



**DATE:** April 21, 2023  
**TO:** Mayor and Council  
**FROM:** Ryan Mahoney, Town Manager  
**RE:** Weekly Update  
**CC:** Department Heads

The community and staff have been actively responding to the logo survey and it appears we have great feedback and will be prepared to recommend a final design to Council on Tuesday, April 25<sup>th</sup>.

The community has been accessing the [Let's Talk Basalt](#) page to take the survey regarding their favorite logos. The survey will close today, and the Logo Committee will meet briefly on Monday to discuss the final recommendation.

Chief Greg Knott and I attended the Pitkin County Healthy Rivers Board meeting on Thursday afternoon in Carbondale to present the grant request to help fund the new stream gauge on the Fryingpan River. Chief Knott had written the request and presented it to the Board. We were ultimately successful and were awarded \$4,000 toward the cost of the project. The gauge will be up and running in the next several weeks. The data will be made available to the public, but those details are still being worked out.

Town staff was informed yesterday of some changes to the management of the Basalt State Wildlife Area. The most significant change is the winter closure which would be from December 1<sup>st</sup> to July 15<sup>th</sup>. CPW has published information relative to the changes which can be found [here](#).

## **Police**

This week we received our first bear report of 2023. The bear was in a backyard of a residence on Sopris Avenue. Officers educated the caller about living in areas where wildlife sightings are common. We are actively patrolling for trash and refuge container violations throughout town. These items must be stored in an enclosed structure or within approved bear resistant containers if left outside. Individuals who violate the Town's Wildlife Protection Ordinance will be served a summons to appear in Municipal Court. We ask that all residents and businesses assist us in keeping our wildlife safe by limiting access to human food sources.

The police department was contacted by TACAW and Aspen Valley Hospital After Hours Clinic to assist them with building security improvements, emergency planning and response protocols. Lieutenant Aaron Munch met with representatives of both organizations and began the planning process to update security plans and to train their staff on response to active harm events.

Chief Greg Knott and Roaring Fork Fire Rescue Authority Chief Scott Thompson met with mental health providers to discuss state mandated changes regarding the response to mental health crises. Over the past several years, The Hope Center has provided co-response services for our agencies. Our current co-response model meets requirements and is not going to change. We are meeting with providers to explore opportunities to improve long term managed care services to individuals in need.

The second class of our 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Community Police Academy will be held at the Woody Creek Raceway on Saturday. Participants will learn and practice safe driving, backing and parking skills.

It has been a busy week of training for our staff. Sergeant Nino Santiago attended a four-day leadership training in Thornton. Officers Bo Biggs and Matt Lilly attended a two-day drug identification and symptomology training in Denver. Officers are also attending the annual four-hour patrol rifle training that is provided by our collaborative Roaring Fork Regional Range Program.

## Planning

**Response Domestic Abuse Shelter Application-** The Basalt Affordable Community Housing Commission (BACH) reviewed and made a recommendation on Response's development application for a domestic abuse shelter at 325 E. Cody Lane. The Planning and Zoning Commission also reviewed the domestic abuse shelter application and provided a recommendation to the Town Council. The Town Council is scheduled to review the application on May 23rd.

**Basalt Sanitation District Sewer Main Project (the Lightning Bolt)** – Stutsman-Gerbaz has completed the lightning bolt improvements. The sewer main and manholes have been installed, and the Town's watermain was raised to accommodate the new sewer main. The section of Midland Avenue that was impacted by this project was paved and striped. The downtown Basalt local bus stops have been reopened.

**Basalt River Park Improvements** – FCI has begun construction on the bus shelter/restroom. The subgrade utility work has been completed and the foundation was poured this week. FCI has moved the RFTA bus stop to Midland Avenue for the duration of the project.

Burlingame Construction has started site work for construction of the bandshell.



Rocky Mountain Custom Landscapes has resumed their work in the park. They need to close out their work by installing shade sales, some lighting, park signage, and finishing the installation of the misting feature.

