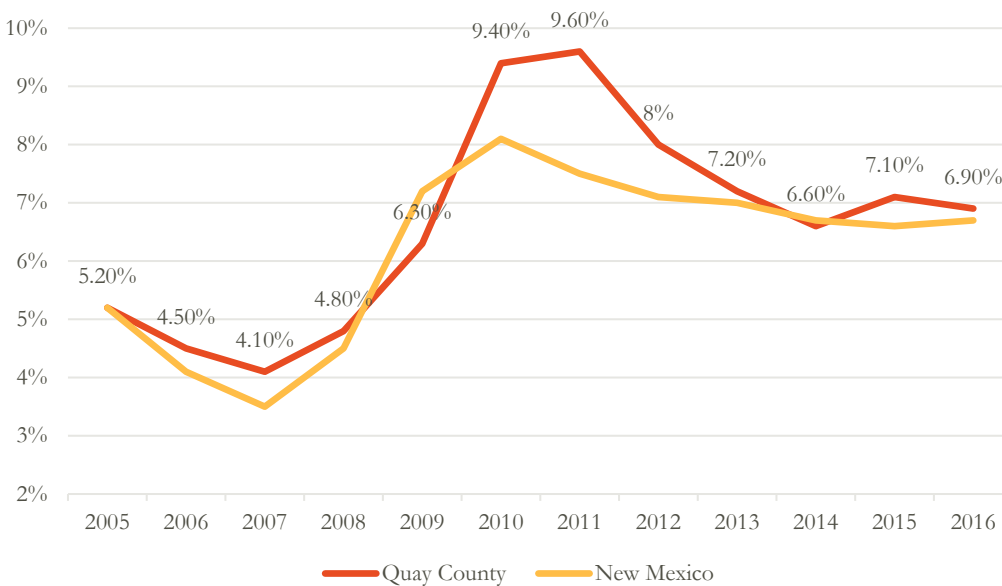
<i>By industry</i>	2010	2016	% of Employment
Farm employment	550	572	14.13%
Nonfarm employment	3731	3475	85.87%
Private nonfarm employment	2755	2606	64.39%
Forestry, fishing, and related activities	(D)	(D)	(D)
Mining, quarrying, and oil and gas extraction	(D)	(D)	(D)
Utilities	33	46	1.14%
Construction	245	187	4.62%
Manufacturing	(D)	(D)	(D)
Wholesale trade	24	39	0.96%
Retail trade	574	477	11.79%
Transportation and warehousing	157	162	4.00%
Information	23	22	0.54%
Finance and insurance	131	136	3.36%
Real estate and rental and leasing	102	78	1.93%
Professional, scientific, and technical services	(D)	83	2.05%
Management of companies and enterprises	(D)	(D)	(D)
Administrative and support and waste management and remediation services	82	(D)	(D)
Educational services	10	17	0.42%
Healthcare and social assistance	371	362	8.94%
Arts, entertainment, and recreation	25	29	0.72%
Accommodation and food services	495	517	12.77%
Other services (except public administration)	236	221	5.46%
Government and government enterprises	976	869	21.47%
Federal, civilian	59	31	
Military	24	22	
State and local	893	816	
State government	328	312	
Local government	565	504	

¹⁶ Bureau of Economic Analysis, CA25N Total Full-Time and Part-Time Employment by NAICS Industry

Unemployment Rate

In 2010, Quay County saw an increase in the unemployment rate to 9.4% from 2005 while the State only saw an increase to 8.1% from 2005 as shown in Figure 8¹⁷. Since then, Quay County has had a 6.9% unemployment rate, while the State has had a 6.7% unemployment rate, staying rather close to one another in value.

Figure 8: Unemployment Rate



The surrounding counties experienced various unemployment rates between 2010 and 2016 as shown in Table 10¹⁸. More significantly is Guadalupe County with a 36.2% percent change loss at 6.5% in 2016. Union County, whose unemployment rate was 6.3% in 2000 and 4.1% in 2016, was a 34.9% loss. However, Harding County is the only surrounding county to continuously rise in its unemployment rate.

¹⁷ New Mexico Department of Workforce Solutions, Economic Research and Analysis, Table C – Civilian Labor Force, Employment, Unemployment, and Unemployment Rate 2000-2009 & 2010-2016 Annual Averages.

¹⁸ American Community Survey, 2012-2016 5-Year Estimate

Table 10: Unemployment Rate

	2010	2016	% change
U.S.	9.60%	4.90%	48.96%
New Mexico	8.10%	6.70%	17.28%
Chaves County	7.50%	6.80%	9.33%
Curry County	5.40%	5.10%	5.56%
De Baca County	5.80%	4.90%	15.52%
Guadalupe County	10.20%	6.50%	36.27%
Harding County	6.10%	7.20%	-18.03%
Quay County	9.40%	6.90%	26.60%
Roosevelt County	6.30%	5.70%	9.52%
San Miguel County	9.60%	7.70%	19.79%
Union County	6.30%	4.10%	34.92%

Housing

According to the 2010 US Census and as shown in Table 11¹⁹, there was a total of 5,569 housing units in Quay County. This is a slight decrease in housing units for the County as a whole, which was down -1.7%. In 2016, Quay County continued to slightly decline in housing units to 5,549. Logan was the only community that increased in housing. The housing increase continued with 1,010 housing units built in 2000, 1,048 in 2010, and 1,173 in 2016. Tucumcari and the Village of House both decreased in the number of housing units from 2010 to 2016. The Village of San Jon remains constant with 109 housing units from 2010 to 2016.

Table 11: Housing Units

	2000	2010	2016
Quay County, New Mexico	5,664	5,569	5,549
Tucumcari city, New Mexico	3,065	2,999	2,730
House village, New Mexico	52	42	38
Logan village, New Mexico	1,010	1,048	1,173
San Jon village, New Mexico	133	109	109

Table 12²⁰ indicates that, in 2016, single family detached homes are still the predominant housing type in the County at 69% of the total housing stock. Single family attached & multi-family homes account for only 9% of the units in Quay County. Mobile homes account for a sizable amount, increasing from 1,367 units in 2000 to an estimated 1,434 units in 2010.

¹⁹ American Community Survey, 2012-2016 5-Year Estimate

²⁰ American Community Survey, 2012-2016 5-Year Estimate

However, mobile homes have decreased in 2016 to 1,294, or 23% of the total amount of housing units in Quay County. Mobile homes and attached housing products continue to provide affordable housing options in 2016 even though the number of Mobile homes is decreasing.

Table 12: Housing Types in Quay County

	2000	2010	2016	% of Housing
Single Family Detached	3710	3748	3,875	69.83%
Single Family Attached & Multi-family	521	509	380	6.85%
Mobile Homes	1367	1434	1,294	23.32%
Boats/RV/Van/etc.	66	0	0	

SECTION 2

Plan Elements



The Plan Elements section is the body of the Comprehensive Plan. This section includes Land and Resource Management, Land Use, Economic Development (including Tourism, Agriculture, and other economic development initiatives), Hazard Mitigation, Community Services & Public Facilities, Transportation, Roads & Infrastructure, and Housing.



Land and Resource Management



The purpose of this section is to highlight the natural resources in Quay County as well as the customs and culture that have sustained the county's economy. The basis for county action is contained in the community's goals. Local economies of rural areas depend upon the health of the natural and other resources of a region - protecting these resources is a vital part of maintaining overall community health. This section describes the customs and culture of the county, the legal framework for county adoption of a plan that reinforces its authority to protect the customs and culture of the county, and federal and state requirements for consultation with counties prior to actions that impact them, including specific Federal laws. Furthermore, this section addresses landowner concerns regarding the resources and related use of land that could be impacted by governmental regulation and proposed process and policies to ensure that the intent of this section is met.

Customs and Culture of Quay County

Quay County contains nearly 3,000 square miles of land area dominated by dramatic mesas, rolling hills, and the vast grasslands known as Llano Estacado - or Staked Plains. Quay County has been the home of nomadic Native American hunters for thousands of years. In the 13th century, Anasazi Indians grew squash, beans and corn along the region's many waterways. Pottery and other artifacts show that the area was a thriving center of ancient trade. By 1700, Apaches, Comanches and other nomadic tribes hunted seasonally. Spanish settlers and, later, Texas cattlemen raised livestock in the area. In 1863, Fort Bascom was established on the Canadian River about five miles to the west of the reservoir. The fort was established to stop Comancheros from trading in stolen goods, as well as to discourage raids by Kiowas and Comanches. The United States Army abandoned the fort in 1870 and moved operations to Fort Union. The area that is now Quay County has been dominated by cattle ranches since the 1870s.

During the 1920's and 1930's a series of flood control and irrigation projects were constructed along the Canadian River. The Arch Hurley Conservancy District was formed in 1937, and in 1938 Congress authorized the project, and the conservancy district and the federal

government executed the basic repayment contract in December of that year. Construction of the irrigation system began in 1940 and was completed by 1950. The project has created about 41,000 acres in irrigable land in the Tucumcari area.

Farming and ranching are important to the economy of Quay County. As discussed in the Community Profile and Economic Development sections of this report, 1.5 million acres of land in the county is in farms and ranches. The value of products sold in 2012 was \$36.8 million. Farm employment represents nearly 15% of total employment in the county, compared to less than two percent for the state. Therefore, agriculture is important to the economic well-being of county residents and economic stability of Quay County communities.

Water remains the most important natural resource for Quay county, especially agricultural producers. Careful management of the region's water supplies is critical to the sustainability of both urban and rural communities in the county.

Renewable energy is a relatively new contributor to the local economy, but wind and solar installations have brought economic benefits to Quay County, enabling landowners to sustain their rural lifestyle by diversifying revenue opportunities.

County Participation in State and Federal Land Management

Legal Framework for County Adoption of a Plan

The ability of a county to prepare a comprehensive plan is established in New Mexico statutes. New Mexico statutes grant the same powers to counties that are granted to municipalities except for those powers that are inconsistent with statutory or constitutional limitations placed on counties."²¹ Among these powers are the ability to establish a planning commission that shall "prepare and adopt a master plan for the physical development of the [county]. The plan shall be made with the general purpose of guiding and accomplishing a coordinated, adjusted and harmonious development of the [county] which will, in accordance with existing and future needs, best promote health, safety, morals, order, convenience, prosperity or the general welfare as well as efficiency and economy in the process of development."²²

Federal Requirements for Consultation with Local Governments

Federal agencies have an affirmative obligation to consult, cooperate, and coordinate with local government entities and to further ensure that the management of public lands is consistent with local land use plans to the maximum extent possible.

²¹ 4-37-1 NMSA 1978

²² 3-19-9 NMSA 1978

The Federal Land Policy and Management Act ("FLPMA"), which applies to public lands managed by the BLM, requires BLM to consult and coordinate with local governments in land use decisions and policies and to reduce contradictions and conflicts between local government land use plans and those of the BLM. [43 U.S.C. § 1712(c)(9)]. BLM must also coordinate and consult on issues of rangeland management and livestock grazing with landowners, including the state with respect to state lands.

The Forest Service must also involve the public in land use planning and management decisions. [16 U.S.C. §§ 1604(d), 612].

Because of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA), federal government is required to consult with local government prior to creating or enforcing land use decisions and policies. The natural resources section of this Comprehensive Plan incorporates these requirements by reference and documents the local economy, culture and customs of the county.

County policy requires that state and federal agencies consult with the county before making decisions or taking actions that have an impact on the functioning of the county government or on the ability of private landowners to maintain the customary use of their properties.

Federal Coordination and Collaboration with Private Landowners

Certain Federal government regulations can have an impact on the use of privately owned lands. Recent Federal rules of concern to the County and private landowners in the County include those related to the Clean Water Act and the Endangered Species act. These are specific examples, but the broader issue is that consultation and collaboration with private interests as well as local government to on proposed actions that impact the county. Quay County's role is to ensure coordination and collaboration, and the County's Natural Resources Committee can represent these interests.

Natural Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) requires that federal agencies inform the public of proposed or ongoing actions and requires public involvement, consultation with state and local governments, and consideration of conflicts between a proposed action and local plans.

The Council of Environmental Quality ("CEQ") is instrumental in the development of environmental policies and initiatives and issues guidance and interpretation of regulations that implement NEPA processes.

Federal agencies that are responsible for a proposed action have agency specific rules regarding NEPA implementation. These agencies have the opportunity to designate other agencies that are cooperators in the NEPA process. The County can participate as a cooperating agency. The County Commission's role is to represent local interests by providing expertise in issues related to the proposed action.

