2021
City of Alamosa Annual Report
Mayor and City Council

Mayor Ty Coleman

Councilor at Large - Mayor Pro Tem
Jan Vigil

Councilor at Large
Kristina Daniel

City Councilor Ward 1
Liz Hensley

City Councilor Ward 2
Kyle Woodward

City Councilor Ward 3
Charlie Griego

City Councilor Ward 4
Michael Carson
Human Resources

Vision
To be an employer of choice for those committed to building the future of our community.

Mission
In support of our City's principles, values, vision, and mission, it is the mission of human resources to support the total operation in meeting its goals through its most valuable resource—its PEOPLE.

It is our mission to:

- **Develop** an attitude of teamwork and quality in our day-to-day operations.
- **Create** an atmosphere that fosters challenges, fun, safety, and cleanliness.
- **Seize** opportunities that demonstrate excellent execution, a caring attitude, and a sense of urgency.
- **Reduce** waste by vigorously pursuing continuous improvement activities.
- **Commit** to doing and to acting openly, equitably, and consistently in our pursuit of uncompromising quality.
- **Increase** participation in City and community activities while seeking knowledge, enthusiasm, and improved quality of life for ourselves, our co-workers, and the community.
- **Respect** team member values that may be different from our own.
- **Accept** responsibility for promoting ethical and legal conduct in personal and business practices.
- **Communicate** in a candid and fair manner with the diverse workforce from whom our City derives its strength.

Functional areas of the Human Resources division are staffing and workforce planning, compensation, benefits administration, diversity, equity and inclusion, labor relations, policy development, succession planning, training and development, HR system administration, compliance reporting, safety/risk management, and personnel management.
City Workforce
The workforce includes both employees in full-time and part-time capacities. In addition, we have temporary and seasonal employees and paid-on-call volunteers. These employees fill technical/skilled, administrative, safety, and managerial roles. We work in a dynamic environment where, as the City of Alamosa continues to change and grow, our workforce must evolve. Our employees come from a variety of backgrounds, training, and experience to represent our community.

Staffing and Workforce Planning
The division processed 81 new hires and 59 separations (resignations, retirements, and completion of assignments). These numbers include seasonal, temporary, and paid-on-call volunteers in addition to regular full-time and part-time employees.
City of Alamosa Turnover Rate
Full-Time & Part-Time Year Round Employment

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Number of Separated Employees</th>
<th>Average Number of Employees</th>
<th>Monthly Turnover Rates (Percentage)</th>
<th>Quarterly Turnover Rates</th>
<th>Annual Turnover Rate</th>
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<tr>
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<td>5</td>
<td>156</td>
<td>3.2%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>161</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td></td>
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<td>163</td>
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<td>5.7%</td>
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<tr>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>May</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>166</td>
<td>1.8%</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Month</td>
<td>Value</td>
<td>Turnover Rate</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td>------------</td>
<td>-------</td>
<td>---------------</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>June</td>
<td>153</td>
<td>0.7%</td>
<td>3.1%</td>
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<td>159</td>
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<tr>
<td>August</td>
<td>160</td>
<td>0.6%</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
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<td>156</td>
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<tr>
<td>December</td>
<td>158</td>
<td>0.6%</td>
<td>3.2%</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Monthly Turnover Rates (Percentage)**

![Bar chart showing monthly turnover rates](chart.png)
**Federal/State Reporting Requirements**
The Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) requires bi-annual reports which indicate the composition of the workforce by sex and race/ethnic category. In State and Local Government, this report is referred to as the EEO-4. The EEO-4 survey is conducted biannually in every odd-numbered year. Human Resources filed the EEO-4 report in September 2021. The statistics below comply with State and Federal reporting requirements and are a voluntary option for employees to disclose and therefore may not accurately reflect the makeup of the workforce (protected classes). Job categories reported on: financial administration, general control, streets & highways, police protection, fire protection, parks & recreation, community development, utilities, and sanitation & sewage.

**Training and Development**
In 2021 staff participated in a virtual Sexual Harassment and Anti-Discrimination training. HR held an on-boarding and exiting procedures training for all supervisors and the City Manager led a colors personality training for new hires.
Compensation
The HR division led the process of hiring an outside consultant to perform a compensation analysis for all paid positions within the organization. This process took approximately 7 months and the final recommendation from the consultant was adopted and implemented January 1, 2022.

Risk Management
There were a total of 15 workers’ compensation claims for the year for a gross total of $189,244. The HR division with our insurance agent did a deductible analysis to review if the current deductible of $1,000 was the best fit for the organization. After reviewing 6 years of claims history it was determined that a $2,500 deductible would better fit the organization for the types of claims we are experiencing. Prior to the renewal of our property and casualty insurance, a risk analysis of property and facilities was conducted to confirm adequate coverage. The property and casualty insurance rates have been increasing at a steep percentage rate since 2020 so the department did due diligence to seek an insurance quote from another insurance agent, CIA Levitt Group. The quotes that the City received determined that CIA Levitt Group was a better fit for coverage and premium rate for 2022.

The division was also successful in putting a fit-for-work pre-employment and return-to-work physical testing program in place with the support from WorkWell. This testing will make sure that all candidates and current employees that have a higher requirement of physical abilities for the job can perform the essential functions of the position without harming themselves. The HR division continues to evaluate the risk and loss in the organization and work closely with the departments to put safety measures in place to help reduce the risk.

Benefits Management
In early 2021, a benefits survey was administered to employees to identify what issues or additional benefits employees have or would like to be offered. From the results, it was perceived that employees needed more education on how benefits work in relation to deductibles, max-out-of-pockets, in-network, and out-of-network coverage. The division held a virtual Benefits Fair for all benefit-eligible employees before open enrollment to help educate and prepare employees to make the best benefit selections for their situations. Open enrollment was held in September, and the City continued medical, dental, vision, life insurance, and cafeteria benefits with the same carriers. Employees saw a 7% or 10% increase in medical benefits depending on the tier of coverage. Employees also saw optional buy-up plans for dental and vision that offer richer coverage of benefits.

Wellness
The Wellness Program jump-started the year with a Control Your Fitness Challenge to encourage employees to take control of their health. Throughout the year employees also had the opportunity to participate in four other wellness challenges. The City continued the Annual Health & Wellness Fair with more services than 2020 but still...
limited due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. The City also continued to offer all employees and dependents an employee assistance program free of charge to help with stressful life situations. Employees are also offered a free household recreation membership, discounted golf membership, and staff receives healthy snacks once a month throughout the year.

**Challenges**
The COVID-19 pandemic continued to bring challenges.
- Daily interactions/communication/administration for Covid related questions.
- Continuing to provide a safe work environment during outbreaks.
- Understanding and enforcing new laws for COVID leave under ARPA and HFWA.
- Tracking COVID-19 leave.

**Top Accomplishments**
- Completed salary survey for all paid positions resulting in approximately $500,000 in pay increases for all pay grades making the City more competitive with the market.
- Put in place a work fit testing program to ensure safety for new hires and current employees.
- New insurance broker and carrier for property and casualty insurance resulting in approximately $30,000 annual savings in premium and more robust coverage.

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**City Clerk and Municipal Court**

**Liquor Licensing**
The City of Alamosa has a total of 40 active liquor licenses. In 2021, there were two new licenses issued and four transfers of ownerships. There were two licensees that decided to not renew resulting in the decrease of active licenses in 2021 compared to 2020. The following are the types of active licenses currently held within Alamosa:

- 3 Beer/Wine
- 1 Brew Pub
- 1 Campus Liquor Complex
- 2 Related Facilities to Campus Liquor Complex
- 2 Club
- 7 Fermented Malt Beverage
- 14 Hotel/Restaurant
- 4 Retail Liquor Store
- 6 Tavern

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Administrative actions included:

- Renewal and inspection of the City’s 40 licenses.
- 13 Special Events Permits
- Processing of two new licenses
- 4 Transfer of Ownerships along with Temporary Permits for each

Council action included:

- All Special Events Permits held on City property
- Needs & Desires hearing/decision for two new applicants

**Boards and Commissions**

The City has a total of eight boards and commissions including:

- Historic Preservation Advisory Committee
- Homeless Coalition
- Library Board
- Main Street Advisory Committee
- Personnel Board
- Planning Commission
- Recreation Advisory Board
- Tree Board

While the Alamosa Housing Authority Board is not an official City board, the Mayor appoints the board members per their bylaws. However, Mayor Coleman has chosen to have the members be elected by the entire City Council, keeping the appointment process similar to that of the other advisory boards and committees. City Council appoints individuals by way of application, short interview, and official appointment on the City Council agenda.

Routine activity for the boards included the annual recruitment process sent out every year in April and appointments done annually in June. With the COVID-19 pandemic easing in 2021, City Council was able to hold their annual board appreciation dinner. The dinner is Council’s way of extending their gratitude and appreciation to those board members who selflessly serve. Prior to the pandemic, a request for proposals was solicited to award a local restaurant the opportunity to host the board dinner. San Luis Valley Brewery was selected to host the dinner and was able to do so in August 2021 for those board members. The dinner was well attended and attendees were happy to be able to get back together after a year in a pandemic and get-togethers being minimal. All attendees received a thank you gift that highlighted the boards and Alamosa.

At the end of 2021, a total of three vacancies across the eight boards and commissions remained. Recruitment will continue to fulfill those vacancies. In 2021, the City was able
to use funds to purchase the Granicus Boards and Commissions software. This software will allow applications to come in completely electronically, eliminating the need for paper applications; allow for more information on the boards to be provided online including content and board member service years; and will create more transparency for the City in the board structures. The City looks forward to being able to fully utilize this software for recruitment purposes in the next recruitment phase in 2022.

