Chair Lorenz called the regular meeting to order at approximately 1:35 p.m.

1. **Conflict of Interest:**
   Chair Lorenz: All right at the beginning of every meeting we need to see if any Committee Member or member of the City (Las Cruces City) staff has any known Conflict of Interest with any item on the Agenda.

   **There were none.**

2. **Acceptance of the Agenda:**
   Chair Lorenz: Can I hear a Motion to Accept the Agenda?

   O'Neill: I will make a Motion to Accept the Agenda.

   Curnutt: I Second that.
The Agenda was Accepted Unanimously 3-0.

3. Acceptance of the Minutes:


Chair Lorenz: Okay, then do I hear a Motion to accept the Minutes?

O'Neill: I have one minor amendment I guess you would call it. I hope this does not send this back to the drawing board. Just a small little item. On page three at the top, where it says "o=Okay, when we talked about conflict of interest," I said, "I was doing that meeting, I was running that meeting," I said, "I do not. How about any member or staff not hearing any? I will assume there is no conflict of interest." They put "I will approve there is no," so it is just a little word difference, but I guess I can approve it, too. I do not know.

Chair Lorenz: We can hear a motion to approve as amended.

O'Neill: I will make a motion to approve the minutes as amended.

Curnutt: Second.

The Minutes were Approved Unanimously 3-0.

4. Introduction of New CIAC Member Don Curnutt by Chair Lorenz:

Chair Lorenz: Okay, well I would like to introduce to all of you Mr. Don Curnutt our latest member of the committee.

Curnutt: Thank you.

Chair Lorenz: Is there anything you would like to say about yourself?

Curnutt: Well, I guess it kind of depends on anything you might want to know about me. Just briefly, I am a native New Mexican, born up at Tucumcari and lived in that area till I actually came down to the university. I will not say the years I was at New Mexico State University, (NMSU) but I was here a number of years ago. After I graduated with an engineering degree, I was lucky enough to get drafted and spent some time, 22 years in the Navy, in and out of Vietnam and other conflicts around the world. Was in the Navy civil engineer Corps. Retired from the Navy in actually 1995. Moved back to New Mexico and ran a consulting engineering firm till 2005. Sold out and went to Idaho, worked for the Forest Service on a large forest there and then went to work at the Grand Canyon is the chief of facilities and engineering there until I retired a couple years ago. And then I moved back to Las Cruces after I retired.

Chair Lorenz: Well I appreciate your service on this Committee and more importantly your service to our country.

Curnutt: Thank you.
O’Neill: Yes, we welcome you to our Board.

Curnutt: Thank you.

O’Neill: Good valuable member, I am sure.

Chair Lorenz: With your facilities experience is really going to help.

5. Old Business:

5.1. Utilities Department Impact Fee Update:

Chair Lorenz: Okay. Old Business, Utilities Department Impact Fee update by Mr. Provencio [Jose].

Provencio: Good afternoon Chairman, Committee Members. Jose Provencio, Deputy Director of Business Services. Early in the summer Council provided ultimate direction in terms of the allocation of impact fees. At the [Las Cruces Utilities “LCU”] Board’s July meeting we approved the consolidation or removal of the rate base portion that used to be a part of the impact fee tariff schedule. That would leave now just a contribution for any water and wastewater connection for impact fee charges with 50% of the builder, 50% customer. Those tariffs went into effect August 1st and are currently in place. I will stand by for any questions you may have.

Chair Lorenz: Does that affect all permits pulled from that point, or how do they define the line of who that is going to affect and who that is not?

Provencio: The date is based on when the parcel was platted. There is a four-year period as to when the parcel was platted concurrent with the effective impact fees that were in place. That is one thing that New Connections is coordinating with Community Development to make sure that whatever the applicable impact fees are applied are based on that time period when that property was platted.

Chair Lorenz: Great. Thank you for the explanation. I understand. Any other questions from the Committee?

O’Neill: I have a question. How long does that allocation stay in effect?

Provencio: Chairman, Committee Members. That is effective going forward. That is the decision of or the directive by Council. That allocation 50/50 customer/builder-developer will be in place going forward.

Chair Lorenz: In perpetuity until they decide to change it again.

Provencio: That is true. That is correct.

Chair Lorenz: Think sir. Mr. Curnutt. Thank you, Mr. Provencio.
5.2. Public Safety Impact Fee Update:

Chair Lorenz: Public Safety Impact Fee update by Chief Jason Smith.

Smith: Good afternoon Board Members. Jason Smith Fire Chief. Our update is just to let the advisory committee know that we went through the RFP (Request for Proposal) process for awarding the contract for the study. Now purchasing is in contract negotiations with the selected firm. Hopefully within the month of October we will have that firm on board, and we can announce who that is. Then as part of the process we will be coming back here to report to you regularly on their findings and how the study is going. With that I can stand for any questions.

Chair Lorenz: Great. Sounds like we will get back to that here maybe this fall.

Smith: Mr. Chair, Members of the Council. Probably I would say closer to the end of the calendar year that we would be back here with something to actually report with them doing some of the background information and the catch-up meetings with them, it would probably take October, November. I would not expect to hear anything really substantial from us until December/January.

Chair Lorenz: Understood. Thank you Chief. Any questions from the Committee? Thank you.

6. New Business:

6.1. Utilities Current Projects Update:

Chair Lorenz: New Business, current projects by Carl [Clark]. He was anxious and wanted to talk right when he got in the door, now he is set to go. Thank you, sir.