Clean Water Act and Safe Drinking Water Act

The Clean Water Act (CWA), administered by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) establishes the basic structure for regulating discharges of pollutants into the waters of the United States and regulating quality standards for surface waters. The Clean Water Act was enacted in 1948 as the Federal Water Pollution Control Act and reorganized and expanded in 1972. Under the CWA, EPA has implemented pollution control programs such as setting wastewater standards for industry. EPA has also developed national water quality criteria recommendations for pollutants in surface waters.

The CWA made it unlawful to discharge any pollutant from a point source into navigable waters, unless a permit was obtained. EPA's National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit program controls discharges. Point sources are discrete conveyances such as pipes or man-made ditches. Individual homes that are connected to a municipal system, use a septic system, or do not have a surface discharge do not need an NPDES permit; however, industrial, municipal, and other facilities must obtain permits if their discharges go directly to surface waters.

EPA safeguards human health by enforcing the requirements of the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) to ensure that the nation's public drinking water supply and its sources (rivers, lakes, reservoirs, springs, and ground water wells) are protected.

EPA works with its federal, state and tribal regulatory partners through a comprehensive Clean Water Act compliance monitoring program and a Safe Drinking Water Act compliance monitoring program to protect human health and the environment by ensuring that the regulated community obeys environmental laws/regulations through on-site visits by qualified inspectors, and a review of the information EPA or a state/tribe requires to be submitted. The CWA and SDWA compliance assistance programs provide businesses, federal facilities, local governments and tribes with tools to help meet environmental regulatory requirements.

Regulations of concern to the county were related to the 2015 revised regulatory definition of "waters of the United States," which has been stayed nationwide by the U.S Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit. In response to this stay, the applicable definition is now the agencies' prior regulations defining this term. The EPA and Department of the Army are in the process of reviewing the 2015 Rule and considering a revised definition of "waters of the United States" consistent with a February 2017 Executive Order to revise or rescind the rule.

The 2015 rule will not go into effect until 2020 to give the agencies time to reconsider the definition and implement a public notice and comment process.

The Endangered Species Act (ESA)

ESA was originally passed in 1973 and has been updated and amended since then. The purpose of the ESA is to protect and recover imperiled species and the ecosystems upon which they depend. The ESA is administered by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) and the National Marine Fisheries Service. The FWS has primary responsibility for terrestrial and

freshwater organisms. Species that are known to or believed to occur in Quay County include the Least tern (endangered), lesser prairie chicken (under review), and Arkansas River shiner (threatened). Critical habitat for the Least tern has not been designated, and there are no critical habitat areas designated for the Arkansas River Shiner in Quay County. The Ute Pipeline project was required to prove that removing water from the dam would not reduce the seepage and effect the Arkansas River Shiner.

The FWS collaborates with states, tribes, private landowners, non-governmental organizations, and federal partners to achieve conservation for species and habitats. Conservation goals focus on the following principles:

- Focus on recovery
- Provide conservation incentives
- Increase public participation through grants and partnerships
- Ensure clear and consistent policies and implementation
- Base decisions on sound science
- Provide private landowners and industry with tools to implement projects

The FWS has developed an array of tools and incentives to protect the interests of private landowners while encouraging management activities that benefit listed and other at-risk species. These include Habitat Conservation Plans, Safe Harbor Agreements, Candidate Conservation Agreements, and Conservation Banks. A Candidate Conservation Agreement with Assurances is in place between the New Mexico State Land Office and FWS for the lesser prairie chicken.

State of New Mexico

New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) Ground Water Quality Bureau protects the environmental quality of New Mexico's ground water resources as mandated by the Water Quality Act and the Water Quality Control Commission (WQCC) regulations (20.6 NMAC), and to identify, investigate, and clean up contaminated sites with pose significant risks to human health and the environment. NMED has been working on revisions to the WQCC regulation for Ground and Surface Water Protection (20.6.2 NMAC) since 2016. A public hearing was held in November 2017. Documents associated with this proceeding are available on the WQCC website, at <https://www.env.nm.gov/general/wqcc-17-03-r/>.

Surface waters in New Mexico are managed by the Surface Water Quality Bureau Watershed Protection Section (WPS). WPS is responsible for organizing all CWA §319(h) related activities in watersheds with Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) or with assessed data. They also coordinate the state's CWA §401 certification and §404 dredge and fill permits with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

Water Resources

Water is an essential part of Quay County's sustainability and economic development. As one of the most important natural resources in the region, planning for continued access to water for citizens and agriculture should be one of Quay County's primary goals.

The state of New Mexico has experienced drought conditions on and off for the past 10 years. However, in 2018, summer and fall rains in eastern New Mexico eliminated a drought classification in Quay County as of November 2018. In 2017, Arch Hurley had the full allocation of water use because Ute Lake and Conchas Lake were at full capacity.

The potential impact of drought cannot be ignored in the future. In Quay County, the primary user of the region's water is agriculture- there are around 40,000 acres of irrigated farm land. In previous years, ranchers have needed to sell off cattle and/or reduce the amount of irrigated land owned or leased because of drought conditions.

Municipal systems rely on groundwater and the share of water they have from the Ute Project, which protects municipal users from the impacts of drought. The Regional Water Plan notes concerns in the region regarding water supply and water quality. However, Quay County is fortunate to have adequate groundwater to accommodate population growth and new businesses.

The communities in the County have addressed issues identified in the water plan. For example, the Village of Logan's new wastewater system has eliminated septic tanks around the lake, protecting the water quality in Ute Reservoir.

Surface Water is delivered through a gravity system from the Canadian River which originate in Colorado and flows into the Ute Lake Reservoir. The County relies on the Arch Hurley Conservancy District for irrigation water which is supplied by Conchas Lake. It has been over 12 years since farmers have received a full allocation of water from the lake because of the drought. However, in 2018, the farmers had a full allocation of water.

There is a significant loss of irrigation water because of seepage from the unlined ditches. The seepage has mixed impacts. While the seepage reduces the supply of water for agriculture, some farmers and citizens have come to depend on the groundwater replenishment for their own wells. Paving the ditches could increase the water delivery for agricultural use by up to two times the current amount.

The Regional Water Plan notes that "methods such as canal lining or piping may result in reduction of seepage losses associated with conveyance, but that seepage will no longer provide return flow to other users. Other techniques such as drip irrigation and center pivots

may reduce the amount of water diverted, but if the water saved from such reductions is applied to on-farm crop demands, water supplies for downstream uses will be reduced."²⁵

The Ute Reservoir Water Commission consists of 12 entities in the region and Quay County is a part of this Commission. The 12 entities are Quay County, Tucumcari, Logan, San Jon, Curry County, Clovis, Melrose, Grady, Texico, Roosevelt County, Portales and Elidia. This commission has an agreement with ISC from the use of the water from Ute. ENMWUA and TQCRWA are two authorities formed to distribute and use the water. 16,000 af from the Reservoir is directed to the pipeline and 1,000 af from the Reservoir is reserved for Quay County, costing \$1.50 to reserve. Quay County and the local governments of Tucumcari, Logan, San Jon, and House have joined together to form the Tucumcari Quay County Regional Water Authority (TQCRWA) to address water planning in Quay County.

The TQCRWA worked with municipalities to create the 40-year Water Plan in 2004. This regional plan outlines many details regarding water management including the background of water challenges in the region, water laws, existing conditions, water management, and possible solutions. An update to the plan was completed in 2015. According to the updated plan, Logan, House, San Jon, and Tucumcari are not projected to have water shortages within the 40-year period because Quay County has plenty of groundwater. Additionally, domestic wells and municipal water systems draw from the groundwater supply, however the impact is minor.

In order to preserve the water for Quay County Citizens, Quay County can support region-wide water collaboratives and initiatives for water efficiency and conservation, provide educational resources for citizens regarding water-pertinent information, and continue to review and accomplish goals set out in the Quay County 40-year water plan and the Northeast New Mexico Regional Water Plan. A draft Ute Lake Drought Management Plan was written in 2013, however it has not been completed yet.

The State of New Mexico engages in water planning for the state through regional water planning and a state water plan. The regional and state water plans are vital tools intended to guide water management in the state to best meet all the state's water users – now and into the future. Strategic water planning is best informed by accurate and reliable data and engaged citizens, which leads to better implementation. Quay County participates in planning for all or part of eight counties that comprise the Northeast New Mexico region. Strategies to meet future water demand in Quay County, as defined in the Northeast New Mexico Regional Water Plan²⁶, are:

- Municipal conservation
- Agricultural conservation
- Groundwater management
- Rangeland conservation and watershed management

²⁵ Northeast New Mexico Regional Water Plan

²⁶ Northeast New Mexico Regional Water Plan, 2007.

- Water rights protection
- Eastern New Mexico Rural Water System
- Infrastructure upgrades
- Planning for growth
- Dam construction

The New Mexico Rural Water Association provides training and technical assistance to its members. Municipal water systems within Quay County that are members of the New Mexico Rural Water Association include the Tucumcari Water System, the Village of Logan, the San Jon Water Supply, the House Water System, the Liberty MDWCA, and the RAD Water Users Cooperative.

Renewable Energy Resources

Renewable energy has become an important part of Quay County's economic development. Utility scale wind farms have developed in the southern part of the county.

NextEra Energy operates wind two wind farms in the county. The New Mexico Wind Energy Center, operated by a subsidiary of NextEra Energy, is located close to the town of House. It is the world's third largest wind energy project and generates up to 204 megawatts of power. All of its generated electricity is purchased by PNM. The New Mexico Wind Energy Repower Project is upgrading over 80 percent of equipment at the Wind Energy Center and will improve the productivity at the Wind Energy Center by 20 percent. The 50 MW Casa Mesa project will provide wind energy to Los Lunas' Facebook data center through PNM. New battery storage technology at Casa Mesa will allow this facility to feed the grid even when the turbines are not turning.

Caprock Wind Ranch near San Jon can generate up to 80 MW of power. The Caprock Wind Ranch sells electricity to Southwest Public Service, the Xcel Energy subsidiary that provides power to the Tucumcari area.

Apex Clean Energy's Grady Martin Wind project near Grady and west of Caprock is projected to produce 295 MW and has a tentative commercial operation date of August 2020. This project is located in Quay and Curry Counties.

Duke Energy's 25 MW Caprock Solar Project provides power to the Western Farmers Electric Cooperative and provides renewable energy for about 5,000 homes across Quay County. It has been recently approved for Phase 2 of the Caprock Solar Project to produce another 30 MW of power. Distribution and transmission capacity and storage limitations are limiting factors for growth of this industry in the county for the immediate future. Additionally, there is a source and use for natural gas supplied in Quay County, however there are transmission issues prohibiting the natural gas industry to grow in the County.

To support the growth of renewable resource development, the North American Wind Research and Training Center (NAWRTC) is located at the Mesalands Community College

and provides wind energy research and training. Formed in 2008, in collaboration with the National Renewable Energy Lab, Sandia National Labs, and New Mexico State University, it provides a blade maintenance complex and a 400' tall tower for education. The wind potential is high in Quay County, transmission challenges aside, and continues to provide an economic incentive for the County. Additionally, renewable energy resources help with the reduction of greenhouse gases and are an important part of the sustainability of the region and greater ecosystems.

