



Town of Taos  
**PRESS RELEASE**  
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***For Immediate Release:***

**PRESS RELEASE - TOWN RECEIVES \$500,000 GRANT FOR YOUTH  
AND FAMILY CENTER REPAIRS**

**June 16, 2015** - The Mayor and Town Council are pleased to announce that the Town of Taos has been awarded a \$500,000 CDBG Grant by the Local Government Division of the State of New Mexico Department of Finance and Administration (NM DFA) for Fiscal Year 2015-2016. The Grant is targeted toward repair and replacement of the east wall of the Taos Youth and Family Center on Paseo de Cañon. The grant will be matched by \$50,000 in cash from the Town to meet the 10% matching requirement.

Additionally, the Town Council has pledged another \$186,000 in the coming fiscal year, beginning July 1, toward an anticipated \$2,500,000 renovation of the Family and Youth Center pool area, ice skating rink, adjacent skate park and other upgrades over the next 5 years.

Mayor Dan Barrone was present for both the initial CDBG hearings earlier this month and for the award announcements made earlier today in Albuquerque. "The Town is committed to providing a world class recreation facility for our children and families here in Taos, as well as addressing the years of neglect of our infrastructure. This is an important step", the Mayor told state officials.

Youth and Family Center Director Brian Greer and Town Grants and Revenue Enhancement Director Lynda Perry also appeared before the CDBG review committee in Albuquerque earlier this month, along with the Mayor, to document the need for the funding, as well as the regional recreational and economic importance of the Center. "The facility draws families, our youth, seniors and athletes from all over the region on a daily basis, and tournaments and competitions year-round for ice hockey, swimming and other sports that bring thousands of visitors to Taos from New Mexico and around the country", stated Brian Greer, Director of the Youth and Family Center.

A thorough architectural and engineering analysis of the entire facility, estimates and timetables for required improvements and even some replacement and upgrading of heating, cooling and ventilation systems had been carried out by the Town in anticipation of submitting the CDBG application.

When asked what he attributed the Town's success in obtaining the funding, Mayor Dan Barrone replied, "I think we have put together a top flight staff at the Town, and both the high ranking this project received and that it was funded at the maximum amount allowed is indicative of both the importance of the project and the thorough job the staff did in identifying the problem, documenting the solutions needed and targeting the required funding. The staff did their homework. This is a great example of what we can do when we put our personal agendas aside and work together as a Council, staff and community".

Architectural and design meetings, as well as the preparation of preliminary bid packages were already under way two weeks ago so that if the funds were awarded, the work could proceed as quickly as possible.

Barrone was emphatic that work will begin as soon as the grant agreement and approved construction schedule allows.

-End-



**TOWN OF TAOS GOVERNING BODY**

Mayor Daniel R. Barrone  
Mayor Pro Tem George "Fritz" Hahn  
Councilmember Judith Y. Cantu  
Councilmember Andrew T. Gonzales  
Councilmember Frederick A. Peralta

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Town Hall Hours: 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.  
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