



Town of Taos  
**PRESS RELEASE**  
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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Town Council Votes Unanimously to Support Holy Cross Hospital**

At the regular meeting last night, the Town of Taos Council unanimously voted to support Mayor Cordova's request to direct staff to retain the services of a financial consultant to evaluate all the existing bonds and debt service county voters have supported. The purpose is to identify possible excess revenues voters may dedicate to the hospital such as excess revenues generated for the judicial complex.

In addition, the Town Council directed staff to pursue legislation that would allow Taos County to call a local referendum imposing a hospital gross receipts tax. The proposal by the Mayor and Council is to gain approval during the short legislative session for a short term gross receipts tax. Revenue from this tax would fund the hospital until the Affordable Care Act takes full effect. Currently, the hospital is estimated to again lose more income than it will receive, resulting in a very tight cash position in the short term. This council action comes months after the County turned down a request by the hospital board to call for a referendum for a hospital tax. Under the Council's proposal, special legislation would only enable the commission to call a referendum which the voters would then have to approve before it could take effect.

Mayor Cordova stated, "Holy Cross Hospital is a critical element of the health and welfare of our community and crucial to our local economy. We must do everything possible to preserve its financial stability, including preserving the option of a special tax which all the Mayors of the Enchanted Circle including myself have been discussing recently." Mayor Cordova has scheduled a meeting with Mayors of the enchanted circle, county commission chair and school district leaders along with hospital leaders to garner support for this initiative.

**TOWN OF TAOS GOVERNING BODY**

Mayor Darren M. Cordova

Councilmember Rudy C. Abeyta

Councilmember Andrew T. Gonzales

Councilmember Frederick A. Peralta  
Councilmember Michael A. Silva