LAND AND RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

Goal 1: Ensure sustainable water resources for agriculture and county citizens	2018 Public Input
Policy: Continue to support protection of Groundwater Resources, Alluvial Aquifer and High Plains Aquifer; Conchas & Ute Lakes	
Policy: Continue to follow Water Rights, Appropriation of Ground and Surface Water; Canadian River Compact; Conservancy and Irrigation Districts; and Endangered Species Act	
Action: Continue Maintenance and Operation of Conchas Reservoir	
Policy: Continue to explore water supply alternatives	
Action: Update Water Conservation Plans, Wellhead Protection Plans, Wastewater Reuse	
Policy: Support region-wide water collaboratives, plans and initiatives for water efficiency and conservation including supporting a regional pipeline connecting all county entities water systems	
Policy: Continue to follow water quality standards – Surface Water: Federal Clean Water Act; Groundwater: New Mexico Water Quality Act; Drinking Water: Safe Drinking Water Act	
Action: Create educational resources for citizens regarding water-pertinent information including brochures, website information, and pamphlets	
Policy: Plan and work with local entities to protect and wisely utilize available water resources for the long-term interest of the area	
Policy: Support communities in providing the necessary infrastructure needed to preserve and protect the ground water in this area	
Policy: Protect and preserve well water resources throughout the County	
Goal 2: Encourage and support the development of renewable energy development in Quay County	2010 Addenda
Action: Provide training and educational resources regarding wind, solar, hydroelectric, and bio-mass resources	
Policy: Promote and encourage renewable energy businesses and solar water heating	
Policy: Support smart growth-oriented land use planning to coincide with the common goal of reducing greenhouse gases	
Action: Promote use of renewable energy sources locally by retrofitting existing homes & promoting energy efficient new development	

Policy: Continue to support increasing transmission lines so the County can increase renewable resources for the market	
Goal 3: Represent local interests in the decisions and planning of state and federal government agencies within and adjacent to the county boundaries	2018 Public Input
Action: Involve local individuals and groups, including the county Natural Resource Committee and others who have expertise, experience or interest in resource and land use issues to assist the county's participation in state and federal agency decision making processes.	
Action: Support cooperators and government agencies in making sound natural resource and land use decisions that are scientifically based, legally defensible, sensitive to resource health, and responsive to multiple use interests while maintaining custom and culture practices of the county.	
Action: Work to ensure local input on state and federal resource and land use policy issues to protect private property rights, including current processes for the definition of "waters of the U.S.", review of endangered species and review of WQCC regulations.	
Action: Maintain partnerships with local, state, and federal agencies to provide technical assistance on resource and land use issues.	
Action: Work closely with and enter into coordination and joint planning efforts with local, state, and federal agencies to ensure that the natural resource and private property right goals of the Comprehensive Plan are included in these agencies' planning and management actions, regulations, and policies with regard to private, local government, state, and federal lands.	
Action: Encourage local, state, and federal agencies to share information that they routinely collect (i.e. geographic information system mapping and the assessment of new management practices and techniques) with the county, which will also share its data and information	

Statements of Policy

Policy: Continue to support protection of Groundwater Resources, Alluvial Aquifer and High Plains Aquifer; Conchas & Ute Lakes

Policy: Continue to follow Water Rights, Appropriation of Ground and Surface Water; Canadian River Compact; Conservancy and Irrigation Districts; and Endangered Species Act

Policy: Continue to explore water supply alternatives

Policy: Support region-wide water collaboratives, plans and initiatives for water efficiency and conservation including supporting a regional pipeline connecting all county entities water systems

Policy: Continue to follow water quality standards – Surface Water: Federal Clean Water Act; Groundwater: New Mexico Water Quality Act; Drinking Water: Safe Drinking Water Act

Policy: Plan and work with local entities to protect and wisely utilize available water resources for the long-term interest of the area

Policy: Support communities in providing the necessary infrastructure needed to preserve and protect the ground water in this area

Policy: Protect and preserve well water resources throughout the County

Policy: Promote and encourage renewable energy businesses and solar water heating

Policy: Support smart growth-oriented land use planning to coincide with the common goal of reducing greenhouse gases

Policy: Continue to support increasing transmission lines so the County can increase renewable resources for the market



County Development

Development of land is an important factor in balancing the vibrant economy, sustainability, and quality of life of the County. This section discusses land use regulations and the Quay County Subdivision Ordinance. Development must be balanced to ensure there are appropriate land uses in the County. Initiatives to accomplish this include preserving and protecting historical land uses including open spaces and agricultural lands, developing certain regions for new housing, restoring or removing abandoned and blighted buildings, and designating regions for the promotion of commercial growth. These initiatives will ensure that the county maintains a diverse mix of land uses that promote the economic development of the region, preserve the natural assets and lands, and provide a good quality of life for citizens.

Quay County Subdivision Ordinance states that:

§3.20.5 and 3.20.9 NMSA 1978 shall govern all subdivision of land not within the boundaries of municipalities but within the County. The County and a municipality shall exercise concurrent jurisdiction over the territory within the platting jurisdiction of both the County and the municipality.

The current predominant land uses are Shrub/Scrub (52.60%) and Herbaceous (38.48%) as shown in Table 13. 82.3% of Quay County is farmland. Much of the Shrub/ Scrub and Herbaceous land cover is used for cattle grazing.

Land in the county is predominantly privately owned. Almost all public land is Public Trust Land managed by the State of New Mexico for the benefit of the public schools. Very little land in the County is managed by Federal agencies.

Land uses are projected to remain similar to what they are presently. Some subdivision development is possible; however, the trend in municipalities in the county has been slow growth or a declining population. State requirements for proof of water supply has limited expansion of subdivisions that do not have access to a water system. Some land that has been used for grazing cattle has returned to shrub/scrub or herbaceous land cover, due to ranchers responding to the recent drought. Figures 9 and 10 show land cover and land ownership in Quay County.

Table 13: Land Cover Types

Land Cover Type	Percent in Quay County
Open Water	0.26%
Developed, Open Space	2.08%
Developed, Low Intensity	0.46%
Developed, Medium Intensity	0.14%
Developed, High Intensity	0.05%
Barren Land	0.41%
Deciduous Forest	0.14%
Evergreen Forest	2.10%
Mixed Forest	0.08%
Shrub/Scrub	31.31%
Herbaceous	39.12%
Hay/Pasture	0.59%
Cultivated Crops	22.75%

Figure 9: Quay County Land Cover

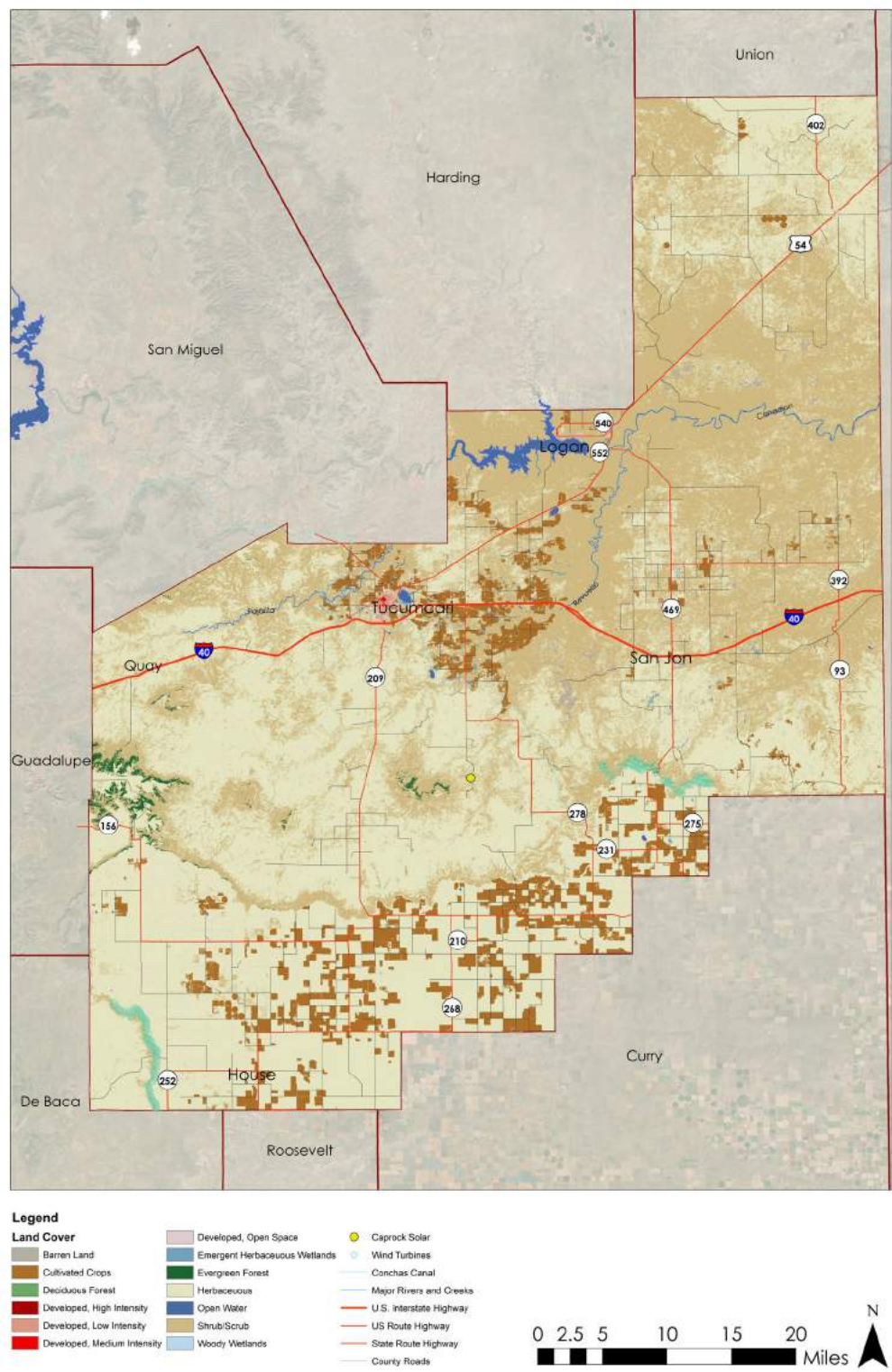
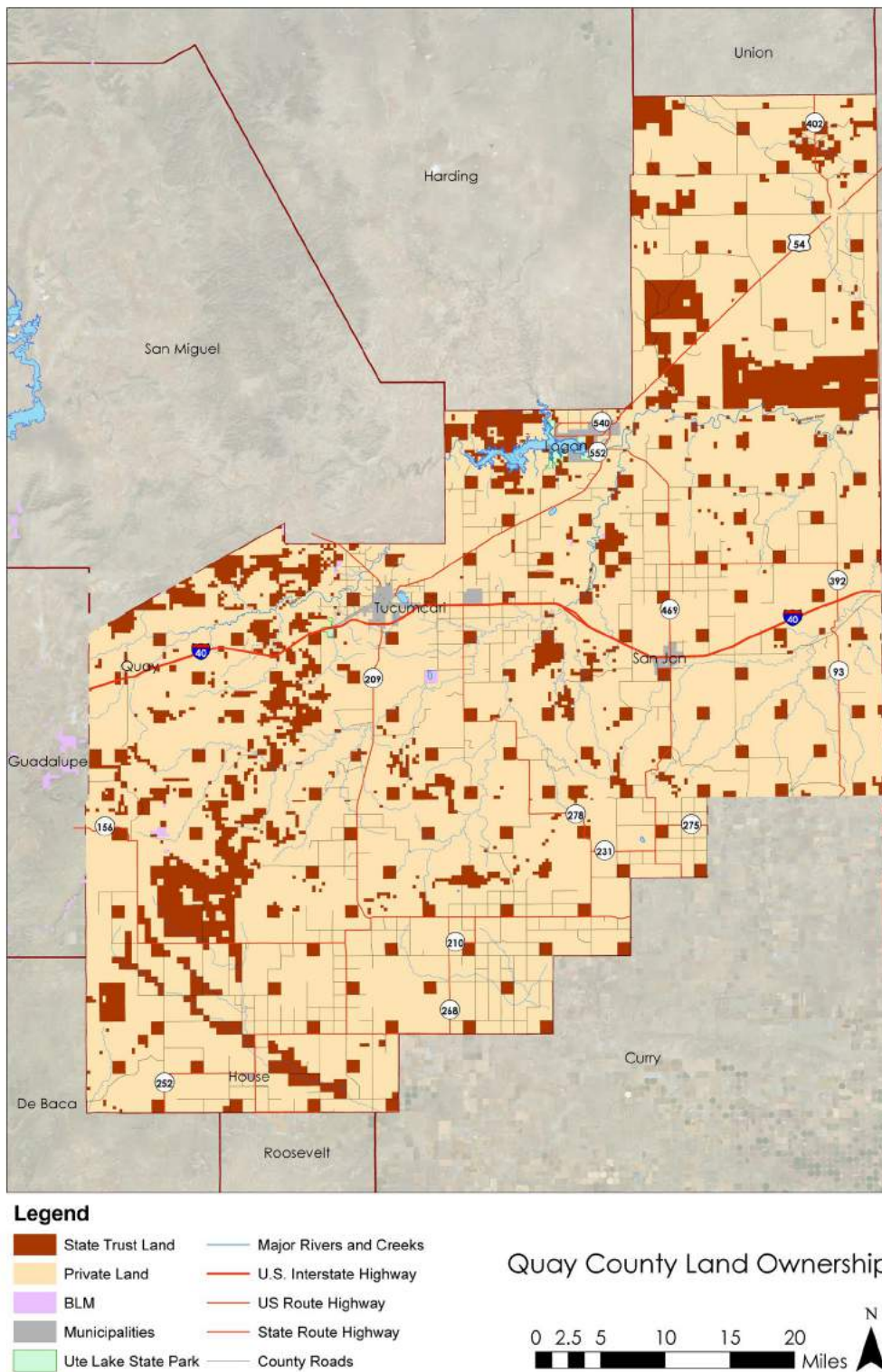