Records

The City Clerk's office handles all open records requests and has complied and responded to numerous requests throughout the year. It is a goal of the office to create a structure for departments in order for compliance and tracking of open records requests to be completed within timely fashions.

It has been a long-term goal of the Clerk's Office and the City to create and implement a Central Filing system. For the past few years, this has been a task that was unattainable to achieve without the help of an intern. In 2021, the Office was able to utilize the help of an intern over nine months and was able to handle a variety of tasks including ensuring off-site record storages were up-to-date on organization and retention schedules, the central filing room was organized and additional filing shelves were added for additional storage of permanent files, and everything in the storage room was tracked via spreadsheet. Utilizing an intern also helped to provide training to departments, allowed for printed binder of the records retention manual that was specific to their department, and allowed for cleanup of the records structure. The remaining item in the overall records department is to finish the Records Guide for the City of Alamosa to follow.

Municipal Court

Municipal Court continuously faces challenges in ways to improve due to legislation changes and other necessary changes to remain effective and efficient, while also being professional, fair and maintaining neutrality. The Court continues to hold court sessions four times a month, with the first Monday of every month being an arraignment docket.

With the pandemic during the first part of the year still being a concern, court hearings continued to be held virtually for the first quarter. After that, the court began to conduct hybrid hearings, and slowly eased back into court hearings being held in-person. The court was seeing a decline in attendance of numbers for defendants needing to appear, even though the availability of remote services existed, and felt it best to move back to in-person. After some time, the numbers of attendance in-person increased and the numbers of failure-to-appear declined. With current legislation in place, the challenge municipal courts are facing is having defendants actually appear for their initial arraignments (first appearances). A defendant failing to appear can keep the dockets backlogged until they are finally seen by the judge for their first appearance. Sometimes, this will not happen unless they are picked up on a warrant and a municipal court date is scheduled before the need for them to be released on a PR bond arises.
The timing of such is almost impossible with municipal courts being part-time courts and not having hearings as frequently as full-time courts.

In the Alamosa Municipal court, we make every effort to hold hearings if possible if we know the defendant has a tendency to ignore their court dates and fail to appear time after time. No matter the situation, our goal is to make every attempt possible to ensure the rights of the accused are met, and cases are not being backlogged on the dockets.

In 2021, the municipal court saw a total of 867 violations filed by the Police Department. Cases that were not closed in 2021 are not reflected in the statistics and remain active.

The following are statistics related to filed and closed cases for 2021:
Notable events throughout 2021 also included:

- Continued collaboration with Center for Restorative Programs in adult and youth diversion programs.
- Continued collaboration with RMS for community service programs.
- Continued use of the JAG Grant to provide defendants with the option of participating in Diversion programs as well as helping with the payment of Useful Public Service referrals for defendants who are indigent.
- Contracted with Tray Stephany for Court Appointed Counsel defense services.
- Contracted with First Response K-9 Security for municipal court security services.
- Continuation of collaboration with the Office of the Alternate Defense Counsel for review of court appointed counsel.
- Continuation of contract with BC Service to send cases to collections. Currently, the City has not received any outstanding payments.

One of the most notable and memorable events in 2021 was that the municipal court had a total of three jury trial requests with a result of holding two after no disposition was met between parties. The jury trials were a first that had been seen in the municipal court in at least ten years. The first jury trial was held in June and the second was held in August. The process for the jury trial went exceptionally well and court staff was recognized for their efforts in handling the process efficiently. Holding a jury trial during a time of a pandemic was a challenge to ensure the safety of all parties. The jury trials were one day jury trials held with a jury of three.

Diversion programs continue to be a great resource and tool for defendants. With the pandemic still ongoing in 2021, diversion programs through Center for Restorative Programs operated virtually. Community service was a challenge in the beginning of the year but as the year progressed, defendants were able to schedule community service hours again through RMS for in person completion. Throughout the year, there were 22 juvenile referrals and 58 adult referrals. Of those referrals, 27 were successful, 4 have been mediated, 8 are still pending, 18 were screened out, and only one was unsuccessful. With JAG funds ending in March of 2022, the City will be looking into finding other ways to continue funding for these successful programs.

The Municipal Court continues to balance the budgetary challenges that have been faced in the past with the jail fees and court appointed counsel. With the many changes in the judicial system, court appointed counsel fees have decreased over 2021 with very few appointments made in the year. Jail fees have slightly increased from last year as the City paid a total of $8,992 in jail fees.

Discussions in 2021 were held related to the security services for court dates. With the Police Department needing to utilize all officers for services in the community, it was decided to contract with an outside agency to provide these services.
**Elections**

The City’s Regular Election was held on November 2, 2021. As is the customary practice, the election was held as part of the Coordinated Election with Alamosa County. A total of seven candidates campaigned for four seats.

Prior to the election, the Clerk’s Office conducted a Candidate Orientation session along with the City Manager and City Attorney for candidates running for council seats. A Meet the Candidates forum was also held in conjunction with the Alamosa Valley Courier, Alamosa County Chamber of Commerce, and KSPK radio.

This election was held solely for Council elections. The four council seats that were up for election were Mayor, At Large, Ward 2, and Ward 4. The Councilor At Large and Councilor Ward 2 seats were the two contested races for this election. Previous Councilor for Ward 2, David Broyles, did not run for re-election.

After the election, Mayor Ty Coleman and Councilor Ward 4 Michael Carson retained their seats on Council for the next four years. Incumbent Councilor, Jan Vigil won his race for the At Large Councilor seat and Kyle Woodward won the contested race for the Councilor Ward 2 seat. Council members were sworn in with their oaths of office on December 2, 2021.

**City Attorney**

**City’s Water Supply Augmentation Plan**

As the City’s application for approval of its plan for augmenting diversions from its seven municipal wells wends its way through court, the City continues to cooperate with the Alamosa – La Jara Subdistrict to use return flows generated by the City’s well pumping to offset depletions across the Subdistrict. The City’s augmentation plan is designed to cover 30-50 years of future growth by the City, and to incorporate innovative approaches to meeting the requirements of the newly promulgated rules governing groundwater withdrawals in the San Luis Valley, including alternative transfer mechanisms to enable the continuation of agricultural operations that provide some of the water rights. The filing of the application marked the beginning of the formal process of approval through the court system, a process that will undoubtedly involve continued changes as the process moves forward.
Ordinance Changes of Note

Municipal Prosecutions

In 2018, the City of Alamosa decriminalized all but 18 of the most serious ordinance violations. This means that unless and until a defendant has violated the same or a similar ordinance provision four or more times in a period of two years, the violation cannot carry a possible jail sentence. The City has experienced shoplifting, and related trespass charges, to be the most frequent repeat offense. The prosecutor has been reluctant to recommend jail as a sanction for simple trespass when that is the fourth offense, and so the presumption of jail as a sanction frequently waived in those circumstances. Ordinance No. 20-2021 was enacted to streamline the court proceedings to allow such waiver to be made orally as well as by written motion. This allows the municipal court to efficiently handle a large volume of cases.

Expanded Housing Options

Ordinance No. 26-2021 expanded options for accessory dwelling units and for a density bonus to allow for greater options for affordable housing in an attempt to address Alamosa’s ongoing housing crisis (see the City’s Housing Needs Assessment, completed in the first part of 2021 on the City’s webpage).

Drug Houses - Addressing Criminal Nuisance Property

Ordinance No. 27-2021 provided an option to the Police Chief to request the municipal court to shutter properties that have been used for serious crimes such as drug sales and manufacturing for up to 364 days. The City has seen instances of the same house being raided multiple times for drug sales, with large amounts of drugs, cash, and automatic weapons found. The District Attorney has declined to take advantage of the state’s civil forfeiture laws to address the recurring criminal use of properties, and so the City chose to make an option to at least close such houses available to the Police Chief acting through the City Prosecutor in seeking such closure orders from the municipal court.

Short Term Rentals

The City passed a moratorium on new short term rentals at the end of 2021, extending through April 30th of 2022, while it considers options for addressing the licensing and location of short term rentals. The City expects to enact an ordinance regulating short term rentals (currently only a business license is required) before the moratorium expires.
**Opioid Litigation**

The City joined with almost all other Colorado municipalities in signing on to an intergovernmental agreement with the Colorado Attorney General to receive and distribute settlement funds from opioid manufacturers and distributors arising out of the federal lawsuits filed against various companies (the City is a party in one of the lawsuits, all of which have been joined for trial in the Northern District of Ohio). The settlement funds are on hold, as the federal bankruptcy judge in Purdue Pharmaceutical’s case rejected that bankruptcy settlement. Settlement discussions are ongoing.

**RV Parking**

The City enacted a pair of ordinances to address RV parking. Ordinance 14-2021 freed up parking of RV’s on residential lots so long as the parked RV does not obstruct traffic sightlines or impede vehicular or pedestrian traffic. Ordinance 10-2021 limits the length of time RV’s and trailers can be parked on City streets to 72 hours, and requires that, if moved, the RV or trailer cannot return to the same spot until it has been at least 500 feet from that spot for a week.

**Camping on Public Property**

Ordinance No. 9-2021 prohibits camping on public property. Prior to the ordinance, it was unlawful to camp or otherwise use public property contrary to rules for the use of such property, but the Code did not address camping on public property where no such rules governing the use of the specific property have been promulgated. Now it is unlawful to camp on public property (primarily parks, sidewalks, trails, and alleys) unless specifically designated. This means the only camping allowed on public property is at St. Benedict campground. Without St. Benedict campground, this ordinance would not be an option and individuals could camp legally on public property.

