

Building Growth With Strategy

New Mexico Indian Affairs Committee

Sky City Cultural Center & Museum - Acoma Pueblo, NM
Tuesday, September 22, 2026

Pueblo of Acoma



Welcome & Pueblo's Overview

- **Opening**
 - 2nd Lt. Governor Augustine Seymour Jr.
- **Welcome from Tribal Leadership**
 - Governor Charles Riley
- **Brief Overview of the Pueblo of Acoma**

PUEBLO OF ACOMA

“Sustaining the Place that Always Was”

As the oldest continuously inhabited community in North America, the Pueblo of Acoma has maintained its cultural heritage on its sacred mesa top (Sky City) since at least 1150 A.D. Our infrastructure initiatives preserve this ancient legacy while building a healthy, safe, and modern future for our tribal members.

- **National Historic Landmark (NHL) - 1960**
- **National Register of Historic Places**
 - Both Pueblo & Mission Church
- **NHL of San Estevan del Rey Mission - 1970**
- **28th National Trust Historic Site - 2007**
 - First & Only Native American site Honored

Tribal Leadership Message:

Pueblo Priorities & Infrastructure

Acoma extends its appreciation to the New Mexico Legislature for the \$ 1.125 million appropriation for the Acoma Swimming Pool during the 2026 Legislative Session. This investment will help address an important community recreation and wellness need.

- **Continue Investing in Acoma's Infrastructure**
 - Support completion of critical community, public safety, health, and governmental infrastructure projects.
- **Strengthen State-Tribal Partnerships**
 - Continue meaningful government-to-government consultation and coordination between Acoma, the Legislature, and State agencies.State-Tribal Collaboration Act (NMSA 1978, § 11-18-1 et seq.)
- **Support Essential Community Services**
 - Strengthen partnerships supporting public safety, emergency services, health, education, families, and elders.





TIF Projects Update

Funding Total: \$ 13,405,992.00

ACTIVE PROJECTS:

- Waterline Improvements Project - Phases I, II, & III
- SP 30 Pueblo Road Design Project

IN-PROGRESS PROJECT: (PENDING - BID PACKET

- SP 38 Haaku Road Construction Project - Phase 1A
 - Award: \$ 4,028,700.00 | Reversion Date: **August 5, 2028**

Waterline Improvements Project - Phase I, II, III

- Award: \$5,862,000.00
 - Match (5%): \$1,000,000.00
 - Expended: \$100,000.00
- Status: Design
- Contractor: Rockgap LLC
- Contract Amount: \$3,300,000.00
- Reversion Date: **August 5, 2027**

SP 30 Pueblo Road Design Project

- Award: \$3,515,292.00
 - Match (5%): \$390,588.00
 - Expended: \$500,833.33
- Status: 18% - Design
- Contractor: NV5
- Contract Amount: \$2,793,285.12
- Reversion Date: **August 5, 2027**

Capital Outlay Projects Update

Funding Total: \$ 9,067,325.00 (FY22-26)

Appropriation ID	Appropriation Title	Award	Share Expended	Share Obligated	Share Balance
K2519	ACOMA PUEBLO HEALTH & HUMAN SVC DIV CMTY POOL REN	\$ 1,125,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,125,000.00
J2499	ACOMA PUEBLO LAND USE PLAN DVLP	\$ 300,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 300,000.00
J2501	ACOMA PUEBLO SKY CITY CULTURAL CTR & HAAK'U MUS IMPROVE	\$ 600,000.00	\$ 110,879.00	\$ 32,077.39	\$ 451,043.61
J2502	ACOMA PUEBLO SKY CITY CULTURAL CTR WWATER SYS IMPROVE	\$ 450,000.00	\$ -	\$ 125,668.00	\$ 324,332.00
I2500	ACOMA PUEBLO AMERICAN LEGION POST 116 PLAN	\$ 600,000.00	\$ 594,000.00	\$ -	\$ -
I2501	ACOMA PUEBLO WWATER WETLANDS CONSTRUCT	\$ 100,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 100,000.00
H2531	ACOMA PUEBLO WWATER SYS IMPROVE	\$ 2,900,000.00	\$ 2,334,635.85	\$ 565,364.15	\$ -
25-65963	Acoma Pueblo Natural Gas Distribution System Equipment	\$ 924,559.00	\$ -	\$ 924,559.00	\$ 924,559.00
25-J5982	Acoma Pueblo Wastewater System Improvements	\$ 285,766.00	\$ -	\$ 285,766.00	\$ 285,766.00
		\$ 9,067,325.00	\$ 3,040,714.85	\$ 2,322,684.54	\$ 4,902,250.61

