

Valley Improvement Association

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VIA NEWS

VIA is moving forward. And despite the down turn in the economy and the rather slow recovery, we have made many adjustments to both staff and operations to help us weather the storm. Management realizes that this is a cyclical event and that at some point, in the near future, the economy will rebound. VIA and its subsidiaries have been faced with many challenges but management is optimistic that the future looks bright. Over the past few years VIA has improved its operating efficiency by reducing staff, outsourcing services and trimming areas that could be trimmed while trying not to impact the support we offer to our members. Management realizes the investment that has been made in our community and has every intention of maintaining our assets to the best of our ability.

Some of the 2012 projects:

1. Re-seeding parks and soccer fields in both southern and northern Rio Communities with a draught tolerant blend which will reduce our dependence on water while enhancing the overall beauty of these areas.
2. Upgrades and management of the ponds at Las Maravillas thus enabling VIA to continue to utilize treated effluent for our parks and common areas in the Northern Rio Communities.
3. Upkeep and maintenance to Las Maravillas Unit I, Pasitos Communities as well as the southern Rio area.
4. Technical support of the Rio Communities Association and their efforts to incorporate southern Rio.
5. Stepped up involvement with Greater Albuquerque Economic Development and continuing our regional partnership in an attempt to attract jobs to our area.
6. Pursuing the ability to keep the North and South Rio Del Oro Loop open to traffic, thus enabling our member's access to property and VIA subsidiaries access to our sites.
7. Meeting with the County and State in an effort to help reduce our current property tax liability.
8. Pending litigation for VIA and its subsidiary operations (This continues to put a financial and personnel strain on VIA).
9. Partnership with Belen Schools in housing one of their school sites.
10. Stabilization of Subsidiary financial position in order to ensure a sound future for VIA and its subsidiary operations.
11. Working with local residents on updating covenants and organizing community committees.

The pending litigation consumes much of managements time and all the while management has been able to reduce payables, restructure debt for the subsidiaries and are now beginning to feel a bit of financial relief from our efforts. And, we have been able to do this with 76.6% less assessment revenue than our 2009 billing. So, as assessments continue to decrease, VIA continues to reassess what we can and cannot do and that which we can do, we do it with far less revenue than we once did. Management is looking at the possibility of a property auction in the near future to dispose of excess land inventory, reduce tax liability and help generate revenue to help sustain our mission.

Both the Village of Los Lunas and the City of Belen are working diligently on a Hospital plan and both seem to think they are making progress. Though the hopes for the facility to be located in the southern portion of Valencia County look dim, the reality of a hospital in Valencia County could soon be a reality. The ability for Valencia County to be able to deliver adequate health care will be a positive boost for our communities. Not only will the development of the hospital mean jobs for the area, it will allow Valencia County to once again attract new industry, families and retirees.

Public Service Company of NM is working on the development of a natural gas fired turbine power plant on the west side of Belen. The plant will help stabilize and deliver needed power to a growing sector. The plant will not generate a great number of jobs but it will contribute greatly to the tax base for Valencia County.

VIA is optimistic with the future of Valencia County and through our increased efficiency efforts, VIA will continue to be a viable organization in years to come.

Interested in serving on the VIA Board?

If you are interested in proposing your name for consideration to serve on the VIA Board of Directors please send a cover letter telling a little about yourself and a resume to:
VIA Nominating Committee, P.O. Box 8, Belen, NM 87002
 Your name will be placed for consideration

BEWARE OF "THE SCAM"

Once again, we are fielding inquiries from members who are being contacted by companies offering to sell their property for an upfront fee. A legitimate real estate company is not going to ask you to pay upfront costs or fees to list your property. A list of reputable Real Estate Professionals may be obtained from

the "Realtor" link on our website, www.v-i-a.org. Do not fall prey to this scam, if you need further information please contact our office (505)864-6654.

Information at your finger tips

VIA has many tools that are accessible by visiting our website at www.v-i-a.org. By accessing our website you can obtain information about the area, access our news-letter, contact our office and link onto many helpful sites including Valencia County. The Valencia County Assessors Office has many useful maps, these maps can help you locate your property, locate the name of the property owner adjoining you, see where your property lies in relation to schools, roads, mountains, etc. Here is how to access the County information step by step:

www.v-i-a.org

1. From the home page click on the "About the Area" button
 2. Click on "Interesting Links"
 3. Click on County of Valencia
 4. From this point you can access all areas of Valencia County Government
 5. From the Counties Home Page click on "I need"
 6. Click on "Locate my Property"
 7. Click on "View Assessors GIS View" on the right hand side of the page.
 8. Click on "Find Parcel by Parcel Number"
 9. Enter Parcel # in the designated area and hit "Search"
- Once your property has been loaded on the page you can then utilize the "Graphical Search" option by clicking on the first icon from the left. By utilizing this option you simply hit the "Dot" button and then point the mouse to the area of property you wish to obtain the owner information from.

We encourage you to visit the many links that are available to you on our website to learn more not only about VIA but about the communities that make up Valencia County.

Meet our Staff

Management is extremely proud of our staff and our ability to operate with a limited number of people. Our highly skilled staff is second to none and does whatever it takes to get the job done.

Paul A. Baca, President and CEO, has been with VIA since April 2010. Paul served as the Vice President of Finance and Administration prior to being selected as the President and CEO in September 2010. He served on the VIA board of directors for 12 years prior to joining the VIA staff. Paul has many years of business experience having managed his family's car dealership in Belen. He and his family are long time residents of the Belen area, he and his wife Loretta, own and operate a Convenience Store and Quick Serve Franchise in Belen and have 4 Children who attend Belen Schools.



Teresa Scott, Executive Vice-President and COO, is the cornerstone of VIA. Teresa carries 29 years of experience with VIA. Teresa is the President of several of VIA's subsidiary operations. Her knowledge and history of VIA and the area is priceless. Teresa is very involved in many community and church organizations and believes in serving her community.

When staff, members and friends refer to Teresa they do so with a twinkle in their eye because of the caring way she is toward all. Teresa resides in a VIA community and has 2 children and 2 grandchildren.

Val Tabor, Member Services Coordinator, has been with VIA for 18 years. Val is the friendly and knowledgeable voice that our members reach when they call into the office for information and assistance. Val's commitment to VIA and its members is second to none. She offers honest insight to our members and attempts to address all of their comments, questions and concerns. VIA is blessed to have Val. Val has 2 children and her and her husband reside in Southern Rio Communities.



Judy Hendren, Bookkeeper, brings many years of bookkeeping experience both private and public. Judy oversees all aspects of bookkeeping and accounting for VIA and all of its subsidiary operations. Her ability to access and analyze financial situations has allowed VIA to stabilize its operation during these very trying economic times. She began her tenure with VIA in February, 2010. Judy and her husband reside in Belen and have 2 children and 2 grandchildren.

Tina Baca, Accounts Payable, Tina has been with VIA for 8 years in the accounting department. She handles all payables and billing for the subsidiary operations. Tina is semi-retired but continues on a part time basis to assist with many functions in the accounting department. Tina has 2 children and 4 grand children and resides in Belen.



