

**TO: Mayor Angelo and Members of the Board of Trustees**  
**FROM: Victoria Simonsen, Town Administrator**  
**DATE: July 29, 2021**  
**ITEM: Administrator's Report**

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ORDINANCE  
 MOTION / RESOLUTION  
 INFORMATION

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**COVID-19 Update:**

**KEY INDICATORS**

- Case numbers continue to rise: Currently, our seven-day rolling average daily case count is about 25.1 cases per day. This number has been rising since the end of June and is slightly higher than last week's average of 18.1 per day. The one-week cumulative incidence rate is 51.4 per 100,000 (which is level blue on the dial) compared to 39.4 per 100,000 (which is level blue threshold on the dial) last week.
- Testing positivity stable: On average, 799 PCR tests are conducted per day, an increase from the 605 per day last week. Positivity remains the same as last week at 3.1%. To be aligned with CDPHE, the percent positivity is calculated by using data from the Electronic Laboratory Reporting (ELR) system, which does not include all labs testing for COVID-19 and does not include home test kits or saliva-based testing.
- Hospitalizations rising: Hospitalizations for confirmed COVID-19 remain low in the state. The state currently has 291 hospitalizations, which is higher than the 267 from last week. Boulder County has 16 hospitalizations this week, up from 13 last week.
- Deaths: We have had 5 deaths in Boulder County since May 1, for a total of 261 deaths.

**DEMOGRAPHICS**

- Case rates are increasing among age groups: Case trends are rising among all but one age group (75+) this week. In the last seven days, case numbers were highest among 10-17 year olds (24 cases this week compared to 12 last week), 65-74 year olds (13 cases compared to 3 last week), and 45-54 year olds (26 cases compared to 20 last week). There were 15 cases among people 65+ in the past week, compared to 5 last week.
- Case rates and race/ethnicity: In the past 7 days, 21% of our cases have been among Hispanic/Latinx community members who represent 14.0% of the population and 71% of our cases have been among white, non-Hispanic community members, who represent 77.4% of the population. Race/ethnicity data is known for 75.6% of cases.
- Case rates among municipalities: In the past 7 days, 33% of our new cases have resided in Boulder City and 29% of our new cases have resided in Longmont.

**VACCINATIONS**

- 78.9% of eligible Boulder residents vaccinated: Almost 230,000 Boulder County residents have received at least one COVID-19 vaccine dose (78.9% of eligible population) and almost 213,000

- (73.4% of eligible population) have received a full course of the COVID-19 vaccine. An average of 304 vaccine doses were administered per day this week compared to 297 doses per day last week.
- Most older adults are vaccinated: 61.6% of 12 to 19 year olds have received at least a partial course of COVID 19 vaccine. 66.9% of 12 to 15 year olds have received at least a partial course of the vaccine (10552/15775). Over 80% of the Boulder County population aged 30+ years has received at least a partial course of a COVID-19 vaccine, ranging from 82% of 40 to 49 year olds to 99.5% of 70+ year olds. Almost two thirds (62%) of 20 to 29 year olds have also received at least a partial course.
  - Differences in vaccine administration among Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) are persistent among all age groups, especially older adults.

### **Short Term Rental (STR) Update:**

There are currently thirteen licensed short-term rentals in the town of Lyons and no license applications pending. In 2020, there were ten licenses issued. Lodging tax collected so far this year totals \$4,454, and in 2020, lodging tax totaled \$6,865.

Yani Jones manages processing short-term rental license applications and tracks lodging tax collection. Dale Van Wagner is the Code Enforcement Officer for the town and works to make sure short-term rentals comply with licensing requirements. Dale reviews sites like Air BnB and VRBO to identify unlicensed STRs; he has written six violation notices so far this year for unlicensed STRs, and each of these cases have been resolved either by the use stopping or by a license being obtained by the property owner.

### **EPA Brownfields Assessment Grants**

The City of Longmont is inviting the towns of Lyons and Firestone to form a coalition to become eligible for grant funds related to the assessment and clean up plans for Brownfield sites. Longmont would serve as the lead agency and Lyons and Firestone would be eligible recipients of up to \$600,000 toward five or more projects. There would be minimal staff time for Lyons. Staff is requesting if the Board is interested in participating (additional information attached). Once sites have a Phase I or Phase II Environmental Assessment, the coalition would help us identify funding for cleanup. Lyons has several sites that may be eligible for this assessment grant, including the vacant water treatment plant in Apple Valley, the removal of the water tank on Tank Hill, several sites that used to house gasoline storage, the south water treatment plant owned by Think Generator, to name a few.

### **Open for Business Grant**

The Colorado Department of Local Affairs (DOLA) along with funding from SB21-252 will support efforts by local governments and regional collaborations to engage in small business relief through "Main Street: Open for Business." This Initiative supports façade improvements and energy efficiency projects for businesses in the state's traditional downtowns, such as we have in Lyons.

The program is designed to:

- increase visual appeal
- increase sales and revenues in rehabilitated buildings
- reduce energy consumption and lower utility bills
- increase job retention/creation

This is a sub-grant program, meaning local business and building owners will submit their applications to the Town of Lyons. The Town will then submit them together as one application to the Colorado Department of Local Affairs (DOLA). All individual applications must be received by the time the Town submits one completed application to DOLA. Individual projects can range from \$10,000 to \$150,000 with a total overall community cap of \$1,000,000. DOLA has stated that they anticipate the average amount awarded per project will be approximately \$50,000.

Eligible buildings/businesses must be commercial buildings in the traditional downtown district. Preference will be given to businesses established prior to the onset of the pandemic, and that commit to remaining open for business for at least six months after the project's completion.

