



To: Mayor and Town Council
From: Clint Kinney, Town Manager
Date: October 8, 2021
Re: Info Update

STILL WORKING THROUGH A WORLD-WIDE PANDEMIC

The Board of Health is meeting next week. As part of the meeting, the Board plans to discuss the effectiveness of the current mask mandate and to discuss what steps might be taken as part of a future Public Health Order should we see significant increases in hospitalizations or other significant community impacts. The Board of Health will be reviewing what safety precautions need to be implemented at what different “trigger points”. As I understand it, the Health Department Staff is going to recommend the mask mandate stay in effect with its current criteria (trigger points). Staff is also going to recommend increased educational efforts for all our visitors and business. The next proposed trigger point will be aligned with hospital capacity. Should the hospital ever reach a capacity issue such that they need to stop performing elective surgeries, then the next round safety precautions would go into place. I understand that the hospital has only suspended voluntary surgeries one other time in its history (right at the beginning of COVID). So, this would be a significant (and likely appropriate) trigger point. The Public Health Staff is continuing develop a proposed matrix of sorts outlining trigger points and safety measures for the Board of Health to review next week. To their credit, they do not want to act on the proposal at the October Board of Health meeting. Rather they plan to put the information out to the public at the October meeting, so that it can be reviewed and commented upon. A decision by the Board of Health would not be expected until their November meeting.

TESTING, TESTING 1,2,3, TESTING

If you are interested in receiving a free rapid test kit from the State of Colorado (each kit has 4 tests), visit this state website. It takes a bit to get through the process, but having reliable test kits at your home as we enter the winter season will likely be pretty helpful.

<https://covid19.colorado.gov/covid-19-testing-at-home>

ANOTHER ONE BITES THE DUST

Another month, another sales tax collection record broken. August has been very, very, good to us. Sales tax revenue was up 44% for the month. With this, we are up 11% for the year. Considering how dismal January and February sales tax collections were, that is great news. This summer is tracking almost 60% ahead of last summer. Oddly, Marijuana and tobacco tax receipts were down 1% for the month but remain up 9% for the year. Lodging tax revenue is up 44% in August. This busy August brought the year-to-date number to be flat with last year. RETT revenue continues to be well ahead of projections.

ANOTHER BRICK IN THE WALL

Actually, there are no bricks, but there are soil nails, concrete, improved drainage and features in the Daly Townhome project. We currently have the contractors under contract. They plan to mobilize the wall stabilization team sometime in mid-October. The wall stabilization will take approximately 2 weeks to complete. After wall stabilization is completed, the dirt work crews will come in to complete the work above the wall. That work will take about 2 weeks to complete. The project is expected to be completed by mid-November.

TID BITS:

- Wax up them skis, winter weather is a brewing. The experts are calling for snow next week down to 6000 feet. The road crew is working to put on plows. We have 2 sand trucks, one light duty truck and the loader outfitted and ready to go.
- The Top of the Village snowmelt road boiler project is pushing hard to get up and running before snow flies. We do have a Plan B if all of the bugs are not worked out with the startup of the system.
- After the article in Thursday's paper about the roundabout discussion, we received the attached letter from the Roaring Fork Fire and Rescue Authority.
- We are continuing to track down the source of the odor at Brush Creek near Base Village. We took a number of new water samples this week and have expedited the test results.
- New speed humps (instead of bumps) were installed on Meadow Drive this week.
- Off season? What off season? The Housing team is hustling and bustling. This past week and for weeks to come we will be putting a lot of effort into the Snowmass Inn. In addition to these units we are having an unusually high number of our standard units turn over as well.
- The exterior painting project at Mountain View 2 was completed this week.
- A Tourism Talk is scheduled for Tuesday at 10.
- While the music was great, JAS wreaked more havoc on Town Park than normal this year. JAS was required to hire a third party to make a significant number of repairs. Sod replacement at the park will continue through this week and into next week. In addition to this work, we will also be taking down a significant cotton wood tree (near the Gazebo) that has reached the end of its life. It will be replaced, but not forgotten.
- The plan for Building 12 in Base Village has been submitted and is in for its completeness review.
- We are continuing to explore grant options for the Mall Transit Station. We are joining a state-wide effort to jointly apply for a unified FTA grant.
- We are hiring. We need bus drivers, a traffic control officer, plow driver, recreation staff, and facility maintenance personnel. Send good people our way.
- The annual resident parking permit letter went out this week. Don't wait too long to get your pass.
- The County is planning a full road closure at the top of Owl Creek Road on the 1th and 12th of October from 6:30 pm to 3 am in order to get that project completed before snow flies. These times and dates are subject to change, but the County has committed to adequate notification.

- The no fare service is expected to be a topic at the RFTA board meeting next Thursday. It is expected that RFTA staff will recommend to the Board that RFTA assume 100% of the cost of the No-Fare service from the EOTC. The goal of transferring the cost of the No-Fare service from the EOTC to RFTA is simply to align this cost (currently absorbed by the EOTC, but whose revenues have dropped) to RFTA where revenues have increased as a result of HB 19-1240. The increase in revenues to RFTA (solely from the EOTC 0.5% Transit Sales Tax increase as a result of HB 19-1240) are sufficient for RFTA to assume all of the No-Fare service. In other words, Pitkin County tax dollars will continue to fund this Pitkin County service when the cost of this service is transferred from EOTC to RFTA.

CC: Department Director