Figure 10: Quay County Land Ownership



COUNTY DEVELOPMENT

Goal 1: Reduce the output of Greenhouse Gases in Quay County	2010 Addenda
Policy: Encourage land use development patterns that reduce the need to travel to obtain goods and services and from home to work	
Policy: Promote strategic smart growth-oriented land use planning	
Policy: Encourage infill development and contain urban development in planned urban areas where basic services such as water, sewer, emergency services, police and fire protection and schools can be efficiently and economically provided	
Policy: Encourage mixed use development patterns which provide a broad range of uses, including residential, commercial, office, schools, parks, recreation, and open space uses	
Policy: Create clustered development areas to minimize development footprint, optimize open space, avoid site constraints (such as unstable slopes, rock outcroppings, mesas, wetlands or floodplains) and to preserve site amenities (such as stands of trees or scenic views)	
Policy: Seek a balanced mix of commercial and residential growth	
Policy: Establish an interconnected and diverse multi-modal transportation system including local and regional trail, roadway, and transit linkages	
Action: Consider solar access in site planning for governmental structures & development	
Action: Promote jobs to housing balance through the location of retail, service, and employment uses in new developments	
Action: Encourage the development of walkable streets and pedestrian friendly new developments, as supported by the Great Blocks on Main Street Initiative in Tucumcari	
Action: Provide incentives and detailed urban planning to attract infilling of vacant properties	
Policy: Promote clustered retail & service business to develop an attraction for both residents and visitors	
Goal 2: Maintain and enhance the County's rural character and culture	2005 Plan
Action: Identify agricultural areas critical for preservation	
Policy: Encourage preservation of scenic, historical, recreational, and agricultural lands	
Policy: Explore and support agricultural economic development opportunities	
Goal 3: Redevelop vacant, underutilized, and abandoned buildings wherever possible throughout the County	2005 Plan

Action: Assist communities in the County in efforts at redevelopment and reuse of abandoned buildings in good condition	
Action: Encourage the demolition and/or removal dilapidated buildings that are not historically significant or structurally viable	
Action: Work with the City of Tucumcari and the Greater Tucumcari Economic Development Corp. to implement strategies and projects of Main Street Master Plan	
Goal 4: Ensure the County maintains an adequate mix of land uses that protect property values and the health, safety, and welfare of County residents	2010 Addenda
Action: Complete the revision of the County subdivision regulations in 2011, as needed to deal with Quay County's unique development pattern	
Policy: Work with municipalities within the County to ensure that land use regulations at municipal/County interfaces are compatible and mutually beneficial.	
Policy: Work with municipalities to encourage adequate areas of zoned land for new economic development opportunities	

Statements of Policy

Policy: Encourage land use development patterns that reduce the need to travel to obtain goods and services and from home to work

Policy: Promote strategic smart growth-oriented land use planning

Policy: Encourage infill development and contain urban development in planned urban areas where basic services such as water, sewer, emergency services, police and fire protection and schools can be efficiently and economically provided

Policy: Encourage mixed use development patterns which provide a broad range of uses, including residential, commercial, office, schools, parks, recreation, and open space uses

Policy: Create clustered development areas to minimize development footprint, optimize open space, avoid site constraints (such as unstable slopes, rock outcroppings, mesas, wetlands or floodplains) and to preserve site amenities (such as stands of trees or scenic views)

Policy: Seek a balanced mix of commercial and residential growth

Policy: Establish an interconnected and diverse multi-modal transportation system including local and regional trail, roadway, and transit linkages

Policy: Promote clustered retail & service business to develop an attraction for both residents and visitors

Policy: Encourage preservation of scenic, historical, recreational, and agricultural lands

Policy: Explore and support agricultural economic development opportunities

Policy: Work with municipalities within the County to ensure that land use regulations at municipal/County interfaces are compatible and mutually beneficial.

Policy: Work with municipalities to encourage adequate areas of zoned land for new economic development opportunities



Economic Development

Economic development shapes a community and is defined by creating and retaining jobs, creating prosperity for the county's citizens. Coincidentally, a healthy economy enhances the county's ability to serve its residents through an increased tax base. Population and employment have declined in the last few decades and is projected to continue to decline, creating a challenging environment for the economic growth of the region. The goal of the Economic Development section of the comprehensive plan is to identify assets and resources to help the county thrive.

Largest economic sectors in terms of jobs are government, tourism, events, renewable energy, agriculture, retail trade, and health care and social services. These industries are promising for the economic development and expansion of the region. The largest employment sectors are: Government (21.47%), Agriculture (14.13%), Accommodation and Food Services (12.77%), Retail Trade (11.79%), and Health Care/Social Assistance (8.94%). The total number of jobs in 2016 was 4,047, which was a 5.7% decrease from 2010.

Renewable energy has potential for future growth in the region. See the Land and Resource Management section of this plan for more information on renewable energy development in Quay County.

Regional and Local Economic Development Organizations

Eastern Plains Council of Governments (EPCOG)

EPCOG is the regional planning entity charged with economic development planning for the a seven-county region that encompasses Curry, De Baca, Harding, Guadalupe, Roosevelt, Quay, and Union Counties. The Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) for the region was updated in 2017, identifies strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats that impact the regional economy. Land resources, alternative energy, agriculture, and tourism are strengths. However, out-migration, low income levels, and declines in key

industries, were identified as weaknesses. Value added agricultural products, alternative energy, and tourism are identified as key opportunities for economic growth.

East Central NM Stronger Economies Together

The East Central New Mexico SET region, which was established in 2016, includes Quay, Guadalupe, De Baca and Torrance Counties. The SET region has four priorities for economic development: workforce, tourism, health (especially EMS training), and agribusiness.

North East Economic Development Organization, Inc. (NEEDO)

NEEDO is a regional initiative in seven north and east New Mexico counties. It is funded through Stronger Economies Together (SET), a program of the US Department of Agriculture, which Quay County is also a member of. The strategies promoted through NEEDO recognize the attraction of the area's rich heritage, rural lifestyles and "small town" values. The regional economic goals are 1) increase development and growth; 2) create a skilled workforce and 3) increase tourism. Target industries for economic development include:

- Agriculture and Added Value
- Back Office Support
- Digital Media
- Distribution
- Warehouse Operations
- Manufacturing
- Oil and Gas Extraction
- Renewable Energy
- Retail
- Tourism

Greater Tucumcari Economic Development Corporation

The EDC is responsible for business development in Quay County and the municipalities in the county. They focus on recruiting, expanding and retaining businesses that provide base economic jobs in the county. They also help coordinate efforts to "build a better product" through certification as a work ready community, high quality infrastructure and facilities, and business friendly policies and incentives.

The EDC identifies prospective businesses and projects, with a focus on base employment. Some of these businesses and projects are eligible for Local Economic Development Act funding. The EDC works with these businesses to identify financing options and potential markets to enable them to locate or expand in Quay County.

Target industries for recruitment, expansion and retention are

- Logistics
- Retail
- Energy – Renewable and traditional

- Value added agriculture and foods

Tucumcari/Quay County Chamber of Commerce

The Chamber of Commerce represents over 100 member businesses, institutions, government entities, and individuals in Quay County. It sponsors events and promotes local businesses through visitor information, partnerships with allied organizations, advocacy, sponsorship of business workshops, and promotional materials and advertising.

Tucumcari MainStreet

The Tucumcari MainStreet program is dedicated to the economic, physical, social and cultural revitalization of Tucumcari's historic downtown. The annual Fired Up Festival is a project of Tucumcari MainStreet as are the renovation of the historic railroad depot and Great Blocks landscape improvements.

Small Business Development Center (SBDC)

The Small Business Development Center at Mesalands Community College facilitates entrepreneurial education and business assistance to promote community-based business development. As part of a network of SBDCs in New Mexico, the center fosters cooperative relationships with business assistance providers statewide. The SBDC serves existing and potential businesses in Quay, Union, and Harding Counties.

Community Assets

In addition to a strong group of economic development organizations, Quay County has assets that appeal to businesses and families seeking a home base.

The strongest community asset in Quay County is its people. Retaining youth is a top priority for rural communities throughout the United States. Quay County is fortunate because its young families are active in creating the community that they want. They are invigorating local government and local businesses, creating their own business opportunities, and organizing recreational activities and events. The County can be instrumental in supporting these entrepreneurial your families who have chosen to make Quay County their home.

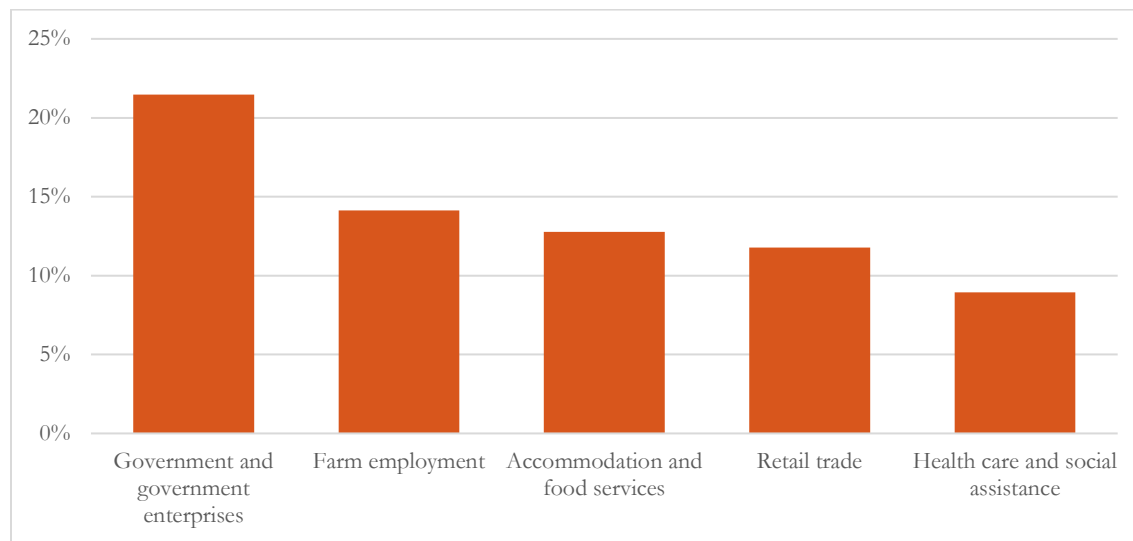
Access to education and healthcare are often a priority for people evaluating relocating, and Quay County has both.

Mesalands Community College provides college level general and technical education. Access to higher education is a resource for both residents and businesses. Quay County is a Certified Work Ready Community that is actively engaged in maintaining its status. It was certified in November 2016 through 2018. Currently, 314 people hold the ACT National Career Readiness Certificate in Quay County. Only two counties in the state are currently certified.

Local health care facilities are also important for businesses and their employees. Dr. Dan C Trigg Memorial Hospital and other healthcare facilities in Tucumcari provide access to comprehensive medical care and some specialty services. The hospital is a County-owned facility and the County has a contract with Presbyterian Health Services to operate it. Presbyterian Medical Group also provides primary care services in Logan. Presbyterian Medical Services (PMS) operate the county owned clinic and Presbyterian Health Group operates the clinic in Logan.

Major Employment Sectors

Figure 11: Largest Employment Sectors



The County government does not always play a *direct* role in effecting the economic development of the region. However, it can issue IRBs, build infrastructure, provide information and education, and fund workforce training. Additionally, the County can support and encourage economic development programs, provide funding for the Economic Development Cooperation, collaborate with local municipalities, create policies that encourage economic development, and provide resources for entrepreneurs and businesses. Quay County has authorized the issuance and sale of IRBs, supported projects through LEDA funds and provides funding for the Economic Development Corporation.

