



# CITY NEWS

Volume 1 May 2007

## Mayor

Joseph M. Maestas

## Mayor Pro Tem

Alice D. Lucero

## Councilors

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Rosario "Chayo" Garcia

Alfred Herrera

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Helen Kain-Salazar

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## A Message from the Mayor

Welcome to the First Edition of City News, the City's government newsletter! The information is provided to keep you updated on how your city government is serving you. We welcome your input, and hope you will stay informed on the efforts of the city and get more involved in moving our community forward.

**Be a part of the city's new vision:**  
*A Proud History, A Progressive Future*



## May Meetings

Mon	Tues	Weds	Thurs	Fri
	1	2 Fiesta Council	3 Public Meeting re Hudson Ln.	4
7	8	9 Fiesta Council	10 Community Development	11
14 City Council	15 Housing Board	16 Fiesta Council	17 Public Safety	18
21	22	23 Fiesta Council	24	25
28 MEMORIAL DAY	29	30 Fiesta Council	31	

All city meetings are held in City Hall Council Chambers at 6:00 p.m., unless otherwise noted. Agendas are available 24 hours prior to any meeting by calling the City Clerk's office at 747-6012

## Congratulations City Employees!

The City has recognized eight of its top performing employees as Employees of the Month. They are: Berlinda Trujillo, Code Enforcement Officer; Dolores Garcia, Receptionist; Trinnie Velasquez, Criminal Investigations Secretary; Joe Duran, Building Inspector; Bea Martinez, Senior Center Cook; Steven Gallegos, Electrician; Eric Tafoya, Fire Fighter, and Employee of the Year Leroy Garcia, Plaza Coordinator.



**Congratulations to all and  
Keep up the great work!**



## MOVING ESPAÑOLA FORWARD "THE FIRST YEAR"

It has been a year since Mayor Joseph M. Maestas and the new City Council was elected to "Move Española Forward." What has happened in that year? Here's the answer:

### Established an Honest, Open Government

- Successfully passed an ethics code of conduct for the Governing Body
- Removed and replaced department directors with ethical, professional, well-qualified individuals
- Removed and replaced Planning & Zoning Commissioners
- Re-established the Housing Commission for greater Housing Authority oversight

### Improved Financial Management

- Established a Board of Finance for increased emphasis on financial matters
- Added additional positions for internal financial controls and compliance with State Law
- Converted water meters from manual to radio read to ensure accuracy in billing

### New Public Works Projects

- \$14M Wastewater Treatment Expansion project, the largest in the history of the city, will provide wastewater services for decades to come
- Completed upgrade of traffic signal synchronization system on Riverside Drive
- Funding granted for paving of numerous streets throughout the City
- Developing a phased plan for providing utilities to all citizens

### Greater Public Involvement and Outreach

- Standing Council Agenda Item for Citizen Comments
- User friendly website: [www.cityofespanola.org](http://www.cityofespanola.org)
- Regular radio programs on KDCE in Española and KRSN in Los Alamos

### Increased Public Safety

Director Julian Gonzales was appointed to oversee the new Department of Public Safety, which includes, Fire, Police, Detention and Animal Control and to create a stronger, more effective department to improve the safety of the community.

#### Police Department

- DWI Crackdown
- Wireless data system program approved
- Three police vehicles purchased for increased public safety
- Community policing implemented to strengthen law enforcement, provided through the Federal Weed & Seed program
- Recruiting new officers to enhance our police force

#### Fire/Rescue Department

- Hired and certified 4 additional fire fighters
- Certified 7 FD members as Fire Instructors
- Certified all members as EMT and Building Inspectors
- Designed and built a DPS Command vehicle for use at major incidents
- Acquired new fire gear and equipment through FEMA Grant, including a vehicle extraction system
- Firefighters remodeled the La Joya Fire Station



#### Detention/Prisoner Transport Department

- Entered into transport agreement with Gallup to save on costs to transport and house prisoners
- Assisted with the emergency relocation of the Police Department

### Improving Quality and Supply of Drinking Water

- Designing a transmission line to blend water to eliminate contaminants in city water
- Designing a treatment system to eliminate contaminants in city water
- Designing a new surface water treatment facility with the potential to provide water for the region, for decades to come

### Improved Senior Citizens Center

Dear to all of us are the seniors of our community. The City has vowed to make their center the best!

- New director and staff hired and is running the center effectively and efficiently
- Increased service to five days a week
- Increased activities, trips and events sponsored and supported by the city
- Funds acquired for improvements to the senior center kitchen, new exercise equipment and renovation to the center
- New transport vehicles purchased



### Enhanced Community Development

- Legislative funds reauthorized for improvements to existing city ball fields
- Plaza Master Plan update completed
- Plaza Gazebo purchased and construction and landscaping to be completed by July 2007
- Ongoing Art Shows at the Misión y Convento and Bond House

# IMPROVING YOUR QUALITY OF LIFE

One of the important views expressed by all members of the council is the quality of life of Española's citizens. Various ways Española has become a better place to live:



Drinking water quality has improved and ways to further improve the quality and quantity of city water are being planned

Graffiti removal program has been successful throughout the City



Reducing alcohol and drug related crimes through education and increased policing



City-wide Smoking Ordinance passed and enforced to build a healthier community