

City Manager Report

From the Departments

Parks and Recreation

Administration

- Staff met with Parks and Recreation Commission on July 13th to discuss the e-bike trial period for Class 2 e-bikes on the Core/Walton Creek trails and Class 1 e-bikes on soft surface neighborhood/connector trails (Blue Sage, Butcherknife, Fox Creek, Tamarack Sneak, and Bear Creek trails). Discussion focused on e-bike use for transportation purposes on these trails and opportunities to improve education to address high rates of speed, use of e-bikes where not allowed, and safety. Staff anticipates 1-2 additional meetings before recommendations are made to City Council.
- Staff met with Parks and Recreation Commission on July 13th to discuss trailered boat access on the Yampa River. Members of Friends of the Yampa and the public have been requesting information on how to prioritize the development of this amenity for the growing boating community. Challenges exist on where this type of access can be constructed, and city sites have been narrowed down to improving the River Creek Park put-in and developing a put-in/take out at Bear River Park when funding is available.
- Staff met with Parks and Recreation Commission on August 10th for the second session of the off-leash dog trial period review for Sailors Way, Butcherknife Trail, and Whistler Park. Discussion focused on improving signage, compliance, reducing conflicts and ease of use at these sites, particularly at Whistler Park. Police provided data on reported incidents which may be used to measure success of a continued trial period. Due to the number of reports to Police and the complexities of the Whistler Park location, Steamboat Digs Dogs,

Police, Colorado Parks and Wildlife, and Parks and Recreation staff have come to a consensus that transitioning from an unfenced off-leash area to a traditional fenced in dog park would best serve this location. Parks and Recreation Commissioner and Vice Chair Sam Rush and Parks and Recreation Director Angela Cosby will be meeting with School District representatives in September to discuss and evaluate if a fenced in dog park could be located on the School District-owned portion of Whistler Park. Staff anticipates 2 additional meetings before recommendations are made to City Council.

- During the July 13th the Parks and Recreation Commission meeting, Commissioners expressed their desire to inform City Council they are requesting prioritization and full funding of the Bear River Park buildout and established an agenda item to discuss the issue at the August 10th meeting. The City of Steamboat Springs acquired land and developed a master plan for Bear River Park 17 years ago to provide recreational services to the underserved and low socioeconomic area. To date, a skate park, bike park, parking lot, and primitive restroom have been developed onsite, while most of the park remains undeveloped. Since this need was established and the project was started 17 years ago, this area of the community has and continues to grow with high-density family housing that lacks outdoor space, increasing the need and magnifying the disproportionate access to services. During their August 10th meeting, the Commission voted unanimously to request that City Council identify and approve funding for phase 1 (design, site prep, access, utilities) and phase 2 (trailered river access, core trail extension loop, and interpretive overlook) for construction of the Bear River Park Master Plan in 2023 and phase 3 (multipurpose field,

playground, basketball courts, volleyball courts, community space, pavilion, and parking) and phase 4 (expanded skate park, expanded bike skills park) in 2024. The completion of Bear River Park is listed as a “High Priority Project” and top 10 project within the 2019 Parks, Recreation, Open Space, Trails and River Master Plan, noting “Implement the Bear River Park Master Plan, but focus on river access improvements and maintaining existing facilities in the shorter term. Target Completion: 2021-2023”.

Howelsen Ski and Rodeo

- Ski/rodeo staff are continuing work to finalize the Barrows lift capital project. This work includes undergrounding electric conduit and installing snowmaking lines.
- Staff continue to support the Steamboat Springs Pro Rodeo Series with facility maintenance and improvements to provide a high-level customer experience.
- The Rodeo hosted the last Gymkhana performance of the season at the facility on August 10th.
- Ski Corp has provided food and beverage services for the Rodeo Series this year with multiple food options and improved customer service. The feedback regarding their services has been very positive.
- Howelsen Hill and Steamboat Springs Winter Sports Club (SSWSC) leadership have completed the annual use agreement for summer 2022 through winter season 2022/2023.
- Staff has provided support for the many special events at and around Howelsen Park this summer.

