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News Release

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USDA Invests \$3.2 Million to Assist Trinidad Ambulance District with New Building

DENVER, Colo., August 24, 2022 – Today, U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) State Director for Colorado Armando Valdez announced the investment of a \$3.207,000 Community Facilities Loan for the Trinidad Ambulance District in Trinidad, Colorado. The funding will be used for a new facility and allow for improved radio reception, expanded educational support, additional District garage areas, and the possibility for future growth.

"Ensuring our emergency medical services are positioned properly in a rural community can make the difference in both response times and being able to quickly identify level of care needed," said Valdez. "This is critical for rural areas where residents are spread out over a large geographic area, especially for the largest county in Colorado, Las Animas County. Once the transition to this new building is complete, the district will be closer to the dispatch tower and patient response times will be reduced. We are very excited at USDA to be a partner in critical community project."

Through the <u>Community Facilities program</u>, USDA is ensuring that rural areas enjoy the same basic quality of life and services enjoyed by those in urban areas. This program offers direct loans, loan guarantees and grants to develop or improve essential public services and facilities in communities across rural America. These amenities help increase the competitiveness of rural communities in attracting and retaining businesses that provide employment and services for their residents.

Under the Biden-Harris Administration, USDA Rural Development provides loans and grants to help expand economic opportunities, create jobs, and improve the quality of life for millions of Americans in rural areas. This assistance supports infrastructure improvements; business development; housing; community facilities such as schools, public safety, and health care; and high-speed internet access in rural, tribal, and high-poverty areas. For more information in Colorado, visit www.rd.usda.gov/co.

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