

City Manager's Report

City of Steamboat Springs

3/7/2018

For the 3/13/2018 meeting

From the City Manager

Development Review Workload

The development review workload has recently increased significantly, as we head toward the upcoming construction season.

In Planning, there are currently 59 active planning applications, and we have received 12 new applications plus one resubmittal this week. In Engineering, 28 active planning applications are under review by staff, and eight more projects were submitted during the first week of March. While it is unusual to see this level of development review activity at this time of the year, we have encouraged applicants to get submittals in early to help ensure that they are ready to go when construction season arrives.

Staff is doing their best to work overtime, balance workloads, utilize contract services, and meet deadlines. If this level of development activity continues, it will likely require setting discretionary projects aside for some period of time. Last year, we postponed the sign

code update while maintaining the schedule for the Community Development Code (CDC) update. This year, we have committed to pursuing a list of needed policy review, including the sign code, that has been prioritized by the Planning Commission and City Council. We will inform council if we believe that there is an imminent need to re-examine the work program schedule. The other option, or perhaps concurrent need, may be to inform applicants that review times will need to be extended. This would certainly not be a desired or well-received option.

Staff is communicating this potential backlog with applicants as they submit materials. We will come forth with a plan to address this matter at a meeting in the near future.

Comcast Channel Lineup Changes

Effective April 12, 2018 Comcast will drop the following channels from the channel lineup serving our community:
Outside Television Ch. 282,
Big Ten Network Ch. 410/693.

Kudos!



Kudos to the Parks and Community Services staff involved in putting on the Pentathlon. It was a tremendous event, and the crew did a fantastic job!

Special thanks to the Streets crew for relieving the Water crew early in the morning on the 22nd and finishing the backfill on the Dream Island Mobile Home Park water main break.

Thanks to SST bus drivers and Police Department staff for their support in helping make Winter Wondergrass a successful event!

From the Departments

Parks and Community Services (P&CS)

- Session IV registration for Youth Programs is open with strong enrollment, School Days Off and

Afterschool Action have some waitlisted days, but we are working towards getting all of those kids into the program.

has not been tallied yet), Howelsen Hill has distributed 5,793 tickets across a total of 10 Ski Free Sundays.

* Hitchens Brothers Wednesday Night Jump Series
* NCAA Pre Event Slalom and XC Races

- We are getting ready for the summer; expecting to hire all new directors, but most of our Group Leaders will be returning.
- Due to recent events in Florida and upon cancellation requests from the public, the High School “Nerf or Nothin” tournament was cancelled.
- The Middle School ski free at Howelsen Hill event was successful with over 70 kids in attendance.
- The first ever partner program with Ski Corps was successful with 15 kids participating in never-ever snowboard lessons.
- Nordic Ambassadors continue to patrol Howelsen Hill, but the program is starting to wind down for the season. To date, we have a total of 29 active Nordic Ambassadors, 12 of which have completed the required volunteer hours and have obtained their comp Nordic pass. A total of 202 volunteer hours have been completed thus far during the 2017/2018 season.
- Ski Free Sundays continue to be a huge success, with over 1,000 people in attendance at the Ski Free Sunday over President’s Day weekend. To date (not including March 4, which
- Progress is being made on several department projects including P&CS Sponsorship Opportunities and the Summer Recreation Guide.
- Summer marketing efforts are already underway. Several meetings with various local publications are taking place this week, as well as ad development taking place to meet several publication deadlines later this month (e.g. Steamboat Visitors Guide, Rodeo Guide, Bike Guide, etc.).
- Spring Adult Hockey League and Skill Development session are open.
- An ice rink closure is scheduled May 21st to June 10th. The rink will re-open earlier if chiller tube test results are positive.
- We anticipate high bumper car sales volume in March with our new 15 car fleet.
- Comments on TripAdvisor have been all 5 star reviews for this year so far.
- Howelsen Hill hosted:
 - * Free Skiing Sundays - continue to be very popular events
 - * SYNC Cup U16 Alpine Event
 - * Numerous Winter Carnival Events including four days of Free Skiing with your button
- Recent snowstorms have allowed staff to open 100% of alpine trails on Howelsen Hill, and conditions have improved on all alpine and Nordic terrain.
- Parks Crews chipped 1,670 Christmas Trees in January/February. Free mulch will be available for residential uses in the spring.
- Three Holiday skylines have been taken down from Lincoln Avenue and stored for the summer.
- Request for proposals are being advertised for:
 - * Hay leases at Legacy Ranch and Williams Preserve open space parcels.
 - * West Lincoln Park Improvements to replace the Yampa River Queen with a steamboat themed shelter, and playground amenities that include active and musical elements.
- Parks and Recreation Commission will hear requests from potential commercial river operators at the March 14th meeting. Approved vendors will receive 1-year permits and must adhere to City Codes and the terms of the Yampa River Management Plan.
- Staff is discussing opportunities to rent

