



Dear Neighbors,

As we near the end of the year, I'd like to highlight a few Englewood accomplishments and provide a roadmap for some important goals. We continue to focus on sustainability of our operations with an emphasis on economic development and effective management of our limited resources. The past budget cycle represented the first budgeted surplus in many years for the General Fund and looks to be nearly the 4<sup>th</sup> year in a row with a yearend surplus! Although we have resolved our structural deficit through operational changes, we continue to face financial challenges that will require diligence in our efforts to be efficient with so many long term capital needs to address in the coming years.

We have been hard at work to create an environment that fosters a robust local economy. We will continue to improve customer service to our core customers, residents and businesses. We just hosted our first annual job fair and we were successful in securing the participation of 32 local primary employers with over 500 jobs available! Englewood relies heavily on the sales and use taxes, generated by our local businesses, to help pay for our community services. This partnership with local business means that when local business succeeds, we succeed as a community.

We will strive to improve Englewood's image and the perception of our community as a place to live and do business. We will attempt to better communicate our value proposition by conveying points of pride in our community and hope for our future. I see wonderful opportunities with our unique community history and cultural arts that need to be better communicated to our general community. I envision a more robust quarterly publication and website. I also plan to host the first State of the City event in the first quarter of 2017.

We will focus on physical improvements to our public places to make them more desirable places to be. I believe that we should begin with our historic downtown (the 3400 block of South Broadway) because with some small improvements, we will develop a better identity and attract more needed investment, activity and vitality. Finally, we will ensure the sustainability of our public events by partnering with local businesses and add at least one new signature event in Englewood.

As many of you know, I host monthly community meetings to help inform the community and to get feedback. I believe that with this feedback, I can better represent the community as a whole. The monthly meetings are held at the Twin Dragon Restaurant, located at 3021 S. Broadway. I typically host these meetings on the last Wednesday of every month at 6 pm. Please take a look at



my webpage for schedule updates or e-mail me with "Add Me" in the subject line to be added to the list for e-mail updates.

It is an honor to serve our community. As always, I invite your comments, questions, or concerns by e-mail or phone.

Respectfully,

Joe Jefferson, Mayor

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