

# CITY OF RIO COMMUNITIES New Mexico



Volume 5 Number 1

Rio Communities City Hall  
360 Rio Communities Blvd.  
P.O. Box 565  
Rio Communities NM 87002  
505 861-6803  
Hours: Monday-Thursday  
First & Third Friday  
9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.  
Open with appointment  
admin@riocommunities.net  
info@riocommunities.net  
website -- riocommunities.net  
Economic Development  
www.riocommunitiesedc.net/

April 2022

## Governing Body

*Mayor Joshua Ramsell*

505 861-6803

jramsell@riocommunities.net

*Councilor Margaret (Peggy) Gutjahr*

*Mayor Pro Tem*

505 861-6803

pgutjahr@riocommunities.net

*Councilor Arthur Apodaca*

505 861-6803

aapodaca@riocommunities.net

*Councilor Lawrence Gordon*

505 861-6803

lgordon@riocommunities.net

*Councilor Jim Winters*

505 861-6803

jwinters@riocommunities.net

*Municipal Judge*

*Holly Noelle Chavez* 505 861-6803

nchavez@riocommunities.net

## Municipal Officers

Dr. Martin Moore *City Manager*

*Municipal Clerk* Lisa Adair

*Finance Officer/Treasurer*

Stephanie Finch

City Offices —

505 861-6803

## *Get Tag for Your Dog*

All dogs in Rio Communities must have tags which are available at City Hall at a cost of \$5 spayed or neutered and if not, then \$25. Please have proof of rabies shot.

## *Rio Communities Library Opening*

Albert Einstein once said, “The only thing you absolutely have to know is the location of the library.”

Residents of Rio Communities will find a library a little closer to home, thanks to State Representative Matthew McQueen (Democrat District 59), who largely funded the library project with a Junior Appropriations Grant.

After months of constructions and preparation, the Rio Communities Public Library will have a soft opening on April 30, 2022, beginning at 1:00 p.m. at City Hall, 360 Rio Communities Blvd.

While the library is small right now, it boasts big technology, with computer stations, a smart board, and tablets that will be used to teach young children subjects such as math, reading, and coding.

In addition to the library, Representative McQueen also helped fund a Makerspace with a separate Junior Appropriations Grant.

AMakerspace is a collaborative workspace designed for learning, creating, and sharing ideas.

The Rio Communities Makerspace will include a laser cutter/engraver, 3D printers, sewing machines, graphic arts computers, and more.

The Makerspace will be used to facilitate community programs, including coding, drones, robotics, and art classes.

City of Rio Communities officials expect to have the Makerspace ready to host summer programs and classes.



*Check out a book at Rio Communities Library in the City Hall.*

# City of Rio Communities

## CAPITAL OUTLAY / GRANTS / NMDOT / OTHER SPECIAL FUNDING

| PROJECT                                  | APPROPRIATION YEAR | APPROPRIATION / GRANT AMOUNT | CITY MATCH | TOTAL EXPENDED | EXPENDED % | Information   |
|--|--------------------|------------------------------|------------|----------------|------------|---|
| MUNICIPAL COMPLEX                        | 2016               | \$200,000                    | \$0        | \$200,000      | 100%       | Completed & Closed Out  |
| CITY HALL RENOVATION                     | 2018               | \$25,000                     | \$0        | \$25,000       | 100%       | Completed & Closed Out  |
| MUNICIPAL COMPLEX PH4                    | 2018               | \$175,000                    | \$0        | \$175,000      | 100%       | Completed & Closed Out  |
| SAFETY FIRE TRUCK                        | 2019               | \$150,000                    | \$0        | \$150,000      | 100%       | Completed & Closed Out  |
| DRAINAGE PLAN                            | 2019               | \$115,000                    | \$0        | \$114,890      | 100%       | Completed & Closed Out  |
| ROAD REPAIR / Country Club Lane          | 2019               | \$245,054                    | \$12,898   | \$91,960       | 100%       | Completed & Closed Out  |
| ROAD REPAIR                              | 2019               | \$166,500                    | \$93,293   | \$259,793      | 100%       | Completed & Closed Out  |
| CITY HALL RENOVATION                     | 2020               | \$321,750                    | \$0        | \$0            | 0.0%       | NOO/Purchase Order Issued to FBT Architects for Architectural Design & Segro Insulation |
| LIBRARY                                  | 2019               | \$50,000                     | \$0        | \$48,185       | 96.4%      | Completed & Closed Out  |
| LIBRARY                                  | 2020               | \$10,000                     | \$0        | \$9,417        | 94.2%      | NOO/PO Issued to Sharp Business Systems   |
| PUBLIC SAFETY EQUIPMENT                  | 2020               | \$220,000                    | \$0        | \$220,000      | 100.0%     | Completed & Closed Out  |
| ROAD REPAIR                              | 2020               | \$120,000                    | \$40,000   | \$157,508      | 0.0%       | Completed & Closed Out  |
| SAFETY STREET LIGHTING                   | 2021               | \$60,000                     | \$8,861    | \$12,035       | 20.1%      | NOO/Purchase Order Issued to HDR Engineering  |
| CITY HALL COMPLEX                        | 2021               | \$300,000                    | \$0        | \$0            | 0.0%       | Received Fully Executed Grant Agreement   |
| FIRE TRUCK PURCHASE                      | 2021               | \$204,000                    | \$0        | \$204,000      | 100.0%     | Completed & Closed Out  |
| TRAILS, PARKS & OPEN SPACES CONSTRUCTION | 2021               | \$250,000                    | \$0        | \$0            | 0.0%       | City Manager working with Developers.   |