Travel and Tourism

Quay County's economy has been historically supported by tourism and visitors. The historic Route 66 runs through San Jon and Tucumcari within Quay County and has brought many tourists interested in experiencing the route. Tucumcari and San Jon have developed industries surrounding the historic Rt. 66 including restaurants, fuel stops, museums, and hotels. There is a rich archeological and cultural history in the region. Other museums and attractions that exist in Quay County include the Mesalands Dinosaur Museum, the Tucumcari Historical Museum, the Route 66 Museum, and the Historic Train Depot in Tucumcari. The Meslands

Dinosaur Museum highlights the rich deposits of plant and animal fossils in the region and attracts approximately 14,000 visitors every year from all of the county and world. The Tucumcari Historical Museum is set in a 1903 school house and exhibits many rich historical artifacts from Quay County and its past. The Historic Train Depot originally built in 1926 houses the Tucumcari Railroad Museum.

Iconic restaurants and hotels along Rt. 66 attract visitors from around the world. The famous “Tucumcari Tonight” Blue Swallow Hotel has been serving travelers since 1939. It provides a unique, historic experience right along Rt. 66 along with other historic hotels and restaurants.

Ute Lake is an attractive tourist destination and resort community. The lake attracts over 250,000 visitors per year, offering recreation opportunities, events, and real estate opportunities. Ute Lake State Park provides boating and other water sports along the 13-mile long reservoir trails, wildlife viewing, picnicking and a variety of camping experiences. Vacation homes are located in Logan and on the south shore of the lake. Development is beginning to recover from a slowdown following the recession of 2010. Additionally, other natural features that are tourist attractions include: Conchas Lake State Park, Tucumcari Lake and Wildlife Area, and multiple golf courses.

Tucumcari, the largest municipality in Quay County attracts many tourists and visitors passing through the region. There are multiple initiatives to restore and revitalize historic Tucumcari's Main Street as a tourist attraction. Tucumcari MainStreet, located in the historic railroad depot, promotes arts, new businesses, and events. There are also new businesses relocating to the historic downtown.

The arts in Quay County are an important and active part of Quay County's tourism. There are over 100 murals in Tucumcari alone. The Eastern NM Arts & Cultural Center is a hub in the county highlighting arts and culture of the region. Historic theatres in the region include the Historic Princess Theatre and the Odeon Theatre.

Key events in the region include Disc Golf Tournaments at 5 Mile Park, golf tournaments at the two golf courses in the County, the Tucumcari Performance Bull Test, Fired Up (an event sponsored by Tucumcari MainStreet), the New Mexico Showcase Music Festival, festivals celebrating Route 66, Rawhide Days, Bass Tournaments, and the County Fair. Additional events are scheduled periodically, and the greatest factor determining the number and frequency of events is volunteer manpower. Events are an opportunity to engage more community members in promoting Quay County.

The possibility of a racetrack and casino in Tucumcari is under consideration. The racetrack and casino would be located by Interstate 40 and Route 66. The racetrack has been at this location has been supported for over a decade. Most recently, Coronado Partners submitted an application to locate New Mexico's sixth racetrack and Casino in Tucumcari. Quay County is in competition with other communities for the racetrack, and the award will be announced by the end of 2018 by the New Mexico Racing Commission.

Because tourism is already a key industry in the region, support for initiatives for arts, events, and cultural and historic attractions is an important continuing effort for the County. The County can play a key role in marketing the unique events, culture, arts, and history in the region through its own web presence and social media as well as its participation in local and state marketing initiatives. New Mexico True has recently visited the region and written articles on the County and on Tucumcari. Publicity should be encouraged as it helps put Quay County on the radar for visitors to New Mexico and the Southwest.

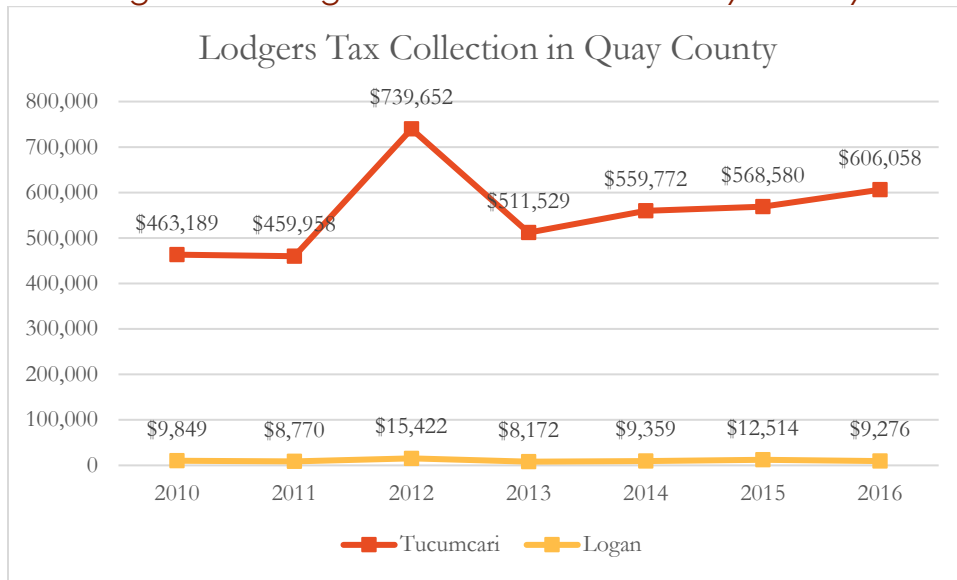
Tourism related industries include outdoor recreation and the manufacture of outdoor recreation equipment. Five-Mile Park's renovation plan, which is being done with technical assistance from the National Park Service, is an example of a facility that can promote tourism. The local disc golf community has developed a disc golf course at the park and has hosted regional tournaments there.

Tucumcari, with the support of Quay County and other stakeholders, has invested in facilities that promote the arts, culture and history of the region. Projects include a new roof to begin the process of renovating the historic Princess Theater and design of streetscape improvements on the south side of Main Street from 1st to 3rd Streets through the MainStreet Great Blocks program.

Gross receipts from Accommodation and Food Service and Lodger's Tax Receipts are indicators of travel and tourism activity. Even though overall gross receipts per capita in 2017 were 76% of the state average, Quay County gross receipts per capita for Accommodation and Food Service were 44% higher than the state average. The county's Route 66 history and location on I-40 contribute to the higher than average impact of travel and highway-oriented businesses on the local economy.

Twelve counties in New Mexico collect lodger's tax, but Quay County does not. However, Tucumcari and Logan collect Lodgers Tax at 5% and 3% respectively. Lodgers tax collections peaked in both Logan and Tucumcari in FY2012. These tax revenues indicate visits to the county by tourists and other travelers. With the exception of the FY2012 increase, and another spike in Logan in 2015, Lodgers Tax collections have climbed steadily in Tucumcari and remained steady in Logan.

Figure 12. Lodgers Tax Collection in Quay County



Agriculture

Agriculture is a large part of Quay County's history and continues to be an important part of the culture and economy in the region. Drought and a shift in the economic demands of the County and greater region have affected agricultural production in recent years. Similar to trends in Quay County, the total amount of agricultural lands and number of farms in the United States has decreased in the last 5 years according to the U.S. Census. The number of farms in Quay County have decreased by 13% from 636 in 2007 to 553 in 2012. They are projected to continue to decrease. Government payments have increased by 25% to Quay County farms, however the market value of products sold has increased by 2.5%.

The Arch Hurley Conservation District, the local Soil and Water Conservation District, and the NMSU Quay County Extension are additional programs within the County that support agricultural initiatives. Value added agriculture is important to Quay County. These programs are vital to the economic vitality of the region because of the impact of water on the agricultural sustainability of the economy.

The 10-12 years of drought has greatly affected the farmers and economy of the region. Ranching is the primary industry in Quay County. Most ranchers in the county raise cattle to 700 lbs. and then sell them to feed lots, primarily in Texas, (however, there is a small feed yard near Tucumcari). However, some ranchers have established businesses selling grass fed beef to the consumer. There is no local meat processing facility, so meat is processed in Ft. Sumner or in west Texas.

Hay, Alfalfa, Corn, and Forage Crops are the primary crops in the County. Additionally, the soil in the county is higher quality than other regions in the state. T-4 is the largest ranch in the County.

There are multiple key initiatives in the County regarding agriculture. The Manure to Methane project is a bio-fuels co-op currently in the financing stage. Additionally, a proposed aquaponics business could be a strong addition to the regional agricultural initiatives. There are also grower's co-ops and farmer's markets promoting the sales of local agricultural products. One of which is the Quay County Food Shed Co-op with goals that include development of more agri-business, increasing access to locally grown food, and improving the area's health and well-being. The co-op also addresses opportunities for education for young farmers and people interested in learning about agriculture, providing opportunities for farmers to lease land from owners for agricultural purposes. Additionally, New Mexico State University teaches classes, provides research facilities, and hosts the Tucumcari feed efficiency for bull test.

In order to increase agricultural production, Quay County can support the preservation of open spaces and agricultural lands and provide support to the farming community. Also, the County can support initiatives to increase youth interest in agriculture.

Retail Trade

New Mexico taxes businesses based on gross receipts rather than sales alone, so local gross receipts data are an indicator of economic activity in New Mexico communities. Gross receipts from retail trade in Quay County totaled nearly \$167 million in 2017. Retail trade is the largest single industry type generating gross receipts in the county, accounting for just over half of economic activity for which gross receipts are reported.²⁷ On a per capita basis, gross receipts from retail trade in Quay County are about two-thirds higher than the New Mexico average - \$20,000 per person in Quay County compared to \$12,000 per person in New Mexico. This is in spite of overall per capita gross receipts that is only 76% of the state average. It should be noted that sales that are exempt from gross receipts tax, including unprocessed agricultural products, may be a large part of the economy, but are not reported in gross receipts data.

Within the retail sector, grocery stores account for about 45% of gross receipts, and gasoline sales account for about 34% of gross receipts. Ideally local businesses would be more diverse and offer a full range of goods and services to local residents and visitors.

²⁷ Sales that are exempt from gross receipts tax, including sales of unprocessed agricultural products, may be a significant part of the economy, but are not reported in gross receipts data.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Goal 1: Create a thriving, local and diversified economy within Quay County	2018 Public Input
Action: Retain and attract new businesses through support of the Greater Tucumcari EDC efforts to attract and grow small businesses.	
Action: Create and promote more diversified job opportunities through participation in local and regional economic development organizations and support of Local Economic Development Act projects.	
Action: Increase County gross receipts	
Policy: Promote the development of renewable energy resources	
Policy: Work toward a solution for transmission of energy from wind farms	
Action: Attract and retain youth and younger generations by supporting programs such as mentoring young farmers, conferring with Quay County's young families on their needs and aspirations, and supporting education and training to fill jobs in Quay County.	
Policy: Support the growth of tourism initiatives, including 5-Mile Park, outdoor recreation and recreation, the proposed racetrack and casino, and related manufacturing.	
Policy: Promote arts, culture and history in the region through collaboration with Tucumcari MainStreet, municipalities in the county and local museums and arts organizations.	
Policy: Support events to attract visitors and provide entertainment for citizens. As part of this effort, work with other organizations to recruit and train volunteers for these events.	
Action: Increase marketing initiatives for the region through website, email lists, brochures, flyers, and pamphlets	
Policy: Preserve open spaces and agricultural lands	
Policy: Recruit businesses and industries appropriate for Quay County and ensure that there are adequate areas to locate them	
Action: Work with the Mesalands Small Business Center, GTEDC and New Mexico Economic Development Department to develop a program that provides assistance to and fosters small businesses and locally owned businesses	
Action: Continue to work with the New Mexico Economic Development Department and Mesalands Community College to increase job training and entrepreneurship programs in Quay County	
Policy: Collaborate with County municipalities, the Tucumcari Chamber of Commerce and economic development organizations to promote area attractions	
Policy: Partner with area economic development organizations to promote the economic development potential of the entire region	
Action: Continue to partner with Mesalands Community College on economic development and training programs and assistance	
Action: Improve rail service to the Tucumcari Industrial Park	
Goal 2: Attract new businesses to Quay County	2005 Plan
Policy: Provide the infrastructure necessary to accommodate new businesses moving into the County	

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Policy: Collaborate with local communities and municipalities to ensure that public infrastructure, such as water and sewer systems and road networks, is adequate to support economic development and growth throughout the County

Policy: Support efforts to develop information technologies and to expand and maintain high speed internet access to all areas of the County

Statements of Policy

Policy: Promote the development of renewable energy resources

Policy: Work toward a solution for transmission of energy from wind farms

Policy: Support the growth of tourism initiatives, including 5-Mile Park, outdoor recreation and recreation, the proposed racetrack and casino, and related manufacturing.