indoor/outdoor storage space from Yampa Valley Electric behind the existing Parks and Community Services offices. This space is needed to replace parking and storage areas impacted by the new Multi Sports Complex and will allow for operations equipment to be stored inside, protected from the elements.

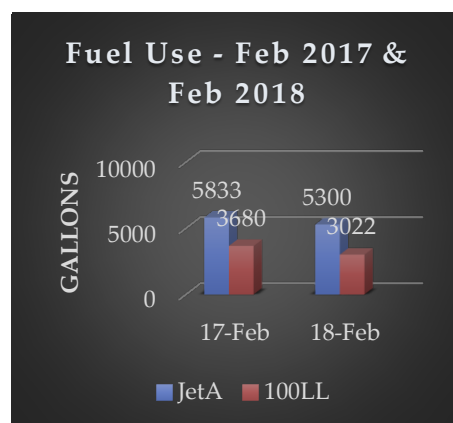
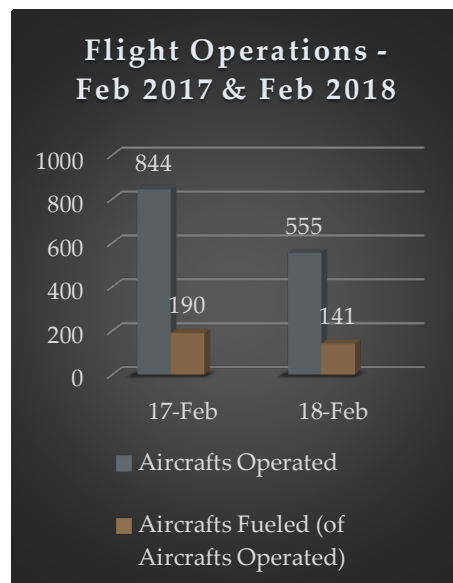
- Staff continues to work with Logan Simpson on data collection and public meetings for the PROSTR Master Plan update.
- Staff continues to work with Public Works engineering on a plan to replace the snowmaking line at Howelsen Hill this summer.
- Staff has begun discussions with SSWSC staff on opportunities for chair lift replacement and next steps with Yeh and chairlift manufactures.
- Plans have been submitted to the Army Corps of Engineers and State of Colorado for 2018 work on the Spring Creek Dam. The Corps has begun the State Historical Preservation review and will be assessing opportunities to mitigate impacts to the historical site as part of the process.

Public Works

- Two Airport tenants (and aircraft owners) volunteered to transport Taylor Fletcher and Jaelin Kauf from Salt Lake City to Steamboat Springs so they could

attend the Olympic send-off celebration.

- The airport hosted a quarterly Tenant and User Meeting. 15 tenants and users attended, and several were unable to attend due to inclement weather in other parts of the valley. The Airport Manager provided an introduction to Safety Management Systems (SMS) in addition to facilitating a webinar by Doug Downey, Convergent Performance LLC, an expert in the field. The Airport Manager also provided an update on the 2018 Master Plan and several airport initiatives.



- The Airport Manager hosted an initial planning meeting for the Wild West Air Fest that will be held on September 1, 2018. The Air Show Manager and members of the Chamber attended, in addition to Airport personnel. The next meeting will be in June.
- AOPA Online Magazine reported that House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee Chairman Bill Shuster (R-Pa.), the leading proponent of legislation calling for the removal of air traffic control from the FAA, announced he would no longer pursue the controversial proposal.

