



**DATE:** November 6, 2020  
**TO:** Mayor and Council  
**FROM:** Ryan Mahoney, Town Manager  
**RE:** Weekly Update  
**CC:** Department Heads

We continue to see an uptick in COVID-19 cases in both [Eagle](#) and [Pitkin](#) counties. It is important to keep following the 5 commitments to containment and to avoid the 3 C's so we can lower the rate before winter. If we do not see cases go down, it may lead to additional restrictions on businesses, schools, recreation, etc.. In fact, I received the following communication today from the state. It has some useful information in it that can help the public understand what the different levels on the COVID-19 dial mean for our residents and businesses.

*we received word today that the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) announced several Colorado counties are moving to stricter levels on the state's [COVID-19 dial](#). After two weeks of growing cases and mounting pressure on the health care system, the following counties, in consultation with CDPHE, are moving to more restrictive levels:*

- *Boulder County is moving to Safer at Home Orange on November 6.*
- *Broomfield County is moving to Safer at Home Orange on November 6.*
- *Larimer County is moving to Safer at Home Yellow on November 6.*
- *Mesa County is moving to Safer at Home Orange on November 6.*
- *Summit County is moving to Safer at Home Orange on November 6.*
- *Kit Carson is moving to Safer at Home Orange on November 9.*
- *Jefferson County is moving to Safer at Home Orange on November 9.*

*Every Safer at Home level limits personal gatherings to 10 or fewer people from no more than two households, and there are various capacity limits for other activities. [Review a comparative chart of every level.](#)*

*“Cases are rapidly increasing in Colorado, resulting in many counties moving to more restrictive levels.” **said Jill Hunsaker Ryan, executive director, CDPHE.** “There are a lot of contagious people out there, many of whom are asymptomatic. Ultimately, individual behaviors are the only way to reverse the trend before things get critical. Please avoid gatherings both within and outside of the home, wear a face covering around non-household contacts, stay home when you’re sick, and wash your hands frequently. Doing these things consistently makes all the difference.”*



I will maintain 6 feet of distance from anyone not in my household



I will wash my hands often



I will cover my face in public



I will stay home when I am sick



I will seek testing immediately and self-report if I experience symptoms



## Police

On November 7, 2020, at 12:01 a.m., Pitkin County will rescind all fire restrictions in the County. Once lifted, there will be no fire restrictions in Eagle or Pitkin Counties or on Forest Service lands.

Two extra officers were on duty Halloween night. Officers were assigned to specific neighborhoods. We received a report of one vehicle being egged in the Hillside District but no other incidents were reported or observed.

The police department provided an officer outside the library for election polling. We were always present while the polls were open. We did not have to address any issues or incidents during the 12 hours we were there.

We conducted Corporal promotional interviews this week. Two internal candidates participated in an "Assessment Center Testing". Assessment Centers are a competitive process that evaluates candidates through role playing, group exercises and in-basket scenarios. A community member and personnel from Roaring Fork Fire Rescue and the Garfield County Sheriff's Office assisted us by serving on the evaluation board. We hope to extend a promotional opportunity to one of the candidates early next week.

## Public Works

Public Works worked with a contractor to pick the concrete barricades “pigs” and traffic cones up in front of the restaurants this week. The pigs will be stored for future use. Public Works went in and cleaned where the pigs had retained leaves and got the parking spaces ready to use.

New more accurate turbidimeters are being installed at the Towns water filter plant. The water operator is doing the install. Turbidimeters test the water and check for particulates in the water. The Town is very fortunate to have such a pristine water supply and have very little particulate matter. The State and EPA require the testing because not every water supplier is not as fortunate as Basalt.

Public Works participated in an upper valley snow meeting this week. The meeting was made up of CDOT, Snowmass, Pitkin County, Aspen, and various law enforcement agencies. The main topic was how to assist each other if their department was impacted by COVID-19. We decided that each entity could expand their routes and help where possible. We have been assisting each other for years in other ways with needed help and equipment so it makes sense to help more if needed

## **Planning**

**Basalt Leaf Drop** – The yearly leaf drop is underway, with this weekend marking the fourth of five weekly events. This week’s leaf drop will be at the Willits Rugby Field from 9:00 am – 5:00 pm. Details are on the Town’s webpage under “Basalt News”.

**Green Team** – A subcommittee of the Green Team and partners met on Wednesday to strategize its plan for outreach, education, and energy improvements to the Town’s restaurants. With the loss of CORE rebates outside of Pitkin County in 2021, Staff has reached out to Eagle County and Walking Mountains Science Center to discuss their support. Those entities are still deliberating how to provide rebates and support to the Roaring Fork Valley side of Eagle County that is equitable to what is provided within the Eagle River Valley side.

**BPAC** – The Arts Commission met on Thursday to discuss its 2021 work plan. They will not pursue hosting any events at this time but are seeking ice or snow sculptors for this winter. Staff believes it has found a new home for the Motio pieces and has tentatively scheduled their removal for the week of November 16.

**Arbaney Pool**- the bids came in on Monday and were much higher than budgeted. Staff is scheduled to discuss our approach on Tuesday with the Council. Staff is scheduled to meet with POST on Wednesday to reduce the scope to bring it in line with the costs of doing the project.

**Basalt River Park** – The Roaring Fork Community Development Corporation and the Town Attorney will be attending the Basalt Sanitation District Meeting on Wednesday to resolve remaining items. The closing on the Town’s purchase is expected after the Basalt Sanitation District easement is executed. Staff is working on the next steps for advancing the Basalt River Park.

**Development Review/Applications** – There was considerable activity this week as the Stott’s Mill Developer worked through the documents needed. The Stott’s Mill Developer was able to resolve the agreement with the Ditch Company. Staff and spent considerable time working on items associated with our other construction projects throughout Town. Last Friday, Staff met on site at the Contemporary and approved the materials to be used for the exterior.

**Events** –The Aspen Jewish Congregation has indicated they would like to have a menorah lighting ceremony for Hanukah in December. Town Staff is working on adjusting activities for the Holiday Lighting events.

## **Recreation**

Staff has reached out to the school district to inquire about use of the indoor facilities and create a plan for returning to play. Adult Pickleball and youth basketball are two activities that are being requested by community members.

The November 7<sup>th</sup> American Red Cross Babysitters Training is full. We will have 6 participants in this offering. This is the second offering of this nature this fall.

Staff is working on Community First Aid/ CPR offering for December and January.