Clark: Thank you. We have a few projects going on here. I am Carl Clark. I am the Deputy Director of Environmental and Technical Support with Las Cruces Utilities. All the CIIP (Capital Improvements Infrastructure Program) projects fall on my section. We have the engineers on board with us over here on my section and we get all the projects out for Utilities (Las Cruces Utilities). These are the major projects that are going on right now with Utilities and some of them are in construction and some of them are still in design.

The first project that I have is the Talavera Low Pressure Distribution Network Phase 3B. That one is pending bidding. That one is still under design; we are getting prepared to bid it out. We just completed Phase 3A. We are going to be going through a final walkthrough on that one. Hopefully we will get this next Phase 3B out in the next month or two.

The Del Rey Boulevard High Pressure Gas Line Extension. Basically this line extension, you see it in yellow up there on the screen, that is the high-pressure gas line. That area that you see that is Webb and Sandhill, the Westmoreland area, basically we end up seeing a series of low-pressure events whenever there is inclement weather. This high-pressure gas line is to backup that area.
We need to extend that high pressure gas line so we can support the pressures we have in that area. There will be a small amount of four-inch low pressure gas line that is needed to run back towards Webb so we can feed those neighborhoods right in there. All the budget for that is under the Gas Development account.

The next one is the Water tank Rehabilitation. We always have some kind of rehabs going on with our water side. We have proximately $3.5 million in bonds that we are planning to rehab Missouri Tank, either we are going to rehab it, or we are going to replace the whole tank. We are looking at the replacement costs which are pretty much identical with the extent of rehab that we have to do with this tank. We are leaning towards replacing that tank actually. Then we have the elevated airport tank. We are waiting on inspection of that tank. We did a booster project around there right below that tank so we can mimic the pressure head of that tank. That project is still out. Once it is completed then we will go in there and start inspecting that bolt tank that you see there.

Then we also have water well improvements that we do. We have two of them that we have slated right now. I believe that is Well 72 and Well 64. We will have to extend a waterline and put all the infrastructure needed for Well 72 as well as Well 64. We do have designs on both of those going on right now. We hope to see those come in about probably towards the end of this year. Then we will start moving forward into those projects. We have approximately $2.1 million set aside for these projects. Then we also have the Well 40 redrill. We are pending the final closer on that one so we can start utilizing that well in our systems. That is on the East Mesa. Well, 72 is on the East Mesa and Well 64 is up on the West Mesa, just to let you all know.

Then we have the Water Street Utility Rehab Transite Pipe Projects. We are working with Public Works on the East Madrid and North Walnut. We are replacing asbestos pipe in those areas. I believe that design is pretty much done. I think they are doing some final formalities that they have to take care of because they are utilizing federal highway funds or something like that. I am not exactly sure where they are getting their funding. This funding here is from bonds for us to take care of that issue. Then we have the Solar Ridge Street Project, that one is underway. Then West Mountain still need to be designed.

Here is an actual impact fee project. That is the Zone 1 Interconnect Phase B Project 2. That is a small extension to the north, as you can see it in red. The entire alignment was broken into phases due to cost, originally the cost was around $5 million, and so we are phasing it out. The blue line to the south of that red line is what was completed in Phase 1, and then we hope to get phase two here in red done as soon as possible. We are working with the developer in that area. There is some formalities that we have to take care of and then we can move forward with the actual construction. We have approximately
$742,000.00 set aside for that project and we believe that will take care of that construction.

Then we always do some kind of treatment facility rehabs. We have a couple of them that you can see photos on right there. They are both going to be completed with bonds. We have the Jacob Hands East Primary Clarifier, which is on the left, that is actually under construction. That basin is already being cleaned up, the mechanical features have all been removed, and we just recently received the new mechanical features that go in that tank.

Then we are going to be replacing the chlorine gas system that we have at the Jacob Hands (Jacob Hands Wastewater Treatment Facility) as well with the UV system. Once we do that upgrade on that system, then we can remove the large majority of probably all of that chlorine gas and start using pellet feeds because we should be mostly leaning on the UV light disinfection upgrades. That one is approximately $2.6 million is what we have set aside for both of those projects. The UV disinfection is in final design. We hope to be, and this is kind of a little hybrid project because we actually put an RFP (Request for Proposal) out for a manufacturer of the UV system. We got together once we select the manufacturer, then the manufacturer and our consultant started coming together and doing the final design. That is what we are waiting for and then we will put it out for actual construction installation.

The next one is the Sandhill Wastewater Interceptor. Here is another impact fees project; been working on this for several years now. This is the final phase. We already took care of Phase 1, which is on the west side of I-25. Then we started recently working on Phase 2, which you can see the Interstate 25 we are on the east side of I-25 now. We are actually replacing an existing interceptor that is already met its capacity do the growth over in Metro Verde. This new interceptor is going to handle any additional growth that will happen up there on the East Mesa. Like I said it is under construction right now, Morrow Construction is one building that. They have already installed the entire line; it is under use right now. Now they are just doing erosion protection that was required under this contract. This is impact fees, like I said, with approximately $1.5 million in cost.

