



To: Mayor and Town Council
From: Clint Kinney, Town Manager
Date: July 2, 2021
Re: Info Update

HOLY COW, ITS ALREADY JULY

The rain is helping, but we are still at risk of a significant fire season. (In my best Smoke the Bear voice) In order to do our part to help stop forest fires, we have significantly increased our messaging and education about fire danger to our summer visitors by trying to share understandable prevention information with lodges, restaurants, and other tourist-oriented facilities. July also means summer concerts are in full swing (last night's concert rocked). Check out the new art walk on your way to the concert next week. There are some cool pieces around town. Business numbers appear to be doing well, but we won't know how well until we get sales tax receipts. Anecdotally the parking is filling up on a regular basis (a good problem to have). In order to assist lodges to find parking for their guests on busy nights, we have worked to reserve specific parking lots to accommodate these guests. Tom Blake and Government Trail are open and the Rec Center is super busy.

Need a little more July hype? Check out this video:

<https://youtu.be/GvNSoNxqkOO>

All in all, July might be here early, but that is goood.

JULY 4TH CONCERT

If anyone on the Council is interested in helping distribute 4th of July swag off of the concert stage during the break of Sunday's 4th of July concert (around 7:20pm ish), please give me a call.

SUMMER SEASON ALSO MEANS CONSTRUCTION SEASON

At the risk of being Captain Obvious, there is a lot of construction going on around town. And, construction activity generally equates to large construction truck traffic, which then equates to noise complaints. The Police Department continues to explore ways to decrease the impacts of truck traffic noise. One idea was to ban "jake brakes" in town. But when this idea was discussed with our town mechanics and truck driving staff, they all expressed concern about the safety issues and felt that it would not be a good idea to ban the use of these devices. Our Town just has too many steep grades. All the samples of Jake Brake ordinances we found came from communities with relatively flat topographies. In Colorado, there is a state law and a companion regulation in the Model Traffic Code for municipalities which requires mufflers on all commercial vehicle engine brakes. While a regulation totally prohibiting the use of Jake Brakes may not be advisable at this time, we understand the public's concern about this noise issue. With all of the

heavy construction activity taking place within the Village the Police Department will be taking several proactive steps including:

- Increased enforcement and truck inspection. These inspections will evaluate the condition of engine brake mufflers.
- The PD has also advised concerned citizens that they will be happy to respond to complaints about specific trucks that seem particularly noisy and will check to make sure that they are in compliance with the law.
- The PD will also be enforcing the section of the Town Code regarding limits on construction noise. This regulation says that noise producing construction activity, including the operation of dump trucks, can only occur between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m., Monday through Saturday.

After talking with truck operators about the Jake brake issue, we feel that getting them to join us in a cooperative effort to reduce the noise impacts will be the key aspect of any successful program to mitigate the problem. Community Development and the Police Department will work with contractors requesting commercial trucks be respectful of engine noise, especially in neighborhood roadways.

PITKIN COUNTY LIBRARY

A few years ago, the Town Council made a goal to explore the potential of bringing a Pitkin County library branch to the Village. After several meetings with the library over several years, we have learned they may be more open than ever to exploring the idea. I will be writing them a formal letter requesting that this issue continue to be explored and to continue to discussions. We continue to believe there is great opportunity for partnerships with such a project.

TID BITS:

- Snowmass Center civil plans are under review. The plans are in need of more engineering type details to be completed before they can be recorded, but progress is being made.
- Fire mitigation work behind Town Hall will start next week.
- We are looking for ways to improve our data on vehicle counts in the summer. Traditionally, vehicle counts have primarily taken place in the winter.
- The Top of the Village boiler project is moving forward. We are still working to develop a solution to the Base Village/ Carriage Way boiler issue.
- Later this summer, the Council should expect to see an ordinance that will change the structure of alarm fees.
- Rodeo night was a blast this week. Three great teams competed in the burrow race. The fastest team won!!.
- Last Thursday's concert was cancelled due to weather. We are working to reschedule Hazel Miller for September 2, which would be the Thursday right before JAS.
- We will be allowing Ski Co to keep their three temporary tents on the Mountain up for one more year.
- Progress on Coffey Place continues. The next big component will be getting the HOA up and going.

CC: Department Directors.