



To: Mayor and Town Council
From: Clint Kinney, Town Manager
Date: February 3, 2023
Re: Info Update

GOOD NEWS

Phil saw his shadow! Six more weeks of winter and skiing!

A FEW PROJECTS COMING UP

In addition to the Base Village construction projects underway at the Viceroy, Aura, Electric Pass Lodge and the Havens, the Town is busy planning a couple of our own projects. Final design and coordination remains underway for Town Park. Lights, the cell tower and the maintenance facility are still being finalized. Work is expected to begin this Fall. Public Works is working through design of the of the Brush Creek Road culvert project. The Council will receive a full update on Monday, but as a sneak peak, we expect the project to start in June and take 5 ish months to complete during which a full closure of Brush Creek will likely be required for most of that time. Prior to that work, we intend make improvements to Highline Road and Owl Creek, including more rapid flash beacons, to make the detour of Brush Creek Road as safe as possible.

PROTECT LOCAL CONTROL -- LOCALS DO IT BETTER_____

Both CML and CAST have made us aware of legislation that is likely to be introduced at the State House this session. During his State of the State address to the legislature, the Governor stated:

"... we need more flexible zoning to allow more housing, streamlined regulations that cut through red tape, expedited approval processes for projects like modular housing, sustainable development, and more building in transit-oriented communities."

The governor did not elaborate, but his good natured intent is to have more affordable housing constructed in the State. Unfortunately, to do so, it looks like he might want to supplant local policies and ordinances with one-size-fits-all state preemptions. That is generally a very bad idea.

The legislation has not yet been proposed, but we have learned (through rumor mill stuff) that Snowmass Village is likely one of 12 municipalities that are supposedly specifically called out in the rural resort portion of the proposal. We aren't yet sure what that means, but through the Denver Post, CAST and CML some information has leaked out. At this point, the proposal is likely specific to municipalities and may include:

- ADUs as a use by right
- Eliminating parking minimums
- Automatically allowing lot splits
- Allowing Multi-family residential developments on single family lots as a use by right

- Prohibiting growth caps

Some of these idea may be ok in some places, but to have state-wide regulations that equally controls the development standards in Snowmass Village and Sterling isn't going to work well. We will track this upcoming legislation closely and will be weighing in at every opportunity we have.

POST OFFICE

Through CAST we learned that Crested Butte is considering entering into a lawsuit with the Federal Government in order to get their postal service improved. Apparently, their Post Office is in even more dire straits than ours. CB is considering hiring a very specialized law firm to undertake exploring the U.S. Postal Service's obligations for postal service under the Postal Accountability and Enhancement Act, including potential litigation against the U.S. Postal Service. This legal analysis will cost between \$25,000 and \$35,000. Crested Butte has asked Avon, Breckenridge, Buena Vista, Eagle, Parachute, Silverthorne, Snowmass Village, and Steamboat Springs to participate in this initial analysis. There would be no obligation on the part of any entity to continue beyond the initial claims analysis. Because of our on-going issues we are having, I let CB know we would be willing to participate at a not to exceed amount of \$5,000. CB is going to lead this effort. We'll see if they can deliver (pun intended).

TID BITS

- A big TOSV welcome to Virginia Baker, Drew Welsheimer, Mitchell Osur, Reymondo Garcia and Suzanna Sutton-Smith. We are super excited to have all of these new faces in Community Development, Tourism, Housing, Public Works and the Recreation Center. We are still looking to hire a number of positions including maintenance staff, a financial analyst, bus operators, lifeguards, town engineer, fleet superintendent, etc. Keep the high quality applicants coming our way.
- Some good legislative news could be the bill our very own Rep. Velasco's introduced to repeal the state rent-control provisions. We will need to do some more homework on this one.
- Design on the Draw Site housing project is underway. Once a solid, viable idea (or two or three) that fits the physical constraints of the site is half baked, we will bring it to the Council for an update.
- We are back to negotiating the lease with the Rodeo. We received a red line version from them this morning on the latest draft. We'll keep plugging away with them. We are expecting 9 rodeos this summer starting June 21 and continuing through August 16.
- TCOs were issued for 4 units for Havens this week.
- We are working to incorporate all of the changes the Planning Commission has requested for the Mall Transit Center. We will be back in front of the Planning Commission on February 15.
- Snowmass Creek Outfitters may return to Town Park this summer to offer horse riding opportunities in and around the Village.
- The Housing Office remains under construction.

- We continue to make progress on the Ice Age Discovery experience. We have identified about 30 + locations to display the information developed by many partners including the Aspen Science Center.
- We have now served our 300,000th smore since we started in 2017. That is something like 10 billion calories and 200,000 sugar buzzes.
- HEADS UP—Building 10 a/ b has been submitted and is now under formal review. That means all quasi-judicial land use rules are in place for this project.
- The SAAB elected a new chair this week.
- A fun fact, we moved 4,500 riders last Saturday night during X games. That is still behind pre-pandemic numbers, but a significant number of riders none-the-less.
- More fun facts, so for this season, we have had 20 days with over 400 cars parked at Town Park and we have had 8 days with over 500 cars parked there. As Captain Obvious would say, parking remains a very critical function at Town Park.
- A less fun fact, Krabloonik legal disclosures were this due this week. Our team of crack attorneys is plowing through mounds of information.
- In case you missed the headline this morning, the airport will be closed May 10 through May 24.

CC: Department Directors