ICIP Update: FY2028-32

Funding Total: \$ 378,858,388.22



ProjectID	ICIP ID	Purpose	Total Project Cost
3634	38788	ADNR Building Rehab	\$ 3,500,000.00
6709	44313	Housing Development Project	\$ 16,940,316.00
574	20698	Acoma Water Line Improvements	\$ 20,131,600.00
6719	44328	Public Safety Complex Planning & Design	\$ 8,400,000.00
6550	44127	Food Distribution Building Improvements	\$ 1,998,000.00
654	22351	Wastewater Improvements	\$ 12,000,000.00
650	22348	Outdoor Track Improvements	\$ 2,816,100.00
10171	28-1674	Sky City Cultural Center HVAC Improvements	\$ 2,900,000.00
10092	28-1617	Public Safety Vehicle	\$ 100,000.00
6552	44130	Tribal Building Repairs	\$ 383,000.00
3774	39094	Acoma Pueblo Wastewater Improvements Phase II	\$ 4,800,000.00
6538	44113	Detention Facility Vehicle	\$ 200,000.00
6535	44110	The Acoma Pool Improvements	\$ 1,125,000.00
2111	33731	SP 38 Haak'u Road	\$ 66,328,700.00
2109	33730	SP30 Pueblo Road Sections 010-100	\$ 99,237,298.22
5572	42796	Cowboy Drive Improvements	\$ 1,287,535.00
5582	42810	Castillo Drive Improvements	\$ 1,117,622.00
5610	42847	Sunflower Drive Improvements	\$ 809,259.00
5557	42778	Acoma Land Use Plan	\$ 450,000.00
5609	42848	Fatima Hill Road Improvements	\$ 6,690,000.00
649	22315	Mesa Hill Bridge Construction	\$ 102,640,415.00
6598	44185	Acoma Creek 123 Bridge	\$ 2,800,000.00
6644	44238	Acomita Lake M124 Bridge	\$ 2,888,580.00
6648	44241	SP30 Pueblo Road Sections 110-120	\$ 7,600,000.00
4286	40307	UA Heavy Duty Vehicles	\$ 175,000.00
11330	28-2772	Network Operations Center	\$ 6,556,380.00
11390	28-2816	FD & R Ambulance	\$ 550,000.00
4784	41384	SCCC Wastewater Improvements	\$ 1,950,000.00
11402	28-2826	Rio San Jose Salt Cedar Project	\$ 1,850,000.00
			\$378,858,388.22