Parks, Open Space, and Trails

- Speed limit signs were installed along the Butcherknife Trail due to concerns of the speed of e-bikes by children commuting to and from school. Additionally, staff is working with the school district to address youth e-bike use on Butcherknife Trail during the school year.
- Staff led two volunteer trail workdays in July, with the SSWSC improving sections of NPR.

- A reroute of Rita’s Route trail was completed, removing a badly eroded and unsustainable section of trail. Staff also rerouted a section of social trail that crossed private property and improved the entrances into Rita Valentine Park.
- Improvement projects at Rita Valentine Dog Park this summer include 8 new benches installed, a new soft surface trail, and a shade shelter installation. Additionally, new signage and fencing has been installed to help clarify the off-leash boundaries. A dog agility course is planned for installation this fall. All improvements are being funded by Steamboat Digs Dogs through the Yampa Valley Community Foundation’s Endowment Fund and trail improvements were partially funded by the Community Foundation’s Trail Maintenance Endowment Fund.
- Staff held 3 educational events at river put ins during the busy river season, offering giveaways of reusable water bottles and dry bags while educating the public on the disposable container ban on the river. The events were popular with almost 500 dry bags and 150 water bottles distributed.



- Rocky Mountain Youth Corps worked with city staff and the Yampa Valley Sustainability Council throughout the summer to help protect trees from beaver activity along the Yampa River. 237 trees were protected with caging or a beaver deterrent paint.
- Staff hosted a bike bell give away pop up event on the Core Trail on August 18th to promote trail etiquette. Staff is working with the school district to host similar events on Butcherknife Trail once school is in session.
- Staff continues to monitor conditions of the Yampa River and consult with Colorado Parks and Wildlife regarding closures and the appropriate time to reopen the Yampa River for recreational use. High water temperatures led

to a closure from July 19th – July 25th and the closure was implemented again on August 2nd. Water flow measurements, forecasted day time/night time temperatures, and forecasted rain will all be assessed moving forward for consideration on reopening the river.

- The Parks division sent 3 staff to the Parks Planning and Maintenance Academy in early August. This professional development opportunity is hosted in Denver and has participants from all over the country. The Park Planning and Maintenance Academy is an intensive training program for park professionals seeking to improve their performance and enrich their organization.
- We are seeing continued savings in staffing hours and materials with the use of the TurfTank autonomous robotic field painter. Last year's soccer tournament took 25 staff hours to layout and paint Whistler Park; the 2022 tournament took 1 staff member 4 hours to complete the same task. We are also seeing savings in paint with 30% less paint being used compared to traditional field painting.
- Summer seasonal staff are starting to leave for school and the Parks division will see a 50% decrease in seasonal staffing in the next two weeks. We will be reposting the seasonal Maintenance Worker position to try backfilling vacancies to help address fall projects and turf cultural needs.
- Little Toots playground renovation began on August 8th and is anticipated to be completed in late September.
- The Parks division is working with Public Works to finalize the Mount Werner roundabout landscaping and start the warranty period. The landscape in the medians will be the responsibility of parks staff when it is no longer under warranty.

Adult Sports

- All summer adult sports are in full swing of playoffs and will be finished by August 28th. League participation numbers were consistent with past summer seasons.
- This fall we will be offering three different adult recreation opportunities for community members to participate in. Ice Hockey, Kickball,

and 3v3 Grass Volleyball will be offered beginning early September through mid-October.

- Town Challenge has officially ended with the Community Ride and Awards Dinner taking place on August 17th. Race participant numbers were the highest they have ever been for the Bike Race series.
- Senior trip programs will be returning this fall with two Colorado Rockies baseball games, a show at the Grand County Theater, and a trip to the Blackhawk Casino.

Youth Programs

- Youth Summer Camp ended the season on August 11th serving 127 families.
- Afterschool Action is underway at Soda Creek Elementary. The program is full with a waitlist. We are actively recruiting additional staff with hopes to increase enrollment and bring back ASSET Clubs.
- On August 22nd we will welcome Oliver Padgett as our new Recreation Coordinator.