Policy: Promote arts, culture and history in the region through collaboration with Tucumcari MainStreet, municipalities in the county and local museums and arts organizations.

Policy: Support events to attract visitors and provide entertainment for citizens. As part of this effort, work with other organizations to recruit and train volunteers for these events.

Policy: Preserve open spaces and agricultural lands

Policy: Recruit businesses and industries appropriate for Quay County and ensure that there are adequate areas to locate them

Policy: Collaborate with County municipalities, the Tucumcari Chamber of Commerce and economic development organizations to promote area attractions

Policy: Partner with area economic development organizations to promote the economic development potential of the entire region

Policy: Provide the infrastructure necessary to accommodate new businesses

Policy: Collaborate with local communities and municipalities to ensure that public infrastructure, such as water and sewer systems and road networks, is adequate to support economic development and growth throughout the County

Policy: Support efforts to develop information technologies and to expand and maintain high speed internet access to all areas of the County

Hazard Mitigation



This section identifies possible hazards in the county that are natural and human-created including droughts, floods, wildfires, and hazardous materials. This section outlines strategies to reduce and/or eliminate these hazards and potential side effects.

Quay County has adopted an updated Hazard Mitigation Plan in June 2018. The County has an Emergency Operations Plan in place to ensure coordination among area response agencies during emergency situations. This plan is reviewed annually and updated as necessary. The Emergency Operations Plan's purpose is to save lives, reduce injuries and preserve property in the case of a disaster. The plan "identifies the existing natural, manmade and other emergency hazards having the potential of causing a disaster affecting a portion, or all of the population and area of Quay County. The county is particularly susceptible to manmade disasters due to extensive hazardous material transportation through the county on the highways and many miles of railroad. Tornadoes, range fires and floods are also major hazards." Additionally, "the plan addresses disaster planning and preparation, response, and recovery. It provides for an overall, coordinated, integrated countywide disaster management organization with each municipality providing disaster management within its own jurisdiction. Direction and control during a disaster is provided through a coordinated control element operating from an Emergency Operations Center."²⁸

Drought

Drought has been an ongoing issue in Quay County in the past few decades. Droughts effect agriculture, by reducing the amount of available water for non-irrigated areas including rangeland for cattle. Additionally, drought increases the risk for wildfire due to the dry conditions of the landscape. Flash flooding is also a possible increased side effect of drought because of soils lacking the ability to absorb water, creating large runoffs and erosion. Over a long term, drought can affect food supply and landscapes. Quay County is currently in D3

²⁸ All Hazard Emergency Operations Plan for Quay County and City of Tucumcari

(Extreme Drought) intensity of drought, according to the United States Drought Monitor. Precipitation is currently projected to stay below normal in Quay County.

There is a Northeast New Mexico Regional Water Plan in place that "provide[s] new and changed information related to water planning in the Northeast New Mexico region and to evaluate projections of future water supply and demand for the region using a common technical approach applied to all 16 planning regions statewide." This document is used by Quay County to inform drought management procedures.

Floods

Because of the drought, floods are not foreseen to be a hazard in the near future. However, historically, floods have occurred in Quay County. The most previous flood occurred on July 20, 1972 when the San Jon Creek flooded into San Jon, causing some families to flee their homes. Tucumcari Lake has also flooded the City of Tucumcari. The Lake floods have caused damage to agricultural lands, highways, and other properties nearby.

Wildfires

Quay County completed a Community Wildfire Protection Plan in 2008. Because Quay County is located near grasslands and some forests, it is susceptible to wildfire events. Wildfire risk is especially high when drought conditions are present, as they are currently. The Wildfire Protection Plan outlines recommendations for wildfire risk reduction including incorporating action plans and monitoring strategies for reducing fuels and structural ignitability, improving fire response capabilities, and administering public outreach and education.

HAZARD MITIGATION

Goal 1: Reduce hazardous risks in Quay County	2018 Public Input
Policy: Collaborate with local and state governments for possible mitigation strategies	
Policy: Reduce hazardous fuels in the region for wildfire mitigation	
Policy: Educate citizens on measures to take to reduce hazards and ignitability of structures	
Policy: Educate citizens on water use techniques to eliminate waste	
Action: Produce and distribute brochures, web-based information, flyers, presentations for citizens regarding hazards, water use techniques, and eliminating waste	

Statements of Policy

Policy: Collaborate with local and state governments for possible mitigation strategies

Policy: Reduce hazardous fuels in the region for wildfire mitigation

Policy: Educate citizens on measures to take to reduce hazards and ignitability of structures

Policy: Educate citizens on water use techniques to eliminate waste

Community Services & Public Facilities



Quay County government provides services and public facilities to citizens to allow for a good quality of life and a sustainable community. Services that the County provides include emergency management, sheriff's services, maintenance, roads, detention services, district court and the public fairgrounds.

The County Clerk maintains legal documents and administers all elections. The County Assessor appraises property for taxes, and the Treasurer collects all monies for the County. The County DWI program monitors people who have been convicted of misdemeanor offenders and DWI. The office provides best practices in DWI prevention and treatment. County indigent funds pay indigent medical expenses.

In Quay County, 23.9% of the population are individuals below the poverty level. Because the population is aging, more seniors will need emergency services, medical treatment and housing. Senior services are currently managed by individual municipalities.

The County currently does not provide waste pickup services, County landfill or Animal Control services. The County contracts with two private companies that provide waste pick-up services. The City of Tucumcari currently manages the County Landfill.

There are 9 rural fire districts that serve Quay County currently. Each district provides firefighting services and four of the districts provide emergency medical services. The departments are staffed by volunteers.

The County provides detention services and can spend up to \$2000 a month or over on housing a single person in the County Detention Center. Over \$1 million is spent every year on detention services. This significantly large amount of the County budget that is spent on detention services limits what other services the County can provide.

The County's Geographic Information System (GIS) department provides rural addressing services which is helpful in emergency management and a data resource for the county. Additionally, the GIS department is working on mapping infrastructure in the county to provide better records.

The telecommunications system is being improved in the County. Currently, there is poor radio service roughly 10 miles outside of Tucumcari. Sheriff deputies currently use cell phones once outside this area. Better telecommunications for community services including the police and sheriff has been identified as a need. Better internet service is also desired for residents and businesses. Century Link and Plateau provide internet service. Plateau Internet provides wireless access in Tucumcari. Plateau provides land lines and is expanding to provide fiber optic lines for fast Internet and TV services. They also recently purchase Comcast cable services in Tucumcari to increase TV and fiber to residents in Tucumcari.

The County is required to house and pay to maintain the District Courts' facility. It is also required to provide housing for the DA and NM Health office for the state. The County provides court services through the Tenth Judicial District. It is the smallest District Court in the State with only one District Judge that travels to two outlying counties. It is a court of general jurisdiction with the District Judge hearing all case types.

The County does not manage any parks however it does manage the Quay County Fairgrounds. The Fairgrounds hosts multiple large fairs throughout the year. The County collaborates with New Mexico State University, Quay County Extension Office for use of the Fairgrounds for various events. The County provided for part of the County Extension Office's salaries and the operation and maintenance for the building.

The County owns the Dan C. Trigg Memorial Hospital, which is operated by Presbyterian Healthcare Services. Presbyterian Medical Services operates the Quay County Family Health Center in Tucumcari on behalf of the county and the Quay County Home Visiting Program in Tucumcari. Additionally, a Presbyterian Medical Group (PMG) Family Medicine clinic is located in Logan.

For improved County Services, County government can work toward providing more varied and higher quality community services to encourage families and seniors to live in Quay County comfortably. Additionally, the County can promote quality healthcare growth to support senior citizens and new families. Increasing access and education regarding workforce development and job training opportunities will also allow the citizens to have a higher quality of life and stronger likelihood of remaining in the region. Additionally, improving upon and supporting the development of better-quality public facilities is important for County citizens. Finally, providing increased collaboration and cooperation with municipalities regarding community services is an important step in maintaining positive relationships and partnerships for shared community services and ultimately, a better quality of life for the citizens of Quay County.

The County's Top 5 ICIP projects for 2019 and total costs are listed below:

1. Quay County Detention Center renovations, \$300,000
2. Quay County AR Improvements, \$750,000
3. Rodeo/ Fairgrounds, \$500,000
4. Quay Rd. 63/ Quay Rd. AP Improvements, \$750,000
5. Bridge #1042 and #1044 on Historic Rt. 66, \$3,000,000

The County's Top 6 ICIP projects for 2020 and total costs are listed below:

1. Quay Road AJ, \$40,000
2. Asset Management Procedure Plan, \$50,000
3. Ute Reservoir Watershed Restoration, \$500,000
4. Detention Center Equipment, \$175,000
5. Dump Truck Equipment, \$350,000
6. Courthouse Window Replacement, \$400,000

The County's Top 3 ICIP projects for 2021 and total costs are listed below:

1. Dozer Equipment, \$750,000
2. County Vehicles, \$300,000
3. Pneumatic Roller, \$170,000

A list of facilities, programs, and incentives that the County manages is included in Appendix B.

COMMUNITY SERVICES & PUBLIC FACILITIES

Goal 1: Encourage families, younger people and seniors to live in Quay County	2018 Public Input
Policy: Promote quality healthcare growth to support senior citizens and families	
Policy: Provide more diverse and higher quality community services	
Policy: Provide increased collaboration and cooperation with municipalities regarding community services	
Action: Improve public facilities & complete facility asset management system & operate	
Policy: Provide adequately equipped and responsive Law Enforcement and Fire/EMS Departments to serve residents, visitors, and businesses in the County	
Action: Continue to provide support to both the County hospital and the medical clinic in Tucumcari.	
Action: Move County records to GIS to allow future planning efforts to mine the data and compare special elements and costs. Implement a program to capture new data during the permitting process, property sale and improvement. Update records to include attributes that will promote efficiency, economic development and public safety.	

Statements of Policy

Policy: Promote quality healthcare growth to support senior citizens and families

Policy: Provide more diverse and higher quality community services

Policy: Provide increased collaboration and cooperation with municipalities regarding community services

Policy: Provide adequately equipped and responsive Law Enforcement and Fire/EMS Departments to serve residents, visitors, and businesses in the County

Transportation, Roads & Infrastructure



Quay County government provides road and infrastructure maintenance for the entirety of the County. Currently, the County does not provide transportation services or County-maintained bicycle facilities.

Quay County's GIS department maintains a road data layer primarily for the purposes of emergency response. As a result, the road dataset is complete in terms of mapping, however the data associated with the roads is limited for the purposes of asset management.

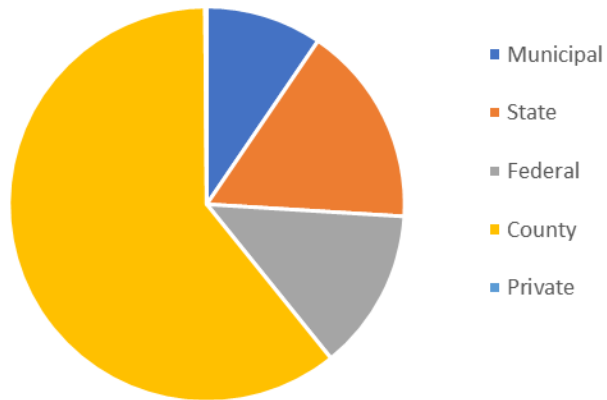
Approximately 1,100 miles of roadways are maintained by the County and the majority of them are not paved.

Based on the GIS data set, the road ownership within the County is presented in the following table and chart:

<i>OWNERSHIP</i>	<i>LENGTH (MILES)</i>
<i>County</i>	1,099
<i>State</i>	298
<i>Federal</i>	240
<i>Municipal</i>	172
<i>Private</i>	3
<i>Total:</i>	1,812

Table 1. Ownership of Roads in Quay County

Road Ownership



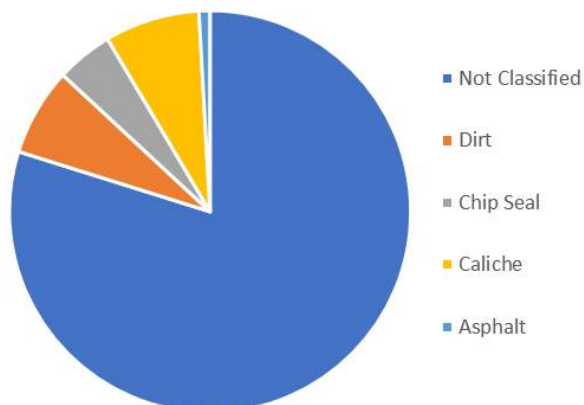
Distribution of Road Ownership in Quay County

Of the 1,099 miles of roads maintained by the county, there are a variety of surface types. The lengths by surface type is presented in the table and chart below.