Then when we are lucky, we get state legislature grant money. What we do with that money is we do septic tank replacement projects. That was identified in our 2008 septic tank replacement report. Basically, we have already completed the projects on the East Mesa that you see there, Homestead Acres, Hacienda Acres. We have already completed three streets, actually it is four streets, which is Porter Drive, De Vargas, Montezuma, and Rising Sun. Now we are actually under construction with Calle del Ranchero and Avenida del Sol. The contract has already completed all the line in Calle del Ranchero, and he is actually working on the line in Avenida del Sol. That has been a quick project, a good project as well. That cost is $373,000.00 that we are paying for that construction work.
Then we have some additional leftover monies and some supplemental monies we got from the state legislator, and for another project. That is going to be Estados Serenos and Brittany estates. The cost that you see there is from the first grant or the remaining grant that we have of $626,000.00. We received another $500,000.00, so we have about $1.1 million which probably will not cover the entire subdivisions there because we will be constructing, we have to tear up the whole roadway and then put the whole roadway back, so it gets very expensive in that aspect. This project here is all grant money. Like I said there is no supplemental money from Utilities for that effort.

Then we always have projects that we work with Public Works. They do road rehab and we come on board if our utilities are in need of replacement or rehab. You can see there is a variety of projects there. Some of these projects are actually driven by Utilities like the Carreon Place, and then the alley north of Picacho, but Tashiro Drive, there is one of the projects that we partner with Public Works to install some of our utilities while they are installing sidewalk, curb and gutter, and roadway and their drainage aspects. Same thing with Virginia Street. Los Venados up on top is a separation of the existing sewer system. Right now we have one sewer system that we collect and actually Doña Ana Mutual Domestic is part of that. Separate billing based on water consumption, etc., so we are going to separate that area and we will have our own system and they will have their own system. It makes it easier for billing and understanding whose wastewater is it.

We also have the Utility Wireline Rehab Project, that is I believe under design phase. That was our locating that traffic control on University recently, clogging up the lanes, that was us. That one is in design phase. We have approximately $1.7 million in rates for Gas and then $2.2 million bonds for Water and then $500,000.00 for Wastewater. You will see a lot of these are carryovers. They are either under design or in construction.

Then we get down to the final project. Each one of the Utility sections pitched in $154,000.00 each. What is going on here is we have an existing fiber optic line that is in West Amador that has been severely compromised. The Utility over here is on two strands of wire now. We need to get in there and replace that fiber optic line so that way when those two strands finally fail, we have infrastructure in place. We will be switching over once we get it all installed. Then we are going to be running that fiber optic line over to the new Jorge A. Garcia Water Quality Lab and over here to joint Utilities from Rountree. Rountree has the new fiber optic line that was installed as part of the NMDOT (New Mexico Department of Transportation) project on Valley. We will be grabbing it from there and then carrying it to the west.

Basically in summary, this CIP provides for the necessary level of funding for the completion of the Talavera Gas System Installation, capacity improvements for the gas system south of Westmoreland area, rehabilitation of water wells and water reservoirs, and reinvestment in Jacobs Hands, as we always do every year, the reinvestment in Wastewater interceptors, that was
the Sandhill, continuation of our Septic Tank Replacement projects throughout the city, and rehab and infrastructure in city streets along with Public Works. Then finally, our fiber optics communications that we want to get repaired. It seemed it was an extensive use of existing and new bonds that we had gotten a couple years back. We are still trying to go through that money and get it spent. We are doing a good job I think with the projects that they all get completed this year. We will be looking to try and bond again for some additional money to keep working. Any questions?

Chair Lorenz: I have a few, yes. The Zone 1 Interconnect Phase B Project 2. Is that meant to be beneath what will someday be Mesa Grande?

Clark: Yes. Yes Chair. That is exactly right. That alignment is in what is going to be the future Mesa Grande. We worked with Public Works on that alignment. They approved it, part of the master planning. That is where we are at. Unfortunately, every time we do, since the developer and everybody else is not caught up to us you know we are having to pay for a lot of earth work. There is a lot of cut and field that go on there that is taken quite a bit of money that we have to do.

Chair Lorenz: They did lay some sewer out there many years ago did not they?

Clark: Not that I am aware of. We did in the arroyo to the south of the Jornada Tank. I believe that is the North Fork.

Chair Lorenz: I just know there is a manhole.

Clark: Yes, that is the North Fork Arroyo. That was one of my projects that we did about five or six years ago. That was extended so Sonoma Ranch partners could work on their next phase along where the Jornada Tank is, and so we did our effort, but they still have not developed that.

Chair Lorenz: Thank you. The ultraviolet light disinfection, is that going to have a significant impact on operating costs? It seems to me that it would lower your operating cost significantly on disinfecting.

Clark: Chairman. Actually, yes, the operating costs, I have not done any of the numbers for it yet, but there is going to be some energy use that is going to be a part of that. It is going to be a lot safer to use instead of having tons and tons of chlorine gas there. That is what I am hoping to create is a situation that is safer. I would say chlorine gas is actually a very simple system and it is very effective, but it also can be very dangerous. Where the UV is a little more expensive, but a lot safer. I think the operating costs are going to be slightly higher to operate that.

Chair Lorenz: We install a lot of ultraviolet (UV) disinfection for air systems these days. Two years ago we never had a single client asked for it. Now we get requests often for it, so we install a lot of them.
Clark: Yes, that is kind of the direction everybody is going in. We are doing the same thing and it is Trojan is the main manufacturer and probably one of the biggest manufacturers in the US. They are actually out of Canada. They pretty much supply UV systems throughout the country. That is who is on board with us and along with Molzen Corbin on this design. We also have the Co-Gen (Co-Generation) system. We hope to utilize the Co-Gen system even more now once we get the UV system up and going.