Howelsen Ice Arena

- The Howelsen Ice Arena has started to rent the new second level expansion area (outside of designated youth program hours) on a limited basis.
- Summer youth and adult league hockey playoffs commence this week and will conclude the week of August 22nd. An abbreviated fall league is scheduled for September 12th through the week of October 24th. Registration for all fall leagues is now open.
- The bi-annual top end overhauls of compressors one and two were completed last week. These are critical pieces of the refrigeration plant.

Parks Projects

- Howelsen Ice Arena Expansion Project: the expansion project is working through the last of the punch list items and hopes to see final completion in late September.
- Howelsen Hill Chair Lift Installation Project: the phase 2 electrical work is currently being worked on to finish the electrical contract.

The project will be placing concrete for 3 snow makers in September. Snow gun delivery is scheduled for early 2023.

- US40 Median Improvement Project: median improvements are nearly complete. The project team expects completion around mid-September.
- Howelsen Tubing Installation: installation is underway for the conveyor install. Staff anticipates being complete by the end of August. After install we will work through inspections with Colorado Tram Board to get the operating license.
- Ski Town Park Irrigation and Turf Improvements: irrigation design has begun. The project team intends to have a biddable project by December.
- Little Toots Park Playground Improvements Project: the existing playground demolition started August 8th. The concrete work is scheduled to be completed by August 26th and the new playground equipment is scheduled to arrive by the same date. Playground installation is on track for September.

Yampa River Botanic Park

- The gates renovation project starts the week of September 1st. The Emerald Park entrance will be installed first, followed by the Core Trail side. With the initial Emerald Park phase, a detour will take pedestrians along the fence and down the grass to the Fairy Garden Village gate. Both phases of the project will see excavation work, installation of pavers, concrete footers, and masoned columns along with steel fencing being spot welded onsite. When the project shifts to the Yampa River Core Trail, trail users can expect detours when equipment is working in the area. The detour will go from Fetcher Pond to US40/Lincoln Ave and then along that road, reconnecting to the core trail via Trafalgar. The project is expected to be completed by early November.
- Garden renovations are beginning in the Corner, Blue, and Purple Gardens in September.

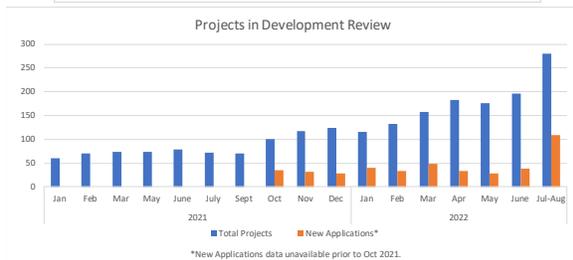
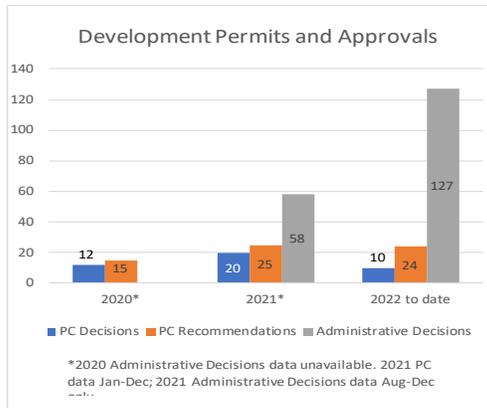
Haymaker Golf Course

- The fall fertilizer application was applied on August 9th providing 1 pound of nitrogen per 1,000 square feet.
- The irrigation system pump station motor #2 was replaced on August 2nd.
- Water levels in both the Enterprise and Intersection Ditch have remained adequate for irrigation needs.
- Haymaker saw a busy month of July with total rounds surpassing 2021 by 200 rounds. Most of this increase can be attributed to increased men's and ladies league play. We will be extending the Men's League season into September due to continued demand.
- Haymaker just completed a very successful first annual charity tournament benefiting the Travis House on August 12th. This will become an annual event as it was extremely successful for the non-profit group.
- Haymaker staff is preparing for a very busy fall season as tournament and wedding season gets started in mid-August and extends through the end of September.
- Haymaker is working to finalize contracts to complete the golf simulator capital improvement project in late fall for a scheduled opening after the first of the year.
- Head Golf Pro Cody Hasten has been selected as a finalist (top 5) for the National Merchandiser of the Year award through the PGA of America. This award stems from the same awarded to Cody last year from the Colorado Section PGA. We are completing the finalist packet submission with results to be announced at the end of September.

