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Carlito Springs Phase 2 Improvements

\$1,350,000 is requested to plan, design, construct, rehabilitate, equip and furnish Phase 2 improvements at the 179-acre Carlito Springs Open Space (“Carlito Springs”) in the East Mountain area of Bernalillo County. These improvements include construction of a potable water system and fire protection tank, upgrades to the existing wastewater system, rehabilitation of the main house for compatible day use, construction of an upper parking area with ADA parking spaces, installation of interpretive signage, rehabilitation of water features including ponds and a fountain, and the stabilization of outbuildings. In total, these improvements will provide a wider range of resource-based recreation and environmental education opportunities to meet public demand at Carlito Springs.

Carlito Springs was acquired by Bernalillo County in two phases in 2000 (177 acres) and 2008 (2 acres) with Open Space mill levy funds. The primary draws to the property are its namesake perennial spring, lush vegetation and historic structures. Prior to the County’s ownership and dating as far back as the 1880s, Carlito Springs was used as a homestead, camp, retreat, sanatorium and private residence. In 2012 Bernalillo County completed the *Carlito Springs Open Space Cultural Landscape Report (CLR)*. The CLR details a plan forward for redeveloping the property in a manner that preserves its unique landscape while also providing public enjoyment.

Bernalillo County has already committed \$500,000 to complete Phase 1 improvements in 2013 that include the construction of a spring catchment box, trail system and trailhead.



Fifty First Legislature, First Session, 2013