



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

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

March 26, 2024

Mayor and Council:

The following is my report for the current term:

- The Cortez Community and Economic Development department has been awarded the Community Business Preservation Program (CBPP) grant through the Governor's office and the Business Funding and Incentives office of Economic Development and International Trade (OEDIT) for \$179,000. Cortez was one of 11 communities funded out of the 38 community applications. The five participating downtown Cortez local businesses, High Desert Life Outdoors, Love On A Hangar, Merriweather Home & Market, Notah Dineh Trading Company, Turquoise Raven Art Gallery, and the ZU Gallery, who were included in the grant will each receive a sum of money for physical improvements to their business. They all have strong family ties to Montezuma County and are committed to supporting local artisans and products. The Community and Economic Development department spent many hours working closely with these businesses and their presentations to ensure their needs will be met. Their hard work translated into our local businesses being supported and funded.
- Pinnacle Assurance, our provider for workman's compensation, has issued the City of Cortez a general dividend of \$9,609 for the year 2022 due to our workplace safety program. We all succeed when we work together and commit to higher safety standards making the City of Cortez a better and safer place to work.
- The 'We are Water' traveling exhibit through a partnership with NOAA and the University of Colorado has been installed at the Cortez Library and will be on exhibit through the end of July, 2024. This exhibit creates a place where all community members can experience, learn, share, and talk about what water means to them. The exhibit has four parts, each highlighting a different theme: (1) Water and Life, (2) Water Use, Water Rights, (3) Water in the Landscape, and (4) Water and Our Community. Each piece of the exhibit also includes a hands-on activity, and is presented in Navajo, Spanish and English.