- Note: Vacant building modifications would be considered IF all improvements are completed, and business will be operational before the close of the grant cycle (June 30, 2022).
- Property must remain free of all municipal and county liens, judgments or encumbrances of any kind under the term of the agreement.
- Ability to demonstrate the metrics of the program: percentage sales increase and energy savings from before and after project.
- Rolling admission basis to DOLA. Staff recommends all applications be submitted to Main St Manager before September 10th for best consideration by DOLA.

DOLA is requiring a 20% match from applicants. This would be the responsibility of the business/building owner, unless the town is interested in contributing toward the match program. The town could also consider waiving building permit fees that are funded through this program.

### **US-36 Fiber Installation Project From Lyons to Estes Park**

Crown Castle Fiber has begun trenching along US-36 between Lyons and Estes Park and the work will continue through early September. This is a joint fiber optic facility.

In an effort to speed up the job while attempting to limit the delays for motorists, closing of thru lanes will be restricted to 7 pm to 7 am and only during these certain times of the day:

9:00 - 9:45 am

10:30-11:45 am

12-12:45 pm

1:30-2:15 pm

By implementing this "45 minute on the road & 45 minutes off the road" plan, CDOT anticipates clearing the flagging related waiting and ques through the canyon.

CDOT has a contractual obligation to Crown Castle Fiber (the contractor) to allow installation in order to finish in time before the State Highway 7 project which will begin this fall.

## **Curbside Limb Pickup:**

Bryan Baer is partnering with the town for curbside limb pick up the week of August 9<sup>th</sup>. Parameters for pick up are below:

They will be starting on the Northeast side of Town in the Stone Canyon area working to the Northwest side of Town ending in Eagle Canyon moving to the Southwest side of town (Prospect, Meily) to Southeast side of Town ending in the Lyons Valley Park Area.

### **Guidelines:**

- Branches and limbs ONLY. No grass, weeds, loose yard waste, or compost.
- No construction debris or treated lumber. No nails or wire in limbs. No other trash. It will not be picked up.
- Limbs and branches should be placed curbside by 7:00 am on August 9<sup>th</sup> in order to be picked up some time that week. Contractor will not be returning to areas once they have passed through so be sure to have your limbs out by 7:00 am on the 9<sup>th</sup>!
- Limbs should be cut as straight as possible. Limbs must be less than 6" diameter and all cuts facing the same direction. Toward the street if possible.
- Place limbs into REASONABLE size stacks. Neighbors are requested to consolidate where possible.
- Limbs should be placed off the sidewalk. Please work to ensure that no obstacles interfere with the pickup of the limb pile by the loader and chipper. Do not park in front of your limb pile. Municipal code prohibits placing items in the street.
- Limbs will not be collected in alleys. Even if your trash/recycling collection occurs in an alley, you must place limbs curbside in front of your property for pick-up.
- Any limbs not placed at the curb before August 9<sup>th</sup> will not be collected and will be the responsibility of the homeowner to dispose of.

The town is working with Lyons Prepared, Boulder County and Wildfire Partners on another event for fire mitigation. Stay tuned for more details.

## **National Night Out**

The Boulder County Sheriff's Office invites the public to join them and your neighbors on Aug. 3 for an evening of community building. National Night Out is designed to help increase awareness of crime prevention, strengthen neighborhood spirit and partner with local law enforcement and first responders.

Every National Night Out location will have different activities taking place, the Lyons location will have free food, emergency vehicles, first responders, fire departments, safety demonstrations, local vendors and children's activities. These are free family-friendly events that are fun for all ages. All are welcome to attend!

Where:           Bohn Park, 199 2nd Avenue, Lyons  
When:            Tuesday, August 3rd 6-9 pm

Also, Flight for Life is hoping to land their helicopter on the field around 6 pm, if they are available.

### **Lights Out Lyons**

On Friday, August 13, Town of Lyons residents and businesses are encouraged to go “lights out” in support of dark sky awareness and stargazing appreciation. Lights Out Lyons is a dark sky event timed during one of the peak viewing nights of the Perseids meteor shower and a waxing (low light) crescent phase of the moon. Bohn Park in Lyons, Colorado will be the meeting point for guided talks and stargazing.

### **WHERE**

Bohn Park Shelter, Lyons, Colorado, and throughout town

### **WHEN**

Friday, August 13 (Rain Date: Friday, August 20)

- 8:30 pm stargazing talk in Bohn Park, 9-10 pm acoustic music
- Stargazing to happen dark to sunrise with peak viewing after midnight until dawn

### **Venus de Miles Bike Ride**

Venus de Miles, an all-women’s bike ride, will be held in Bohn Park on Saturday, August 28, 2021, with setup taking place on Friday, August 27. They will be utilizing Bohn Park Phase 1 (northwest area of Bohn Park) and the Bohn Park parking lots. The event consists of three route lengths (33-mile, 66-mile, and 100-mile), for which producers estimate 1,200 riders total. There will be amplified sound for race announcements, DJ, and some live musicians with minimal instruments / equipment. Event producers will be sending a notice to neighbors, notifying them of the event, plans for sound, traffic impacts, etc. They are working with the Deputy Town Clerk on securing a liquor license. They will be using flaggers to direct bicycle traffic and will not be closing any roads in town for the event.

To support local business and talent, they will provide a designated space and waive the vendor fee (\$1,000 per vendor) for 5-6 small Lyons businesses/craftspersons, to have vendor booths at the event. Furthermore, they will feature 1-2 local musicians/talent to perform at the event.

Venus de Miles is Colorado’s largest all-women’s bike ride. The event is organized by and benefits Greenhouse Scholars, an educational nonprofit and a diverse community of leaders working together to ensure people of all backgrounds can live a life of their choosing.