

From the Office of Commissioner Miguel Chavez



May 10, 2013

Committees

**Buckman Direct
Diversion Board
Solid Waste Management
Board
Metropolitan Planning
Organization**

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Annexation Update:

At this time, it appears that the annexation issue will be resolved in the following manner: The annexation Phasing Agreement is expected to be revised to provide that annexation of Phase II will be accomplished at the end of the current calendar year; the Agreement is also expected to provide that Area 1 on the original annexation map (the area north of the Traditional Historic Village between the existing City limits and NM-599) will be annexed as a part of Phase II. The revised Phasing Agreement is also expected to provide that Area 18 (an unincorporated area east of the City centered on Hyde Park Estates) will not be annexed. Law enforcement and fire services provided by the County will be phased out gradually in the annexed areas, although Area 1 will continue to be served by the County fire department following annexation because of deficiencies in City fire apparatus. Deferred maintenance on County roads will be addressed by the County in the next few years prior to the City assuming maintenance responsibility, and water customers in the County currently served by the City will be transferred to the County on July 1 (no change in water service will be experienced), and those water customers will start to receive County billings. Wastewater service will be provided by the County when it is technically able to do so. Solid waste service in the areas to be annexed will be assumed by the City in advance of annexation so that there is a seamless transition from private haulers to

the City operation. Commissioner Chavez will provide an update after the May 14th BCC meeting if this plan changes.

San Isidro River Blessing in Agua Fria Village:

The Agua Fria Village Association invites the public to join them in celebrating the annual traditional *River Blessing* on May 15, 2013, beginning with a Mass at 5:30pm. The procession from the historic San Isidro church to the river is scheduled to begin at 6:15pm. Music will be provided by community members and a reception will follow at the Nancy Rodriguez Community Center in Agua Fria, #1 Prairie Dog Loop.

Santa Fe County Approved Open Burn Restriction Emergency Ordinance:

Due to low winter precipitation, high winds and very high fire danger the Santa Fe County Fire Department by approval of the Board of County Commissioners (BCC) issued an emergency ordinance at the April 30, 2013 BCC meeting declaring hazardous fire conditions and imposing restrictions on open fires, smoking and other ignition sources.

Ordinance 2013-001 prohibits:

- Open fires of any kind;
- Open burning of vegetation or rubbish;
- Smoking within a County park, campground or any wild land area, except within an enclosed vehicle or in a building which is specifically authorized for such and is exempt from the NM No Smoking in Public Facilities Act;
- Littering on public roadways/areas with ignited

smoking materials;

- Use of off-road vehicles, motor bikes, or other motorized apparatus within county parks, campgrounds and wild land areas;
- The issuance of licenses or permits for open burning;
- Campfires

Any individual, firm, partnership or other entity found violating this emergency ordinance can be found guilty of a petty misdemeanor and punished by imprisonment for up to 90 days or a fine not to exceed \$300.00, or both. Each act shall constitute a separate violation.

“In the past Santa Fe County has not considered burn restrictions until the summer months, but with the limited snow fall, lack of rain, and continuous winds the drought situation in the County and state wide has increased the threat of a wildland fire. We ask that residents be diligent in preventing a wildland fire emergency from occurring,” says Fire Chief David Sperling.

Any open burn permits that have been issued for the next 30 days are now void. Residents will need to obtain a new permit once restrictions have been lifted.

Improvement Work at Cowles

Ponds Fishing Site:

The US Forest Service began site improvements at the Cowles Ponds fishing site located 20 miles north of Pecos, NM off of NM 63. Crews will construct new trails that surround both ponds to provide access for people with disabilities, repair the parking lot, and

create fishing piers using native materials. The site will be closed during the improvement work and is scheduled to re-open to the public by Memorial Day Weekend.

Santa Fe County DWI Program Announces Temporary Changes to CADDY Program Hours:

The Santa Fe County DWI Program announced a temporary change to the CADDY \$1 Cab Ride Home program. Starting May 24 and running through June 29 the \$1 cab rides will be offered from 10 p.m. to 2:30 a.m. on Friday and Saturday nights instead of beginning at 5:30 p.m.

The CADDY Program provides more than 12,000 cab rides to 18,000 people a year. Each month an average of about 1,600 people take a cab home from the bar or party, some of whom may drive while intoxicated if the cab ride option isn't available. The Santa Fe County DWI Program subsidizes these cab rides for about \$156,000 per year through funds received from the State of New Mexico Liquor Excise Tax.

Regular service hours, 5:30 p.m. to 2:30 a.m. Friday and Saturday nights will resume July 5, 2013. For more information contact Peter Olson 992-9844 polson@santafecountynm.gov

If you wish to unsubscribe please contact Rita B. Maes at rbmaes@santafecountynm.gov