



To: Mayor and Town Council
From: Clint Kinney, Town Manager
Date: February 23, 2024
Re: Info Update

CONSTRUCTION SEASON IS FAST APPROACHING

As the Council will recall, we delayed the Highline Road project in the Spring of 2023 in order to help ensure a timely start for the Owl/Brush culvert project (the decision worked well). With Spring time fast approaching and in order to get the shoulder widening, gas line replacement and fiber conduit installed, we expect to start the planned Highline project in April of this year. It will be a significant project that will require a full road closure from the Highline/Brush roundabout to Snowmass Club Circle for about two weeks the first half of April. Then, during the second half of April, around the time the resort closes, the full closure will move uphill from Snowmass Club circle to Owl Creek Road. Then, once that section is completed, we will go to one lane closure and (temporary) traffic lights from the Owl and Owl intersection to the Public Works shop for about two weeks. Then the entire thing will be paved in May. Obviously, this project is highly coordinated with Black Hills Energy and other projects. As details are finalized, we will keep you updated.

A YEAR IN REVIEW

We received yearend sales tax numbers last week. As you saw in the report, the overall returns were strong. Town sales tax revenues were up by over 9% from last year and are about 13% ahead of budgeted projections for the year. Lodging continues to be the single largest source of sales tax revenue followed by restaurants (about 1/3 of lodging). The lodging tax was up by over 9% from last year and also beat projections. Marijuana and tobacco tax was down by about 9% (in the big picture I think that might be an overall good things?). Marianne's crystal ball was pretty on target for the RETT revenues. These funds have fluctuated wildly over the last years so they are difficult to predict. RETT revenue was less than 2020 and 2021, but an increase from 2022. We only missed this budget number by 3%. And finally, excise tax numbers came in very strong in 2023. This revenue, dedicated to workforce housing, is very difficult to project, so we always sit conservatively at \$225,000. In 2023, we collected a little over \$1.4 million that we will be able to invest in workforce housing.

TID BITS

- We had a vehicle hit and run our Rapid Flash Beacon crosswalk sign at Owl & Brush. It is currently being rebuilt. It is expected to be back up by the end of next week.
- Speaking of that intersection, have asked our engineers and other maintenance staff taking a look at lighting improvements that can occur at that intersection (they need to determine where power is, etc) and what solutions might work well. We are also looking at

“quicker” fixes such as repairing the light in the RFTA shelter (we fixed it for them a while ago, but it has malfunctioned again). We’re on it.

- And finally, regarding that intersection SGM is continuing their design work on the proposed roundabout there. As we make progress, we will update the Council on the proposed design.
- I have checked with the Wildlife Officer in the PD about coyote and racoon interactions. They are only aware of 2 dogs that have been assaulted by coyotes. They haven’t heard much of anything about racoons. We are aiming to get an update from that Team to the Council in March.
- The Tourism Board met last week and showed appreciation for the events calendar for the summer. Once the calendar is more finalized, we will bring the whole thing to the Council as an update.
- The Snowmass Arts Advisory Board has been working with Anderson Ranch to develop a program to display more sculptures as public art, potentially adding two new sculptures a year to be displayed. These sculptures would be on loan and rotated every few years. As this and other ideas get more settled, we will schedule a time for the SAAB to provide an update to the Council.
- We continue to make good progress on Town Park. Our contractor, MW Golden has decided to hire Snowmass Western Heritage (the Rodeo Team, specifically Jim Snyder) to install the actual rodeo arena so it is to their liking and standards. The project is on time to be completed the beginning of June in time for rodeo season. Of course, landscaping and other similar components will be completed through the summer as weather allows.
- Design of Phase 2 of the fiber optic cable network-- from Town Hall to Housing to Transportation to Base Village remains underway.
- The monthly Council “have a drink” event will be in conjunction with the PTRAB on Tuesday from 4-6 at the Collective.
- We have engaged Charles Cunniff Architects to help with the necessary design work to improve the Snowmass Inn (stairways, walkways, etc). The roof project, not sexy, but critical, will go to bid very soon.
- And not to be out done, the windows and doors project at 250 Carriage Way is getting off the ground soon.
- We had 19 Snowmass community employees in the lottery today for a 1 bedroom Creekside Condo.
- And ending on a high note, the Town Auditors show up next week. Party On!

CC: Department Directors