

City Manager Report

Requesting Council Direction

Social Trail on Private Property

There has been a social trail across private property off of Locust Court that neighborhood residents have been using for some time now. The new property owners are concerned about safety and liability, as the trail dead-ends at Fish Creek Falls Road and people have been crossing their property and the road to get to a connecting trail easement on Mauna Kea Lane. A map of the area is attached. The new owners have built a berm across the old trail and posted the property as no trespassing. Staff has evaluated the potential for a pedestrian crossing and recommended against establishing a crossing at that location primarily due to safety concerns that it would create a false sense of security for the pedestrians using the crosswalk. The grade is about 7% on Fish Creek Falls Road, the speed limit is 35 MPH, and the road is often icy and snow packed in the winter.

Staff and Council members Ford and Meyer met with the property owners on August 31, and we agreed to present this matter to City Council for direction. Specifically, staff is requesting permission to discuss with the owners an easement across their property with the goal of reestablishing the social trail. Users would still have to cross Fish Creek Falls Road at their own risk.

We do not have an estimated cost for this endeavor. Staff time would be required to meet with the property owners, draft a proposed easement, and identify funding sources for reconstructing the previous social trail. Please let me know your thoughts.

Municipal Judge Appointment

As you know, Paul Sachs currently serves as municipal judge and has been serving in that capacity since January 1, 1995. His current two-year contract ends on December 31, 2018. Previously, City Council indicated an interest in seeking proposals from qualified individuals to serve as the city's municipal judge. Judge Sachs would certainly be welcomed to submit a proposal. Would City Council like staff to proceed with this course of action? If so, staff will prepare a Request for Proposals for Council's review and initiate the process. If not, we will prepare a contract renewal for consideration by Council. Please let me know your thoughts.

From the City Manager Schedule

FYI, I will be out of the office from September 24 through October 1, and also from October 18 through October 23.

KUDOS!

The Yampa River Botanic Park hosted an evening event called "Glow in the Park". Our Accountant Christy Ringer was helping them get set up to accept credit cards at their 1st event to host the public in the park after dark. When it was apparent that it wasn't going to be a simple solution, Christy offered to attend the Sunday night event to ensure the payment processing went smoothly. The Board Treasurer personally reached out to express his appreciation. Thanks Christy for always going that next step to help out!

From Bud and Jane Romberg: "Thanks to the City of Steamboat Springs workers who worked in our front yard. When we heard there was to be a catch basin and culvert put in our front yard and we were having 100 feet of our yard dug up for this purpose, we were not thrilled. However if you come by now, you would not even know the work has been completed.

The men carefully removed and replaced all the sod, worked carefully not to disturb the sprinkler system and reconstructed the sidewalk. All of the men were efficient, professional, friendly and worked at our house as they would in their own yards. The Steamboat Springs citizens are lucky to have such dedicated folks working for us."

From the Departments

Parks and Recreation

Land Management Division

- The Spring Creek Dam Restoration Project has been pushed to 2019 construction due to concerns about the ability to finish the project this fall. The USACE permit has not yet been issued and the window for working on the dam is closing. Anson Excavating has agreed to hold their price for the project and the Colorado State Dam Safety Engineer is working with staff to allow for this new timeline.
- The Parks and Recreation Commission recently endorsed a new hiking only trail to be constructed and replace the “Ditch Trail” in the Spring Creek Canyon. The ditch trail is not a sanctioned trail, trespasses on private property and uses an irrigation ditch with private water rights as a social trail. The property owners do not support the public’s use on this ditch and the City will be working with them to close this unsanctioned trail. Many locals voiced concerns about losing a social trail that they enjoy using. City staff worked with landowners and water rights owners to find a compromise to replace the “Ditch Trail” with a new hiker only trail that will be maintained by the City.
- Staff continues to collaborate with CPW on enacting and lifting river closures. A draft policy has been circulated to all commercial operators identifying guidelines that are used to assess when a closure would be lifted. Restricting river recreation for river health is important to the community with 89% in support (per the 2018 P&R survey). River flows are expected to drop through the fall.
- Staff continues to work with YEH and Doug Allen on HH chairlift alignment and installing monitoring equipment at suspect tower locations in 2018. YEH anticipates a need to study this area for 2 spring runoff cycles.
- Seasonal parks staff has been reduced by 10 as our high school and college students return back to school.
- The Howelsen Rodeo hosted Sheepdog Trials and Pro Bull Riding events.
- Howelsen Park hosted the Kickball Klassic.