**Police**

The Alamosa Police Department is a full-service police department that consists of 32 full-time employees; 27 certified peace officers and five civilian non-sworn employees. There are three divisions; Administrative, Support Services, and Operations. The Chief of Police, Office Supervisor, and Records Clerk make up the Administrative Division. Support Services is overseen by a Captain, who supervises six employees. There are three full-time Detectives and three Community Services Officers within Support Services.
The Operations Division is overseen by a Captain and consists of four Sergeants, four Corporals and 12 Patrol Officers.

The department staff has continued to build and strengthen the partnerships and collaborative efforts with our law enforcement partners and organizations not only within our community, but across the San Luis Valley and the state. Throughout the year, the department and these partners have developed strategies to address citizen concerns and needs in the city and across the San Luis Valley. These partnerships have helped make an impact on crime and drug use by creating task forces to work high profile crimes which occurred throughout multiple jurisdictions.

In 2021, the department focused on drug addiction, harm reduction, community transparency and accountability. The police department has partnered with the Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion (LEAD) program. Together, we continue to work with repeat offenders who struggle with addiction. Being a partner with LEAD has provided additional options to law enforcement and community members to help with providing treatment to individuals.
Crime Impact

The department has focused on many areas throughout the year; including drug abuse/use, community policing, crime prevention/reduction, and traffic safety. We continue to build and strengthen partnerships and collaboration efforts by working with other law enforcement agencies such as Advantage Treatment Center (Community
Committee, (ATF).
Investigations Alcohol, Marshal's Drug Colorado other State
Partnerships and Collaboration Sheriffs of Colorado.
As supervisors prepare within our community, we hope to impact the overall crime rate. By training and other specialized training in drug interdiction and impaired driving enforcement. The department utilizes two K-9 teams throughout the year. Having two canine teams allows for a canine to be available and staffed seven days a week. Throughout the year, these teams have made an impact and assisted officers with recovering drugs, money, and other associated illicit substances and apprehension of those suspected of transporting drugs to and through our city. By impacting the drug trade, use and abuse within our community, we hope to impact the overall crime rate.

As part of our strategic plan, we promote succession planning and provide officers and supervisors with training opportunities to prepare them for advancement within our department. This year officers at all levels continue to receive training in First Line Supervision and Management. These trainings have been provided by resources such as the FBI Law Enforcement Executive Development Association, Colorado Association of Chiefs’ of Police, Colorado Peace Officers Standards and Training, and the Colorado Sheriffs of Colorado.

Partnerships and Collaboration

Our department continues to partner with the Alamosa County Sheriff’s Office, Adams State University Police Department, the Colorado State Patrol, Parole, Probation and other local organizations. We have developed a great working relationship with the U.S. Marshall’s Office, Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA), the Colorado Bureau of Investigations (CBI) and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF). We continue to be active with the Community Corrections Board, Screening Committee, San Luis Valley Behavioral Health, and are participating in Drug and DUI
Court. The Restorative Justice Program continues to grow across the San Luis Valley, with the Police Department and Municipal Court being an important part of the program.

Although the School Resource Officer program was not awarded a contract in 2021, the department continues to provide services on the Alamosa School District campuses. Officers work with the institution personnel to provide alcohol and other drug education, maintain a safe campus environment, serve as law enforcement problem-solving resource persons, and provide the appropriate response regarding on-campus or school related criminal activity.

Community Programs

In 2021, the department continued to work with the community to develop the Neighborhood Watch Program. Officers held meetings encouraging community members to become more involved with these programs, attend meetings, and report crimes as they occur.

“Shop with a Cop” continues to grow and be a success. The purpose of the program is to foster positive relationships between youth and officers. By partnering with the Department of Human Services, the Alamosa School District, and other community organizations, kids Kindergarten - 6th grade, are selected each year during the end-of-the-year holiday season to shop at one of the local area stores to purchase gifts for members of their immediate family. Each child is allocated a small amount of money to spend. Approximately 1-2 children are assigned to each police officer, who then escorts them around the store and assists in selecting appropriate gifts for each family member. After shopping, the children will eat lunch, wrap their gifts, and continue to get to know the police officers.

Officers conduct meetings and hold events that promote community involvement and support. Such programs include Crime Prevention and Asset Protection Program, Community Arts and Crafts Program, Walgreens Red Nose Program, City Services Fair, Fright fest, Community Car Washes, Career Fair, DEA Drug Take Back, Migrant Education Program and Save the Children literacy programs. By being involved and visible within the community, officers are easily accessible and approachable to citizens and our youth.

Employee Wellness

The department continues to promote and take pride in the overall wellness of our staff and participate in a Wellness Program. Officers trained through the Cooper Institute as Fitness Specialists work together as a team and members of our department and City to promote wellness. These officers can recommend training programs and meal plans
designed for the specific person to improve their health and wellness. By having this expertise on staff, our department can reduce injuries and increase the overall health of our employees. Their participation in this program gives the officers buy-in and direct input into the program and the standards being established.

Fire Services
The Alamosa Fire Department operates from two locations. Station 1 is located at 425 4th Street and Station 2 is located at 2827 Vigil Way. Alamosa Fire Department responds to fire and rescue calls within the city of Alamosa and the south half of Alamosa county. In addition to call response, the department provides ARFF services to the San Luis Valley regional Airport, and provides fire prevention and life safety classes.

Call Volume
The department responded to 318 calls for service within the city limits and 130 in the county for a total of 448 calls during 2021. Call volume continues to increase about 10% per year. In addition to fire calls, the department provided ARFF stand-by services for 70 flights at the airport.
Fire Incident Type Breakdown

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<th>Incident Type Groups</th>
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<td>100 – Fire</td>
<td>92</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>300 - EMS</td>
<td>27</td>
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<tr>
<td>400 - HAZMAT</td>
<td>116</td>
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<tr>
<td>500 - Service Calls</td>
<td>115</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>600 - Series</td>
<td>41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>700 - False Alarm</td>
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**Mutual Aid**

All fire departments within the San Luis Valley are tied together under a Valley Wide Mutual Aid agreement in which all agree to provide assistance to each other when needed. The department also has an auto aid agreement with the Colorado Division of Fire Prevention and Control which provides assistance if needed.

**Inspections and Fire Prevention**

In 2021 the department provided 146 inspections for commercial buildings, schools, day care facilities, medical facilities and residences.

**Training**

In 2020, the City and the Alamosa County Fire Protection District jointly funded a fire training facility. The department is able to use the building for live fire training, structure search and rescue, and ventilation. During 2021, firefighters made several enhancements to the facility. Crews fabricated movable panels which are used inside the building to change search scenarios, which improves their search and rescue skills in burning buildings. The facility is available for use by all fire departments in the San Luis Valley.
Equipment and Personnel

The department is currently staffed with thirty four firefighters. Staffing levels have remained consistent the past four years with little turnover. The department strives to provide staff with quality training programs as well as sending staff to training classes in the region.

In addition, the department cross trains with primary mutual aid partners, The Monte Vista Fire Department, Mosca-Hooper Fire Department as well as Alamosa Ambulance crews on a regular basis.

Information Technology

In 2021, the IT Department continued efforts to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic. IT proudly partnered with Ciello to address a community issue surrounding remote learning. An underserved neighborhood was identified as needing distributed access to broadband for online learning and/or telehealth. With the help of the City, Ciello erected a wireless access point for this neighborhood. This project could not have been completed without the SB-152 opt out vote passed in the previous year.

2021 was also a year for massive internal infrastructure and security upgrades. The City was upgraded to a 10 Gbps backplane allowing all primary servers to communicate with storage and compute resources 10x faster. Matching these upgrades, the core network switching stack was upgraded from older Dell PowerConnect 7048Ps to newer more powerful N3048Ps. An additional Storage Area Network (SAN) appliance expands the available storage capacity of the network and allows for a more robust network disaster recovery plan. Privileged network accounts were security hardened with the addition of multi-factor authentication. Network backups were reconfigured to be stored in an encrypted state, preventing cryptographic viruses (ransomware) from compromising City resources.

Additional monitoring programs were implemented such as PRTG - a software that gives IT real time
notices of software, hardware, and network inconsistencies or outages. Adlumin was selected as a network SIEM (security information and event management) solution. Adlumin assess the network for potential security risks anywhere from expired passwords to malicious internet connections. Additionally, Adlumin uses machine learning and artificial intelligence to recognize potentially risky or compromising behaviors.

IT accomplished a long awaited upgrade and fix to the Council Chambers AV system. New displays, network audio equipment, microphones, conferencing system, and backup system were placed in both Council Chambers and the Jury Conference Room. This state-of-the-art system integrates with Zoom for remote presence, is centrally controlled, and brings additional functionality to the area as the room can now be divided into two separately functional presentation spaces.

One of the larger projects taken on this summer was the upgrades to the Alamosa Public Library computer lab. With the use of monies provided by various COVID relief programs, IT was able to upgrade one of the City’s most public facing IT assets. Additionally, dividers as well as other health and safety equipment were added to the computer lab to ensure the highest level of public safety was maintained. A total of 30 computers were purchased that featured an all-in-one design. Not only does this make management easier, but it also reduces the amount of physical surfaces in each cubicle. During the deployment phase of the new computer lab equipment, Faronics Deep Freeze was identified as the most appropriate software to manage the public computers. Features such as planned maintenance windows, software anti-execution, and built-in application deployment minimizes the amount of time and effort on City staff to maintain the computers. After every patron finishes a session, the computer restarts to a fresh state that both protects the City’s computer from viruses and protects the previous patron’s personal information. Within the first few days of using the new system, a virus was reported by Library staff. A simple restart of the computer reset the software and cleared the threat.

In accordance with a 3-year renewal plan, the City of Alamosa and the City of Monte Vista signed on to continue an intergovernmental agreement to share an IT Department. This agreement continues to be a hallmark example of local community cooperation and collaboration. With the combined resources, an additional technician position was able to be funded. As both Cities grow in IT complexity, the new position will be integral in sustaining a secure and functional network for both.