Chair Lorenz: Next, this Sandhill Wastewater Interceptor, is that the one laying in the bottom of the arroyo?

Clark: Yes.

Chair Lorenz: I have seen them out there working.

Clark: Yes, that is the one off a Rinconada that you can see there.

Chair Lorenz: Kind of next to Settlers Pass, as you are going along Settlers Pass you can see them down there.

Clark: That is correct. Yes. It is going along Eddie Binn's property, his arroyo.

Chair Lorenz: The bridge that he never built.

Clark: That was a big issue for us getting the right-of-way through Eddie Binn's property. Yes, so we were doing extensive erosion protection in that area at his request. Yes, it is in that arroyo. The contractor like I said is pretty much complete. Now he is working on the erosion protection.

Chair Lorenz: Next, that fiber optic line. I think a fiber optic line as telecommunications.

Clark: Yes.

Chair Lorenz: Why are you guys installing fiber optic?

Clark: Well Chairman, the City owns all their own fiber optic. We do not go with another company for that. The City owns their own fiber optics. That is why we are doing that. I guess typically it would be Traffic that is actually the owner of the fiber optic for all the traffic lights. However, there is an agreement with the City IT (Information Technology) and Traffic to utilize some of those fiber optic strands. They did not have budget to replace that, but we are in dire straits with the existing system the way it is. We are going to install that new system. Then once it is complete and over here, my director will probably have to negotiate with the rest of the City to sell them some strands or lease them some strands. I say lease to them, so we have cash in perpetuity.
Chair Lorenz: Understood. Thank you. My final question is out sort of the northeast end of Sonoma Ranch Boulevard, there is a lift station project happening for that. That is a project that you guys are handling. Correct?

Clark: Chairman. That is correct. That is Public Works is actually doing the contract management, but the Utilities, we did all the review. We are working with Chad Sells and John Moscato on that project. They are doing that lift station. That is going to be a rather large lift station. I believe it is just about complete. I know that we were working with a developer in regard to allowing him to continue to move forward and reach a certain, I guess I would say, a certain place with his homebuilding. Then at that point if the lift station is not complete then we will not allow any more construction or allow them to get any kind of CO (Certificate of Occupancy), because we need that lift station in place in order to receive the waste. We worked that deal with John Moscato. I think he is going to come through. We are far along enough on that construction that I think he is going to get done. It is my understanding from Renegade Construction that they have all the equipment, and they will be installing it here soon.

Chair Lorenz: That is all I have. Mark [O'Neill].

O'Neill: Yes. I have a few questions.

Chair Lorenz: Okay.

O'Neill: Please, Mr. Clark. Quickly back to the chlorine gas. That puts a red flag to me. What are the dangers of that as far as to the community or is it strictly in the area where you are working that? How long does that UV, is that a proven thing, and how long will that be changed over?

Clark: Yes. Chairman, Committee Member. I think that, yes, it is one of those things. Yes, there is a lot of chlorine gas there in the immediate area. It will be a big issue. Then if the cloud moves through the city. Yes, it is an issue. The cylinders that they have out there I think are two tons apiece or something like that. Yes, if one of them actually blows open and a large amount of gas escapes, yes, it is a hazardous situation.

O'Neill: How close is it to residents?

Clark: Commercial, the commercial buildings right next door to it. Border International. I would assume that as the wind blows from the west to the east, it will push through the city that way. It is on the very west end so it would push through the entire city.

O'Neill: Are we talking about eliminating that all together with the UVA system?

Clark: Yes.
O'Neill: How long will it take?

Clark: We believe we are going to go into construction here in the next couple months. I would say by eight, nine months we will have the system up and running.

O'Neill: Within a year probably.

Clark: Yes.

O'Neill: That is comforting to know. Thank you for that. I have a few other questions.

Clark: I will say that that system has been in place since '80s. We have never had an issue. Yes.

Chair Lorenz: We as well as most utilities use chlorine gas for disinfecting the water supply anyway.

Clark: Yes, all our wells have chlorine gas that disinfects the drinking water. I am sure there is other utilities that use it for wastewater, that use just as much as us.

O'Neill: There is guidelines on how they use it, of course.

Clark: Guidelines on how to use it, emergency response plans that we have in place. We work with the fire department. There is a whole protocol that we follow if there is a leak.

Chair Lorenz: NMED (New Mexico Environmental Department).

O'Neill: Great. On another subject, you talked about grant money for the septic tanks. What other projects do you primarily use grant money for?

Clark: The one other time that I know that we received grant money is for water system work. Actually the Well 29, 31, and 32, we received approximately $2.5 million dollars that we built those three wells with. That was probably about five, six years ago. That was the last time we received grant money for anything other than wastewater so far.

O'Neill: Right. Last meeting I asked him if you could do a percentage on all the projects like as far as how much is used in grant money, bonds, fees. We are you able to put that together.

Clark: Chairman. I will be honest with you, Committee Members, I did not put that together. I can get that put together fairly easily. We have that broken down.

O'Neill: For the next meeting.
Clark: Yes.

O'Neill: Please. Thank you. Also, all these projects I know that were in our in our past minutes, our meeting was in May, and you have talked about you know what is going on and it is a lot of the same projects. Are you happy with the progress from May for when this was reported to what has been done through now? I mean, I know it depends on contracts and funding and a lot of different things, but overall how is the progress on all those projects?

