

Memorandum

November 19, 2018

To: Raton City Commissioners

Prepared By: Scott Berry, P.E.
City Manager

Subject: Request for Capital Outlay Project Funding
2019 Session of the New Mexico Legislature

The New Mexico State Legislature will convene in regular session on January 15, 2019 for a 60 day session. I will be preparing requests for Capital Outlay Funding from the City of Raton to our legislative delegation and to Legislative Council Service prior to the session. This memo will discuss my recommendations to the City Commission based upon my evaluation.

This year, Raton and District 67 will have a new Representative following the retirement of Dennis Roch. Also, it has been reported that New Mexico may be on track for a \$2 billion budget surplus. This is in contrast to several years ago when the state faced a \$300 million deficit for fiscal year 2017/18.

Based upon the possibility of greater funding for capital outlay, I have expanded the request recommendations. The recommendations also reflect the Infrastructure Capital Improvement Plan (ICIP) process completed earlier in the year and approved by the Raton City Commission. I have attached the current ICIP and Criteria for Legislature to Evaluate Local Projects.

Based upon the planning efforts and the status of projects on the ICIP, my recommendations for Capital Outlay requests are as follows:

1. **Downtown Commercial Area Street Improvements** – In order to continue our comprehensive improvement of commercial area streets, I recommend a project to reconstruct 2 blocks of Park Avenue between First Street and Third Street, and 1 block of Cook Avenue between Second and Third. Additional street projects are planned utilizing funding through NMDOT LGRF, TAP program, and CDBG.

Recommended Capital Outlay Request - \$400,000

2. **Police Department Equipment Replacement** – it is an ongoing challenge to adequately equip the Police Department to the level that is necessary to meet the daily demands. If funded, this request would be for three new police vehicle units and replacement of each mobile police computer required for every PD vehicle. Additionally, this request would add high definition camera system that would improve the abilities of our Police Department.

Recommended Capital Outlay Request - \$200,000

3. **Storm Drainage Rehabilitation Project** – The existing storm drainage system located throughout the Original Townsite was constructed more than 75 years ago and has extensive reconstruction needs. Rehabilitation of this system is planned over several phases, which was commenced three years ago. Work proposed in the next phase would include work to the storm drainage system on Savage Avenue, Clark Avenue, Rio Grande Avenue, and Apache Avenue.

Recommended Capital Outlay Request - \$300,000

4. **Public Works Equipment Replacement** – With last year's capital outlay, we were able to purchase a new loader and asphalt recycler. Prior to those upgrades, limited public works equipment replacement had taken place in the previous decade. Other equipment that requires immediate replacement includes a backhoe, dump truck, mower, 2 cinder spreaders, and an asphalt hotbox.

Recommended Capital Outlay Request - \$200,000

5. **Asphalt Millings Recycling** – If funded, this project would consist of crushing, classification and rejuvenation of asphalt millings that are currently stockpiled at the Hereford yard. The rejuvenated asphalt material would be used for the overlay of certain residential streets throughout Raton. This project could create a significant improvement to the condition of Raton's streets.

Recommended Capital Outlay Request - \$500,000

6. **Airport Hangar** – Under this request, the City of Raton would be requesting additional funding for the proposed aircraft hangar to be constructed at Raton Municipal Airport.

Recommended Capital Outlay Request - \$250,000

I would request action to approve all Capital Outlay requests for Raton by the City Commission at the December 11, 2018 meeting in order to allow the time to complete documentation, submittals, and coordinate the requests with legislators and Legislative Council Service. The Commission can request any project that is listed on the ICIP and meets the attached criteria. My recommendations are offered based on current priority needs, projects impact on community development and compliance, and state established criteria.