Working with the Police Department, the Axon Interview Room solution was selected to replace the failing and deprecated DVR system. The new system interfaces directly with
Axons Evidence.com platform, already used for body and in-car camera videos. As evidence.com is a well rounded and easy to use digital evidence management system, our police officers and investigators can now easily manage videographic evidence all with one “pane of glass”. This project necessitated an upgrade of the IT infrastructure in the Police Department. An additional server rack was installed and a consolidation of police department specific resources will be completed. Once again, this follows IT goals of continually improving, securing, and functionalizing all City IT resources.

**Economic Development**

**Alamosa Resilience!**

Although there were countless ups and downs as we transition back into somewhat of a near normal or perhaps new normal, it became apparent that many businesses began to think about *more than* survival and in 2021 began thriving in many ways!

The role as Economic Developer for the City is a bit unique. The City is fortunate to have a Public-Private Partnership in which, while the department works under the City’s umbrella, also has several dedicated business investors who make up the Economic Development Board. *Without them, this position wouldn’t exist.* The department also invites community partners to the table allowing for an exchange of information.

Direction from City Council and the City Manager follows Economic Director’s (ED) vocabulary and is called BR&E (Business Retention and Expansion). Under the City’s leadership, it may be handled a bit differently, however, in that our primary commitment is to our existing business community. Those that have taken the risk and continue to work hard to make it in our community, some for decades, are our priority. The department spends a good amount of time in support of our current businesses searching for resources, making connections, providing information and simply showing up.

The department is often asked by citizens to reach out to big box chains in an effort to recruit them to Alamosa, *more than ever in 2021.* Some requests directly compete with our small business community and we do not actively seek those out. However, if any business contacts our offices with interest in exploring Alamosa as a possible location, our team certainly provides whatever they need to help them make their business decision.

2021 also brought exciting additions to our City team! City Council agreed to add a Development Services Department. Rachel Baird has been a great addition as the
Director of Development Services. The combination of Public Works, Development Services, and Economic Development make all the departments much stronger. We have already had the opportunity to have many Pre-Development meetings with new startups and potential developers in 2021 going into 2022. As a team, our goal is to help try to find ways to move forward – not put up barriers. With this system, we have been able to assist several businesses get a good start from location selection to properly transforming structures into new businesses, helping throughout the process of any licensing or other needs to assure a strong start with minimal setbacks.

In 2021, projects made advancements, some which started planning in 2019 or 2020. We have helped guide businesses that are still in the beginning of their plan or infrastructure work that will definitely be completed in 2022. We have a downtown project that has several components that will begin in spring of 2022 and be completed in 2023 if all goes as planned. This project brings with its beautiful infrastructure, parking improvements and hundreds of well-paying jobs.

Alamosa, not unlike many other rural communities, is enjoying more interest in various types of business startups, and/or expansion of service area or product in 2021. Through the hard times, also comes opportunity. We are trying at every chance to enhance the experience of doing business in Alamosa.

**Facing Forward**

In 2022, our hope remains high that the current business community continues to stay strong and endure whatever is before us, as they have in the past; that our current businesses prosper and grow and that Alamosa continues to experience interest in expanding the business scope for our community. Whatever your need is, you will be met with sincere appreciation of your interest in our community and assurance of team effort to meet your needs and answer your questions.

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**Parks and Recreation, Golf & Library**

*The Parks and Recreation Department’s mission is to enhance the quality of life for youth and adults by providing affordable and quality year-round recreation, leisure, and community activities.*

*The Alamosa Library’s mission is to inform, educate, and culturally enrich the population of Alamosa County and the San Luis Valley.*
2021 was another year of growth in amenities and patronage for our quality of life elements in Alamosa. Key examples include the opening of Montana Azul Park, the completion of the North River Pavilion/State Avenue Boat Ramp System, record numbers at Cattails Golf Course, and a new computer lab at the Alamosa Public Library.

The Department continued work on the top City Comprehensive Plan Update goal of activating the Rio Grande Corridor through the beginning of the Riparian Park to Refuge Trail Master Planning process. This legacy project will connect our growing trails systems and improve ease of access to our robust open spaces and parks as well as adjacent Federal public lands.

**Division Summaries**

**Parks**
The Parks Division is responsible for more acreage and tasks than most realize: around 1,600 acres of open space, ranch land, and developed parks and trails. In addition to that, the division is responsible for the maintenance of all the outdoor courts, playgrounds, fairgrounds and even some street medians and empty lots. Add in new facilities like Montana Azul Park and growing use; staff is pleased an additional full time employee (FTE) will be joining the team. A seasonal position will also be converted to a FTE position for 2022.

Regular tasks include landscaping throughout the city, tree trimming, noxious weed control, snow removal, trash runs, and special events setups/operations. The City’s cemetery is also part of the operation. However, from hanging Christmas decorations to trimming levee vegetation, the Parks division is often doing whatever “needs to be done” and the “can-do” spirit of the team was never more evident than in 2021 (for example; completing the new Montana Azul Park in the midst of all their regular duties). The Parks team plays an absolutely integral part of the City’s growing outdoor recreation ethos; we are grateful for their dedication.

**Community Recreation**

2021 was a year of recovery for the Community Recreation Division. After adjusting programs and facilities to more pandemic appropriate parameters, families relished the opportunity to return to their leisure pursuits in a more traditional manner. Though growth in the depth and breadth of programs and facilities continues, the division, in conjunction with feedback from the Community Recreation Advisory Board, really made strides in promotion and education of goals and accomplishments. Simply stated, we sought to better inform the public on all that we
do, how we do it, and our long-term goals. This effort resulted in a powerful “infographic” with key points on how we are and intend to improve quality of life in Alamosa.

Some highlights from the Infographic:

- Depth and breadth of programs is tremendous (Family Hiking and Ceramics to Paddleboarding and Tennis Lessons).
- Half cent sales tax has been quite the investment for taxpayers; it has averaged a 100% return (leveraged 1 to 1 over the last five years with grant proceeds).
- Programs remain affordable: $20 youth soccer and $10 park reservations.

Other division highlights include securing $1.8 million dollars via GOCO’s Generation Wild Program that gets kids outside from the backyard to the backcountry. We were awarded another Colorado Parks and Wildlife Fishing is Fun Grant to continue to improve the Blanca Vista Pond. State Department of Agriculture funding allowed us to treat more acres of noxious weeds than ever before. Finally, the official opening of the two plus mile Toivo Malm trail system, which is the first trail system on the south side of the city.

Other notable achievements and attendance figures include:

- Expanded fishing access at Blanca Vista Park.
- Growth in Disc Golf play and a record 90-player tournament.
- Added Special Olympics program in-house and a traveling track youth program.
- First ever Rio Trio Triathlon sold out with a waiting list.
- Ice Rink growth saw record number of players for 2021 – up 20% over 2019 & over 30 group reservations have used the facility this season (schools, parties, clubs etc.).
- Special events continue to flourish and grow with a 54% increase in stage use since 2015.

**Outdoor Recreation**

The ongoing pandemic in 2021 continued to shape the way Alamosa residents recreated with many people flocking to the outdoors to gather together, get exercise, and to enjoy nature. The City of Alamosa has an abundance of public land, trails, and river front property along the Rio Grande. In 2021 Alamosa Parks and Recreation staff continued to work to improve outdoor recreation amenities through new river access and ongoing enhancements and maintenance along the roughly 23 miles of the Alamosa Trail Network. Outdoor Recreation is an area of growth and excitement with grassroots community momentum driving the expansion of this area.
of recreation.

**Trails, River Access and Open Spaces**

In the Spring of 2021, Alamosa Parks and Recreation staff and community partners worked to implement a construction project consisting of two new boat ramps. The North River Pavilion boat ramp was completed, which provides a boat ramp for non-motorized boat access at the north end of the City Ranch. It also included river channel shaping, revegetation of riparian habitat, expanded parking, and a new entrance sign. Downstream, the pedestrian boat ramp at the State Avenue Bridge was constructed, the parking lot was expanded, a new entrance sign was installed, and a shade structure was erected. As a result of this project, Alamosa residents and visitors alike can utilize these clearly marked and easily accessible put-in and take-out spots on the river. Water based recreation has visibly increased with these improvements to the infrastructure.

Funding for this river project came from Colorado Water Conservation Board, Great Outdoors Colorado, the Trinchera Blanca Foundation, and San Luis Valley Conservation and Connection Initiative. Boat ramps were designed by Riverbend Engineering and constructed by Robins Construction.

Work also started in 2021 on the “Riparian Park to Refuge Trails Master Plan” made possible through a Colorado Parks and Wildlife trails planning grant. THK Associates consulting firm was hired to spearhead the planning efforts. The master plan, when completed in 2022, will highlight priority connection areas and a funding strategy for the Alamosa Trail Network. The feasibility of bridges, underpasses, property and right of way acquisitions will be studied and recommendations for future connections will be outlined in the final report. Significant public outreach is underway to shape the master plan.

**Programming and Special Events**

The creation of the boat ramp infrastructure allowed City staff to plan the first annual Rio Trio Adventure Race on Saturday, June 12th. This inaugural event consisted of a 10-mile bike ride, a 3-mile paddle, and a 5k run. A kid’s race was also offered to adventurous youngsters. Over 110 people from all of the San Luis Valley and Colorado participated. A recap video of the event can be found here: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CVCgy1Qezrl](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CVCgy1Qezrl)

The Outdoor Recreation Division offered a host of outdoor recreation programs. These programs are bolstered by a Generation Wild grant from Great Outdoors
During the school year, staff and Generation Wild partners offered an outdoor adventure club at Ortega Middle School and took over instruction of physical education classes at Alamosa High School with outdoor recreation and environmental education activities. Throughout the year, programs open to the public included birding, mountain bike clinics, stand up paddle boarding, outdoor yoga, archery, and more!

