

**Flood Recovery Task Force Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, June 17, 2026, 10:00 AM
City Hall – Mike Mathews Conference Room,
425 North Richardson
Roswell, New Mexico 88201**

Chair: Chris Cortez
Vice Chair: Brian Houghtalin
Committee Members: Mike Espiritu, Gordon Patton, Michael Sanchez
Non-Voting Member: Jon Hitchcock
Staff Liaison: Mac Rogers

Notice of this meeting was given to the public in compliance with Sections 10-15-1 through 10-15-4 NMSA 1978 and Resolution 26-12

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 A.M. by Chair Chris Cortez

ROLL CALL

Members present: Chair Chris Cortez, Vice Chair Brian Houghtalin, Gordon Patton, Mike Espiritu, Michael Sanchez, John Hitchcock

Members absent: **NONE**

Staff present: Hess Yntema, Mac Rogers, Zach Scott

Guests: Councilor Cristina Arnold, Terri Harber, RDR

Online Guests: 3 Guests, VRV

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

1. Chair Chris Cortez made a motion to approve the agenda. Member Gordon Patton was the second.

MOTION PASSED: 5-0

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Vice Chair Brian Houghtalin made a motion to approve the minutes from the May 27, 2026, Flood Recovery Task Force meeting. Member Mike Espiritu was the second.

MOTION PASSED: 5-0

NON-ACTION ITEMS

FEMA Project Tracker – Mr. Rogers discussed FEMA Projects, providing an overview of the FEMA process and the progress the city has made to date. The overview included a detailed breakdown of obligated project costs and key milestone dates. Priority projects, areas that need more attention in regard to flood damage, and a potential workshop in order to explore more options were discussed.

Financial Plan – Mr. Rogers discussed the financial plan, presenting GRT revenues collected to date. Discussed that City Council approval would be needed in order to issue 25 million dollars in flood recovery bonds. GRT revenues were shown to be stable.

FEMA Substantial Damage Claims – Mr. Rogers provided an update on FEMA substantial damage claims, including projects subject to the 50% rule and requests for project time extensions. Seven specialized projects were identified that will require a decision by the City. Discussion also included potential State funding opportunities needed to meet FEMA reimbursement requirements. The status of the Roswell Convention Center and the Roswell Museum, both impacted by floodplain considerations, was reviewed, and an update from the Engineering Department was requested regarding their current condition and project timelines. This matter will require further discussion and direction from the City Council.

Drainage Study – Mr. Rogers reported that a hydrologist provided by the New Mexico Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management (NM DHSEM) has analyzed portions of the available data and developed mapping that overlays a 100-year flood event with additional datasets to improve accuracy and provide a more comprehensive assessment of flood risk areas. Approximately 900 properties were identified for inclusion in the City's GIS mapping system, which is expected to significantly enhance data accuracy and coverage. Discussion also included the use of LiDAR mapping technology as a tool for improving floodplain analysis and mitigating future flood-related impacts. Additionally, Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) infrastructure funding opportunities were reviewed, including eligible project types and procurement strategies related to the use of those funds.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 10:50 A.M.