GETTING TO KNOW YOUR CITY DEPARTMENTS

Welcome to the City of Raton Treasury Department
Department Motto
“Ensure Public Trust”

This small department is staffed with 4 dedicated employees who work hard to provide excellent customer service and to assist the City Manager with the financial management of the City of Raton which includes safeguarding assets and public funds, payroll processing, accounts payable, cash collections, accounts receivable, purchasing, budget preparation, financial reporting, grant administration, audit compliance and issuance of city licenses.

The City of Raton Treasury Department strives to operate in a transparent and fiscally responsible manner to “Ensure Public Trust”. One of the primary goals of the department is staff cross-training and establishment of standard operating procedures to ensure operational efficiency and continuity. The department is also working with the water and electric utilities to enhance customer convenience by implementing credit card processing in the near future. We are excited about the positive things happening in our community and hope that 2019 will be a happy and prosperous new year for the City of Raton.

Gross Receipt Tax Changes

Starting off the New Year, a lower gross receipts tax rate (8.2708%) for the City of Raton took effect January 1, 2019. The tax decrease is a result of the ballot question passed by voters in March 2018 and passage of Ordinance No. 997 to lower the Supplemental Municipal Gross Receipts Tax which will be dedicated to Cimarron system upgrades, water system capital improvements to the 70 year old water treatment plant, storage tanks, water distribution mains, fire protection, reservoir dams and reclaim irrigation system. The 1% SMGRT (Ord. No. 666 effective July 1981) was also recently repealed. This tax was put in place to help with the funding of the Supplemental Cimarron System bonds which were paid off in December 2018. Both ordinances were set to take effect concurrently on January 1st resulting in a ¼% tax decrease. The City of Raton thanks the voters for securing Raton’s Water Future.
The Logo
The wheel is a major theme for the visual brand and is directly related to Raton’s Santa Fe Trail and railroad history along with our perfect situation as a crossroads for travelers and residents. Considering our proximity to Colorado, Texas, Oklahoma and Kansas, we are well connected to adventure both with Raton and in areas immediately surrounding our town. Our radiant sunrises and sunsets are second to none and reflect the friendly and warm nature of our residents. Goat Hill and the beautiful flowing landscape surrounding Raton are Suggested in the negative space of the logo and relate to our connection with the land, from our mining history to the scenic hiking and outdoor activity that both tourists and lifelong residents enjoy today.

The Tagline
Your Pass references the Raton Pass, a unique feature that no one else can claim and by which many visitors recognize us. The use of “your” invites visitors to enjoy all we have to offer in and around the community. The underline reflects a strike in the earth, heartening to our mining history and also highlighting the duality of “your” and “our” in the same word. The tagline will be extended in marketing campaigns as “your pass to…” and will offer flexibility for promoting area attractions and events. Raton, Your Pass to adventure?

Free Computer Classes for the Community
The Arthur Johnson Memorial Library is offering free computer classes to those who are either not familiar with computers or would like to broaden their computer knowledge.

The library provides handouts and has computers for patrons to use during the training if they don’t have one of their own.

Class space is limited. But don’t worry if you missed a class, we will repeat them at a later date.

Classes fill up quick so if you’re interested in a class call and sign up 575-445-9711.

Keep an eye on the City Newsletter for up and coming classes on the City Events calendar, page 4 of this issue.

Raton City Departments

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<td>Chris Espinoza, Chief</td>
<td>Jared Chatterley, Director</td>
<td>Jason Phillips, Director</td>
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<td>Anthony Burk, Deputy Chief</td>
<td>JR Alderette, Associate Director</td>
<td>Larry Marquez, Public Works Superintendent</td>
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<td>AJM Library</td>
<td>Police</td>
<td>David Gallegos, Public Works Superintendent</td>
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<td>Thayla Wright, Director</td>
<td>John Garcia, Chief</td>
<td>575-445-9551</td>
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<td>Dennie R. Gum, Assistant</td>
<td>James “Jim” Valdez, Captain</td>
<td>Raton Water Works</td>
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<td>575-445-9711</td>
<td>575-445-2704</td>
<td>Dan Campbell, Manager</td>
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<td>Sandy Chavez, Manager</td>
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<td>Michael Anne Antonucci</td>
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2019 Fiscal Budget

The City of Raton total budget for fiscal year 2019 is $15.3 million and consists of the following funds: general operating, special revenue, capital outlay, debt service, solid waste enterprise, trust & agency and the landfill trust. The primary source of operating revenue is derived from gross receipts taxes generated from local businesses which is why it is vital to shop local and why the City of Raton supports efforts to grow its tax base with new businesses. The City of Raton also collects gross receipts on local construction projects which results in “windfall income” that increases the general fund reserves but is not relied on for recurring expenses and generally is used for one-time capital purchases. A copy of the FY19 budget is available for viewing on the City’s website at http://www.ratonnm.gov.