**Golf**

2021 was a great year for Cattails Golf Course. The investment in the Toro equipment along with the new irrigation system on the front nine really paid off in terms of playability and overall aesthetics. Specifically, the course condition is improving every year and in turn, the revenue is also increasing. Our crew now has the ability to focus on growing and repairing turf rather than working on equipment and irrigation issues. We still have serious issues on the back 9 irrigation, but having the front 9 completed was a big help.

The Course saw a jump in memberships and golf passes. That means more local people are playing golf. We also witnessed a large jump in green fee revenue. Green fees are usually tied to tourism rounds so there were more out of town visitors as well.

Looking to the next generation of players, it was exciting to be able to have the Junior Golf Program again. It did not occur in 2020 due to COVID-19. In 2021, we had 48 juniors participate.

**2021 Highlights**

- Hosted both men’s and women’s regional tournaments for high school golf.
- Increased membership by over $65,000.
- Almost doubled pro shop merchandise sales from 2020.
- Exceeded the overall revenue budget by 38%.
Alamosa Public Library

Storytime

Storytime sessions are the most impactful way that APL provides early literacy programming to children and families in the community. Based on recommendations from the CDC, all organized recreation and library programming was suspended on Monday, March 16, 2020. This suspension stayed in place for in-person Storytime at APL until August 3, 2021 (though there was in-person Summer Reading programming in June and July). Bringing in-person weekly Storytime sessions back to Tuesday and Friday mornings with Youth Services Librarian Holly Van Hoy was a highly anticipated event.

Making accommodations for gathering safely paved the way for new discoveries about how Storytime programming could be successfully offered beyond the traditional in-person gathering in the Story Room. Cole Park served as an excellent Storytime locale from August through much of November 2021. Being outdoors inspired interactions with nature and movement that may not have been possible indoors. As the weather grew cooler in late Fall, some attendees expressed their comfort in continuing to meet outside versus indoors, especially since masks were no longer required in the library. The name became “Sweater Weather Storytime” and attendees bundled up outdoors until the temperatures were just too low and the ground too wet, leading to several in-person sessions indoors in the Story Room.

From August to December of 2021, 712 people came to APL for in-person Storytime. In the first half of the year, Holly and Library Assistant Judith Boyd continued to create Storytime Online videos, which were designed as a way to connect children and families with the library during the months that the library was closed to the public or unable to provide in-person programming due to COVID-19 protocols. This team, with occasional help from ILL Librarian Cathy Zverev, created 19 Storytime online videos from January 2021 to August 2021, when in-person Storytime sessions resumed.

In 2021, the entire collection of APL videos received 117,810 views. The Storytime Online videos were originally very simple and straightforward, with Holly filming at home in one shot, reading several stories and including songs, fingerplays and movement as part of the early literacy enrichment. Once Judith was involved, the videos became much more elaborate,
with filming on location, editing and even animation. The team is very proud, not only of what they created, but that they were able to continue to reach the Storytime community in the San Luis Valley. Holly has been made aware that not only did families watch them together at home, but teachers used them as part of their classroom programming. The videos continue to be available on the library’s YouTube channel.

**Kids Club**

Kids Club is a story and activity session geared toward elementary-age students, ages 5 to 10. It began in 2019, but was put on hold during the closures of 2020 and 2021. Beginning in August of 2021, students joined Ms. Holly in person from 1:30 p.m. until 2:15 p.m. on Fridays for stories, silliness, music, games and crafts. While each week held something new, literacy enrichment was the heart of every session.

**Summer Reading Program**

The Summer Reading Program was back in a big way in 2021! Families and child care groups gathered in Cole Park weekly in June and July to enjoy family-friendly, educational entertainment and participate in the library’s reading program, “Read for Beads.”

The Collaborative Summer Reading Program (CSLP - cslpregolds.org) theme for 2021 was “Tails & Tales.” Featured performers included animal ambassadors from Nature’s Educators, Native American tales from accomplished storyteller Red Feather Woman, and old friends of the library magician Ann Lincoln and musician Steve Weeks. New to 2021 was a talent show featuring the young people of The Valley! “Alamosa’s Got Talent” was promoted from the start of the summer, and participants signed up to perform as the final event. A video of the performances was made available on the library’s YouTube page. It was decided that this should be part of the summer programming each year.

Other Summer Reading events included storytime-style sessions with Ms. Holly, a parade with a very special guest, and an art project with paints. Also introduced was a new writing program called “Letters for Larry,” which invited children to write letters to Larry the Library Gnome, a beloved character introduced during the Summer Reading Program of 2020. Larry received 283 letters, and wrote a reply to everyone. Thanks are in order to Judith Boyd, who writes on behalf of Larry. She created gnome-sized postcards that could be quickly
personalized and delivered to each registrant’s “post office box” in the APL Post Office, located in a cardboard castle in the Story Room.

In total, 823 take-home educational project packs were distributed as part of the program and approximately 800 people attended the in-person outdoor weekly events. There were 183 children registered for the program and countless bead packs were given away as part of the Read For Beads incentive program. While it is nearly impossible to track the number of beads given away throughout the summer, there were over 160 completed reading logs submitted, which would be over 800 hours spent reading by participants!

Teen Volunteers

Teen Volunteer Key Club members from Alamosa High School have been a wonderful resource in the last several years, and this was true in 2021, as well. The Summer Reading Programming would not be possible without their help, and they serve as wonderful mentors to the younger children. The teen volunteers of 2021 were Haylee Coffman, Hiral Patel, Dhara Patel, Jaymi Gile, Autumn McQuitty and a wonderful person named Sienna from AHS Key Club (last name unknown). Two Junior Volunteers, Dalton and Tatum Imdieke, were invaluable in their bundling contributions to our Read for Beads bead bundles.

Community Involvement

Sharing a quote from the ALA Immediate Past President, Wanda Brown:

“Libraries are places of learning and connection for all ages and backgrounds, so this crisis has challenged us to work creatively to adapt services while our facilities are closed. From bridging the digital divide to addressing learning loss to aiding job seekers and small business, we know library services are essential to … community recovery and resilience.”

We reopened the library February 1, 2021. With the COVID-19 safety protocols still in place. Curbside service, which staff created in 2020, continued for those patrons who were still not comfortable coming into the library. After a few months, the use of this service dwindled so it ended in June of 2021.

We have been able to keep our doors open with the help of the sneeze barrier installed around the front circulation desk. Staff continues to wear masks when working with the public.
Tours
There were only two library “tours” in 2021. Holly took the library experience to Little Treasures Preschool in La Jara in April, and it was the first in-person storytime since COVID. In September, Sanford Schools’ two kindergarten classes were able to have a short tour of the library and an outdoor storytime session on the library’s patio.

Storybox Special Delivery
Alamosa Public Library’s Storybox Special delivery program is designed to assist in-home, licensed childcare providers. Each of the 21 different Storyboxes contains picture books and board books that are specially selected to enhance storytimes and early literacy activities, helping caregivers provide literacy-rich experiences to the children in their care. Additionally, each box has two or three “teacher titles” that will help with business management and growth, as well as titles that will nurture the caregiver’s early literacy, teaching, and child development knowledge.

In 2021, there were seven childcare providers receiving monthly deliveries, and all seven have been participating in the program for at least eight years. In 2020, COVID-19 stalled deliveries only slightly, but in 2021 all monthly deliveries were able to be made.
**Planting Seeds**

This year we added 18 children to the Planting Seeds roster, rounding out 2021 with 164 total registrants since the program began. We gave out 55 prize books this year. Planting Seeds is a program encouraging families to read 1,000 books with their young children before they start kindergarten. In this program, as each child reads or is read 100 books, they receive one free book to keep for their own library. At completion, each child gets a free t-shirt with the Planting Seeds logo on it. Twenty-seven children have come to the library to officially complete the program and receive their t-shirts since the program’s inception. While this number may seem low compared to the number of registrants, some families move away before they finish and some may read 1,000 books, encouraged by the program, but may never come to the library to submit their folder for their t-shirt.

The Planting Seeds logo got an update thanks to InterLibrary Loan Librarian, Cathy Zverev, who used her graphic design skills to create a logo inspired by the hand drawn original, but more clear and easy to read.

**Community Interest KITS**

With funds from the Colorado State Library Grant we added new Community Kits that are made ready to be checked out by our patrons. We currently have 65 kits which range from a Sewing machine to family board games. We have kits that are wonderful for exploring the great outdoors such as our ‘Buggy Kit’ and ‘Bird Watching.’ Our Community Kits are displayed in front of the circulation desk on beautiful racks ready for viewing and checkout.

**New Board Game – “Runaway Gnomes”**

Given how popular Larry the Library Gnome has become among our younger patrons over the past year, Judith decided to create a board game based on him that patrons could check out from the library. The game, which can host up to 8 players, is called "Runaway Gnomes" and it features Larry and his family going on an adventure throughout Alamosa with many of its landmarks dotting the board.
**Storytime-To-Go Kits**

These are themed collections including books, games, toys, music CDs, and a Storytime Elements guide with suggested songs, rhymes, and literacy activities as well as ways to extend the learning into the environment and community. The kits are available for checkout and serve as a way for patrons unable to attend an in-person library storytime to bring the experience into their home.

**Youth Archeology Program**

Evan Portier, Education Technician at the Great Sand Dunes, and his youth group used our story room for their programming activity.