**Midland Avenue Streetscape Project** – Phase 1 of the Midland Avenue Streetscape project is underway. Stutzman-Gerbaz is working on the construction of a new retaining wall, once the wall is complete installation of the new sewer line will begin. Work on the electrical infrastructure with Holy Cross Energy occurred this week and will extend into next week.



An RFP for Phase 2 of the Midland Avenue Streetscape Project is currently being advertised. A pre-proposal meeting was held this week and 5 contractors attended. The complete RFP for Phase 2 of the Midland Avenue Streetscape Project can be found on the Town's website, here: <https://www.basalt.net/532/Requests-for-Proposal>

**Green Initiatives and the Town of Basalt Photovoltaic and Energy Storage Project** - Staff and McKinstry continue to work with Holy Cross Energy, the school district, CORE and members of the Green Team on the project. McKinstry is scheduled to present a final pricing and schedule next week, and staff plans to bring a contract for the construction of the solar arrays to Council on May 9<sup>th</sup>.

**Stott's Mill Daycare Space** – Staff published a Request for Proposals for interested daycare providers and for interested youth service providers to rent the Stott's Mill Daycare space. Proposals were due April 10<sup>th</sup>. One proposal was received. Town Staff is working on bringing the parties together to work through terms on a lease and a potential memorandum of understanding and potential tenant finish funding opportunities.

**BPAC** – Staff met yesterday with Gail Folwell, artist of the River Park Sculpture, and her assistant for an update on the sculpture's progress. The steel posts that support the sculptures have been ordered and the wax casts of the sculptures have been created. The team has indicated the sculptures should be ready for installation in late July. Currently Staff is working with the artist team to help find an installer for the sculptures. BPAC will meet with the artist team at their May 4<sup>th</sup> meeting to discuss a lighting plan.

**Green Team** – Staff attended a subcommittee of CC4CA to continue discussing planning items toward this year's annual meeting in Vail, which is scheduled for June 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup>.

**Basalt Sunday Market** – The Market Committee approved 45 vendors (the majority full-time) thus far for the 2023 Basalt Sunday Market. Applications are open through the end of April. After the close date vendor applications will be considered as space allows.

**Wednesday Night Concert Series** – Staff is working with a highly successful music coordinator to promote the Basalt Wednesday Night Concert Series. The concert series is an opportunity for the Town to support

businesses along Midland Avenue with increased patronage during the construction of the Midland Streetscape Improvements. The June 21<sup>st</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup> concerts will be held in Triangle Park. The bandshell in the River Park is anticipated to be completed in early July. The July 12<sup>th</sup> – Aug 30<sup>th</sup> concerts will be held at the River Park.

The Chamber and Town are collaborating on an improved marketing campaign for the concert series as well as booking talent that will draw attendees from surrounding communities. Each concert will feature a local opener followed by a larger headliner. Staff is also working with local businesses and nonprofits to incorporate nonprofit benefitting opportunities and cross promotion.

### **Public Works**

Public Works had a “All Hands-on-Deck” day this week with the planting of plants, trees, and lighting to be installed on Swinging Bridge Trail. The plant material needed to get into the ground and with the help of Roaring Fork Outdoor Volunteers (RFOV) and most of the staff at Public Works we got a large portion of the work done. We installed approximately 70 plants, 30 trees, and 8 solar light bases. There is some additional planting and the installation of the lights on the poured concrete bases to be completed. Thanks to RFOV and crew.

Public Works is busy improving the streets around town. Public Works had 850 feet of asphalt which has been ground down and replaced with new asphalt on East Valley Road. The contractor that fills the cracks with hot tar to prevent expanding cracks is currently working in Town. The company that fills potholes with a mastic, which is another rubberized tar product, is also working in Town. The mastic product is what CDOT uses to repair potholes on their roads.

The stream gauge that will be used to measure the flow in the Frying Pan River is closer to being installed. This week an electrical contractor hired by Public Works connected the electricity to the box that will power the stream gauge on the Pueblo Bridge. Once the gauge is completely installed the public will have access to the readings online at [usgs.gov](https://www.usgs.gov). The information will be shared by all participating partners.