<i>SURFACE</i>	LENGTH (MILES)
<i>Not classified</i>	878
<i>Dirt</i>	78
<i>Chip Seal</i>	50
<i>Caliche</i>	84
<i>Asphalt</i>	10
<i>Total:</i>	1.099

Table 2. County Road Surface Types

County Road Surface Types



Distribution of Road Surface Types

Roadway Maintenance

The Quay County road department provides road and infrastructure maintenance for all County roadways and these road maintenance activities are documented in a work order system.

As noted above, the majority of the roadways are unpaved and the road department has an excellent process to maintain these unpaved roadways. They have fewer paved roads and their present maintenance capabilities make it more difficult to maintain the paved roadways.

Some other counties are moving toward upgrading higher traffic unpaved roads to become chip seal roadways since paved roadways only need to be chip sealed once every five years and unpaved roads need to be bladed two to four times per year. The labor-saving cost would be significant, but only if the road department can cost effectively procure the equipment or services to chip seal the roadways.

Following discussions with the Road Superintendent, he states it is less costly to maintain unpaved roadways than his existing chip seal roadways. For this reason, the Asset Management focus will be on the preservation and improvement of only the existing paved roadways.

Level of Service

The County road maintenance department is responsible for maintaining the county roads to an acceptable level of service. One of the challenges experienced by the road department is when a few citizens complain about unpaved roadway conditions which still meet general quality standards. The road department acts to provide additional work on the “good condition” roadway to satisfy the citizen complaint, but this is not a good use of the road department resources. In addition, this creates a possible “discrimination” system, where some roadways are maintained to a higher quality than others.

It is recommended that a level of service document be developed which will allow the road department and County Commissioners to have a consistent standard regarding when an unpaved road needs to be graded and when it does not. The new level of service standard could also include sections on snow removal in inclement weather and assisting local fire departments in creating a fire line to contain and extinguish grass fires in those situations.

The County is completing an Asset Management Plan, and more specifically Phase One for the Road Asset Management Plan this year, to summarize assets, gaps in management, and solutions for management within the County. When funding is available, the Phase Two Asset Management Plan can proceed. Phase Two work will include condition rating of all county

paved roadways and development of maintenance, rehabilitation and reconstruction options based on a variety of budget scenarios. Phase Two can also include assistance with the development of the Level of Service document for unpaved roadways.

Bridges

Quay County has received inspection reports from the NMDOT on eleven bridges owned by the County. Some of these bridges are located on Route 66 in Quay County which was transferred from the NMDOT to the County several years ago.

The inspection reports indicate that although most of the bridges need some work, only two bridges (1042 and 1044) are listed as structurally deficient and have a 3 rating instead of the minimum 5 rating needed. All the other bridges are rated from 5-7 on the structural category.

The NMDOT recommended replacement of bridges 1042 and 1044 and bridge construction cost estimates totaling \$3,000,000 have been provided for this potential work. Because of the condition of these bridges and the associated documentation, it is recommended that a plan be developed to address these bridges.

The information provided by the NMDOT shows that all eleven of these bridges are rated as not being eligible for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Properties (NRHP). This information should help reduce some of the costly environmental and historical preservation requirements associated with the construction process on older facilities of this type.

In the past, the NMDOT has indicated there is no grant money available for repairs on County Bridges. Consequently, other funding sources for the bridge repairs would need to be sought.

One new potential source of Federal grant funding is called the Build Grant. Other NM communities are pursuing this funding however the process is very competitive. With the Build Grant rating criteria, the more preliminary planning, environmental or design work that has been done on the project, the higher rating a project will receive. To be rated high enough to receive funds, a local agency probably will need to have the project design and the environmental assessment work close to completion.

The build grant also requires a 20% matching share from the local agency for the construction work. With a construction cost of \$3,000,000 and a bid assistance, construction inspection and construction administration cost that totals \$250,000 (with NMGR), the local matching share would be \$ 650,000.

Using an estimated environmental and project design cost of \$250,000, when combined with the construction related costs noted above, the total out of pocket cost for reconstruction of these two bridges would be approximately \$950,000. However, it should be noted that

NMDOT Bridge design funding assistance and Legislative Funds could potentially be pursued to defray a share of those costs.

Other Transportation Improvements

To improve transportation, roads, and infrastructure services, Quay County can improve access to walking and bicycling routes, support public transportation initiatives, support education regarding eco-friendly and affordable transportation options.

TRANSPORTATION, ROADS & INFRASTRUCTURE	
Goal 1: Ensure adequate infrastructure is in place and maintained throughout the County to foster growth and development.	2018 Plan
Action: Continue to participate in the NMDOT RPO process and coordinate transportation improvements and maintenance regionally to ensure the health, safety, security, and welfare of county residents.	
Action: Acquire funding and begin work to complete the Phase 2 Asset Management work for the roadway, bridge and building asset networks.	
Action: Pursue creation of a Level of Service document for roadway maintenance to guide consistent and cost-effective maintenance on county roadways for all county residents.	
Action: Pursue a State and Federal grant funding strategy to properly maintain and/or replace deficient County Bridges.	
Policy: Ensure that the County's road system is compatible with existing and proposed land uses	
Policy: Continue use of NMDOT grants & programs and other available State and Federal funding sources for needed road improvements and maintenance throughout the County.	

Statements of Policy

Policy: Ensure that the County's road system is compatible with existing and proposed land uses

Policy: Continue use of NMDOT grants & programs and other available State and Federal funding sources for needed road improvements and maintenance throughout the County.

Housing



The housing section identifies existing housing conditions, analyzes how well housing meets the needs of the citizens, and provides long term goals. Quay County does not directly manage housing in the County, however, County government can support initiatives to create more diversified housing. Currently, roughly 1/3 of the county population are in public housing. There is a higher demand for senior housing, as the population is aging and will continue to need viable housing options. Additionally, there are 3,174 occupied housing units in Quay County, where 2,207 are owner-occupied and 967 are renter-occupied. In Quay County, there are 2,375 housing units that are vacant; 62 are for rent, 54 are for sale, 10 are sold- not occupied, 1,781 are for seasonal, recreational, or occasional use, 6 are for migrant workers and 462 are other vacancies. 86.6% of the housing in Quay County is built before 1989. Only 0.3% of the housing in Quay County is built after 2010.

The median gross rent in Quay County between 2012-2016 was \$484. The median selected monthly owner costs with a mortgage were \$903. The median value of owner-occupied housing units in 2012-2016 was \$72,600. There were 5,545 housing units in 2016 which reduced from 2010, when there was 5,569 housing units. Currently, there are no new housing developments occurring.

Tucumcari Housing Authority manages affordable housing in the city. "The Authority manages five public housing projects consisting of 90 units. In addition to managing the City's public housing units, another key responsibility of the Tucumcari Housing Authority is the administration of several subsidized housing programs that fall under the umbrella of the Housing and Urban Development Agency's Section 8 program and the US Department of Agriculture. In total, there are approximately 100 subsidized units in Tucumcari, mostly made up of 1 to 2-bedroom apartments. The Authority also assists in rehabilitation and homeownership."²⁹

Some housing subdivisions have been created, however, near Logan, housing development was stalled due to the economic downturn in 2010. By promoting more housing options in the region that are diverse and affordable to different income levels, citizens' quality of life will improve in the region.

²⁹ City of Tucumcari Comprehensive Plan

HOUSING

Goal 1: Ensure that there are adequate housing opportunities in the County to support economic development and growth.	2005 Plan
Policy: Work with communities in the county to promote housing opportunities, including new housing and a variety of housing types and price ranges	
Action: Create a progressive vacant housing program to allow people to acquire vacant housing with the stipulation that they improve the property over a 5-year period (see Paducah, KY model)	
Policy: Provide incentives for construction company to build, lease, and manage new housing developments in core areas within the county	
Action: Engage multiple nonprofits, selected state human services agencies, foundations and county health organizations to collaborate on developing a nursing facility or assisted living community	
Policy: Provide assistance to local communities in developing senior housing opportunities for all County senior citizens	
Action: Encourage City of Tuccumcari to adopt live/work zone in its zoning ordinance to help meet need for rental housing downtown	
Policy: Work with communities in the county to promote nursing facility opportunities.	

Statements of Policy

Policy: Work with communities in the county to promote housing opportunities, including new housing and a variety of housing types and price ranges

Policy: Provide incentives for construction company to build, lease, and manage new housing developments in core areas within the county

Policy: Provide assistance to local communities in developing senior housing opportunities for all County senior citizens

Policy: Work with communities in the county to promote nursing facility opportunities.

Implementation

Plan Adoption

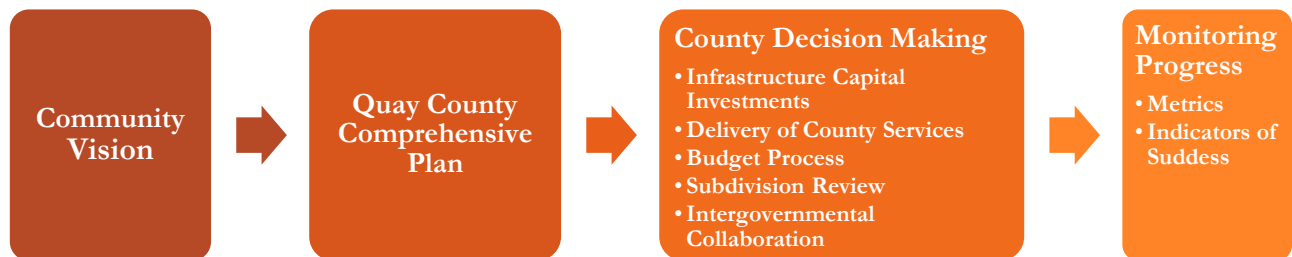
The Comprehensive Plan is adopted by resolution as a statement of policy by the County.

Plan Amendments

The plan should be reviewed annually to monitor progress and ensure that the analysis and recommendations of the plan are still valid, with more comprehensive updates every five years. The plan can be amended by resolution for interim changes, if needed.

How the Plan is Implemented

The Quay County Comprehensive Plan provides policy and direction for the County Commission and County administration related primarily to the physical development of the County over a long-term time horizon. The actions outlined in the Comprehensive Plan elements create a framework and priorities so that County leaders can make decisions that are consistent with the community vision expressed in the plan.



Proposed actions fall into three categories. Statements of policy describe how the County intends to conduct business but do not have specific projects or timelines associated with them. Rather, they Program and project related actions have a priority, timeline, responsible agency or agencies, and funding sources. The implementation summary below lists policy statements for each element and action steps for proposed programs and projects. Both policy statements and programs and projects include metrics by which the County can track progress toward goals.

Statements of Policy

Land Use and Resource Management

Policy: Continue to support protection of Groundwater Resources, Alluvial Aquifer and High Plains Aquifer; Conchas & Ute Lakes

Policy: Continue to follow Water Rights, Appropriation of Ground and Surface Water; Canadian River Compact; Conservancy and Irrigation Districts; and Endangered Species Act

Policy: Continue to explore water supply alternatives

Policy: Support region-wide water collaboratives, plans and initiatives for water efficiency and conservation including supporting a regional pipeline connecting all county entities water systems

Policy: Continue to follow water quality standards – Surface Water: Federal Clean Water Act; Groundwater: New Mexico Water Quality Act; Drinking Water: Safe Drinking Water Act

Policy: Plan and work with local entities to protect and wisely utilize available water resources for the long-term interest of the area

Policy: Support communities in providing the necessary infrastructure needed to preserve and protect the ground water in this area

Policy: Protect and preserve well water resources throughout the County

Policy: Promote and encourage renewable energy businesses and solar water heating

Policy: Support smart growth-oriented land use planning to coincide with the common goal of reducing greenhouse gases

Policy: Continue to support increasing transmission lines so the County can increase renewable resources for the market

County Management

Policy: Encourage land use development patterns that reduce the need to travel to obtain goods and services and from home to work

Policy: Promote strategic smart growth-oriented land use planning

Policy: Encourage infill development and contain urban development in planned urban areas where basic services such as water, sewer, emergency services, police and fire protection and schools can be efficiently and economically provided

Policy: Encourage mixed use development patterns which provide a broad range of uses, including residential, commercial, office, schools, parks, recreation, and open space uses

Policy: Create clustered development areas to minimize development footprint, optimize open space, avoid site constraints (such as unstable slopes, rock outcroppings, mesas, wetlands or floodplains) and to preserve site amenities (such as stands of trees or scenic views)

Policy: Seek a balanced mix of commercial and residential growth

Policy: Establish an interconnected and diverse multi-modal transportation system including local and regional trail, roadway, and transit linkages

Policy: Promote clustered retail & service business to develop an attraction for both residents and visitors

Policy: Encourage preservation of scenic, historical, recreational, and agricultural lands

Policy: Explore and support agricultural economic development opportunities

Policy: Work with municipalities within the County to ensure that land use regulations at municipal/County interfaces are compatible and mutually beneficial.

