



DATE: April 15, 2022
TO: Mayor and Council
FROM: Ryan Mahoney, Town Manager
RE: Weekly Update
CC: Department Heads

Connect One Design is asking the community to complete a survey for the Midland Avenue Streetscape project. This survey will gather information that will help the designers with the conceptual plans that will be completed this spring. In addition to the survey, Connect One Design has been reaching out to businesses and had a pop-up information booth on Midland Avenue last weekend.

Please use the following links to access the survey and to learn more about the project. **This survey must be completed by April 22nd.**

<https://letstalk.basalt.net/>

<https://www.basalt.net/CivicAlerts.aspx?AID=525>

The Town's Recreation Director had his last day working with the Town on Wednesday of this week. Our new Director will begin work with the Town toward the end of May. We also have a pool manager hired and will continue the process of opening the pool, including hiring summer staff. Without a recreation director in place, some of our programming may be delayed. We are communicating with the other recreation departments in the valley regarding the recreation league baseball and hope to get that organized by mid-May. Other programs are going to be rolled out but may not be on the same schedule as in year's past. That being said, we are doing what we can to have our base programs, including pool activities and "Gary Camp" up and running as usual.

Award for the 2020 Audit – We received notification today that the Town's 2020 Audit was awarded the Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting by the Government Finance Officers Association. This prestigious national award requires the highest standards, including the demonstration of a constructive "spirit of full disclosure" to further financial transparency and accountability to readers of the Town's audit. The Finance Department is proud of this accomplishment, and what it represents to the Town's constituents and citizens.

2021 Audit – The Town is currently being audited by McMahan and Associates, CPAs, for its 2021 audited financial statements. The audit is very thorough, and documentation for all reconciliations and Council approvals that affect finances or processes are sent to the auditors for their review. While the audit is still in progress, it is going very well, and I don't anticipate adjustments to the financials provided to the auditors at this time. We anticipate that the final audit will be issued in late-May or June. The next step in the audit process is drafting the financial statements and related statistical reports.

Police

Our department along with Roaring Fork Fire Rescue, Colorado State Patrol and the Eagle County Sheriff's Office will conduct a mock driving under the influence crash demonstration next Monday at 11:00 a.m. All students at Basalt High School will see firsthand the potential impacts of driving under

the influence of alcohol and drugs. Classic Air Medical will also have a helicopter transport an injured student from the mock crash scene. Over the past month, School Resource Officer Jason Hegberg has been coordinating this event.

Lieutenant Aaron Munch assisted the Town's Water Department by conducting post winter inspections of the water catchment spring boxes above town. The police departments drone was used to capture the below photographs.



Chief Greg Knott traveled to Denver this week to testify before the House of Representatives Judiciary Committee. He and other Chiefs and Sheriff's, from across the state, testified to the dangers of fentanyl and our request to make possession of any amount a felony. Currently, possession of less than four grams of fentanyl is a misdemeanor. Four grams of fentanyl is enough to kill 2000 people. In the below photograph, Chief Knott is testifying with Denver Police Chief Paul Pazen, Summit County Sheriff Jamie FitzSimons and Arapaho County Sheriff Tyler Brown. The second photo shows other Chiefs of Police who also testified on behalf of the Colorado Association of Chiefs of Police and their communities.



Above photo credit goes to State Representative Dylan Roberts who serves on the House Judiciary Committee.

Public Works

Public Works had some plumbing upgraded at the water filter plant this week. A chlorine line needed updating to bring it up to code. The line was replaced and is working well. A washer and dryer combo were replaced in one of the Town's affordable housing units. The countertops and paint were picked up and delivered to Town Hall as part of the kitchen update. Staff has been continuing the pruning of trees

and picking up limbs due to having an extra windy week. Sweeping is ongoing picking up a winter's worth of sanding material. The Town's irrigation system is being brought back on-line.

Starting Monday, a contractor will be mobilizing to Town to start the annual crack sealing process for maintenance on the Town streets. The process involves blowing the debris out of the cracks in the streets and sealing them with a hot tar emulsion. This process is progressive as the treatment is applied.

Public Works had a staff member attend an Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) seminar this week. Our insurance provider for the Town, and the Department of Justice (DOJ) recommends that all entities have an ADA coordinator on staff. In an audit the first request is to speak to the ADA Coordinator. The requirements are constantly changing and can be very costly if a Town is in violation. A community needs to be very active in updating and improving ADA requirements and be able show examples.

Planning

Basalt Center Circle Application – The Applicant has submitted a final plan application and Staff is in the process of referring it out to the Town's referral agencies for review.

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. POST reviewed the draft designs for the bandshell, misting feature, and bus shelter/restroom and provided feedback at their meeting on March 23rd. Staff put out an RFP for the Phase II installation and bids were due on March 30st. Four (4) bids were received. Town Council approved a contract with Rocky Mountain Custom Landscapes at the April 12th meeting. A kickoff meeting with Rocky Mountain Custom Landscapes occurred this week on Friday.

Midland Avenue Streetscape Project – Staff is meeting weekly with Connect One Design and Stutsman-Gerbaz to prepare for a design charette between Town Staff and the design team that is to occur next week. The design team met with BPAC on April 7th to gain comments on the project. There was a pop-up booth seeking public input located on Codger's Corner last Friday afternoon/evening and last Saturday. The design team is planning a three-day charrette April 18-20. A community survey is posted on the website to gain further input from the community on the project.

Town of Basalt Photovoltaic and Energy Storage Project – McKinstry conducted site visits of the potential sites on March 16th. Staff and McKinstry continue to work with Holy Cross Energy, the school district, CORE and members of the Green Team on the project.

Other Basalt Forward 2030 Support – Town Planning Staff also provided support to the Manager for the Basalt Forward 2030 projects.

Mid-Valley Center Lot 4 – Phase 1A of the Project has been completed, and the landscaping has been installed. Town Staff and Gould are moving forward with final design of the foundation and building.

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

BACH – The BACH Commission had a brief discussion with Michael Lipkin and the development team for Sopris Meadows Parcel 5. Due to time constraints, the meeting has been continued to next Wednesday.

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

144 Midland Building Color Change – Town Staff received notice from the owner of the Kelly Building at 144 Midland Avenue that they plan to change the color of the building to a gray color. Town Staff notes that the Town does not regulate color of buildings in the Town Code.

Green Team – Staff took part in the first in a series of a Town Hall Speaker Series with CORE, ARCOS Energy, and Habitat for Humanity. The event was through the Aspen Institute’s Hurst Community Initiative. The topic was Environmental Sustainability in Basalt. The Town Hall Series will take place virtually every two weeks, where communities from Aspen to Parachute will explore a different topic. The Basalt event was recorded and will be available in the near future through the Basalt Public Library’s website and will be replayed by Aspen Public Radio.