



DATE: August 31, 2018
TO: Mayor and Council
FROM: Ryan Mahoney, Town Manager
RE: Weekly Update
CC: Department Heads

The hustle and bustle at town hall continued this week with a busy meeting schedule and continued progress on a number of fronts. Monday night marked the second public meeting organized by Colorado Parks and Wildlife regarding the Basalt State Wildlife Area Shooting Range. The evening's meeting was organized to allow individuals to visit different stations and offer input on the assigned topics at those stations. These included topics such as *location, interim operations strategy, rules and operation, supervision, enforcement and education, fire mitigation, noise mitigation, interaction with neighboring development and community engagement.*

I followed up with the facilitator to inquire about the report on findings from the public meetings. She is working on it and will be giving it to CPW in the next few days for their review. I can follow up with CPW next week to get an idea of when the public will get a chance to review the report. In addition, I will ask about the next steps for public process related to the smaller groups that have been contemplated by CPW.

The Colorado Parks and Wildlife Commission is meeting in Glenwood on the 6th and 7th of September. This is a regularly scheduled meeting and the agenda (<http://cpw.state.co.us/Documents/Commission/2018/Sept/Agenda.pdf>) does not indicate that the Shooting Range will be discussed. There is an opportunity for public comment at 10:55 a.m. on the 7th and I will plan to attend and make comment regarding the Resolution adopted on Tuesday evening.

Regarding the baseline studies that were added to the Resolution regarding noise and lead, it may be of interest to share that the Town as well as Mid-Valley Metropolitan District (MVMD) are required to do annual lead testing for our drinking water. The results are published in a Consumer Confidence Report and are posted on the Town's website. It can be found on the Water Department's page. MVMD has the same requirement and their Report can be found on their own webpage.

Federal requirements mandate that we report the value of lead at the 90th percentile, which was 2 parts per billion (ppb) in the Town's system and 1.7 ppb in the MVMD system. The Action Level for lead, which is the concentration of a contaminant that, if exceeded, triggers treatment and other regulatory requirements is 15 ppb. The Town and MVMD are well below any action level. The Town's water system takes samples from ten different locations within our service area. MVMD takes samples from fifteen different locations. The likely reason for any amount of lead found in the samples is from corrosion of household plumbing and erosion of natural deposits. The bottom line with these reports is that our citizens drinking water is safe and not anywhere close to levels that would cause harm.

Chief Knott, Council Member Schendler and I attended a short ceremony Thursday morning where we received a check for \$30,050 to be used for supporting law enforcement that helped in the Lake Christine Fire. Uses for the money may include training and education, equipment and officer financial support, to name a few. Town staff is discussing how best to administer the grants and will bring that to Council for discussion in the near future. Thank you to Sarah and Robert Woods for their hard work in organizing a “paddle raise” event to raise the money.

Public Works

- This week, in coordination with Eagle County, Colorado State Forest Service, and the Basalt-Snowmass Fire District, Public Works participated in handing out door hangers to let citizens in the Basalt “hill district” know about a free fire mitigation service being offered. The participating agencies are offering personnel and equipment to help homeowners better protect their properties.
- Burn area restoration is still underway with the help of Public Works employees. The work involves large equipment that is used to build check dams in the normally dry water courses. Large bales of hay are then placed upstream of the check dam to add another layer of protection.
- The inside phase of reconditioning the Million Gallon Tank Project is almost complete. The contractor is applying the last of three coatings that are to be used inside of the tank. The coatings have to go through a curing process and harden to industry specs. The next phase will involve sandblasting the outside and applying the coatings to it.
- The East Valley Road traffic calming project is progressing with the pouring of crosswalks this week. Public Works staff is working hard to keep the homeowners informed of the progress and maintaining access to their properties. The project is still on schedule.

Planning

- Development Review items – Planning continues to address construction related issues raised by the public on concern with dust and noise. A couple of the affordable housing buildings for the Roaring Fork Club were given a temporary CO allowing employees to move back in. Staff continues to work with Town Attorney Conklin and Town Manager Mahoney on Willits Town Center items necessary to effectuate the recent PUD approvals. The River Park Development Review was continued to the September 11th Council meeting, but will likely be further continued to late September as several Council members have indicated that they will be unavailable on September 11th. The Mid-Valley Business Center PUD Amendment to allow for a nail salon at 20 Sunset Drive is scheduled for final action at the September 11th Council meeting.
- ADA Parking – A representative of Charlier and Associates was in Willits last week to evaluate the current ADA parking conditions for the purpose of making recommendations. She had good solutions for improving van and car parking spaces and addressing areas where we have had complaints. She also evaluated downtown. The good news is that she was impressed with our newly constructed areas. Staff is including fixing ADA spaces and bringing on-street parking into compliance with current regulations in the updated Capital Improvement Plan.

