City holds ribbon-cutting ceremony for new solid waste facility

Written by By Cody Begaye Sun Correspondent
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The City of Gallup held a grand opening ceremony of the new solid waste administration facility Aug. 30.

The new $3.1 million facility, located at 1580 Hassler Valley Rd., provides nearly triple the space the previous facility had, Adrian Marrufo said. Marrufo is the, solid waste superintendent for the City of Gallup.

“This building is more adequate to perform our services,” he said during the ceremony. “We can better perform what we need to do.”

Dist. 2 Councilor Allan Landavazo said the new building was a long time coming. He added, the plans for a new administration facility go all the way back to the Harry Mendoza Administration.

“It took a long time to do it, but it turned out to be a great project,” Landavazo said. “This is a good day for Gallup.”

Dist. 1 Councilor Linda Garcia said the expansion of the solid waste facility goes hand in hand with the growth of Gallup.

“All of you can see how the building looks nice,” Garcia said. “I am looking forward to this new facility being a success for Gallup.”

Several members of the architecture firm, Huitt-Zolars, Inc.of Albuquerque, were present to give their thanks to the City of Gallup.

Joe Gallegos, vice president of Huitt-Zolars, said the building is the result of the support and collaboration they received from Mayor Jackie McKinney and the Gallup City Council.

“It is always a great day when a community has a brand new building that will provide new services for their constituents,” Gallegos said.

City Manager Maryann Ustick said the new facility was completed on time and within budget.

Following the speakers’ presentations, the ribbon cutting was performed by Garcia. Guests then received a tour of the new facility by waste management staff.

Marrufo led a group around the building, and showed off the numerous offices, an on-site storage building, new conference and meeting rooms, and the old garage that would now be used for storing tools and tires.

In all, there are three structures on the site, including the 4,582 square feet administration building; a 1,879 square feet shop building; and a storage building and canopy shelter that can hold up to 18 solid waste vehicles.

“What we have now with this building... it’s awesome,” Marrufo said.

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