Policy: Work with municipalities to encourage adequate areas of zoned land for new economic development opportunities

Economic Development

Policy: Promote the development of renewable energy resources

Policy: Work toward a solution for transmission of energy from wind farms

Policy: Support the growth of tourism initiatives, including 5-Mile Park, outdoor recreation and recreation, the proposed racetrack and casino, and related manufacturing.

Policy: Promote arts, culture and history in the region through collaboration with Tucumcari MainStreet, municipalities in the county and local museums and arts organizations.

Policy: Support events to attract visitors and provide entertainment for citizens. As part of this effort, work with other organizations to recruit and train volunteers for these events.

Policy: Preserve open spaces and agricultural lands

Policy: Recruit businesses and industries appropriate for Quay County and ensure that there are adequate areas to locate them

Policy: Collaborate with County municipalities, the Tucumcari Chamber of Commerce and economic development organizations to promote area attractions

Policy: Partner with area economic development organizations to promote the economic development potential of the entire region

Policy: Provide the infrastructure necessary to accommodate new businesses moving into the County

Policy: Collaborate with local communities and municipalities to ensure that public infrastructure, such as water and sewer systems and road networks, is adequate to support economic development and growth throughout the County

Policy: Support efforts to develop information technologies and to expand and maintain high speed internet access to all areas of the County

Hazard Mitigation

Policy: Collaborate with local and state governments for possible mitigation strategies

Policy: Reduce hazardous fuels in the region for wildfire mitigation

Policy: Educate citizens on measures to take to reduce hazards and ignitability of structures

Policy: Educate citizens on water use techniques to eliminate waste

Community Services & Public Facilities

Policy: Promote quality healthcare growth to support senior citizens and families

Policy: Provide more diverse and higher quality community services

Policy: Provide increased collaboration and cooperation with municipalities regarding community services

Policy: Provide adequately equipped and responsive Law Enforcement and Fire/EMS Departments to serve residents, visitors, and businesses in the County

Transportation, Roads & Infrastructure

Policy: Ensure that the County's road system is compatible with existing and proposed land uses

Policy: Continue use of NMDOT grants & programs and other available State and Federal funding sources for needed road improvements and maintenance throughout the County.

Housing

Policy: Work with communities in the county to promote housing opportunities, including new housing and a variety of housing types and price ranges

Policy: Provide incentives for construction company to build, lease, and manage new housing developments in core areas within the county

Policy: Provide assistance to local communities in developing senior housing opportunities for all County senior citizens

Policy: Work with communities in the county to promote nursing facility opportunities.

Appendices

Appendix A: Quay County Government Agencies

Appendix B: Public Facilities Managed by Quay County

Who Can Help? GOVERNMENT SERVICES IN YOUR AREA
Quay County, 421 Tucumcari Blvd. Tucumcari, NM 88401
Phone: 575-461-4627; Customer Service Phone: 1-800-283-4465; Fax: 1-855-804-8960

HUMAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT	
Program:	Income Support Division
Location:	421 W Tucumcari Blvd. Tucumcari
Telephone:	(575)461-4627 or 1-800-283-4465
Website:	www.yes.nm.us
Services:	SNAP (Food Stamps), TANF, GA, LIHEAP, Medicaid
Program:	NM Health Insurance Exchange
Website:	www.bewellnm.com
Services:	Health Insurance

CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILIES DEPARTMENT	
Program:	Child Care
Location:	107 W. Aber -Tucumcari
Telephone:	(575)762-6875 In Clovis M-Tu-Th-Fri
Services:	Child Care payment assistance
Program:	Child Protective Services
Location:	107 W. Aber -Tucumcari
Telephone:	(575)461-0110 1-800-797-3260
Services:	Child abuse prevention services
Program:	Adult Protective Services
Location:	107 W. Aber -Tucumcari
Telephone:	(575)461-0110 or 1-866-654-3219
Services:	Adult abuse prevention services
Program:	Child Support
Location:	3316 N. Main, Suite B, Clovis, NM
Telephone:	NM 800-288-7207 or out of State 800-585-7631
Services:	Establish & enforce child & medical support

AGING & LONG-TERM CARE DEPARTMENT	
Program:	Quay County ISD
Location:	421 W. Tucumcari Blvd. -Tucumcari
Telephone:	(575)461-4627 or 1-866-507-1121
Services:	Nursing Home, Medicaid Waivers
Program:	Aging & Long-Term Services
Location:	2550 Cerrillos Rd, Santa Fe
Telephone:	(505)476-4799 or 1-800-432-2080 (Statewide)
Services:	D & E Waivers
Program:	Aging & Disability Resource Center
Location:	Statewide
Telephone:	1-800-432-2080
Services:	One Stop resource

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR	
Program:	Workforce Solutions (DOL)
Location:	111 N. Main St., Clovis NM
Telephone:	(575)763-3155 or 1-877-664-6984
Website:	www.dol.state.nm.us
Services:	Unemployment benefit claims

SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION	
Program:	SSI, Survivor's, Disability
Location:	1208 Arcineiga Dr. -Clovis NM
Telephone:	1-866-931-9945 or Nation Wide 1-800-772-1213
Services:	Medicare & Disability Assistance

LEGAL AID	
Program:	Southern New Mexico Legal Aid
Location:	400 Pile, Suite 401 Clovis, NM 88101
Telephone:	(575)769-2326
Services:	Legal assistance to eligible households

PROBATION & PAROLE	
Program:	Adult Probation & Parole
Location:	300 S. 3rd (basement)
Telephone:	(575)461-2475
Services:	Adult Probation & Parole

OTHER GOVERNMENT SERVICES	
Program:	Department of Health
Location:	310 S. 2nd St.-Tucumcari
Telephone:	(575)461-2610
Services:	Immunization, health information
Program:	WIC Women Infant & Children
Location:	310 S 2nd St. -Tuesday Only Tucumcari
Telephone:	(575)461-2610 Clovis (575)763-5583 option 2
Services:	Nutrition Education & Food Supplement
Program:	Senior Citizens Center
Location:	523 S. 3rd Tucumcari
Telephone:	(575)461-2307
Services:	Senior assistance & Meals
Program:	VA Representative (Tucumcari)
Website:	www.dol.gov/vets
Telephone:	(575)762-6185 Mattt Barela
Services:	VA Service (Quay County)

FOOD & DIST	
Program:	Eastern Plains -Community Action
Location:	210 W Center -Tucumcari
Telephone:	(575)461-1914 or 1-800-748-1919
Services:	Food, clothing: CRISIS-gasoline, rooms, Head Start, utilities assistance, Housing
Program:	The Ministry of Hope
Location:	105 E Railroad Ave. Tucumcari
Telephone:	(575)461-6299 Tue & Thur. 10am-2pm
Services:	Food, clothing: CRISIS-gasoline, rooms

Clothing	
Program:	Saint Vincent De Paul
Location:	118 W, Main St. -Tucumcari
Telephone:	(575)461-1369 Mon & Wed 10am-2pm
Services:	Clothing

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE	
Program:	Domestic Violence Program
Location:	300 S 3rd St (basement)
Telephone:	(575)461-4208 M-Th 8am-4pm Fr 8am-12pm
Services:	Shelter & Crisis Counseling

HOSPITAL SERVICES: DR DAN C TRIGG HOSPITAL	
Location:	301 E Miel De Luna
Telephone:	(575)461-7000
Services:	Acute care, emergency, out patient, radiology

PHARMACIES	
Program:	Bob's Budget
Location:	511 S 2 nd St. Tucumcari
Telephone:	(575) 461-1200
Services:	Pharmacy & Medication
Program:	Wellborn
Location:	315 S 2 nd St.-Tucumcari
Telephone:	(575) 461-2784
Services:	Pharmacy & Medication

HOUSING	
Program:	Housing Authority of Tucumcari
Location:	323 E. Smith -Tucumcari
Telephone:	(575)461-4403
Services:	Housing
Program:	Quail Ridge
Location:	2600 S 9th St. Tucumcari
Telephone:	(575)461-8501
Services:	Assisted Living
Program:	Autumn Blessing
Location:	Logan NM
Telephone:	(575)487-2300
Services:	Assisted Living
Program:	Quay Apartments Mountain View Apartments
Location:	702 W. Sunset Rd. 800 W Hancock
Telephone:	(575)461-3555 (575)461-4339
Services:	Low Income Housing

SL START	
Location:	421 W. Tucumcari Blvd.
Telephone:	(575)461-4627
Services:	Employment services, training & testing

SUBSTANCE ABUSE SERVICES & COUNSELING	
Program:	Mental Health Resources
Location:	1005 S Monroe Tucumcari
Telephone:	(575)461-3013
Services:	Counseling, Substance Abuse, Therapy
Program:	DWI Program
Location:	113 E Main St. Tucumcari
Telephone:	(575)461-6096
Services:	Counseling & Prevention Services
Program:	Mesa Counseling
Location:	102 E High St. Tucumcari
Telephone:	(575)461-6200
Services:	Counseling Services

HOME HEALTH CARE	
Program:	Community Home Care
Location:	203 E Main St. Tucumcari
Telephone:	(575)461-3661 or 1-800-559-2243
Services:	Personal home care
Program:	Tucumcari Home Health & Hospice
Location:	301 E Miel De Luna Tucumcari
Telephone:	(575)461-7240
Services:	Home health care & hospice services
Program:	Victory Home Health Care
Location:	812 E Rt. 66 Blvd. Tucumcari
Telephone:	(575)461-7900
Services:	Personal care for elderly & disabled
Program:	K-Bee Home Care Services
Location:	714 W. Rt. 66 Blvd Tucumcari
Telephone:	(575)461-9773
Services:	Personal care for elderly & disabled
Program:	Helping Hands Hospice
Location:	624 S Second St Tucumcari
Telephone:	(575) 461-0099
Services:	Hospice Services
Program:	Home Health Care Agencies
Location:	Call for list of agencies in your area
Telephone:	1-800-432-2080
Services:	Home health care

TRANSPORTATION	
Program:	We Care Transportation
Location:	Statewide
Telephone:	1-877-419-4300
Services:	Transportation for Medical Purposes

HELP FOR GETTING EYEGLASSES	
Program:	NM Lions Club Eyeglasses Hotline
Location:	Statewide
Telephone:	(505)553-0825 or (505)822-8909
Services:	Eyeglasses

Quay Cooperative Extension Office	
Location:	216 E Center St. Tucumcari
Telephone:	(575)461-0562
Services:	Nutrition, Gardening & Youth Development

The following amenities, programs, and buildings are maintained or overseen by Quay County.

Facilities	Services	Arts & Culture	Events
Courthouse	NMSU County Extension	Tucumcari Historical Museum	Rawhide Days, May
Quay County Detention Center	District Court	Dinosaur Museum	Quay County Fair, August
Quay County Terry Turner Building	District Attorney	Route 66 Museum	Fired Up, September
Road Department - Maintenance Shop	State Health Office	Railroad Museum	
Fairgrounds	County Detention	Eastern NM Arts & Cultural Center	
Water Tank	DWI program	Murals	
Medical Building & Public Health Clinic	GIS mapping		
Adult Detention Storage Shed	Fire Marshall		
Fire Stations	Sheriff		
	Alliance for Substance Abuse Prevention Coalition		
	Volunteer Fire Departments		