



DATE: February 12, 2021
TO: Mayor and Council
FROM: Ryan Mahoney, Town Manager
RE: Weekly Update
CC: Department Heads

The Pitkin County [business grant program](#) received a total of 98 applications and those have been reviewed with recommendations for funding completed. The total amount to be distributed will be approximately \$1.28 million.

Pitkin County released a statement yesterday indicating that they expected the County to be in Yellow on the new state [COVID dial](#) by Saturday. Eagle County is still in Orange for now and is hoping that the indicators will soon allow a move to Yellow as well. Both counties are beginning to roll out the [5 Star Certification Program](#) which will allow businesses to seek certification which would allow them to stay in a certain Level on the COVID dial, even if the local dial metrics (see below) push the dial to a more restrictive level.

METRICS

METRICS, REQUIREMENTS AND WHAT THEY MEAN

What determines your county's level of protection?

Percent of positive cases

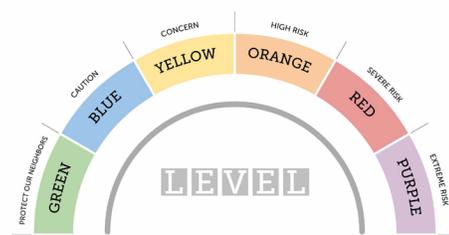
The percent positivity is defined as the percent of tests that come back positive, out of the total number of tests performed. The global standard to ensure that we are doing enough testing is a percent positivity of less than 5%.

Amount of cases in a one-week period

The 1-week incidence, per 100,000 population, helps us understand how much the virus is circulating in a community. This is the number of cases for every 100,000 people in the past week.

Stable or declining hospitalizations

One of our key goals is to ensure that every person who needs hospital care can receive it. This metric ensures that there is sufficient hospital capacity available. Stable is defined as no greater than a 25% increase in the county's referral hospitals or no more than 2 new hospital admissions with COVID-19 on a single day, in the past 7 days.



Town staff will be assisting Eagle County with inspections for the 5-Star Certification Program. All questions and applications will still need to go through Eagle County or Pitkin County.

Police

Officers assisted elementary school administration with a lockout drill. Staff and students did a great job following our emergency operations plan.

Corporal Thomas Wright attended a three-day Incident Command System (ICS) 400 training. ICS-400 provides training and resources for responders who require advanced application of the Incident Command System by providing overall incident management skills rather than tactical response expertise.

All officers attended an eight-hour handgun certification training. The police department has transitioned to using handgun optics. These optics allow for greater accuracy and target identification.

The police department has begun the reaccreditation process for the Colorado Association of Chiefs of Police. We obtained our original accreditation in 2016 and are required to recertify every five years. Lieutenant Aaron Munch is coordinating this multi-month reaccreditation project.

We are pleased to announce that Officer Jason Hegberg has been selected to serve as our next School Resource Officer. The elementary, middle and high school principals assisted us in the interview and selection process. Jason will be attending SRO trainings this spring and will be assigned to the schools in the fall. Congratulations Jason!

Public Works

Public Works had a lot of trimming done in the Skateboard Park this week. The trees, which consist mainly of Cottonwoods, needed to be pruned and some removed altogether. The park itself receives a lot of visits by younger people year around and we are planning on making some improvements to the skateboard equipment this year, so it was a good time to do some pruning. Public Works will soon be working in the residential sections of town pruning, trimming, and improving the tree health.

Public Works and The Planning Department met with the Stotts Mill team to get the project underway this week. As always, the Town wanted to review the projects infrastructure needs that affect the Towns infrastructure. The project will involve connecting to the Towns water system, streets, sidewalks, and paths. The Town requires it to be done correctly because we will eventually inherit the infrastructure and must maintain it. Another point, as with all construction, was to make sure that safety concerns were addressed. The Stotts Mill team said that they have a safety protocol in place and experience to handle any safety concerns.

Planning

Arbaney Pool- The Planning Staff has been coordinating construction items and details with Rudd, SGM, and Connect One Design and POST as the pool renovation project is well underway.

Basalt River Park Improvements – Staff participated in meetings with RFTA and the Town’s Consultant’s Connect One Design to work out specifications needed for the new bus station/bathroom to make progress on the construction documents for the Basalt River Park improvements.

Basalt River Park Development – Staff has been working with the Applicants on the entitlement documents that need to be recorded and to work through details on the next steps for construction. The current plan is to include an update as a worksession item at the Council’s February 23rd meeting on other aspects of the development.

BACH – BACH’s discussion centered around proposed updates to the Livability Guidelines and a discussion of P&Z’s recommendations. BACH will revisit the topic for formal recommendations at its next meeting, as members were unable to attend and therefore there was no quorum. Staff is in receipt of requests for information on the Emergency Rental Assistance Program and is anticipating a couple of applications to review at BACH’s next meeting.

Green Team – At Monday’s meeting the Green Team interviewed three prospective members – Pranav Lakhina with RMI, Martin Bonzi with AGCI, and local resident Greg Smith. All of these individuals have been attending Green Team meetings as a guest or supporter for a few months. Staff anticipates having the Council interview the prospective Green Team members in an upcoming meeting. Staff has an ad for the joint idling campaign with Carbondale running every Wednesday in the Aspen Times, with radio ads to begin next week. Carbondale is also running radio ads and placing an ad in the Sopris Sun.

BPAC – The ice sculptures that BPAC commissioned last week have fallen victim to the warm temperatures. Staff received positive feedback on the ice sculptures, and they were well-documented with photos on BPAC’s social media. Also, it was a great partnership with the Library, who wants to partner with us on other activities this summer. BPAC is now focused on delivering two other programs in the late winter and spring.

POST – The POST Committee met on Wednesday to hear updates and make several design decisions regarding the pool and locker rooms. Staff continues to help perform the project management, seeking to ensure the pool opens on time in the summer.

Fiber Connections – In addition to the Town’s Council’s advancement of fiber connection in East Basalt by Approving Resolution No. 07, Series of 2021, the Town Manager and Planning Staff had discussions with Eagle County Engineering, the Tree Fam and Holy Cross about how to provide fiber access to the West Basalt Community. Next week we are talking with CDOT to talk about the connection of signal lights from El Jebel to Original Road.

Development Review/Applications - Expect to see the construction fencing going up around Stott’s Mill and construction starting imminently. Staff spent considerable time working on items associated with our other construction projects throughout Town and addressing land use preapplication questions and development inquiries.



Early Childhood Coalition – The Coalition meets today and is expected to discuss public outreach and education, funding mechanisms for advancing Parcel 2E in Willits, and Eagle County programs that will help to advance quality improvement and teacher retention in Basalt-area programs.