



DATE: February 19, 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 and Eagle County are now both in Yellow on the new state [COVID dial](#). Progress is being made on the roll out the [5 Star Certification Program](#) which will allow businesses to seek certification 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. [State guidelines for Level Yellow](#) are available on the website for the Colorado Department of Health and Environment

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.

Staff met with the VALE Board this week to discuss the roll out of the Tobacco Tax grant program. The grant guidelines and application were reviewed, and staff is seeking feedback from the group prior to releasing the applications. It is expected that those will be released within the next two weeks.

Town staff met with the Library staff this week to discuss the opportunity for extending fiber optic to their building. Pitkin County staff was also involved to help walk through the details of the fiber optic build. We will meet again with the Library Finance Committee on March 10th to discuss with them.

Police

Lieutenant Aaron Munch and Officer Evan Wagstrom were presented Life Saver Commendations for their outstanding efforts saving the life of a resident who was experiencing a sudden cardiac event. Aaron and Evan performed cardiopulmonary resuscitation for nine minutes and delivered three separate electrical shocks from an automated external defibrillator. An Aspen Times newspaper story about the commendations can be seen at <https://www.aspentimes.com/news/im-the-luckiest-man-alive/>. A Facebook Live recording of the ceremony can be seen on our Facebook page - <https://www.facebook.com/BasaltPolice>. Excellent work Aaron and Evan!



The Town of Basalt Victim Witness Assistance Law Enforcement (VALE) Board met to discuss four fund applications. The Board awarded \$600.00 to two separate applicants. The board also met with Town Manager Ryan Mahoney to discuss their future role in serving as a review committee for smaller tobacco tax grants. Full meeting minutes can be found in the February 23rd Town Council Packet.

We conducted an interview with a police officer applicant. We hope to be moving forward in the hiring process, with this person, in the very near future.

Chief Knott participated in the Colorado Association of Chiefs of Police Legislative Committee. This committee provides input on bills before the State House of Representatives and Senate.

Lieutenant Aaron Munch is a member of the Roaring Fork Valley Opioid Workgroup. The workgroup met this week to provide assistance to those with opioid addiction and to develop community educational programs about the opioid epidemic.

Public Works

Public Works is developing a plan to clean out a storm water structure known as the Four Bay in the River Park. It is part of a system that collects stormwater and naturally filters out sediment in a wetland setting. Public Works goes in periodically and removes the sand and silt buildup to keep the overall system working like it should.

Public Works and the Planning Department are working to develop preliminary designs for the new Public Works facility. In addition, we are working with planning staff to update the Public Works Manual and the Municipal Code.

It is pothole season again. If you see a pothole or standing water, please call Lanie at Town Hall 970-927-4701 and Public Works will be glad to make the repair.

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 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. An update is scheduled on the Council's February 23rd meeting on other aspects of the development, along with an update on the park.

Basalt River Park Improvements – Staff worked with the park and engineering consultants on details related to the park improvements, including access for service and maintenance by the Town and the Basalt Sanitation District.

Green Team – At next week's Town Council meeting three prospective Green Team members will be available for Council to meet and interview. Council may ultimately appoint any of the Applicants to the Green Team if they are comfortable making a motion to do so.

Basalt Sunday Market – Planning for the 2021 Basalt Sunday Market is underway with new potential vendors reaching out to Staff. Staff is reviewing vendor rates and guidelines and considering changes to the Market's website. Staff anticipates bringing a resolution to Council for the Market's renewal in early March.

BPAC – Staff received positive feedback on the ice sculptures, which quickly fell victim to the warm weather. The ice sculptures were well-documented with photos on BPAC's social media. BPAC is now focused on delivering other programs, which include the mural project and videoing local artists.

Basalt Chamber Sign Committee – The Sign Committee met this week to finalize plans for moving forward with the East Entrance Sign to Basalt at the up-valley intersection of Two Rivers Road and Highway 82. The revised plans for the sign will be presented to Council on February 23. The previous plans have been

revised because last year (before the pandemic) the plans were put out to bid and resulted in only one bid that was not close to what the Committee budgeted.

Ad Hoc Meeting Convened by the Ruedi Water and Power Authority – Staff representatives of several Roaring Fork Valley jurisdictions met this week for the second time to discuss drought planning for this summer. The goal of this ad hoc group is to have unified messaging about a drought, which the group and RWAPA feels is likely this summer.

Engineer Interviews – Staff organized and conducted interviews with several candidates for the Town Engineer position. We are evaluating the results of those interviews and are hopeful of hiring an in-house engineer in the near future.

Development Review/Applications - Staff spent considerable time working on items associated with the initiation of construction at Stott's Mill. One of the first things that our residents, school administrators and students will see is a temporary re-alignment of Southside Drive to allow a sewer manhole to be installed. Staff also spent time on our other construction projects throughout Town and addressing land use preapplication questions and development inquiries.

Recreation

Youth basketball started this week with 3rd through 6th grades. Registration started off fast but slowed to a trickle with just a few spots remaining. The program is smaller in size and limited to the Basalt Elementary School gym. There are 74 participants currently participating in this 6-week offering.

Staff have been working with skatepark vendors to replace some aging features in our Gisella Fiou Park.

Staff have been planning for summer with camps, the new and updated pool, and youth sports leagues.