



SPECIAL MEETING A G E N D A

Carlsbad City Council Special Meeting
Municipal Annex
114 S. Halagueno Street
Carlsbad, New Mexico

January 5, 2021 at 4:00 p.m.

Invocation – Pledge of Allegiance

1. Approval of Agenda
2. Consider Approval of Resolution 2021-01, a Resolution Supporting Independence for the College in Carlsbad
3. Adjourn



FOR INFORMATION ONLY

Agendas and City Council minutes are available on the City web site: cityofcarlsbadnm.com
or may be viewed in the Office of the City Clerk during normal and regular business hours.

CARLSBAD CITY COUNCIL MEETING SCHEDULE

- Regular Meeting -Tuesday, January 12, 2021 at 6:00 p.m.
- Regular Meeting -Tuesday, January 26, 2021 at 6:00 p.m.

If you require hearing interpreter, language interpreters or auxiliary aids in order to attend and participate in the above meeting, please contact the City Administrator's office at (575) 887-1191 at least 48 hours prior to the scheduled meeting time.

**CITY OF CARLSBAD
AGENDA BRIEFING MEMORANDUM**

COUNCIL MEETING DATE: January 5, 2021

DEPARTMENT: Executive Department	BY: Wendy Austin – Deputy City Administrator	DATE: December 31, 2020
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SUBJECT:
A Resolution Supporting Independence for the College in Carlsbad

SYNOPSIS, HISTORY, AND IMPACT (SAFETY AND WELFARE, FINANCIAL, PERSONNEL, INFRASTRUCTURE, ETC.)

During the summer of 2020, New Mexico State University Main Campus (NMSU) made the decision to eliminate the position of president from the Carlsbad Branch Campus (NMSU-C). This decision was made without input from the City of Carlsbad, including businesses and the community as a whole. Because of this decision, and other similar issues with NMSU, the Mayor formed a task force on higher education. The task force has met weekly for several months, and the task force has been open to anyone in the community who would like to join. The task force includes community members from local businesses, CMS School Board, faculty and staff from NMSU-C, and other interested members of the community.

During task force meetings, multiple issues were uncovered: (1) currently, there's a \$36M local property tax reserve, deposited in Las Cruces, that has accumulated, year after year, and has not been invested back in the local community and students, (2) in the past, several Carlsbad businesses have funded and implemented vocational programs, with little support from NMSU, although NMSU has a significant fund reserve for Carlsbad programs, and (3) requests for campus housing and additional programs has not been fairly evaluated by NMSU; and the community has assumed this lack of partnership was due to a lack of local funding; when in fact, there has always been sufficient funding from this community for higher education and vocational training.

There are many positives for the college to become independent:

1. 3 mil levy and strong pro forma financial statements
2. \$36M reserve that transfers with independent college
3. Work with local businesses to offer career-specific programs, including bachelors and vocational
4. Local governance (vs. Las Cruces) of college can focus on local community needs
5. Optimize Early College High School for local students
6. Develop partnerships with NMSU and other universities
7. Opportunities for growth including campus housing & more jobs
8. Carlsbad has own accreditation separate from NMSU

The steps to becoming an independent college include the following:

1. Receive approval from New Mexico Higher Education Department (NMHED) by presenting the following:
 - signed petition from the community
 - letters of support, including resolutions, from the community
 - detailed transition plan
 - survey completed by NMHED
2. Passing legislation – bill will be sponsored by Representative Cathrynn Brown

DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION:

Approve the Resolution

BOARD/COMMISSION/COMMITTEE ACTION:

- | | | | |
|--|--|---|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> P&Z | <input type="checkbox"/> Lodgers Tax Board | <input type="checkbox"/> Cemetery Board | <input type="checkbox"/> APPROVED |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Museum Board | <input type="checkbox"/> San Jose Board | <input type="checkbox"/> Water Board | <input type="checkbox"/> DISSAPPROVED |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Library Board | <input type="checkbox"/> N. Mesa Board | <input type="checkbox"/> Budget Committee | |

Reviewed by

City Administrator /s/ John Lowe

Date: 12/31/20

ATTACHMENTS: (1) Resolution, (2) One-pager Bill Support, (3) Draft Bill

CITY OF CARLSBAD, NEW MEXICO
RESOLUTION NO. 2021- 01

A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING INDEPENDENCE FOR THE COLLEGE IN CARLSBAD

Whereas, during the summer of 2020, New Mexico State University (NMSU) made the decision to eliminate the position of president from the Carlsbad branch campus (NMSU-C); and

