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GOVERNOR

JON BARELA  
CABINET SECRETARY



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August 20, 2013

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**Governor Susana Martinez and Secretary Jon Barela Announce \$137,000 in MainStreet Capital Outlay for Phase II of Silco Theater Renovations**

*Restoration of New Mexico's historic theaters designed to revitalize rural downtowns*

Silver City - Today Governor Susana Martinez and Economic Development Cabinet Secretary Jon Barela announced that the Silver City MainStreet and Town of Silver City will receive \$137,000 in MainStreet capital outlay for phase II of renovations for the historic Silco Theater. The Silco Theater has been identified as a priority for the both Silver City's Downtown Action Plan and the recently adopted Theatre District Plan. It is also part of the Economic Development Department's Historic Theater Initiative, which aims to increase rural downtown traffic and provide entertainment options by restoring historic theaters to include updated movie projection equipment while preserving their unique design details.

"The town of Silver City and the Silver City MainStreet have been a dedicated team in the redevelopment of their downtown and we are happy to support them in their efforts," Governor Martinez said. "I believe that the restoration of the Silco Theater will lead to the creation of many more jobs and increased business in the downtown district."

The Historic Theater Initiative was officially launched in Clayton in June as an initiative of Secretary Barela to increase business in MainStreet districts while preserving the state historic theaters,

"The renovated Silco Theater - like many historic theaters across the state - is a great asset to the community," Secretary Barela said. "It is wonderful that everyone is focused on preserving this local treasure while revitalizing traditional areas of commerce as destinations for families to shop, dine and see a movie."

In addition to the \$137,000 in capital outlay funds from MainStreet, Governor Martinez also announced the theater will receive a \$46,000 grant for the restoration of its marquee from Department of Cultural Affairs' Historic Preservation Division.

Phase II renovations for the Silco Theater to include:

- o Removal of interior modifications to allow a restoration of the theater's historic look, feel and function.
- o Masonry and basement repairs
- o Addition of an emergency exit
- o New HVAC
- o ADA-compliant, accessible bathroom
- o Auditorium seating with 200 seats
- o Restoration of the historic Confectionary
- o Projection room rehabilitation and digital projection equipment
- o Electrical system upgrades
- o Painting/murals

In 2011, the Silver City MainStreet was recognized by the National Trust for Historic Preservation as one of the country's "Great America Main Streets." Some of their accomplishments since tracking, include assisting in the creation of 71 new businesses, 29 business expansions and rehabilitation of 189 buildings.

During the 2013 Legislative Session, Governor Martinez supported the appropriation of \$1 million for MainStreet. Of that amount, \$500,000 was allocated specifically to support capital outlay projects.

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