Planning

- Development Review:
 - There are approximately 281 projects currently in the development review process (including 89 STR Legal Nonconforming Registrations).
 - So far in 2022 (January-August), the Planning Commission has held public hearings on 10 projects for final decision and 24 projects for recommendation to City Council.

- A total of 127 administrative decisions have been made year to date.



- **Code Compliance:**
 - So far in 2022, 135 code enforcement cases have been opened, including 37 noxious weed enforcement cases.
 - There are 99 open cases pending resolution, including 14 VHR-related cases.
 - Code Compliance Officer Greg Jaeger has added new responsibilities for Building Code enforcement in collaboration with the Routt County Regional Building Department.
- **Short-Term Rentals (STR):**
 - Granicus has identified 2,806 short-term rental units in city limits currently being advertised. Physical addresses have been located for 85.5% of the units.
 - As of August 15th, 89 STR Legal Nonconforming Registration applications have been submitted; 20 have been approved.
 - Staff is meeting with the Board of Realtors on August 19th to share information regarding the newly adopted STR ordinances and the Legal Nonconforming Registration process.
 - Utilizing services provided by Granicus, notices will be mailed to STR

property owners in the STR Restricted and Prohibited Overlay Zones with information regarding Legal Nonconforming Registration. A public Q&A session will also be scheduled.

- The city has contracted with CityView to configure the STR License application and review, approval, and renewal workflows. Staff will communicate a timeline for implementation once available.
- **Mountain Area Master Plan:** the public review and comment period for the draft Mountain Area Master Plan began on August 11th. Comments will be accepted on the draft plan through September 9th. During the public review period, Planning staff will share an overview of the draft plan with Planning Commission, the Urban Redevelopment Authority Advisory Committee, and City Council. The current review and adoption schedule for the revised plan anticipates that Planning Commission will hold a public hearing on the plan on October 13th. City Council is expected to consider the plan for adoption on November 1st.

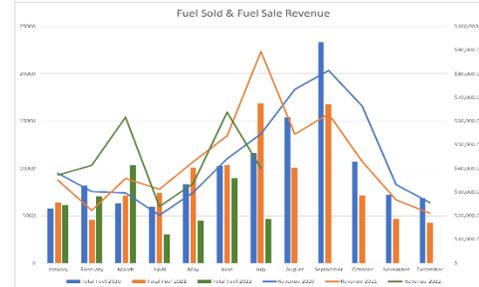
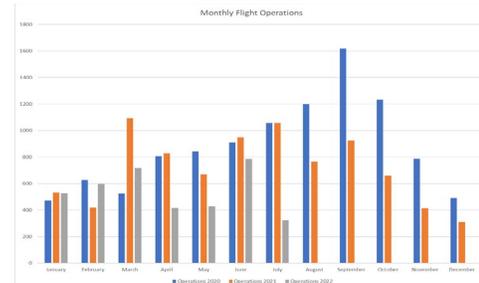
Public Works Airport

- The Forest Service pre-positioned two firefighting helicopters, fire fighters, and support crews at KSBS; however, both helicopters and crews departed on July 27th to support fire in other regions.
- The Airport will host a Fly-in and Airport Appreciation Day on September 18th. There will be discounted fuel, helicopter rides, and flight demonstrations. In addition, a special celebration of the newly rehabilitated runway with a ribbon cutting and family fun run on the closed runway is planned.
- The Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) Weather Camera project is progressing. CDOT will install 4 cameras for pilots to view



real time weather at KSBS over the wireless system. The cameras were installed at the end of July.

