

To: City Council

From: Nathan Cherpeski,
City Manager

Subject: Friday Update

Date: January 6, 2012



Calendar

CITY HALL IS LOCATED AT 300 HUNT				
Date	Time	Event	Location	Additional Information
January 11, 2012	5:00 P.M.	Walk with the Mayor and Council	Alamosa Family Recreation Center	***
January 13 and 14, 2012	all day events	Alamosa Ice Fest	Downtown Alamosa	***
January 18, 2012	6:00 p.m.	Work Session - Presentation by Donna Wehe	Council Chambers	*
January 18, 2012	5:00 P.M.	Walk with the Mayor and Council	Alamosa Family Recreation Center	***
January 20, 2012	TBD	Social event with Monte Vista City Council	Monte Vista location TBD	This is a social event and is not open to the public. No City business will be discussed
January 25, 2012	5:00 P.M.	Walk with the Mayor and Council	Alamosa Family Recreation Center	***
February 1, 2012	5:00 P.M.	Walk with the Mayor and Council	Alamosa Family Recreation Center	***
February 1, 2012	6:00 p.m.	Work Session with Golf Board	Council Chambers	*
February 4, 2012	8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.	Winter Retreat	Large Conference Room, City Hall	*

February 8, 2012	5:00 P.M.	Walk with the Mayor and Council	Alamosa Family Recreation Center	***
February 15, 2012	5:00 P.M.	Walk with the Mayor and Council	Alamosa Family Recreation Center	***
February 22, 2012	5:00 P.M.	Walk with the Mayor and Council	Alamosa Family Recreation Center	***
February 22, 2012	8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.	CML Legislative Workshop	CML Offices, Denver	**
February 23, 2012	TBD	CML Policy Committee Meeting	CML Offices, Denver	**
February 29, 2012	5:00 P.M.	Walk with the Mayor and Council	Alamosa Family Recreation Center	***
March 7, 2012	5:00 P.M.	Walk with the Mayor and Council	Alamosa Family Recreation Center	***
March 14, 2012	5:00 P.M.	Walk with the Mayor and Council	Alamosa Family Recreation Center	***
March 21, 2012	5:00 P.M.	Walk with the Mayor and Council	Alamosa Family Recreation Center	***
March 28, 2012	5:00 P.M.	Walk with the Mayor and Council	Alamosa Family Recreation Center	***
June 19-22, 2012	Various	CML Annual Conference	Breckenridge	**
* Work sessions are informal Council meetings for the purpose of discussion among Council members. No action is taken. The public is invited to attend, but public comment is generally not received unless otherwise noted.				
**Training Opportunity, sponsored by outside entity. Council members have been invited to attend. Please check with originating entity for registration information				
*** Citizens are encouraged to attend this community event				

City Manager

Construction of the public safety facility continues to make good progress despite the cold overnight temperatures. They have begun the sheet rocking in the old library portion. They are continuing to install the remaining electrical runs and controls for the HVAC system. As with all remodels when the walls were removed we discovered several things that needed to be corrected and repaired. This work is ongoing. Many of these unforeseen issues will require change orders. Most are probably smaller, but I will keep you apprised of the impacts. All of these will be well within the contingency fund Council set aside for the project as shown on the last spread sheet I provided you. I will provide you a new spreadsheet soon. As they rebuild the old city hall into a public safety building, it is interesting to see the changes in acceptable construction methods from the 1950's to today. Many of these changes relate to structural items done during the original construction. With these brought to today's standard the building will serve the community well for many years to come.

Police Department

1. Chief Dodd and Captain Dingfelder (CSP) attended a meeting last week with the leadership of "Voices del Valle" to further discuss the concept of creating a law enforcement advisory committee comprised of law enforcement leadership and citizens throughout the valley. The purpose of the committee is to create/continue positive interaction and dialogue with our immigrant communities as to the

customs and practices of law enforcement; state and federal laws; and providing educational information as to resources available. This is very similar to a citizens police academy and is envisioned as a prototype of a similar group/model in Summit County that has been highly successful.

