

SOCORRO NEWSLETTER

Council Meetings

We invite every resident of Socorro to attend our City Council Meetings. They are a great way to be involved and stay informed with what's happening in your community. They are held the first and third Thursday of every month at 6 p.m. in Council Chambers (860 Rio Vista, Socorro, TX 79927)

Upcoming Meetings:
January 15, 2015

Sandbags

For those in need, sandbags can always be picked up at;

- 241 Old Hueco Tanks Rd. (Recycling Center)
- 901 N. Rio Vista Rd. (Rio Vista Community Center)



Socorro In Review; 2014

As we begin 2015, we reflect on 2014 and all of the changes and improvements that took place here in Socorro. 2014 was a busy year for Socorro. With the addition of new staff, the completion or beginning of new projects and a wide range of events throughout the city. Here is a recap of 2014, here in Socorro.

Infrastructure

Council has a made a commitment to improve our infrastructure and 2014 was the year that jump started several projects. We began the overlay project, the signalization project, and made important purchases to be ready for an emergency.

The Public Works Department did overlays on 19 streets and paved 3 new streets. This means that 22 streets in were repaired this year and more than 4 miles were paved. The 22 streets were the most in one year in Socorro history and in 2015 we are committed to improving the quality of our streets as we have

Community

Bulldog Championship Park

Socorro's Bulldog Championship Park is a great place to take the family. With a large playscape, pond filled with wildlife, splash-park in the summer months and events held at the amphitheater, there is always something to do. Located at 316 Buford Rd, Socorro TX, 79927.



Chayo Apodaca Community Center

The E.G. "Chayo" Apodaca Community Center is open to the public and offers free computer and internet access, an arcade room, a toddler play room, and a conference / study area.

Location:
341 N. Moon Rd. Socorro TX
79927

Hours:
Tuesday-Friday: 1:00pm-8:00pm
Saturday: 11:00 am-6:00 pm
Closed: Sunday & Monday



approved \$700,000 for paving.

The signalization project added new speed bumps and stop signs across the City. The goal of this program was to increase the safety of our roads and we can say that the goal was reached. We have allocated funds to meet the many requests that our constituents have made to continue this project in 2015.

In 2014, we also increased our ability to be prepared for the water runoff that comes into Socorro from Horizon and areas north of I 10. We purchased a sand bag machine, a 3,000 gallon vacuum truck, applied for key grants, and worked on purchasing land. The new equipment will help us tremendously in the long run in responding to an emergency.

In 2015, we will continue to invest in our infrastructure. Council is expected to invest more than \$6 million into our infrastructure next year and we should also see state projects being completed. As always we want to hear from you so please let us know what improvements in infrastructure you want to see in 2015.



City Council

2014 was an important year for Council because we kept a professional environment throughout the year, made several important decisions, and established relationships with other leaders.

In 2014, Council provided steady leadership that focused on moving Socorro forward. All of our Council members worked hard for their constituents and listened to their needs. We

Rio Vista Community Center

Rio Vista Community Center offers many classes and programs, including;

- English as a Second Language
- Senior Nutrition Programs
- Graduate Equivalent (GED)
- Yoga and Many More!

Location:
901 N. Rio Vista Rd.
Socorro TX. 79927

Hours:
Monday-Thursday:
8:00am-8:00pm

Friday:
8:00am-4:00pm
Closed: Saturday & Sunday

Contact:
Lizbeth Castro
Recreation Leader
(915) 860-9163 / (915) 860-8615
lcastro@ci.socorro.tx.us



worked together in Council meetings and the most common vote was a 4-0. Other officials have praised the change that they see in our City leaders and we hope you have been able to see it as well.

Council not only focused on maintaining a professional environment, but we also made several important decisions. Socorro became the first city in the County to ban the public use of E cigarettes in public places. The City of El Paso followed our lead and they also banned it. We banned the use of cell phones while driving and want to regulate pay day lending businesses. We made a big commitment to improving our infrastructure and will invest \$10 million over the next 5 years.

Council members not only focused on local issues, but also developed relationships with other leaders. We took time to meet with other entities, advocated for the needs of Socorro residents, and promoted Socorro as a place to do business. Through various conferences, we met other leaders from across the state and the country. We represented Socorro with pride and will continue to build on these relationships.

Council understands that Socorro will not move forward unless we conduct ourselves in a professional and ethical manner. Council will continue on representing our constituents, making decisions in the best interest of Socorro, and developing relationships with other leaders.



Entertainment/ Lifestyle

WinterFest 2014

We had a great turnout at WinterFest 2014. With the Tree Lighting Ceremony, the cookies and treats, How the Grinch Stole Christmas and pictures with Santa, we hope everyone that attended had a great time. We enjoy hosting this event for our community and look forward to making next year's WinterFest even better.



Whataburger Now Open

The new Whataburger location on Alameda here in Socorro is now open!



Community Engagement

In 2014 Socorro saw a wide-range of free events, student engagement from city officials and an increase of information put out to the community.

Socorro was ranked as the 22nd most exciting city in Texas for 2014 according to the Movoto Real Estate blog. Socorro offers a wide variety of activities for the community, which included seven free events in 2014. Socorro held the Easter Egg Hunt, the Movies Under the Stars series, the 4th of July Extravaganza, the Chile War Festival, the Fall Festival, National Night Out and WinterFest. We look forward to hosting these great events again in the future and will explore the possibilities of adding new events.

In 2014 Council and City Staff was very active in reaching out to Socorro students by attending various career fairs, speaking with students about the importance of education and recognizing their achievements. The City also provided updates on Socorro Athletics via our Facebook page, started an internship program and provided many volunteer opportunities.

In order to keep the community well informed on the happenings in Socorro, we expanded the availability of information. Through social media, we provide constant updates, upload videos with key information and promote city events. We live Tweet our City Council Meetings, provide videos on those meetings and keep all of this information available on our website. This newsletter was also started in an effort to provide information. Moving forward we will continue to find innovative ways to reach out to our community. 2014 was a key year for us to improve our relationship with our community and we will continue to expand and improve on that relationship and look for your input along the way.



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City of Socorro Texas

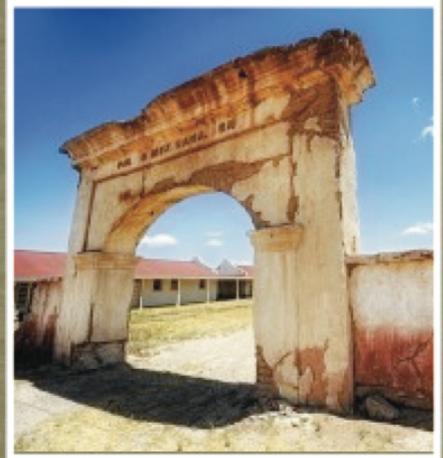
124 S. Horizon Blvd.

Socorro, TX 79927

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DISCOVER SOCORRO



Located in the heart of the Mission Trail, Socorro is a historically rich and ever expanding community. Come and explore one of the oldest missions in the Southwest, enjoy the splash park at Bulldog Championship Park or listen to a concert at the Socorro Entertainment Center. Whatever your taste in adventure is, Socorro is sure to meet it!



For more info visit ci.socorro.tx.us or call (915) 858-2915