

Town of Rico Memorandum

TO: Town of Rico Board of Trustees Date: January 29, 2026
FROM: Chauncey McCarthy, Rico Town Manager
SUBJECT: February Board of Trustees Work
Session

2026 and beyond work plan (Pg. 2-15)

Included in the packet is the 2024 and beyond work plan for the Board's review. This document is provided as a reference for format and organization, as well as a snapshot of the Town's recent areas of focus, including projects that are ongoing or have been completed.

The work plan is being circulated in advance of the Board's work session to allow Trustees time to familiarize themselves with past priorities and current project status before beginning discussion of a 2026 and Beyond Work Plan. Trustees are encouraged to reflect on the Town's needs and priorities and consider additional topics or areas of focus that should be discussed and potentially added to the 2026 and beyond work plan.

Water Infrastructure

Goal: Reactivate silver creek water system

| Objective | Timeframe | Persons Responsible | Status | Comments/Add' Information |
|--|--|--|-------------|---|
| Impose development fees for subdivisions, PUD and large scale developments | Ordinance adopted by End of year 2023 | Chauncey McCarthy/legal/Board of Trustees | Completed | In process |
| RFP for engineering documents for the necessary improvements needed to reactive silver creek | Select Firm by end of 2024 | Chauncey McCarthy/Board of Trustees | In Progress | PNA Completed, Design work has not started |
| Pursue funding to reactive silver creek | To run concurrent with engineering | Chauncey McCarthy/Engineering firm | In Progress | State revolving fund, grants, and potential federal funding will all be necessary to offset this project's cost |
| Go out to bid for water system improvements, construct improvements, reactive silver creek | Contingent upon funding. Ideally breaking ground summer 2026 | Chauncey McCarthy/Engineering Firm/ Board of Trustees / Construction company | | Funding is the biggest hurdle for this project. As federal infrastructure funds roll out there will be a better understanding of the potential timeline |

Goal: Repair or replace third storage water tank

| Objective | Timeframe | Persons Responsible | | Comments/Add' Information |
|---|-------------------------|---|-------------|--|
| Research and determine funding sources | Complete by Dec-2024 | Chauncey McCarthy | Completed | Funding for tank rehab is limited. Water taps sales may offset cost |
| Pursue funding via grant, state revolving fund, water taps sold. Budget for repairs | Complete by Dec-2024 | Chauncey McCarthy | In Progress | Estimate from summer 2022 was 250,000 |
| Go out to bid for water tank rehabilitation and complete necessary work | Complete by summer 2026 | Chauncey McCarthy/Board of Trustees/Tank Rehabilitation company | | This is unlikely due to the Dolores River Water line replacement taking priority |

Street Fund and Infrastructure

Goal: Construct New Town Shop

| Objective | Timeframe | Persons Responsible | Status | Comments/Add' Information |
|--|---|---|-----------|---|
| Finalize construction documents | End of Feb-2023 | Chauncey McCarthy/Goff Engineering/Wiley Architecture | Completed | Almost Completed |
| Apply for DOLA EIAF grant to offset construction cost | Grant Due March-2023 Awarded June-2023 | Chauncey McCarthy | Completed | |
| Finalize lease purchase option need to fund the project and amend budget | Budget amendment July-2023 | Chauncey McCarthy/Troy Bernberg/Board of Trustees | Completed | Include sale of town owned space as revenue |
| Go out for bid for construction | July-2023 through August-2023 | Chauncey McCarthy/ Board of Trustees | Completed | |
| Construct shop | August-2023 through October-2024 | Chauncey McCarthy/Construction company | Completed | Project will include public parking, bathroom, and secured yard storage |

Goal: Maintain employees and update equipment

| Objective | Timeframe | Persons Responsible | Status | Comments/Add' Information |
|---|------------------------|---|-------------|--------------------------------|
| Pursue a mill levy increase during the November 2025 election | November-2025 election | Chauncey McCarthy/Legal/Anna Wolf/Board of Trustees/Resident electors | Completed | Approved 2025 General Election |
| Purchase new smaller front end loader* | Order by Q4 2026 | Chauncey McCarthy /Board of Trustees | | |
| Review compensation and benefits package to stay competitive with other employers | Yearly | Chauncey McCarthy/Board of Trustees | In Progress | |

*large purchases will be more manageable with a mill levy increase. If mill levy fails again these purchases will need to staggered greater then what is proposed.

Goal: Dust mitigation and paving

To be reviewed again by the Board of Trustees in 2025

Goal: Improve Road Ways and Stormwater Management System**

**This goal is associated with the townwide VCUP and should be discussed by the board to make determinations of the objectives.