- The runway rehabilitation project is nearly complete, and the runway reopened on August 2nd. The haul road is being well utilized and taxiway P paving is complete. The haul road will eventually become available for EMS and firefighting helicopter parking as well as snow storage in the winter months. Taxiway P was closed from July 5th-12th for milling and paving, with the millings from the taxiway being used on the new haul road. Runway and taxiway paving operations were completed on July 29th, with painting completed on the 31st. After the runway cures for 30 days, it will be grooved, sealcoat applied, and the final paint (with reflective beads) will be completed. Work will also continue on the haul road and other areas of the airport through the end of August.
- The Airport continues to have a problem with enough hangars to accommodate pilots and aircraft that want to be based at KSBS. The hangar wait list currently totals 60 pilots. The Airport Manager hopes to solve some of the problem with the upcoming Airport Terminal Area Improvements project and the re-release of the hangar development Request for Proposal this summer.
- Flight operations are down for the month of July as compared to 2021 as last year's fire helicopters working the Muddy Slide Fire accounted for 73 airport operations, and the runway rehab project closed the runway for several weeks.



Engineering

- As of August 11th, 229 development applications have been submitted with a review due date in 2022; 7 are currently in queue. Of the completed reviews, 96% met the review deadline. The average Engineering Review was delivered 7 days ahead of the required deadline.
- The Mount Werner Road and Eagleridge Drive sidewalk project is substantially complete and is already being widely used by bicyclists and pedestrians.
- The Steamboat Boulevard/Mount Werner Circle roundabout project is substantially complete with the finalization of sidewalks along Mount Werner Road from Steamboat Boulevard to Pine Grove Road.
- Work on the Walton Creek Road/US40 Culvert and Sidewalk project has begun. Through September 6th, the contractor is allowed to reduce Walton Creek Road to a single lane of alternating traffic for a period of up to two workdays to facilitate removal of large trees. Engineering has coordinated with Streets to have VMS boards placed in advance of the intersection to notify motorists and encourage alternative routes. After Labor Day, Duckels Construction will need to reduce traffic along Walton Creek Road between US40 and Chinook Lane to a single lane with alternating traffic and they are allowed to do so for no more than ten workdays. This will create delays and

motorists will be encouraged to use alternate routes.

- The Ski Time Square Drive Turnaround and Complete Streets project is in the 50-70% design phase, with significant stakeholder coordination underway.

Streets

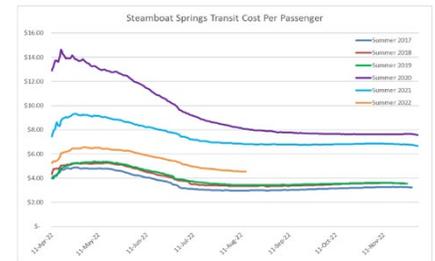
- In June, the crew focused on patching areas of worn-down asphalt before they became potholes primarily on Walton Creek, Whistler, Fish Creek Falls Road, 3rd Street, and Eagleridge Drive.
- Following the completion of paving and electric upgrades earlier this summer, the crews switched to stormwater maintenance and cleaning ditches and culverts on Steamboat Boulevard, Fish Creek Falls Road, and Melrose Lane.
- All pedestrian crossings were repainted by the end of July.
- Right-of-way permitting continues with 10 approved permits.
- Two employees received training and passed their exam on traffic control supervision, improving the safety of our Streets crew while working on busy streets.
- Statistics regarding snowfall, snow removals, sweeping, asphalt, equipment hours, scoria, locates, ticketing, right of way permits, employee hours, and more can be found in Attachment 1.

Transit

- Summer season ridership is up 54% (52,123) over the same period last summer. Year to date, Steamboat Springs Transit (SST) ridership is up 62% (225,563).
- As of June 13th, SST has carried over ½ million passengers. Last year, it wasn't until December 13th that SST reached that same passenger total and as of July 29th, SST local ridership surpassed the local ridership carried in all of 2021. The Regional Bus had the second busiest July ever, just missing the record by 8 passengers per day. However, it had an increase of 28 passengers per day over July 2021 (see Attachment 1).
- The best on time percentage for June was 99% on

time and the poorest on time percentage was 80%. Last summer, SST operated at 93% on time and 7% of the buses arriving late.

- Cost per passenger this summer is down 33%. This summer's average cost per passenger is \$4.65



compared to \$6.91 last summer.

