



DATE: June 15, 2018
TO: Mayor and Council
FROM: Ryan Mahoney, Town Manager
RE: Weekly Update
CC: Department Heads

I hear from the long time locals that this weekend kicks off the official summer season. It's apparently Aspen Food and Wine that finally marks the arrival of the summer visitors to the Valley. While I suppose that is likely true, it seems like we have been enjoying plenty of summer activities already.

This Saturday night we have our first movie in the park, True Grit. This is the original with John Wayne not the recent re-make. We also have the first Sunday Market kicking off this weekend. This coincides with Father's Day so remember to call your dad this weekend. We have made sure to inform Public Works staff of the movie on Saturday evening so the irrigation should not surprise any of our guests.

As I am sure you are all aware, fire season is bearing down on us and both Pitkin and Eagle Counties have fire restrictions in place. The Basalt Fire District gave us a banner to put up at the roundabout to remind campers of the restrictions. In addition a variable message board will be placed on Fryingpan Road.

Police

- Officers attended our 2nd quarter firearms and arrest control trainings. At the range they completed annual recertification for Taser, chemical sprays, beanbag shotgun, handgun and patrol rifle. In defensive tactics they practiced proper restraints and holds.
- Camp Chip-A-Tooth students visited the Police Department. We discussed summertime and bicycle safety.
- The Police Department and the Basalt and Rural Fire Protection District hosted a bicycle rodeo at the Blue Lake Preschool.

Planning

- Basalt River Park Development LLC – Sketch Plan for CDC parcel - A site visit before the P&Z scheduled on June 19th.
- RFP's Related to Basalt River Park – Four proposals came in this week for landscape architecture services in response to the RFP: Design Workshop, Connect One, Bluegreen and DHM. Five firms submitted proposals for engineering services: SGM, Sopris Engineering, JVA, Roaring Fork Engineering, and Loris. We are determining the next steps. The project kicks off with a charrette with Council and POST members currently scheduled for Wednesday, July 18th.
- Mid-Valley Area Community Plan – The Roaring Fork Regional Planning Commission (RFVRPC) is scheduled to adopt the Plan on Thursday June 21st. The meeting on June 14th was very well attended with most of the audience asking for lower densities.

http://www.eaglecounty.us/Planning/Documents/Community_Plans/Mid_Valley_Master_Plan_Draft1_2018/.

- TACAW - The Sketch Plan application for “ThePermanent” is scheduled for the P&Z’s review on June 19th. The earliest the Council will see it is on June 26th. At the present time, Staff has not scheduled a site visit for Town Council. Let us know if you would like one.
- EOTC Meeting – Watkins attended the June 14th EOTC meeting. A good deal of time was spent discussing RFTA’s long range plan and their polling on the public’s willingness to pass a mill levy. RFTA’s consultants have conducted more polling recently with similar numbers to what was found in January. They have found that education about RFTA’s plan and funding needs increases people’s willingness to support the tax increase. The potential for a Buttermilk underpass or overpass was discussed. Some members of the EOTC support it, while others think that it is not a priority and so a study on its feasibility should not even be funded. A preliminary study by SGM showed ballpark cost ranges for an underpass and an overpass.

RFTA is moving forward with some battery electric buses to test whether they work in the Roaring Fork Valley.

- Child Care – Gary Tennenbaum, Ryan Mahoney and Sara Nadolny participated in a meeting organized by Eagle County. Eagle County engaged Bill Ray (same consultant used by RFTA) to conduct polling in the County. This was an introductory meeting to talk about funding for child care and the amount of public support for a ballot issue either this fall or in later years.
- Verizon Cell Tower- According to the contractor, the pole and associated equipment should be arriving early next week and they should have the tower standing up by the end of next week. They indicated that they are hoping to have it fully operational by mid-July.
- Old Pond Park Improvements – Here is a picture of the current status.



- Progress at Old Pond Park:
 - Pedestrian bridge is in

- Some ongoing work on irrigation system
- Stairs in
- Crusher fines and more plantings will be delivered next week allowing them to finish the path once any remaining culvert work happens.

Public Works

- The streets crew has been mowing and string trimming the Towns right of ways. We do this twice a year in a dry season and more depending on the rain. The moisture content is so low now that we have been pre-wetting the roadside to keep the chance of sparks from causing a fire. The sweeper has not been far behind the mower going around Town and cleaning up the cuttings. While out making the rounds the guys used the water truck to clean the areas that the sweeper cannot get to.
- The Towns annual street maintenance is almost complete. The paving has been completed and the next step is striping which will start Monday and this phase should cause minimal impact to traffic.
- The quarterly Basalt Emergency Management Council (BEMC) was held this week. The major concern at this point is the chance of fire. Pitkin, Eagle and the Forest Service have enacted fire restrictions for the area. The Town is assisting with getting the word out by putting a sign in the roundabout in Basalt and putting up a Variable Message Board on Frying Pan Rd.
- A wooden frame was erected on the corner of Highway 82 and Basalt Avenue to demonstrate the placement of the South Side entrance sign. The area has been cleaned up to help with the line of sight from different angles.