



City of Cortez
123 Roger Smith Ave.
Cortez, Co. 81321

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

August 23, 2022

Mayor and Council:

The following is my report for the current term:

- **CIRSA Audit** – We just received the results of our 2021 CIRSA loss control audit on our training and adherence to best practices. We received a score of 103 out of a possible 100 points, due to the fact that we earned extra credit for our HR staff having attending CIRSA training. We plan to earn extra points next year as well. What this means is that we earn monetary credit in our loss control account that can help lower premiums or help fund training. Last year this helped us purchase materials and incentives for our employee health and safety fair. I wish to thank the Human Resources Department for their hard work and skill in keeping us in compliance with best practices and saving money in the process.
- **Tree Maintenance** - I met with the Parks and Recreation as well as the Public Works Department this afternoon and helped solidify their plans to re-establish the City tree maintenance program. A comprehensive plan has been developed to address this issue in the next budget cycle. They are already taking some preliminary steps using existing resources, but the reality is we are currently in a reactive stance and only dealing with problem trees as needed. Our goal is to transition to a proactive stance so we can develop and maintain a coherent tree management plan that best fits the needs of the community. More to come.
- **EAA Young Eagles Event** - The local chapter of the Experimental Aircraft Association (EAA), AKA Black Cat Aviation, named as a nod to the emergency landing of a U2 spy plane at the Cortez airport in 1959, is hosting a “Young Eagles Event” this coming Saturday, August 27th from 8:00am to 12:00pm. The local chapter is comprised of local pilots from all walks of life, including two City employees. The local chapter is currently chaired by our airport manager, Jeremy Patton, who is largely responsible for this event occurring. This is an opportunity for youth ages 8-17 to take their first free ride in a small aircraft and introduce them to the aviation industry. It is hoped that this type of exposure will entice interest in joining the aviation community. Breakfast will be served. Various small aircraft types will be present and flown by local pilots, including one of my favorites, a Piper “Super Cub” that is currently configured as a true bush plane, balloon tires and all, and flown by a local rancher. It is a tail dragging aircraft that is designed to fly slow and low in various terrain.
- **Graffiti Abatement** – The graffiti abatement team has worked hard to address the graffiti problem in the City during the past several weeks. At this point, all graffiti that we are aware of on City property has been abated, and we are ready to abate it again as often as it occurs. The skate park is in the process of being painted over. We know other small examples of vandalism still exists in public spaces and will be addressed as soon as possible. Of the 52 private properties in the City where graffiti is known to have occurred, 27 have already been abated. The work continues. We expect informational fliers to go out with the September water bills, and we expect to approach Council in the near future to seek an ordinance change. There is a noticeable decrease in the amount of graffiti blight in our community. This is good for everyone. I am asking the property owners and residents in the City of Cortez to please

join us in taking our City back by not tolerating this blight when it occurs. If you see something, say something, and take steps to help us keep our City beautiful.

- **Promotions** - For the past several months Lyle Bair has been serving as the interim Parks Superintendent, and Ryan Thetga has been serving as the interim golf course superintendent. These jobs were posted publically for several weeks. Interviews took place and these two individuals have been selected to serve as permanent replacements for their predecessors. I would like to thank them both for their demonstrated skill and exceptional dedication these past several months, and I congratulate them both on their promotion.