- SST test drove a Battery/Electric bus on July 25th. The test was for battery range as well as to see if a 40-foot bus could get around the full route. This was the same bus that SST tested in the middle of winter. One of the goals was to test during the coldest part of the winter and hottest part of the summer to check the range with the climate control system. The Innovative Transportation Solutions group was also able to get a tour and ride in the bus.



Water and Sewer

- Dream Island Water Main Replacement: this project involves the replacement of 1,911 linear feet of 8" DIP with 12" C-900 and 689 linear feet of 8" DIP with C-900 PVC within a mobile home park. Construction is in progress.
- River Road Sanitary Sewer Interceptor Replacement Phase 3: construction on the project has been pushed to 2023.
- Stehley Park Sanitary Sewer Replacement: this project consists of removing the connection of approximately 7 existing sanitary sewer services from an existing 6-inch clay mainline over to a newer and larger PVC sanitary sewer line, abandoning the existing clay mainline and potentially adding a manhole to meet city standards. Contracting is in progress for this project which is anticipated to begin later this summer.
- West Area Water Tank: the final year of construction on the West Area Water Tank began the first week of May; construction is anticipated

to be completed by the end of September with the tank being placed into service in October.

- **Infiltration Gallery Expansion:** in developing the 60% engineering design, the electrical engineer determined that the existing electrical service to the city's infiltration gallery property would not be able to fully support the proposed expansion. The remote location of the infiltration gallery site greatly increases the complexity for the extension of additional electrical service to the site; the scope of work for the electrical engineering design has been substantially revised. The additional electrical scope will also result in the need to obtain additional permits and environmental clearances which will likely delay construction of the project to 2023.
- **Willet Heights Pump Station Improvements:** this project consists of improvements to the Willett Heights Pump station including pump replacement, process piping modifications, upgrades to electrical/controls, and SCADA. Construction on the improvements is anticipated to begin later this summer.
- **Meter Transmitter Replacements:** Keystone Utility Systems has completed approximately 40% of the transmitter replacements identified for this project to date; however, customer response to our communications requesting customers to schedule an appointment to replace meter transmitters has fallen off significantly. Additional door hangars will be delivered to customers who have not responded to previous communications and we encourage anyone receiving one of these door hangars to schedule their replacement as soon as possible.
- **2022 Water and Wastewater Standard Specifications Update:** city staff and the project consultant kicked off the standards update which will continue through the summer. There will be a public meeting to obtain input from local engineers, contractors, and developers on the draft document later this summer with the final update anticipated in early fall.
- **Fish Creek Filtration Plant Projects: Phase 2a Improvements to the Disinfection process** at the Fish Creek Filtration Plant are scheduled to take place starting in August 2022. The 2-million-gallon water storage tank at the plant is scheduled to be drained and the Fish Creek plant

shut down on September 15th to complete the improvements. The improvements are anticipated to be complete and the Fish Creek plant back online by November 18th. During the Fish Creek plant shutdown all water supply to the city and Mt. Werner Water customers will be supplied by the Yampa Infiltration galleries which will include Mt. Werner Water's recently expanded infiltration gallery. The planning process for the Fish Creek Plant shutdown has been extensive and will be carefully coordinated to minimize the shutdown period as much as possible and to prevent any impacts within the distribution system or service interruptions to the city and Mt. Werner customers.

- **Utility Crew Activities:** the number of utility locates have remained high through construction season. As time allows after all utility locate obligations have been fulfilled the crew moves on to preventative maintenance tasks including fire hydrant flushing, exercising valves, PRV maintenance, and sewer jetting and video inspection. Additionally, the crew aids contractors for water and sewer service taps and system operation for development construction projects that involve new connections and extensions of the distribution system.

Wastewater

- The Wastewater Treatment Plant treated 103 million gallons of wastewater in the month of June. This is up 41% from June 2022 when 73 million gallons of wastewater was treated, with the increase in treatment mostly due this year being a significantly wetter summer as compared to last year.
- The Wastewater Treatment Plant treated 83 million gallons of wastewater in the month of July. This is up 12% from July 2022 when 74 million gallons of wastewater was treated.

