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May 19, 2026

TO: Rio Dell City Council

FROM: Kyle Knopp, City Manager

SUBJECT: Discussion and Possible Action Establishing Priorities for FY 2026-27

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE CITY COUNCIL:

Approve the final 2026 Prioritization.

BACKGROUND AND DISCUSSION

The Rio Dell City Council held a priority-setting session on May 4<sup>th</sup> to guide the FY 2026-27 budget, with staff highlighting fiscal pressures including earthquake recovery costs, declining sales tax revenues, and rising operational costs. Council members discussed key initiatives including economic development — particularly attracting major employers to the Rio Dell Business Park — as well as advancing shovel-ready projects to compete more effectively for grants. Other topics included keeping Second Street improvements and code enforcement as ongoing priorities, and the need to retain staff through competitive compensation. The Council discussion reached consensus on six priorities: economic development, shovel-ready/grant-competitive projects, public safety, personnel retention, code enforcement, and long-term fiscal stability.

Each Councilmember submitted five written priorities summarized into the following subject areas:

Community & Economic Development: Hiring a professional economic development consultant - Amazon Recruitment (4). Develop Shovel Ready Projects for Grant Opportunities (3). General Economic Development (1). Total: 8

Finance: Conduct the 5-year water and wastewater rate analysis (3). Total: 3

Organizational Development and Administration: Establish a \$200 monthly stipend for members of the City Council starting with the new term. (1) Total: 1

Personnel: Strengthen relations with city staff (2). Total: 2

Public Safety: Code enforcement (2) Rental Housing Inspection Program (1) Total: 3

Public Works: Collection System (1) Scotia interties (2) Total: 3

Priorities				
2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
Economic Development Plan Implementation	Economic Development Implementation	Public Works	Public Safety	Professional ED Recruiter
Measure U/J Extension	Community Development	Public Safety Staffing	Economic Development	Develop Shovel Ready Projects
Personnel	Public Works - Underground Infrastructure	Economic Development	Public Works	Rate Analysis
Todd Property Infrastructure	Personnel	Street Planning & Work	PD Personnel	Code Enforcement
	Public Safety	Parks & Youth	Parks & Youth	Collection Intertie

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