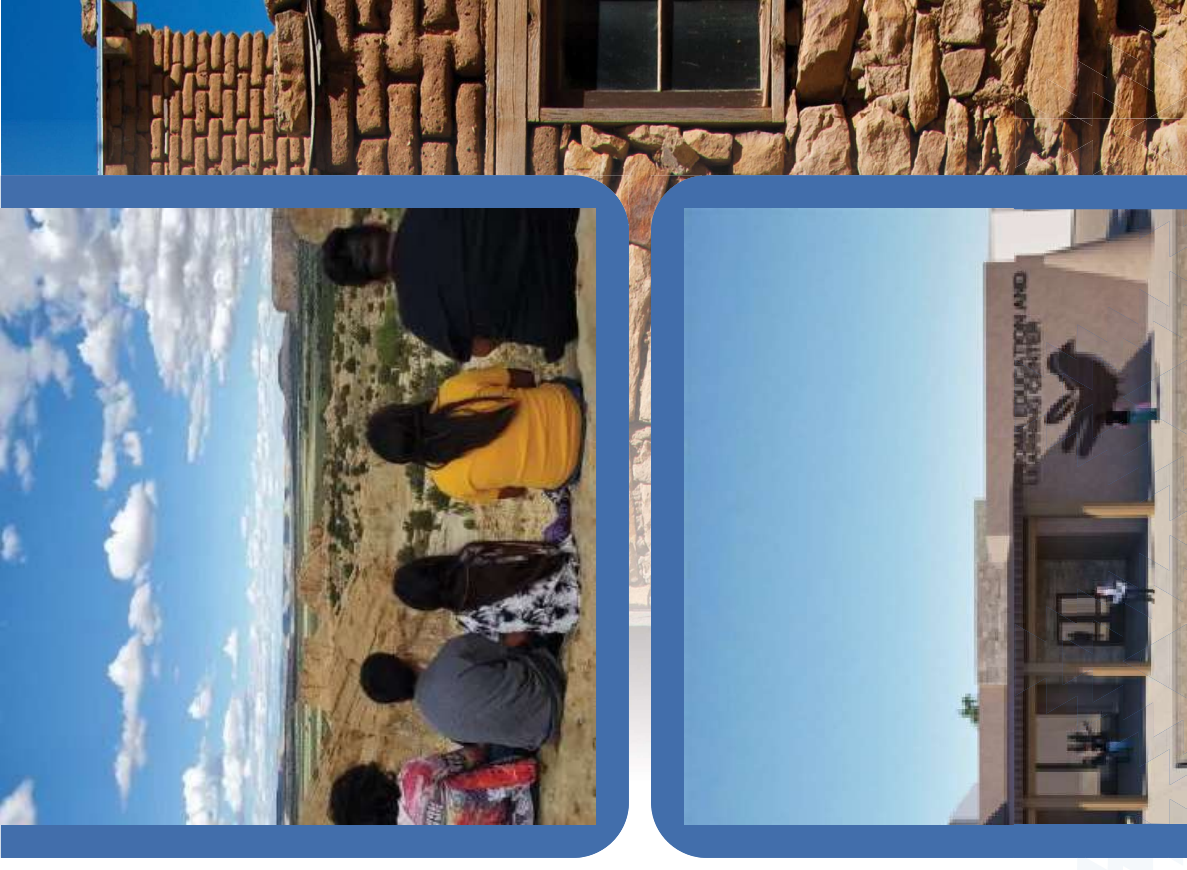


Department of Education

1. **Yazzie / Martinez Court Compliance & Funding**
2. **Legislative Protections & Cultural Rights**
3. **Infrastructure, Digital Equity & Capital Outlay**

Under the Indian Education Act, tribes are urging NMPED to replace competitive grants with upfront, predictable allocations to prevent critical funding from reverting unused. Current financial shortfalls directly impact the Pueblo of Acoma, limiting its capacity to operate community educational programs and support local school infrastructure.

To combat this, Acoma has formed strategic alliances to lobby for the Tribal Education Trust Fund and a comprehensive Tribal Remedy Framework that will fully fund cultural instruction, upgrade local infrastructure, and boost Native teacher salaries through 520 Licensure.





Gaming

1. **Kalshi Issue & Other Prediction Markets (Sports Betting)**
2. **NM Attorney General Litigation Against Kalshi Prediction Markets**
3. **Artificial Intelligence**

Kalshi, an online prediction market, violates the Tribal-State Gaming Compact and the IGRA by offering unlicensed, unregulated betting on tribal lands. Kalshi bypasses the 21-year-old legal age requirement and threatens tribal gaming exclusivity and tribal sovereignty. This unauthorized activity risks diverting crucial revenue from tribal governments.

Artificial Intelligence (AI) may affect marketing efforts and gaming data, making decisions without being programmed. Negatively impacting marketing promotions and players club activity.

Acoma has joined the Coalition of NM Gaming Tribes and other gaming entities to contest these offerings through litigation. Acoma has signed onto several amicus briefs with other gaming entities.





Utility Authority

1. **Modernization of Water and Wastewater Infrastructure**
2. **Long-Term Utility System Resilience and SCADA Implementation**
3. **Improved Access and Administration of State Infrastructure Funding**

The Pueblo of Acoma Utility Authority maintains essential water and wastewater infrastructure across a large rural service area, with facilities built over many decades. Continued State partnership is critical to replacing aging infrastructure, strengthening system resiliency, and ensuring Tribal communities have access to safe, reliable utility services.

Infrastructure funding programs have become more complex over time, leading to administrative hurdles that can hinder project delivery.

Equally important is the need for streamlined funding and administrative processes that allow Tribal projects to move more efficiently from planning to construction.