2. The Alamosa Police Department collaborated with the Colorado State Patrol, Adams State College, and the Executive Protection Details assigned to Secretary of Interior Kenneth Salazar and Governor John Hickenlooper by providing Incident Command and Premise Security for the "Community Conversation on Recreation, Conservation and Cultural Preservation for the San Luis Valley" held at Adams State College on January 4, 2012. More than 300 were in attendance for this event that was attended by the Secretary of the Interior Kenneth Salazar, Senators Mark Udall and Michael Bennett, an Governor John Hickenlooper. No major security issues arose and we (APD) received numerous accolades from our federal and state partners about our teamwork and professionalism.
3. Chief Dodd and Captain Jackson met this week with Community Corrections and Mental Health. We had a productive meeting wherein we continued brainstorming ways to effectively address issues with Community Corrections clientele. In addition, Phil Saenz and Dave Hayden addressed police officers about ongoing problems and possible solutions. Community Corrections is committed to continue working with us in hopes of effectively addressing the concerns brought forth by City Council and their constituents. It is extremely important that if there are continued incidents or community concern that this information be shared with Community Corrections in a timely manner.
4. A promotional ceremony will be held in City Council chambers on Thursday January 12th at 4 p.m. This ceremony will recognize 3 promotions and 3 appointments, as well as citizen recognition.
5. The two 2011 Ford Crown Victoria's approved for purchase in late 2011 are currently being upfitted with police equipment and we hope to have them in our fleet in the next few months. This allows us to maintain fleet consistency through the remainder of 2012 until we must decide on future vehicle options.

Public Works

Levees are one of those areas that are under multiple jurisdictions. Their design, construction, and maintenance are generally handled by the Corps of Engineers. Levees from a flood protection and insurance standpoint are under the jurisdiction of FEMA. The Colorado Water Conservation Board (CWCB) is involved in both of these activities at the state level. Ultimately it is the levee owner who is responsible for the performance of the levees which is the ultimate measure of success or failure. The Corps has found what they consider to be major deficiencies in the Alamosa levee system. As a consequence, unless we correct what they perceive as major deficiencies, we will probably be removed from the Corps program which helps pay for

levee repair and reconstruction following high water events. This program is subject to funding limitations. As many of you know, the City of Alamosa had to repair two areas of the levee within two years of its completion at a cost in excess of a quarter of a million dollars. We were never reimbursed under the Corps program. Corps inspection results do not directly affect our levee certification under FEMA. FEMA administers the flood insurance program and determines if levees provide sufficient protection to prevent flooding within their designed capacities. This in turn determines the need for flood insurance for mortgage purposes and the cost of that insurance. FEMA however does not certify levees as adequate. That is actually the responsibility of the levee owner, in this case the City of Alamosa. Certification is normally done by a third party engineer hired by the owner.

FEMA is currently conducting a flood map update project in the Alamosa area and the status of our levee is certainly a major factor in that update. The CWCB has funded an evaluation of our levee by Anderson Consulting Engineers. Anderson is looking at the original design criteria, construction records, inspection reports, and current levee conditions to determine what actions must be taken to bring the levee to a point where it can be certified for FEMA. We should see the results of this study this spring which will give us a much better idea of the scope of work that needs to be complete to maintain our status of a functional levee for the purposes of FEMA's flood insurance program. Again, this is separate and independent from the Corps program. We are not required to remain in the Corps program which has not proved to be very advantageous at any rate. If we want to maintain our status under the insurance program however, we do have to keep our levee certified.

Parks/Recreation/Library

Upcoming Special Events

- 3rd Annual Alamosa Ice Fest (January 13-14, 2012)

2012 Alamosa Ice Fest "Back to the Stone Age"

It will be "Back to the Stone Age" as the 2012 Alamosa Ice Fest returns to Downtown Alamosa for a third engagement Friday, January 13th and Saturday, January 14th. This year's theme is centered on the iconic "Flintstones" cartoon. Parents and children alike can enjoy the fascinating ice sculptures, the ice sculpture carving process and even check out a special interactive piece available hands-on fun.

