

TO: Mayor Rogin and Members of the Board of Trustees
FROM: Victoria Simonsen, Town Administrator
DATE: September 12, 2024
ITEM: Administrator's Report

_____ ORDINANCE
_____ MOTION / RESOLUTION
 X INFORMATION

Mental Health Crisis Response: The Town of Lyons, Boulder County Sheriff's Office, Lyons Fire Protection District, LEAF, and an HHSC Representative met recently to discuss the best approach to handling individuals who are displaying a mental health crisis or experiencing homelessness and in need of services. Regularly, town staff are asked to address these situations by locals, businesses, or staff that encounter them in the community. BCSO or a co-responder is often not in the area, and a nonemergency response may take 20-60 minutes. The issue is who and how to deal with the person during that time.

It was decided that we need to educate our community to use 911 to report a person experiencing a mental health crisis or loitering in town overnight. The emergency staff is trained to ask the right questions to determine if LFPD should be dispatched to the scene and assist with care until a longer-term solution is determined. This approach also documents the situation and creates a log for future incidents with the same person. BCSO will also be dispatched to assist with transportation of individuals experiencing homelessness and needing transportation to Longmont or Boulder for services. Do not call the LFPD directly. It needs to go through dispatch.

Meeting with Summit Housing Group: Mayor Rogin, Trustee Daty, and Administrator Simonsen met with Paul Capps, President of Summit Housing Group (SHG), and Matt Allen, Lyons Valley Town Home Manager, to discuss the concerns raised by residents at the September 2nd BOT meeting. It was a lengthy and sometimes heated discussion that resulted in the understanding that there is a need for more effective and timely communication between Highland Property Management (owned by SHG) and the tenants and a need to create an environment where people feel safe and secure in their housing. Mr. Capps will be present at the October 7th BOT meeting to address the steps they are taking to improve the relationship.

Parks and Public Works Updates:

- PPW staff are repairing sections of the dog park fence. Temporary construction fencing will be set up while these repairs are made.
- PPW crews are refreshing the rock mulch materials along Main Street.

Stage 2 Fire Restrictions Amended: Sheriff Curtis Johnson and the Board of County Commissioners amended the fire restrictions, effective Tuesday, September 3, 2024. The unincorporated western part of Boulder County will now be under Stage 1 fire restrictions, while the eastern section of unincorporated Boulder County has all fire restrictions rescinded.

CDOT ROW Issue: Two businesses on Main Street have been notified that they need to enter a paid lease agreement with CDOT to utilize the right-of-way in front of their stores for seating (not alcohol-related). CML is looking into the issue of other communities with a state highway, as their Main Street, not being handled in the same manner.

Graffiti: In the past week, the visitor's center restroom had antisemitic graffiti. The sheriff was informed, and the staff will report it to the Anti-Defamation League. Bohn Park also had body symbols in both restrooms.

Grant Updates:

- The town was notified that we were not awarded the CWCB grant for the construction of the Streambank Restoration near Carter Drive. They said we could reapply after they reviewed the design. We submitted 60% of the design to CWCB for review on August 1st and 90% on September 5th. They have not had a chance to review it yet. They would like to see more partnerships and support for the project.
- DRCOG also notified us that the SS4A grant that they applied for (Lyons as a sub-recipient for sidewalk design and construction) was not awarded. The grant was for designing and constructing priority A of the Sidewalk Assessment. The town will have to seek other funding or finance sidewalks out of the town budget until another grant opportunity arises.
- If the BOT would like staff to apply for a Safe Routes to School (SRTS) grant for sidewalks near/around the elementary school, the grant is due November 1. The maximum grant award is \$1 Million. They have a total of \$7 million to award. Notification would be in March 2025. It requires a 20% match. There is no guarantee of funding, and it is a very competitive grant. They have gone to an even-year grant cycle. The town last applied in 2018 and was awarded in 2019.
- The BRIC applications are on hold for award. Lyons' application was for stormwater design on 3rd Ave.

Carter Court Opportunity: After finding out that CWCB is not funding the streambank restoration at this time, Town Engineer Doles did some civil engineering to look at the buildability of the lots to help meet our Affordable Housing goals. With some hillside reinforcement, it appears that the lots could be used for additional housing units. If the board is interested in looking at this further, we could add it to an upcoming agenda.

Historic Panoramic Print: Mayor Rogin and Patrick Cullie generously donated the panoramic view of Lyons print (circa 1918-20) hanging in the Board room. The previous print was damaged and faded. To better preserve it, a piece of glass will be installed on the new print.

BOT IGA Property Tour: Board members will meet at 3:00 pm on Tuesday, September 17th to tour some of the Boulder County IGA properties they will discuss. Please dress in comfortable, safe outdoor shoes. We will meet at the town hall.

BOT Town Hall: The trustees will host a Town Hall at the Lyons Regional Library on Wednesday, September 25th, at 6:30 p.m. They will update the audience on recent activities and issues and open the forum for conversation and questions.

LEAF Funding Request for 2025: Executive Director Lory Barton has requested that the Board of Trustees consider a funding request from LEAF in our 2025 budget preparation. A copy of the request is attached, or you can access it electronically through this link:

[Here is the document we would like to submit for consideration.](#)

Planning Department Monthly Report

Current Planning Work

- Riverbend, Finalized the Minor Development Review and Approval
- Riverbend, Finalized the Development Agreement
- TEBO Annexation, Sent the Draft Annexation Agreement to the Applicant
- Worked with several property owners to discuss development proposals

Long-range Planning Work

- Started work on an Expedited Review Process for Workforce Housing and Economic Development
- Started a large Code Assessment Project to look at the Town Process (Chapter 16 Only)
- Finished the following Text Amendments (Farmers Markets and Historic Lot Subdivision)
- Worked with the PCDC to discuss Mixed-Use code implementation in the Town
- Continued seeking property owners to participate in Brownfield Assessments
- Finalizing (waiting for Nederland's final approval) the job description for our Joint Housing Coordinator.
- Redrafted the RFP for the Peak to Peak Housing Authority Feasibility Study to solicit more consultant interest
- Started work and research on a Local WUI Code
- Met with Boulder County Wildfire Partners to discuss a plan to get higher participation in the County's mitigation program