**International Dark Sky Week**

Children who came to the library during the week of April 5th could pick up a Dark Sky Project Pack that contained stickers, craft ideas, supplies, informative flyers and more. As a bonus, they could watch a special episode of Storytime Online about International Dark Sky Week with special guest, Ranger Ian, from the Great Sand Dunes National Park and Preserve and learn about the importance of keeping our night skies dark for animals and insects, and for stargazers. Staff created and distributed 53 Dark Sky project packs and there were 33 raffle ticket entries from the Egg-Sighting Scavenger Hunt.

Egg-Sighting Scavenger Hunt: Children flocked to the Alamosa Public Library during National Library Week (April 5 - 9) for an Egg-Sighting Scavenger Hunt. They were encouraged to walk around the library and search for one of four large eggs nesting somewhere on the shelves. Once found, they were instructed to "crack" open the egg, pick out a title of a book/DVD/audiobook/music CD and find that item in the library. They would then pull the found item from the shelf and give it to the librarian at the front desk for a small prize. They were also encouraged to participate in the raffle for a chance to win one or both prizes on display.

Staff came up with a great plan for Halloween! To avoid large groups, we set up our Haunted Library displays in the library for two weeks. All the displays were based on books. We had the books on display throughout the library – so it turned out to be a scavenger hunt too.
**Christmas Light Parade**

The Friends of the Library participate in community events, like this year's Christmas Light Parade. Don Thompson and Allyn Lewis, Friends of the Library, moved the Book Bike along in the 2021 Christmas Light Parade. The crowd waved, pointed and smiled at Salai, our Library Manager on the little 1953 Jubilee tractor while Judith Boyd and Jaymie Coffman walked the parade, inciting laughter and fun with kids and adults alike with Larry the Library Gnome on his scooter.

The Friends of the Library members truly take up their mission of being a group of patrons of the Alamosa Public Library who work to uphold the mission of the library and to create paths between the community and the library. They support the library in providing services and developing facilities, and promote the use of library resources.

**“Messages from the Hidden Lake” Literary Anthology**

The Friends of the Library have published and sold “Messages from the Hidden Lake”, a literary and art book for the last 12 years. Students from 4 schools were published in the 12th edition. $925 in cash prizes were awarded. Of those prizes awarded, $550 were awarded to the students.

**Little Free Library**

23 official Little Free Libraries in Alamosa, Alamosa County and Mosca are sponsored by the Alamosa Public Library and the Friends of the Library. This project started with 5 Little Free Libraries here in Alamosa in 2015. These outlets are placed in neighborhoods and parks to give the community access to ongoing literacy. These are free little book houses where anyone can take a book and/or leave a book. When needed, the Friends of the Library supplies books to keep them filled. In 2021, 5 new Little Free Libraries were installed. Three of those were in partnership with the Alamosa County Facilities Director, Andrew Atencio.
**Little Free Library Scavenger Hunt for Penelope Scales**

A different character from our magical mural in the Story Room made mischief in our community as part of APL’s Summer Reading Program! This year, it’s Penelope the Dragon who snuck off of the wall, and she hid some of her magic scales inside Little Free Libraries across Alamosa. Each scale has a letter etched on it (P, E, N, L, or O) that, when arranged in a certain order, spells Penelope’s name. 

Participants were provided a map in their Summer Reading Starter Pack to help scale seekers locate the outdoor Little Free Libraries. When they found all five letters, they completed their mission and arranged the letters to spell PENELOPE!

Little Free Libraries were visited every week to place new program flyers and put in books pertaining to the Summer Reading Program’s theme ‘Tails and Tales’.

Our Library Board members are: William Krebs (Chair), Jaymie Coffman (Vice Chair), Dawn Krebs (Secretary), Melissa Hunter, Hiral Patel, Michelle Woodward and Amanda Wilne.
Volunteer Program

Volunteers gave 289 hours of their time during 2021. They are committed to offering their best to the Library.

Partnerships & Community Connections

Parents as Teachers and the Kiwanis Club

The StoryWalk® was updated in the spring in partnership with the Parents As Teachers group. Holly chose Bird Watch by Christie Matheson and created activity prompts to be interspersed with the book pages on the walk. Azeneth Heredia from PAT translated the text into Spanish. In the fall, Kiwanis Club of Alamosa sponsored the update. Holly chose several titles as options and the Kiwanis members voted, choosing Last Stop on Market Street by Matt de la Peña and Christian Robinson. The book is available in English and Spanish, so only the activity pages needed translating. Kiwanis member Lillie Munoz translated.

What a solid partner the Kiwanis Club has been. Members of the Kiwanis Club of Alamosa installed the new book “Last Stop on Market Street”. They have included the Alamosa High School Key Club in this project. Kathy Lee spearheaded the installation.

The Kiwanis Club of Alamosa was integral in updating the sensory boards in the children’s play area (PAD). Kiwanis member Charlie Sanchez updated the boards and reattached them to the walls. The response from children has been sheer delight! Kiwanis members also gave of their time to help pack Project Packs for the Summer Reading Program.

Dumb Friends League

Trina Griego, Events & Volunteer Coordinator, joined Kids Club for the children in September to tell them about the new Dumb Friends League facility, give them pet care advice and invite them to the Kids’ workshop at the Dumb Friends. She brought along a sweet puppy to entice attendees.

Adams State University

Dr. Laura Bruneau, great friend of the library and faculty member of Adams State’s Department of Counselor Education, invited Holly to take part in the Spring 2021 Faculty Lecture Series with her. Holly served as a guest community member contributor, and spoke about her journey of professional development over the last year in regards to racial and cultural diversity in the children’s and young adult collection. Dr. Bruneau’s lecture was titled “Why White Children Need to Read Diverse Books.”
Alamosa Family Recreation Center - Celebration of Lights
The Library staff set up a beautiful display in the City Hall Lobby to invite children to visit Santa Claus after the Celebration of Lights event. Dalton Carleo, Parks & Recreation Division Manager estimated the turnout to be around 120-150 that attended the Celebration of Lights and 80-85 kids visited Santa Claus that night.

Friends of the Alamosa Public Library
In 2021 Friends of the Library donated $5,000 to the library. In spite of COVID-19 in 2020, the members of Friends of the Library were dedicated to making & selling hand-crafted journals and selling used books in the ‘Book Nook’ that is inside the Library. They also carefully held a few book sales.

With the generous donation, the Library was able to purchase new WIFI equipment which enables us to be able to track usage and offer patrons varied timed access when needed. We replaced the old Self-checkout computer. The new computer is connected directly to our Integrated Library System, eliminating fees from outside sources.

The Library also purchased a 3D printer which will be a service for our patrons in the near future.

Grants

CSL (Colorado State Library) State Library Grant 2021-2022:
The Colorado State Library (CSL) administers the State Grants to Libraries which are distributed to all eligible libraries on a yearly basis to fund library materials. This grant’s purpose is to purchase education resources such as: books, periodicals, or any other form of print media; audio/visual materials; and electronic information resources. Alamosa Public Library was awarded $5,500. We used part of the funds to update our Large Print Collection, children’s non-fiction books and added new Community Interest Kits.

ARPA: American Rescue Plan 2021-2022:
LSTA American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Grant funding is provided by the Institute of Museum and Library Services through the Colorado State Library to help communities respond directly and immediately to the pandemic, as well as to related economic and community needs through equitable approaches in digital inclusion and library services. Alamosa Public Library was awarded $6,000. We purchased a large Presentation Screen and computer which have been installed in our public computer lab. As our new learning Center, we now have the capability to do online education presentations or in-house classes. Group online meetings can also be held in the library.
The City IT department revamped the computer lab. We had desk dividers put in for health safety and the IT department replaced all of the WYSE computers (which were long overdue) with these beautiful brand new up-to-date computers that are all ADA compliant.

**Capital Asset**
Garrison Fence completed the installation of a beautiful wrought iron fence on the patio behind the Story room. This space allows parents and children to safely occupy that outside space.

**Other items of note:** Since we opened the doors in February the library’s usage has increased. Online resources Cloud Library and Overdrive, downloadable e-books and e-audiobooks, circulation (7,232) were up over 20% increase from 2020. These resources were of great value to our patrons while the library was closed in 2020 and early 2021. You can see below the other usage increases. The Children’s program increase in comparison to 2020 is due to being able to hold programs on-site again.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Circulation</th>
<th>2020 yearly totals</th>
<th>2021 yearly totals</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Children’s checkouts/renewals</td>
<td>49,170</td>
<td>61,047</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cloud Library &amp; Overdrive</td>
<td>5,906</td>
<td>7,232</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CLC circulation</td>
<td>6,668</td>
<td>14,881</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Door Count</td>
<td>17,989</td>
<td>28,511</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public Computer Usage</td>
<td>4,665</td>
<td>16,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children’s Program attendance</td>
<td>848</td>
<td>1,693</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interlibrary Loan</td>
<td>6,438</td>
<td>8,855</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Here’s an awesome fact: According to AspenCat KOHA (our Integrated Library System) reports calculated how much cash value we provided our community in 2021. Our community saved $2,390,507 by borrowing items from the library instead of purchasing those items.

We offer our community free remote access to several online resources. These resources were valuable during the pandemic closure. Now that we are fully open, our patrons continue to use them.

**Free Online Databases**
These are accessed through our Library’s online resource webpage. Temporary library cards can be obtained in order to access these resources if someone is unable to come to the library to apply for a regular library card.
1) Cloud Library – downloadable e-books and e-audiobooks
2) Colorado Grants Guide – access directly from our public computers
3) Mango Languages – online language learning
4) Overdrive & Libby – downloadable e-books, e-audiobooks, magazines & movies
5) Sanborn Maps – access directly from our public computers
6) Tumblebooks – Children’s e-books, games, videos for kids

Public Works

Street Division
The year started off with snow storms and cold weather. This kept crews busy and also provided plenty of after storm work such as snow hauling and cleaning. As time was available, the division worked on burning tree limbs and readying dirt, asphalt, and concrete waste piles for another construction season. Other routine maintenance procedures were carried out throughout the year such as crack sealing, excavation permit reviews and approvals, painting, gravel road and alley grading, catch basin cleaning, street sweeping, storm inlet maintenance, sign repairs and installations, fall leaf clean up, maintenance of downtown street lighting, and pothole patching of 3,169 potholes.