Those with an artistic vein are welcome to participate in the first annual Ice Fest Faux Snowman Building and Decorating contest to be held in conjunction with the ice carving on Saturday morning. Basically contestants will bring their snowman (made of anything but snow and ice) and decorate it on the North side of Main Street. Winners will have their creations stay on display complimenting the ice sculptures.

In addition the first annual "Rio Rendezvous" Snowshoe Sprint Races and 5k Fun Run will take place Saturday afternoon in Cole Park so plan on a busy day of family fun. Entries and more information for the 2012 Ice Fest events may be obtained from the Alamosa Family Recreation Center (589-2105). Entries for the snowman decorating

contest are also available at the Alamosa Convention and Visitor Bureau (589-4840).

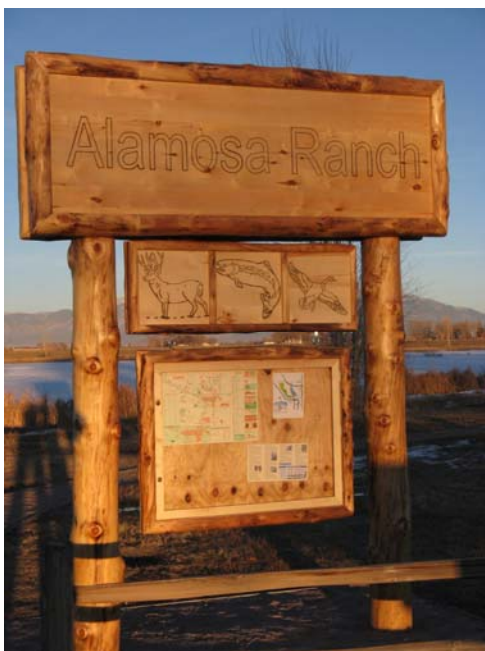
Solar Update

Connecting the solar panels to the Rec Center's electrical infrastructure is nearly complete. All physical aspects of the project have been installed except for the Xcel mandated meter. Once installed and contract issues finalized, the system should be fully operational this month.



Eagle Scout Project:

Trason Jackson has essentially completed his Eagle Scout project at Blanca Vista Park. His project consisted of the installation of a rustic two-sided message center and construction of a pathway from the parking lot to and around the memorial boulder. As shown below, the message center currently has "Alamosa Ranch" as the header. This spring, Trason will replace the header with the name of the new park. From a staff viewpoint, these improvements greatly enhance the appearance of this area.



Alamosa Public Library Announces Access to Downloadable Audio Books for Library Patrons:

APL patrons now have access to over 3,200 downloadable audio books. These audio books can be loaded onto most *reasonably* new MP3 players, iPods, smart phones as well as computers. Visit the library website (www.AlamosaLibrary.org) and click on the link to OneClickdigital to get started. Patrons use their library card number to set up an account and then download the OneClickdigital Media Manager software.

The OneClickdigital Audiobook collection, provided by Recorded Books, offers both fiction and nonfiction titles and includes current, popular authors like J.D. Robb, Umberto Eco and Janet Evanovich. Browse, checkout, download, and listen through your computer or transfer to a portable device. Use the Advanced Search or find titles by browsing the Newly Added, Featured, or What's Popular sections. You can save your book searches, rate titles, and share what you're listening to through Facebook and Twitter.

APL is a member of the AspenCat Union Catalog, managed by the Colorado Library Consortium (CLiC). CLiC arranged for this cooperative purchase of downloadable audiobooks for all AspenCat library patrons. AspenCat is a union catalog running the LibLime version of the Koha open source integrated library system. There are almost 500,000 books, DVDs, CDs and other items in the catalog from thirty different libraries in Colorado.

Youth Sports Registration Deadlines

Youth Volleyball – January 16, 2012

Rec Center/Library Closure Dates

- February 20 - Presidents Day

Membership Promotion

Do you need a last minute Christmas gift with a lasting affect? The AFRC has a special promotion to positively impact that special someone more than any material item. Right now purchase a one month membership in any category and receive a second month free. That means an adult can join for 2 months at the bargain rate of only \$10.00/month for the first two months. Remember a membership to the Alamosa Family Recreation Center includes 8 different classes at no extra charge. The last day to purchase is January 15th, 2012.

