



Heart of the Valley

Volume 8 January 2008 *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

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Message from the Mayor

Happy New Year to you and your families! Let's make 2008 great! This New Year brings many exciting developments in our community. 2008 marks the inaugural election year under the newly established city council districts – a major reform effort by my administration and the City Council. Please make your voices heard by attending and participating in campaign events and forums as they begin this month.

We will be cutting the ribbon on the newly expanded wastewater treatment plant this month. Española will no longer be considered as a polluting city and subject to administrative sanctions by the Environmental Protection Agency because the plant's effluent will be in compliance with all appropriate water quality standards. Also, this plant will be capable of providing service to accommodate future growth of the city.

Much progress has been made in improving our government to work better for you in meeting your needs. However, many challenges lie ahead. As we look forward to another year with great promise, I am humbly asking each and every citizen to become involved or continue being involved in some small or large way to collectively continue moving our community forward. Adelante juntos!



Employees of the Month November and December

Congratulations to Trudy Gallegos and Ben Martinez, employees of November and December. Trudy is a Financial Specialist II and works in the City's Finance Department. Her supervisor Josie Lujan nominated Trudy, stating that she is an example of a great and dedicated employee. Ben Martinez is the Parks Foreman and supervises two employees; their unit oversees Ranchitos Park, Veterans Park and Valdez Park. During the Holiday Season, the unit was charged with decorating City Hall and the Plaza, including the Official Christmas Tree. His supervisor, Leroy Garcia, said that Ben takes great pride in his work and motivates his workers to do their best. Congratulations to both, and keep up the good work!

JANUARY Events

Department Contacts:

Utility Billing 747-6047
Planning 747-6061
Streets 747-6006
Library 747-6083
Court 747-6033
Transit 747-3631
Senior Ctr. 747-6027
Lucero Center 747-6055
Animal Shelter 753-8662

"Heart of the Valley"
Contact

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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 <i>New Year's Day</i> City offices closed	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10 Planning & Zoning Meeting 5:30 p.m.	11	12
13	14 City Council Workshop 6 pm	15 <i>Legislative Session Begins</i> Housing Commission Meeting 5:30 pm	16	17	18	19 Wastewater Treatment Plant Ribbon Cutting 11 am
20	21 <i>Dr. MLK Day</i> City offices closed	22 City Council Meeting 6 pm	23	24 Districting Informational Meeting - TBA	25	26
27	28	29	30	31	All meetings are held in City Hall council chambers at 6:00 p.m. unless otherwise noted. Agenda are available at city hall or by calling 747-6012.	

Clerk's Connection

The Clerk's office is gearing up for the 2008 Municipal Election. The official day for candidates to declare their candidacy is Tuesday, January 8 from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. in the City Clerk's office in City Hall. Those who wish to run for the office of Councilor or Municipal Judge may pick up a candidate packet at the reception desk, in the City Clerk's office, or call the city clerk at 747-6013 to have one emailed. The last day to register to vote or to change voter registration information is February 5, and must be done through the County Clerks' offices. Mail-in absentee ballots must be requested from the City Clerk's office in writing. The following is a timeline for the upcoming election activities:

Jan. 8 - Candidate filing day

Jan. 15 - Write-in candidate filing day

Jan. 29 - First day absentee ballots may be mailed out

Feb. 5 - Last day to register to vote or change registration

Feb. 6 - First day for absentee voting by ballot in clerk's office

Feb. 13 - First day for absentee voting by ballot/tabulator in clerk's office

Feb. 29 - Last day for absentee voting

Mar. 4 - ELECTION DAY!



New Police Vehicles Purchased for EPD

Through a combination of US Department of Agriculture Loan, Grant funding, legislative appropriations and city funds, the City of Española Police Department was able to purchase a total of 12 new police vehicles and 1 Animal Control vehicle. Five of the units were put into operation on November 20, after the unveiling ceremony. Chief Julian Gonzales was instrumental in seeking the loan and grant funding for these much needed vehicles. Additional police equipment was also funded from these sources. A new logo and color scheme was selected for these vehicles, and the photos show off the new style. *Pictured above are Corporal Miguel Maez (bottom left); Councilor Herrera, Mayor Pro Tem Lucero, Mayor Maestas, Chief Gonzales, Councilor Salazar and Councilor Kain Salazar (bottom right).*

Legislative Session Priorities Set

As the 49th New Mexico Legislative Session approaches, city officials have met to establish the city's priorities for this 30-day session. The following requests will be submitted:

1. \$250,000 for the purpose of emergency repairs and improvements to the police, detention, and holding facility.
2. \$150,000 for the purpose of acquiring new police vehicles.
3. \$200,000 for the purpose of improving the Plaza de Española.
4. \$150,000 for the purpose of designing, constructing, and making improvements to the public library.
5. \$125,000 for the purpose of designing, constructing and making improvements to the recreation center.
6. \$1,000,000 for the purpose of constructing and making improvements to the water supply system to meet the requirements of the Safe Drinking Water Act.
7. \$25,000 for the Annual Fiestas de Española.

Legislators have been briefed on the city's needs and requests and the city received supportive responses from them on its priorities. The session runs January 15-February 14. To follow the progress of the session, visit www.legis.state.nm.us or visit the State Capitol during the session to see your state government in action!

Wastewater Treatment Plant Ready to Open

The Governing Body is proud to cut another ribbon. The ceremony is being planned for mid-January, as the plant has been completed and is ready to take on the job of providing the necessary treatment of wastewater that meets federal standards. This project has been the largest infrastructure project in the history of Española and allows for the expansion of services to outlying areas as the city grows. The ribbon cutting will take place at the Plant on January 19, 2008 at 11:00 a.m. The public is invited and encouraged to attend.

