CITY CONNECT

Foch Street Renovation: Transparency and Teamwork in Action

The long-awaited renovation of Foch Street is moving forward, with permitting and signage changes expected by November 15. In recent weeks, MainStreet Truth or Consequences and city staff have met directly with business owners along the corridor to discuss access, signage, and construction impacts. These conversations reflect the city's commitment to transparency and stakeholder engagement, especially as the project will temporarily affect parking, traffic flow, and pedestrian access. While the community stands to benefit from improved infrastructure and a more walkable downtown, the city acknowledges the importance of minimizing disruptions to local commerce. The contractor has proposed a fast-track approach, which may involve full road closures to expedite progress, pending DOT signage approval. Coordination between multiple agencies has been strong, and contingency planning is underway to address potential surprises, particularly with aging water infrastructure near McAdoo Street. Business owners are encouraged to stay informed through their email for construction updates.

From Conference to Community: Tools for Smarter Infrastructure

Staff members from the city are attending the New Mexico Infrastructure Finance Conference in Albuquerque this week to gain valuable insights that will directly benefit the city's infrastructure planning and development. With a focus on integrated community infrastructure, the conference offers targeted training in areas such as capital stack building, broadband expansion, water system upgrades, and clean energy resilience. These sessions equip staff with practical tools and funding strategies to improve essential services, enhance sustainability, and strengthen local capacity. The knowledge and connections gained will support more effective project implementation and long-term infrastructure improvements for the community.

City Commission Receives Update on Copper Flat Mine Status

At the October 22 Truth or Consequences City Commission meeting, Mayor Rolf Hechler shared an update on the Copper Flat Mine following a recent conversation with Stephen Crosby of Themac Resources Group, the company overseeing the project. The Mayor announced plans to invite a Themac representative to speak before the commission early next year. He noted that previous commissions have both supported and withdrawn support for the mine, and the current commission has yet to take a formal stance. In a follow-up discussion, Mayor Hechler clarified that he has not adopted a position on the mine, acknowledging both its potential economic benefits and the environmental concerns voiced by residents. Regarding issues such as water usage, pollution, and energy demands, he emphasized trust in the scientific and regulatory processes that guide the industry and expressed that evolving technology will help address environmental impacts through innovation and oversight.