CITY CONNECT

DANCING *In the Streetlight*

FRIDAY - AUGUST 3 — @ 6:00PM
CONSTANCE ZIMMERMAN
& SUTHERN BLEND

Tourism Funding Sought to Reopen the Lee Belle Johnson Center

Mayor Rolf Hechler delivered a virtual presentation on Monday to the New Mexico State Tourism Department, outlining the City's proposal for tourism-grant funding to support the Lee Belle Johnson Center. Special thanks go to Gina Kelley, Director of the Geronimo Trail National Scenic Byway Visitor Center, for preparing the grant application and coordinating this effort. If awarded, the Destination Forward Grant would help move the building toward opening once water remediation and foundation repairs are complete. The potential grant would join the $500,000 secured during the recent legislative session, creating a strong funding path to make the center safe, functional, and welcoming for future visitors.

Voter-Approved Bond Program Nears Completion

The City Commission is moving forward with the final issuance of voter-approved General Obligation (GO) Bonds authorized by residents in November 2022. The proposed Series 2026 bond issuance, in the amount of $630,000, will provide funding for improvements to city streets, roads, and bridges, as well as upgrades to the City's water and wastewater systems. This final issuance will complete the full $3 million bond authorization approved by voters, following previous issuances in 2023, 2024, and 2025. Debt service on the bonds is paid through existing proportional property taxes, and the funds will support continued investment in essential public infrastructure that benefits residents.

Foch Street: The Finish Line Is in Sight

The Foch Street Project is entering an exciting new phase as construction moves closer to completion. With all concrete work now finished, crews are installing decorative pavers that are beginning to define the character and appearance of the space. Additional site features are also being completed, while street improvements advance toward the final paving stage this week. As these finishing touches come together, the vision for the Foch Street corridor is becoming a reality, creating an attractive and welcoming space. You can see the walking tour at **youtube.com/@CityofTorC**

Foch Street Project Update: Week of July 20

Crews are hitting their stride on the downtown project this week. The asphalt team is wrapping up subgrade prep and expects to start laying fresh pavement by Wednesday. Landscape crews are setting pavers in place and adding new plants with bubbler irrigation to bring life to the site. Meanwhile, the electrical subcontractor is installing the new speaker system, rounding out another week of visible progress.