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PD&E Newsletter, March 2023

Message from the Executive Director, Robert Herrera



Hello everyone and welcome to another issue of our monthly newsletter. Our featured projects include a look at our agricultural facilities, a transformed gymnasium, and a look and what we have going on at one of our satellite campuses. Our mission is to provide the campus community with an attractive, sustainable, safe, and well-designed physical environment, which enhances and supports the educational objectives of New Mexico State University. Our Vision is to be nationally recognized as a leader in design, facility operation, and construction management. We really enjoy bringing these project to you. As always, I hope you enjoy this edition and I look forward to seeing you around campus.

Featured Project — Activity Center Weight Room & Student Lounge

We are pleased and excited to announce a huge renovation project for the James B. Delamater Activity Center. The project will relocate the existing weight room and reconfigure the vacated area into a new student lounge. The new location for the weight room is in the existing gymnasium, which will be transformed into a larger 12,183 square foot recreational exercise room located on the northeast side of the facility. The gymnasium flooring will be replaced with new low impact rubber flooring and an artificial turf section for training. Machine and free weights sections will be housed within the area as well as an elevated running track. The new concept will enhance the space into a modernized gym for the campus community fully enjoy. The vacated weight room space will be entirely reconfigured into a lounge area for students to unwind, collaborate and rest their minds from their studies. Project Manager, **Ashley Burkholder**, has initiated the project through design and will successfully lead the project through construction, anticipated to be completed Summer 2024.



Leyendecker New Water Well

Did you know, New Mexico State University has many off campus agricultural research sites? One of those sites is the Leyendecker Plant Science Center which serves the needs of irrigated agriculture. Just fifteen minutes south-west of Las Cruces Main Campus, the farm consists of 200 acres of various soil types for growth and research. **Gary Martinez**, Project Manager for PD&E, was assigned a project to upgrade irrigation water piping, and install a highly efficient water well. The well is fully functional and has the capability to isolate the north and south sections of the farm. Underground irrigation water lines that supply four different areas of the farm also have the capability to push out up to 4,500 gallons per minute.



Demolition Around Campus



Project Manager, **Jon Padilla**, is overseeing the project to entirely demolish the vacated Greek Complex on the corner of Locust and Wells St. Originally built in 1966 and it's last addition in 1990, the complex was home to numerous fraternity and sorority chapters that contributed to university Greek life and academia. Future initiative in the University Master Plan will determine what will become of the vacated 4.4-acre lot. The demolition is projected to be completed July 2023.

Challenges Within the Industry



In the construction industry, we face and overcome many hurdles whether they are known or unforeseen. This is expected, and as project managers, we have to anticipate and work together with contractors and our hired design team when an issue arises. One of these hurdles is the ongoing rise of construction service fees and price of materials. According to, Tradewinds. (2023, March 17). Design Cost Data. [Construction Input Costs Rise 0.4 Percent In February, Outpacing Bid-Price Increase Of 0.1 Percent, As Wide Variety Of Materials Posts Price Gains \(dcd.com\)](https://www.dcd.com), the price of materials and services in nonresidential construction has increased by 0.4 percent from the beginning of this year. The data from the report indicates that construction costs are not going back to normal anytime soon and will continue to grow in coming months. That being said, project managers must always look for solutions to minimize additional costs in a project.

Alamo - Rohovec Fine Arts Theater



In our Alamogordo campus, big plans are in store for the Rohovec Fine Arts Theater. The theater once housed musical plays and classroom lectures since its doors have opened. The future plans for the building is to completely renovate and convert the space into an auditorium-style study hall. Project Manager, **Moises Morales**, says improvements will include roof replacement, re-stucco exterior walls, and replacing doors and windows. Interior work will include a new terraced flooring system to accommodate the new hall's layout. These improvements will bring a modernized look to the campus and help rejuvenate an underutilized space.

PD&E Project Map

- For a full view of our projects map, click the link below, or scan our QR code!



[Project Development & Engineering \(arcgis.com\)](https://arcgis.com)

Contact: AskFS@nmsu.edu

Phone: 575.646.7114



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