Crews repaired multiple soft spots, overlaid the sunken trench and patch on Washington and Tremont Avenue, and repaired a broken storm water main on 4th Street. They also replaced a collapsed storm line on Lincoln Avenue, replaced a collapsed culvert over the Independent Ditch on the Oxbow Loop, and crack sealed over 36,590 linear feet of roadway with 14,455lbs of material. The Streets Division facilitated the 2021 Streets Capital Improvement Program which included the following projects:
First Street Phase V

This was the final portion of the First Street project. This phase began at the end of Phase IV and continued east to State Avenue. This was an extensive project with all of the existing road material removed and replaced with a more suitable material. It included the installation of sidewalks, including necessary ADA corners, as well as curb and gutter with drive cuts and approaches for residents. New infrastructure such as storm lines and catch basins were installed at this time as well as many other utility upgrades and relocations.

Preventative Maintenance

2021 preventative maintenance included multiple treatment types at multiple locations. The first being a chip seal that was applied to the entire Adcock Subdivision. This was a much needed revitalization for this area and will continue to give these roads new life for many years to come. The next preventative measure that was taken was the application of plant-mix seal coat. This product was applied to 14th Street from Hunt Avenue to Old Airport Road, Lambert Drive from Clark Street to Carroll Street, and all of Driftwood Place.

Concrete Replacement Program

The Concrete Replacement Program had another busy year with 30 residents participating. We replaced 2,681 linear feet of curb and gutter, 8,396 square feet of sidewalk and driveways, as well as 4 new ADA-compliant ramps.

Main Street

The Downtown Revitalization project began with the Street Division assisting with the unloading of parklets and their protective barriers, followed with the installation of a temporary curb line made up of parking blocks and the installation of bollards at the beginning of each block. This was a very labor intensive project with the majority of the work happening at night. Later, the curb line was adjusted to increase safety perceptions and CDOT assisted with this portion of the project.

Montana Azul Park

The Street Division assisted with this Parks and Recreation project in multiple ways such as overseeing the installation of the drainage pipe that ties the two drain basins together and the road cut and patch work across Craft Drive that was required to install the new pipe. Crews built the parking area on Foster Avenue and the parking lot on the west side of Craft Drive. The division also assisted with the hauling and placement of the decorative rock all around the park.
**Miscellaneous**

There are several other areas that the division takes part in such as the removal and installation of art pieces associated with the ArtScape Program. The division provides multiple in-kind services for many events with coordination and assistance with Alamosa Police Department such as: Early Iron Slow Cruise Parade, Parade of Lights, Fourth of July Parade, Veterans Day Parade, as well as many road closures for special events.

In addition to the outlined projects above, the division also completed the following: purchased a new single axle dump truck with plow and sander, cleaned the Hickory Jackson Ditch, conducted traffic control as needed for several projects, provided signs for COVID-19 testing events, conducted large item pickup twice (spring and fall), assisted the recycling division with the removal of yard waste from the Rickey Recycling Center (bi-weekly) to the pit, the removal of crushed glass to the storage area at the 20th Street yard (monthly), and stepping in to assist other City departments as needed.

**Volumes associated with 2021 streets improvement program and daily operation are as follows:**

**Unclassified excavation and Hauling:** 14,974 yards

**Road Base ¾ and ½ Combined:** 15,088 tons

**Tack Oil / Chip Seal Oil:** 3,200 gallons

**Plant Mix Seal Coat:** 691.88 tons

**Hot Bituminous Pavement:** 4283.75 tons

**Pit Run:** 10,604 tons

**Potholes Patched:** 3,169

**Salt Sand/Red Sand:** 149.63 tons

**Paint:** 550 gallons

**Glass Beads:** 3,100 pounds

**Excavation permits approved:** 76

**Crack Sealant:** 14,455 pounds on over 36,590 linear feet of street

**Sidewalk:** 2,473 SY

**Curb and Gutter:** 6,347 LF

**Alley and Drive Pans:** 814.88 SY
ADA Corners: 22

**Solid Waste Division**
The Solid Waste Division collected and hauled a total of 3,204 tons of commercial waste from over 400 different customers. Crews also hauled a total 2,348 tons of residential waste from over 2,500 Alamosa residents. There was an increase of 4% of yard waste accounts to over 550 and 331 extra pickups were made. Extra pickups are made at the request of the resident and include pickup of larger items, materials not normally allowed in the dumpster, or as a courtesy to customers who failed to deliver their containers to the curb or alley on time.

**Rickey Recycling Center**
The Rickey Recycling Center has seen steady increases in volume every year. This year was no different. There was an increase of 9% in the amount of bales from 2021 compared to 2020 (81 bales). The loading dock that the City built in 2020, thanks to grant funding, has helped to load box trailers with materials and opened up the amount of places the City can send materials. We shipped out 26 semi loads of materials (1,066 bales) weighing 1,117,796 Lbs. This equals out to 558.9 tons of materials shipped out which is an increase of over 45% from last year. Over 58% of material shipped out was cardboard. In addition, 550 tons of materials were diverted away from the local landfill. Prices were up this year for almost all recycling materials, including cardboard, which saw a spike of more than 500% from just a few years ago. Total revenue for the year was $127,561, which is the highest seen and an increase of 424% over last year. The glass crusher is still running at the same rate as last year and crushed 70.4 tons of glass. This equals out to 176 bins of glass and is almost one bin crushed every other day.

**Fleet Maintenance**
Fleet Maintenance is part of the Public Works Department, but works with all departments within the City of Alamosa. The division is staffed with three full time employees and is responsible for 285 pieces of equipment ranging from lawn mowers, police cars, dump trucks, trash trucks, fire trucks, and heavy equipment such as
backhoes, loaders, and graders. Fleet Maintenance is also responsible for the service and repair of all backup generators, the recycling baler, and the glass crusher.

In 2021, the division completed 398 work orders, 149 preventive maintenance services, replaced 90 tires, and repaired 37 flat tires. This is a 3% decrease in work orders, a 4% decrease in tire replacement, and an 8% increase in flat tire repair. This year we were able to replace several aging pieces of equipment. In the Public Works Department, the City replaced a dump truck, a wheel loader, a pickup truck, a double drum asphalt roller and a stump grinder for the Street Division. We also replaced the hook truck for the Recycling Division. The Water Division added a valve exerciser/vacuum trailer. The Police Department replaced 4 vehicles with new Dodge Durango’s and added an investigation trailer to the department. The Parks Department replaced a tractor and a pickup. The IT Department replaced their Tahoe for a service van.

With the increase in green waste, a used loader was added to the fleet to help prepare the green waste for disposal. There will once again be delays in delivery of vehicles that had been ordered earlier in the year that will not be delivered until 2022. Currently, vehicles that the division is waiting on are a pickup truck for the Water Division and a vacuum trailer for the Street Division. These delays will be similar in 2022.

**Water Treatment**

2021 proved to be another challenging year but also included many accomplishments performed within the Water Treatment Facility. The Water Treatment Plant produced a total of 668,275,104 million gallons. East Alamosa received 48,102,125 million gallons. This year the division again purchased and installed two sets of membranes while using staff to refurbish and install the new membranes into operation.

Two of the main producing wells (Cole Park Well and Plant Well) for the City went down during peak water producing times. Crews were able to adjust accordingly without having to impose water usage restrictions. Both wells needed to be fully restored with mechanical and operational equipment. In the meantime, wells are now operational at limited capacity until new wells can be drilled.

**Wastewater Treatment**

The Wastewater Treatment Plant received, treated, and discharged 413,189,000 gallons of water this year with an overall removal rate of all impurities in excess of 97%. All testing schedules and requirements were achieved, with a total of 650 samples being analyzed. This sampling is required by the Colorado Department of Public Health
and Environment (CDPHE) and the EPA. The City has been operating under an old National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit that expired October 31, 2019. Staff submitted all applications to the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment for a new permit and are awaiting direction from the CDPHE on the new permit. Staff is also working hard to identify all operational changes that will be required so that the division will meet the new metals standards that may be imposed on the City. There was a CDPHE onsite inspection with no significant findings. Personnel replaced the waste pump in-house. Staff has hired a firm to assess the facility for improvements that can be made to the facility.

**Collection and Distribution**

2021 was a very productive and challenging year. With the help of local contractors, staff accomplished many projects.

**Collection**

The Alamosa Lift Station was completely rebuilt. The Craft Lift Station was relined, and the control panel and pumps were replaced. Crews worked with GMS Engineering as they prepared the Master Utility Plan for the Sanitary Waste System. Crews also performed potholing on State Avenue and Victoria Avenue to verify utilities for upcoming projects.

Crews replaced approximately 2,840 feet of sewer lines as well as many manholes and spent many hours cleaning and maintaining lift stations, in addition to maintaining the East Alamosa collection system.

