

ANNOUNCEMENT



GROUNDBREAKING

PRESS RELEASE
July 20, 2026

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CITY OF COTTONDALE INVITES THE PUBLIC TO GROUNDBREAKING CEREMONY FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE COTTONDALE POLICE STATION, SAFE ROOM, AND FIRE HOUSE RENOVATIONS

COTTONDALE, FL – The City of Cottondale is pleased to invite residents, community partners, and local leaders to attend the groundbreaking ceremony for the City's new Police Station, Safe Room, and Fire House Renovation Project on **Monday, August 3, 2026, at 10:00 a.m.** The ceremony will be held at **Cottondale City Hall at 2659 Front Street.**

This transformational investment in Cottondale's public safety infrastructure represents the City's continued commitment to protecting its residents while strengthening its ability to respond during emergencies and natural disasters.

The project includes the construction of a modern Police Station, a FEMA-compliant Community Safe Room that will provide refuge during severe weather events, renovations to the existing Fire House to better support emergency responders, and parking lot improvements that will enhance accessibility and functionality for the public.

Funding for the project has been made possible through the **FloridaCommerce Community Development Block Grant – Mitigation (CDBG-MIT) Program**, with additional support from the **FloridaCommerce Hometown Revitalization Program**, which is funding the parking lot improvements.

"We are excited to take this important step toward improving public safety for the citizens of Cottondale," said **Mayor James Elmore**. "This project represents more than new buildings. It represents our commitment to protecting our community today while preparing for the future. We are grateful to FloridaCommerce and all of our project partners who have helped make this vision a reality."

The City assembled an experienced team to bring the project from concept to construction. **DHM** is serving as the City's grant administrator, **Donofro Architects** provided architectural design services, and **CPWG Contractors** will lead construction.

"Projects like this demonstrate what can be accomplished when local leadership, state funding, and dedicated project partners work together toward a common goal," said **Destinee Wiggins, Project Manager with DHM**. "It has been an honor to work alongside the City of Cottondale to help bring this project to fruition, and we look forward to celebrating this exciting milestone with the community."

The City of Cottondale welcomes the public to attend the groundbreaking ceremony and celebrate the beginning of a project that will serve the community for generations to come.

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