



# Heart of the Valley

September 2009

*Española, New Mexico: A Proud History, A Progressive Future*

## Mayor

Joseph M. Maestas

## Mayor Pro Tem

Alice D. Lucero

## Councilors

Danielle Durán

Rosario "Chayo" Garcia

Alfred Herrera

Cecilia Lujan

Eddie Maestas

Helen Kain-Salazar

Dennis Tim Salazar

## City Manager

Veronica Albin

## City Clerk

Heather E. Velasquez



## *A Message from the Mayor*

There will be a groundbreaking ceremony for the Industrial Park Road project this month. This is a \$3 million project that will add curbs and gutters to the road to help improve drainage, and sidewalks to provide safer pedestrian access in the area. This project is being paid for using GRIP II funding the city received from the state, and funding the city received from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act – what's also referred to as "stimulus grants".

The economy has been on my mind a lot lately, and probably has been on yours, too. Stimulus grants are helping improve local economies, and I want to let you know what is happening here in Española.

Besides the Industrial Park Road project, the city has received two other stimulus grants. Both of these are for public safety, and both of them are bringing new jobs to Española. Last month's newsletter had information about these grants, which together totaled nearly a half a million dollars and brought five new jobs to the city. The new positions include three Police Officers and two Public Safety Aides. The grants also provide equipment for the Department, including four new vehicles.

There is stimulus money still available, and the city has submitted applications for funding for construction projects, for improving our streets and utility systems, and for continuing to increase our public's safety. We also partnered with Rio Arriba County on a broadband initiative to bring high speed Internet to homes and businesses in the city.

Projects that improve safety and infrastructure, bringing jobs to the city, and the positive impact high speed broadband technology can have on improving the overall economic development of the city – these are the areas where the city is seeking stimulus grants. For our local economy, and for all of us who have the economy on our minds a lot lately, I will keep working to bring this funding in, and I will keep working with funding and oversight agencies to ensure Española receives as much of this funding as possible. I will keep you updated on our progress.



**Española's Governing Body**

Seated (from left): Councilor Helen Kain-Salazar, Councilor Eddie Maestas, Councilor Rosario "Chayo" Garcia, Councilor Alfred Herrera, Councilor Danielle Duran, Councilor Dennis Tim Salazar, Councilor Cecilia Lujan. Standing (from left): Mayor Pro Tem Alice Lucero, Mayor Joseph M. Maestas. August 2009. Photo by Richards Photography



## CAUTION

The Police Department reminds drivers that Española schools are back in session, so use caution at school zones and near schools. Watch for children entering and exiting school buses. Watch for children crossing the street, and

## SLOW DOWN

# Waffles and WiFi on the Plaza

The City of Española launched an open-access wireless Internet at the Plaza de Española on Sunday, August 30<sup>th</sup>. Mayor Joseph Maestas and City Councilors Danielle Duran and Helen Kain-Salazar were on hand to meet with members of the public. Special thanks to all city staff members who coordinated the event, served waffles fruit and coffee, set up and cleaned up.



Top – City Councilors Helen Kain-Salazar (standing, center) and Danielle Duran (seated, right) testing the city's open-access wireless Internet at the Plaza.

Above – Mayor Joseph Maestas at the event. *Background left – attendees in the gazebo. Background right – the Misi3n*

## September Events

All meetings and events are open to the public

**Sept. 1** – Economic Development Meeting, 6:00pm, Misi3n on the Plaza

**Sept. 7** – Labor Day -City Offices Closed

**Sept. 10** – Public Works Committee Meeting, 5:30pm, City Hall Council Chambers

**Sept. 21** – City Council Workshop, 6pm, City Hall Council Chambers

**Sept. 26** – Spirit Day, Plaza de Española

**Sept. 29** – City Council Meeting, 6pm, City Hall Council Chambers  
*Broadcast live on KDCE Radio (950AM)*

## Free Business Consulting Services Available in Northern New Mexico

If you are a small business located in Rio Arriba County, you are eligible for one-on-one business consulting as part of a two-month pilot program launched by The Loan Fund. The program, funded in part by a grant from the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), makes available four business experts to meet with business owners at their place of business to consult on all aspects of business ownership.

Consultants will offer guidance by helping business owners identify challenges and recommending corrective measures where appropriate. With access to a broad range of resources and contacts, the consultants can provide comprehensive services to owners. The program is expected to deliver improvements that benefit not only the individual business, but the community at large.

The Loan Fund is a private, tax-exempt organization that provides loans, training and consulting to business owners and nonprofits throughout the state and the Navajo Nation. For information about how to participate, go to [www.loanfund.org](http://www.loanfund.org) or contact George Kenefic, Director of Enterprise Empowerment at 505-249-3196 extension 22.

*Finance New Mexico is an initiative of the New Mexico Small Business Investment Corporation (NMSBIC) and its partners to assist individuals and businesses in obtaining skills and resources. To learn more, go to [www.FinanceNewMexico.org](http://www.FinanceNewMexico.org).*

### Contact Us:



**City Hall**  
405 N. Paseo de Oñate  
Española, NM 87532

City Hall 747-6100  
City Clerk 747-6019  
Streets 747-6006  
Library 747-6083  
Court 747-6033

Utility Billing 747-6047  
Planning 747-6061  
Lucero Center 747-6055  
Senior Center 747-6027  
Animal Shelter 753-8662

### Hear us on KDCE Radio (950 AM)

Coffee Break every Thursday at 9:15am  
City Council meetings broadcast live

### Website:

[www.cityofespanola.org](http://www.cityofespanola.org)

### Newsletter:

Sally Baxter, Deputy City Clerk/PIO  
(505) 747-6012  
[sbaxter@espanolanm.gov](mailto:sbaxter@espanolanm.gov)