Sewer Infrastructure

Goal: Centralized Sewer System*

| Objective | Timeframe | Persons Responsible | Status | Comments/Add' Information |
|---|-----------------------|---|-------------|---|
| Complete amended PER for town waste water treatment and collection system | Final Report Feb-2024 | Chauncey McCarthy/Board of Trustees/Engineering Firm | Completed | Bohannan Huston selected |
| Pursue funding to continue project | Ongoing | Chauncey McCarthy/Board of Trustees/Engineering Firm | In progress | State revolving fund, grants, and potential federal funding will all be necessary to offset this project's cost |
| Successfully release the 2.5 million dollars of congressionally directed spending | Ongoing | Chauncey McCarthy/Engineering firm | In progress | Grant has been award design is underway |
| Create construction documents, | Ongoing | Chauncey McCarthy/Engineering Firm/ Board of Trustees / | In progress | Design is underway and is expected to be completed Q4 2026 |
| Go out to bid, install improvements, and construct treatment facility | Unknown | Chauncey McCarthy/Engineering Firm/ Board of Trustees / Construction company/Engineering Firm | | Project may be phased based upon funding opportunities. |

*Due to the size, scope, and complexity of this project timelines at this point are near impossible to determine. Once the amending PER is completed and funding is investigated there should be a better understanding of what is feasible. Still waiting to see how federal funding will be dispersed

Municipal Documents

Goal: Update Municipal Documents

| Objective | Timeframe | Persons Responsible | Status | Comments/Add' Information |
|---|--------------------------------|--|-------------|---|
| Rico Land Use Code global revision | Complete by December 2024 | Chauncey McCarthy/Jennifer Stark/Planning Commission/Board of Trustees/Legal | In Progress | In process now. Will require planning commission recommendation and Board of Trustees adoption |
| Revise Home Rule Charter | Complete by Dec 2024 | Chauncey McCarthy/Board of Trustees/Legal | Completed | Work through charter amendments during Trustee meetings |
| Go to ballot with proposed Home Rule Charter amendments | November 2025 Election | Chauncey McCarthy/Legal/Anna Wolf/Board of Trustees/Resident electors | Completed | This will require a majority vote |
| Revise Rico Master Plan | Start in 2025 | Chauncey McCarthy/Board of Trustees/Master Planning Committee | In Progress | This is a large project and the town may want to consider working with a consultant through the process |
| Revise Water Rules and Regulations | Adopt by end of July 2024 | Chauncey McCarthy/Board of Trustees/Legal/Pat Drew | Completed | Address water conservation and revise document in its entirety |
| Codify current legislation | Start once new RLUC is adopted | Chauncey McCarthy/Board of Trustees/Municode | | Engage with Municode, process takes two years. |
| Update hazard mapping | On Going | Chauncey McCarthy/Planning Commission/Board of Trustees/DNR/Engineers | In Progress | Debris fan mapping is underway, DNR is updating Floodplain mapping, Avalanche and wetland mapping has not begun |

Parks and Open Space

Goal: Improve Parks and Open Space

| Objective | Timeframe | Persons Responsible | Status | Comments/Add' Information |
|---|----------------------------|--|-------------|--|
| Activate Community Engagement Team and gain community input | February 2023 - April 2023 | Chauncey McCarthy/CET Team/ FPM Consulting | Completed | |
| Create park design and budget | April 2023 - May 2023 | Chauncey McCarthy/FPM Consulting | Completed | Tetris exercises community input meeting held 7/9/23 |
| Pursue funding for park improvements | August 2023 - June 2024 | Chauncey McCarthy/FPM Consulting | Completed | Initial project scope funded, pursuing additional funding to enhance amenities |
| Construct park improvements | July 2024 - August 2025 | Chauncey McCarthy/FPM Consulting/Construction firm | Completed | |
| Park Grand Opening | August 2025 | Chauncey McCarthy/FPM Consulting/Local Community | Completed | |
| Improve trails within town and surrounding area | On going | RTA/Local Community | In Progress | |
| Complete the Rio Grande South Trail Improvements and bridge | On going | RTA/Local Community | In Progress | |

Additional Notes

Close out VCUP by end of Q3 2024 (Town wide storm drainage, soil management contractor, remediate roads, adopted IC, educate residents, promote participation)
Continue learning from other communities' success and downfalls.

Save Money, responsible purchases and spending

Provide support for school district initiative (Completed)

Citizen communication and engagement (post agendas in additional locations, provide meeting summary to mailserv list, host two community participation meetings a year)

Revisit recycling program

Help local businesses by providing support. (Chamber of commerce)

Research and investigate impact fees for large scale developments

Provide support to RFPD

Promote open space

Town shop project includes a parking lot which can be used as an intercept lot during snow removal

Reengage / stay involved with ARCO, Trust for Public Lands, MLC to ensure ARCO acquired property that's not needed or remediation is placed in conservation.

Continue to pursue/update technology