- Destination 2040 - RFTA Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) met on August 21st to talk with RFTA Staff and their consultants about the action of RFTA to seek voter support for a 2.65 mil increase. The TAC also reviewed results of RFTA's recent polling with Bill Ray, RFTA's consultant. Ray also reviewed rules that come into play regarding fair campaign rules. Parsons reviewed the changes to the project list as a result of RFTA's decision to reduce the mill levy ask. The Aspen Junction Park and Ride expansion is no longer on the funded list. The improvements to the Sagewood stop are still included under the SH82 Station improvements.
- SH/Basalt Avenue Sign – The excavation for the sign foundation has been completed and the foundation was poured for the entryway sign into the Basalt Business Center and Southside. There has been a delay with Myers and Company schedule for installation of the sign. The sign will be perpendicular to the highway and the installation of lighting and landscaping is expected later.
- Green Team - Sara Nadolny and Amanda Poindexter attended the Local Government Energy Academy in Eagle County that featured speakers from a variety of Colorado organizations focused on the topics of energy efficiency in public facilities, solar for public facilities, building codes, supporting residential and commercial energy initiatives, electric vehicle infrastructure and adoption, and action planning. One main take-away was learning about the different finance mechanism available. Sara will confer with Amanda and draft notes and take-aways for review in the near future.
- Susan and Sara met with representatives from Holy Cross to discuss to discuss the Renewal Energy Purchase Program (REPP) and their plan to bring two 5-megawatt solar farm projects online in Woody Creek and Gypsum. Currently their solar comes from Eastern Colorado. The new solar farm projects would bring solar energy local and add new renewable energy sources to the region. Basalt has the option to buy into these solar farms, as well as wind and hydro projects that are already in place, through a Purchase Power Agreement (PPA). This item may potentially be placed on an upcoming Council agenda after more discussion with the Green Team.
- We also discussed a rebate program Holy Cross will be implementing for the installation of a new electric vehicle charging station, and financing opportunities to aid with infrastructure if updates are required. Electrify America grant funding will be opening again, likely in October. If we do not secure funding through that grant (up to \$30k), we can now work with Holy Cross to get the new Level 3 equipment we want.
- At the academy Sara had the opportunity to speak with Christian from the Colorado Energy Office regarding why we did not receive the grant in the last round. Some feedback was given, primarily that we were not asking for the faster 50kw charger due to insufficient Town infrastructure to support such a model. Staff will work with Public Works to better understand this issue. Christian will make himself available prior to the next grant funding round to help with a more successful application.

Police

- Officers Thomas Wright and Curt Donaldson attended a four-day Advanced Crime Scene training in Grand Junction. This training was hosted by the Colorado Bureau of Investigations. Our Officers learned best practices and investigative techniques for complex investigations.

- Administrative Assistant, Dina Prieto, received certification and credentialing from the National Association of Certified Child Forensic Interviewers. For the past six years Dina has been a juvenile forensic interviewer for the River Bridge Regional Center.
- The Police Department sent two officers to Vail to assist them during the Colorado Classic bicycle race. We will also be sending Officers to Snowmass Village this weekend to assist during the Jazz Aspen Snowmass Labor Day concerts.
- School is back in session and the Police Department is providing morning and afternoon traffic control at the Elementary and Middle Schools. They are also staffing the crosswalk at Cottonwood Drive and Two Rivers Road. We have also conducted fire and evacuation drills at the High School and Elementary Schools.
- Our testing and evaluation of three separate body worn camera systems will continue for few more weeks. We have received very positive feedback from community members about the cameras and our future deployment to all Officers.



WE-cycle BASALT: Mid-August Report

WE-cycle is pleased to report that in its third year of service in Basalt, ridership continues to grow as does enthusiasm. The WE-cycle season opened on May 1st with NO-FARE WE-cycle for the first 30 minutes of each ride thanks to the generous underwriting from the Town of Basalt and Eagle County. As the following ridership metrics from May 1 - August 26, 2018 demonstrate, removing the cost to access the first/last mile bike transit system reduced the barriers of entry and has grown participation and ridership significantly.