Operations Departments

Public Safety - NMSP Commissioning Agreement

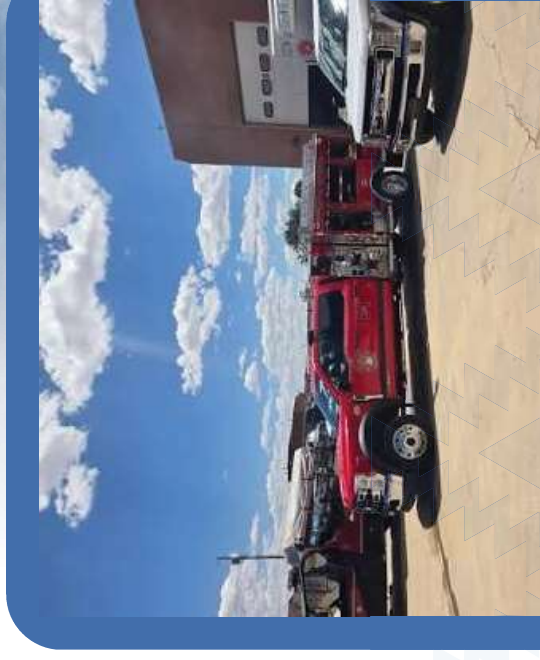
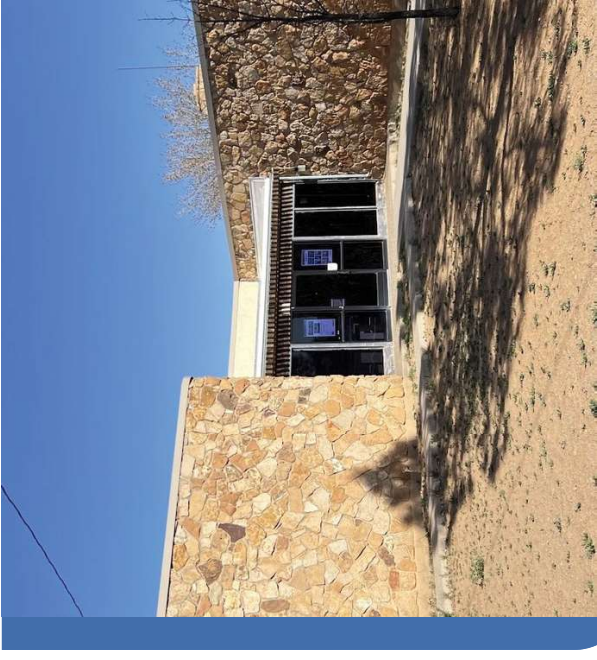
- Acoma and NMSP have substantially completed a § 29-1-11 commissioning agreement; Section 4. H regarding civil citation authority remains unresolved.
- Request: State support to resolve the remaining issue and finalize the agreement while respecting Tribal authority and public safety needs along I-40.

ADNR Building Renovation

- \$1.5M project | Approx. \$300K funding shortfall
- Request: DFA assistance through the \$30M project shortfall funding pool (not Capital Outlay)

Fire/EMS – State EMS Funding

- Acoma Fire/EMS received State EMS funding for the first time, beginning a new partnership with the NM Department of Health – Emergency Medical Systems Bureau.
- Request: Continued State and Cibola County partnership to support Acoma Fire/EMS in future funding cycles





Health & Human Services

Top Priorities for the NM Indian Affairs Committee:

- Improve engagement with NMDOH and NMHCA to support the Community Health Representatives Office: certification of CHRs, Program (NPI), transports, and vehicles
- Medicaid billing issues with HCA: POA is not getting reimbursed at the 2026 OMB rate (\$826) for behavioral health. We are receiving the 2024 rate of \$719. This is a difference of \$107 per claim. (2025 rate was \$801.)

The Pueblo of Acoma HHSD requests a Tribal-State consultation on Health Care. With the urgent need for workforce development, rural health care support, behavioral health initiatives (BHRIA), and Medicaid's future at the Federal level in 2027, NM needs to understand and be prepared to support NM Nations, Pueblos, and Tribes.



call or text

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anyone. any struggle. anytime





ICWA & CYFD Accountability

- **Federal & State Compliance:** The Pueblo of Acoma demands strict adherence to ICWA and IFPA regulations to safeguard tribal sovereignty and family unity.
- **Systemic Casework Gaps:** Systemic deficiencies exist where CYFD workers lack the mandatory training and tribally responsive practices.
- **Pueblo Intervention Barriers:** Gaps in state communication and resources currently prevent the Pueblo tracking investigations and assisting tribal members when needed.