Clark: The progress on the project itself is very well. Yes, the contractors moving through fairly quickly on our construction. In fact the primary clarifier they are a couple months ahead of schedule right now. We actually received all the equipment for Ovivo which was over a million dollars of equipment. That came in fairly quickly. We were not expecting it for a few more months, but it showed up. They are a USA manufacturer. Unless they got delayed in steel, then there is no reason for them to slow down. Then our wastewater project, the interceptor, that went really quickly. I was surprised that they were already connected. Yes, they are moving along quickly. I do not think we have one that is not working well.

O'Neill: Great. Then on a couple of specific projects that are kind of important to me because people ask, Tashiro Road, that is the thoroughfare that is very important for the football and the stadium and all the athletic leagues and fields. How much longer is that going to go on before they will be able to finish that? Where are we at on that?

Clark: Yes. Chairman, Vice-Chair. I could not give you the exact date. That is run by Public Works. They are handling all the construction management. I believe you can find that on the City’s website in regard to the construction schedule. We put these large projects on MS Projects or actually it is Power BI, right, is the name of the software.

Walsh: Mr. Vice-Chair and Board Members. Delilah Walsh. I drove by today and looks like they are prepping the base course for asphalt. I know the underground work is already complete. It looks like they are prepping for the actual road now.

O'Neill: That is good.

Walsh: I would imagine it is going to be very soon. I know as a soccer and football parent I cannot wait till it happens.

O'Neill: Yes, it has been a nightmare for everybody. People I know. That would be good if we can get that going. I do not know does Public Works ever present, they present to us once in a while do not, they. They come before us.

Walsh: They do not really have impact fees unless they are doing a partnership project with Parks or ourselves.
O'Neill: The other project is the University I know that is been on like a nightmare for traffic and so forth. How are we coming along on that particular? I know you have mentioned about it but what is the timeline or is that Public Works also?

Clark: Yes, Public Works is actually doing the design effort on that. They do work with us on some of the design needs that we have. That is one of them. They do plan on doing I think a mill and overlay on University as part of when they install our water line, the contractor will be asked to do a mill and overlay of the entire University Avenue. We will be taking up one lane, and we anticipate only the very northern lane. That is where we will probably be installing the waterline. We will be taking up that lane as we head from west to east from around Valley Drive all the way up to Locust. Once the contractor gets done installing the line there, then they are going to do the entire mill overlay for University Avenue.

O'Neill: They are moving along on that.

Clark: Yes, just like I said, they just got the locates done for the actual waterline design so now they can move forward. That just finished last week was the locating session that we had.

O'Neill: Okay. Maybe six months.

Chair Lorenz They told me they should have it done by the end of the year. I am going to probably say six to seven months though.

O'Neill: Thank you. That is all I have. Thank you very much.

Curnutt: Mr. Clark. I just have one question. I know you answered this one when you went through it, and I just did not catch it. You said the Missouri water storage tank. Was that repaired by replacement or did you or is there?

Clark: Yes, Chairman, Committee Member Curnutt. Yes, so what we did is we started designing for a rehab.

Curnutt: Okay.

Clark: Then it got pretty extensive, so we decided, we asked the consultant to give us a price for a new tank, and so they are relatively the same. We kind of feel that, well let's just replace the tank so we get to replace the concrete ring that is holding the tank, and then do some subgrade prep and then rebuild the whole thing. It has been there since I think the '50s, that tank has been around for

Curnutt: With that you are not expanding the capacity, just the same capacity.

Clark: No. That capacity is set. That area has not seen any growth. We have plenty of storage in that area, so we do not want to expand anymore.
Curnutt: Okay. Thank you.

Clark: You are welcome.

Curnutt: That is all I have.

Chair Lorenz: Excellent work. Thank you, sir.

Clark: Thank you. Appreciate it.

6.2. Parks and Recreation Current Projects Updates:


O'Neill: No, she was not able to make it today.

Mathews: Good afternoon. Mr. Chair, Members of the Committee. My name is Cathy Mathews. I am the Landscape Architect with Parks and Recreation. Sonja Delgado, our director, is not able to attend today. She is double booked. She asked me to make sure I attended. Of course, I was planning on being here anyways. She offers her apologies. She will be here next time.

Real quick, I wanted to just go over some of our projects that we have got going right now. We have Apodaca Park Aquatic Playground is still on the list. East Mesa Public Safety complex. These are all the PIF (Park Impact Fee) funded projects. Highland Park, Metro Verde Neighborhood Parks, Pueblos at Alameda, multiuse fields with lights at Soldados, and land acquisition and design for parks. That is in Council District 5. These are on the books right now. Okay additionally, new or this fiscal year is a separate line item for neighborhood parks in general, and also land acquisition for Council District 5. Future projects include Albert Johnson Park electrical improvements that is on the books. Benavidez Community Center Park improvements for which we are actually writing a grant in the next few weeks. A Multiuse Recreation Center has been on our list for a long time we are interested in having another rec (recreation) center we only have one right now. Four field baseball and softball complex. Labs pool shade structures as well. New sand volleyball courts, that sport is growing and is very popular, we need some more courts, and also Waterfalls Park, which is a multiuse facility plan for with the waterfalls, stormwater retention pond.

