



DATE: October 26, 2018
TO: Mayor and Council
FROM: Ryan Mahoney, Town Manager
RE: Weekly Update
CC: Department Heads

Good afternoon, I hope you have had a great week and are looking forward to a gorgeous weekend. I want to start off by congratulating all of you for such a productive set of meetings earlier in the week. I think we made great progress on behalf of our citizens and in the best interest of the organization. I was pleased by the progress made on the “CDC application” but also by the progress we made on our strategic plan. The strategic plan will be an amazing tool for us to share with the community and to use in telling the story of where we are headed as a community. I am looking forward to having that document in place by the end of the year.

For your information I also wanted to share that we may see an increase in our 9-1-1 surcharge that shows up on our cell phone bills. The Aspen-Pitkin County Emergency Telephone Service Authority has submitted an application to the State Public Utilities Commission to increase the monthly surcharge from \$1.25 to \$2.00. The increased funding will support capital investments, equipment maintenance and staffing for the Pitkin County Regional Emergency Dispatch Center. This is partly in response to a 98% increase in emergency calls and a 42% increase in calls for service since 2010.

Planning

- Development Review/Enforcement items – Work continues on building permit and certificate of occupancy items for the Roaring Fork Club Affordable Housing, the River Center and Willits Block 3. The Planning Staff and Attorney have also been working with Basalt Vista, Stott’s Mill, and John Cottle on platting. The Council reviewed the 208 Ridge Road Solar Array application at the October 23rd Council meeting and will be reviewing it again on second reading at the November 13th Council meeting. The Planning Staff has had to deal with some land use compliance issues and more complicated tree removal permits over the last couple weeks. Additionally, the Planning Staff conducted several pre-application conferences this week.
- Master Plan – The P&Z meets again on October 30th to prepare for the P&Z’s next discussion with the Council on the Master Plan. Options include having the P&Z present to the Council again at the November 13th meeting or having the Council attend the P&Z’s November 20th meeting.
- Annual Leaf Drop – As a reminder - the annual leaf drop is underway, with remaining dates/locations including:
 - October 26/27 – Willits Rugby Field
 - November 3/4 – Arbaney Park
 - November 10/11 – Willits Rugby Field
 - November 16/17 – Southside Park

- Early Childhood Coalition – Sara is helping the Early Childhood Network to submit its proposal to Eagle County for request for funding on five early childhood initiatives, which is due on November 1st.
- Charge Ahead Colorado – The Department of Energy has once again opened a grant cycle for applicants interested in obtaining funding for an electric vehicle charging station or for electric fleet vehicles. Sara is drafting the grant response for a fast charge Level 3 charging station to be placed in the same area the current Level 2 station is found, in the parking area of the Town Hall buildings. If the grant request is successful, Holy Cross has already introduced to Staff a program where they will upgrade the existing transformer for the charging stations at no cost to the Town. The grant is due to the DOE on October 30th.
- EOTC Meeting – Watkins attended the EOTC meeting last Friday where they discussed their proposed 2019 budget, Aspen’s SHIFT/Mobility Lab, the battery electric bus program, the relocation of the carpool kiosk, and RFTA Destination 2040. It was noted that the EOTC budget will be impacted if RFTA’s ballot measure doesn’t pass. During discussions about the Mobility Lab scheduled for the summer of 2019, it was noted that there will mostly be carrots rather than sticks, and that relationships are still being established with retailers. A criticism of the program was noted that the program will not incentivize reducing or linking trips.

Police

- Our fourth quarter perishable skills training has begun this month. All officers will participate in arrest control training, de-escalation training and nighttime firearms qualifications.
- The police department submitted a \$130,000 grant application to the Colorado Department of Local Affairs. If awarded, the "Peace Officer Mental Health Support Grant" will help fund mental health co-response, on scene support and follow-up counseling services from the Hope Center.
- We held our fourth Community Police Academy class. Twenty one attendees learned about impaired driving and our enforcement efforts. Attendees drove golf carts through obstacle courses, while wearing "drunk goggles", to show how different levels of intoxication effect driving and fine motor skills. Attendees also performed standardized field sobriety tests on volunteers who were intoxicated by alcohol.

Public Works

- The final walk-through on the East Valley Road traffic calming happened this week. There are a few items on the punch (repair) list that need to be corrected. The contractor will be completing the punch list items which will bring the project to completion.
- The water tank reconditioning project is progressing. The contractor passed the latest inspection and will be working on the outside of the tank to complete the project. The Town is in the fall season when the irrigation systems have been shut off so we have ample water reserves.
- Staff has been busy cleaning our streetscape areas which includes picking up leaves, trimming trees, keeping the trails trimmed back and repairing street lights. The next big project on the radar is getting the town ready for the holidays. Public Works will start installing decorative lighting, wreaths, garland and changing our banners.

- Our seasonal staff will be finishing up in the next week. All of us with the town would like to thank John, Hector and Craig for all their hard work and support. Good luck guys and hopefully we will see you next spring.