



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

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

July 11, 2023

Mayor and Council:

The following is my report for the current term:

- The City of Cortez has been selected to receive the very competitive 2023 RAISE Grant in the amount of \$825,300. The project will fund a comprehensive plan, spread across three phases, to evaluate and reform the city's interstate corridors, including a corridor assessment and public engagement strategy, engineering and technical design, and a feasibility study, including benefit-cost analysis.
- The July 4th festivities were abundant in Cortez this year culminating with a stellar fireworks show. The City hosted two bands in Centennial Park, the Four Corners Community Band from 4:30 – 6 p.m. and then Flashback from 7 – 9 p.m., along with several food trucks. It was estimated that Cortez hosted even more revelers this year than in the past.
- Mike Monarco's last day with the City of Cortez was on July 7, 2023 after 31 years of service. He has accepted a position with Clearnetworkx. Mike started in the parks department, and transferred to the building maintenance staff. When the City started the fiber project, Cortez Community Network, Mike stepped up to learn everything about fiber, from fiber drops and construction, maintaining electronics, trouble-shooting connectivity, customer service, and everything in between to help manage the project in the field for the City. Mike will now take his skills to help Clearnetworkx complete the full fiber network build out for Cortez. His knowledge and abilities will be great assets to Clearnetworkx, but he will be truly missed here at the City.
- CML / Mayor panel – The Colorado Municipal League conference was a success. There were some very relevant topics presented and discussed that will help us with our mission here in Cortez. Of note was the invitation by CML to our Mayor Medina to sit on what was termed as the “Meeting of the Minds” panel that discussed various municipal topics. Others on the panel included other mayors from municipalities such as Golden, Colorado Springs, and Aurora, as well as Senator Hickenlooper. She made some significant contributions to the panel discussion and was very well received by the audience. At the conclusion of the panel discussion my title changed from the Cortez City Manager to “that guy with the Cortez Mayor”. We were all very proud of her performance.