Going over our parks, our current projects we have got once again Apodaca Park aquatic playground and multiuse path in Apodaca Park. It is still in the planning stages. We have completed the Cultural Resources Committee and it has been reviewed and accepted by the State Historic Preservation Office. We are working with New Mexico State Parks, who is working with the funder, National Park Service, for approval and to get to acceptance of the work that is been completed so we can have that grant actually delivered to us. We do not have that funding currently, the $750,000.00 grant. We are actively
pushing state parks to see if you know how we can get that grant funding to us. Then that match of the Park Impact Fees is $750,000.00 will kick in.

The next project, East Mesa Public Safety Area Park, so this is a sort of in conjunction with the GO Bond project, which is represented here in the graphical illustration, that is the master plan on the 350 acres. Approximately 100 of that is master planned for a recreation complex. Phase 1 is funded by the GO Bond project and is in active negotiations with the contractor right now on how to get that project in line with the budget. The idea is that this $100,000.00 from Park Impact Fees could supplement or provide a trailhead, or some other kind of facility that would enhance the GO Bond project funding.

Highland Park is another one that is slated for construction on a 10-acre parcel that we have on recreation and public purposes lease from the Bureau of Land Management, it is just north of Highland Elementary School. That project has recently become active again. It does have the $874,000.00 budget, which given today's construction cost may or may not be sufficient to complete this entire project. Two multiuse fields and a multiuse trail that extends around the fields and connects the Las Colinas neighborhood with Highland Elementary School to provide students a way to access their school.

Metro Verde neighborhood parks, also we continue to work with John Moscato the developer for Metro Verde to achieve the goal outlined in the parks and recreation master plan of having a neighborhood park within a quarter mile or a 10-minute walk of every residence within the city. Well we are making progress on achieving that goal, especially here where it is relatively easy to build neighborhood parks, and we are coordinating with the developer like I said.

The so-called Ninja Park is still under construction. We have done a walkthrough and noted some items for the punch list, so we are close to close out on that park, but some work still needs to be done with that one. The Red Hawk Villas Park, it has been accepted and we are in the process of completing the reimbursement process and the transfer of that land to the City. That is a completed park and is open for the public to use. We are under design with what we call the Skate Spot Park, which is on Sirocco, just outside of Sirocco across from what we call the Tower Park. That will have in addition to other features, typical park features, it will have what we call a skate spot. We will have several skateboarding features in that park. That achieves a goal of the community to have more skate features distributed throughout the community and achieves our promise to you to keep working on that and try to make that happen.

Also under design is a park at the phase called Trails at Metro, part of the subdivision called Trails at Metro, and that project will most likely be just kind of a typical neighborhood park with some turf grass, picnic facilities, play equipment for 5- to 12-year-olds and also 3- to 5-year-olds. We will be introducing a sort of a tot lot kind of park feature in that park.
Under planning is a 10-acre park to be located, I cannot remember if it is on Sonoma Ranch or on Red Hawk Golf Road. I think it is on Red Hawk Golf Road. The idea is a 10-acre community park so we can actually achieve the goal not just of having neighborhood parks, but also a very needed community size park on this side of town. All of that, of course, is happening within District 5.

Pueblos at Alameda, this one has been lingering. We had some purchasing issues with purchasing the play equipment. We worked hard with purchasing and with the contractor to get the proper insurance documents. We have got that and now of course we have a delay in getting the play equipment because the manufacturer is backed up. We anticipate that that play equipment will arrive in October and hopefully be installed in November. We have an actual completed project in December of this year. That one should be fairly simple, and it will enhance that neighborhood park for the neighbors. The kids I am sure will enjoy that.

Land acquisition, planning, and design for parks. It is a little difficult to see but there is a yellow box here representing not the piece of land that we are talking about. Apologize we need to update this slide. That was a piece of land that was under consideration. The actual land that is under consideration, I am showing here with my mouse, is a little bit further down Central Drive. This piece of property belongs to Tierra del Sol, and the City will be acquiring two acres of those nine acres of land to provide a suitably sized neighborhood park for this area, which definitely does not meet our goal of having a neighborhood park within a quarter mile of every residence, but we are taking the step to get towards achieving that goal. Right now we are prepared to coordinate with Tierra del Sol and their engineer to get that parkland laid out, get the streets laid out, get the entrances laid out, the dry pads and the like, get the utilities appropriately brought to that property as well. That project is in planning right now but is continuing and is going to be a very, very needed, and very useful public amenity for the neighbors in the area.

I just wanted to quickly just show you some other projects not Park Impact Fee funded projects that we are also working on. We have got quite a few projects with legislative grant funding, bond funding from the City, also grants and other kinds of taxes. We have got quite a few projects going on here, listed some trail projects and the like also that hopefully will also work towards meeting our goal of providing that kind of recreation space for all the residents within our city. Again, more trail projects, different kinds of infrastructure improvements, namely the water smart grant helps us to work at conserving water. We are working very closely with the water conservation coordinator, with our friends in Utilities to try and bring that kind of increased or improved technology to our system so that we can use our water wisely. Different kinds of improvements, also state legislative funding, namely the Pioneer Women's Park, Gomez Park, and also Frenger Park where we are doing some planning, and then we are working with our friends in Public Works also on the Veterans Memorial Park parking lot. That one is designed but also is having some budget concerns.
In addition, of course, I know you have all heard about the GO bond projects, but there are a couple questions that particularly pertain to parks, namely the recreational walking, jogging, and biking trails, and also the improvements to parks and sports fields and sports courts. Both of these are coming to a close, neither of them is quite closed out just yet. The recreational trails is coming close. The trail along the Mesilla drain is nearly complete. Also construction is well underway under on the Armijo Lateral trail. Then we just got our permit from Elephant Butte Irrigation District for the Las Cruces Lateral trail.

