

# CITY OF RIO COMMUNITIES New Mexico



Volume 1 Number 4

Rio Communities City Hall  
360 Rio Communities Blvd.  
P.O. Box 565  
Rio Communities NM 87002  
505 861-6803

Hours:  
Monday-Thursday 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.  
email:

admin@riocommunities.net  
info@riocommunities.net  
website -- riocommunities.net

September 2018

## Governing Body

*Mayor Mark Gwinn*

505 264-3412

mgwinn@riocommunities.net

*Councilor William (Bill) Brown*

505 864-0718

bbrown@riocommunities.net

*Councilor Margaret (Peggy) Gutjahr*

505 864-6908

pgutjahr@riocommunities.net

*Councilor Joshua Ramsell*

505 861-6804

jramsell@riocommunities.net

*Councilor Arturo R. Sais*

505 966-6168

asais@riocommunities.net

*Municipal Judge Heather Benavidez*

505 861-6804

hbenavidez@riocommunities.net

## Municipal Officers

*Municipal Clerk Lisa Adair*

*Treasurer/CPO Celina Benavidez*

*City Manager Bob Skerry*

bskerry@riocommunities.net

City Offices — 505 861-6803

## City Studies Solid Waste Ordinance

City officials and commissions have been studying how to deal with solid waste in the City of Rio Communities.

A city ordinance may be considered at a September council meeting.

Keep track with the website at riocommunities.net.

## October Health Fair Cancelled

In the interest of public safety the October 2018 Rio Communities Health Fair has been cancelled.

Work began this summer on renovations to the City of Rio Communities Municipal Complex.

Fencing has been placed around the building with extremely limited access to the sidewalk that circles around the building.

It would be difficult, if not impossible, for vendors or health care providers / companies to safely provide

health care information so it was decided to cancel the October health fair.

## Municipal Complex

### Undergoing Renovations

Work is now ongoing on renovations to the City of Rio Communities Municipal Complex.

One of the big changes to the building will be a transformation of the front facing Highway 47 by using a stucco-stone veneer.

The final product will have two pocket parks, one on either side of the Municipal Complex building.

Landscaping in one of the parks will include a small amphitheater type of structure.

The City Council has hired FBT Architects to coordinate the Municipal Complex renovations plus other improvements in the City of Rio Communities.

## Solar Powered Traffic Signal



*This traffic signal on Golf Course Road is powered by New Mexico sunshine. The City purchased the signal with monies from the Law Enforcement Protection Fund (LEPF) which provides \$20,000 a year to Rio Communities. Watch the signal reveal your speed.*

# City of Rio Communities Holds Its First National Night Out

National Night Out celebrated its 35th anniversary this year and the City of Rio Communities held its first National Night Out in cooperation with the Valencia County Sheriff's Department.

Folks enjoyed a variety of activities that first Tuesday in August which is traditionally the evening for Na-

tional Night Out.

Thanks to Claudine Montano for taking the pictures showing participation in National Night Out in Rio Communities.



# *Infrastructure Plan Sites Community Needs*

The Rio Communities City Council has approved the city's Infrastructure Capital Improvement Plan (ICIP) for Fiscal Years 2020-2024.

The top projects for 2020 are:

1. Storm water and drainage plan which would plan and design a complete drainage plan for citywide areas including arroyos, retention ponds, etc. to facilitate future and existing parks/open spaces, trails and roadways.

2. Public safety equipment to purchase and equip new public safety equipment in Rio Communities. This is a six-phase project.

3. Pavement reconstruction.

4. Parks and open space assessment plan which includes purchasing previous park properties.

5. Municipal Complex and Emergency Operations Center which plans, designs, renovates, furnishes and equips the existing Municipal Complex and Emergency Operations Center of Rio Communities.

This multi-phase project renovates the building at 360 Rio Communities Blvd. to accommodate new city offices, a Municipal Court, an Emergency Operations Center and additional spaces for a library, community use and recreation center, law enforcement substation and fire department administrative offices.

6. Roadway beautification which designs and constructs a shoulder along a 1.6 mile section of Highway 47.

Every year the City Council puts together an ICIP for the future which lists projects that could improve life in the City of Rio Communities.

Project funding comes from sources that include legislative appropriations including capital outlay, grants, the city budget, and loans.

Municipalities put together ICIPs so community projects are readily identifiable should funding becomes available.

## **Addresses on Buildings for Safety**

For everyone's safety, addresses on Rio Communities buildings should be plainly visible and correct. A correct address helps ensure emergency personnel can locate a structure when help is needed.

Numbers should contrast with the background and be a minimum of four-inches high with a minimum stroke width of 1/2 inch.

Consider extra lighting at night to facilitate people locating buildings. The expense could save a life.

## **Is Flood Insurance Necessary?**

New Mexico summer, and even fall, weather can bring intense heat during the day and incredibly driving rainstorms in the evening (or any other time).

Such rainstorms can cause flooding which brings mud and debris into and onto property.

Home insurance policies do not generally cover such flooding,

Individual home owners should check with their insurance agent on what is covered and what is needed should flooding occur.

## **Remaining 2018 Cleanup Days**

To help keep Rio Communities clean, the city will have a dumpster in the parking lot of City Hall, 360 Rio Communities Blvd., on Sept. 15, Oct. 20, Nov. 17 and Dec. 15.

## **Road Work To Continue**

Work will continue on various Rio Communities roads thanks to a local government grant the city has received.

Rio Communities will receive \$218,750 which the municipality will match with \$72,917 for a total of \$291,667 to be used for various road repairs including chipping and sealing.

Always slow down in a work zone and watch out for the workers.

## **Need Information? Try RC Website**

The Rio Communities website can answer many questions you might have about the community.

Topics covered includes personnel, intergovernmental agreements, the Municipal Code, permit and variance applications, policies and procedures, and a history of the city.

You can also find information about business and copies of this newsletter on the website.

## **Use Rio Communities**

The 87002 zip code now encompasses Rio Communities and Belen which is why it is important to use Rio Communities for all address issues.

When dealing with emergency services it is very important to tell the Valencia Regional Emergency Communications Center operators that the emergency is in Rio Communities when it is in the City of Rio Communities.

Change any address information that says Belen to Rio Communities. Use Rio Communities as a return address. Change the addresses on your communications to Rio Communities rather than using Belen.

# Certified Municipal Clerk



*Rio Communities Mayor Mark Gwinn congratulates municipal clerk Lisa Adair for being designated a certified municipal clerk by the International Institute of Municipal Clerks. Adair achieved the designation in three years rather than the usual four years it takes.*

## Have a Business? Get a License

Doing business in Rio Communities? Remember to get a business license from the City of Rio Communities. It's only \$35, available at City offices, 360 Rio Communities Blvd.

### Newsletter by Email

Sign up to receive this newsletter by email by sending an email to [admin@riocommunities.net](mailto:admin@riocommunities.net) saying that is what you want.

## Welcome to the City of Rio Communities New Mexico NEWS

A digest of what is going on in the City of Rio Communities.

### Inside this Edition

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Municipal Complex Renovations  
Is Flood Insurance Necessary?

*Rio Communities City Council*  
meets 6 p.m. 2nd and 4th Tuesday  
*Economic Development Commission*  
meets 10 a.m. 2nd and 4th Wednesday  
*Planning and Zoning Commission*  
meets 6:30 p.m. 1st and 3rd Thursday  
*City of Rio Communities Municipal Court*  
meets 5:30 p.m. 2nd and 4th Thursday

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**NEWS**  
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New Mexico

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