

# MetroABQ Real Estate Newsletter

Including Albuquerque, Rio Rancho, Corrales, Placitas, and the East Mountains.

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## Neighborhood Spotlight:



## La Luz



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## La Luz...becoming greener

Welcome to world-renowned architect Antoine Predock's westside New Urbanist-style oasis. Set along the river near Coors & Montano, La Luz includes 96 adobe-built townhomes spread across 5 acres of gardens & greenspaces, along with a pool & tennis courts, amid 40+ acres of Forever Open Space sitting on the Rio Grande Bosque.

Celebrating almost 50 years--and already on the National Register of Historic Places--La Luz is evolving. Recognizing that the MetroABQ's natural resources are not boundless--especially water--the community created some landscaping goals. One was to reduce water for greenspace irrigation by 50% by replacing shrubs & grasses with low-water plants; another goal was to cut down on water usage by turning several of the fountains into planters. Punching holes in the concrete bottoms for water drainage, then filling the planters with low-water grasses, flowers & shrubs accomplished that goal. The re-landscaping project is a long process--the removal of the existing grass to full maturation of the new grasses and plants, generally using low-water blue gramma and buffalo grasses, takes 4 years. The vision is to have landscape that harmonizes and compliments the unique La Luz architecture...

That's generally how Predock saw it in 1967--from "Roadcut: The Architecture of Antoine Predock," he wrote that "Building forms and materials that provide protection from a widely varying climate were employed. Glass recessed beneath concrete facias. The massive adobe walls serve as heat resevoirs & accoustical barriers...All exterior walls are earth colored, stuccoed adobe with sand-blasted concrete lintels spanning openings. Horizontal room framing is wood joist.

(continued on page 4...)





## Welcome to 22 Link St NW

Call me for a private showing or  
for more information.

Two beautifully  
updated townhomes

La  
Luz

For sale in  
one unique community

Click on an image to view the  
3-D Virtual Walking Tour.

## Welcome to 17 Tennis Court NW



Under Contract



## La Luz Greenscapes...

Flooring is of earth colored brick.

"The earth bound houses face either private cul-de-sac streets or pedestrian courts. Glass walls aim east at mountain & city views. The patios offer shelter from winter winds, yet act as receptors for trapping solar radiation. Following the existing contours, the units step longitudinally down the hillside. This stepped form fosters connections with adjacent river landscape & distant peaks."

As the low-water greenscaping of La Luz is an evolving conversation, it will be important to check back to see the progress. To the right is an aerial view of La Luz, with the different project areas highlighted. The middle section with the line running down is an Open Space trail.



## Selected Property Listings:



I love the Matterport 3-D Virtual Walking Tour. With a click of the arrow keys--up, down, left & right--you can maneuver throughout a home, around corners and in-&-out of rooms as if you are there. Click on the property images to view current 3-D Tours.