



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

## **CITY MANAGER'S REPORT**

May 28, 2024

Mayor and Council:

The following is my report for the current term:

- The annual City Council retreat was held Saturday, May 18, 2024. City Council and senior staff disseminated a lot of information to come up with the Council's priorities for 2024.
- The City of Cortez hosted the regional Colorado Municipal League, CML, meeting on Monday May 20, 2024. Over 40 people attended from throughout Region 9 and from CML. The evening began at the Colorado Welcome Center with CREA and then moved to the Destination Grill for dinner. Thank you to City Clerk Linda Smith for all her hard work coordinating the regional meeting and spotlighting the City of Cortez to our area neighbors.
- I attended a presentation on Tuesday May 14, 2024 regarding the Sun Bear Solar Project slated for approximately 3,800 – 4,200 acres on the Ute Mountain Ute Tribal Lands. Construction could begin as early as this year. The project has a potential influx of skilled labor to our area and will provide local jobs. Construction would require about 600 – 1,000 employees, and once operational will employ between 10 – 50 full time employees. This will likely impact our schools and housing within the City of Cortez. The proposed timeline includes 2 – 4 years of site preparation and construction, a 35 year projected life, and 2 - 4 years of decommissioning and reclamation. The project could generate enough energy to power 214,000 homes.