City Taps State Programs to Boost Road Upgrades

The City Commission advanced two transportation-funding resolutions, positioning Truth or Consequences to receive state support for upcoming road improvements. Resolution No. 21 26/27 authorizes participation in the New Mexico Department of Transportation's Capital Outlay Program, which provides state-allocated funds for roadway rehabilitation, drainage improvements, and safety upgrades. As part of this cycle, the City will use a $375,000 Capital Outlay appropriation combined with previously approved Colonias funding to support approximately $1.74 million in improvements to Marie Street.

Resolution No. 22 26/27 involves the New Mexico Department of Transportation's Transportation Project Fund (TPF), which assists municipalities in planning and designing roadway improvements. Through this program, the City was awarded $105,263.16 for the Smith Street project, including $100,000 from NMDOT and a $5,263.16 City match. The award will fund the planning and design phase, placing Smith Street in a stronger position for future construction funding opportunities.

DFA Issues Budget Approval Letter After Technical Review Changes

The City has received its official budget approval from the New Mexico Department of Finance and Administration (DFA). According to City officials, the delay in approval stemmed from a statewide change in how DFA reviews loan amortization schedules. Once the updated schedules were submitted, DFA issued its acceptance and approval letter. The approval allows the City to move forward with its planned fiscal year operations and spending. Officials noted that the updated DFA requirements reflect broader efforts to standardize financial review processes across New Mexico.

Federal Funding Clears Path for New Airport Layout Plan

The City Commission voted on September 23 to accept a Federal Aviation Administration Airport Infrastructure Grant that will fund a full update to the Airport Layout Plan (ALP) for the Truth or Consequences Municipal Airport. The ALP is the airport's master planning document — a federally required blueprint that maps runways, taxiways, safety zones, and future development areas. City officials noted that keeping the plan current is essential for maintaining eligibility for future FAA funding, including runway rehabilitation, lighting upgrades, and other safety-related improvements.

The update will be funded through a combination of federal and state aviation dollars previously awarded, totaling $582,000, including $274,000 in FAA funding, $301,190 from NMDOT Aviation, and a $6,810 City share. The project will evaluate the airport's existing configuration, identify areas where infrastructure no longer meets FAA standards, and outline options for future expansion. With increased regional aviation activity and the airport's proximity to Spaceport America, the revised ALP positions the City to pursue additional federal grants once the plan is approved. Work will begin once the grant agreement is executed and consultants are selected to complete the technical components.