WE'RE LOOKING FOR A FEW GOOD ADVISORY BOARD MEMBERS!

Lend your expertise by volunteering to serve on the Recreation Advisory Board. The board meets monthly on the second Tuesdays at 11:30 a.m. This board is charged with providing

advice on administrative functions relating to the operation of city parks, recreational facilities, and programs. Applicants must be City residents, verified through voter registration. For more information and application form, go to www.cityofalamosa.org or call the City Clerk's office at 589-2593 ext. 8.

Finance

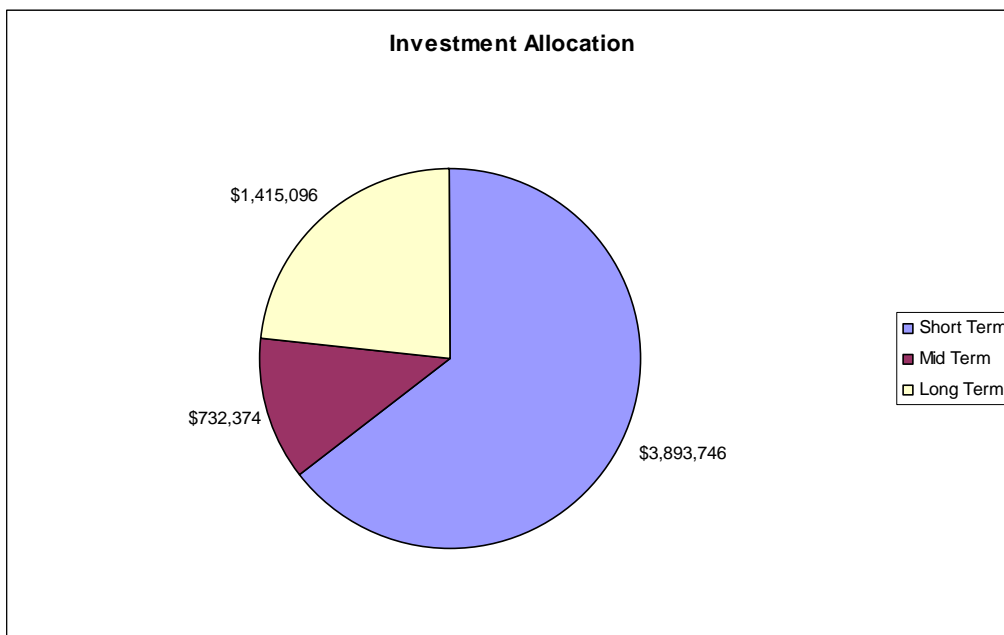
City Investments Summary

Unfortunately, 2011 was not a year of great gains for investments. In a period where negative sentiment drove markets, defensive stocks generally outperformed and cyclical performed poorly. Energy, Material, Consumer Discretionary and Financials underperformed while Industrials, Health Care, IT, Telecoms and Utilities performed best. Toward the end of the year investment markets surged in response to major central banks lowering the cost of existing liquidity rates by 0.50% thus increasing strains on the global financial system.

The condition of the world economy around us continues to tighten the rate of return on our City investment portfolio as well. Currently we have numerous Certificates of Deposit with the majority of our local banks, accounts with CSAFE and ColoTrust and a money market account with Oppenheimer. Currently our money market account seems to be providing our portfolio with the highest rate of return at 2.6%. Total city funds invested is \$6,041,215 with average rate of return on our portfolio being 0.70%. We have intentionally kept the majority of our investments on a short term or very liquid during the construction project of our City Complex. Now that that project is coming to a close we plan on looking into a few more options for investment. We will be issuing an RFP in the near future for public investment services.

The table below shows the current investment allocations based on terms.

- Short term or liquid—64%
- Mid term-90 days to less than 1 year--12%
- Long term-1 year to 3 years—23%



Investment markets are expected to remain volatile for the time being as market sentiments proves to be closely aligned to political and policy announcements. We are hopeful that 2012 will show a more aggressive market as our economy begins the steamroll curve ahead.