City Manager’s Report
By: Scott Berry, P.E.

Public Works Construction Progress Report:
The City of Raton had a very active year in 2018 to construct, reconstruct and rehabilitate various public works, and 2019 will be a busy year as well. The City of Raton has a comprehensive planning process to prioritize needed public works improvements, and the public is always welcome to submit their comments and input as to the future priorities. The City’s planning process culminates in the Infrastructure Capital Improvement Plan (ICIP) that is approved by the Raton City Commission and submitted to the New Mexico Department of Finance and Administration/Local Government Division in September of each year. The ICIP can be viewed on the City of Raton website at: https://www.ratonnm.gov/DocumentCenter/View/779/ICIP-FY-2019-2023?bidId=2018.

2018 saw the construction of Hospital Drive improvements. This project included the resurfacing of Hospital Drive, as well as reconstruction of a problematic vertical alignment that was constructed by NMDOT in the 1990’s. This project was a priority for the past four years, and numerous attempts to fund the project had been rejected by NMDOT until 2018.

Also, a waterline replacement project was constructed along a portion of Hart Avenue and Brilliant Street. The new line replaces a steel waterline that had numerous leaks due to the age of the old pipe. The street section throughout this project will be repaved in the summer of 2019.

Street improvements were completed on Galisteo Avenue, Apache Avenue, South Third Street and South Fourth Street. A resurfacing method called “chip seal” was applied to these streets in order to address the weathered, cracked oxidized pavement conditions.

The City of Raton began construction of the first phase of the First Street/ Great Blocks Project. This project is designed to revitalize the historic railroad district of downtown Raton. New Mexico MainStreet and Raton MainStreet are major partners in that effort. Approximately 75% of the construction is complete currently, and the Contractor will restart the work when the weather warms up again.

Projects planned in 2019 include Phase II of the reconstruction of Taxiway Alpha at the Raton Municipal Airport, a major upgrade to the Raton Water Filtration Plant, installation of instrumentation at the Lake Maloya Dam, construction of a new solid waste transfer station, improvements to the Raton Train Station, renovations at the Shuler Theater, renovations at Fire Station No. 1, and various street and drainage improvements around Raton.

The City of Raton has numerous funding requests pending for many of the priority projects identified, and works throughout the year to identify funding opportunities in order to stretch the limited local resources available. The most important thing that each of us can do on a daily basis to increase local public works improvements is to support local businesses. This simple action can have a significant impact towards improving our community and increasing public and private investments in Raton.
February City Events

**Armex Plaza**
420 E. 4th Avenue
Raton, NM 87740

**Recycling** 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month 8-12, 1st Saturday of the month 9-1

**Transfer Station (Landfill)**
1982 Armstrong Lane, Raton, NM
Winter Hours
Mon.-Fri. 8am-3:30pm
Closed Saturdays and Sundays

**Raton Fire Department**
**CPR Classes** 3rd Thursday of the month
$35 Signup fee

Go to either **Station 1**: 127 Clark Avenue
Raton, NM 87740
or
**Station 2**: 200 West Troy Avenue,
Raton, NM 87740
to signup

**Arthur Johnson Memorial Library**
**Pre-K Story hour**: every Wednesday 10am
**Accidental Writer’s Group**: every Friday 10am

**Computer Classes**
**Power Point Part 2** Monday, February 11, 2019 9am-12pm
**Basic Email for Beginners** Saturday, February 16, 2019 10am-5pm
Sign up for computer classes ASAP limited spaces available.
Events posted on Facebook.

**Raton Aquatic Center**
**Season Hours**
Monday-Friday
6am—10:30am: Lap Swim, Seniors Swim and Adult exercise
3:30pm—5:30pm: OPEN SWIM
5:30pm—7:30pm: Adult Laps Swim/Exercise
Saturday & Sunday
12pm-6pm OPEN Swim

Events posted on ratonrecreation.com