**Distribution**

Crews moved and replaced meters on the First Street project. There were 5 water main breaks due to the age of lines as well as contractors hitting lines. Crews have been working diligently to install meters for new housing and replacing bad water meters throughout the system. The division gets many calls for turning water off and on for residents, requests to check for leaks, and calls to thaw out frozen service lines. Approximately 2,620 feet of main service lines were updated. Crews have been also taking care of day to day operations and assisting with the water line replacement project for East Alamosa Distributions system, as well as helping at both plants and other departments when needed.
Development Services

2021 was the inaugural year for the Development Services Department. Development Services encompasses the Planning and Development Division, the Building Inspection and Safety Division, and the Facilities Maintenance Division, all of which were previously divisions of Public Works. Due to the growth in Alamosa, the increase in building permits, and the complexity of new projects, the City Manager and City Council decided that there was a need for a standalone department to manage community development. The new department oversees strategic planning, site development review, construction management, and the implementation and enforcement of the City’s adopted long-range plans including the 2017 Comprehensive Plan, the 2018 Downtown Design Plan, the 2020 Water Efficiency Plan, and the 2021 Housing Action Plan. The Development Services Department is also responsible for the maintenance of City-owned and operated buildings. The department officially launched in April 2021 with the hiring of the new department’s Director, Rachel Baird, who had served as Alamosa County’s Planning and Building Director for the previous five years.

Downtown

The new team hit the ground running and successfully oversaw the construction of one of the highest citizen-rated priority projects from the Downtown Plan, safety improvements to Main Street, in the form of a road diet. Funded by the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT)’s Revitalizing Main Street program, the road diet reduced four blocks of Main Street from three lanes to two and installed new benches, decorative bollards, and xeric planters. The road diet project was successful in slowing traffic and data provided by the Alamosa Convention and Visitors Bureau (CVB) showed an immediate uptick in pedestrian visitation to the downtown but the project was not without controversy. After feedback from the public and CDOT, the City modified the design to add space adjacent to the on-street parking and talks are ongoing on how to address visibility issues with the lane striping. The engineering phase of another CDOT Revitalizing Main Street funded project, installing four Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacons (RRFBs) for pedestrian crossings at critical intersections downtown, is currently underway. 2021 saw the installation of six city-owned parklets on Main Street for restaurants and breweries to expand outdoors as they continued to experience impacts from the COVID-19 pandemic. Other efforts downtown included obtaining official designation as an Affiliate of the Colorado Main Street Program, providing locks for dumpsters to reduce illegal dumping and keep alleys more attractive, and monthly meetings of the citizen-volunteer Main Street Advisory Committee. Staff rounded out the year with two successful grants for downtown. The Rural Economic Development Initiative (REDI) grant for $430,000 will allow the City to partner with local businesses in public-private partnerships to build and resurface two parking lots adding 215 new parking spaces downtown, creating a gateway feature off Sixth Street, and establishing the permanent home for the Alamosa Farmers Market. The $11,400 Colorado Creative
Corps ARP grant will fund a mural by David Montgomery that celebrates the unique culture, traditions, and agricultural heritage of the San Luis Valley.

**Housing**

Another major success of 2021 was the completion and adoption of the Housing Needs Assessment and Action Plan. The Needs Assessment found that between 445 and 515 new homes and apartments are needed over the next five years to address the current housing shortage in Alamosa and meet ongoing demand. Although the housing crisis is apparent in all communities in Colorado, the stark realities for Alamosa show that our housing shortage is causing local employers critical losses in new employee recruitment, preventing first time home ownership, and casing major housing gaps for special populations such as seniors, veterans, students, people with disabilities, and the unsheltered. Alamosa currently produces about 44 new homes and apartments per year but numbers must increase to 80 to meet demand. This need, coupled with the capital gap between what it costs to build a home versus what it can be sold for, require the City to take a dedicated and concerted role in resolving the housing crisis. To that end staff held pre-development meetings with fourteen different housing developers about potential projects, attended the Housing Colorado conference, researched upcoming funding opportunities, built partnerships with funding agencies and local housing organizations, joined the Board of the Alamosa Housing Authority, and underwent the process of amending the Unified Development Code to reduce regulatory barriers and incentivize housing development by promoting Accessory Dwelling Units (ADU)s, regulating Short Term Rentals (STR)s, adding a density bonus for affordable housing developments, reducing lot sizes and setbacks, and allowing more diverse housing types in different districts.

**Land Use**

Staff processed 151 Land Use applications including both major and minor subdivisions, variances, telecommunication permits, rezoning requests, home occupation permits, and short term rentals licenses. There were 18 pre-development meetings ranging from the adaptive re-use of a former church, converting a historic building into an appliances store, locating a new fast-food chain, construction of a 35,000 square foot office building downtown, etc. Staff completed the extensive site plan review for the Maverik Fuel Station and continued to interface with the developers building the 45-unit Iron Horse affordable housing development south of the high school. Staff commenced monthly
meetings with the Police Department’s Captain and Community Service Officers to coordinate code enforcement efforts relating to the building and land use code. Staff received the final levee certification report from Wood Environment & Infrastructure Solutions, Inc. that identified the next steps for the levee recertification. In coordination with the Colorado Water Conservation Board and Alamosa County, staff worked to identify funding for the next phase of engineering and construction. In preparation of the 2022 redistricting effort, staff began processing the newly-released 2020 Census data which shows an 11.7% increase in population for the city. Staff provided GIS-based heat maps showing light pole densities to ensure an equitable distribution of lighting throughout the city and GIS datasets for the Park and Recreation Department’s riparian trail effort and the Public Works Department’s Master Infrastructure Plan. Community interest in various projects resulted in staff giving interviews to the Valley Courier, the Alamosa Citizen, and the Colorado Sun.

Building Inspection

In 2021, there were 221 permits issued with a total valuation of $11,829,323.14. Building permit fees collected totaled $266,046.83, of which $5,570.28 were for plan review, $125,633.36 for Use Tax, $73,012.91 for building permit fees, $200 for Temporary Certificate of Occupancy, $6,734.00 for water assessment, and $18,850 in service tap and plant investment fees. In 2021, 19 new single family dwellings were started, 8 multi-family dwelling projects began, 6 new commercial structures, and numerous remodel, alterations, and roofing projects. There were 130 contractor licenses issued. There were $2,310 dollars in fines issued for code enforcement violations. Staff oversaw building design and project management for Rickey Recycling Center’s new cardboard cover structure and concrete improvements funded by Recycling Resources Economic Opportunity Program (RREO) mini grant.

Facility Maintenance had the opportunity to assist in the following projects:

- Continued increased cleaning, sanitizing, and disinfecting protocols in response to COVID-19
- Finance Office/Public Works Director office remodel
- Major roof repair at City Hall
- Installation of memorial bench at City Hall
- Drywall repair, texturing, painting upper level walking track at Recreation Center
- Oversaw stucco repair and new gutter installation at City Hall
· Rooftop ventilation fan installation at Water Treatment Plant
· Replaced ceiling tiles in Library
· Converted all parking lot lighting at Recreation Center to LED
· Converted all interior bay lighting at Fire Station #2 to LED

· Overhead door maintenance at Fleet Building, Sanitation buildings, Fire Departments, Police Department, Water Treatment Plant, Recycling Center
· Exterior window replacement at Recreation Center

Finance

The City Finance Department is responsible for any type of monetary provision for the City with the primary goal of providing accurate and accountable financial information to City Council, the citizens of Alamosa, and City staff. The department does all billing and collecting for City utilities, Special Improvement Districts, sales tax licenses, contracts, and leases. We are responsible for all payroll related activities and reporting for up to 200 employees. The department prepares and administers the City’s annual operating budget and five-year capital plan. As part of this administration we are responsible for validation and timely payment of all invoices and requisition requests. In addition to performing a variety of general accounting activities, the department also invests City funds, assists with financing activities, participates in policy analysis and formation, and ensures City compliance with federal and state legislation, as well as the City’s Charter, ordinances, and policy requirements. Finance staff work hard to meet the requirement of the annual financial audit, which is crucial to the receipt of funding from federal and state sources.

The main operating fund of the City—the General Fund—was comprised of $11.9 million in expenditures and $13.3 million in revenue during 2021. The Department also accounts for all other funds including proprietary and fiduciary funds. This accounting includes making certain that revenues and expenses are reported for the proper fund and department, as well as the proper budgetary line item.
In 2021, the City was awarded $2,410,696, in Federal American Rescue Grant funds. The first tranche of the grant, $1,205,348, was received in 2021 with the remaining tranche to be received in 2022. This is a multi-year grant with expenditures to be obligated by December 31, 2024 and spent by December 31, 2026. In 2021, $336,950 of the grant was expended on various COVID-19 related items such as library computer equipment, council chamber and IT equipment, software and water/sewer infrastructure. The bulk of the grant is anticipated to be spent in 2022 and 2023.

2021 was the second year of the voter approved .5% sales tax to fund the Street Trust Fund to be used solely for street maintenance and improvements as identified in Resolution 13-2019. Sales tax collected approximately $1.7 million and street improvements expenditures were $1.5 million.

The following tables provide an overview of the City’s revenue and expenditures for the year 2021. More information is available on the City’s website, where you can view the 2020 audited financial statements and the 2022 budget.

![2021 City of Alamosa Revenue All Funds](image)
# 2021 City of Alamosa Expense All Funds

*Unaudited Figures as of December 31, 2021*

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fund Name</th>
<th>Total Per Fund</th>
<th>% of Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ACLC Debt Service</td>
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<tr>
<td>Capital Improvements</td>
<td>$421,650</td>
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<td>Capital Projects Fund</td>
<td>$0</td>
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<td>Cemetery Endowment</td>
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<td>Community Recreation</td>
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<td>Firemen’s Pension</td>
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<td>General Fund</td>
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<td>Street Improvement Fund</td>
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<td>$24,650,269</td>
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## General Fund Expenses Only

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<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Total Expense</th>
<th>% of Total</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>City Council</td>
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<td>Legal Services</td>
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<td>Municipal Court</td>
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<td>Economic Development</td>
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<td>Public Safety</td>
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<td>Development Services</td>
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<td>Cemetery &amp; Parks</td>
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