



**DATE:** September 9, 2022  
**TO:** Mayor and Council  
**FROM:** Ryan Mahoney, Town Manager  
**RE:** Weekly Update  
**CC:** Department Heads

The Regional Wildfire Collaborative met this week to begin mapping different priority areas for wildfire mitigation. It was an interesting exercise to hear the strategy of linking different historic burn areas and mitigated areas. The participating organizations will be asked to adopt an agreement that outlines the intent and commitment of each organization. That is now under review at a staff level and will be brought to Council soon.

### **Police**

The police department and Roaring Fork Fire Rescue conducted fire evacuation drills at the high, middle and elementary schools. Roaring Fork Fire Rescue is conducting mandatory evaluations, of the drills, and reporting directly to the State of Colorado. All students and school staff did a great job during the drills.

Basalt Emergency Management Committee met this week. The police department, public works department, Eagle County Sheriff's Office, Eagle County Emergency Management, Basalt Chamber of Commerce, Roaring Fork Club and the American Red Cross provided updates to the committee.

The police department's 2023 annual budget has been submitted to the finance department. In 2023 we will be changing body camera providers. We have begun the process of transferring three terabytes of video footage that has been stored with our current provider. Three terabytes equates to two years of body camera footage. It is expected to take 150 hours to transfer all the data.

We assisted the Snowmass Village Police Department by filling two on-site shifts during the Jazz Aspen Snowmass Labor Day concert event.

Our two police officer trainees are in their third week at the Colorado Mountain College police academy. We look forward to their graduation on December 9<sup>th</sup>.

### **Planning**

**Basalt Center Circle (BCC) Application** – The Applicant submitted a final plan application which is in review with the Town's referral agencies. The Planning and Zoning Commission completed their review of the BCC Final Plan Application. Town Council provided their initial review and continued the public hearing to July 26<sup>th</sup>. The Application received second reading approval on August 23<sup>rd</sup>. Town Staff is working with the BCC Applicant and the Basalt Sanitation District Staff on the "lightning bolt" sanitary sewer improvement concept in preparation for a Basalt Sanitation District Board Meeting in mid-September.

**Basalt River Park Improvements** – Town Council approved a contract with Burlingame Construction and ID Sculptures for construction of the bandshell. Staff has readvertised the bus shelter/restroom facility

project for Construction Management/General Contractor (CM/GC) services to refine the design and construction schedule to build the project within budget. Proposals are due September 23<sup>rd</sup>. Work on Phase II of the Basalt River Park by RMCL is well underway. RMCL has installed the irrigation, planted a significant portion of the trees and perennials, and installation of sod occurred this week.



**Midland Avenue Streetscape Project** – The Design Team and Town Staff have been moving the Midland Avenue Streetscape Project forward. Work sessions with P&Z and Town Council were held to review the preferred alternative design on August 9<sup>th</sup>, at which time P&Z and Council provided direction to move into design of the preferred conceptual plan. The Design Team is working diligently on taking the conceptual design to the 30% design level. The Design Team and staff will return to P&Z and Council with the 30% level in early October.

**Green Initiatives and the Town of Basalt Photovoltaic and Energy Storage Project** – Staff and McKinstry continue to work with Holy Cross Energy, the school district, CORE and members of the Green Team on the project. McKinstry made a presentation to staff and representatives of the school district to discuss preferred options. The final report summarizing the site analysis and preferred options is being finalized, and the selected sites are now being developed to a 30% design level. Staff and McKinstry submitted a DOLA grant application for the project last week.

**Other Basalt Forward 2030 Support** – Town Planning Staff also provided support to the Manager for the Basalt Forward 2030 projects.

**Basalt River Park Development LLC** – A full building permit was issued on the Gallery Building which includes commercial, apartments, and the affordable housing units.

**Development Review/Applications** – Staff also spent time on responding to administrative reviews, complaints and working on land use applications and building permits.

**Mid-Valley Center Lot 4** –Town Staff and Gould are moving forward with the construction of the building. The building has been ordered, utility connections have been made, and the foundation has been formed.

**Water Utility Master Plan** – Town staff issued an RFP for the development of a Basalt Water Utility Master Plan which will serve to inform the planning of capital improvements, operations and maintenance, and rate increases that may be necessary to help fund the water enterprise. Staff received two proposals for this work from well qualified teams and is bringing a proposal to Council on the 13th. Staff has also been working on a Colorado River District grant application to help fund some of this work.

**Linear Park Irrigation** – Town staff received two bids for the rebuilding of the Linear Park irrigation system. The project was awarded to RMCL by Council. The work on the park should begin in mid-September.

**Whitewater Park Construction** - Pitkin County started construction on improvements to Fisherman’s Park and the area around the Whitewater Park. The improvements being made include improving the condition of the Fisherman’s Park Boat Ramp, constructing a boardwalk between the Whitewater Park and the boat ramp, and improving the shoulder of Two Rivers Road by the boat ramp for better access to the boat ramp. Additionally, Pitkin County will be clearing sediment from the Whitewater Park structures and making slight adjustment to the in-river wave structures.

## **Public Works**

The removal of a very large stump and repair of an irrigation culvert that is undermining Willits Lane project is almost complete. On Wednesday, the stump was removed that was over the culvert with the use of a large piece of equipment and traffic control. The second phase, to remove and replace the culvert, is scheduled for Tuesday.

Rocks were placed at the top of Pinion Dr. to protect a berm from vehicles driving on top of it and damaging the integrity of the berm. The berm was constructed after the fire to help protect residences below. The Town has been monitoring the catch basins that were built on the mountain after the fire. The basins will need to be cleaned in the spring of 2023 with the help of Eagle County and Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW).

The Pinion Tanks Project is on schedule. The contractor is applying primer on the tanks and completing the vent work.

Swinging Bridge Lane landscaping project is looking good. The neighbors have complemented on how it really improved the look of the neighborhood and that they would like to incorporate the same ideas in their landscape.

The crew has been out trying to stay on top of the tree growth and trimming them back. The rain and heat have us trimming twice as much as usual. We are trying to keep intersections and signs clear.