



To: Mayor and Town Council
From: Clint Kinney, Town Manager
Date: July 13, 2018
Re: Info Update

MAY (I HAVE THE) SALES TAX NUMBERS (PLEASE)

Overall, May turned out to be a decent off-season. Led by increases in general retail and construction activity, May sales tax receipts are up 11.2% over 2017. Now mind you, May is a small base, so that large of a percentage increase only equates to about a \$4,000 increase. That said, Town sales tax receipts are up 3.1% year-to-date. And while we are doing well in the Village, County wide sales tax increases continue to outpace us locally. They were up 15% for the month and are up 6.5% for the year. Lodging tax is up 2.2% year-to-date.

TID BITS:

- The new owners of The Mall have politely informed us that they will no longer be able to give the town the half-price lease rate for the Ice Age Discovery that they have been providing. They have offered us some free space on the upper deck that we are exploring.
- Charles Cunniffe Architecture came out on top of the RFP process for the upcoming design work for Coffey Place (the next phase of housing next Rodeo Place). We are working to get them under contract so design work can begin.
- With last week's wildfire event, Pitkin County had over 2,200 new people signed up for Pitkin alerts. This alert system once again proved effective at helping to get important messages out to the Community.
- Speaking of disasters, we had a pump break/malfunction in the mechanical room at the Recreation Center. While the leak was identified and addressed quickly, a significant amount of water reached the gym floor. We are currently working through the issues to develop a long-term solution to this problem. The fact that the mechanical room was designed and constructed above the gym floor is going to be a tough obstacle to overcome, but we are on it.
- Only a little over one week until my vacation. I will be out of the office and out of your hair July 23 through August 6.
- The Wood Road reconstruction project remains underway and is making good progress. Concrete work will begin next week and paving is expected in early August.
- Speaking of road projects, the Town Park Station project is expected to get underway next week. This project will move the RFTA stop uphill to better align with the downhill stop and will improve pedestrian safety with the realigned crosswalk and improved lighting. This project will take about 2 months to complete.

- The Financial Advisory Board met this week to review the marijuana revenue projections and the Council compensation information that has been provided to the Town Council. In short, the FAB found the methodology and revenue estimates to be reasonable. They are working to finalize their observations regarding compensation.
- Our proposal for a new Community Garden design proposed to go into Cathy Robinson Park will be presented to the Planning Commission next week. It is very innovative design with a pretty cool, funky fence proposed to be constructed. As you will recall, the old community garden was removed to allow for the expansion of the Fire Station.
- At the risk of jinxing any progress, it appears as though the Forest Service may have changed their mind as to the design of the East Snowmass Creek Bridge. We are currently working with our engineers to get a much more simplistic and cost effective design approved by them. No promises have been made yet, but they are hoping to give us some kind of approval so the installation could happen in 2019.
- We are continuing to work with Verizon to improve the cell coverage in the Village. They are currently exploring the potential to increase the height of the cell tower that was installed last year in order to provide a broader, more reliable service.
- It is getting easier to ride our public transit system. You can now find out buses using Google Maps and, soon, we will have some new and improve bus route maps available.
- We are continuing to try to find ways to save the earth. Renewable energy options we are currently exploring include roof-top solar and a micro-hydro option.
- The Planning Commission started their review of the Comprehensive Plan this week. In one meeting, they got all the way through the “meat” of the plan with only a limited number of suggestions for change. They plan to review the materials in the appendix next week. It looks as though August 6 should work for a first reading of an ordinance considering the Plan.

CC: Department Directors