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Carlsbad Department of Development Takes Issues to New Mexico Governor

February 4, 2010 – Santa Fe, NM – The Carlsbad Department of Development met with New Mexico Governor Bill Richardson and several key State of New Mexico legislators and agencies.

The Carlsbad Department of Development (CDOD), along with local elected officials and community members, spent nearly an hour with Governor Bill Richardson discussing issues important to the City of Carlsbad and Eddy County. City of Carlsbad Mayor Bob Forrest, Eddy County Commissioners Jack Volpato and Roxanne Lara, and several other community leaders



discussed issues ranging from securing infrastructure monies for state roadway projects and assistance in creating jobs through economic development initiatives. Governor Richardson informed everyone there still may be some capital outlay funds left, but he would have to check on the availability. This was a tremendous opportunity to strengthen relationships with Carlsbad and Eddy County with state leaders.

Earlier that same day, the CDOD discussed topics specific to growing the economy to New Mexico Secretary of Economic Development, Fred Mondragón. Secretary Mondragón stated the strength of Carlsbad and Eddy County is the existing diversity of industries and expanding that diversity by adding alternative energy initiatives and pursuing more nuclear related opportunities in the future.

"The CDOD has a very good relationship with Secretary Mondragón and everyone at the NMEDD," said John Waters, Executive Director of the Carlsbad Department of Development. "As always, the secretary was very open. He appreciated our work and pleased to learn about our list of priorities." The Carlsbad Department of Development is the designated economic development agency for the City of Carlsbad and Eddy County, New Mexico.

The list of topics Waters presented included continued support for the state's Job Training Incentive Program (JTIP), securing monies for infrastructure improvements, and support for other economic development programs. CDOD officials also met with NMEDD leaders Mr. Donnie Quintana, Ms. Cindy Evans, Ms. Therese Varela, and Mr. Randy Trask. The CDOD participated meetings with several state legislators and cabinet secretaries. The purpose of the entire tour was to draw attention and support for Eddy County and Carlsbad.

The Carlsbad Department of Development is member-supported, non-profit organization represented by over 100 chief executive officers in industry, business, and finance in addition to having the support of the City of Carlsbad, Eddy County Board of Commissioners, and New Mexico State University-Carlsbad. The goal of the CDOD is to promote the economic and general welfare of the citizens of the City of Carlsbad and South Eddy County through job retention and creation by recruiting new industry, identifying new job opportunities, expanding and retaining existing business and diversifying their economy.

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