WE-cycle thanks the Town of Basalt and Eagle County for their meaningful investment in bike transit in Basalt and unincorporated Eagle County. WE-cycle enables residents to quickly integrate bike commuting and a little bit of physical activity into their daily lives' by connecting to/from RFTA, running errands, meeting friends, or taking one way trips. Thanks to the support and buy-in from riders, WE-cycle has become a part of the fabric of the community.

Basalt WE-cycle System Snapshot

	2018 YTD	2017 YTD
NUMBER OF BIKES	91*	81
NUMBER OF STATIONS	25*	23
TOTAL TRIPS	7,776	5,311
Percent change in number of trips	46%	
Trips under 30 minutes	96.62%	92.24%
Trips over 60 minutes	0.68%	1.77%
AVERAGE NUMBER OF TRIPS PER DAY	65.90	45.39
Highest Rides per Day	101 - August 1st	74 - August 1st
UNIQUE RIDERS	698	429
Percent change in unique riders	63%	
PARTICIPANTS IN MOVIMIENTO EN BICI PROGRAM	98	85
Rides completed by participants	1,306	1,153
ESTIMATED AVERAGE DURATION OF TRIPS	8 minutes	10 minutes
ESTIMATED AVERAGE DISTANCE PER TRIP**	1.04	1.30
ESTIMATED DISTANCE TRAVELED***	8,054	6,853



* Thanks to \$15,000 of capital funding from the Town of Basalt and WE-cycle's system optimizations, 10 bikes and two stations were added to the Basalt System in 2018. The stations were placed in Southside Basalt as the first public transit to serve the neighborhood.

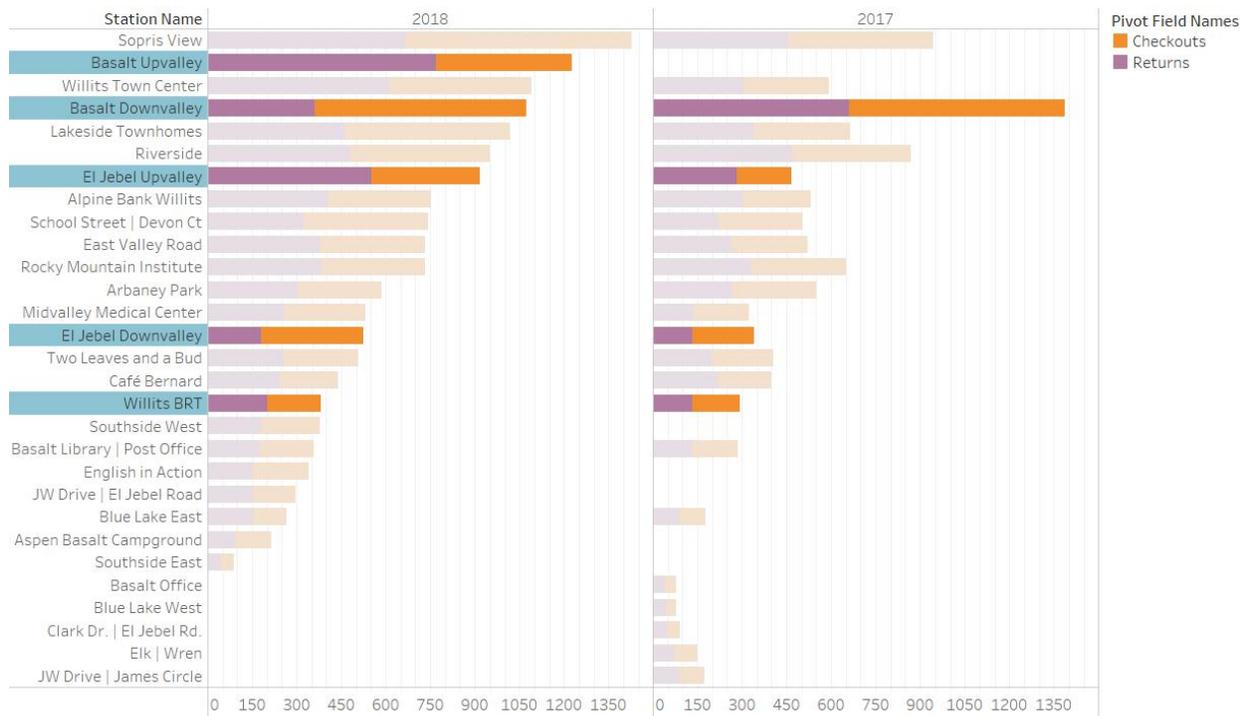
** Estimated Average Distance Per Trip is calculated using the International Bike Share Standard of 7.456 mi/h (12 km/h) times the trip duration for trips over 60 second and 2 hours and under. Trips over 2 hours are calculated at 14.9 mi (24 km). Given the distance between stations and most frequented routes in the Basalt System, WE-cycle maintains that this international standard produces a higher average distance per trip than actual distance.