Park improvements includes repairs and upgrades to sports courts throughout the city. Those repairs are nearly complete, in fact, next month, namely October 1st, we will be having a ribbon cutting ceremony for the pickleball courts at Apodaca Park to which I hope you will see the notice and feel free to attend that grand opening. We are very proud of that work and want to welcome our pickleball players to that facility. The funding for the East Mesa Public Recreation Complex comes from that question too, that second question that is on the screen and also the improvements at Unidad Park. We are looking forward to closing out the sports courts so that we can gather any kind of funding leftover from that project, and we can disseminate it to Unidad and East Mesa. Maybe too much information, since it is not Park Impact Fee related.

We have got some other non-CIP projects that always come up and since we are special projects group under the administration at Parks and Recreation, our mandate is also to address projects as they come up, just smaller kinds of requests from the public or from Council. We just completed the improvements at the Women Veterans Monument lighting rehab and that project you may have seen the notice and the photo in the Bulletin recently. That project really looks good. It is quite a stirring monument. Metro Verde VAD (Voluntary Assessment District), I cannot remember what VAD stands for offhand, but we are doing some landscape improvements out at Sonoma Ranch Boulevard. AARP Fit Lot is also in Benavidez, so I hope you all have an opportunity to go out and use that facility. We are planning on a new skate park and some various and sundry other projects that we are working on and are grant funded mostly. With that, thank you for your patience and for listening. I will be happy to answer any questions.

Chair Lorenz: I will answer one first. It is a Voluntary Assessment District.

Mathews: Thank you. Voluntary Assessment District. Thank you.

Chair Lorenz: It functions a little bit like PIF funds actually, every time a lot is sold an amount of funds is due from the developer to the City for that project.

Mathews: Nice.

Chair Lorenz: I do not have any questions, but I know Mark does.
O'Neill: Yes, you know I do.

Chair Lorenz: He loves Parks and Rec.

O'Neill: Especially about Parks and Rec. That is my background. Quickly this new skatepark you are talking about is not the one you were just talking about or that is already in the planning. It is another new skate park.

Mathews: Correct.

O'Neill: That would give us three skate parks in town.

Mathews: Correct.

O'Neill: When you are talking about a pocket park, community park in the Alameda area when you were not sure of the location, is the community involved in where that part goes or you have just got to rely on where the land is, because there is not too much land it right. It is the developer and the City right working that out.

Mathews: Mr. Chair, Committee Member O'Neill. Yes, it is designated as part of the PUD (Planned Unit Development) for the subdivision. There is a parcel that has been identified as the 10-acre parcel for that community park.

O'Neill: Okay. The community may be involved in what is there, like what is going to be the park. Okay.

Mathews: Yes. Mr. Chair, Committee Member. Yes. Absolutely, the public is involved in that.

O'Neill: Great. You talked in last month's meeting, I mean minutes, about a need for a bigger recreation facility. Where does that figure in? Is it the Highland area, the East Mesa area? Have you already designated an area for that or are you still thinking about?

Mathews: Yes, Mr. Chair, Committee Member O'Neill. We do not have a designated space for that. Our general thinking is in the East Mesa where the growth is occurring. Right now the recreation center we have is Meerscheidt Recreation Center on Hadley. That is the one designated recreation center we have. We also have East Mesa Recreation Center, but it is very small one. It is on Porter near the fire station, fire station, I cannot remember, number six maybe. We need another one. We just need something where we can play indoor sports. We got pickleball, we got basketball, we got indoor soccer, all sorts of needs. We absolutely need that. It is in our planning. It is part of our years out in the CIP and so Council is aware of that.

O'Neill: Park and Rec Board will be discussing that too.
Mathews: Absolutely.

O'Neill: Find a location.

Mathews: Absolutely.

O'Neill: Then one of my concerns always when I was back on the Parks and Rec, and I have a few questions is Apodaca Park. I understand you are moving forward pickleball courts, water features, all that for Apodaca. At one time, and there were meetings about it, about development of part of the old golf course area as recreational area, also trails and so forth which they called Area A which is the barren land that is off Madrid and I think it is south of Apodaca Park. Has any talk or any discussion or any monies been allocated for those areas. We talked about maybe mountain biking, trails, maybe disc golf, there was a lot of discussion. Is anything going forward on that?

Mathews: Mr. Chair, Committee Member O'Neill. The Apodaca Blueprint gives us some guidance regarding Apodaca Park and the golf course to the north of Apodaca Park. That is held in private hands and so is available for development as a subdivision. There was a plan that was proposed for that and would have some pedestrian connections into Apodaca Park. We are still planning on that part of the project I was discussing just now does have a multiuse path to be developed around the park that could and would connect into that subdivision whenever that may occur. We will have that pedestrian connectivity to that particular place. As part of the Apodaca Blueprint also is the piece of property, I think it is about 30 acres in size east on Madrid, that is called Villa Mora Dam the Villa Mora Dam area. That place we are anticipating receiving some legislative grant funding for that particular project. We have not received it yet, so it is not on my list. When we do receive that, we will start planning and design for that piece of property. The Apodaca Blueprint calls for it to be recreation space plus commercial, and also potentially a rec center on that. That Blueprint is just lines on paper. It is not designed. It is not you know solid planning with any kind of documentation backing it, but it is ideas expressed from the community and approved by Council as part of the Apodaca Blueprint. When design occurs, when we receive that funding, we start planning and design for that property, we will absolutely seek public input. Among the options, they are great options, would be pedestrian trails, multiuse trails, maybe mountain bike trails, maybe as you mentioned a disc golf course, and the like. All of those are open and actually all of those would be, in my mind, very good options for that property.