- Another successful Winter Carnival was held over the weekend of February 10th, which requires a substantial amount of effort and expenditure for our Streets crews. This year, crews from the Streets Division and Native Excavating set up 22 sculpture forms along Lincoln Ave. for the snow sculptures. Additionally, 175 dump truck loads (3,150 cubic yards) of snow were placed on Lincoln Ave. on Saturday morning and then removed on Sunday evening. All told, Streets Division costs for this year's Winter Carnival were approximately \$27,000.

- The Streets crew cored samples to test for asphalt thickness in preparation for the 2018 Riverside Water Main Project.

- The new Steamboat II (wastewater) lift station has been online for about a month now, and appears to be running well. Final project completion will occur this spring after the snow melts and the site dries off. Staff will provide cost and schedule breakdowns at that time.
 - John Hogan started as our new Wastewater Plant Operator on February 14th. John previously worked at the Haymaker Golf Course for 5 seasons and also for Steamboat Ski Corp on the snowmaking crew.
 - We had a water main break in Dream Island Mobile Home Park on the morning of February 21st. The cause of the break was pipe corrosion, and water service was restored at 1:30 AM on the 22nd.
 - The pre-bid meeting for the Riverside Water Main Replacement Project, for which eight contractors were present, was conducted on February 28th. Bids are due March 13th. The project is estimated to take 8-10 weeks, and work must be completed by October 31st of this year.
 - Design continues to progress for the River Road sewer interceptor replacement project, which will be bid in April.
 - Construction continues to progress on the Infiltration Gallery Water Treatment Plant Expansion project.
- Work is on schedule, and completion is slated for June 30th.
- The 2018 sanitary sewer and storm sewer lining project was bid in February, and the contract is being awarded to Layne Inliner out of Kiowa, CO. This project will involve trenchless lining of 7,500 linear feet of sanitary sewer and 360 linear feet of drainage culverts in various locations throughout town. All work must be completed by October 31st of this year.
 - Three staff members took operator licensing exams during February. Scott Livingston and Justin Benson passed their level 1 water distribution and wastewater collection operator exams, and Amber Gregory passed her level 2 water distribution and wastewater collection operator exams.
 - US40 Traffic Signal Study: Staff has conducted a number of initial meetings with CDOT and Apex Design Group to review data collected to date, identify current traffic signal related issues, and discuss project specific objectives. The project team was in town to observe traffic operations during the Winter Carnival weekend and to meet with staff. CDOT modified the timing plan the night of the event so that signal coordination was in place after the fireworks were over. Transit and Police reported better traffic conditions than in years past.
 - Emerald Park Railroad Crossing: Union Pacific has installed gates and lights at the new crossing location as of Feb 25th. City Staff helped Union Pacific keep their project moving by coordinating with local contractors to perform work that Union Pacific crews were unable to do themselves. This progress may allow the new crossing to open in the spring of 2018 pending the completion of phase 2 work. Staff is entering into negotiation with United Companies for construction planning for spring 2018.
 - Building Permit and Inspection Services: Engineering has released advertisement of an RFP for provision of contract service support. The request is seeking proposals to provide building permit review and inspection services for single family and duplex construction projects. Engineering staff and the Regional Building Department continue to work to refine processes and set performance criteria for customer centered service provision.
 - CDPHE WQIF Grant Award: The City was awarded a grant in the amount of \$67,883 from the Colorado Department of Health and Environment to install an additional storm water quality treatment device near the City's Butterfly Building, where a large area

of downtown drainage currently discharges untreated directly to Soda Creek. The device will remove litter, oils and greases, and sediment from the runoff prior to reaching the creek. This will reduce the number of untreated storm water outfalls in the downtown area by a total of 8 locations within the last three years. All have received majority funding from grant awards. Thanks to Ginger Scott and Emrick Soltis for putting together another successful grant application.

Transit Snapshot

- In February 2018 Steamboat Springs Transit carried 199,932 passengers vs the 214,729 carried in February 2017.
- Cost per passenger is \$2.13. Winter ridership is down 7% from last winter.
- Steamboat Springs Transit trends at 91% on-time and 9% late. This compares to 86% vs. 14% last year and 83% vs. 17% the year before.
- Steamboat Springs Transit transported 10,089 passengers on Saturday during the Winter Carnival. Last year, SST transported 9,855 passengers on the same day.