- High School soccer and lacrosse teams are using City fields for practice and games until Gardner Field renovations are complete.

Haymaker Golf Course

- We have taken delivery on new rough mowers, a big rough mower and 2 bank mowers. Staff appreciates having new reliable mowers in service.
- Staff recently instituted a fungicide program to combat diseases on our greens. This was likely caused by the extremely hot weather changing the micro climate on the greens making us more susceptible to diseases.
- The course received over one inch of rain in August, which has helped refill our irrigation pond and has helped take a strain off of our irrigation system.
- Staff installed permanent flow meters on 3 wells and completed the August verti cutting.

Recreation & Enterprise Division

- Summer Adult Sports Leagues have wrapped up for the year.
- Fall Adult Sports began in early September. Fall sports include 7v7 Soccer, Coed Kickball, Coed Hockey, and Indoor Volleyball. Adult Kickball is a new sport, which kicked off on September 6. There are 8 teams signed up.
- The Howelsen Ice Complex will be offering a Fall Adult Hockey Clinic for beginner and first time adult hockey players. Sessions will begin on September 10 from 7:15 AM to 8:15 AM.
- Summer youth programs have ended for the year, including all Adventure Bound Summer Camps, ASSET Camps, and Mini-Sprouts programs. Survey will be sent out to participants next week.
- Currently all of the School Year Program Session I ASSET Clubs offered have waitlists. We were able to add 12 kids to Indoor Rock Climbing, but all other programs will maintain the same number of maximums.
- Afterschool Action is full with waitlists. We have hired two additional staff, and are actively seeking more. We are working through the waitlist in three week increments to ensure that parents have enough time to make plans, and to ensure that we have enough staff to cover the numbers of kids that are enrolled. At this point, during the first three weeks of programs, there

are only 10 slots waitlisted. However, for the following three weeks, the waitlist ranges from 9 to 26 kids, with an average of 17.2 kids daily.

- The final two Senior Program trips included a theater show in Grand Lake on September 9, and an overnight trip to Blackhawk/Central City September 18-19.
- 2018 Town Challenge number of participants increased slightly with 599 racers in 2018 compared to 573 in 2017. Senior trips are doing very well with high registration numbers. We have added additional staff and vehicles to a few trips to accommodate those on the waitlist.

Tennis Center

- The Steamboat Tennis and Pickleball Maintenance Endowment Fund (STPME) held at the Yampa Valley Community Foundation (YVCF) announced the largest matching challenge in YVCF’s 20-year history. Moz and Debbie Modzelewski generously donated \$25,000 to establish a matching funds challenge to boost the STPME by a total of \$50,000. The Steamboat Tennis and Pickleball Center is now asking the community to assist with raising those final funds.
- The High School tennis team hosted an event at the Tennis Center on 8/18

Monthly Field use Statistics - 7/24 – 8/20

Howelsen Baseball	120 Hours
Howelsen Beach	65 Hours
Whistler North and South	55 Hours
Emerald Complex	232 Hours
Ski Town North and South	78 Hours
Memorial East and West	25 Hours
Heritage East and West	12 Hours
Strawberry Park	4 Hours

Public Works

Transit:

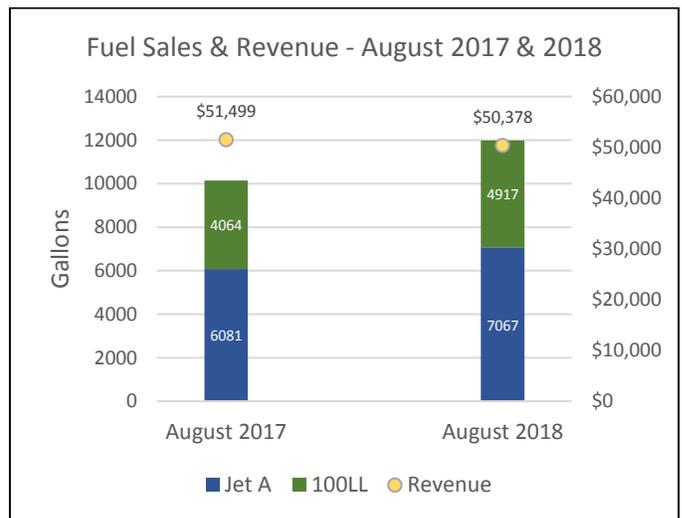
- In August, Steamboat Springs Transit carried 41,368 passengers. Over the time last summer, Steamboat Springs Transit carried 44,532 passengers.
- Ridership is 10% below last summer.
- Cost per passenger is \$3.36 per passenger. This is 11% more (\$0.37) than the cost per passenger for summer 2017.

- Steamboat Springs Transit buses were trending at 90% on time and 10% late. This compares to 84% on time and 16% late last summer.
- Steamboat Springs Transit provided shuttles between the Wild West Air fest and remote parking at the Stockbridge Multimodal Center and Justice Center.

Streets:

- Crews focused on asphalt patching and stormwater maintenance.
- Chip and seal projects for this year are complete. Streets that received the chip and seal were Eagleridge Dr. and Whistler Rd. The chip and seals should provide these roads with another five years of life before a mill and overlay are needed.

Airport:



- The Airport was visited by two Blackhawk helicopters and crews. The crews were temporarily stationed at Fort Carson for firefighting duties and did some mountain training in the Steamboat Springs area (see photo below).
- The Airport received a Ch-47 Chinook helicopter contracted by the U.S. Forest Service to assist with the Silver Creek fire (see photo below). The AStar helicopter and crew are still pre-staged at the Airport and have been here since June 12th. The City finalized a contract with the U.S. Forest Service making the Airport an operations base until fire season ends.



Water & Sewer:

- The Riverside Water Main Replacement project began the week of 7/30. As of the end of August, the work is about 1/3rd complete. The project is slated for completion by early November.
- The water and sewer mains for the Riverview development project have been completed.
- The City and Mt. Werner Water continue to work on the Water Supply Master Plan, which should be completed by the end of the year.

- Work has begun on the infiltration gallery capacity expansion feasibility analysis. This is an engineering study that will help us determine what, if any, expansion capability exists on the City's 72-acre wellfield parcel along the Yampa River at the south edge of town.
- The third round of UCMR4 sampling was completed.
- There were three water main breaks in August; one at the Stockbridge Transit Center, one along 83 Steven Kid, and one in Copper Ridge Business Park near FedEx. This brings our 2018 total up to six. We average seven breaks per year. In all three cases, water service was restored within 18 hours.

Wastewater:

- Treated 58.13 million gallons of wastewater, approximately 2% less compared to 2017.
- Continued irrigation of hay fields.
- Construction is progressing on the digester project. Duckels Construction is the contractor. The project should be substantially complete by the end of the year.

Planning

- There are currently 53 projects at some stage of the TAC review process.
- Among the largest projects currently under review are the Yampa Valley Medical Center parking lot expansion, Overlook Park subdivision, the Steamboat Residence Inn by Marriott, and the Wildhorse Triplexes.
- There are no projects currently showing as late in receiving comments from the TAC group.
- Planning hosted a question and answer session regarding VHR shared access requirements on Friday, September 7. Approximately 15 realtors, property managers, and property owners attended.
- A draft of the Downtown Plan has been completed by the consultants and distributed to the Downtown Plan Working Group for review.