

SUSANA MARTINEZ  
GOVERNOR

JON BARELA  
CABINET SECRETARY



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
September 5, 2014

Contact: Angela Heisel  
(505) 629-5148  
[Angela.Heisel@state.nm.us](mailto:Angela.Heisel@state.nm.us)

## **The New Mexico Economic Development Department Receives Reaccreditation to Manage the New Mexico Mainstreet Program**

**Santa Fe** - The New Mexico Economic Development Department announced today that the National Main Street Center has reaccredited and licensed the department to host and operate the New Mexico MainStreet Program for another two years. New Mexico MainStreet works to revitalize and redevelop the local traditional or historic town centers around the state. The state MainStreet program provides resources and services to local affiliate communities that establish a public-private community economic development partnership focused on their traditional commercial district.

"New Mexico's MainStreet program continues to be regarded as one of the best run in the nation," said Economic Development Secretary Jon Barela. "MainStreet's recognition for its success is yet another indicator of how important the program is for creating jobs, revitalizing traditional city centers and that the state is getting a good return on its investment."

A recent Economic Impact Analysis of the past 28 years of New Mexico MainStreet Program by the Center found that more than 11, 400 net new jobs, 3,200 business start-ups, and a \$44.50 private sector reinvestment ratio for every dollar invested by the state.

The National Main Street Center, located in Chicago, innovated the registered trademark downtown revitalization MainStreet Four Point Approach® more than 30 years ago. Currently 43 states are accredited and licensed.

Main Street Center Program Officers surveyed local community leaders in July, then spent 4 days in New Mexico meeting in focus groups with partners, administration officials, consultants and leaders of revitalization efforts before deciding on re-accreditation.

Findings included:

- Amazing Success with Limited Resources
- Great Professional Staff & Service Delivery
- Capital Outlay critical to engage more Private Sector reinvestment
- Maintain Quality Services with growth
- Restoration of CDBG funds
- Explore USDA-RCDI funding

New Mexico MainStreet will be celebrating its 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2015. It currently serves 48 local projects around the state of New Mexico. For more information about New Mexico MainStreet visit <http://gonm.biz/Mainstreet.aspx>. The full report can be found under "Resources" at [www.nmmainstreet.org](http://www.nmmainstreet.org).

###