Whereas, in response to concerns over this decision expressed by members of the community, as well concerns over other similar issues, Carlsbad Mayor Dale Janway then formed the Higher Education Task Force; and

Whereas, members of this task force met weekly throughout the fall and winter of 2020; and in examining the issues, members met with current and former faculty and staff of NMSU-C, with current and former students of NMSU-C, with members of the local business community, and with other concerned community members, who all expressed concerns of NMSU’s management of NMSU-C; and

Whereas, in December of 2020, NMSU-C faculty and staff were given an opportunity to vote as to whether they believed the Carlsbad campus should pursue independence. Of those voting, 76% supported independence. Subsequently, a vote by members of the Higher Education Task Force were unanimously in favor of independence; and

Whereas, with strong reserve funding and healthy fiscal support from the community, a financial analysis shows that an independent college in Carlsbad would not only thrive, but would be able to add additional local positions; and

Whereas, Eddy County has an extremely diverse economy, and an independent college would have nearly unlimited possibilities with multiple degree and vocational options; and

Whereas, supporters of independence believe that an independent college will be able to better partner with local businesses and other universities to offer students additional programs and other amenities; and

Now, therefore, be it resolved that we, the governing body of the City of Carlsbad, do support the transition of the NMSU-C branch campus in Carlsbad into an independent college.

PASSED, ADOPTED, AND APPROVED by the governing body at its meeting of January 5, 2021.

Mayor

ATTEST: _____
City Clerk

Please support Independence for the college in Carlsbad



- Work with local businesses to offer career-specific programs, including bachelors and vocational
- Local governance can focus on the needs of the local community
- Optimize the Early College High School for the benefit of local High School students
- Develop partnerships with NMSU and other universities
- Opportunities for growth, including campus housing & more jobs

- ✓ There's community support for a community driven college
- ✓ 3 Mil Levy and strong Pro Forma Financial Statements
- ✓ Currently, there's a \$36M reserve, in Las Cruces, that has accumulated, year after year, and has not been invested back in local community and students.
- ✓ These funds transfer with the independent college
- ✓ Carlsbad has own accreditation separate from NMSU



The City of Carlsbad and Eddy County are vibrant communities with diverse economies. We want to provide additional educational programs and other options that benefit the communities, the businesses, and students of Southeast New Mexico.

Please vote YES on HB-TBD

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HOUSE BILL

55TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2021

INTRODUCED BY

DISCUSSION DRAFT

AN ACT

RELATING TO HIGHER EDUCATION; REMAKING NEW MEXICO STATE
UNIVERSITY CARLSBAD BRANCH COMMUNITY COLLEGE INTO AN
INDEPENDENT COMMUNITY COLLEGE.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

SECTION 1. A new section of the Community College Act is
enacted to read:

"[NEW MATERIAL] CREATION OF CARLSBAD COMMUNITY COLLEGE--
NAME CHANGE.--

A. New Mexico state university Carlsbad shall be
made into an independent community college known as "Carlsbad
community college" and shall be organized as provided in
Chapter 21, Article 13 NMSA 1978.

B. The governing board of Carlsbad community
college shall be created and function as provided in the

underscoring material = new
~~[bracketed material] = delete~~

underscoring material = new
[bracketed material] = delete

1 Community College Act.

2 C. All references in law to New Mexico state
3 university Carlsbad shall be construed to be references to
4 Carlsbad community college."

5 SECTION 2. TEMPORARY PROVISION--TRANSFER OF FUNCTIONS,
6 PERSONNEL, PROPERTY, CONTRACTS AND REFERENCES IN LAW.--On July
7 1, 2021:

8 A. all functions, personnel, appropriations, money,
9 records, equipment, supplies and other property of New Mexico
10 state university Carlsbad shall be transferred to Carlsbad
11 community college;

12 B. all contracts of the New Mexico state university
13 board of regents regarding New Mexico state university Carlsbad
14 shall be binding and effective on the governing board of
15 Carlsbad community college; and

16 C. all references in law to the New Mexico state
17 university board of regents regarding New Mexico state
18 university Carlsbad shall be deemed to be references to the
19 governing board of Carlsbad community college."

20 SECTION 3. EFFECTIVE DATE.--The effective date of the
21 provisions of this act is July 1, 2021.

ADJOURN