



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

## **CITY MANAGER'S REPORT**

October 14, 2025

Mayor and Council:

The following is my report for the current term:

- The proposed Draft FY2026 Budget is on the website and open for public view and comment. City staff has worked hard over the past several weeks to bring this budget into fruition. I encourage everyone to review the proposed budget and to comment as needed.
- The Cortez Police Fall Citizen's Academy is slated to start tomorrow, Wednesday, Oct 15, 2025 and will run for 6 weeks through November 19, 2025. This academy is intended to give residents a practical look at law enforcement and some of what they do.
- It is with sadness we report our Library Director, Beth Edson has submitted her resignation and will be returning to Kansas City for family matters. Her last day will be November 7, 2025. We will be working with Columbia, LTD and Mr. Drew Gorgey again for recruitment. The position opening went live on October 7, 2025 with a filing deadline of November 9, 2025. Finalist interviews will be held the first week of December, 2025 with an anticipated start date at the first of the year.
- The City is seeing an increase in the number and sophistication of 'phishing' attempts targeting our employees email. This heightened attack began in September, 2025 with a 400% increase in threats caught; October, 2025 is even worse. Our cyber security programs do work and catch the majority of the threats, however, our employees need to be vigilant and well trained in the identification of these communications and how to handle them.

- The City of Cortez Historic Preservation Board has been nominated as one of the 2026 People's Choice Award nominees by History Colorado staff for the Stephen H. Hart award for outstanding projects that preserve Colorado's meaningful past. Voting is open to the public through October 27, 2025 and can be accessed through the news release on the landing page of the Cortez website.
- The Cortez Recreation Center will be hosting a new free teen program with TeamUp Safe Spaces Action Team on Saturday nights this fall. Activities will be held at the rec center on the second Saturday of the month for middle school students and on the fourth Saturday of the month for high school students. Please check the Parks and Recreation page on the City of Cortez website for other locations and additional information.