*** Estimated Distance Traveled is calculated using the International Bike Share Standard of 7.456 mi/h (12 km/h) times the total trip duration of trips greater than or equal to 60 seconds and under 2 hours. Trips over 2 hours max-out at 14.9 mi (24 km). WE-cycle maintains this calculated figure is likely higher than actual distance traveled. WE-cycle bikes do not utilize GPS technology to track exact distances pedaled.

STATION OVERVIEW | TRENDS

- WE-cycle worked collaboratively with the Town of Basalt and the Southside HOA to establish the Southside East and Southside West stations.
- WE-cycle removed stations from two under-performing locations, Elk Run | Wren Court and Blue Lake West and established the Upvalley Basalt BRT Station, now the second busiest in the system, and is testing a station at the Aspen Basalt Campground.
- Several El Jebel stations were relocated to help increase visibility and optimize service area and accommodate the El Jebel Mobile Home Park expansion, Jaci Lane | Gillespie Drive (the English in Action Station) and JW Drive | El Jebel Road.
- WE-cycle added 4 docking points to the Sopris View Station to accommodate its remarkable ridership as the consistently busiest station.

BASALT: Trips by station

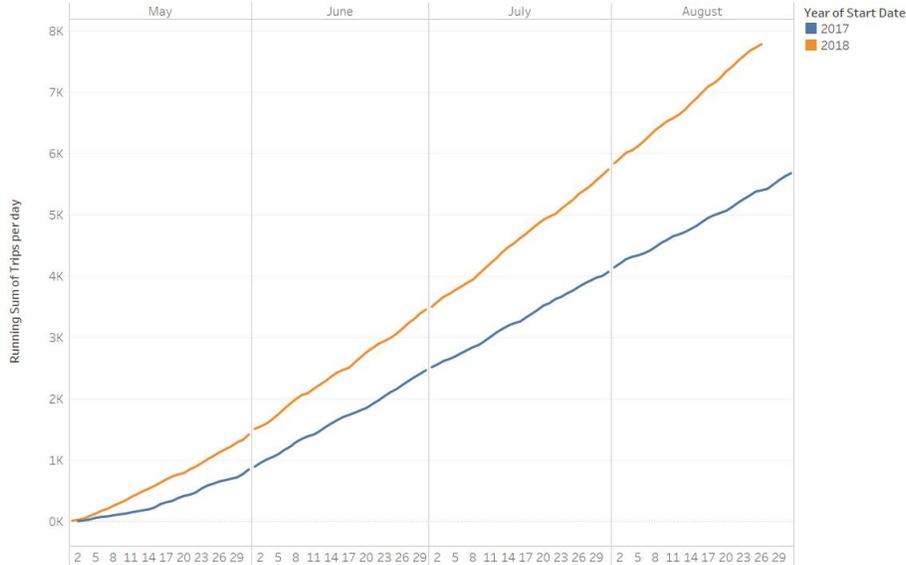




RIDERSHIP TRENDS AND OBSERVATIONS

- Free bike share is popular! Overall ridership has increased 46% over 2017. WE-cycle has received very positive feedback from valley residents who are riding bike share now that it is free, thanks to the support of the Town of Basalt and Eagle County.

BASALT: Total Trips YTD Comparison



- The Basalt System's ridership trends generally coincide with the Monday - Friday work week and commuting hours.
 - Ridership generally peaks in the mornings between 6am-9am, a bump around lunch (11am-1pm), and interestingly ridership during the evening commuting hours, 4pm-7pm, is notably higher than that in the morning
 - Weekends have steady ridership throughout the day and a slight increase in ridership between 5pm-7pm.