O'Neill: Thank you. That would not involve any type of impact fees, like some of the other projects or possibly it could.

Mathews: Yes, possibly could, and very likely it would need to. I mean, that is a lot. It is my initial estimate, just for basic kind of park would be $800,000.00, and that was a couple years ago. It is definitely more than that that would be required to develop that property.
O'Neill: Thank you. That is all I have.

Chair Lorenz: Mr. Curnutt.

Curnutt: I want to just thank you very much for your presentation. I will let you off the hook. I do not have any questions today. I compliment you in the way you zipped through and covered the scope of work on each of those. However, I have a lot to get caught up on, so I will see if there is some more research, I need to do to get more engaged in your projects. Look forward to hearing from me and I look forward to the opportunity to chat with you. Thank you.

Mathews: Thank you very much. Appreciate it.

O'Neill: Thank you for the great presentation.

Lorenz: Thank you. Cathy.

6.3. Public Safety Current Projects Updates:

Smith: Chairperson, Committee Members. No updates on the Public Safety Impact Fees. Currently, all of our revenues for impact fees go to pay the debt service for the East Mesa Public Safety building.

Chair Lorenz: I believe a fire engine, correct.

Smith: Yes, some of the initial expenditures were for a fire engine at station eight.

Chair Lorenz: No more debt service on that. That is paid off.

Smith: That was paid off. Yes.

Chair Lorenz: Just on the Public Safety Complex.

Smith: That is correct.

Chair Lorenz: Thank you sir.

O'Neill: I have a quick question.

Chair Lorenz: From your presentation, I am sure.

O'Neill: Just a general question. Are you guys affiliated with the triage center at all as far as public safety funds or is that completely separate?

Smith: Completely separate when it comes to funding.

O'Neill: Okay. I was just curious. You are connected as far as working with them in some fashion.
Smith: Chairman, Committee Members. The topic on hand is the crisis triage center. That was constructed by the County. The County pays to have it staffed by a private company, RI International, to provide mental health crisis support to help people who are experiencing mental crisis, come down from that, stabilize so that they can seek further treatment. We use them as necessary to transport persons to, and it is on a voluntary basis. It is also used by the police department, County Sheriff's, and the local ambulance provider AMR.

O'Neill: Okay. Your mobile unit belongs to you guys, your mobile units that you use for that. You just use them as a resource to bring people.

Smith: Are you referring to our squad vehicles, our ambulances?

O'Neill: No, the mobile unit?

Smith: The mobile integrated health care program.

O'Neill: Yes.

Smith: The mobile integrated health care program, currently they use regular passenger vehicles. They do have one small passenger van that they can utilize to transport their clients to that facility if needed.

O'Neill: Thank you.

Chair Lorenz: Mr. Curnutt.

Curnutt: No, I have nothing.

Chair Lorenz: I look forward to seeing you again next time.

Smith: Thank you.

7. Public Participation:

8. Board Comments:
Chair Lorenz: Comments from the Board? I will start to my right. Mr. O'Neill.

O'Neill: Only you it is nice to be back. Thank you for the beautiful facility and room you have set up here. It is much, much nicer than what we have had in the past. I would like to welcome our new member, Mr. Curnutt. Welcome. Look forward to having you on the Board.

Chair Lorenz: Mr. Curnutt. Any comment?
Curnutt: No, just as I mentioned earlier in reference to the recreation program, I have a lot to catch up on. I look forward to the opportunity to meet with respective organizations maybe in the future as to what my scope will allow me to do then, just so that I can more up to pace so I can be more supportive of the program. Thank you.

Chair Lorenz: I have to echo Mark's comments. I am so glad to actually meet in person, I hate the mask. I would rather be here with a mask than behind a computer screen. Thank you very much. I know it was a task to get us back in here. I appreciate that. Alma and your staff throughout the time where we were remote, I know that was harder on you than it was on us, and it was pretty tough on us. Thank you so much for all the work that you did to make all of those things happen. Even having me in here for one of them one time, it was a little weird, but I appreciated that opportunity and the work that went into that. Last ...

O'Neill: Thank you for all that too.

Chair Lorenz: Lastly, Mr. Curnutt I appreciate your willingness to dedicate your personal time to the City. I appreciate that very much.

9. **Next Meeting Date - October 21, 2021:**

Chair Lorenz: With that we have our next meeting on the 21st of October. I do not anticipate any reason to cancel that other than the lack of Agenda. I do not think we are going to have much from Chief Jason Smith for a couple of months. We will get fiscal reviews. Okay, so well we will hold that meeting. I look forward to those fiscal reviews. My 18-year-old self would never believe that I was going to say that. Anything good for the good of the order?

10. **Adjournment:**

Chair Lorenz: I move to adjourn. Thank you gentlemen and all of staff.

Mark O’Neill, Vice-Chair Date