



**DATE:** March 4, 2022  
**TO:** Mayor and Council  
**FROM:** Ryan Mahoney, Town Manager  
**RE:** Weekly Update  
**CC:** Department Heads

## Police

Our Community Police Academy, week two, covered patrol operations. Attendees learned about traffic stops, enforcement, and patrol vehicle operations. Attendees drove an obstacle course and conducted simulated traffic stops in our patrol vehicles. Here are a few pictures from the awesome day:



Town Manager Ryan Mahoney and Chief Greg Knott attended two important meetings this week. The first was to receive the final assessment report for the Pitkin County Emergency Communications Center. This study identified many opportunities to improve services, provided by the dispatch center, to our communities and contributing agencies.

The second meeting was a Roaring Fork School District Superintendent focus group. This group provided input to the company that is assisting with the selection of a new Superintendent. The focus group consisted of municipal leaders, service agencies, Basalt and Carbondale Chamber of Commerce Directors, Colorado Mountain College staff and non-profit executives.

With spring in the air we have begun planning for the upcoming mud and flood season. Lieutenant Aaron Munch is coordinating meetings with representatives of Roaring Fork Fire Rescue, Pitkin County and Eagle County to update our 2021 Emergency Operations and Response Plan.

## Public Works

Public works has been busy working with other Town departments to score, vet and interview the contractors for the GM/GC and design portions on the Midland Project. Each process has three contractors vying for the job. All the companies are very qualified, and it will be a tough decision for the selection committee to make.

Planning and Zoning agreed to approve the Public Works Manual updates recommended by staff this week. The updates come at a crucial time, in that they will further clarify the Town's expectations on the build design of the Midland Project.

Public Works will be opening bids today for the mill and overlay and the chip seal work to be completed this year for the Town Street maintenance programs. The contractors that are submitting the bids are ones that the Town has used before and that we know perform good work.

Ice breaking and clean-up work continues in certain areas of Town. We have received glass and throttle replacement parts to fix the Ventrac sidewalk machine. Two of the Public Works plow trucks are being repaired. One of the trucks has a loose connection on the headlight, which is still under warranty and the other truck intermittently loses power. The crew is busy taking holiday decorations down between snowstorms.

## **Planning**

**Basalt Center Circle Application** – The Applicant is working on the Final Plan application.

**Basalt River Park Improvements** – Walters Inc. has continued work on Phase I of Basalt River Park. They have completed final grading, constructed the wall elements, and finalized the winterization of the site. The architects on the bandshell, misting feature, and bus station/restroom continue to work on the designs for those elements of the park. Staff has put out an RFP for the Phase II installation and bids are due on March 30<sup>st</sup>. Additionally, Staff met with the architects on the bus shelter/restroom to discuss initial design concepts for the bus shelter/restroom facilities.

**Midland Avenue Streetscape Project** – Two RFPs, one for design and one for CM/GC services, were advertised in late January. Proposals on the CM/GC and the design team RFPs were due late last week, and three proposals were received for each. Staff has been interviewing the teams making the proposals this week. Staff will work on making a recommendation regarding the CM/GC and design teams and will bring forward a contract for each on March 8<sup>th</sup> for the Council's consideration.

**Town of Basalt Photovoltaic and Energy Storage Project** – The Resolution approving the contract with McKinstry was approved by the Council. McKinstry will be conducting site visits of the potential sites in mid-March. Staff will continue to work with Holy Cross Energy, the school district, CORE and members of the Green Team. Staff is also working on responses to a request for information on the various sites from McKinstry.

**Other Basalt Forward 2030 Support** – Town Planning Staff also provided support to the Manager for the Basalt Forward 2030 projects. The Council will have a worksession on the affordable housing component on March 14<sup>th</sup>.

**Mid-Valley Center Lot 4** – Phase 1A of the Project has been completed except for the landscaping. Resolution approving the contract with Gould Construction was approved by Council. Town Staff and Gould are moving forward with final design of the foundation and building.

**Early Childcare Center** – The Town is under contract with Land + Shelter for the conceptual design of an early childhood center on Sopris Meadows Parcel 2E. The Town has also entered into an agreement with Blue Lake Preschool as the childcare provider for the site. Staff, the Land + Shelter Team, and the Director

of Blue Lake Preschool, have been working on the programming needs of the proposed school as a first step in the development of conceptual plans.

**Basalt River Park Development LLC** – A full building permit was issued on the Gallery Building which includes commercial, apartments, and the affordable housing units.

**Development Review/Applications** – Staff also spent time on responding to administrative reviews, complaints and working on land use applications and building permits.

**Green Team** – Staff attended the first quarterly meeting of the Eagle County Climate Action Collaborative on Monday where a progress report was provided highlighting progress made toward meeting Climate Action goals. The 2019/2020 Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory is close to completion. Results so far show a 2% decrease in emissions from electricity due to renewables, but a 3% increase from natural gas emissions. The Collaborative heard a presentation from Linn Brooks, General Manager of Eagle River Water Shed District on water resources and planning. Presentations were provided from various communities (including Basalt) on green projects and policies that are currently underway for 2022.

**BPAC** – The Commission agreed to release a call to artists for a sculpture to be placed in a designated location at the Basalt River Park. BPAC also reviewed materials for the 2022 BPAC Grant Program, discussed membership, webpage management, and finalizing the video project that included filming in artist studios and interviews with the artists.

**Regional** – Staff attended the first in a series of workshops coordinated by Pitkin County on the topic of growth and economic indicators. Attendees heard a presentation from consultants Economic Planning Services and RRC regarding key economic indicators, and were asked to consider the questions of how has Pitkin County and the Roaring Fork Valley changed in the past three years, and what are the sources of these changes and what is the degree of impact on the local landscape.

## **Finance**

**Grant writing and reporting** – American Recovery Plan (ARP) - I attended a 2-day federal grant training course Wednesday and Thursday this week. The Town has been allocated a little over \$1 million in ARP Funding, to be spent between now and 2024. Council has allocated \$1,004,860 of that funding to the water infrastructure portion of the Midland Avenue Streetscape project. The remaining \$40,000 has been allocated to purchase an emergency pump for water distribution. I will be reviewing the Town's accounting procedures to assure they are in compliance with federal reporting guidelines, and may make recommendations to the Finance Advisory Board and Council if changes are needed to any of the Town's existing accounting policies. Additionally, I am gearing up to complete the Town's first quarterly reporting requirement on April 30, 2022. The Town has not incurred expenditures for this grant to date.

**Ayres Grant Writing** – Staff met with Ayres Consulting, the Town's grant consultants, last week to discuss potential grant opportunities for the Basalt Forward 2030 projects. They are reviewing potential grant opportunities available for Affordable Housing, which will be discussed during the March 14 Affordable Housing Council work session. Additionally, they are compiling a list of grant opportunities for all three projects that will be discussed with Staff during late-March.

**COVID-19 Town Employee Guidelines** – We've updated and emailed to Town employees the Town's latest guidelines for employees to follow after being sick with COVID or COVID-like symptoms, or if a

household member is sick with COVID. These guidelines are meant to keep everyone healthy and safe, and to encourage communication with me and Ryan if someone is experiencing symptoms.

**Basalt Forward 2030 Financial Report** – Phil Vaughan and I have been working on the format for a quarterly financial summary report to review with Council and Finance Advisory Board. We will be bringing the draft report format to FAB March 9, and anticipate the first report to Council to be April 12.

**2021 Results and Financial Audit** – Jenny and I are diligently working on reconciliations for year-end. We hope to have estimated 2021 pre-audit financial results in April for the Finance Advisory Board and Council.