To ensure strict ICWA and IFPA compliance, the Pueblo of Acoma is addressing critical training and communication gaps within CYFD. A lack of tribally responsive practices currently prevents the Pueblo from intervening in all off-reservation cases, raising concerns over incomplete state investigations. To enforce these legal protections, Acoma Social Services leverages its partnership with the NM Tribal Indian Child Welfare Consortium to drive mandatory state training and accountability.

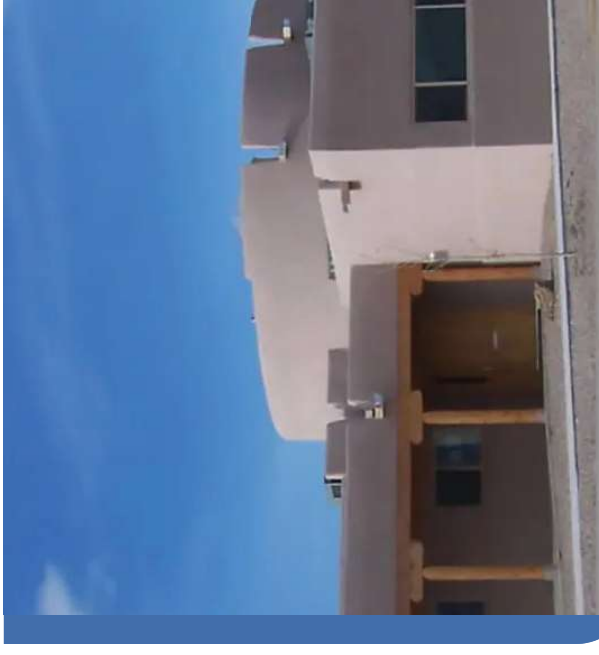




Housing Authority (PAHA)

1. Infrastructure Funding – Infrastructure Capital Improvement Plan (ICIP), Capital Outlay, Tribal Infrastructure Funding (TIF)
2. Housing Funding – New Mexico Department of Workforce Solutions Office of Housing
3. Continued Opportunities for Supplemental Funding for Housing & Infrastructure from the State of New Mexico

The Pueblo of Acoma Housing Authority (PAHA) is mostly federally funded for constructing and rehabilitating homes, apartments, and infrastructure, but it continues to seek other funding sources. PAHA has applied for State of New Mexico funding through the ICIP, Capital Outlay, and TIF programs but has not been funded to date. PAHA will continue to pursue funding through these programs to support the Cedar Hills Subdivision (33 Acres) project. PAHA's Cedar Hills Subdivision project is currently listed at #2 on the Pueblo of Acoma's ICIP priority list



Request to IAC

The Pueblo of Acoma looks forward to working with the Indian Affairs Committee and State agencies to turn these priorities into meaningful investments and lasting State-Tribal partnerships.

Support Critical Infrastructure

Help Acoma address infrastructure funding gaps and complete priority community projects.

Sustain Essential Services

Expand opportunities for State partnership and funding for public safety, health, education, and other essential Tribal services.

Improve Access to State Resources

Help address administrative or policy barriers that limit Tribal access to State programs and funding.

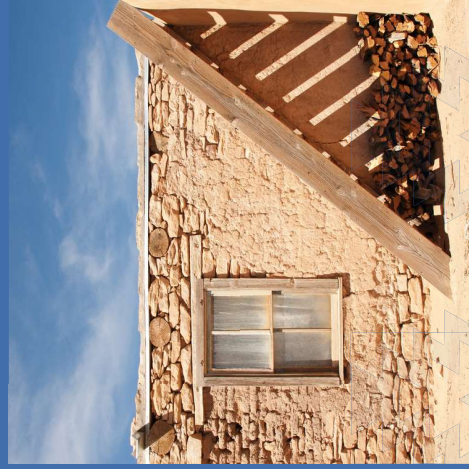
Maintain Ongoing Dialogue

Continue direct engagement with Acoma on legislative, policy, and funding priorities beyond the 2026 legislative cycle.





Da'wah'eeh



Questions or Comments

Governor's Office

25 Pinsbaari Drive, Acoma Pueblo, NM 87034

Phone: (505)552-6604

Governor Charles Riley - governor@poamail.org