General Obligation Bond Analysis and Web-based Transparency Interface for the City of Las Cruces, New Mexico

In early 2018, the City of Las Cruces retained Architectural Research Consultants, Incorporated with ASA Architects to conduct an analysis of potential General Obligation (G.O.) Bond projects and to prepare a web-based Project/Transparency Interface for an anticipated G.O. Bond mail-in ballot election in August 2018. The scope of services included five tasks:

- (1) Characterize the scope of each potential capital project, associated project budget, and schedule.
- (2) Engage the public to gauge general support of the identified capital projects.
- (3) Engage the public to determine other capital projects of interest to the community.
- (4) Prepare a report summarizing the scope, cost, construction time, and support of each identified capital project.
- (5) Develop and integrate a capital project reporting web interface for transparency and project status purposes.

Public input served a central role in the City's G.O. Bond decision-making progression. Public participation included a series of community meetings with City residents, development of an explanatory website, and deployment of a web-based citizen survey to gauge support for potential City projects.

Project planning was a key element in the subsequent successful passage of \$35.6 million of capital projects for sports fields, trail improvements, and a new fire station and animal shelter by City of Las Cruces voters.

Schedule: 2018



Right: Project website

Below: Results of web-based survey regarding potential capital projects





Left and Above: ARC organized three public meetings to gain input about potential G.O. Bond projects.