# City of Rio Communities

## CAPITAL OUTLAY / GRANTS / NMDOT / OTHER SPECIAL FUNDING

|  |      |             |           |          |        |  |
|--|------|-------------|-----------|----------|--------|--|
| AMERICAN RECOVERY PLAN ACT                           | 2021 | \$1,122,193 | \$0       | \$0      | 0.0%   | First Half Funding Received / Project planning underway.       |
| CITY HALL FLOODING                                   | 2021 | \$16,500    | \$4,125   | \$35,630 | 100.0% | Reimbursed. Insurance covered everything minus the deductible. |
| CHAMARTIN DRAINAGE, AVENIDA DEL FUEGO, OTHER STREETS | 2021 | \$400,000   | \$100,000 | \$0      | 0.0%   | Engineer to begin work on planning & bid documents             |
| DEBRIS REMOVAL                                       | 2021 | \$65,000    | \$16,250  | \$57,155 | 87.9%  | Sent in items for reimbursement                                |
| PAVEMENT REHABILITATION SAN LUCAS/CHAMARTIN          | 2021 | \$139,854   | \$46,618  | \$0      | 0.0%   | Engineer to begin work on certifications & bid documents       |
| YOUTH AND COMMUNITY PROGRAMS                         | 2021 | \$75,000    | \$0       | \$33,862 | 45.1%  | Council approved plan, purchasing items                        |

## Economic Development in Rio Communities

The Oasis Restaurant has been renamed and rebranded to the Longbow Restaurant, 480 Rio Communities Blvd. Everyone welcome!

Dollar General, located at the intersection of NM Hwy 47 and Manzano Expressway, has expanded the frozen food and other product choices.

Good Golly Finds and Treasures, 2359 Highway 47, in Rio Communities, is a new business. Please come by and support this business! Great used items for your home and business.

Watch for grand opening ribbon cuttings for these businesses. Stop by the businesses to see what is offered. There will be a ribbon cuttings soon. Everyone welcome!

### Upcoming Retail Survey

A retail survey will be issued to existing businesses and residents to gather input from residents/businesses on the type of businesses that Rio Communities wants to attract to the city. The survey will go out in May 2022 and the final results will be tabulated in the Summer of 2022 for future business attraction marketing.

The City of Rio Communities is creating an Economic Development brochure and rack card plus revamping the Economic Development website to help market the city to future residential and business investors.

### Rio Communities Economic Development Question

What makes Rio Communities different from other communities in New Mexico? 90% of the properties in Rio Communities is within a federal mandated Opportunity Zone Area. The purpose of an Opportunity Zone is to spur economic development and job creation toward tax incentives.

If you want to open up a business in Rio Communities or have Economic Development ideas contact Ralph L. Mims, Economic Development Consultant at 505 362-3193 or e-mail [info@rmimsworldgroup.com](mailto:info@rmimsworldgroup.com).

Ralph Mims was the Economic Development Manager for the Village of Los Lunas for over ten years and was involved in attracting retail and manufacturing projects, including Facebook, to the area. He retired from the Village of Los Lunas in December, 2020, and has been hired by the City of Rio Communities to do economic development,

**CITY OF RIO COMMUNITIES**  
**New Mexico**  
**NEWS**

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**Hours: Open to the Public**

**Monday - Thursday**

**First & Third Friday**

**9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.**

**City Council Meetings**

**2nd & 4th Mondays 6 p.m.**

**City Council Workshops**

**2nd & 4th Mondays 3 p.m.**

**Contact City Hall if you need to  
come in some other time**

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**

**Library Opening**

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**Projects in**

**Rio Communities**

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**Economic Development  
And Much More in This Issue**

**Meetings of the City of Rio**

**Communities Council,**

**Economic Development**

**Commission, and Planning and**

**Zoning Commission may be**

**viewed on Facebook at**

**the time of the meeting.**

## Filing a Complaint in the City

Here are a few ways to file a complaint in the City of Rio Communities:

- Go to the City website at <https://www.riocommunities.net>, click on the Resource tab>Contact the City>submit a request or concern. Fill out the request form and a staff member will get back with you as quickly as possible.
- You can come into City Hall: Monday – Thursday 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. or the 1st and 3rd Friday of every month 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. as well. City officials work hours not listed so you can make an appointment.
- Call City Hall at 505 861-6803 or email [admin@riocommunities.net](mailto:admin@riocommunities.net).

## Updates for Rio Communities

• The Bill Brown Memorial Fund currently contains \$331,412.52 . The Council approved the distribution of \$150,000 from the fund to improve public works. The remaining balance will be used for parks in accordance with Bill Brown's wishes.

\* This year, 2022, the Health Wellness Council will not have the Family Health Fair in April. A Fall Health Fair is tentatively scheduled October 21.

\* A reminder that the City provides free dumpster service every third Saturday January through November. There is NO free dumpster service in December.

• The City has a new slogan and logo – Spectacular Views Endless Opportunities



**Lots going on in Rio Communities  
Read this newsletter to find out  
about all the projects.**